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#### **Current Affairs English Weekly PDF**

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### Former Cameroonian prime minister Phileman Yang elected president of 79th session of UN General Assembly.

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) on Thursday elected former Cameroonian Prime Minister Philemon Yang as president of the 79th UNGA session. Yang will succeed Denis Francis of Trinidad and Tobago, president of the 78th UNGA session, when the 79th UNGA session opens on Sept. 10 at the UN headquarters in New York."Beyond our differences and our diversity, we should act together to promote peace, ensure that there's no war, preventing disasters in a spirit of unity," Yang said after being elected

#### Shri Kamal Kishore Soan takes over the charge of Director General of ESIC.

Shri Kamal Kishore Soan, a senior IAS officer from Jharkhand Cadre (Batch: 1998) currently serving as an Additional Secretary and Director General, Labour Welfare in the Ministry of Labour & Employment, took over the additional charge of Director General of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) under Ministry of Labour & Employment, on 31.05.2024.

#### Neerabh Kumar Prasad takes over as Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh.

The General Administration Department (GAD), through G.O. RT No. 1034 issued on June 7 (Friday), appointed Neerabh Kumar Prasad as Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh in place of K.S. Jawahar Reddy, who had since been transferred. S. Suresh Kumar, Principal Secretary, Political Wing of the GAD, issued the G.O. to this effect.

### Chandrababu Naidu Sworn-in as 18th CM of Andhra Pradesh and Pawan Kalyan as Deputy CM.

Two days after taking oath as part of the new Andhra Pradesh government, Janasena Party head and superstar Pawan Kalyan has been appointed as the Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, with Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu naming his son and Mangalagiri MLA Nara Lokesh the Information and Technology Minister. In addition to the Deputy Chief Minister post, Kalyan has also been tasked with the Panchayati Raj, Rural Development & Rural Water Supply portfolio, as well as the Environment, Forest, Science & Technology one.

### Harsh Pati Singhania Elected as First Vice Chair of International Chamber of Commerce.

Harsh Pati Singhania, Chairman and Managing Director of JK Paper Ltd and Director of JK Organisation, has been elected as First Vice-Chair of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Paris. The election took place during the World Council meeting on Tuesday (June 11) in Paris, France. ICC, known as the voice of world business, represents over 45 million businesses globally. Upon his election, Singhania, known



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for his contributions to various industry and government bodies, said, "I am very happy and honoured to have this opportunity to serve the business community through this prestigious institution and will do my best to represent the voice of South, as we navigate a complex and fragile world economy."

#### FICCI Announced the Appointment of Jyoti Vij as its DG.

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on Tuesday announced the appointment of Jyoti Vij as its director general. Vij is currently the additional director general at FICCI. She will take charge of the FICCI secretariat with immediate effect. She graduated from Shri Ram College of Commerce in 1988 and later received her master's in business economics from the University of Delhi in 1990. In 1993, she joined the industry body and has served it in various capacities.

#### PNB MetLife names Sameer Bansal new MD and CEO.

PNB MetLife India Insurance has appointed Sameer Bansal as the new managing director and chief executive, effective July 1. Bansal, with over 25 years of financial services experience, succeeds Ashish Srivastava. Srivastava will now head New York-based MetLife Inc's global shared services team in India. The appointment is subject to regulatory approvals.

### Smt Vijayabharathi Sayani joins as a Member of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India.

Smt Vijayabharathi Sayani today joined as a Member of the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India. Prior to this, she was practicing as an Advocate in the Telangana High Court. Besides handling civil and criminal matters, she is widely known for dealing with cases of women harassment and dowry, and providing probono legal aid to those belonging to the economically weaker sections of society.

