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**March
2024**

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Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), inaugurated Zerodha Broking Limited's NPS web-app, in New Delhi.

Deepak Mohanty, Chairperson of Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), inaugurated Zerodha Broking Limited's NPS web-app in New Delhi. The app offers seamless access of NPS to a wider subscriber base. NPS (National Pension System) provides continuity to retirement saving account irrespective of one's employment status and is available for non-resident Indians (NRIs). The app foster innovation and inclusivity within the NPS architecture, particularly through its engagement of fintech entities as Point of Presence (PoP) thus, enhancing accessibility and convenience.

Asif Ali Zardari took oath as Pakistan's 14th President for the 2nd term.

Asif Ali Zardari took oath as Pakistan's 14th President for the 2nd term. Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa administered the oath to the Zardari in a small yet formal ceremony at Aiwan-e-Sadr, the Presidential Palace. Zardari replaces Dr Arif Alvi, who stayed in office for five months after completing his five-year term in September 2023. This is the second time that Zardari has won the presidency, a record for any civilian. Earlier he served as the 11th president of Pakistan from 2008 to 2013 and is one of the four democratically elected presidents to have completed their five-year constitutional term. He has been a member of the National Assembly of Pakistan since August 2018.

Future Generali India Life Insurance has appointed Alok Rungta as the Managing Director & CEO effective 1st April 2024.

Future Generali India Life Insurance has appointed Alok Rungta as the Managing Director & CEO effective 1st April 2024. He has succeeded Bruce De Broize, who is the current MD & CEO until Mar 31, 2024. Rungta was the Deputy CEO & Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at Future Generali India Life Insurance. He previously worked at AXA Philippines as a Chief of Retail Propositions (Life, P and C, and Health) and Head of Health and Protection.

Gustavo Adrianzen appointed as the new prime minister of Peru.

Peruvian President Dina Boluarte named the country's representative to the Organization of American States (OAS), Gustavo Adrianzen, as the new prime minister, a day after the prior prime minister stepped down amid corruption accusations. Former prime minister Alberto Otarola resigned after a local TV station released an audio recording.

Author and philanthropist Sudha Murty has been nominated to the Rajya Sabha by President Droupadi Murmu.

Author and philanthropist Sudha Murty has been nominated to the Rajya Sabha by President Droupadi Murmu. The announcement came on International Women's Day. Murthy received the Padma Bhushan - the third-highest civilian award in India - for social work last year and Padma Shri in 2006. She is currently the chairperson of the Infosys Foundation. She is a prolific writer in English and Kannada, and her books have been translated into all major Indian languages.

Nayab Singh Saini was sworn in as Haryana 11th chief minister replacing Manohar Lal Khattar.

Nayab Singh Saini was sworn in as Haryana 11th chief minister replacing Manohar Lal Khattar. Saini, an OBC, hails from 'Mali' community which has presence across the state. BJP's Haryana unit chief, Saini is an MLA from Kurukshetra. He hails from Naraingarh and is the first one to become CM from Ambala district bordering Punjab and northern part of the state. Saini took oath as the CM along with four MLAs - Kanwar Pal Gujjar, Jai Parkash Dalal, Moolchand Sharma, and Banwari Lal who took oath as ministers. All four were ministers in the Khattar government also.

The 1989-batch IAS officer Brajesh Mehrotra was appointed as new chief secretary of Bihar with effect from 4th March 2024.

The 1989-batch IAS officer Brajesh Mehrotra was appointed as new chief secretary of Bihar with effect from 4th March 2024. He replacing Amir Subhani (1987-batch) who has applied for voluntary retirement from the government job to enable his appointment as the chairperson of a state-level commission. Mehrotra's distinguished career includes serving as the additional chief secretary of revenue and land reforms, chief information commissioner, and holding additional responsibilities in general administration and parliamentary affairs, showcasing his multifaceted expertise.

Indian writer Amitav Ghosh was awarded with the 'Erasmus Prize 2024' for his writing on the climate change crisis.

Indian writer Amitav Ghosh was awarded with the 'Erasmus Prize 2024' for his writing on the climate change crisis. He has been honored with the award by the Premium Erasmianum Foundation of the Netherlands. He has received this award for his passionate contribution to highlighting the global crisis of climate change through writing and on the theme of 'imagining the unimaginable'. In 2019, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Maastricht University.

Japanese architect Riken Yamamoto was awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize 2024.

Japanese architect Riken Yamamoto was awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize 2024. Yamamoto, who became the 53rd architect to be awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize, was recognised for his work created over a five-decade career. He becoming the 9th Japanese architect to receive such honor.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented the inaugural '1st National Creators Award' at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented the inaugural '1st National Creators Award' at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The award aims to honour excellence and influence across various fields such as storytelling, environmental sustainability, education, and gaming. It serves as a platform to utilise creativity for promoting positive transformations. The award encompasses 20 categories, including Best Storyteller, Disruptor of the Year, Celebrity Creator of the Year, Green Champion, Best Creator for Social Change, Most Impactful Agri Creator, Cultural Ambassador of the Year, and International Creator. Over 1,50,000 nominations were received across 20 categories. As a result, 23 winners were selected, including three international creators. winners' list: Nishchay - Best Creator in Gaming Category; Ankit Baiyanpuria - Best Health and Fitness Creator; Naman Deshmukh - Best Creator in Education Category; Kabita Singh (Kabita's Kitchen) - Best Creator in Food Category; RJ Raunac (Bauaa) - Most Creative Creator-Male; Shraddha - Most Creative Creator-Female; Jahnvi Singh - Heritage Fashion Icon Award; Malhar Kalambe - Swachhta Ambassador Award; Gaurav Chaudhary - Best Creator in Tech Category; Kamiya Jani - Favourite Travel Creator; Drew Hicks - Best International Creator; Maithili Thakur - Cultural Ambassador of The Year; Jaya Kishori - Best Creator for Social Change; Pankti Pandey - Favourite Green Champion; Aman Gupta - Celebrity Creator of the Year; Lakshay Dabas - Most Impactful Agri Creator

India has been honoured with the prestigious 'Measles and Rubella Champion' Award by The Measles and Rubella Partnership at the American Red Cross Headquarters in Washington D.C, USA.

On 6th March 2024, India has been honoured with the prestigious 'Measles and Rubella Champion' Award by The Measles and Rubella Partnership at the American Red Cross Headquarters in Washington D.C, USA. Ambassador Sripriya Ranganathan, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Washington D.C received the award on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. The Measles and Rubella Partnership comprises a multi-agency planning committee, including the American Red Cross, BMGF, GAVI, US CDC, UNF, UNICEF, and WHO, all dedicated to reducing global measles deaths and preventing rubella illness. The award is a testament to the dedication and hard work of country's frontline health workers, healthcare professionals, policymakers, and communities across the nation.

