

# PLA

## PAHUJA LAW ACADEMY

BEST COACHING FOR JUDICIARY & CLAT

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

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## ENGLISH



**MAY, 2024**

**HEAD OFFICE**

**211-212, D-1, 2ND FLOOR, VIRAT BHAWAN, DR. MUKHERJEE NAGAR, DELHI-110009**

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## PAHUJA LAW ACADEMY

BEST COACHING FOR JUDICIARY & CLAT



AWARDED FOR

INDIA'S BEST  
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BY HONORABLE CM  
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# **PAHUJA LAW ACADEMY**

## **"CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**MONTH OF *APRIL* ' 2024"**

### **LAW AND AMENDMENT**

#### **ARTICLE 31 C of Indian Constitution**

- The Supreme Court, under the leadership of the Chief Justice of India, has undertaken a crucial examination regarding the continued validity of Article 31C of Indian Constitution.
- This inquiry arises within the context of a case concerning the government's authority to acquire and redistribute private property.
- The case surrounding Article 31C and its implications for the interpretation of fundamental rights, especially in relation to private property and socio-economic reforms, is complex and rooted in constitutional history.
- Article 31C was introduced in the Constitution of India through the Constitution (Twenty-fifth) Amendment Act, 1971.
- This amendment was a response to judicial decisions that limited the government's ability to enact laws for socio-economic reforms.
- The 25th Amendment sought to overcome judicial hurdles by protecting laws enacted to implement certain directive principles of state policy, specifically Articles 39(b) and 39(c), from being challenged on grounds of violating fundamental rights under Articles 14, 19, and 31 of the Constitution.
- The current Supreme Court case involves a challenge to Chapter VIII-A of the Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Act, 1976, which allows the government to acquire and redistribute private properties.
- The legality of this provision is being examined in light of the protection provided by Article 31C.
- Article 31C was introduced after the Supreme Court struck down the Banking Companies Acquisition Act in 1970, which aimed to nationalize private banks, as violating the right to property (then a fundamental right under Article 31).

#### **Rajasthan HC: Sarpanch responsible for stopping child marriage**

- The division bench of the Rajasthan High Court has mandated the state government to ensure no child marriage occurs within the state.
- Despite the enforcement of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006, child marriages continue to occur.
- The order of the High Court comes on the eve of the Akshay Tritiya festival, which is being celebrated on 10 May this year.
- Most child marriages in the state are performed on the occasion of the Akshay Tritiya festival.
- The court highlighted that there has been a reduction in child marriages thanks to governmental efforts, but stressed that more action is required.
- Village heads (sarpanches) and panchayat members are specifically held accountable; they will face responsibility under Section 11 of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act 2006 if they fail to prevent child marriages.
- The court has ordered the state to investigate and report on measures taken to prevent child marriages and to monitor the list of scheduled child marriages provided in the PIL.
- It was emphasized that sarpanches must adhere to their duties as outlined in the Rajasthan Panchayati Raj Rules 1996, which include the prevention of child marriages.

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### **The government is planning to replace the existing Explosives Act of 1884.**

- The government plans to modernize the regulatory framework governing explosives by replacing the outdated Explosives Act of 1884 with a new law, the draft Explosives Bill 2024.
- Aimed at facilitating business activities, the proposed legislation, spearheaded by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), includes provisions for stricter enforcement and higher penalties for violations.
- Under the proposed bill, individuals found guilty of breaching regulations could face imprisonment for up to three years, a fine of Rs 1,00,000, or both.
- Furthermore, unauthorized possession, use, sale, or transportation of explosives may result in imprisonment for up to two years, a fine of Rs 50,000, or both.
- The government will also designate an authority, which will be responsible for issuing licenses for the manufacture, use, sale, import, and export of any explosive material.
- At present, the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) is responsible for the manufacturing, possession, use, sale, import, and export of any explosive material.
- The Explosives Act of 1884 was enacted by the British government to regulate the manufacture, storage, possession, use, sale, import, and export of explosives.
- The Explosives Act of 1884 gave power to authorities to conduct inspections of premises where explosives are stored or used to ensure compliance with safety regulations.

### **33% of seats have been reserved for women in the bar association committee by the Supreme Court.**

- The Supreme Court has introduced a ground breaking measure by reserving 33% of seats for women in the bar association committee. This move ensures greater representation and inclusivity within the Executive Committee of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA).
- Under the new regulation, a minimum of 3 out of 9 positions in the Executive Committee and 2 out of 6 Senior Executive Member posts will be designated for women.
- This decision, delivered by a bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and K V Viswanathan, signifies a pivotal step towards gender equality and empowerment in the legal profession.
- The Supreme Court stipulated that at least one office-bearer position must be exclusively reserved for women on a rotational basis.
- For the term 2024-25, the position of treasurer within the executive committee will be specifically earmarked for a female member, furthering the objective of promoting diversity and inclusion within the legal fraternity.

### **Supreme Court put a limit on ED's power to arrest PMLA accused.**

- The Supreme Court has set a restriction on the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) power to arrest individuals under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).
- It ruled that once a special court takes cognizance of a charge sheet filed under PMLA, the ED doesn't have the authority to arrest an accused.
- If an individual is summoned by a designated special court under PMLA, they are not considered to be in custody, thus negating the need for them to seek bail.
- The Supreme Court clarified that the ED must make a separate application for custody of an individual once they appear in court.
- This ruling by the Supreme Court limits the ED's ability to arrest individuals who were not detained during the investigation phase under PMLA.
- The basis for this judgment lies in an appeal filed by Tarsem Lal against the ED, challenging a decision by the Punjab and Haryana High Court to deny him anticipatory bail.
- Under Section 45 of the PMLA, there are two conditions that place the burden of proof on the accused seeking bail:
- The accused must demonstrate in court that they are prima facie innocent of the offence.
- The accused must also convince the judge that they will not commit any offence while on bail.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### **International Labour Day celebrated on 1 May**

- Every year on May 1st, International Labour Day is commemorated worldwide to honor the invaluable contributions of workers.
- The theme of International Labour Day 2024 is to ensure workplace safety and health amidst climate change.
- In 1886, around 2,00,000 American labourers demanded eight hours of work-day and a huge strike took place.
- Later, the movement turned violent in Chicago. It was remembered as Haymarket Affairs.
- This marked the beginning of International Labour Day.
- Initially observed on May 1st, 1889, by a coalition of socialist parties in Europe, International Labour Day has since been an annual commemoration.
- Furthermore, in many countries, International Workers Day and Labour Day are celebrated together, although the specific date of observance varies across nations.

### **World Tuna Day 2024 celebrated on 2 May**

- May 2 marks World Tuna Day, an annual occasion dedicated to raising awareness about the significance of tuna and advocating for sustainable fishing methods.
- The United Nations General Assembly, in 2016, unanimously voted to recognize this day, with its inaugural celebration taking place in 2017.
- Tuna, a widely consumed fish globally, faces significant threats primarily due to overfishing and unsustainable fishing practices.

### **World Press Freedom Day 2024 celebrated on 3 May**

- On the 3rd of May each year, World Press Freedom Day is commemorated globally. This observance pays tribute to the invaluable role of media professionals in upholding the principles of unbiased journalism.
- The theme of the conference is "A Press for the Planet: Journalism in the Face of the Environmental Crisis."
- The day serves as a platform to raise awareness about the significance of press freedom, a fundamental aspect of the Right to Freedom of Expression enshrined in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948).
- The day also marks the anniversary of the Windhoek Declaration.
- UNESCO and Chile are hosting the 31st World Press Freedom Day conference from 2 to 4 May, 2024 in Santiago.

### **World Laughter Day 2024 celebrated on 5 May**

- World Laughter Day is an annual celebration observed on the first Sunday of May. In 2024, it fell on May 5th.
- The inaugural World Laughter Day took place on May 10, 1998, in Mumbai. This event was initiated by Dr. Madan Kataria, the founder of the global Laughter Yoga movement.
- The purpose of World Laughter Day is to promote awareness about the therapeutic effects of laughter. Laughter is known to reduce cortisol levels in the brain, which has positive impacts on the body's overall well-being.

### **World Athletics Day 2024 observed on 07 May**

- World Athletics Day, observed annually on May 7th, serves to underscore the significance of physical fitness and athleticism worldwide.
- This year, the theme for World Athletics Day 2024 revolves around the "World Mile Challenge," promoting participation and engagement in this iconic distance event.
- World Athletics Day was for the first time celebrated in 1996.
- It was launched by Primo Nebiolo, best known as the former President of the World Athletics.

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- World Athletics was known as the International Amateur Athletic Federation till 2001 and the International Association of Athletics Federations from 2001 to 2019.
- In 2019, the name was changed to World Athletics.
- World Athletics was founded in 1912 in Stockholm, Sweden. It is headquartered in Monaco.

### **65th Anniversary of Border Roads Organisation**

- The Border Road Organisation (BRO) celebrated its 65th raising day on 7 May 2024.
- The primary goal of BRO is to develop infrastructure in remote areas of northern and north-eastern states.
- A ceremony was organised in New Delhi on the occasion, presided over by the Union Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane.
- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) was formed on May 7, 1960, with the primary goal of developing infrastructure in remote areas of India's north and north-eastern states.

### **World Red Cross Day 2024 observed on 8 May**

- World Red Cross Day is observed on May 8th every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, the founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and to celebrate the humanitarian work of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement worldwide.
- He became the first recipient of the 1st Nobel Peace Prize.
- The theme of this year's World Red Cross Day is - I give with joy, and the joy I give is a reward.
- The day serves as a reminder to people about the importance of compassion, love, affection, support and treatment.

### **World Thalassaemia Day 2024 observed on 8 May**

- Every year on 8 May, World Thalassemia Day is observed.
- The theme of World Thalassemia Day 2024 is "Empowering Lives, Embracing Progress: Equitable and Accessible Thalassemia Treatment for All."
- It is celebrated to create awareness regarding Thalassemia and to encourage those who struggle to live with this disease.
- In 1994, World Thalassemia Day was established and organized by the Thalassemia International Federation (TIF).
- Thalassemia is a genetic disease that is passed from parents to their offspring.
- Its symptoms start appearing from 3-4 months after the birth of the child.
- People suffering from Thalassaemia have less hemoglobin than normal, which leads to anemia.

### **National Technology Day 2024 celebrated on 11 May**

- National Technology Day is commemorated annually on May 11th in India. This year, the theme of National Technology Day 2024 is "From Schools to Startups: Igniting Young Minds to Innovate."
- On May 11th, 1998, the Indian Army conducted the historic Pokhran nuclear tests in Rajasthan.
- In recognition of these tests, former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee designated the day as National Technology Day in India.
- The Council for Technology organized the inaugural National Technology Day event the subsequent year, on May 11th, 1999.
- This day is also celebrated to showcase the nation's progress in various other technological accomplishments.

### **International Nurses Day 2024 celebrated on 12 May**

- Every year on 12 May, International Nurses Day is observed.
- It is observed to recognize the tireless and invaluable contribution of nurses to health care and global health security.
- The theme of International Nurses Day 2024 is "Our Nurses. Our future. Economic power of care. Has been announced.
- The day is meant to recognize the significant contribution of nursing staff whose work takes place in the care and service of patients.
- By celebrating this day, we salute the struggles and dedication of nurses who provide unique contributions to the health and wellbeing of society.



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- The day provides an opportunity to inspire and honour their struggles.

### **International Day of Family 2024 observed on May 15**

- Every year, 15 May is observed as the International Day of Family.
- The theme for the 2024 International Day of Family chosen by the United Nations is Families and Climate Change.
- The 2024 International Year of Family is the 30th edition of the International Day of Family.
- The day emphasises and underlines the importance of family, which is the basic unit of society.
- It also underscores the need to provide the widest possible protection and assistance to families so that they may fully assume their responsibilities within the community.

### **UN declared May 25 as World Football Day**

- The United Nations General Assembly has designated May 25th as World Football Day.
- This resolution was passed during the 80th plenary session of the General Assembly in New York.
- 2024 marks the 100th anniversary of the inaugural international football tournament, which took place during the 1924 Summer Olympic Games in Paris.
- The proposal for this resolution was presented by Taher M. El-Sonni, the Permanent Representative of the State of Libya to the United Nations.

### **International Day of Light celebrated on 16 May**

- The International Day of Light is celebrated annually on 16 May to commemorate the anniversary of the first successful operation of the laser by physicist and engineer Theodore Maiman in 1960.
- This day highlights the importance of light and promotes awareness of its role in science, culture, and sustainable development.
- It fosters scientific collaboration and explores the potential of light-based technologies for innovation and creativity.
- In 2016, UNESCO adopted a resolution to establish the International Day of Light, with the first celebration taking place in 2018.

### **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day observed on 17 May**

- World Telecommunication and Information Society Day falls on May 17th annually.
- The theme for World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2024 is "Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development," highlighting the critical role of technological innovation in driving sustainable development initiatives globally.
- Its purpose is to raise awareness about the potential benefits that the utilization of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICTs) can bring to both economies and societies.
- India currently boasts a 99% coverage footprint in 4G, with over 600,000 villages now connected via 4G networks.
- Additionally, the country has deployed approximately 442,000 5G base station transceivers.
- Since 1969, World Telecommunication Day has been observed on May 17th, commemorating the establishment of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865.
- In March 2006, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution designating May 17th as World Information Society Day.
- The decision to merge World Telecommunication Day and World Information Society Day into a unified observance on May 17th was made during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Antalya, Turkey, in November 2006.

### **National Endangered Species Day 2024 observed on 17 May**

- National Endangered Species Day, observed annually on the third Friday of May, this year falling on May 17, aims to raise awareness about the conservation of endangered species.
- The theme for National Endangered Species Day 2024 is "Celebrate Saving Species," highlighting the successes achieved in preserving endangered wildlife.
- Founded in 2006 by the Endangered Species Coalition and David Robinson, the day serves to educate people globally about endangered animals and the importance of their conservation.

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- This observance provides an opportunity to assess the status of threatened species and the impacts of climate change on their ecosystems.
- Endangered species are organisms at risk of extinction, primarily due to loss of habitat and genetic variation.
- Notable endangered species in India include the Asiatic Lion, Bengal Tiger, Snow Leopard, Kashmiri Red Stag, and One-horned Rhinoceros.

### **World AIDS Vaccine Day 2024 observed on 18 May**

- World AIDS Vaccine Day is observed worldwide on May 18 every year, serving as a platform to raise awareness about AIDS and the urgent need for an effective vaccine.
- The inaugural World AIDS Vaccine Day took place on May 18, 1998, marking a significant milestone in global efforts to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
- Despite decades of research and progress in HIV/AIDS treatment, there is currently no vaccine available to prevent HIV, underscoring the ongoing challenges in combating the disease.
- Also referred to as HIV Vaccine Awareness Day, the occasion emphasizes the importance of developing preventive measures against HIV transmission.
- AIDS, or Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, is caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), a viral disease that compromises the body's immune system.
- The emergence of AIDS was first reported in the United States in 1981, initiating widespread efforts to understand, treat, and prevent the spread of the virus.

### **International Museum Day 2024 observed on 18 May**

- International Museum Day, observed every May 18th, was established by the International Council of Museums (ICOM) in 1977 with the aim of promoting awareness about the significance of museums in society.
- Each year, the event highlights a different theme, shedding light on pertinent topics or issues faced by museums worldwide.
- This year's theme, "Museums for Education and Research," underscores the pivotal role of cultural institutions in providing an enriching educational journey.
- By focusing on education and research, museums contribute to fostering a deeper understanding of history, art, science, and culture, thereby enriching individuals and communities.
- Through exhibitions, programs, and interactive experiences, museums serve as dynamic platforms for learning and exploration, facilitating lifelong learning and scholarly inquiry.
- International Museum Day serves as a platform to celebrate the diverse contributions of museums and encourages public engagement with these vital repositories of human knowledge and creativity.

### **World Refugee Day 2024 observed on 20 May**

- Every year, 20 May is observed as World Refugee Day.
- The theme for the 2024 World Refugee Day is: Hope Away from Home
- The day is dedicated to raising global awareness about the challenges faced by refugees forced to flee their homes due to various reasons such as war, persecution, violence, or economic hardships.
- The inaugural World Refugee Day took place on May 20, 2001, aiming to shine a spotlight on the struggles of refugees worldwide.
- 2001 marked the 50th anniversary of two pivotal international agreements: the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol.
- These landmark agreements establish the legal framework for defining the rights of refugees and outlining the responsibilities of nations in providing assistance and protection to those fleeing persecution.
- By commemorating World Refugee Day, we honor the resilience of refugees and reaffirm our commitment to upholding their rights and providing support to those in need.
- India has not signed the 1951 Refugee Convention, but the UNHCR has been active in India since 1981.

### **International Tea Day 2024 celebrated on 21 May**

- Every year on May 21, International Tea Day is celebrated.
- The day aims to raise global awareness of tea's cultural and economic significance.



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- The first International Tea Day took place in New Delhi in 2005.
- The United Nations officially recognized International Tea Day in 2019.
- Tea is a widely consumed beverage made from the Camellia Sinensis plant.
- After water, tea is the most consumed drink worldwide.
- Tea is believed to have originated in northeastern India, northern Myanmar, and southwest China.
- China is the largest tea exporter, followed by Kenya and Sri Lanka.
- China is also the largest tea producer, with India and Kenya following.

### **National Anti-Terrorism Day 2024 observed on May 21**

- National Anti-Terrorism Day is observed annually on May 21st to commemorate the assassination of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on May 21, 1991.
- Rajiv Gandhi was killed by a suicide bomber from the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) in Sriperumbudur, near Chennai.
- He assumed office as Prime Minister following the assassination of his mother, Indira Gandhi, on October 31, 1984.
- In 1987, Rajiv Gandhi sent Indian peacekeeping forces to Sri Lanka to help establish peace.
- The day is observed to raise awareness about the grave consequences of terrorism and the importance of peace, unity, and security.
- National Anti-Terrorism Day was established by the VP Singh government in memory of Rajiv Gandhi.
- On this day, victims of terrorism are honored, and various organizations and educational institutions organize debates, discussions, and seminars on the impact of terrorism.