#### Narendra Modi takes oath as PM for the third term along with 71 ministers.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the oath of office for a third successive term on Sunday, along with 71 other members of his Council of Ministers, at a ceremony held in the forecourt of Rashtrapati Bhavan. Of the 81 slots allowed in the Union Council of Ministers, a relatively large cohort of 72 members was sworn in, reflecting a coalition government emphasising both continuity and change, with a sizeable representation of 11 portfolios given to the BJP's allies in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

#### Prem Singh Tamang sworn in as CM of Sikkim for 2nd term.

The ceremony, which started at 4.30pm, was attended by special invitees and more than 30,000 people from all over the Himalayan state. The state government ordered the closure of all educational institutions in and around Gangtok as a security measure. A half-day holiday was also declared at all government offices and PSUs in



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the area following an order issued by chief secretary V B Pathak. SKM secured a landslide victory in the assembly elections, winning 31 of the state's 32 seats that went to polls on April 19 along with general election in the sole Lok Sabha constituency of the state. The opposition Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF), headed by former chief minister Pawan Chamling, won only one. The results were declared on June 4.

### Mohan Charan Majhi sworn in as Odisha's 1st BJP CM, Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo & Pravati Parida took oath as Deputy CMs.

Mohan Charan Majhi on Wednesday took oath as the 15th Chief Minister of Odisha in the presence of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other senior BJP leaders at the Janta Maidan in Bhubaneswar. Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, a veteran party MLA from Patnagarh, and Pravati Parida, a first-time MLA from Nimapara, were also sworn in as the deputy CMs at the event. Majhi, BJP's tribal face is a sitting MLA from the Keonjhar assembly constituency in Western Odisha. He had a long political career, beginning as a Sarpanch in 1997 and becoming an MLA for the first time in 2000 from Keonjhar. He won the seat back in 2004, but lost it again in 2009 and 2014. In 2019, he won again, and in 2024, he held his seat.

### The All India Tennis Association has announced the Dilip Bose Award for lifetime achievement to coach Nar Singh and Rohini Lokhande.

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) has announced the Dilip Bose award for lifetime achievement to coach Nar Singh. The award along with a cash prize of Rs.50,000 will be presented during the 11th National coaches workshop to be held at the PYC Hindu Gymkhana in Pune on June 7 and 8.

#### SEBI issues framework for levying penalty for surveillance lapses.

SEBI on Thursday came out with a framework on "financial disincentives" for market infrastructure institutions that would impose a penalty ranging from ₹1 lakh to ₹1 crore for each instance surveillance lapse during the financial year. Penalty for first instance of lapse will vary from ₹1 lakh (if annual revenue of MII is less than ₹300 crore) to ₹25 lakh (if annual revenue is greater than ₹1,000 crore). For second instance, this penalty will vary from ₹2 lakh to ₹50 lakh. For third instance onwards the penalty will vary from ₹4 lakh to ₹1 crore.

#### SBI launches 'SME Digital Business Loans', to sanction loans in 45 minutes.

"This innovative product marks a significant leap forward in digitalisation by offering SMEs a digital loan journey with an end-to-end sanction turnaround time of up to 45 minutes," SBI said in a statement. The proposition eliminates the need for traditional credit underwriting and lengthy appraisal processes, ushering in a new era of simplicity, speed, and accessibility in MSME lending.



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#### RBI relaxes overseas investment rules for offshore funds.

The Reserve Bank of India has allowed listed Indian companies and resident individuals to invest in offshore funds that are regulated through their fund managers. These investments can be in any instrument, regardless of its form, and in funds set up as limited partnerships, LLC, VCCs, companies or trusts.

#### Bank Of India acquires over 6 % stake in CCIL IFSC.

The announcement was made by Bank of India's Executive Director (International Operations) Subrat Kumar in GIFT City while speaking at an event to mark the first anniversary of the bank's IFSC Banking Unit in GIFT City. "The acquisition of 6.125 per cent stake in CCIL IFSC for Rs 6.125 crore showcases our strategic commitment towards the growth of GIFT City IFSC and its emergence as a global financial services provider," Kumar said.

#### Sebi mandates KRAs to update KYC info on Central KYC Records Registry.

In a move aimed at streamlining the Know Your Customer (KYC) process, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has directed KYC Registration Agencies (KRAs) to integrate their systems with the Central KYC Records Registry (CKYCRR) and begin uploading verified KYC information of clients starting August 1, 2024.