President of India, the Supreme Commander of the Indian Armed Forces, Droupadi Murmu, awarded the prestigious President's Standard and Colours to 4 Indian Air Force Units.

On 08 March 2024, the President of India, the Supreme Commander of the Indian Armed Forces, Droupadi Murmu, awarded the prestigious President's Standard to 45 Squadron and 221 Squadron, and the President's Colours to 11 Base Repair Depot (BRD) and 509 Signal Unit (SU) of the Indian Air Force (IAF). The award of the President's Standard and Colours is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon any military unit. This is the first time in the history of the IAF that four units have been awarded the President's Standard and Colours together in a single ceremony. President was presented with an aerial salute by three Mi-171V helicopters in 'Dhwaj' formation trooping the National flag. The ceremonial parade was commanded by Group Captain KS Sanu Nair of 11 BRD. First Day covers for 45 Squadron, 221 Squadron, 11 Base Repair Depot and 509 Signal Unit were released by the Hon'ble President during the ceremony. The President's Standard were received by Group Captain M Surendran, Commanding Officer of 45 Squadron and Group Captain Shubhankan, Commanding Officer of 221 Squadron. The President's Colours were received by Air Commodore Ashutosh Vaidya, Air Officer Commanding of 11 BRD and Group Captain Vivek Sharma, Commanding Officer of 509 SU during an impressive parade at Air Force Station Hindan, Ghaziabad.

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) notified regulations in REITs to create a system of regulation for Small and Medium REITs (SM REITs).

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) notified regulations in REITs to create a system of regulation for Small and Medium REITs (SM REITs). Small and medium REITs (Real Estate Investment Trust) shall have the ability to create separate schemes for owning real estate through SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle). These changes are important for formalising the sector, introducing investor faith and addressing the complexity of SPV security issues. These regulations will enable several of these prop-tech platforms to migrate to the SM REIT structure, if they meet the market regulators' 'fit and proper' criteria. SEBI guidelines for SM REITs have reduced the minimum ticket size to Rs10 lakh. The minimum number of investors in an SM REIT has to be at least 200 in any scheme, all of whom should be unrelated to the investment managers, and no single investor can own more than 25% of any scheme. These new proposed regulations mandate that investment managers must have a personal net worth of a minimum Rs20 crore out of which Rs10 crore has to be a positive liquid net worth.

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced a third settlement scheme for entities involved in reversal trades in the stock options segment on BSE in 2014 and 2015.

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced a third settlement scheme for entities involved in reversal trades in the stock options segment on BSE in 2014 and 2015. The scheme will commence on March 11 and conclude on May 10, 2024. After the expiry of the scheme period, actions as per the relevant provisions of

securities laws will be continued against the entities which do not avail this opportunity for settlement. Moreover, frequently asked questions with respect to the scheme will be available on the websites of SEBI and BSE on 11 March 2024. This is not the first time the regulator has given the chance to these entities to settle the case. Earlier, SEBI provided a one-time settlement scheme for the entities in 2020. The scheme was available from August 2022 to January 2023.

Punjab National Bank (PNB) has partnered with online travel tech platform EaseMyTrip to launch a co-branded travel credit card “PNB EMT Credit Card”.

Punjab National Bank (PNB) has partnered with online travel tech platform EaseMyTrip to launch a co-branded travel credit card “PNB EMT Credit Card”. This co-branded travel credit card is aimed at mass to premium segments. Users can earn rewards in a variety of categories, including flights, hotels, and holiday packages. Furthermore, this new credit card includes a wallet for contactless payments. PNB EMT credit card comes with an annual membership fee of Rs2000 and can be used across 100 countries. With a joining fee of Rs2,000, this card offers many benefits like free lounge access, cashback, and discounts on EaseMyTrip bookings. The renewal fee waiver is applicable on achieving annual spend milestone of Rs1 lakh in the preceding year.

RBI has directed card issuers, which include authorised payment system providers, banks and non-banks not to enter into any arrangement or agreement with card networks that restrains them from availing the services of other card networks.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has asked banks and non-banks to let their customers decide the authorised card network for the credit cards issued to them. This effectively means that credit card issuers, especially those with a large customer base, will have to enter into tie-ups with multiple card networks. The central bank observed that some arrangements currently existing between card networks and card issuers are not conducive to the availability of choice for customers. The directions under the aforementioned clause will be effective 6 months from the issue of the circular. The clause relating to choice of card networks for customers, however, is not applicable to credit card issuers whose active card base does not exceed 10 lakh. Further, the circular is not applicable to card issuers who issue credit cards on their own authorised card network.

Bank of Baroda has launched 'bob LITE Savings Account', a Lifetime Zero Balance Savings Bank Account.

Bank of Baroda has launched 'bob LITE Savings Account', a Lifetime Zero Balance Savings Bank Account. This account offers a lifetime free RuPay Platinum Debit Card for customers who maintain a nominal Quarterly Average Balance (QAB). The QAB requirements vary, with ₹3,000 for metro/urban branches, ₹2,000 for semi-urban

branches, and ₹1,000 for rural branches. This debit card comes with offers and discounts on consumer brands, enhancing the account holder's overall banking experience.

RBL Bank offered GO Savings Account with zero balance feature.

RBL Bank offered GO Savings Account with zero balance feature. The comes with interest rates of up to 7.5% per annum, a premium debit card, vouchers worth ₹1,500 for premier brands, comprehensive cyber insurance cover, accident and travel insurance up to ₹1 crore, free CIBIL report, and other premium banking services. These features are bundled into a single package at first year subscription fee of ₹1,999 + taxes and annual renewal fee thereafter of ₹599 + taxes. To qualify for the high interest rates of up to 7.5% per annum, customers must meet specific criteria, such as maintaining a minimum balance or fulfilling transaction thresholds.

The total number of complaints received by the Offices of the RBI Ombudsman (ORBIOs) and Centralised Receipt and Processing Centre (CRPC) saw a 68.24% to 7,03,544 during FY23 compared with 4,18,184 complaints during FY22.

The total number of complaints received by the Offices of the RBI Ombudsman (ORBIOs) and Centralised Receipt and Processing Centre (CRPC) saw a 68.24% to 7,03,544 during FY23 compared with 4,18,184 complaints during FY22. The complaints pertained to mobile/electronic banking, loans and advances, ATM/debit cards, credit cards, pension payments, remittances, and para banking, among others. The Annual Report of the Ombudsman Scheme 2022-23 is the first stand-alone report under the Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (RB-IOS), 2021 elucidating the activities of the 22 Offices of the RBI Ombudsman (ORBIOs), Centralised Receipt and Processing Centre (CRPC) and the Contact Centre during the year. Complaints against banks formed the largest portion (1,96,635 complaints), accounting for 83.78 per cent of complaints received by the ORBIOs. As many as 2,34,690 complaints were handled by the ORBIOs and 4,68,854 were disposed at the CRPC.