### **Buddha Purnima has been celebrated on 23 May in 2024.**

- Buddha Purnima was celebrated on May 23, 2024, marking the birth of Gautam Buddha.
- This day also commemorates his attainment of Enlightenment (Nirvana) under the Mahabodhi tree in Bodh Gaya. Known as a 'triple-blessed day,' it celebrates Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and Mahaparinirvana.
- In Hinduism, Buddha is considered the ninth incarnation of Lord Vishnu.
- His birth anniversary is also known as Vaisakhi Buddha Purnima.
- This day is celebrated by Buddhists and Hindus around the world and is a major festival in countries such as India, Nepal, Bhutan, Burma, Thailand, Tibet, China, Korea, Laos, Vietnam, Mongolia, Cambodia, Singapore, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka.
- He was born into a noble family of the Kshatriyas in Lumbini, Nepal in 563 BCE.
- His childhood name was Siddhartha Gautama and he belonged to Shakya clan.
- He attained enlightenment under a peepal tree in Bodhgaya.
- His first sermon is called Dharma Chakra Pravartan.

### **World Hunger Day 2024 observed on May 28**

- World Hunger Day 2024 falls on May 28th, dedicated to raising global awareness about the pressing issues of hunger and malnutrition.
- The overarching goal of World Hunger Day is to shed light on sustainable food systems and practices that can help alleviate hunger and malnutrition worldwide.
- The theme for World Hunger Day 2024 is "Thriving mothers. Thriving world.," highlighting the crucial role of women in addressing hunger and malnutrition.
- Women and children are disproportionately affected by malnutrition, stemming from factors such as conflict, famine, climate change, and other socioeconomic challenges.
- Established by the Hunger Project in 2011, World Hunger Day serves as a platform to draw attention to the ongoing global food crisis.
- The Hunger Project, founded in 1977, is a global movement committed to eradicating hunger and creating a world where everyone has access to nutritious food.

### **International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2024 observed on 29 May**

- Each year on May 29, the International Day of UN Peacekeepers is observed to recognize the significant contributions of both military and civilian personnel to global peacekeeping efforts.
- The theme for 2024 is "Fit for the Future: Building Better Together."

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- Since 1948, over two million peacekeepers have participated in 71 missions, aiding countries in their transition from conflict to peace.
- Presently, more than 76,000 peacekeepers from over 120 nations are engaged in 11 missions worldwide.
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) established this day to commemorate the inception of the first UN peacekeeping mission in 1948.
- India has been instrumental in UN peacekeeping operations, notably sending medical teams to Congo in 1960 and an all-female contingent to Liberia in 2008.
- The Indian Army marked the 76th International Day of UN Peacekeepers by laying wreaths at the National War Memorial in New Delhi, honoring the memory of fallen comrades.

### **Hindi Journalism Day 2024 celebrated on 30 May**

- Hindi Journalism Day, celebrated annually on 30 May, honors the significant contributions of Hindi journalists who serve the public with truth and courage.
- This day commemorates the launch of the first Hindi newspaper, "Udant Martand," by Pt. Jugal Kishore Shukla on 30 May 1826, in Calcutta.
- This event marked the beginning of Hindi journalism.
- During British rule, the publication of Udant Martand was a landmark moment in Indian journalism history.
- This era saw a rise in important publications and an increase in the number of journalists dedicated to this field.

### **World No Tobacco Day observed annually on May 31st.**

- World No Tobacco Day, also known as Anti-Tobacco Day, is observed annually on May 31 to raise awareness about the potential risks associated with tobacco use.
- The 2024 theme is, "Protecting children from tobacco industry interference," carries immense significance in the fight against tobacco use.
- The primary goal of this day is to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable illnesses and deaths it causes.
- The World Health Assembly established World No Tobacco Day by passing a resolution in 1987.
- Tobacco contains nicotine, which leads to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **Justice PS Dinesh Kumar assumed the office of the presiding officer of the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT).**

- Justice PS Dinesh Kumar, former Chief Justice of the High Court of Karnataka, has taken over as the presiding officer of the Securities Appellate Tribunal.
- Dheeraj Bhatnagar, retired Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Delhi has become the technical member of SAT.
- The tenure of both members will be four years.
- A SAT bench consists of three members including a presiding officer, a judicial and a technical member.
- SAT hears appeals against orders passed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India and the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority.

### **UNICEF India Appointed Kareena As National Ambassador**

- Bollywood actress Kareena Kapoor Khan has been appointed as the National Ambassador for UNICEF India.
- This prestigious role comes as a recognition of her long-standing association with the organization since 2014, where she has served as a Celebrity Advocate.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- As a national ambassador, she will support the UNICEF India campaign to further every child's right to early childhood development, health, education, and gender equality.
- Along with Kareena's appointment, UNICEF India unveiled its first-ever Youth Advocates, a group of four extraordinary people who would act as peer leaders and advocates for critical problems affecting children and young people.
- The Youth Advocates' respective causes are-
- ✓ Gauranshi Sharma of Madhya Pradesh advocates for a right to play and disability inclusion.
- ✓ Kartik Verma of Uttar Pradesh is an advocate for climate action and children's rights.
- ✓ Nahid Afrin of Assam is promoting awareness about mental health and early childhood development.
- ✓ Vinisha Umashankar from Tamil Nadu is a young innovator and STEM pioneer.

### **Russia's Vladimir Putin took oath as President for a fifth term.**

- Vladimir Putin was sworn in for a six-year term on 7 May 2024 at a Kremlin ceremony.
- Several Western nations, including the United States, abstained from attending the event, citing Russia's involvement in the conflict in Ukraine.
- Putin's tenure in power dates back to 1999, during which he has served both as president and prime minister.
- In the recent March elections, Putin secured a resounding victory, further solidifying his hold on power.
- If he completes his current six-year term, Putin will surpass Josef Stalin as Russia's longest-serving leader since Empress Catherine the Great in the eighteenth century.
- Currently, Mikhail Mishustin holds the position of Prime Minister in Russia's federal semi-presidential republic system.

### **Dileep Sanghani has been elected as IFFCO Chairman.**

- Dileep Sanghani has been elected as the Chairman of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO), following the cooperative's 15th RGB elections for its Board of Directors.
- Balvir Singh has been elected as the Vice Chairman.
- The elections for the post of 21 Directors were held on May 9, 2024.
- Dr. US Awasthi, the Managing Director of IFFCO, extended his congratulations to Chairman Dileep Sanghani, Vice Chairman Balvir Singh, and all the newly elected board members.
- IFFCO, a multi-state cooperative society headquartered in New Delhi, was established in 1967.
- Engaged in the manufacturing and marketing of fertilisers, it plays a significant role in supporting Indian agriculture.

### **Mikhail Mishustin has been reappointed as Prime Minister of Russia.**

- Russian President Vladimir Putin has reappointed Mikhail Mishustin as Prime Minister.
- The State Duma, the lower house of the Parliament of Russia, has officially endorsed Mishustin for a second term as Prime Minister.
- This decision comes as no surprise to political analysts, who had widely anticipated Mishustin's reappointment.
- He has been credited with keeping the Russian economy stable even after the Covid-19 pandemic and the Ukraine War.
- Mishustin has been serving as Prime Minister of Russia since January 16, 2020.
- Prior to his tenure as Prime Minister, he served as the head of the Federal Taxation Service of Russia. It's worth noting that in Russia, the Prime Minister serves at the discretion of the President, with a term lasting six years.

### **Idashisha Nongrang has been appointed the first woman Director General of Police (DGP) of Meghalaya.**

- Idashisha Nongrang has made history as the first woman Director General of Police (DGP) in Meghalaya.
- She will take over from Lajja Ram Bishnoi, who is retiring on May 19.
- Ms. Nongrang's tenure as the state police chief will extend until May 19, 2026.
- Currently, she holds the position of Director General of Meghalaya Civil Defense.
- Ms. Nongrang is a member of the Khasi community.



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- In 2021, she previously served as the acting DGP.
- Meghalaya is a hilly state dominated by three matrilineal ethnic communities.
- Khasi is a matrilineal community. The other two matrilineal communities in the state are the Garo and the Jaintia.

### **Kapil Sibal became president of the Supreme Court Bar Association.**

- Senior advocate Kapil Sibal has been elected as the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), marking his fourth term in this prestigious position.
- Sibal secured a total of 1,066 votes, emerging victorious over his closest competitor, senior advocate Pradeep Rai.
- Other notable contenders in the election included Priya Hingorani, Tripurari Ray, and Neeraj Srivastava.
- Advocate Vikrant Yadav has been elected as the Secretary of the SCBA, adding to the leadership team of the association.
- Kapil Sibal's illustrious legal career includes serving as Additional Solicitor General of India from 1989 to 1990, with his elevation to the status of Senior Advocate in 1983.
- In a significant move towards inclusivity, the Supreme Court has mandated the reservation of certain positions in the executive committee of the SCBA for women, reflecting the commitment to gender diversity and representation.

### **NASA Names First Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer**

- David Salvagnini has been appointed as NASA's Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer, expanding his current role as Chief Data Officer within the agency.
- This strategic move underscores NASA's dedication to leveraging AI technology in a responsible manner, aligning with its mission to explore and advance scientific understanding.
- Salvagnini's dual responsibilities signify NASA's recognition of the integral role that AI plays in the agency's data-driven initiatives and decision-making processes.
- With his expertise in both data management and AI technologies, Salvagnini is poised to drive innovation and efficiency across NASA's operations, enhancing its capabilities in space exploration and research.
- Salvagnini, who joined NASA in June 2023, brings over 20 years of technology leadership experience from the intelligence community.

### **Senior IPS officers A.Y.V. Krishna, N. Venu Gopal appointed additional directors in CBI**

- AYV Krishna and N Venu Gopal have been appointed additional directors in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- Krishna, a 1995-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre, is currently serving as Inspector General in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).
- N Venu Gopal of Himachal Pradesh cadre is currently serving as Joint Director in CBI, will serve as an Additional Director till May 24, 2027.
- The appointment of AYV Krishna and N Venu Gopal underlines the commitment of the government to enhance CBI's investigative capabilities.
- With their extensive experience and proven track record in law enforcement, both officers are expected to make a significant contribution to the agency's mission of upholding justice and combating high-level crime.
- ONGC Videsh Limited, the overseas investment arm of ONGC, will play a key role in this venture, which will use its global energy market expertise to effectively explore and acquire critical mineral assets.

### **Mohammad Mokhber has been appointed as Interim President of Iran.**

- Mohammad Mokhber, Iran's First Vice President, has been appointed as the Interim President following the recent vacancy in office.
- Assuming the responsibilities of the executive branch, Mokhber will serve as Interim President for a maximum duration of 50 days, as stipulated by the Islamic Republic's constitution.

## **"CURRENT AFFAIR"**

- In accordance with constitutional provisions, if the incumbent president passes away during their term, the first vice president assumes interim presidency for a specified period, subject to the approval of the Supreme Leader.
- A meeting was convened involving representatives from the government's three branches - the executive, legislative, and judiciary - to address the transition of power and ensure continuity in governance.
- Mohammad Mokhber assumed the role of First Vice President in 2021 following the election of President Raisi, and his appointment as Interim President marks a pivotal moment in Iran's political landscape.

### **John Slaven has been appointed as the Vice President of the International Aluminum Institute (IAI).**

- Vedanta Aluminum announced the appointment of its CEO, John Slaven, to this prestigious role. In his new position, Slaven will spearhead a global initiative aimed at highlighting aluminum's crucial role in the transition to zero-carbon energy.
- With over three decades of experience in the metals, mining, and modern manufacturing industries, Slaven brings a wealth of expertise to the IAI.
- IAI is an organization representing the primary aluminum industry worldwide.
- It is tasked with raising awareness of the industry's operations, advocating for responsible production, and emphasizing the significant benefits of using aluminum in manufacturing green technologies.
- IAI's current membership includes the world's leading bauxite, alumina and aluminium companies.
- In FY24, Vedanta Aluminum is a leading producer of aluminium, producing 2.37 million tonnes.
- It is also a producer of value-added aluminum products which have important applications in key industries.

### **Vietnam's parliament elected public security minister To Lam as the country's President**

- On May 22, Vietnam's parliament elected To Lam, the public security minister, as the country's new President. Lam succeeded Vo Van Thuong, who resigned in March amid a significant anti-corruption campaign. Lam received an overwhelming 472 out of 473 votes.
- This election follows the appointment of former deputy Tran Thanh Man as the new chairman of Vietnam's National Assembly on May 20. Vietnam operates under a four-person leadership structure led by the General Secretary of the Communist Party, which also includes the President, the Prime Minister, and the head of the National Assembly.
- Lam has been minister of public security since 2016 and has taken a tough stance on human rights movements in the communist country.
- The National Assembly elects the President by secret ballot, after which delegates approve the results.

### **Shri Ramesh Babu V. as member of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission**

- Shri Ramesh Babu V. was sworn in as a member of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, taking the oath of office and secrecy administered by the Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy, Shri R. Of. Singh.
- Mr. Ramesh Babu V. is a distinguished individual with a background in engineering, holding an M. Tech degree in Thermal Engineering and a B. Tech in Mechanical Engineering.
- His professional journey includes a tenure as Director (Operations) at NTPC, culminating with his retirement in May 2020. Prior to this, he held various esteemed positions within NTPC, showcasing his expertise and dedication to the field.
- The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) was instituted by the Government of India in accordance with the Electricity Regulatory Commission Act, 1998.
- This central body, formed by the repeal of the ERC Act, 1998, serves to fulfil the objectives outlined in the Electricity Act, 2003. Comprising a chairman and three other members, the Commission also includes the Chairman of the Central Electricity Authority as an ex-officio member.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

### **Justice Najmi Waziri appointed as Chairperson of Equestrian Federation Of India's Ad-Hoc Administrative Committee**

- The Delhi High Court has appointed its retired judge, Justice Najmi Waziri, as the Chairperson of an ad-hoc Administrative Committee to oversee the administration of the Equestrian Federation of India (EFI).
- Justice Tara Vitasta Ganju directed that the committee will also include Dr. SY Quraishi, the former Chief Election Commissioner of India, as an observer.
- Justice Waziri, renowned as the "green judge" of Delhi for his initiative to enhance the city's greenery by mandating the planting of 3.7 lakh trees in various cases, retired last July.

### **Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) chairman Samir V. Kamat has been granted one year extension.**

- Dr. Samir V. Kamat, Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has been granted a one-year extension by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, extending his tenure until May 31, 2025.
- Dr. Kamat, who was appointed in August 2022, succeeded Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy.
- Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy was appointed as the Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister.
- Additionally, Army Chief General Manoj Pande received a one-month extension, extending his tenure until June 30, 2024.

### **ICC appointed Shahid Afridi as its ambassador for the T20 World Cup 2024.**

- The ICC has appointed Shahid Afridi, former captain of Pakistan, as the ambassador for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024.
- Afridi joins a distinguished lineup of ambassadors for the tournament, including sprint sensation Usain Bolt, cricketing icons Chris Gayle, and India legend Yuvraj Singh.
- The T20 World Cup 2024 is set to commence on June 1, spanning across venues in the United States and the West Indies.
- Afridi's selection as an ambassador pays tribute to his illustrious career, highlighted by his stellar performances in previous T20 World Cups.
- In the inaugural 2007 T20 World Cup, Afridi was named Player of the Tournament despite Pakistan's loss to India in the final.
- Afridi's leadership prowess shone in 2009 when he guided Pakistan to victory in the T20 World Cup, delivering match-winning performances in the semi-finals and final.

### **Apurva Chandra Appointed Chairperson of Committee A at 77th World Health Assembly**

- Apurva Chandra, the Union Health Secretary of India, has been appointed as the chairperson of Committee A at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA).
- The WHA is taking place in Geneva from May 27 to June 1.
- Committee A, chaired by India, is responsible for facilitating critical discussions on a wide array of programmatic issues.
- The World Health Assembly operates through three main committees: Plenary, Committee A, and Committee B.
- India's leadership of Committee A will be effective until June 1.

### **Pradip Kumar Tripathi has been appointed as secretary to Lokpal**

- Pradip Kumar Tripathi has been appointed as the Secretary to Lokpal until July 30.
- His appointment, along with that of IAS officer Rakesh Ranjan as the Chairman of the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), has been ratified by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet.
- Furthermore, Amit Yadav has assumed the role of Officer on Special Duty in the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, while IAS officer Rajendra Kumar has been designated as the Secretary in the Department of Border Management.
- Lokpal, a multi-member body comprising a Chairperson and a maximum of 8 members, is mandated to have 50% judicial members.
- The President appoints Lokpal members based on the recommendation of a selection committee.



### **India and Nigeria agreed to enhance cooperation in energy and Local currency settlement.**

- India and Nigeria have recently agreed to strengthen their collaboration in the energy sector and local currency settlements.
- Both countries have identified key areas such as crude oil, natural gas, pharmaceuticals, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), local currency settlement systems, and the power sector for enhancing cooperation.
- They have reached consensus on promptly finalizing the Local Currency Settlement System Agreement.
- A seven-member delegation from India discussed issues related to cooperation during its recent visit to Nigeria.
- In this discussion, the Indian delegation was led by Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, Amardeep Singh Bhatia.
- Indian delegation consisted of officials from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), EXIM Bank of India and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- Nigeria is the second largest trading partner of India in the Africa region.
- India and Nigeria's bilateral trade has declined from \$11.8 billion in 2022-23 to \$7.89 billion in 2023-24.
- Around 135 Indian companies are actively working in Nigeria with an investment of \$27 billion.