### Ravichandran Ashwin releases his autobiography 'I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story'.

Penguin Random House India (PRHI) revealed on Monday that Ravichandran Ashwin, India's spirited off-spinner renowned for his clever and savvy performances on the cricket field, will release his autobiography on June 10."I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story," written by veteran cricketer Ravichandran Ashwin and author Sidharth Monga, pledges to present a nuanced and forthright depiction of the Indian spinner's life prior to his ascent as a cricket luminary. "I am pleased to share my story on the making of a cricketer. Through this book, I hope to inspire many aspiring cricketers," said Ashwin in a statement.

### CCI approves Acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC by Blackrock Funding, Inc.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved BlackRock Funding, Inc.'s acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC, marking a significant milestone in the global investment landscape. According to a press release by the CCI, BlackRock Funding, Inc., a subsidiary of BlackRock Inc., will significantly expand its infrastructure management capabilities through this acquisition. This move highlights the increasing importance of infrastructure investments in global portfolios. The



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approved deal involves BlackRock Funding, Inc. acquiring 100% of the limited liability company interests in Global Infrastructure Management, LLC (GIM), enhancing BlackRock's strategic influence in the global infrastructure sector.

#### JIMEX 24, 8th Japan-India Maritime Exercise Commenced in Japan.

Japan-India maritime exercise (JIMEX 24) commenced at Yokosuka in Japan. According to the Indian Navy, during the exercise, navies of both the countries will jointly hone their war fighting skills at sea and enhance their interoperability. Indian Navy's indigenous Stealth Frigate INS Shivalik is participating in the bilateral maritime exercise. While, Japan is being represented by the Guided Missile Destroyer JS Yugiri. Indian Navy said that JIMEX 24 provides an opportunity to learn from each other's best practices and facilitates operational interactions between India and Japan.

#### Indian Army gets indigenous Man Portable Counter Drone System.

AXISCADES Technologies Ltd, has started delivering the first-of-its-kind Man Portable Counter Drone System (MPCDS) in India to the armed forces under a Landmark Order of Rs 100 Crores from the Indian Army. On Monday the company said that this contract marks a major milestone for AXISCADES, as the company begins the delivery of these systems, which are the first of their kind to be inducted into the Indian Defence Forces.

#### Indian Navy Launches 5th MCA Barge, LSAM 13 (Yard 81)' at Maharashtra.

The 'Missile Cum Ammunition Barge, LSAM 13, Yard 81, the fifth Barge of the Missile Cum Ammunition Barge project, built by MSME Shipyard, SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd (SEPPL), Visakhapatnam for Indian Navy, was undertaken on June 10. The availability of these Barges would provide impetus to the operational commitments of IN by facilitating Transportation, Embarkation and Disembarkation of articles, and ammunition to IN Ships both alongside jetties and at outer harbours. These Barges are indigenously designed and built under relevant Naval Rules and Regulations of the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS).

## Sub Lieutenant Anamika Rajeev becomes Indian navy's first Woman helicopter pilot.

A total of 21 officers were awarded the prestigious 'Golden Wings' by Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command. A passing out parade was held on June 7 to mark the graduation of the 102nd Helicopter Conversion Course. The ceremony also marked the completion of Stage I training of the 4th Basic Helicopter Conversion Course in which three officers successfully completed their Stage — (I) training. Lieutenant Jamyang Tsewang became the first commissioned naval officer from the Union Territory of Ladakh, according to a Defence press release.



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### Indian Army launches Integrated Generator Monitoring, Control System 'Vidyut Rakshak'.

Vidyut Rakshak is an Internet of Things-enabled integrated generator monitoring, protection and control system. The Internet of Things (IoT) is a network of interrelated devices that connect and exchange data with other IoT devices and the cloud. The Indian Army has launched 'Vidyut Rakshak', an integrated generator monitoring, protection, and control system developed by the Army Design Bureau (ADB). This tech-based innovation, part of the Army's 'Year of Tech Absorption', utilizes Internet of Things (IoT) technology to monitor, predict faults, and automate manual operations of all existing generators, regardless of type or make. The system aims to save manpower and signifies the Army's commitment to leveraging technology for transformative change. Vidyut Rakshak was showcased during Aero India 2023 and has already been inducted into the Indian Army.