IndusInd Bank launched its contactless payments wearables, 'Indus PayWear,' India's first All-in-One tokenizable wearables for both debit and credit cards exclusively on Mastercard.

IndusInd Bank launched its contactless payments wearables, 'Indus PayWear,' India's first All-in-One tokenizable wearables for both debit and credit cards exclusively on Mastercard. It is aim to offering to be extended to other card networks shortly. This will facilitate swift and secure tap-and-pay transactions at any contactless Point-of-Sale (PoS) terminal across the globe, eliminating the need for a physical card or even a payment app for purchases. The three versatile wearables, i.e. ring, watch clasp, and stickers, cater to diverse preferences of customers, with an affordable price ranging from Rs499 to Rs2999. Empowered by a dedicated mobile

application, Indus PayWear enables seamless DIY setup of the cards on the wearable by the customer. The Indus PayWear mobile app allows the customer to easily switch between cards, thereby making it a truly “All-in-One” wearable.

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has secured approval from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for its first anchored project, Avaana Sustainability Fund (ASF), valued at USD 120 million.

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has secured approval from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for its first anchored project, Avaana Sustainability Fund (ASF), valued at USD 120 million. The closure was announced at the 38th board meeting of the GCF, which will invest USD 24.5 million in the fund. The primary aim of the ASF project is to invest in early-stage companies harnessing technology-led innovation to spur climate solutions and sustainability in the country. This is the first project anchored by SIDBI including the first secured for the country in the past few years.

Bank of Baroda has launched the bob Earth Green Team Deposits scheme to raise deposits that will be deployed towards financing eligible environment-friendly projects and sectors.

Bank of Baroda has launched the bob Earth Green Team Deposits scheme to raise deposits that will be deployed towards financing eligible environment-friendly projects and sectors. As part of its Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) initiatives, the scheme proceeds will be specifically earmarked for environment-friendly projects and sectors. The bank is offering up to 7.15% annual interest rates to investors, depending on the tenor, and anyone, including high-net-worth individuals (HNIs), resident Indians, and the general public, can invest in the scheme. Depositors can start their investment from Rs5,000 up to below Rs2 crore. Both existing and new customers of Bank of Baroda can open a green deposit through any of its branches across India.

Future Generali India Insurance Company (FGII) launched most comprehensive women’s health insurance plan 'Health PowHER'.

Future Generali India Insurance Company (FGII) launched most comprehensive women’s health insurance plan 'Health PowHER'. The plan is designed to meet women’s unique needs. The plan offers a range of coverage, including increased limits for Female Cancer treatments, coverage for disorders related to Puberty and Menopause, and an emphasis on Outpatient Department (OPD) services for both physical and mental well-being, with a mental illness benefit of 200%.

RBI and the Bank Indonesia signed a MoU in Mumbai for establishing a framework to promote the use of local currencies viz the Indian Rupee (INR) and the Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) for cross-border transactions.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Bank Indonesia (BI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Mumbai for establishing a framework to promote the use of local currencies viz the Indian Rupee (INR) and the Indonesian Rupiah (IDR) for cross-border transactions. The MoU was signed by the Governor of Reserve Bank of India, Shaktikanta Das and the Governor of Bank Indonesia Perry Warjiyo. This collaboration marks a key milestone in strengthening bilateral cooperation between RBI and BI. The MoU on establishing a framework for cooperation in the area of cross-border transactions in local currencies between India and Indonesia, aims to promote the use of INR and IDR bilaterally.

Fairfax India Holdings Corporation has committed to provide up to USD 200 million liquidity support to IIFL Finance after the Reserve Bank of India barred the non-bank lender to disburse gold loans.

Fairfax India Holdings Corporation has committed to provide up to USD 200 million liquidity support to IIFL Finance after the Reserve Bank of India barred the non-bank lender to disburse gold loans. IIFL Finance offers a range of loans and mortgages. The latest directions from the RBI pertain to only the gold loan business.

Former President of Sri Lanka, Gotabaya Rajapaksa has authored a book titled "The Conspiracy to Oust Me from the Presidency".

Former President of Sri Lanka, Gotabaya Rajapaksa has authored a book titled "The Conspiracy to Oust Me from the Presidency". The book delves into his firsthand experience of an internationally sponsored regime change operation that led to his removal from power. The book will be accessible in both the English and Sinhala languages from leading bookstores.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) hosted the 1st 'Blue Talks' meeting in New Delhi, which was co-chaired by the Secretary, MoES Dr M. Ravichandran.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) hosted the 1st 'Blue Talks' meeting in New Delhi. The meeting was co-partnered by the Embassy of France and Embassy of Costa Rica in India. More than 50 participants from government, academia and research institutes witnessed the in-person, high level deliberations on matters related to 'Ocean Health and Governance'. The meeting was jointly co-chaired by the Secretary, MoES Dr M. Ravichandran, along with the Ambassador of France to India, Mr Thierry Mathou, and Costa Rica Chargée d'affaires, Ms Sofia Salas Monge. This meeting is a forerunner to the upcoming High-Level Event on Ocean Action (HLEOA) event 'Immersed in Change' scheduled to be held on 7th-8th June 2024 in San Jose, Costa Rica. The 2-hour meeting comprised of three sections. In the first session the Costa Rican embassy showcased a movie on the purpose of the upcoming 'HLEOA' event. The second session comprised of three technical talks on different themes, followed by the open discussion session on Ocean matters. The last concluding session summarized the key recommendations and way forward for the future ocean

event.

The comprehensive maritime security exercise 'Sea Defenders-2024' between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) & United States Coast Guard (USCG) concluded at Port Blair on 9th March 2024.

The comprehensive maritime security exercise 'Sea Defenders-2024' between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) & United States Coast Guard (USCG) concluded at Port Blair on 9th March 2024. The exercise was aimed at enhancing maritime cooperation and interoperability between the two forces. The Exercise included a variety of scenarios including a Pollution Response Demonstration, in which Indian Coast Guard ships and aircraft showcased their expertise in responding to oil spills and other environmental hazards at sea. During the exercise, the Indian Coast Guard helicopter and Dornier aircraft conducted Search & Rescue and Pollution Response demonstrations, showcasing ICG's ability to undertake aerial surveillance and rescue missions.

India's gross domestic product (GDP) expected to grow at 6.8% in fiscal 2024-25 (FY25).

India's gross domestic product (GDP) expected to grow at 6.8% in fiscal 2024-25 (FY25). This growth trajectory positions India to attain upper middle-income status by 2031, with the economy expected to double to USD 7 trillion. According to the India Outlook report by Crisil, the country's economic progress will be supported by domestic structural reforms and cyclical factors. The next seven fiscals (2025-2031) will see the Indian economy crossing the USD 5 trillion-mark and inching closer to USD 7 trillion. Crisil expects the economy to expand to USD USD 6.7 trillion by fiscal 2031. Manufacturing and services to grow 9.1 percent and 6.9 percent, respectively, between fiscals 2025 and 2031.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows in India declined 13% to USD 32.03 billion in April-December 2023.