### **European Union (EU) Adopted First Law Against Violence Towards Women**

- The European Union has officially embraced pioneering legislation aimed at combating violence against women throughout its 27 member states. This legislation encompasses provisions targeting forced marriages, female genital mutilation, and cyber violence, representing a notable stride in bolstering women's rights and security within the EU.
- The newly approved law attempts to protect women from gender-based violence by addressing a wide range of offenses. It specifically criminalizes internet stalking and harassment, non-consensual sharing of intimate photographs, and incitement to violence or hatred. Offenses under this statute are punishable by imprisonment for periods ranging from one to five years, depending on the seriousness of the crime.
- Additionally, if the victim is a juvenile or has a close familial link with the criminal (e.g., husband or ex-spouse), the law allows for harsher punishments.
- EU member states must implement these new guidelines into their national laws within three years. The harmonisation of these legislation across the EU is expected to strengthen the legal response to gender-based violence, ensuring that perpetrators face severe penalties while victims receive extensive support.
- The European Union is a political and economic union of 27 European countries established following World War II to promote economic cooperation and prevent future wars.
- The European Union, established in 1993 by the Maastricht Treaty, has created an internal single market through unified laws.

### **India supported Palestine's bid to become a full UN member.**

- India has extended its support to Palestine's endeavor to attain full membership status within the United Nations (UN). During a session of the 193-member General Assembly convened to vote on the resolution, India cast its vote in favor of Palestine's bid.
- The draft resolution, advocating for Palestine's full UN membership, was put forth by the United Arab Emirates. According to this resolution, Palestine meets the qualifications necessary for admission as a full member of the United Nations.
- The resolution garnered 143 affirmative votes, with nine opposing and 25 abstentions, reflecting a significant global stance on the issue.
- Currently, Palestine is a non-member observer state at the UN. It got this status from the General Assembly in 2012.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- In 1974, India was the first non-Arab state to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.
- India was one of the first countries to recognize the State of Palestine.

### **Ukraine parliament has passed bill that permits prisoners to join military.**

- The Ukrainian parliament has recently approved a bill allowing prisoners to enlist in the military, responding to the urgent need for additional military personnel.
- This move comes amidst a critical shortage of manpower faced by Ukrainian forces.
- However, the bill is pending final approval from both the Chairperson of Parliament, the Verkhovna Rada, and President Volodymyr Zelenskyy before it can be implemented.
- The legislation stipulates that participation in the military will be voluntary and restricted to certain categories of prisoners.
- Notably, individuals convicted of serious offenses such as sexual violence, severe corruption, multiple homicides, and former high-ranking officials are ineligible.
- Furthermore, eligible prisoners must have less than three years remaining on their sentence to qualify for enlistment.

### **Nepal's 'Everest Man' beats own record by climbing summit for 29th time.**

- Renowned Nepali mountaineer Kami Rita Sherpa has achieved a historic feat by conquering Mount Everest for the 29th time.
- Kami Rita is known as "Everest Man", belongs to the ethnic Sherpa community.
- He has scaled Mount Everest peak almost every year since his first successful ascent in 1994.
- Rita had climbed Mount Everest twice last year, setting the record for most climbs on his first expedition.
- Nepal is home of eight of the world's 10 highest peaks. Last year, more than 600 climbers reached to the summit of Everest.
- Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay were the first male to climb Mount Everest.
- Junko Tabei was the first woman to climb Mount Everest. Mark Inglis became the first ever double amputee to climb Mount Everest.
- Mount Everest is Earth's highest (8,849 m) mountain above sea level.

### **Japan has unveiled the world's first 6G device.**

- A Japanese consortium has released the world's first high-speed 6G prototype device.
- This 6G device will be 20 times faster than 5G, transmitting data at an astonishing 100 gigabits per second (Gbps).
- The 6G prototype device is a result of a collaboration among leading companies, including DOCOMO, NTT Corporation, NEC Corporation, and Fujitsu.
- The tests for this device were conducted over a distance of 328 feet (100 meters).
- Currently, 5G has a theoretical maximum speed of 10 Gbps, with an average speed of around 200 megabits per second (Mbps) for T-Mobile users in the US.

### **A Subcritical nuclear test was conducted by the USA in Nevada**

- The United States conducted a subcritical nuclear test in Nevada.
- This test, which took place on May 21, was the third such experiment during President Joe Biden's administration.
- The purpose of the test was to gather critical data on the nation's nuclear warheads.
- The experiment, part of the Nimble series, was conducted in collaboration with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Notably, it was the first experiment carried out at the Principal Underground Laboratory for Subcritical Experimentation (PULSE) facility.
- According to the US Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration, the test was conducted without the use of nuclear explosive testing, which depends on subcritical tests to support the safety and effectiveness of nuclear warheads.
- In 1992, the American government had announced a restriction on tests involving nuclear explosions. But successive governments kept continuing the subcritical tests.
- In September 2021, a previous subcritical test was conducted

## **"CURRENT AFFAIR"**

### **Spain, Norway and Ireland have decided to recognize Palestine as a separate state**

- Spain, Norway, and Ireland have decided to formally recognize Palestine as an independent state. This recognition will come into effect on May 28. Israel has criticized these nations, claiming they are "rewarding" Hamas for its brutal attack on October 7.
- Palestinian statehood has already been acknowledged by more than 130 United Nations member states. This formal recognition by Spain, Norway, and Ireland is seen as a step towards achieving a two-state solution, aiming to secure peace for both Israelis and Palestinians.
- More than 35,000 Palestinians have been killed and nearly 80,000 wounded during the Israeli assault on Gaza.
- The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the main representative of the Palestinians, was the first to declare the establishment of the State of Palestine in 1988.

### **Spain Joins International Solar Alliance As Its Newest Member**

- Spain has become the 99th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- This announcement was made by Ministry of External Affairs spokesman Randhir Jaiswal.
- Spain has ratified the ISA Instrument of Ratification and submitted it to the ISA Head of Depository.
- India hosts the International Solar Alliance.
- Abhishek Singh, Joint Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, currently serves as the Head of Depository.
- The first founding conference of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) was co-hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron.
- The event took place in New Delhi on March 11, 2018.

### **ESA and 12 Countries Sign Zero Debris Charter**

- The European Space Agency (ESA) and twelve nations have officially signed the Zero Debris Charter at the ESA/EU Space Council.
- This landmark agreement demonstrates their commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability of human activities in Earth's orbit.
- The countries involved—Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom—have pledged to adhere to the charter's guidelines.
- During the 2022 Ministerial Conference, ESA members agreed to implement a "Zero Debris Approach" in their missions.
- The Zero Debris Charter aims to position Europe as a global leader in the mitigation and remediation of space debris.

### **A legislation has been approved by the European Union to increase domestic green tech production.**

- The European Union has approved legislation to boost domestic green tech production.
- On May 27, EU governments formally approved a new law aiming to ensure the EU produces 40% of its solar panels, wind turbines, heat pumps, and other clean tech equipment.
- This initiative aims to enhance the competitiveness of European industry against American and Chinese counterparts.
- The Net Zero Industry Act (NZIA) will come into effect next month or early July, following the signatures of the Presidents of the European Parliament and Council.
- The Act will be published in the Official Journal of the EU.
- The NZIA is central to the EU's strategy to lead globally in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and developing necessary technology.
- Europe is increasingly dependent on China, which controls an estimated 80% of global solar energy manufacturing capacity.
- The EU is also concerned that the \$369 billion in green subsidies from the US Inflation Reduction Act may entice European producers to relocate.
- The EU has set a target to produce 40% of the products needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, including renewable energy, nuclear power, heat pumps, electrolyzers, and carbon capture technologies.



## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

### **Six NATO countries will create a 'Drone Wall' against Russia.**

- Six NATO countries, namely Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Finland, and Norway, have collectively decided to establish a "Drone Wall" as a defense measure against Russia.
- This proposed drone wall will stretch from Norway to Poland and will utilize drones and other advanced technologies to safeguard the borders of these countries.
- While specific details such as funding, timeline, and technical specifications remain undisclosed, it is expected that EU funds will play a significant role in financing the project.
- The interior ministers of the six involved countries convened in Riga, Latvia, on May 23 and 24 to discuss and initiate the drone wall project.
- Discussions during the meeting encompassed various security threats, including non-military tactics like "instrumentalized migration," aimed at addressing potential challenges posed by Russia.
- The European countries sharing borders with Russia include Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia, and Lithuania

### **Donald Trump Convicted of Criminal Charges**

- Donald Trump has become the first former U.S. President to be convicted of a crime.
- A New York jury found Trump guilty on all 34 counts related to a scheme involving hush money payments to a porn actor, aimed at illegally influencing the 2016 election.
- Trump is expected to appeal the verdict promptly.
- This conviction does not prevent Trump from running in the upcoming presidential election.
- Trump faces both federal and state charges for allegedly conspiring to overturn the results of the 2020 election, which was won by Joe Biden.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### **GST Appellate Tribunal will be headed by Sanjaya Kumar Mishra.**

- The Goods & Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) will now be led by Retired Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra, who has been appointed as its President.
- This significant appointment aims to facilitate businesses in swiftly resolving various disputes related to GST.
- The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet has granted approval for Mishra's appointment, following the recommendation of the SCSC (Search-cum-Selection Committee).
- He will remain in office for four years or till attaining the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.
- In 2023, the Central government issued a notification to set up 31 GSTAT benches with one Principal Bench in Delhi.
- GST Tribunals handle disputes related to GST, providing a timely and efficient resolution mechanism.
- It plays a crucial role in ensuring fairness, accountability, and the rule of law in tax administration.

### **India's first constitution park has been inaugurated in Pune.**

- India's inaugural Constitution Park has been unveiled in Pune, marking a historic milestone in the country's commemoration of its foundational document.
- Developed through a collaboration between the Indian Army and the Punit Balan Group, the park stands as a testament to the nation's reverence for its constitutional values.
- The park has been inaugurated by GOC-in-C, Southern Command, Lt Gen Ajai Kumar Singh.
- This Constitution Park is a tribute to the founding leaders of the Constitution.
- This park is a symbol of unity and commitment towards values in the Constitution of India.
- The Constituent Assembly of India developed the Constitution by taking provisions from other nations' constitutions.
- The Constituent Assembly prepared it in about 2 years and 11 months.
- It is the lengthiest written constitution in the world with approximately 1,45,000 words.
- It was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26th November 1949 and came into force on 26th January 1950.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

### **MEDITECH STACKATHON 2024**

- The Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers launched the MEDITECH STACKATHON 2024 on 07 May 2024.
- MEDITECH STACKATHON 2024 was launched in New Delhi in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- Its goal is to transform the rapidly expanding MedTech industry in India by carefully examining the value chain of certain medical products.
- Its objective is to address significant issues, encourage domestic production, reduce dependency on imports, and eventually position India as a world leader in medical technology.
- The STACKATHON included a number of topics, including critical care, imaging, and cancer therapy.
- The event demonstrated India's enormous potential in the MedTech sector, with growth rates of up to 28% per year projected.
- By 2030, the Indian MedTech market is predicted to grow to \$50 billion.
- Presently, India is one of the top 20 global markets for medical equipment and the fourth largest market in Asia.
- India's MedTech exports have already increased to more than 4 billion dollars.

### **PM Modi Pays Tributes To Maharana Pratap On His Birth Anniversary**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to Maharana Pratap on his birth anniversary.
- Historically, Maharana Pratap, born on May 9, 1540, was the valiant ruler of Mewar, Rajasthan.
- Maharana Pratap Jayanti, commemorating the birth anniversary of the legendary king, falls on June 9 this year, as per the Hindu calendar.
- Acknowledged for his bravery and staunch opposition to the Mughal Empire, particularly showcased in the Battle of Haldighati, Maharana Pratap epitomizes Rajput valor and autonomy.
- His steadfast devotion to his realm and subjects secured him a revered position in Indian history, serving as an enduring inspiration for generations through his unwavering resolve and commitment to sovereignty.

### **India to host 'Bharat Parv' at 77th Cannes Film Festival**

- From May 14th to May 25th, India will participate at the 77th Cannes Film Festival in France.
- It will be for the first time that the country will host a "Bharat Parv" at the Cannes Film Festival to engage with film celebrities, filmmakers, directors, producers, buyers and sales agents from across the world.
- The official poster and teaser for the 55th India International Film Festival (IFFI), which will take place in Goa from November 20 to 28, will also be released at Bharat Parv.
- The Bharat Parv will also see the release of the "Save the Date" for the 1st World Audio-Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) to be hosted alongside the 55<sup>th</sup> India International Film Festival (IFFI).

### **UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register**

- Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana have been included in UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register.
- This recognition marks a proud moment for India, underscoring the nation's rich literary and cultural heritage.
- These timeless works, including 'Ramcharitmanas', 'Panchatantra', and 'Sahṛdayāloka-Locana', have profoundly influenced Indian literature and culture, molding the moral framework and artistic expressions of the country.
- They have traversed through time and space, leaving an enduring impact on readers and artists both within and beyond India.
- It's noteworthy that 'Sahṛdayāloka-Locana', 'Panchatantra', and 'Ramcharitmanas' were composed by Pt. Acharya Anandvardhan, Vishnu Sharma, and Goswami Tulsidas, respectively.
- During the 10th meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP), Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts (IGNCA) played an important role in achieving a historic milestone.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- The gathering, held in Ulaanbaatar, brought together 38 representatives of member states, along with 40 observers and nominees.

### **First set of CAA certificates has been granted to 14 applicants.**

- The inaugural batch of Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) certificates has been issued to 14 individuals.
- The Union Home Secretary, Ajay Bhalla, personally handed over the first set of citizenship certificates to these 14 applicants.
- Following a meticulous review process, an empowered committee led by the Director of Census Operation, Delhi, approved citizenship for these 14 individuals.
- The Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024, were officially announced by the government on March 11th.
- These rules delineate the procedures to be followed by the District Level Committee (DLC) for processing applications and by the State Level Empowered Committee (EC) for scrutinizing and granting citizenship.
- Citizenship under the CAA is exclusively extended to individuals from Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi, and Christian communities originating from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan, provided they arrived in India before December 31, 2014.
- The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill received presidential approval on December 12, 2019.

### **India Skills 2024 Inaugurated**

- The four-day nation's largest skill competition, IndiaSkills 2024, kicked off in New Delhi on May 15, 2024.
- The opening ceremony took place at Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi.
- The four day India Skills Competition 2024 has been organised by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC).
- NSDC is an apex skill development agency under the Union Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).
- This skill competition aims to evaluate students' abilities across India in 61 categories from May 15th to May 18th, 2024.
- It provides young people with a platform to showcase their talents nationally and internationally.

### **Jyoti Ratre, 55, becomes oldest Indian woman to conquer Mount Everest**

- Jyoti Ratre, an enterprising individual and aficionado of fitness hailing from Madhya Pradesh, has etched her name in history as the oldest Indian woman to triumphantly conquer Mount Everest.
- At the age of 55, this seasoned mountaineer reached the pinnacle, scaling to an awe-inspiring altitude of 8,848.86 meters.
- Her journey to this remarkable achievement was not without its challenges. Jyoti was part of a distinguished 15-member expedition team, under the leadership of Bolivian climber David Hugo Ayaviri Quispe.
- Despite facing setbacks during her first attempt in 2023, when adverse weather conditions impeded her progress at 8,160 meters, she persisted with unwavering determination and resolve.
- In surpassing this monumental milestone on her second endeavour, Jyoti Ratre shattered the previous record set by Sangeeta Bahl, who had ascended Everest on May 19, 2018, at the age of 53.
- This extraordinary feat not only exemplifies Jyoti's personal fortitude but also serves as an inspiration to aspiring adventurers across the nation.

### **Purnima Shrestha became the first woman to climb Mount Everest three times in 13 days.**

- Purnima Shrestha, a 32-year-old mountaineer and photojournalist from Gorkha, Nepal, has made history by becoming the first woman to conquer Mount Everest three times within a span of just 13 days in a single climbing season.
- Her remarkable feat surpasses the previous record for any woman summiting Everest three times in one season, setting a new benchmark in mountaineering.
- Prior to this extraordinary achievement, Purnima had already scaled Everest four times, with her first ascent dating back to 2018.



## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- This unprecedented triple climb exemplifies the empowerment of female climbers and serves as a source of inspiration for women worldwide, encouraging them to pursue and achieve their dreams against all odds.

### STATE NEWS

#### **Eight Railway Station in Amethi, Uttar Pradesh Renamed**

- The government has approved the change in the name of the following eight stations of Amethi.
  - ✓ Fursatganj Railway Station as Tapeswarnath Dham,
  - ✓ Kasimpur Halt as Jais City,
  - ✓ Jais City as Guru Gorakhnath Dham,
  - ✓ Bani as Swami Paramhans,
  - ✓ Misrauli as Maa Kalikan Dham,
  - ✓ Nihargarh as Maharaja Bijli Pasi,
  - ✓ Akbarganj as Maa Kalikan Dham,
  - ✓ Warisganj as Amar Shahid Bhale Sultan
- Amethi, which is a high-profile Lok Sabha constituency, is currently represented by the Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, Mrs. Smriti Irani.
- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs issued a guideline in 1953 for the procedure to be followed for the change in the name of a city, town or railway station. The guideline was modified by the ministry in 2002.
- Article 3 of the Indian constitution deals with the procedure for changing the name of a State.

#### **Uttarakhand Tourism Announced India's First Astro Tourism Campaign Named 'Nakshatra Sabha'**

- Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board collaborates with Starscapes to launch Nakshatra Sabha, an innovative astro-tourism initiative.
- Nakshatra Sabha offers more than stargazing, providing participants with opportunities for solar observations, astrophotography contests, and camping experiences.
- The initiative aims to attract astronomy enthusiasts, adventurers, and travellers to Uttarakhand, offering them a unique platform to explore the cosmos amidst the state's natural splendor.

#### **Tripura's First International Cricket Stadium will be ready by February 2025.**

- The inaugural International Cricket Stadium in Tripura, situated in Narsingarh within the West Tripura district, is slated for completion by February 2025.
- Representing a significant milestone, this stadium, with a budget of Rs 200 crore, marks the north-eastern state's first foray into hosting major cricket events.
- A collaborative effort between the BCCI and Tripura Cricket Association, construction commenced in 2017, with expectations of accommodating over 25,000 spectators.
- Tripura is poised to embrace the excitement of international and T20 matches in the upcoming year.