### Garden Reach Shipbuilders surges 6% on lowest bid of Rs 500 cr for DRDO contract.

Shares of Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) soared up to 6 percent on June 7 after the company emerged as the lowest bidder for a Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) contract. The contract, worth around Rs 500 crore encompasses building research vessel for the DRDO. It is also worth noting that GRSE is yet to bag the order as the contract is currently under negotiation and has not yet been signed.

#### World Bank Raises GDP Projection to 6.6% for FY25.

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The World Bank has upwardly revised India's GDP growth forecast for the current financial year 2024-25 by 20 basis points to 6.6 per cent from its earlier projection of 6.4 per cent made in January. The World Bank said that India will continue to be the fastest-growing among the world's largest economies, though its pace of expansion is In its expected to moderate. latest Global Economic Prospects report, international financial institution attributed the revision in India's growth projections to strong public investment accompanied by private capex and rise private consumption.

### Motilal Oswal AMC Introduced Nifty India Defence index. India's Index Fund Investing in Defence Stocks.

Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund is set to introduce the Motilal Oswal Nifty India Defence Index Fund, an open-ended fund designed to mirror the total returns of the Nifty India Defence Index. The new fund offer (NFO) for this scheme will be open for subscription from June 13 until June 24. The fund's investment objective is to provide returns that, before expenses, correspond to the total returns of the securities as represented by the Nifty India Defence Total Return Index, subject to tracking error.



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Its performance will be measured against the Nifty India Defence Total Return Index and will be overseen by Swapnil Mayekar and Rakesh Shetty.

### Global temperature is likely to exceed 1.5°C above pre-industrial level temporarily in next 5 years.

There is an 80 percent likelihood that the annual average global temperature will temporarily exceed 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels for at least one of the next five years, according to a new report from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). This is a stark warning that we are getting ever closer to the goals set in the Paris Agreement on climate change, which refers to long-term temperature increases over decades, not over one to five years.

#### World Oceans Day is celebrated on 8 June.

"Awaken New Depths" is the theme for World Oceans Day 2024. The UN is joining forces with decision-makers, indigenous leaders, scientists, private sector executives, civil society, celebrities, and youth activists to showcase how our relationship with the ocean needs to urgently change since our efforts to date have only skimmed the surface. To motivate widespread momentum for the ocean, we need to awaken new depths.

#### World Food Safety Day is observed on 7th of June every year.

World Food Safety Day on 7 June 2024 will draw attention to food safety incidents. This year's theme underlines the importance of being prepared for food safety incidents, no matter how mild or severe they can be. Food safety incidents are situations where there is a potential or confirmed health risk associated with food consumption. A food incident can happen, for example, due to accidents, inadequate controls, food fraud or natural events. While being ready to manage food safety incidents requires dedicated efforts from policymakers, food safety authorities, farmers and food business operators, consumers also can play an active role.

#### World Accreditation Day on June 9,2024 serves to show Accreditation.

On 9 June each year, World Accreditation Day highlights the work that accreditation and conformity assessment does to improve so many aspects of life, whether for consumers, society as a whole, business or government. Solutions to huge challenges facing the world are vital, challenges from sustainability to climate change and energy transformation, from AI to cyber security. The quality infrastructure, which includes standards developers, assurance and accreditation bodies, is striving to address these issues that will define the future.

International Level Crossing Awareness day is celebrated on 06 June.

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International Level Crossing Awareness day aims to raise awareness about the dangers associated with the road/rail interfaces known as level crossings or grade crossings. International Level Crossing Awareness Day is a joint global commitment to raise public awareness on the dangers of misbehavior at level crossings.