As per data from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows in India declined 13% to USD 32.03 billion in April-December 2023. This is dragged down by lower infusion in computer hardware and software, telecom, auto, and pharma sectors. FDI inflows stood at USD 36.74 billion during the corresponding nine months of the preceding fiscal. Inflows during the October-December quarter of the current fiscal, however, rose by 18% to USD 11.6 billion as against USD 9.83 billion during the same quarter of 2022-23. The total FDI, which includes equity inflows, reinvested earnings and other capital — declined by about 7% to USD 51.5 billion during the period under review against USD 55.27 billion in April-December 2022.

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approval to Ring Plus Aqua

Limited (RPAL) proposed acquisition of 59.25% shareholding in Maini Precision Products Limited (MPPL).

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approval to Ring Plus Aqua Limited (RPAL) proposed acquisition of 59.25% shareholding in Maini Precision Products Limited (MPPL). MPPL is engaged in manufacturing precision products for different industries and manufactures products based on the design requirements of its customers. The proposed combination inter alia envisages the acquisition of 59.25% shareholding in MPPL by RPAL, the acquisition of the entire shareholding of JK Files & Engineering Limited in JK Talabot Limited by a wholly owned subsidiary of Raymond Limited and merger of RPAL, MPPL and the engineering business of JK Files into the New Company.

Reliance Consumer Products Limited has partnered with Sri Lanka-based beverage maker Elephant House, to manufacture, market, distribute and sell beverages under the Elephant House brand across India.

Reliance Consumer Products Limited (RCPL) has partnered with Sri Lanka-based beverage maker Elephant House, to manufacture, market, distribute and sell beverages under the Elephant House brand across India. This association will not only help RCPL bolster its growing beverage portfolio that boasts iconic brands such as Campa, Sosyo and Raskik but will also bring exceptional new products and value propositions to Indian consumers.

Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launch the "Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan (MYUVA)" scheme in Uttar Pradesh, aimed at nurturing entrepreneurship among the state's youth.

Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launch the "Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan (MYUVA)" scheme in Uttar Pradesh, aimed at nurturing entrepreneurship among the state's youth. This ambitious initiative reflects the government's commitment to empowering young entrepreneurs and fostering a culture of innovation and enterprise. Through MYUVA, aspiring youth will receive support and resources to kickstart their entrepreneurial ventures, thereby contributing to the economic growth and development of Uttar Pradesh. This initiative provides interest-free financing to help young people launch their entrepreneurial enterprises with projects worth up to Rs 5 lakh. To assist the scheme's implementation, a large budget of Rs 1,000 crore has been set aside for fiscal year 2024-25.

In a major boost to women empowerment in Chhattisgarh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Mahatari Vandana Yojana and disbursed the first instalment under The Scheme.

In a major boost to women empowerment in Chhattisgarh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Mahatari Vandana Yojana and disbursed the first instalment under The Scheme. The scheme has been launched in Chhattisgarh to provide financial

assistance of Rs1000 per month to eligible married women of the state as monthly DBT. It has been envisioned to ensure economic empowerment of women, provide them financial security, promote gender equality and strengthen the decisive role of women in the family. The scheme will provide benefits to all eligible married women of the state who are above 21 years of age as of January 1, 2024. Widows, divorced, and deserted women will also be eligible for this scheme. Around 70 lakh women will benefit from the scheme.

The Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is announce the Revamped Pharmaceuticals Technology Upgradation Assistance (RPTUAS) Scheme.

The Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is announce the Revamped Pharmaceuticals Technology Upgradation Assistance (RPTUAS) Scheme. It is a significant step in government's efforts to help upgrade the technological capabilities of pharmaceutical industry and ensure its alignment with the global standards. The approval of the revised Scheme follows a comprehensive review by the Scheme Steering Committee in light of the requirements of the revised Schedule-M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rule, 1945 as issued by the Department of Health & Family Welfare on 28/12/2023. The revised guideline aims to support the pharmaceutical industry's up-gradation to the Revised Schedule-M & WHO-GMP standards, enhancing the quality and safety of pharmaceutical products manufactured in country. The scheme will cover pharmaceutical units with turnover of less than Rs500 crore for the last three years. These units will be eligible for incentive, subject to a maximum of Rs1 crore.

Easy Trip Planner Ltd signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Rural Development to train members of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)'s Women's Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the Lakhpati Didi Yojana.

Easy Trip Planner Ltd signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Rural Development to train members of Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)'s Women's Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the Lakhpati Didi Yojana. The initiative aims to focus on women-led skill development, fostering entrepreneurial skills and financial independence among rural women. Through the MoU, EaseMyTrip will train members of SHGs in 800 districts across India. The eligibility criteria for selection includes basic knowledge of reading & writing English/Hindi and familiarity with using a Computer & browsing the internet. The training will cover making travel reservations across all essential segments, including trains, buses, hotels and flights.

The International Day of Women Judges is celebrated on 10 March every year to recognizing the contributions of women judges worldwide.

The International Day of Women Judges is celebrated on 10 March every year to recognizing the contributions of women judges worldwide. In April 26 2021, the United Nations General Assembly declared the day by a resolution adopted by consensus. The day was observed globally for the first time on March 10, 2022. International Day of Women Judges 2024 observed with the campaign “Women in Justice, women for justice”.

World Rotaract Day is annually observed across the globe on 13 March.

World Rotaract Day is annually observed across the globe on 13 March to recognise and acknowledge the services provided by the Rotaractors, and members of Rotaract clubs across the world. It celebrates the establishment of the first roatry organisation on in 1968 at North Carolina, USA. The day is celebrated together with a week-long program of World Rotaract Week. The Rotary Club of Calcutta became the first Rotary club chartered in India on 1 January 1920. The Day also offers an opportunity to raise awareness about the work that Rotaract clubs are doing around the world.

International Women’s Day (IWD) is annually celebrated on 8th March.

International Women’s Day (IWD) is annually celebrated on 8th March, is a global day acknowledging the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The theme of International Women’s Day 2024 is ‘Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress’. The first National Women’s Day was observed in the United States on February 28, 1909, which was organized by the Socialist Party of America to commemorate the 1908 garment workers’ strike in New York, where women protested against working conditions. Later in 1910, Clara Zetkin proposed International Women’s Day at the International Women’s Conference in Copenhagen. The idea was unanimously approved, leading to the first observance in 1911 in several European countries.

India celebrates the 55th anniversary of CISF (Central Industrial Security Force) Raising Day on 10 March 2024.

India celebrates the 55th anniversary of CISF (Central Industrial Security Force) Raising Day on 10 March 2024. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Raising Day is celebrated every year on 10 March. It was established on March 10, 1969, under an Act of the Indian Parliament, with 2,800 members. A later Act of Parliament issued on June 15, 1983, elevated the CISF to the status of an armed force of the Republic of India.