#### **GI tag has been given to the Ajrakh of Kutch.**

- Geographical Indication (GI) certificate has been granted by the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks (CGPDTM) to the traditional artisans of 'Kutch Ajrakh' hailing from the vibrant region of Kutch, Gujarat.
- This is an important step towards preserving the rich textile heritage of India.
- This prestigious recognition serves as a testament to the exceptional artistry and cultural significance of the age-old craft practiced by artisans in the region.
- The GI tag, a symbol of authenticity and origin, provides legal protection to products, services, or arts originating from specific geographical areas.
- With a millennium-long history, Ajrakh is a traditional textile skill with profound roots in Gujarati culture, especially in the districts of Sindh, Barmer, and Kutch.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- The art of Ajrakh involves a meticulous process of hand-block printing on treated cotton fabric, resulting in intricate designs imbued with rich symbolism and history.

### **Manipur Governor launched a 'School on Wheels' initiative.**

- In a commendable effort to bridge educational gaps in the aftermath of ethnic violence, Manipur Governor Anusuiya Uikey has launched the innovative 'School on Wheels' initiative.
- This initiative aims to provide education to students residing in relief camps across the state.
- The mobile school, equipped with a library, smart TV, computer facilities, and sports items, will be accompanied by dedicated teachers, ensuring educational continuity for the affected children.
- The Vidya Bharati Shiksha Vikas Samiti is implementing the initiative.
- About 18,000 students are presently staying in 480 relief camps.
- Ethnic violence that started on May 3 of last year resulted in thousands of people being displaced from their homes and over 219 deaths.

### **Uttarakhand CM Dharam Singh launched the 'Pirul Lao-Paise Pao' campaign.**

- The Uttarakhand government has launched the Pirul Lao-Paise Pao campaign to contain the raging forest fire in the state.
- He kicked off the campaign in Rudrapur district.
- He directed people to take part in the Pirul Lao-Paise Pao campaign to prevent forest fires.
- The Supreme Court recently expressed concern about the raging forest fire in the state, which has already killed five people.
- Under this campaign, the Pirul (leaves from the Pine Tree) lying in the forest will be collected by the local villagers and youth.
- It will be weighed and then stored at the designated Pirul Collection Centre.
- The forest fires have already destroyed trees, medicinal plants and wildlife in the area, besides creating air pollution due to thick smoke and soot.

### **Chhattisgarh's first 15-Mw floating solar plant will be set by Bhilai Steel Plant.**

- Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) is set to establish Chhattisgarh's inaugural 15-megawatt (MW) floating solar project on its Maroda-1 reservoir, marking a significant milestone.
- This initiative underscores BSP's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint and embracing renewable energy solutions.
- The floating solar plant, situated in Chhattisgarh, is anticipated to produce approximately 34.26 million units of electricity annually.
- Moreover, it is projected to curtail BSP's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by an estimated 28,330 tonnes each year.

### **Sikkim will introduce an Artificial Intelligence-driven traffic management system on May 25.**

- Starting May 25, Sikkim will roll out an Artificial Intelligence-based traffic management system.
- The Sikkim transport department is spearheading the implementation of this cutting-edge system across the state.
- The primary objective is to modernize traffic management and enhance regulatory efficiency.
- Through AI technology, the system will autonomously verify documents and identify traffic violations.
- Vehicle owners are required to maintain updated vehicle documents as per government directives.
- Any discrepancies arising from e-challans must be reported to the Superintendent of Police (SP) or Regional Transport Officer (RTO) of the respective district.

### **Saga Dawa Festival is celebrated in Sikkim.**

- The Saga Dawa Festival is celebrated in Sikkim on the 15th day of the fourth month of the Northern Buddhist Calendar.
- Considered the most sacred Buddhist festival, Saga Dawa commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and Mahaparinirvana (passing away) of Buddha.
- This day is also known as the 'Triple Blessed Occasion.'
- Saga Dawa holds immense significance for the Buddhist community, reflecting the deep spiritual and cultural heritage of Sikkim.

## **"CURRENT AFFAIR"**

### **Uttar Pradesh Leads Transmission Line Additions in 2023-24**

- In FY24, Uttar Pradesh leads in transmission line additions among state transmission utilities, as per the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).
- In 2023-24, Uttar Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (UPPTCL) led with 1,460 ckm of transmission lines, followed by Gujarat's GETCO with 898 ckm, and Tamil Nadu's TANTRANSCO with 753 ckm.
- Among state-owned utilities, UPPTCL topped transmission line additions in FY24, trailed by GETCO and TANTRANSCO.
- UPPTCL's addition of 1,460 ckm of transmission lines in FY24 surpassed contributions from GETCO, TANTRANSCO, and APTRANSCO.

### **Telangana Government Implements Ban on Tobacco and Gutka Products**

- The Telangana government has implemented a ban on the sale, production, and distribution of tobacco and gutka products.
- This ban covers the manufacturing, storage, distribution, and sale of gutka and pan masala containing tobacco and nicotine for a duration of one year.
- The ban came into effect on May 24, 2024, under the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006.
- Its primary aim is to safeguard public health and well-being.
- Tobacco products are known to cause various diseases, including oral cancer and oral submucous fibrosis.
- The Pan Shop Owners Association of Telangana has extended support for the ban, resulting in many shops discontinuing the sale of pan masala.
- Maharashtra was the first state to ban chewing or smokeless tobacco in 2002.

### **GAIL's First Green Hydrogen Plant Commissioned Under National Green Hydrogen Mission**

- GAIL (Gas Authority of India Ltd) has commissioned its first green hydrogen plant.
- The plant is located in Vijaipur, Guna district, Madhya Pradesh.
- This marks a major step towards adopting new and alternative energy sources, in alignment with the National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- The plant utilizes 10MW Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) Electrolyzer units to produce 4.3 tons per day (TPD) of green hydrogen.
- The hydrogen generated will initially serve as fuel and for captive purposes at GAIL's existing Vijaipur facility.
- National Green Hydrogen Mission: Initiative of Government of India.
- To promote the development and adoption of green hydrogen technologies across the nation.

### **Rajasthan High Court Calls for Heat Wave to be declared a National Calamity**

- Justice Anoop Kumar Dhand of the Rajasthan High Court has urged that heat and cold waves be classified as national disasters.
- The single-judge bench has directed the state government to provide compensation to the families of those who have died due to heatwaves.
- The court has also instructed the state government to formulate a 'Heat Action Plan' for Rajasthan.
- The chief secretary of Rajasthan has been directed to establish committees across various departments to implement this plan.
- However, the court acknowledged that accurately estimating the death toll from heatwaves remains a significant challenge.
- Heat waves are periods of unusually high temperatures as compared to what is normally expected in a region.



## INDEX AND RANKINGS

### World Press Freedom Index 2024

- In the World Press Freedom Index, India ranked 159th below Pakistan among 180 countries.
- Reporters without Borders (RSF, short for Reporters sans frontières in French), an international non-profit organization, has released the latest annual World Press Freedom Index.
- India is ranked 159th in the list of 180 countries, while in the 2023 list, it was ranked 161st.
- However, Pakistan is ranked 152nd, seven places above India, which was ranked 150th in 2023.
- Norway, Denmark, and Sweden ranked 1st, 2nd, and 3rd respectively in the World Press Freedom Index.
- The World Press Freedom Index is based on five indicators including the Political indicator, Economic indicator, Legislative indicator, Social indicator and the Security indicator.

### India surpassed Japan as the world's third-largest producer of solar power.

- Ember, a leading global energy think tank, recently unveiled a ground breaking report highlighting India's remarkable ascent in solar power production.
- The report reveals that in 2023, India outpaced Japan to claim the prestigious title of the world's third-largest solar power producer.
- India's journey began in 2015, when it ranked ninth in solar energy deployment, marking a remarkable trajectory of growth.
- In a significant milestone, solar energy accounted for a record 5.5% of the world's electricity generation in 2023, underscoring its pivotal role in the global energy landscape.
- Within India, solar power contributed 5.8% to the nation's electricity mix, a testament to its growing importance in the country's energy portfolio.
- For the nineteenth year in a row, solar energy has been the fastest-growing electricity source in the world.
- In 2023, it generated more than twice as much new electricity globally as coal.
- In terms of global solar generation growth in 2023, India ranked fourth (+18 terawatt hour, or TWh).
- India lagged behind the China (+156 TWh), the United States (+33 TWh) and Brazil (+22 TWh).
- Seventy-five percent of the growth in 2023 came from the top four solar-growth countries combined.
- According to Ember, the world's solar generation increased by more than six times between 2015 and 2023.

### Mumbai and Delhi listed among the top 50 richest cities in the world.

- Mumbai with the 24th position and Delhi with the 37th position made it into the top 50 world's wealthiest cities in 2024.
- The latest rankings of the world's wealthiest cities have been released by Henley & Partners and New World Wealth.
- New York is in the top spot among the top 50 wealthiest cities in the world.
- Among the top 50, 11 cities are from the USA. London (5th) and Los Angeles (6th) have witnessed declines or modest growth compared to a decade ago.
- Five out of the top 10 wealthiest cities are from the Asia-Pacific region. Tokyo (3rd), Singapore (4th), and Beijing (10th) are in the top 10.
- Beijing has made it into the Top 10 for the first time.
- A 90% surge in millionaires number occurred in the last ten years.
- Singapore is also one of the world's top destinations for migrating millionaires.
- Seven of the ten fastest-growing millionaire cities are located in the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region.

### World Women's singles rankings

- Manika Batra becomes the first Indian woman paddler to break into the top 25 world ranking, now at No. 24.
- India's ace women's table tennis player, Manika Batra, has made history by becoming the first Indian woman to enter the top 25 in the world women's singles rankings.
- She achieved a career-best ranking of 24 following her success in the Saudi Smash.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- This accomplishment also equals G. Sathiyar's five-year-old record for the highest rank achieved by an Indian in singles table tennis.

### **World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024.**

- India moved to 39th place on the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024.
- As tourism activities returned to pre-pandemic levels, India's rank on the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024 reached 39th position.
- In 2021, India's rank was 54th.
- USA is at the top of the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024.
- Spain, Japan, France and Australia are among the top five in the Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024.
- India is ranked highest in South Asia and among the lower-middle-income economies.
- The index is prepared by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with the University of Surrey.
- India ranks 18th in price-competitive and 25th in Ground and Port infrastructure.
- India is only one of three to score in the top 10 for all the resource pillars.
- India's overall TTDI (Travel and Tourism Development Index) score is 2.1 per cent below its 2019 level.
- High-income economies in Europe and Asia-Pacific continued to lead the index.
- The report highlights that the Middle East has seen the biggest improvement in international tourist arrivals.

### **By 2050, global life expectancy is projected to improve by more than 5 years for men and more than 4 years for women.**

- According to a global study published in The Lancet journal, Life expectancy is projected to improve by nearly five years for men and more than four years for women worldwide between 2022 and 2050.
- Improvements are expected to be greatest in countries where life expectancy is lower, contributing to an overall increase in life expectancy across all geographic regions.
- Public health measures are improving prevention and survival rates from cardiovascular diseases, COVID-19 and many communicable, maternal and nutrition-related diseases, largely driving the trend of increased life expectancy globally.
- Worldwide healthy life expectancy, the number of years one can expect to live in good health, will increase by 2.6 years in the coming years – from 64.8 years in 2022 to 67.4 years in 2050.
- For India, the study estimates that by 2050, life expectancy for men could exceed 75 years on average, while for women it could be around 80 years.

### **Oxford Global Cities Index Report**

- Delhi secures the 350th position in the Oxford Economics' Global Cities Index 2024, emerging as the highest-ranked Indian city among the world's largest 1,000 cities.
- New York City, USA, claims the top spot in the 2024 Index, followed by London, UK, in second place, and San Jose, USA, in third.
- The index meticulously evaluates 1,000 cities spanning 163 countries, representing 60% of global GDP in 2023.
- Cities undergo scrutiny across 27 indicators categorized into five crucial categories: Economics (30%), Human Capital (25%), Quality of Life (25%), Environment (10%), and Governance (10%).
- Regional classifications include North America (103), Western Europe (141), Central America and the Caribbean (46), Middle East and North Africa (62), South America (63), Sub-Saharan Africa (86), Eastern Europe and Central Asia (107), Southern Asia (137), East Asia (205), and Oceania (12).

### **SBI Report Projects Robust GDP Growth for India in FY24**

- According to the SBI Ecowrap report, India's GDP growth for Q4 FY24 is projected to be 7.4%, with the full fiscal year FY24 expected to see a growth rate of 8%.
- The report attributes this optimistic outlook to a strong global economy, moderate inflation, and impressive fourth-quarter performance from over 2,400 listed Indian companies.
- These companies saw a top-line growth of 9% in Q4 FY24.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBIDTA) for these firms increased by nearly 21%.
- However, the report notes that profit after tax (PAT) growth decelerated, dropping from 42% in the previous two quarters to approximately 12% in Q4.
- The RBI has predicted 7.6% GDP growth in the fourth quarter.

### AWARDS

#### **Purnima Devi Barman received the 'Green Oscar' Whitley Gold Award 2024.**

- Dr Purnima Devi Barman, a wildlife biologist from Assam, has won her second Whitley Gold Award, also known as the Green Oscar.
- She received the award for her conservation efforts of the endangered Greater Adjutant Stork and its wetland habitat. Stork is locally as "Hargila" in Assamese.
- She wants to double the global population to 5,000 by 2030 by working across the stork's range in India and Cambodia.
- Apart from her, six other grassroots conservationists – from Guyana, Papua New Guinea, Bhutan, Cameroon, Nepal and Brazil have also received this award.
- Whitley Gold Award given by the Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN).
- It supports grassroots conservation leaders from around the world.
- The award is presented at a Royal Geographical Society awards ceremony in London. It is also known as the 'Green Oscar'.

#### **Alok Shukla has won 2024 Goldman Prize from Asia.**

- Alok Shukla has been honored with the 2024 Goldman Prize for his outstanding contributions to environmental conservation in Asia.
- Recognized as the "Green Nobel," Shukla was awarded the prestigious Goldman Prize for his leadership in the Hasdeo Aranya campaign.
- The Goldman Foundation lauded the Hasdeo movement as a beacon of environmental justice in India.
- Shukla serves as the convenor of the Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan and is a founding member of the Hasdeo Aranya Bachao Sangharsh Samiti.
- His tireless efforts have focused on safeguarding the forests of Hasdeo Aranya in Chhattisgarh, resulting in the preservation of 445,000 acres of biodiverse woodland, which faced threat from 21 planned coal mines.
- In July 2022, the 21 proposed coal mines were cancelled by the government in Hasdeo Aranya.
- The forests of Hasdeo Aranya are popularly known as the lungs of Chhattisgarh.
- They are also a catchment area for the Hasdeo River, which is a tributary of the Mahanadi.
- Hasdeo Aranya was declared as no-go zone in 2010.
- The Goldman Environmental Foundation gives the Goldman Environmental Prize.
- Richard and Rhonda Goldman founded the prize in 1989.

#### **Meryl Streep to be honoured with Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival**

- Renowned Hollywood actress Meryl Streep is set to receive the prestigious Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.
- The Honorary Palme d'Or will be bestowed upon Meryl Streep during the opening ceremony of the 77th edition of the Cannes Film Festival.
- Streep, who previously clinched the Best Actress prize at Cannes in 1989, will grace the event with her presence.
- The Cannes honorary Palme d'Or has been previously awarded to esteemed figures such as Jeanne Moreau, Marco Bellocchio, Catherine Deneuve, Jean-Pierre Leaud, Jane Fonda, Agnes Varda, Forest Whitaker, and Jodie Foster.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- The Palme d'Or, introduced in 1955 by the festival's organizing committee, stands as the highest accolade at the Cannes Film Festival. Recognized as one of the most esteemed awards in the film industry, it holds significant prestige among filmmakers and audiences alike.

### **UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.**

- Palestinian journalists covering the Gaza conflict have been honored as the laureates of the 2024 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.
- This esteemed accolade is bestowed following the recommendation of an international panel comprising media experts.
- The award ceremony was presented on the occasion of the World Press Freedom Conference in Santiago, Chile on May 2.
- Mauricio Weibel, President of the International Jury, appreciated the courage and dedication of these journalists and considered their freedom of expression vital. Their support gave confidence and inspiration to journalists.
- Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, showed support in this important work and protected the titles of journalists. He promoted the importance of individual and collective freedom, which supports and protects the sincere work of journalists.

### **2024 Pulitzer Prize**

- Pulitzer Prize is given for achievements in the field of newspaper, magazine and online journalism, literature, and musical composition.
- It was started on the name of Joseph Pulitzer in 1917.
- The winners of 2024 Pulitzer Prizes are given below.

#### **2024 Pulitzer Prize:**

##### ✓ **Journalism Category**

**Public Service:** Pro Publica (Joshua Kaplan, Justin Elliott, Brett Murphy, Alex Mierjeski, and Kirsten Berg)

**Investigative Reporting:** Hannah Dreier (The New York Times)

**International Reporting:** Staff of The New York Times

**Editorial Writing:** David E. Hoffman (The Washington Post)

**Breaking News:** Photography – Photography Staff of Reuters

**Feature Photography:** Photography Staff of Associated Press

**Audio Reporting:** Staff of the Invisible Institute and USG Audio

##### ✓ **Book, Drama, and Music Category**

**Fiction:** Night Watch by Jayne Anne Phillips

**Drama:** Primary Trust by Eboni Booth

**History:** No Right to an Honest Living: The Struggles of Boston's Black Workers in the Civil War Era by Jacqueline Jones

**Biography King:** A Life by Jonathan Eig  
Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom by Ilyon Woo

**Memoir and Autobiography:** Liliana's Invincible Summer: A Sister's Search for Justice by Cristina Rivera Garza

**Poetry Tripas:** Poems by Brandon Som

**Music:** Adagio (For Wadada Leo Smith) by Tyshawn Sorey

**General Nonfiction:** A Day in the Life of Abed Salama: Anatomy of a Jerusalem Tragedy by Nathan Thrall

### **Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024**

- Pawan Sindhi was bestowed with the prestigious Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to society and unwavering commitment to serving humanity.
- The award ceremony, graced by revered saints, Mahatmas, and sadhus, underscored the values of humanity, peace, and prosperity, imparting noble messages to society at large.
- In his gracious acceptance speech, Mr. Sindhi underscored the significance of community service, reverence for gurus and saints, and emphasized the pivotal role of social service in fostering national strength and shaping a brighter future for all.



## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

### **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) Receives Prestigious 'PSU Samarpan Award**

- Cmde Hemant Khatri, the Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), was honored with the prestigious 'PSU Samarpan Award' by Gov Connect on May 14th, 2024.
- The award ceremony took place in New Delhi.
- The 'PSU Samarpan Award' acknowledges the significant contributions of Public Sector Undertakings to the country's progress.
- CMD, HSL, received the award in the 'Other PSU' category, alongside other CPSEs such as Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd and IRCON International Ltd in the Navratna category.

### **The prestigious Sahitya Akademi Fellowship awarded to eminent English author Ruskin Bond.**

- Renowned English author Ruskin Bond was awarded the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Fellowship, the highest honor conferred by India's National Academy of Letters.
- In September 2021, Bond was named the recipient of this esteemed award.
- His notable works include "Vagrants in the Valley," "Once Upon a Monsoon Time," "Angry River," "Strangers in the Night," "All Roads Lead to Ganga," "Tales of Fosterganj," and "Leopard on the Mountain."
- Bond's prolific career also features over 300 short stories, essays, and novellas, along with more than 30 books for children.
- Among his numerous accolades, Bond received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1992, the Sahitya Akademi's Children's Literature Award in 2012, the Padma Shri in 1999, and the Padma Bhushan in 2019.
- The Sahitya Akademi Fellowship, the highest recognition given by the Academy to a living writer, was first awarded to Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan in 1968.

### **Chandrakant Satija has been honored with Global Excellence Award 2024**

- Chandrakant Satija has been honored with the Global Excellence Award 2024 for his outstanding contributions to education.
- He received the award for being the "Most Trusted Admission Consultant in the Vidarbha Region."
- The award was presented by renowned Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty Kundra on May 12th.
- Chandrakant Satija is the Founder and CEO of Chandra Admission Consultants.
- His company assists applicants in securing admissions to prominent universities in India and abroad.

### **Cannes 2024: India's 1st crowdfunded movie 'Manthan' gets special screening**

- "Manthan," India's pioneering crowdfunded film, made its mark in cinematic history by being showcased in the esteemed Cannes Classic category at the 77th Cannes Film Festival.
- This 48-year-old classic, featuring the iconic actress Smitha Patil, holds a special place in Indian cinema lore.
- The screening at Cannes drew attention from prominent figures such as veteran Bollywood actors Naseeruddin Shah and Ratna Pathak Shah, Prateik Babbar (Smitha Patil's son), Nirmala Kurien (daughter of Dr. Verghese Kurien), and Amul MD Jayan Mehta, who graced the red carpet with their presence.
- Their attendance underscored the enduring significance of the film and its profound connection to the dairy cooperative movement in India.
- Amul, the dairy behemoth associated with the film's production, shared captivating images of the event on Instagram, emphasizing the representation of 3.6 million farmer producers.
- Shyam Benegal's masterpiece 'Manthan' captivated audiences at the Cannes Film Festival on May 18, 2024, further solidifying its place in cinematic history.

### **National Award to Teachers (Higher Education) 2024 launched**

- The portal for nominations for the National Award to Teachers (Higher Education) 2024 has been launched.
- The launch was officiated by Shri Sanjay Murthy, Secretary of the Department of Higher Education, in collaboration with Shri T. G. Sitaram, Chairman of AICTE.
- In addition to the launch, the Higher Education Department of the Ministry of Education has issued guidelines for enrollment. This prestigious award aims to recognize exemplary teachers and faculty

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

members from both technical and non-technical higher education institutions, as well as teachers from polytechnic institutions.

- There will be three sub-categories under the first category based on the following broad topics:
  - ✓ Engineering & Technology, Architecture
  - ✓ Pure Sciences including Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Medicine, Pharmacy
  - ✓ Arts and Social Sciences, Humanities, Languages, Legal Studies, Commerce, and Management
- The last date for submitting nominations for this award is June 20, 2024.
- The selected award winners will be honored on 5th September (Teacher's Day) to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, former President of India and renowned teacher.
- The National Award to Teachers 2024 in Higher Education Institutions aims to recognize and honor outstanding faculty members for their dedication, hard work and contribution to teaching and pedagogy who have enhanced the quality of higher education and enriched the lives of students.

### **International Booker Prize 2024**

- German author Jenny Erpenbeck and translator Michael Hofmann won the International Booker Prize for fiction for "Kairos." "Kairos" tells the story of an intriguing love affair during the final years of East Germany's existence.
- The prize fund of £50,000 will be divided equally between the author and translator.
- The Italian luxury fashion house Maison Valentino sponsored an event at the Tate Modern in London, where Erpenbeck and Hofmann were declared the winners.
- Since the International Booker Prize's launched in its current form in 2016, Ms. Erpenbeck has been the prize's first German winner, and Mr. Hofmann has become the prize's first male translator winner.
- In 2023, Georgi Gospodinov and Angela Rodel win the International Booker Prize for the novel 'Time Shelter'.
- International Booker Prize was formerly known as the Man Booker International Prize.
- The prize is awarded for a book translated into English.

### **NTPC secures 3rd position in ATD Best Awards 2024**

- NTPC was awarded the third position globally at the ATD Best Awards 2024, with the award ceremony held on 21st May 2024 in New Orleans, USA.
- Rachna Singh Bhal, Chief General Manager, Strategic Human Resources & Talent Management, NTPC accepted the award.
- NTPC has won seven awards at the ATD Best Awards in the last eight years, becoming the only public sector company in India to have achieved this feat.
- The award is a testament to the company's excellent human resource management, learning and development practices.
- Instituted by the Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA, the award is one of the most prestigious international awards in the field of Learning and Development (L&D).
- Started in 2003, the award recognizes small and large private, public and non-profit organizations.

### **E-Rickshaw driver Arti of UP conferred UK's Women's Empowerment Award**

- Arti, an 18-year-old woman hailing from the Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh, has achieved a remarkable milestone by becoming an E-rickshaw driver.
- Her dedication and determination have earned her the prestigious Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award, bestowed upon her by King Charles III of the United Kingdom.
- The grand award ceremony took place at Buckingham Palace in London, England, adding a touch of reality to Arti's inspiring journey.
- Arriving in style, Arti made a memorable entrance at Buckingham Palace, driving a Pink E-rickshaw, a vehicle she acquired through the Mission Shakti scheme initiated by the Uttar Pradesh government.
- The Uttar Pradesh government launched Mission Shakti in 2020 to empower the women of the state through safety, security, and self-reliance.
- This initiative not only empowers women like Arti but also symbolizes the government's commitment to fostering women's independence and entrepreneurship.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- The Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award is named after the famous English Barrister Amal Clooney. The award is sponsored by a British charity, Prince Trust International. The Prince Trust International was set up by King Charles when he was Prince of Wales.

### 77<sup>th</sup> Cannes Film Festival

- Chidanand Naik and Anasuya Sengupta made history at the esteemed 77th Cannes Film Festival, hosted in Cannes, France, by etching their names in the annals of cinematic history.
- Naik's poignant creation, 'Sunflowers Were the First to Know,' clinched the prestigious La Cinef Award for Best Short Film, showcasing his exceptional talent and storytelling prowess.
- In another historic moment, Anasuya Sengupta earned the distinction of being the first Indian to secure the coveted Best Actress award at Cannes. Her stellar performance in the film 'Shameless' captivated audiences and critics alike, solidifying her status as a trailblazer in Indian cinema on the international stage.
- The Cannes Film Festival, inaugurated in 1946, has evolved into a pinnacle of cinematic excellence, revered globally for its celebration of creativity, innovation, and artistic expression.
- This momentous occasion not only highlights the exceptional achievements of Naik and Sengupta but also underscores the enduring significance of the Cannes Film Festival as a premier platform for showcasing cinematic brilliance from around the world.

### Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) gets the 'PSU Samarpan Award'.

- Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) receives the prestigious 'PSU Samarpan Award'.
- Cmde Hemant Khatri, the Chairman and Managing Director (C&MD) of HSL, is honored with the 'PSU Samarpan Award'.
- The accolade is conferred by Gov Connect, an initiative by ilouge Media, acknowledging HSL's CMD leadership in spearheading the shipyard's transformation.
- The CMD of HSL was presented with the award in the 'Other PSU' category, recognizing the commendable efforts in driving organizational change and excellence.

### Payal Kapadia bags historic Grand Prix Award at Cannes Film Festival 2024

- Payal Kapadia's film "All We Imagine as Light" made history at the 77th Cannes Film Festival by winning the Grand Prix prize in the feature film category.
- Kapadia is the first Indian filmmaker to receive the Grand Prix award at Cannes, marking a significant milestone in Indian cinema.
- The Cannes Grand Prix is the second-highest accolade at the festival after the Palme d'Or. American director Sean Baker took home the top-most honour for Anora.
- Renowned cinematographer Santosh Sivan also created history by becoming the first Asian to be honored with the prestigious Pierre Angénieux Tribute Award at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival.

### 2023 UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award

- Major Radhika Sen, an esteemed Indian woman peacekeeper, has been selected to receive the 2023 UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award.
- This prestigious honor recognizes her outstanding service and dedication.
- Major Sen has served with the United Nations Organization Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).
- From March 2023 to April 2024, she commanded MONUSCO's Engagement Platoon for the Indian Rapid Deployment Battalion (INDRDB) in the DRC.
- The award will be presented to Major Sen on May 30, in celebration of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers.
- An accomplished biotech engineer, Major Sen joined the Indian Army eight years ago and has since made significant contributions to peacekeeping efforts.
- After Major Suman Gawani, she is the second Indian peacekeeper to receive this prestigious award.
- The United Nations 'Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award' was instituted in 2016.
- It recognizes the dedication and efforts of an individual military peacekeeper in promoting the principles of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

## SPORTS

### **BWF World Junior Badminton Championships will be hosted by Guwahati's National Centre of Excellence in 2025.**

- The Badminton World Federation (BWF) has recently awarded the hosting rights for the 2025 BWF World Junior Championships to the National Centre of Excellence in Guwahati. This decision, announced during the BWF Annual General Meeting held in Chengdu alongside the BWF Thomas & Uber Cup 2024, underscores India's stature as a prominent hub for global badminton.
- India's image as one of the leading centers of world badminton will be further boosted.
- The prestigious tournament, which India will host for the second time, will be held at the new state-of-the-art National Centre of Excellence.
- In August 2023, the National Centre of Excellence has also earned acclaim globally from all quarters for its facilities and stadium capacity since its inauguration.
- The National Center of Excellence in Guwahati has 14 badminton courts, an international standard gymnasium, and a seating capacity of about 4000 spectators.
- In 2008, the last time India hosted the BWF World Juniors was in Pune, where Saina Nehwal became the first Indian to win the World Junior title.
- In 2009, India hosted the BWF World Championships in Hyderabad.
- In 2014, India successfully hosted the Thomas and Uber Cup finals in New Delhi.

### **Vaishali Ramesh Babu becomes third Indian Woman Grand Master**

- Indian Chess Prodigy, Vaishali Ramesh Babu who has been awarded the title of Grandmaster by FIDE, the International Chess Federation India is booming as far as the Chess landscape is concerned.
- She also expressed confidence that India will perform well at the upcoming World Championship.
- After Koneru Humpy and Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali is the third Indian female Grandmaster.
- Vaishali is the third Indian female Grandmaster, joining Koneru Humpy and Harika Dronavalli. Vaishali completed the requisite 2500 ELO points at the Llobregat Open tournament in Spain, last year.

### **ICC releases Men's T20 world cup 2024 official anthem**

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has released the official anthem of Men's T20 World Cup 2024.
- It has been prepared by the Grammy award-winning artist Sean Paul and Soca superstar Kes.
- With just 30 days left for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 to begin, the release of the anthem sets the stage for what will be the biggest cricket carnival spectacle ever.
- The ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 will be held in which 20 international teams will play 55 matches from June 1-29 in West Indies and USA.
- The anthem, produced by Michael "Tano" Montano, was launched with a music video.
- It includes eight-time Olympic gold medalist Usain Bolt, cricket stars Chris Gayle, Ali Khan, Shivnarine Chanderpaul and other Caribbean celebrities.

### **Lando Norris wins historic maiden victory at F1 Miami Grand Prix**

- On May 5, 2024, Lando Norris, the McLaren driver, achieved his first Formula 1 victory at the Miami Grand Prix.
- Miami Grand Prix held at the Miami International Autodrome in Miami, Florida, in the United States of America.
- Norris, who was running sixth in the race's early stages, capitalized on a safety car period following a crash between Logan Sargeant and Kevin Magnussen.

### **China wins both Thomas and Uber Cup Badminton titles**

- The Chinese badminton team confirmed its domination of the sport by winning both the men's Thomas Cup and the women's Uber Cup. The final of the 2024 BWF Thomas and Uber Cup was played in the Chinese city of Chengdu on May 5, 2024.



## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- Thomas and Uber Cup is held every two years and is organised by the world badminton governing body, the Badminton World Federation (BWF).
- In both the Thomas and Uber Cup, three singles and two doubles matches are played. However, if a team wins the first two singles and the first doubles, then no other matches are played.
- The 2024 edition of the Thomas and Uber Cup was held in Chengdu, China, from 27 April to 5 May 2024.

### **National Women's Hockey League 2024 Begins in Ranchi**

- The 2024 National Women's Hockey League kicked off in Jharkhand with the participation of eight teams, signaling a significant milestone for women's hockey in India and demonstrating the growing interest and backing for the sport at the national level.
- The opening match took place at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Astro Turf Stadium in Ranchi, featuring a showdown between the host team, Jharkhand, and Mizoram.
- This match highlighted the competitive zeal and enthusiasm among players from various regions of the country to excel in hockey.
- The presence of officials from Hockey India, including Secretary General Bhola Nath Singh and Treasurer Sekar J Manoharan, alongside Sports Authority of India's Director General Sandeep Pradhan, emphasized the collaborative endeavors and institutional support aimed at fostering hockey development in India.

### **Yuzvendra Chahal Creates History to Become First Indian Bowler to 350 T20 Wickets**

- Yuzvendra Chahal etched his name in history during the Indian Premier League (IPL) by becoming the first Indian bowler to reach the milestone of 350 wickets in T20 cricket.
- His exceptional talent and consistent performance have propelled him to this remarkable achievement, cementing his status as one of the top spinners in the sport.
- Chahal's accomplishment underscores his significant influence in the T20 format, where his cunning bowling variations have posed challenges for batsmen worldwide.
- As a pivotal player for the Rajasthan Royals and a stalwart in Indian cricket, Chahal's milestone not only highlights his individual brilliance but also adds to India's esteemed cricketing heritage in the global T20 arena.

### **Asian Open Pickleball Championships**

- India won five medals at the Asian Open Pickleball Championships.
- The Asian Open Pickleball Championship has been organised in Vietnam.
- India clinched three gold and two bronze medals at the Asian Open Pickleball Championships.
- Sachin Pahwa and Priyanka Chhabra won gold medals by defeating Ruben Hellberg and Chitlada Hemasee by 11-9, 5-11, 11-9 in the mixed doubles intermediate 35+ category final.
- The pair of Isha Lakhani and Pei Chuan Kao bagged the gold medal in the women's doubles open category.
- The pair of Isha Lakhani and Pei Chuan Kao bagged the gold medal by defeating Dang Kim Ngan and Tyak K.

### **Doha Diamond League 2024**

- Neeraj Chopra, the current Olympic and world champion in javelin throw, began his 2024 season with a strong performance.
- He secured second place at the Doha Diamond League 2024 event.
- Chopra's final throw measured an impressive 88.36m.
- However, he fell just 2cm short of Czechia's Jakub Vadlejch, who is the reigning Diamond League champion and won the silver medal at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.
- Jakub Vadlejch tops the leaderboard with a best attempt of 88.38m.

### **P Shyaamnikhil becomes India's 85th Chess Grandmaster**

- Tamil Nadu's P Shyaamnikhil became India's 85th chess Grandmaster (GM).
- He finally achieved the third GM norm in the Dubai Police Masters Chess Tournament.
- R Vaishali was the 84th Indian GM.
- Grandmaster is the highest title in chess, just below the world champion title.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

### **Aman Sehrawat Becomes First Indian Male Wrestler To Qualify For 2024 Paris Olympics**

- Aman Sehrawat has made history as the first Indian male wrestler to secure a quota place for the 2024 Paris Olympics.
- Sehrawat, the Asian champion, clinched a Paris quota in the men's 57kg freestyle category at the World Wrestling Olympic Qualifiers held in Istanbul, Turkey.
- In the semi-final, Sehrawat defeated Chongsong Han of Korea with a score of 12-2, securing India's sixth quota in wrestling for the 2024 Olympics.
- It's worth noting that all five previous quotas were obtained by Indian women wrestlers.
- The Istanbul meet served as the final opportunity for wrestlers to obtain a quota for the upcoming Summer Games.

### **World's highest competition pool has been opened in Bhutan.**

- The World Aquatics recently announced the opening of the world's highest competition pool in Bhutan.
- This remarkable facility marks the first-ever competitive swimming pool situated at a record altitude of 8200 feet (2,400 meters) above sea level in Bhutan.
- The pool is a significant component of the Pools for All Program, which is dedicated to promoting aquatic sports in the region.
- Launched in 2019, the Pools for All Programme aims to ensure that every National Member Federation of World Aquatics has access to aquatic facilities, thereby fostering the growth of aquatic sports globally.