#### International Archives Day is celebrated on 09th June.

International Archives day is being observed across the country today to raise awareness among public about the importance of records and archives. This day aims to make the general public, private and public sectors fully conscious of the need for long-term archival preservation and access.

#### World Day Against Child Labour is observed on 12 June.

This year's World Day will focus on celebrating the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (1999, No. 182). It also presents an opportunity to remind all stakeholders to improve their implementation of the two fundamental Conventions on child labour - Convention No. 182 and Convention No. 138 concerning the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment or Work (1973).

#### Every year from 2024, June 11 will be observed as the International day of play.

The first-ever International Day of Play, to be observed on 11 June 2024, marks a significant milestone in efforts to preserve, promote, and prioritize playing so that all people, especially children, can reap the rewards and thrive to their full potential. Beyond mere recreation, it is a universal language spoken by people of all ages, transcending national, cultural, and socio-economic boundaries. This shared passion fosters a sense of community and national pride.

#### International Albinism Awareness Day is observed on June 13.

Albinos are extremely sensitive to the sun, because their body synthesizes vitamin D 5 times faster. Albinism occurs due to a cellular malfunction, and a person is not to blame for the existence of such a defect, so the main goal of today's event is to draw humanity's attention to the problem of discrimination against people with albinism, to raise public awareness of albinism and its causes.

#### June 8 is celebrated as World Brain Tumour Day each year.

The "Deutsche Hirntumorhilfe e.V." (German Brain Tumor Association) started this international commemoration day in the year 2000 as a tribute to all brain tumour patients and their families. It is celebrated annually on 8 June.

Pixxel, Sarvam Al, Nirmai Health Analytix among 10 indian startups in WEF's technology pioneer 2024 list.



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The list has total 100 leading tech startups which are focused on applying new breakthroughs in AI to develop clean energy solutions, healthcare innovation and progress in biotech, space and neurotechnology. Those having been named on the list in the past include tech giants like Airbnb, Google, Kickstarter and Spotify. Niramai is developing a novel AI-based test for detecting early-stage breast cancer, which is affordable, portable and non-invasive. Pixxel is developing hyperspectral satellite imagery to capture geospatial data, while Sarvam AI is building foundation AI models and platforms for their use with a focus on Indian languages and use cases.

#### Vellayan Subbiah named EY World Entrepreneur of the year 2024.

The EY organization hosts the annual World Entrepreneur of the Year event to celebrate the accomplishments of visionary leaders who are transforming industries, growing the economy and answering the call to address global challenges. The annual gathering brings together founders, CEOs and business leaders for a series of opportunities workshops, networking and culminating with the winning announcement. Vellayan Subbiah, Executive Vice-Chairman of Tube Investments of India (TII) and Chairman of Cholamandalam (Chola) Investment and Finance Co. Ltd., was named the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ 2024 at an award ceremony held in Monaco's Salle des Etoiles. Vellayan was selected from among nearly 5,000 program participants that included 51 winners across 47 countries and jurisdictions competing for the global title. He is the fourth winner from India in the award's 24-year history.

#### In WEF's Global Gender Gap Index 2024, India Ranked 129th and Iceland on top.

India dropped to 129th place in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2024, while Iceland retained the top spot. India ranks fifth in South Asia, trailing Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan, with Pakistan at the bottom. Despite progress in economic participation and educational enrolment, India's political empowerment and representation of women remain low. Globally, the gender gap will take 134 years to close at the current rate.

# UNICEF reported 1 in 4 children globally live in severe child food poverty due to inequity, conflict, and climate crises.

Around 181 million children worldwide under 5 years of age — or 1 in 4 — are experiencing severe child food poverty, making them up to 50 per cent more likely to experience wasting, a life-threatening form of malnutrition, a new UNICEF report reveals today. For the first time, Child Food Poverty: Nutrition Deprivation in Early Childhood analyses the impacts and causes of dietary deprivation among the world's youngest people in nearly 100 countries, and across income groups. It warns that millions of children under the age of five are unable to access and consume a nutritious and diverse diet to sustain optimal growth and development in early childhood and beyond.