7th March 2024 marked the observance of 6th Jan Aushadhi Diwas.

The Jan Aushadhi Diwas (Generic Medicine Day) is annually observed across India on 7th March to create awareness about the importance of Generic Medicines and to highlight the benefits of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).

On this day, medical experts, such as doctors, nurses and pharmacists, meet to discuss the Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana. The government has set a target to increase the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) to 10,500 by March 2025. Each year, the first week of March witnesses the observance of 'Jan Aushadhi Saptah' or Generic Medicine Week. The inception of Jan Aushadi Diwas traced back to March 7, 2019. 7th March 2024 marked the observance of 6th Jan Aushadhi Diwas.

Sweden formally joined NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) as the 32nd member of the transatlantic military alliance.

Sweden formally joined NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) as the 32nd member of the transatlantic military alliance. The country first applied to join NATO in May 2022, not long after Russia's war on Ukraine began. After over 200 years of non-alignment Sweden now enjoys the protection granted under Article 5, the ultimate guarantee of Allies' freedom and security. Sweden's accession makes NATO stronger, Sweden safer and the whole Alliance more secure.

The World Bank, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the U.N children's agency UNICEF pledged nearly \$600 million towards eliminating cervical cancer.

The World Bank, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the U.N children's agency UNICEF pledged nearly \$600 million towards eliminating cervical cancer. The funding would go towards expanding access to vaccination, screening and treatment worldwide. That contrasts with many high-income countries that introduced the vaccine in the 2000s. The World Bank will commit \$400 million over 3 years, with \$180 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and \$10 million from UNICEF.

Panama has become the 97th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

Panama has become the 97th member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA). The information was divulged by Randhir Jaiswal, spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs. Panama's commitment to sustainable energy was underscored as Ambassador Yasiel Burillo presented the Instrument of Ratification to Joint Secretary (Economic Diplomacy) Abhishekifs during a meeting in New Delhi. This formal act solidifies Panama's pledge to collaborate within the framework of the ISA, joining other nations in the pursuit of harnessing solar energy for a greener future.

The Ministry of Defence has signed a ₹200 crore contract for anti-drone systems for the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) with Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited (BBBS).

The Ministry of Defence has signed a ₹200 crore contract for anti-drone systems for the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) with Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited (BBBS). This is the largest contract signed by the MoD under the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative. The focus of the iDEX programme is to

foster an ecosystem of innovation and technology development in defense. BBBS's Vajra Sentinel System is a state-of-the-art solution designed to detect, track, and neutralize drones at extraordinary ranges. The system's core sensor built around artificial intelligence (AI) and computer vision algorithms enables precise identification, classification and location identification of drones. BBBS will commence execution of the order immediately, with a focus on timely delivery, comprehensive training, and unwavering support to the Indian Air Force and Indian Army to ensure seamless integration of this vital technology into their defense strategies.

The Karnataka government signed a Letter of Intent with the World Economic Forum (WEF) to set up a Centre for Artificial Intelligence in the state.

The Karnataka government signed a Letter of Intent with the World Economic Forum (WEF) to set up a Centre for Artificial Intelligence in the state. This will be the WEF's only centre dedicated to AI in India. The Karnataka centre will be part of the WEF Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) Network, a global platform focused on inclusive technology governance and responsible digital transformation.

Ministry of Jal Shakti has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore for Establishment of an International Centre of Excellence.

Central Water Commission (CWC), Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore for Establishment of an International Centre of Excellence. International Centre of Excellence for Dams (ICED) will be established under externally supported Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) Phase II and III. This MoA will remain valid for ten years or till the duration of the DRIP Phase-II and III Scheme, whichever is earlier, from the date of signing this MoA. ICED will act as a technological arm of the Ministry of Jal Shakti (MoJS) to provide specialized technical support in investigations, modelling, research and innovations, and technical support services for the Indian and overseas dam owners.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has signed an MoU with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) under ISRO to digitalise Urban Frame Survey (UFS) using the Bhuvan Platform.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has signed an MoU with National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) under ISRO to digitalise Urban Frame Survey (UFS) using the Bhuvan Platform. This collaboration is aimed at transforming Urban Frame Survey (UFS) from analogue to digital mode and help MoSPI to achieve the targets of updating urban frame regularly in a timely manner. NSSO (FOD) under MoSPI has entered into MoU with NRSC under the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to facilitate UFS in a digital mode using the Geo ICT

tools and techniques of Bhuvan Platform. The agreement covers development/improvement of mobile application for geo-tagging of NSSO UFS data, web portal for visualisation, system generated scrutiny, editing, etc of data submitted through mobile application, and others. The MoU was signed by Subash Chandra Malik, Additional Director General at NSSO, and Srinivasa Rao S, Deputy Director, BGWSA, NRSC, in the presence of other senior officials.

India and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) committed to promote investments to increase the stock of foreign direct investments by USD 100 billion in India in the next 15 years.

India and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) committed to promote investments to increase the stock of foreign direct investments by USD 100 billion in India in the next 15 years. The investments do not cover foreign portfolio investment. This agreement to help promote investments and exports of key domestic services sectors such as IT, audio-visual, and movement of skilled professionals. This will facilitate the generation of 1 million direct employment in India through such investments. The agreement has 14 chapters, including trade in goods, rules of origin, intellectual property rights (IPRs), trade in services, investment promotion and cooperation, government procurement, technical barriers to trade, and trade facilitation.

To provide immediate assistance to accidents victims and strengthen the Incident Management System (IMS) on the National Highways, NHAI has signed a MoU with HLL Lifecare Limited.

To provide immediate assistance to accidents victims and strengthen the Incident Management System (IMS) on the National Highways, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed a MoU with HLL Lifecare Limited. The MoU will help NHAI to strengthen its existing Incident Management System, which includes Ambulances, Route Patrol Vans & Cranes, real time tracking, and supportive supervision. This will also help to strengthen services provided through National Highway Toll Free Helpline Number 1033 resulting in improved response time. HLL will also operationalize and manage State-of-art ambulance services which will be equipped with improvised 'Basic Life Support' at select locations of National Highways and will integrate technology for better communication, real time tracking and coordination.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) notified Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) rules, 2024.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) notified Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) rules, 2024. Ministry of Home Affairs will be notifying, the Rules under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA-2019). These rules, called the Citizenship (Amendment) Rules, 2024 will enable the persons eligible under CAA-2019 to apply

for grant of Indian citizenship. The CAA will be implemented before the elections. These rules will now enable minorities persecuted on religious grounds in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan to acquire citizenship in our nation.

The Cabinet Committee on Security headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has put its stamp of approval on Rs15,000 crore indigenous fifth generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) fighter jet project for the Indian Air Force (IAF).