### **Brazil to host 2027 Women's World Cup.**

- Brazil secured the hosting rights for the 2027 Women's World Cup during the annual FIFA Congress, marking a historic moment as the first South American nation to host the prestigious tournament.
- The bid from Brazil prevailed over a joint entry from Belgium, Netherlands, and Germany, with Brazil securing 119 votes compared to the European bid's 78.
- In the FIFA evaluation, Brazil's bid garnered a score of 4.0 out of 5, surpassing the 3.7 score achieved by the Belgium-Netherlands-Germany consortium.
- Evaluation criteria included assessments of commercial viability, team facilities, accommodations, broadcasting capabilities, stadium infrastructure, and fan festival venues, highlighting Brazil's strengths across these areas.

### **World Para Athletics Championships 2024**

- Nishad Kumar won a silver and Preethi Pal claimed a bronze medal as Indian participants excelled on the third day of competitions at the 2024 Para Athletics World Championship.
- Nishad Kumar set the ball rolling for India by clinching a silver medal in the Men's High Jump T47 final with an impressive season-best mark of 1.99 metres.
- Preethi Pal then added to the tally by winning a bronze medal in the Women's 200m T35 category, bringing India's tally to two medals after Day 3 of competitions.
- India will be expecting another medal as Deepthi Jeevanji has qualified for the final of the Women's 400m T20, setting a new Asian Record with a time of 56.18 seconds in the heats on Sunday.
- Meanwhile, Britain's Sabrina Fortune broke the world record in the Women's Shot Put F20 and won the gold medal.

### **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy And Chirag Shetty Win Men's Double Of The Thailand Open**

- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty secured victory in the Men's Doubles event at the Thailand Open on May 19, 2024, triumphing over the Chinese duo of Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi with a commanding score of 21-15, 21-15 in straight sets.
- Prior to clinching the title, the Indian duo showcased their prowess by defeating Lu Ming-Che and Tang Kai-Wei of Chinese Taipei with a dominant performance, securing a 21-11, 21-12 victory to advance to the final of the tournament.
- The Thailand Open holds a significant place in the journey of Satwik and Chirag, as it was at this tournament in 2019 that they clinched their first Superseries or Super 500 level victory.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- As the top seeds in the competition and currently ranked third in the world, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty demonstrated their formidable skills and cemented their status as leading contenders in the international badminton scene.

### **Nikhath Zareen and Minakshi Clinch Gold Medals at Elorda Cup in Kazakhstan**

- In Boxing, India's reigning world champion, Nikhat Zareen and another boxer Minakshi clinched gold medals at the Elorda Cup 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- Nikhat in the women's 52 kg category, triumphed over Zhazira Urakbayeva of Kazakhstan with a 5-0 victory, while Minakshi defeated another Uzbekistan boxer Rahmonova Saidahon, 4-1 in the women's 48 kg event.
- Meanwhile, Anamika in the 50kg and Manisha in the 60kg suffered losses to end their campaigns with silver medals. Anamika conceded a 1-4 loss against reigning world champion China's Wu Yu while Manisha faced a nil-5 defeat against Kazakhstan's Viktoriya Grafeeva.
- The Indian pugilists concluded their Elorda Cup 2024 campaign with 12 medals, including two gold, two silver and eight bronze medals.

### **In the World Para Athletics Championships, Deepthi Jeevanji created a world record by winning gold**

- At the World Para Athletics Championships, Indian para-athlete Deepthi Jeevanji achieved a remarkable feat by setting a new world record and winning the gold medal.
- On May 20, 2024, at the championships held in Kobe, Japan, Jeevanji completed the women's 400m T20 race in an astonishing 55.06 seconds, surpassing the previous world record of 55.12 seconds set by American Breanna Clark at last year's championships in Paris.
- In the World Para Athletics Championships, with 55.19 seconds, Aysel Onder of Turkey was second and with 56.68 seconds, Lizanshela Angulo of Ecuador was third with 56.68 seconds.
- During her qualifying round, Jeevani booked her place in the final of the women's 400m T20 heats by setting a new Asian record with a timing of 56.18 seconds.
- At the Asian Para Games 2023, Jeevanji had performed brilliantly by winning the gold medal in the women's 400m T20 event.

### **Iga Swiatek won her 3rd Italian Open title.**

- Iga Swiatek defeated Aryna Sabalenka in the final by 6-2, 6-3 to win her third Italian Open title.
- After Serena Williams, Swiatek became the first woman to win the Madrid and Rome titles back to back. It is the 21st title of Iga Swiatek's career.
- Alexander Zverev of Germany won the Men's title after defeating Chile's Nicolas Jarry by 6-4, 7-5.
- Marcel Granollers and Horacio Zeballos clinched Men's doubles while Sara Errani and Jasmine Paolini won the Women's doubles title.
- Italian Open also known as the Rome Masters is a professional tennis tournament.

### **Let's Move India', initiative**

- The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has announced the launch of 'Let's Move India,' an initiative designed to inspire people to celebrate the athletes participating in the upcoming Olympic Games in Paris. This initiative invites individuals across the country to join the movement through a digital challenge on social media.
- According to a press release, young people can participate in a series of regional school initiatives coinciding with Olympic Day on June 23. Starting today, individuals are encouraged to recreate their favorite athlete celebrations or create their own, with the aim of inspiring and celebrating the Olympians who will represent India's 1.4 billion citizens at the Paris 2024 Games, beginning on July 26.
- The IOC has partnered with Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medalist and an IOC Athletes' Commission member. Together, they will extend invitations to schools nationwide to join the movement as part of the Olympic Values Education Programme.

### **Asian Gymnastics Championship**

- Dipa Karmakar, hailing from Tripura, achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first Indian gymnast to clinch a gold medal in any Asian Championships.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- At the Asian Women's Artistic Gymnastics Championships 2024 held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on May 26, 2024, Dipa soared to victory in the women's vault individual final.
- Her remarkable achievement marks a significant moment in Indian gymnastics history, showcasing her talent and determination on the international stage.
- Dipa's already outstanding list of firsts for Indian gymnastics is enhanced by the vault gold.
- She is the first female gymnast from India to compete in the Olympics, and at Rio 2016, she put on the best performance of any gymnast competing in the Summer Games, placing fourth in the women's vault.
- She also became the first Indian to ever win a gold medal at an international gymnastics competition when she won the women's vault gold medal at the 2018 FIG World Cup in Mersin, Turkey.

### **Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024**

- The 2024 Indian Premier League, known as IPL 17 and branded as TATA IPL 2024, was the 17th season of the franchise Twenty20 cricket league in India.
- Organized by the Board of Control for Cricket in India, the tournament ran from March 22 to May 26, 2024, featuring ten teams.
- A total of 74 matches were played across 13 cities in India, with Chennai hosting both the opening ceremony and the final.
- Chennai Super Kings were the defending champions, having claimed their fifth title in the previous season by defeating the Gujarat Titans.
- In the final match, Kolkata Knight Riders emerged victorious over Sunrisers Hyderabad, winning by 8 wickets to secure their third IPL title.
  - ✓ Orange Cap – Virat Kohli (RCB) for scoring the most runs in the season; he scored 741 runs in 15 matches.
  - ✓ Purple Cap – Harshal Patel (PBKS) for taking the most wickets in the season. In the 14 matches, he took 24 wickets.
  - ✓ Emerging Player of the Season – Nitish Kumar Reddy of Sunrisers Hyderabad.
  - ✓ Most Valuable Player – Sunil Narine (KKR)
  - ✓ Most Sixes Award – Abhishek Sharma (SRH)

## **DEFENCE**

### **DRDO successfully tested a long-range 'SMART' anti-submarine missile system.**

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a flight test of the Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART).
- Its main aim is to enhance the Navy's anti-submarine warfare capabilities.
- It is equipped with several advanced subsystems, including a two-stage solid propulsion system, electromechanical actuator system, and precision inertial navigation system.
- The capability of the missile was successfully demonstrated during the test.
- SMART (Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo):
  - It comprises a long-range supersonic missile carrier that can travel up to 643 km, a lightweight torpedo with a range of 20 km and a 50 kg high explosive warhead as the payload.
  - It is equipped with an advanced lightweight torpedo. It was launched from a ground mobile launcher.

### **7th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting held in New Delhi.**

- On May 3rd, the 7th India-Indonesia Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting convened in New Delhi, marking a significant bilateral engagement.
- Chaired jointly by Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and Air Marshal Donny Ermawan Taufanto, Secretary General of the Indonesian Defence Ministry, the meeting underscored the importance of robust defense ties between the two nations.
- Air Marshal Taufanto's visit to India from May 2nd to May 4th further solidified the ongoing diplomatic exchanges between the two countries.



## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- Both countries also reviewed the progress made on various bilateral defense cooperation initiatives deliberated in meetings of Working Groups on Defence Cooperation and Defence Industries Cooperation.
- Additionally, he also held discussions with other Indian defense industry partners, such as Bharat Forge, Mahindra Defense, and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited.
- They also discussed ways to enhance defense industrial capabilities through cooperation in research and joint production.
- India and Indonesia have a comprehensive strategic partnership and have reached a common vision of the Indo-Pacific.

### **Defence Ministry notified the New Inter-Services Organizations Act.**

- The Defense Ministry has officially notified the Inter-Services Organizations (Command, Control, and Discipline) Act. This legislation was approved by both Houses of Parliament during the Monsoon Session last year and received the President's assent on August 15, 2023.
- The primary aim of this act is to empower Commanders-in-Chief and Officers-in-Command of inter-service organizations to exert control over the service personnel under their jurisdiction.
- This control is crucial for maintaining effective discipline and administration, while ensuring that the distinct service conditions specific to each branch of the armed forces remain intact.
- This act will empower the heads of Inter-services Organizations and pave the way for the early disposal of cases.
- This will pave the way for expeditious disposal of cases by avoiding multiple proceedings and is an important step towards greater integration and jointness among the armed forces.
- The act came ahead of the planned reorganization of the Indian military into integrated theatre commands.

### **Joint Military Exercise 'Shakti'**

- India and France will carry out the 7th edition of the Joint Military Exercise 'Shakti' from 13-26 May.
- This exercise will be carried out in the Umroi region of Meghalaya.
- The aim of the exercise is to enhance the joint military capacity of India and France to undertake Multi-Domain Operations in a Sub Conventional scenario.
- This exercise will facilitate the development of interoperability between the Armed Forces of India and France.
- The sixth edition of the exercise, Ex Shakti 2021 was carried out at the Military School of Draguignan, France in November 2021.
- A composite team consisting of three officers, three junior commission officers, and 37 soldiers from a battalion of the Gorkha Rifles represented the Indian Army contingent.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### **AI-Generated spokesperson introduced by Ukraine for Foreign Ministry**

- Ukraine's Foreign Ministry has unveiled a groundbreaking initiative: a virtual artificial intelligence spokesperson named "Victoria Shi."
- Victoria Shi will deliver updates on various issues, including the ongoing conflict with Russia, marking the first instance in history of a digital spokesperson being utilized for such purposes. Despite being voiced by humans, Victoria Shi's statements will be presented through this innovative platform.
- The persona of Victoria Shi is based on the likeness of Ukrainian singer and influencer Rosalie Nombre, who graciously agreed to participate in the project on a pro bono basis.
- This move aims to streamline diplomatic efforts by saving time and resources.
- The creative minds behind Victoria Shi belong to a team known as the "Game Changers," recognized for their virtual-reality content related to the conflict in Ukraine.

## **"CURRENT AFFAIR"**

### **Astronaut Sunita Williams to go to space for the third time**

- Sunita Williams, an Indian-origin astronaut, will embark on her third space mission as the pilot aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft.
- This mission marks a significant milestone as it is the first crewed test flight for the Starliner, signifying a crucial step forward in human spaceflight capabilities.
- Williams will join NASA astronaut Butch Wilmore on the journey to the International Space Station (ISS).
- Their mission underscores the enduring collaboration between nations in space exploration, with the ISS serving as a symbol of international cooperation and scientific research in microgravity environments.

### **Andhra-born Gopi Thotakura created history by becoming the first Indian space tourist.**

- Gopi Thotakura, hailing from Andhra Pradesh, etched his name in history by becoming the inaugural Indian space tourist, marking a significant milestone for the nation.
- This remarkable achievement unfolded as Indian expatriate Gopi Thotakura joined the crew of Amazon founder Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin's NS-25 mission, thereby becoming the second Indian to venture into space.
- On May 19, Blue Origin accomplished its seventh manned space flight and the 25th mission under the New Shepard program, showcasing the continued advancement of space exploration.
- Gopi Thotakura was part of a six-member crew, alongside individuals like Mason Angel, Sylvain Chiron, Kenneth L. Hayes, Carroll Scholar, and former Air Force Captain Ed Dwight, contributing to a diverse and accomplished team.
- Each astronaut embarked on their journey equipped with a postcard from Blue Origin's foundation, the Club for the Future, which aims to inspire and cultivate future generations to pursue careers in STEAM fields for the betterment of our planet.
- Notably, Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma, a former pilot in the Indian Air Force, became the first Indian civilian to venture into space in 1984, marking another significant moment in India's space exploration journey.

### **America's first Black astronaut candidate goes to space**

- America's pioneering Black astronaut candidate embarked on a historic journey into space aboard one of Jeff Bezos' rocket companies.
- 90-year-old Ed Dwight joined five other passengers on a Blue Origin capsule as it soared into the cosmos, marking a significant moment in space exploration.
- Ed Dwight's journey traces back to President John F. Kennedy's era, who initially selected him, an Air Force pilot, as the candidate for NASA's inaugural Astronaut Corps in 1963. However, he was ultimately not chosen for the final flight.
- Until 1978, NASA did not select black astronauts, and in 1983, Guion Bluford became the first African American in space.
- Three years earlier, the Soviets had launched the first black astronaut, Arnaldo Tamayo Mendez, a Cuban citizen of African descent.
- In 2021, "Star Trek" actor William Shatner was the oldest man to go into space.
- Now, Dwight became the new record holder for the oldest person in space after the quick trip from West Texas.

### **South Korea Establishes First Space Agency**

- South Korea has launched its first space agency, the Korea Aerospace Administration (KASA), which will spearhead the nation's "space economy."
- The country has ambitious plans to land on Mars by 2045 and intends to invest 100 trillion won (\$72.6 billion) in space exploration by then, as stated by President Yoon Suk Yeol.
- Aiming for 2032, South Korea plans to deploy its first lunar lander.
- In May 2023, the successful launch of the Nuri rocket marked South Korea as the seventh nation with its own space launch vehicle and satellite development technology.
- By 2027, South Korea plans to conduct at least three more space launches, including the deployment of military satellites.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- Meanwhile, North Korea attempted a rocket launch on May 27, 2024, but failed to place its second military spy satellite into orbit.
- In January, Japan became the fifth nation to send a lander to the moon.
- Last year, India successfully became the fourth country to land on the moon.

## SCHEMES

### 'Cool Summers of India' campaign

- During the Arabian Travel Mart 2024 in Dubai, the Ministry of Tourism unveiled the 'Cool Summers of India' campaign alongside its participation from May 6 to 9.
- This strategic move aims to bolster India's presence in the Middle East tourism market.
- The inauguration of the 'Incredible India' pavilion on May 6 marked the beginning of India's comprehensive outreach to the UAE market.
- Through the 'Cool Summers of India' initiative, the Ministry of Tourism seeks to challenge the perception of India as too hot for summer travel by spotlighting lesser-known yet rejuvenating destinations, particularly hill resorts like those nestled in the Himalayas.
- By participating in the Arabian Travel Mart, India aims to tap into the immense potential of the tourism industry, providing a platform for Indian tourism stakeholders to showcase their offerings, forge industry partnerships, and entice visitors from the MENA region, thereby contributing to the growth of the economy.

### "PRAGATI-2024",

- "PRAGATI-2024" (Pharma Research in AyurGyan and Techno Innovation) initiative was launched by the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) in New Delhi on May 28.
- CCRAS, an autonomous body under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, spearheads this initiative aimed at shaping the future of Ayurveda.
- The launch of "PRAGATI-2024" presents a valuable opportunity for collaborative research endeavors in the field of Ayurveda.
- A meeting held on May 28 focused on exploring research prospects and fostering collaboration between CCRAS and the Ayurveda pharmaceutical industry.
- Notably, representatives from 35 pharmaceutical companies across the country participated in the program, indicating widespread industry interest.
- The "PRAGATI-2024" initiative marks a significant milestone in the development of the Ayurveda industry in India, promising to create a robust platform for collaborative research endeavors.
- It is anticipated that this initiative will serve as a catalyst for driving growth and innovation in the field, ultimately contributing to the advancement of Ayurveda.

## BANKING, ECONOMY AND FINANCE

### In April, GST collection hits a record high of Rs 2.10 lakh crore.

- GST collection reached a record high of Rs 2.10 lakh crore in April, with a growth of 12.4 per cent over the year.
- After accounting for refunds, the net GST revenue for April 2024 stands at ₹1.92 lakh crore.
- The Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) was Rs 43,846 crore, while the State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) stood at Rs 53,538 crore.
- The highest GST has been recorded due to a strong increase in domestic transactions (up 13.4 per cent) and imports (up 8.3 per cent).

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- From the IGST collected, the central government settled ₹50,307 crore to CGST and ₹41,600 crore to SGST.
- This is the highest level of GST collections recorded since the indirect tax reform occurred in July 2017.
- The previous highest level was registered in April 2023 at Rs 1.87 lakh crore.

### **OECD raises India's FY25 GDP growth projection by 40 basis points to 6.6%**

- The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has adjusted its economic growth rate forecast for India, upwardly revising it to 6.6% for the fiscal year 2024-25. This represents a notable increase from its previous projection of 6.2%.
- Furthermore, the OECD has predicted a growth rate of 6.6% for the Indian economy in the subsequent fiscal year 2025-26, indicating a sustained positive trajectory in India's economic growth.
- This upward revision by the OECD aligns with recent trends, where several international institutions, including the International Monetary Fund (IMF), have raised their growth rate expectations for India.
- The IMF, for instance, recently increased its forecast for India's 2024-25 growth rate to 6.8%, reflecting growing confidence in India's economic prospects amidst global economic recovery.
- The OECD attributes the anticipated faster growth of the Indian economy in 2024-25 to increased public investment and improved business confidence.