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# Mines Ministry Signs MoU with Central TB Division, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for Collaborative Action Towards Elimination of Tuberculosis in the Country by 2025.

y of Health & Family Welfare today signed a Memorandum of Understanding in New Delhi for collaborative and convergent action towards elimination of Tuberculosis. The MoU was signed by Smt. Farida M. Naik, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines and Dr. K. K. Tripathy, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India in the presence of officials from both the ministries. All the field formations, CPSEs and Attached/Subordinate offices of the Mines Ministry joined the program virtually. The MoU will forge inter-ministerial collaboration and strategic partnerships to achieve the target of Eliminating Tuberculosis (TB) in India by 2025.

### MSME lender Ashv Finance partners with HDFC Bank for co-lending MSME loans.

MSME-focused non-banking financial company Ashv Finance, part of the impact investor Aavishkaar Group, has signed a co-lending agreement with the private sector lender HDFC Bank to provide unsecured business loans to micro and small enterprises (MSEs). The co-lending deal is part of Ashv Finance's focus on growing co-lending partnerships for lending to MSMEs.

# The Andhra Chamber of Commerce has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Atal Incubation Centre at the Anna University Incubation Foundation.

The Andhra Chamber of Commerce has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Atal Incubation Centre at the Anna University Incubation Foundation here aimed at boosting the start-up ecosystem and aspiring entrepreneurs. As per the joint initiative, the strategic tie-up would help both the partners to leverage their strengths and reach out to a wider audience with the Atal Incubation Centre, Anna University Incubation Foundation.

#### NASA Welcomes Slovakia as New 42nd Artemis Accords Signatory.

Slovakia signed the Artemis Accords Thursday during a ceremony hosted by NASA Administrator Bill Nelson at the agency's headquarters in Washington, becoming the 42nd nation to join an international community in a commitment to peaceful, transparent, and responsible exploration of space for the benefit of all.

#### SBI and Muthoot Microfin join forces to support women entrepreneurs.

Muthoot Microfin partners with State Bank of India to provide financial services to women in rural and semi-urban areas. The co-lending initiative targets joint liability groups involved in agriculture and other income-generating activities, offering loans



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ranging from Rs 10,000 to Rs 3 lakh. Muthoot Microfin on Thursday announced a strategic co-lending partnership with the State Bank of India to extend its financial services to women in the economically weaker segment in rural and semi-urban regions across India.

### PhonePe partners with PickMe to enable contactless payments for Indian travellers in Sri Lanka.

PhonePe, today announced its collaboration with PickMe, Sri Lanka's leading ride-hailing platform, to enable seamless UPI-based QR payments for Indian travellers in Sri Lanka. The partnership signifies a major step forward in enhancing their travel experience through the convenience of cashless transactions on their PickMe rides from the moment they exit the Bandaranaike International Airport. While travelling, managing foreign currency and ensuring enough cash on hand for various expenses can often become a hassle.

#### Adani Defence & Aerospace, UAE's EDGE sign defence cooperation agreement.

Adani Defence and Aerospace has signed a cooperation agreement with EDGE Group, a global technology and defence organisation based in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), said the Indian company in a press statement. The agreement will create a global platform that utilises the defence and aerospace strengths of both companies by combining product portfolios.

## IIT-H, Japan's Renesas ink MoU for research on VLSI, embedded semiconductor systems.

The Indian Institute of Technology - Hyderabad (IIT-H) and Japanese advanced semiconductor solutions provider Renesas Electronics Corporation have entered into a three-year memorandum of understanding to undertake research and collaborate in the field of very-large-scale-integration (VLSI) and embedded semiconductor systems.

#### NCLT approves the merger of Air India and Vistara.

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved the merger of Air India and Vistara, forming one of the largest airline conglomerates globally, as reported by Financial Express. As part of the deal, Singapore Airlines will acquire a 25.1% stake in Air India. Vistara is a joint venture between the Tata Group and Singapore Airlines.