The Cabinet Committee on Security headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has put its stamp of approval on Rs15,000 crore indigenous fifth generation Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) fighter jet project for the Indian Air Force (IAF). The approval given is for the proposal to ready five prototypes of AMCA, which the Defence Research and Development Organisation will carry out over the next 5 years. The Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) of DRDO in collaboration with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) will build the indigenous fifth generation AMCA.

Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Communications, Railways, and Electronics & Information Technology, launched the 'NITI for States' platform.

Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Communications, Railways, and Electronics & Information Technology, launched the 'NITI for States' platform. It is a comprehensive digital initiative designed to empower states and union territories (UTs) in their pursuit of national development goals. He also inaugurated the 'NITI For States - Viksit Bharat Strategy Room' at NITI Aayog in the presence of Prof. Ramesh Chand, Dr V. K Saraswat, & Dr Arvind Virmani, Members of NITI Aayog and Shri B.V.R Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog. Senior officials from ministries and departments of the Government of India, senior officials from State Governments, ABP fellows, development partners and media were present at the event.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the I-Hub Foundation, an incubation centre, at IIM Sambalpur in Odisha.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the I-Hub Foundation, an incubation centre, at IIM Sambalpur in Odisha. The foundation will play a pivotal role in nurturing and supporting innovative ventures across diverse sectors, including textiles, art and culture, agriculture, healthcare, financial and digital inclusivity, tribal entrepreneurship, and sustainability. He also launched the Sambalpur chapter of '100 Cube' start-ups to establish 100 start-ups on its premises, each with an approximate valuation of Rs100 crore, by Odisha's centennial celebration in 2036.

During the year 2023-24, there is an increase of 27% in terms of farmers enrolled under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) so far.

In past 8 Years of implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) – 56.80 crore farmer applications have been enrolled and over 23.22 crore farmer

applicants received claims. During this period, nearly Rs31,139 crore were paid by farmers as their share of premium against which claims of over Rs1,55,977 crore have been paid to them. Thus, for every 100 rupees of premium paid by farmers, they have received about Rs500 as claims. The number of farmer applications has grown 33.4% and 41% year-on-year during 2021-22 and 2022-23, respectively. Further, during the year 2023-24, there is an increase of 27% in terms of farmers enrolled under the scheme so far. Also 42% of total farmers insured under the scheme in FY 2023-24 are non-loanee farmers. The major improvements made include making the scheme voluntary for all farmers, compulsory use of at least 0.5% of the gross premium collected by insurance companies for Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.

Government Notified of Rules framed under Section 49M of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (as amended in 2022).

The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (53 of 1972), provides the legal framework for the protection of various species of wild animals, management of their habitat and also for the regulation and control of trade in the products derived from various parts of wild animals. Section 49 M of the Act provides for registration of possession, transfer and birth and reporting of death of living scheduled animal species which are listed in the Appendices of CITES and as such listed in the Schedule IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The Act was last amended in 2022. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has notified the Rules for the purposes of Section 49 M vide Gazette Notification dated 28th February 2024.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects of Rs17,000 crore across Madhya Pradesh.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects of Rs17,000 crore across Madhya Pradesh. The projects cater to several important sectors including irrigation, power, road, rail, water supply, coal, and industry, among others. The Prime Minister also launched the Cyber Tehsil project in Madhya Pradesh. The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of irrigation projects worth more than 5500 crores in Madhya Pradesh. These projects include the Upper Narmada Project, the Raghavpur Multipurpose Project, and the Basaniya Multipurpose Project. The Prime Minister also dedicated to the nation three railway projects constructed at a cost of more than Rs2200 crore. These include the project for the third line in Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi - Jakhlaun & Dhaura - Agasod route, Gauge conversion in the New Sumaoli-Jora Alapur railway line and Powarkheda-Jujharpur rail line flyover. Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for 6 substations located in Panna, Raisen, Chhindwara and Narmadapuram districts. These substations will benefit the people of the region in 11 districts of the State, namely Bhopal, Panna, Raisen, Chhindwara, Narmadapuram, Vidisha, Sagar,

Damoh, Chhatarpur, Harda and Sehore. The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone for various projects worth about 880 crores under AMRUT 2.0 and dedicated the nation to the project for augmenting the water supply in Khargone.

Union Steel Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia virtually inaugurated India's 1st Green Hydrogen Plant in the Stainless Steel Sector at Jindal Stainless Limited, Hisar, Haryana.

Union Steel Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia virtually inaugurated India's 1st Green Hydrogen Plant in the Stainless Steel Sector at Jindal Stainless Limited, Hisar, Haryana. This plant will be the world's first off-grid Green Hydrogen plant for the stainless steel industry and the world's first Green Hydrogen plant with rooftop and floating solar. This project will reduce carbon emissions by around two thousand 700 Metric Tonnes per annum and 54 thousand tons of carbon dioxide emissions over the next two decades.

The Union Cabinet approved Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme 2024 (UNNATI – 2024) for a period of 10 years from the date of notification along with 8 years for committed liabilities at a total cost of Rs10,037 crore.

The Union Cabinet approved Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme 2024 (UNNATI – 2024) for a period of 10 years from the date of notification along with 8 years for committed liabilities at a total cost of Rs10,037 crore. This will be a Central Sector Scheme. The scheme is proposed to be divided into two parts. Part, A caters to the incentives to the eligible units (Rs9737 crores), and Part B, is for implementation and institutional arrangements for the scheme (Rs300 Crore). The proposed scheme envisages approximately 2180 applications, and it is anticipated that direct employment opportunities of about 83,000 will be generated during the scheme period.

The Union Cabinet has approved a crucial bill to providing reservations to Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the Goa Legislative Assembly.

The Union Cabinet has approved a crucial bill to providing reservations to Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the Goa Legislative Assembly. Union Minister Piyush Goyal, while briefing reporters on the Cabinet's decisions, announced the approval of the 'Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes Bill, 2024'. This bill will empower the Census Commissioner to ascertain and determine the population of STs in Goa. Based on this determination, the Election Commission will amend the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 2008, to facilitate ST reservation in the 40-member Goa Assembly. The bill's provisions include empowering the Census Commissioner to ascertain and determine the population of Scheduled Tribes in Goa, considering tribes declared as such after the publication of Census 2001.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for various connectivity projects in West Bengal's Kolkata, with a total value of Rs15,400 crore.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for various connectivity projects in West Bengal's Kolkata, with a total value of Rs15,400 crore. He also laid the foundation stones for multiple development initiatives worth approximately Rs12,800 crore in Bihar's Bettiah. PM inaugurated the Howrah Maidan-Esplanade section of Kolkata Metro's East-West corridor, marking India's first foray into underwater metro services. He also inaugurated other metro stations, such as the Kavi Subhash - Hemanta Mukhopadhyay Metro section and the Taratala - Majerhat Metro section, which is part of the Joka-Esplanade line in Kolkata. Road projects such as the two-laning of the Piprakothi-Motihari-Raxaul section of NH-28A with paved shoulder and the two-laning of the Sheohar-Sitamarhi section of NH-104 were also inaugurated.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated, inaugurated, and laid the foundation stone of various infrastructure projects worth around Rs12,800 crore at Bettiah in Bihar's West Champaran district.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated, inaugurated, and laid the foundation stone of various infrastructure projects worth around Rs12,800 crore at Bettiah in Bihar's West Champaran district. These projects are related to rail, road, petroleum and natural gas. This will be the second visit of PM Modi to the state in the last five days. Earlier, he visited Bihar's Aurangabad and Begusarai districts. During the rally, PM Modi inaugurated the LPG bottling plant and storage terminal, NH 28A stretch between Pipra Kothi-Motihari-Raxaul (two lanes) and NH 104 Sheohar-Sitamarhi stretch (two lanes). He also lay the foundation stone of Digha-Sonpur six lane rail cum road bridge on Ganga river, four lane bypass on NH 19 at Bakarpur Haat-Manikpur and many others.