### **India became the first country to get \$100 billion in remittances.**

- According to the United Nations migration agency, India received \$111 billion in remittances in 2022.
- India, Mexico, China, the Philippines, and France were the top five countries to receive remittances in 2022.
- India led in remittance receipts in 2010 (\$53.48 billion), 2015 (\$68.91 billion), and 2020 (\$83.15 billion), with \$111.22 billion in 2022.
- Pakistan and Bangladesh are also ranked among the top ten recipients of international remittances.
- The Gulf States remain favourite destinations for migrant workers, particularly from India, Egypt, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Kenya
- Globally, India has the largest number of international migrants.
- India also attracted immigrants, ranking 13th globally as a destination country for international migrants.
- The remittance of China has declined due to demographic shifts and its zero-COVID policy.

### **India's exports reached a record USD 778 billion.**

- In the fiscal year 2023–2024, India's exports reached a record high of USD 778 billion.
- The total value of exported goods and services in the fiscal year 2022–2023 was USD 776.3 billion.
- Services exports increased from USD 325.3 billion in 2022–2023 to USD 341.1 billion in 2023–2024.
- Merchandise exports saw a slight decrease from USD 451.1 billion in 2022–2023 to USD 437.1 billion in 2023–2024.
- India's exports to several countries, including China, Russia, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, and Singapore, increased significantly in the fiscal year 2023–2024.
- Other nations in the top 10 list include the UK, Australia, Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands, and South Africa.
- Total imports decreased from USD 898.0 billion in 2022–2023 to USD 853.8 billion in 2023–2024.
- The trade deficit declined from USD 121.6 billion in 2022–2023 to USD 75.6 billion in 2023–2024.

### **India to achieve growth of 6.6% in the financial year 2024-25**

- Moody's Ratings said the Indian economy is expected to grow at 6.6% in the current financial year 2024-25, driven by strong credit demand that will support the profitability of the NBFC sector.
- However, the rating agency's 2024-25 GDP growth projections are lower than those made by the RBI.
- In the latest monetary policy review meeting, the RBI projected the Indian economy to grow at 7% in 2024-25.



## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- The global rating agency has pegged India's growth rate at 6.2% for the next financial year 2025-26.
- During the October-December quarter of fiscal year 2023-24, India's GDP grew by a massive 8.4%, and the country remains the fastest-growing major economy and is set to maintain its growth path going forward.
- In 2022-23, India's economy grew 7.2% and 8.7% in 2021-22, respectively.
- In addition, the IMF has raised India's growth forecast for 2024 to 6.8% from 6.5% in its latest outlook.
- India's GDP size currently ranks 5th after America, China, Germany and Japan. In 2022, India overtook the UK.
- Currently, India's GDP is estimated to be around US\$3.7 trillion.

### **UN amended India's 2024 economic growth projection to 6.9%.**

- The United Nations has revised India's 2024 economic growth projection to 6.9%.
- This amendment comes following the release of the World Economic Situation and Prospects report by the United Nations.
- The global economy is forecasted to grow by 2.7% in 2024 and 2.8% in 2025.
- According to the report, India's economy is expected to expand by 6.9% in 2024 and 6.6% in 2025, up from the previous projection of 6.2%.
- The growth trajectory is attributed to robust public investment and resilient private consumption.
- Strong expansion is anticipated in pharmaceutical and chemical exports.
- Consumer price inflation in India is projected to decrease from 5.6% in 2023 to 4.5% in 2024.
- Improved labor market indicators are observed in India due to robust growth and increased labor force participation.
- Additionally, inflation rates are expected to decline in other South Asian countries.
- The Chinese economy is forecasted to grow at 4.8% in 2024, a slight increase from the previous projection of 4.7% in January.

### **India's PMI indicates strong growth in business and exports.**

- In May, the Indian economy saw a record rise in exports and the sharpest upturn in employment in 18 years. The HSBC flash India Composite Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) stood at 61.7 in May. The flash services PMI index reached a four-month high of 61.4, up from April's 60.8.
- As per the HSBC Flash Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI), India registered the third-strongest upturn in private sector output since July 2010.
- Business activity in India expanded robustly in May due to service Industry.
- Increase in international demand has expanded exports at the fastest pace since September 2014.
- Job creation across the private sector has improved, reaching its sharpest level since September 2006. The services sector witnessed the fastest pace of job additions in the last 21 months.
- Manufacturers' optimism has also reached its peak in over nine years.

### **India's net FDI declined by 62% in FY24**

- According to RBI data, India's net FDI witnessed a significant decline of 62% in FY24.
- Net FDI inflows dropped to \$10.58 billion in FY24 from \$27.98 billion in the previous year, marking the lowest level since 2007.
- Of the \$70.9 billion gross FDI flows, \$44.4 billion entered India through dividends, share sales, or disinvestment, while Indian investments overseas amounted to \$15.96 billion.
- Over 60% of FDI equity flows were directed towards manufacturing, electricity, computer services, financial services, and retail and wholesale trade sectors.
- Majority of FDI inflows, about 80%, originated from Singapore, Mauritius, the US, the Netherlands, Japan, and the UAE.
- India is anticipated to be among the top 10 economies witnessing substantial FDI inflows in 2024.
- Indian companies announced over 550 Greenfield FDI projects abroad, showcasing their global expansion ambitions.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

**With a 42% rise to \$15.6 billion in FY24, smartphones rank as India's fourth most popular export good.**

- In FY24, smartphones experienced a significant 42% surge in exports, reaching \$15.6 billion, making them India's fourth most popular export commodity.
- While petroleum products continue to dominate India's export landscape, smartphones have replaced motor gasoline as the fourth-largest exported item.
- The exponential growth in smartphone exports can be attributed to a remarkable 158% increase in shipments to the US, totaling \$5.6 billion, as per data from the commerce department.
- Following the US, the United Arab Emirates (\$2.6 billion), the Netherlands (\$1.2 billion), and the United Kingdom (\$1.1 billion) emerged as significant export destinations.
- India commenced collecting smartphone export data separately in April 2022, reflecting the growing prominence of this sector in the country's economy.
- Preliminary estimates by the Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) suggest that the value of mobile devices manufactured in India for both domestic and export markets surged to Rs 4.1 trillion (\$49.16 billion) in FY24.
- India's emergence as the world's second-largest producer of mobile phones, trailing only behind China, underscores the remarkable growth trajectory of its smartphone industry.
- Exported smartphones accounted for over 30% of the total output value in FY24, a notable increase from 25% in FY23, based on early estimates provided by ICEA data.

**A global equities index saw little decline.**

- On May 28, 2024, a global equities index experienced a slight decline.
- Treasury yields rose as investors looked forward to the release of inflation data later in the week.
- U.S. Treasury yields increased, supported by an unexpected improvement in consumer confidence in May, after three months of decline.
- The boost in consumer confidence was attributed to positive expectations for the job market, according to a survey.
- Investors are awaiting the U.S. core Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Price Index report for April, which is set to be released on May 31, 2024.
- On May 28, 2024, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell by 160.86 points, or 0.41%, closing at 38,908.73.
- The S&P 500 decreased by 0.90 points, or 0.02%, to end at 5,303.82.

**As per ILO, the Global unemployment rate is expected to fall slightly to 4.9% in 2024.**

- According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the global unemployment rate is expected to decrease slightly to 4.9% in 2024, down from 5.0% in 2023.
- In January, the ILO had projected that the unemployment rate would remain at 5.2%, influenced by anticipated increases in unemployment in advanced economies.
- However, the ILO revised its forecast due to lower-than-expected unemployment rates in China, India, and high-income countries.
- The ILO also predicts that the unemployment rate will remain at 4.9% in 2025.
- Despite this slight improvement, the report highlights that 183 million people worldwide remain unemployed, while 402 million people who wanted to work were without a job.
- In high-income countries, the unemployment rate stood at 9.7% for women and 7.3% for men.
- Additionally, the report estimates that 45.6% of working-age women will be employed in 2024.

## SUMMIT AND CONFERENCES

**India to host the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting**

- India will host the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM 46) and the 26th Meeting of the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP 26) from May 20 to 30, 2024, in Kochi, Kerala.
- The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, Union Ministry of Earth Science, will host the meeting.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- Over 350 delegates from more than 60 countries are expected to attend the 46th ATCM and 26th CEP meetings.
- The agenda of the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting includes strategic planning for sustainable management of Antarctica and its resources; policy, legal, and institutional operations; inspections and exchange of information and data; biodiversity prospecting; etc.
- The Antarctic Treaty was signed in 1959 in Washington, D.C., by 12 countries and came into force in 1961.
- At present, 56 countries have signed the Antarctic Treaty.

### **57th Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

- The 57th Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) took place in Tbilisi, Georgia from 2 to 5 May 2024.
- The theme was "Bridge to the Future". The ADB and donors agreed to replenish the Asian Development Fund (ADF) 14 and the Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF) 8 with USD 5 billion, a 22% increase from the previous fund.
- This will support grant operations from 2025 to 2028.
- The meeting was attended by ADB Governors, government officials, private sector participants, development partners, observers, and media personalities.

### **Neeru Yadav will represent India at the United Nations Food Programme (UNFPA) meeting**

- The government of India has selected three elected women representatives Neeru Yadav, Supriya Das Datta, and Kunuku Hema Kumari, to represent India at the United Nations' "Localising the SDGs: Women in Local Governance in India Lead the Way" event.
- The event will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 3 May 2024.
- Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India, is leading the Indian delegation to the United Nations event.
- The "Localising the SDGs: Women in Local Governance in India Lead the Way" event in New York is being organised by the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, along with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).
- The Indian-organised event will be held alongside during the 57th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD57), which will be held from 29 April - 3 May 2024 in New York, United States of America.

### **4th Joint Trade Committee Meeting concluded between India and Ghana**

- The recent conclusion of the fourth Joint Trade Committee Meeting between India and Ghana in Accra signifies a concerted effort to bolster bilateral trade and investment cooperation.
- Over the course of two days, on May 2-3, both nations reached agreements to implement the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) UPI on the Ghana Interbank Payment and Settlement System (GHIPS) within six months.
- The possibility of both countries signing an MoU on digital transformation solutions and local currency settlement systems was also explored.
- The Indian delegation included officials from the Geological Survey of India, Exim Bank, and the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, reflecting India's diverse interests in Ghana.
- With bilateral trade valued at US\$2.87 billion in 2022-23, Ghana is a major trading partner for India in the African region.
- India is one of the leading investors in Ghana, with investments spanning sectors such as pharmaceuticals, construction, manufacturing, business services, agriculture, and tourism.

### **The Tri-Services Conference, 'Parivartan Chintan', was held in New Delhi**

- Parivartan Chintan – 2, chaired by Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, is planned over a period of two days on 09-10 May 2024 in New Delhi.
- Parivartan Chintan is a pioneer conference for heads of all tri-service institutions and aims to generate innovative reform ideas and initiatives.
- Members of all sub-committees of the apex Chiefs of Staff Committee, the CDS as its permanent chairman and the chiefs of the three services reviewed the progress made in various areas.

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- They considered the reforms needed to achieve the desired end state of transformation through jointness and integration.

### **India participated in the 19th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in New York.**

- India actively participated in the 19th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) held in New York from May 6th to May 10th, 2024.
- During this session, India showcased significant strides in forest conservation and the sustainable management of forest resources.
- India's achievements in forest preservation were highlighted, with the country ranking third globally in terms of net gain in average annual forest area between 2010 and 2020.
- Additionally, India shared insights into its 'Green Credit Program,' designed to encourage entities to engage in tree plantation activities and the restoration of degraded forest lands.
- In October 2023, India spearheaded an initiative under the UNFF in Dehradun, which saw the participation of representatives from 40 countries and 20 international organizations.
- India's Ministry organized a side event focused on 'Principles and Strategies for Landscape Integrated Fire Management through Collaborative Governance.' This event provided a platform to discuss innovative approaches to managing landscape fires in a collaborative manner.
- Overall, India's active involvement in the UNFF's 19th Session underscored its commitment to global forest conservation efforts and sustainable forest management practices.

### **World Hydrogen Summit 2024**

- India has set up its pavilion at the 2024 World Hydrogen Summit.
- World Hydrogen Summit 2024 is being held from May 13–15 in Rotterdam, Netherlands.
- The India Pavilion stands as one of the largest at the event. It is being organized by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- India launched its National Green Hydrogen Mission in January 2023 with an outlay of Rs 19,744 crore.
- Its main aim is to achieve a green hydrogen production capacity of 5 million tonnes by the end of 2030.
- Apart from the Green Hydrogen Mission, scheme guidelines have been notified for utilizing green hydrogen in key sectors such as steel, transportation, and shipping.
- To foster innovation and promote the Green Hydrogen ecosystem in India, the Department of Science and Technology has initiated Hydrogen Valley Innovation Clusters.
- At present, 44 per cent of India's energy needs are met by non-fossil sources. It will surge to around 65 per cent by 2030.

### **12th India-Mongolia Joint Working Group meeting held in Ulaanbaatar.**

- The 12th Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting between the Defense Ministries of India and Mongolia convened in Ulaanbaatar on May 16-17, 2024, demonstrating the commitment to bilateral defense cooperation.
- Both sides expressed contentment with the current state of defense collaboration, underscoring the fruitful nature of their ongoing endeavors.
- The meeting provided an opportunity for a comprehensive review of the progress made in various bilateral defense initiatives, reflecting a mutual dedication to strengthening ties.
- Discussions during the meeting centered on identifying avenues for further deepening cooperation and exchanging perspectives on prevailing geopolitical dynamics.
- Both parties acknowledged the burgeoning relationship between India and Mongolia, rooted in shared historical, cultural, and civilizational bonds.
- Over the past 27 years, India's exports to Mongolia have witnessed a robust annualized growth rate of 14.1%, rising from \$2.03 million in 1995 to \$71.3 million in 2022, indicating the strengthening economic ties between the two nations.

### **India-Zimbabwe Relations**

- The third session of the India-Zimbabwe Joint Trade Committee (JTC) concluded in New Delhi.
- Held from May 13th to May 14th, the session saw participation from officials representing both nations.



## **"CURRENT AFFAIR"**

- Ms. Priya P Nair, Economic Adviser from the Department of Commerce, co-chaired the JTC alongside Ms. Rudo M Faranisi, Chief Director of Economic Cooperation from the Government of Zimbabwe.
- The Zimbabwean delegation comprised Mr. Peter Hobwani, Ambassador Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of Zimbabwe, and over 15 representatives from various ministries.
- Both parties expressed interest in potential Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) aimed at regulatory collaboration in areas such as digital transformation solutions, telemedicine, rough diamonds, instant payment systems, and traditional medicine.
- Bilateral cooperation was identified in several sectors including pharmaceuticals, geospatial technology, healthcare, machinery, vehicles, electrical equipment, mineral fuels, mineral oils, distillation products, and iron.

### **Cyber Security Conclave was organized in New Delhi.**

- The Cyber Security Conclave was held in New Delhi, the nation's capital.
- Key strategies for enhancing cyber security were discussed during the event.
- The conclave was jointly organized by CSC and the United Service Institution (USI).
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between CSC and USI to bolster cyber security efforts.
- With cyber security becoming an increasingly critical and sensitive issue, the frequency of cyber threats and data breaches is escalating globally.
- Incidents of cyber security breaches by IT service providers are on the rise.
- In this context, it is imperative for companies to establish robust cyber security frameworks to retain customer trust.

### **Cold Chain and Logistics Summit organized by FICCI in New Delhi.**

- The Cold Chain and Logistics Summit, titled "Navigating The Future of Cold Chain Logistics," was organized by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in New Delhi on May 29th.
- The summit aimed to promote collaboration and innovation in developing an integrated, sustainable, and efficient cold chain ecosystem for India's perishable goods sector.
- Discussions focused on creating sustainable infrastructure to enhance energy efficiency, reduce waste, and ensure the integrity and safety of temperature-sensitive goods within supply chain management.
- This summit provided a dynamic platform for exchanging best practices and strategies, offering insights into the technologies and trends shaping the future of cold chain logistics.

### **The 6th meeting of the Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism between India and Japan held in New Delhi**

- The 6th meeting of the India-Japan Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism was held in New Delhi.
- Led by Joint Secretary K D Dewal from India's Ministry of External Affairs and Ambassador Hiroyuki Minami from Japan, the delegations discussed regional terrorist threats, including state-sponsored cross-border terrorism in South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia, and the Middle East.
- They also addressed terrorist activities in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and the challenges posed by new technologies, internet misuse, radicalization, and terrorist financing.
- Both sides emphasized the importance of information sharing, capacity building, training, and cooperation in multilateral forums like the UN, FATF, and the Quad.
- The next meeting will be held in Tokyo on a mutually agreed date.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### **Venezuela has become the first country to lose all its glaciers.**

- Venezuela has reached a significant milestone in the battle against climate change by becoming the first nation to lose all its glaciers, marking a critical turning point in the country's environmental landscape.
- The disappearance of Venezuela's final glacier signifies the culmination of a process that began in 1910 when the country boasted six glaciers spanning an impressive 1,000 square kilometers.
- Today, only remnants of ice remain, failing to meet the criteria for classification as glaciers, symbolizing the irreversible loss of these natural formations.
- By 2011, five out of the six glaciers had vanished entirely, leaving only the Humboldt Glacier, also known as La Corona, in the Sierra Nevada National Park, fighting for survival against the effects of climate change.
- Research spanning the last five years reveals a drastic decline in glacier coverage in Venezuela, plummeting by a staggering 98% from 1953 to 2019.
- The rate of ice loss has accelerated rapidly since 1998, reaching a peak of approximately 17% per year since 2016, underscoring the urgency of addressing climate change and its devastating impacts on vulnerable ecosystems like glaciers.