### Padma Shri Awardee & Renowned Sarod Maestro Rajeev Taranath Passed Away on 11th June.

Pandit Rajeev Taranath, the renowned sarod maestro, passed away due to age-related illness at the age of 92 here on Tuesday. Taranath, a luminary in the realm of Hindustani classical music, breathed his last at a private hospital where he



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had been receiving treatment for the past several days. Born on October 17, 1932, Rajeev Taranath's contributions to music are celebrated globally. A prodigious talent, he gave his first public singing performance at the age of nine and sang for Akashvani Radio before he turned twenty. He later taught English literature at Aden University in the 1980s and served as the head of the Indian music program at the California Institute of the Arts from 1995 to 2005.

#### Malawi Vice President Saulos Chilima Dies in Plane Crash.

The wreck of a plane carrying Malawi's vice-president has been found with no survivors, President Lazarus Chakwera has said. Saulos Chilima and nine others were flying within the country on Monday morning when their aircraft disappeared from airport radars. The plane, a military aircraft, was flying in bad weather. Soldiers had been searching Chikangawa Forest overnight and into the morning in an effort to find the plane. In a news briefing on Tuesday, President Chakwera said the Malawi Defence Force commander informed him that the search and rescue operation had been completed and the plane was found.

#### Distinguished Indian wildlife biologist Johnsingh passed away.

Biologist and conservation activist A J T Johnsingh, who passed away on June 7, has been a source of inspiration for wildlife conservationists across India and the legacy he left behind will guide generations. Describing him as a luminary in wildlife conservation, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin said John Singh's dedication to "science-based conservation will continue to guide us."

### Eenadu founder chairman , Padma Vibhushan awardee and media baron Ramoji Rao passes away at 87.

Prominent media baron Cherukuri Ramoji Rao, chairman of Ramoji Group and Padma Vibhushan awardee, passed away after prolonged illness in the early hours of Saturday, his family members said. He was 87. He is survived by his wife Rama Devi and son Ch Kiran, who is heading the Eenadu group of publications and ETV channels. His younger son, Cherukuri Suman, died of leukemia on September 7, 2012.

#### India, S. Korea, US, Japan, EU launch Biopharmaceutical Alliance.

South Korea, India, the United States, Japan, and the European Union (EU) have come together to launch an alliance to put joint efforts into building a resilient supply chain in the biopharmaceutical sector, the South Korean presidential office said in Seoul on June 6.

UN declares 2025 to be International Year of Quantum Science and Tech.

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The United Nations has said 2025 will be designated the 'International Year of Quantum Science and Technology'. In a statement, the body said the initiative will be "year-long", "worldwide", and that it will "be observed through activities at all levels aimed at increasing public awareness of the importance of quantum science and applications."

### SpaceX accomplishes first soft splashdown of Starship, Super Heavy Booster on Flight 4 mission.

For a fourth time in a little more than a year, SpaceX launched a test mission of its massive Starship rocket from its development facility in southern Texas called Starbase. The launch, dubbed Flight 4, push the launch vehicle towards its goal of being a mostly reusable rocket. Similarly to the previous three launches, Flight 4 did not include a payload and flew a suborbital trajectory. Unlike the preceding missions, Flight 4 saw a soft splashdown of the Super Heavy Booster (Booster 11) and of the Starship upper stage (Ship 29). Liftoff took place at 7:50 a.m. CDT (8:50 a.m. EDT, 1250 UTC), near the opening of a 120-minute window.

#### SpaceX starship completes 1st full flight with successful soft splashdown.

Starship blasted off from the company's Starbase in Boca Chica, Texas, at 7.50am (12:50 GMT), before soaring to space and coasting halfway across the globe. It reached an altitude of nearly 211 kilometers (130 miles), travelling at more than 26,000km/h (16,000mph) before beginning its descent. A live broadcast showed parts of the spacecraft breaking off during the intense heat of reentry, and a chunk of flying debris even cracked the camera lens. The spacecraft remained sufficiently intact to transmit data to its targeted splashdown site in the Indian Ocean.