India's Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) has raised 1 billion rupees (\$12.07 million) by issuing Asia's first certified green municipal bond.

India's Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) has raised 1 billion rupees (\$12.07 million) by issuing Asia's first certified green municipal bond. The civic body from the western Indian state of Gujarat has set a semi-annual coupon of 7.90% on the issue. The proceeds from the issue will be used to build and enhance liquid wastewater management infrastructure across the city. The Vadodara civic body last accessed the bond market in 2022, raising 1 billion rupees via bonds maturing in five years at a semi-annual coupon of 7.15%.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the priority corridor of the Agra Metro Rail Project, which aims to connect the Unesco World Heritage sites

including the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, and Sikandra Tomb, for tourists.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the priority corridor of the Agra Metro Rail Project, which aims to connect the Unesco World Heritage sites including the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, and Sikandra Tomb, for tourists. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath flagged off the Agra Metro from the Taj Mahal Metro Station. Agra Metro service will start operating for the general public on March 7. The general public will be able to travel in Agra Metro trains from March 7 by paying a fare ranging from Rs 10 to Rs 30 per passenger. These Agra Metro trains will operate from 6 am to 10 pm. As many as 28 CCTV cameras have been installed at one station. The responsibility for the security of all the stations has been given to the Uttar Pradesh Special Security Force (UP SSF). About 150 UP SSF personnel have been deployed at all the stations.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the state's own Over-The-Top (OTT) platform 'CSpace'.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the state's own Over-The-Top (OTT) platform 'CSpace'. CSpace, India's first government-backed OTT platform, addresses challenges in selecting and distributing content. Managed by the Kerala State Film Development Corporation (KSFDC), CSpace operates under the support of the Department of Cultural Affairs of the Government of Kerala. The curators have already handpicked 42 films for the first phase of CSpace, including 35 feature films, six documentaries, and one short film.

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The Ministry of Corporate Affairs notified amendments in competition laws allowing the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to impose penalty on the global turnover of a company.

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs notified amendments in competition laws allowing the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to impose penalty on the global turnover of a company. In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Competition (Amendment) Act, 2023 (9 of 2023), the Central Government hereby appoints the 6th day of March, 2024 as the date on which the provisions of sections 20, 35 and 40 of the said Act shall come into force. It empowers CCI to impose a

penalty on the global turnover of a company derived from all the products and services, and not just on turnover derived from the product under investigation. CCI will calculate the penalty which can be up to 30% of the average relevant turnover or income, subject to the legal maximum.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated Bharat Tex 2024, one of the largest-ever global textile events, organized in the country at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated Bharat Tex 2024, one of the largest-ever global textile events, organized in the country at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The Prime Minister also took a walkthrough of the exhibition showcased on the occasion. BharatTex2024 is an excellent platform to highlight India's exceptional capabilities in the textile industry. The government through its various initiatives - PM MITRA, Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, Samarth (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textiles Sector) and National Technical Textiles Mission has provided a huge fillip to the textile industry under the leadership of the Prime Minister. The textile ministry has formed a new textile advisory group to create an end-to-end connectivity for the cotton and man-made fibre industry that will help maintain balance and create a better synergy in the textile sector.

Overview of Prime Minister Narendra Modi was visit Jharkhand, West Bengal and Bihar on 1st-2nd March 2024.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was visit Jharkhand, West Bengal and Bihar on 1st-2nd March 2024. On 1st March, Prime Minister reached Sindri, Dhanbad, Jharkhand and participate in a public programme, where he inaugurated, dedicated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth Rs35,700 crore in Jharkhand. Prime Minister participated in a public programme where he inaugurated, dedicated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth more than Rs7,200 crore in Arambagh, Hooghly, West Bengal. On 2nd March, Prime Minister reached Krishnanagar, Nadia district, West Bengal, where he inaugurated, dedicate and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth Rs15,000 crore. Prime Minister inaugurated, dedicated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth Rs21,400 crore in Aurangabad, Bihar. Prime Minister reached Begusarai, Bihar where he inaugurated, dedicate and laid the foundation stone of multiple oil and gas sector projects worth about Rs1.48 lakh crore across the country and several development projects in Bihar worth more than Rs13,400. He dedicated to the nation the Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Ltd (HURL) Sindri Fertiliser Plant. Developed at a cost of more than Rs8900 crore, the fertiliser plant is a step towards self-sufficiency in the Urea Sector. He inaugurated, dedicate and laid the foundation stone of several rail projects worth more than Rs17,600 crore in Jharkhand. The projects include 3rd & 4th Line connecting Sone Nagar-Andal, Tori-Shivpur first & second and Biratoli- Shivpur third railway line (part of Tori- Shivpur

Project), Mohanpur – Hansdiha new rail line, Dhanbad-Chandrapura rail line, among others. Prime Minister also flagged off three trains during the programme. This includes Deoghar – Dibrugarh train service, MEMU Train Service between Tatanagar and Badampahar (Daily) and long-haul freight train from Shivpur station. He also dedicated to nation important power projects in Jharkhand including the Unit 1 (660 MW) of North Karanpura Super Thermal Power Project (STPP), Chatra. Developed at more than Rs7500 crore, the project will lead to improved power supply in the region. At Aurangabad, Prime Minister inaugurate, dedicate and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth more than Rs 21,400 crore.

Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing & Urban Affairs, inaugurated 201 CNG stations and India's first Small Scale LNG Unit of GAIL (India) Limited.

Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing & Urban Affairs, inaugurated 201 CNG stations and India's first Small Scale LNG Unit of GAIL (India) Limited. The dedication of the stations was done through video conferencing at a function in the presence of Union Minister of State, Petroleum and Natural Gas & Labour and Employment Rameshwar Teli, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas Pankaj Jain, Chairman and Managing Director, GAIL Limited, Sandeep Kumar Gupta, Additional Secretary, MoPNG Shri Praveen Mal Khanooja, GAIL Director (Finance). The 201 CNG stations dedicated to the Nation have been set up by 15 City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities of GAIL group in 52 Geographical Areas (Gas) across 17 states while India's first small-scale LNG unit has been set up by GAIL at its Vijaipur LPG plant. Out of these 15 CGD entities, 53 stations belong to GAIL Gas Limited, 50 to Indraprastha Gas Limited, 43 to GAIL and 20 to Mahanagar Gas Limited. Moreover, four belong to Avantika Gas Limited, two to Bengal Gas Company Limited, three to Central UP Gas Limited, one to Goa Natural Gas Pvt Limited, three to Green Gas Limited, one to Haridwar Natural Gas Limited, two to Purba Bharati Gas Limited, one to Rajasthan State Gas Pvt Limited, one to Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited and one to Vadodara Gas Limited.

Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Health & Family Welfare launched a credit assistance program for Jan Aushadhi Kendras.

Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Health & Family Welfare launched a credit assistance program for Jan Aushadhi Kendras. He presided over the exchange of an MoU between Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI). He also launched a website for credit assistance to Jan Aushadhi Kendras: <https://jak-prayaasloans.sidbi.in/home>. The Union Minister also felicitated the individuals involved in making this credit assistance program successful as well as some of the beneficiaries of this initiative. The credit guarantee on such loans whether working capital or term loan is being provided by Credit Guarantee Fund

Trust For Micro And Small Enterprises (CGTMSE).

Bichom, carved out of West and East Kameng, became the 27th district of Arunachal Pradesh.

Bichom, carved out of West and East Kameng, became the 27th district of Arunachal Pradesh. Chief Minister Pema Khandu inaugurated the district and laid the foundation of its headquarters at Napangphung. He also handed over responsibilities to Deputy Commissioner Akriti Sagar and Superintendent of Police Sudhanshu Dhama. Infrastructure will be created for the new district headquarters and all assets transferred to Bichom district from East Kameng will be replaced with new ones. A total of 27 villages from West Kameng and 28 from East Kameng were made part of Bichom district.

Akira Toriyama, the Japanese manga artist who created the enormously popular and influential Dragon Ball series, passed away.

Akira Toriyama, the Japanese manga artist who created the enormously popular and influential Dragon Ball series, passed away. Born on April 5, 1955 in Kiyosu City, Aichi prefecture, Toriyama began drawing manga at the age of 23. He made his debut as a cartoonist in 1978 by submitting a short story to manga fans' magazine Weekly Shonen Jump.

The Indian Navy commissioned INS Jatayu, at Minicoy island in the Lakshadweep Islands, its second base in Lakshadweep after INS Dweeprakshak in Kavaratti.

The Indian Navy commissioned INS Jatayu, at Minicoy island in the Lakshadweep Islands, its second base in Lakshadweep after INS Dweeprakshak in Kavaratti. Commander Vrat Baghel, the first commanding officer of the unit took charge of the INS Jatayu that will play a significant role in operational surveillance and reduce the navy's turnaround time in the western seaboard. The commissioning ceremony was presided over by the Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar. INS Jatayu straddles over two important sea lanes of communication – the 8 degree channel between Minicoy and Maldives, and the 9 degree channel between Minicoy and the main cluster of Lakshadweep island.

C-17 transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force airdropped an indigenously developed heavy platform that can carry a maximum load of over 22 tonnes.

C-17 transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force airdropped an indigenously developed heavy platform that can carry a maximum load of over 22 tonnes. An extra-long and heavy platform, indigenously developed by ADRDE & capable of carrying approximately 45000 Lbs of load, was successfully air-dropped during trials from an IAF C-17 aircraft. According to the Indian Air Force, capable of carrying multiple such platforms, the combat capabilities of C-17 aircraft will be further enhanced in its

varied missions to air-deliver critical loads to troops on the ground.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted India's first successful flight test of the indigenously developed Agni-V missile.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted India's first successful flight test of the indigenously developed Agni-V missile. The test involved the missile carrying between four to six dummy warheads. The flight test, named Mission Divyastra, was carried out from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast. Launching a MIRV-tipped missile – say an Agni-IV or Agni-V – offers several tactical and strategic advantages. The Agni-V project is aimed at boosting India's nuclear deterrence. Agni-V can bring almost the entire Asia under its strike range. The test featured Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix 2024.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix 2024. Mexican Sergio Perez was runner-up. It was the first time Verstappen, winner of a record 19 of 22 races last year, has won the first two races of a season. Charles Leclerc finished third for Ferrari, taking a bonus point for the fastest lap and earning his first podium of the season. The victory was a ninth in a row for Verstappen, and the 56th of the Dutch driver's career. It was also his 100th career podium while Red Bull's 115th win lifted them ahead of Williams in fourth place on the all-time list. Oscar Piastri finished fourth.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won the French Open 2024 badminton men's doubles title with a win over Chinese Taipei's Lee Jhe-Huei and Yang Po-Hsuan in the final.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won the French Open 2024 badminton men's doubles title with a win over Chinese Taipei's Lee Jhe-Huei and Yang Po-Hsuan in the final. Playing at the Arena Porte de la Chapelle, the venue for badminton at the Paris 2024 Olympics, the top-ranked Indian badminton pair beat their world No. 16 opponents with a scoreline of 21-11, 21-17 in 36 minutes. This was the first title of the 2024 badminton season for Chirag-Satwik and the duo's second French Open title. The Indian pair won the French Open in 2022 and were runners-up in 2019. This was Satwik and Chirag's seventh title on the BWF World Tour. The Indian pair bagged the Swiss Open, the Indonesia Open and the Korea Open 2023.

India Men's Cricket team won the Anthony de Mello Trophy 2024 by defeating England in the five-match test series for 4-1 held from 25th January to 9th March 2024.

India Men's Cricket team won the Anthony de Mello Trophy 2024 by defeating England in the five-match test series for 4-1 held from 25th January to 9th March 2024. India posted a mammoth win over England at Dharamshala by an innings and

64 runs in the fifth and final Test of the series against England to close out a convincing 4-1 series win. Anthony de Mello was a former Indian cricket administrator and one of the founding members of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The test series between India and England played in India was named after him.

Belgian and Dutch racing driver, Max Verstappen won the season-opening Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix 2024.

Belgian and Dutch racing driver, Max Verstappen won the season-opening Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix 2024 at the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir, Bahrain. First place, Red Bull driver Max Verstappen of the Netherlands, with second place, Red Bull driver Sergio Perez of Mexico, left, and third place, Ferrari driver Carlos Sainz of Spain. Bahrain was the eighth win in a row for Verstappen going back to last September. He set an F1 record of 10 consecutive wins last season. Russell was fifth, Lando Norris sixth for McLaren, and seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton seventh after an uneventful race in the second Mercedes.