### **ONGC registered the highest-ever profit in FY24.**

- ONGC achieved its highest-ever profit in FY24. The company reported a record standalone net profit of Rs 40,526 crore.
- Additionally, ONGC's consolidated net profit for FY24 reached an unprecedented Rs 57,101 crore.
- During the fourth quarter of FY24, ONGC's crude oil production increased by 2.4%, reaching 5.359 million metric tonnes (MMT).
- However, the company's standalone gross revenue declined by 11%, from Rs 1,55,517 crore in FY23 to Rs 1,38,402 crore in FY24.
- ONGC has announced a total dividend of Rs 12.25 per share with a total amount of Rs 15,411 crore.
- This includes an interim dividend of Rs 9.75 per share already paid during the year.
- During FY24, ONGC spent Rs 37,000 crore in capital expenditure.

### **India Record Positive Growth among Top 5 World Steel Producer in April**

- As per the latest report from the World Steel Association, India stands out as the sole nation among the top five global producers of crude steel to showcase a commendable surge in production during April 2024.
- India, holding the esteemed position of being the world's second-largest producer of crude steel, exhibited a notable growth rate of 3.9 percent in April 2024 when compared to the corresponding period in April 2023.
- This upward trajectory underscores India's resilience and vitality in the steel industry, reaffirming its pivotal role on the global stage.
- Based on data provided by the World Steel Association, global crude steel production witnessed a slight downturn in April 2024, totaling 155.7 million tonnes, marking a 5.0% decrease compared to the same period in April 2023.
- In the same timeframe, India demonstrated resilience and growth, producing 12.1 million tonnes of crude steel in April 2024, reflecting a commendable increase of 3.9% compared to April 2023.
- Conversely, China, renowned as the world's largest steel producer, experienced a decline in production during April 2024.
- Japan, the third largest steel producer in the world, produced 7.1 million tonnes of steel, registering a 2.5 per cent decline.
- The fourth largest steel producer, the United States of America, produced 6.7 million tonnes, registering a decline of 2.8 per cent.
- Russia, the fifth largest steel producer, registered a 5.7 per cent decline to 6.2 million tonnes.

# "CURRENT AFFAIR"

## Current Affairs MCQs

1. Who is the current chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) ?
  - (a) Vikram Yadav
  - (b) Samant Goel
  - (c) Gurpatwant Singh Pannun
  - (d) Ajit Doval
2. Vladimir Putin has been President of Russia since:
  - (a) 2000
  - (b) 1999
  - (c) 2005
  - (d) 2008
3. Who was elected as the new Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands on May 2, 2024?
  - (a) Manasseh Sogavare
  - (b) Jeremiah Manele
  - (c) Matthew Wales
  - (d) Anthony Albanese
4. Who is the first President of the GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT)?
  - (a) Justice Sanjay Kumar Mishra
  - (b) Justice (Retd.) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra
  - (c) Justice Ramesh Gupta
  - (d) Justice (Retd.) Rajesh Singh
5. What is SLU in the context of elections?
  - (a) Single Log Unit
  - (b) Symbol Loading Unit
  - (c) Security Locking Unit
  - (d) Surveillance Logging Unit
6. Which High Court recently issued directives to combat the use of spurious oxytocin hormone in dairy colonies due to animal cruelty?
  - (a) Calcutta High Court
  - (b) Delhi High Court
  - (c) Bombay High Court
  - (d) Gujarat High Court
7. What does World Press Freedom Day mark the anniversary of?
  - (a) The establishment of the United Nations
  - (b) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
  - (c) The Windhoek Declaration
  - (d) The Birth Anniversary of William Shakespeare
8. When is International Sun Day celebrated?
  - (a) May 1st
  - (b) May 2nd
  - (c) May 3rd
  - (d) May 4th
9. What is the name of the Indian-origin astronaut set to fly into space for the third time?
  - (a) Kalpana Chawala
  - (b) Sunita Williams
  - (c) Rakesh Sharma
  - (d) Sunil Gupta

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

10. Who is the Prime Minister of the UK?
  - (a) Boris Johnson
  - (b) Keir Starmer
  - (c) Rishi Sunak
  - (d) Theresa May
11. Who have been named as laureates of the 2024 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize?
  - (a) Russian journalists
  - (b) Ukrainian journalists
  - (c) Palestinian journalists
  - (d) Chinese journalists
12. How many countries' representatives participated in the International Election Visitors' Programme (IEVP) hosted by the Election Commission of India (ECI)?
  - (a) 75
  - (b) 23
  - (c) 6
  - (d) 15
13. Recently, which state launched the 'Nakshatra Sabha', India's first astro tourism campaign?
  - (a) Uttarakhand
  - (b) Haryana
  - (c) Himachal Pradesh
  - (d) Rajasthan
14. On which day is Buddha Purnima celebrated?
  - (a) New Moon day in Vaishakha
  - (b) Full Moon day in Vaishakha
  - (c) New Moon day in Ashadha
  - (d) Full Moon day in Ashadha
15. Who is the Chief Election Commissioner of India as on May 2024?
  - (a) Sunil Arora
  - (b) Sushil Chandra
  - (c) Om Prakash Rawat
  - (d) Rajiv Kumar
16. Who has been named as the captain of India's 15-member squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup?
  - (a) Virat Kohli
  - (b) Hardik Pandya
  - (c) Rohit Sharma
  - (d) Ravindra Jadeja
17. Recently, which country's men's team won 11th Thomas Cup by defeating Indonesia?
  - (a) China
  - (b) Malaysia
  - (c) India
  - (d) Vietnam
18. Why was Arvind Kejriwal arrested by the Enforcement Directorate?
  - (a) In connection with corruption allegations related to Delhi's healthcare policy
  - (b) In connection with corruption allegations related to Delhi's education policy
  - (c) In connection with corruption allegations related to Delhi's liquor policy
  - (d) In connection with corruption allegations related to Delhi's transportation policy
19. When and where is the ninth ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 scheduled to take place?
  - (a) 3 to 20 October in England
  - (b) 3 to 20 October in Bangladesh



## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- (c) 1 to 18 November in Australia  
(d) 5 to 22 September in India
20. Who became the first Indian woman to break into the top 25 of the world Women's singles table tennis rankings?  
(a) Suthirtha Mukherjee  
(b) Mouma Das  
(c) Manika Batra  
(d) Ankita Das
21. Who emerged as the Chairman of IFFCO following the elections in May 2024?  
(a) Balvir Singh  
(b) Dileep Sanghani  
(c) Dr. US Awasthi  
(d) Jagdeep Singh Nakai
22. According to the Global Electricity Review 2024, which country has overtaken Japan to become the world's third-largest solar power generator in 2023?  
(a) China  
(b) India  
(c) Brazil  
(d) United States
23. SMART (Supersonic Missile Assisted Release of Torpedo) system, recently seen in news, is developed by which organization?  
(a) DRDO  
(b) ISRO  
(c) Ministry of Earth Sciences  
(d) CSIR
24. Who was the first Indian citizen to fly to space in 1984?  
(a) Sunita Williams  
(b) Rakesh Sharma  
(c) Kalpana Chawla  
(d) Gopi Thotakura
25. Who authored the Ramcharitmanas?  
(a) Acharya Anandvardhan  
(b) Goswami Tulsidas  
(c) Pandit Vishnu Sharma  
(d) Ramesh Chandra Gaur
26. Who is the first Indian male wrestler to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics?  
(a) KD Jadhav  
(b) Aman Sehrawat  
(c) Sushil Kumar  
(d) Yogeshwar Dutt
27. What is 'FWD-200B', recently seen in news?  
(a) Chemical weapon  
(b) Indigenous bomber unmanned aircraft  
(c) Indian naval ship  
(d) Exoplanet
28. What is the next step for the winners of the India Skills 2024 event?  
(a) They will receive monetary awards and certificates.  
(b) They will get the opportunity to study abroad.

## “CURRENT AFFAIR”

- (c) They will train with top industry trainers to prepare for the World Skills Competition in Lyon, France.  
(d) They will be offered immediate employment in top companies.
29. Where was Uttar Pradesh's first traffic park recently opened?  
(a) Prayagraj  
(b) Ayodhya  
(c) Saharanpur  
(d) Varanasi
30. Where does the Cannes Film Festival take place annually?  
(a) Paris  
(b) Cannes  
(c) London  
(d) New York
31. When is World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day observed?  
(a) May 7  
(b) May 8  
(c) May 9  
(d) May 10
32. In the 7th edition of the Joint Military Exercise “Shakti” from May 13 to May 26 at Umroi, Meghalaya, which country's contingent participates alongside the Indian Army?  
(a) Russia  
(b) France  
(c) United States  
(d) United Kingdom
33. Mother's Day is celebrated:  
(a) First Sunday in May  
(b) Second Sunday in May  
(c) Third Sunday in May  
(d) Fourth Sunday in May
34. When do we celebrate World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD)?  
(a) April 17  
(b) June 17  
(c) July 17  
(d) May 17
35. Which organization included the Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana in its Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register?  
(a) UNICEF  
(b) UNESCO  
(c) WHO  
(d) World Bank
36. Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX), recently seen in the news, is a joint mission of which two space organizations?  
(a) ISRO and JAXA  
(b) NASA and ISRO  
(c) ESA and ISRO  
(d) ISRO and CNSA
37. Which monsoon normally set in over Kerala towards the end of May / first week of June every year?  
(a) North-east monsoon  
(b) South-west monsoon

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

- (c) Winter monsoon
  - (d) Summer monsoon
38. Kendu leaves, recently seen in the news, are called the “green gold” of which state?
- (a) Bihar
  - (b) Uttar Pradesh
  - (c) Haryana
  - (d) Odisha
39. What prestigious award did Arti, Pink E-Rickshaw driver from Uttar Pradesh win on 22 May 2024?
- (a) Nobel Peace Prize
  - (b) Amal Clooney Women’s Empowerment Award
  - (c) International Women of Courage Award
  - (d) Global Humanitarian Award
40. Which day is proclaimed as World Football Day by the United Nations General Assembly?
- (a) 24th May
  - (b) 25th May
  - (c) 26th May
  - (d) 27th May
41. Who won the Men’s doubles title at the Thailand Open 2024 Tennis tournament?
- (a) Lu Ming-Che and Tang Kai-Wei
  - (b) Chen Bo Yang and Liu Yi
  - (c) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty
  - (d) Lee Yong Dae and Yoo Yeon Seong
42. In which city were the 1924 Summer Olympic Games held, where the first international football tournament with representation from all regions took place?
- (a) Berlin
  - (b) Tokyo
  - (c) Paris
  - (d) London
43. What event led to the death of Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in May 2024?
- (a) Assassination
  - (b) Heart Attack
  - (c) Helicopter Crash
  - (d) Car Accident
44. Anti-Terrorism Day marks the death anniversary of which former Indian Prime Minister?
- (a) Indira Gandhi
  - (b) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
  - (c) Rajiv Gandhi
  - (d) Lal Bahadur Shastri
45. When is Anti-Terrorism Day observed?
- (a) April 21
  - (b) May 21
  - (c) May 22
  - (d) July 22
46. What is India’s rank on the World Economic Forum’s Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024, published by World Economic Forum (WEF)?
- (a) 29th
  - (b) 39th
  - (c) 49th
  - (d) 59th

## "CURRENT AFFAIR"

47. Which prestigious award did "SUNFLOWERS WERE THE FIRST ONES TO KNOW" win at the 77th Cannes Film Festival?
- (a) Palme d'Or
  - (b) La Cined Award for Best Short
  - (c) Best Director Award
  - (d) Jury Prize
48. Who became the first Indian to win the Best Actress Award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival?
- (a) Priyanka Chopra
  - (b) Deepika Padukone
  - (c) Anasuya Sengupta
  - (d) Alia Bhatt
49. Who was named the United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year for 2023?
- (a) Major Suman Gawani
  - (b) Major Radhika Sen
  - (c) Major Antonio Guterres
  - (d) Major Ruchira Kamboj
50. Which team lifted the Indian Premier League (IPL) trophy in 2024?
- (a) Chennai Super Kings
  - (b) Mumbai Indians
  - (c) Kolkata Knight Riders
  - (d) Sunrisers Hyderabad
51. Who became the first Indian filmmaker to win the Grand Prix award at the Cannes Film Festival?
- (a) Mira Nair
  - (b) Payal Kapadia
  - (c) Anurag Kashyap
  - (d) Satyajit Ray
52. Where was '33rd Arab League Summit' held?
- (a) Doha, Qatar
  - (b) Manama, Bahrain
  - (c) Beirut, Lebanon
  - (d) Muscat, Oman
53. Who became the first woman to climb Mount Everest three times in the same season?
- (a) Junko Tabei
  - (b) Purnima Shrestha
  - (c) Pasang Lhamu Sherpa
  - (d) Lhakpa Sherpa
54. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of Committee A at the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA)?
- (a) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
  - (b) Apurva Chandra
  - (c) Harsh Vardhan
  - (d) Randeep Guleria
55. Which player won the Orange Cap for scoring the most runs in IPL 2024?
- (a) Abhishek Sharma
  - (b) Virat Kohli
  - (c) Travis Head
  - (d) Nitish Kumar Reddy
56. Who won the Purple Cap for taking the most wickets in IPL 2024?
- (a) Mitchell Starc
  - (b) Harshal Patel



## “CURRENT AFFAIR”

- (c) Sunil Narine
- (d) Jake Fraser-McGurk

57. Who became India's first-ever gymnast to win gold medalist at the Asian Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on 26 May 2024?

- (a) Mary Kom
- (b) P V Sindhu
- (c) Dipa Karmakar
- (d) Saina Nehwal

58. Who won the gold medal in the women's 52 kg category boxing at the Elorda Cup 2024?

- (a) Anamika
- (b) Manisha
- (c) Minakshi
- (d) Nikhat Zareen

## ANSWER - KEY

1	B	13	A	25	B	37	B	49	B
2	B	14	B	26	B	38	D	50	C
3	B	15	D	27	B	39	B	51	B
4	B	16	C	28	C	40	B	52	B
5	B	17	A	29	A	41	C	53	B
6	B	18	C	30	B	42	C	54	B
7	C	19	B	31	B	43	C	55	B
8	C	20	C	32	B	44	C	56	B
9	B	21	B	33	B	45	B	57	C
10	C	22	B	34	D	46	B	58	D
11	C	23	A	35	B	47	B		
12	B	24	B	36	A	48	C		

# PLA

# PAHUJA LAW ACADEMY

## JUDICIARY RESULTS

### ★ SHINING STARS ★

#### DELHI



#### MADHYA PRADESH



**NITIN AGNIHOTRI**  
(Test Series & IGP)  
ALL INDIA RANK - 2  
UPSC (2021), PROSECUTING ATTORNEY,  
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS, GOI.

#### JHARKHAND



#### GUJARAT



#### ODISHA



#### UTTARAKHAND



#### BIHAR



#### UTTARAKHAND APO



#### UPSC P.P CBI Results



#### UTTAR PRADESH



#### UPSC A.P.P CBI Results



#### RAJASTHAN



#### DELHI A.P.P



#### HARYANA



#### HARYANA ADA



#### BIHAR APO

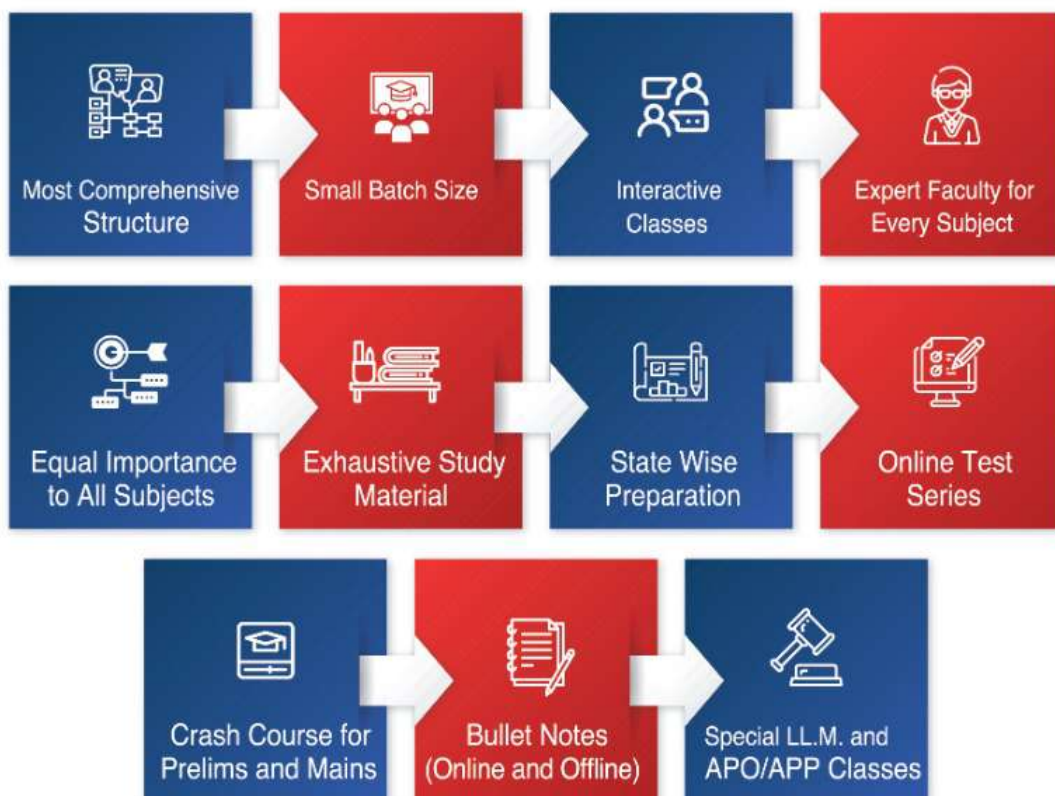




# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## ENGLISH JUDICIARY

### WHY PLA FOR JUDICIARY?



TEST SERIES FOR  
PRELIMS & MAINS

+

FLEXIBILITY IN  
BATCHES & POST  
COURSE FACILITIES

=

RECORD-BREAKING  
RESULTS

📍 **Head Office:**

211-212, D-1, 2nd Floor, Virat Bhawan, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

✉️ +91 - 9821593226

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