### Global investment in clean energy to reach USD 2 Trillion is twice that of fossil fuel in 2024.

Total energy investment worldwide is expected to exceed \$3 trillion in 2024 for the first time, with some \$2 trillion set to go toward clean technologies — including renewables, electric vehicles, nuclear power, grids, storage, low-emissions fuels, efficiency improvements and heat pumps — according to the latest edition of the IEA's annual World Energy Investment report. The remainder, slightly over \$1 trillion, is going to coal, gas and oil. In 2023, combined investment in renewable power and grids overtook the amount spent on fossil fuels for the first time.

### Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko becomes first person to spend 1,000 days in space.

Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko became the first person to spend 1,000 days in space. He achieved the milestone on Tuesday during his fifth journey to the International Space Station since 2008. he surpassed the previous record of 878 days, 11 hours, 29 minutes, and 48 seconds set by Russian Gennady Padalka in



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2015. Kononenko's mission is scheduled to end on September 23.

#### India to Host FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup in 2025.

India will host the men's Junior Hockey World Cup in December, 2025. A total of 24 teams will participate in the event for the first time ever. The move aims to empower more National Associations and enhance diversity in the sport. The previous tournament was held in Kuala Lumpur in 2023, with Germany winning. The event emphasises the country's growing importance in international hockey and commitment to developing the sport. This was announced by FIH President Tayyab Ikram who said, "Giving more opportunities to play to a larger and more diverse number of National Associations is one of the key pillars of our empowerment and engagement strategy."

#### India's Sarabjot Singh wins gold in 10m air pistol.

Indian shooter Sarabjot Singh won the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 in Munich, Germany on Thursday. Sarabjot Singh scored 242.7 to win the gold medal in the final. Shuaihang Bu of the People's Republic of China shot 242.5 for the silver medal while Germany's Robin Walter settled for the bronze medal in the final with a score of 220.0.

### Star footballer Sunil Chhetri announced his decision to retire from international football.

Star footballer Sunil Chhetri announced his decision to retire from international football after the FIFA World Cup qualifying match against Kuwait on June 6, bringing the curtains down on a career that is unparalleled in Indian football for its longevity and consistency. The long-serving national team captain announced his decision on May 16 via a video he posted on his social media accounts. "It was not that I was feeling tired," Chhetri said in the video. "When the instinct came this should be my last game, I thought about it a lot and eventually I came to this decision."

### Max Verstappen wins third straight Canadian Grand Prix for his 60th Formula 1 victory and sixth in nine races this year.

Max Verstappen won the Canadian Grand Prix for the third straight year for the Red Bull star's 60th Formula 1 victory and sixth in nine races this season. Verstappen started second in the rain alongside pole-sitter George Russell and dominated late again at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve on Ile Notre-Dame on Sunday. The 26-year-old Dutchman has a staggering 50 victories in the last 75 F1 races.

Norway Chess 2024: Magnus Carlsen, Ju Wenjun emerge as winners, Praggnanandhaa finishes third.



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Magnus Carslen and Ju Wenjun emerged as the champions at the Norway Chess tournament at Stavanger on Friday. Carlsen, with 17.5 points, was the clear winner in the open section, as was Ju, with 19, in the women's. In the final round, the local hero defeated Fabiano Caruana of the United States in Armageddon. His closest rival, Hikaru Nakamura (USA) was beaten by R. Praggnanandhaa, also in Armageddon.

### India participates in the inaugural Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum.

Indian delegation, led by Secretary, Department of Commerce, Shri Sunil Barthwal participated in the inaugural Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum, which brought together the region's top investors, clean economy companies, and start-ups to mobilise investments into sustainable infrastructure, climate technology, and renewable energy projects.

#### India participated in BRICS foreign ministers meeting in Russia.

The meeting on Monday was the first ministerial meeting following BRICS expansion in 2023 when Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE joined Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa as full-fledged BRICS members. A joint statement issued after the meeting said the BRICS foreign ministers reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the framework of BRICS Strategic Partnership under the three pillars of cooperation - politics and security, economy and finance, cultural and people-to-people exchanges.