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**UNICEF India appointed Bollywood Actress Kareena Kapoor Khan as its new National Ambassador.**

UNICEF India appointed Bollywood Actress Kareena Kapoor Khan as its new National Ambassador. She has been associated with Unicef India since 2014, will support the not-for-profit organisation in furthering every child's right to early childhood development, health, education and gender equality. Kareena had earlier served as a Celebrity Advocate for UNICEF India. Besides Kareena, Unicef India has also appointed its first-ever Youth Advocates, who are peer leaders and champions on issues like climate action, mental health, innovations and Girls in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). The four advocates are Gauranshi Sharma from Madhya Pradesh on right to play and disability inclusion; Kartik Verma from Uttar Pradesh on climate action and child rights advocacy; singer Nahid Afrin from Assam on mental health and early childhood development; and Vinisha Umashankar from Tamil Nadu is a budding innovator and STEM pioneer.

**SNP leader John Swinney has been sworn in as the 7th first minister of Scotland.**

SNP leader John Swinney has been sworn in as the 7th first minister of Scotland. He was confirmed in the role during a brief, formal ceremony at the Court of Session in Edinburgh. Mr Swinney takes office 25 years after he was first elected to the Scottish Parliament. Mr Swinney won the nomination for first minister in a parliamentary vote. He has 16 years' cabinet experience and led the SNP between 2000 and 2004. He stepped down from the cabinet in 2023 after 16 years in key roles under both Alex Salmond and Nicola Sturgeon.

**In Russia, President Vladimir Putin proposed the reappointment of Mikhail Mishustin as the Prime Minister of Russia.**

In Russia, President Vladimir Putin proposed the reappointment of Mikhail Mishustin as the Prime Minister of Russia. Mr. Mishustin, the former head of Russia's tax service, has held the job for the past four years. He submitted his Cabinet's resignation, when Putin began his fifth presidential term. Mishustin's endorsement in the Kremlin-controlled parliament is mere a formality. Mishustin, a career bureaucrat, was said to have no political ambitions before Putin tapped him as prime minister in 2020. With no background in the security services, he is not part of the so-called siloviki faction of intelligence veterans close to Putin.

**Rizwan Koita, Director of Koita Foundation and co-founder of CitiusTech, has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH).**

Rizwan Koita, Director of Koita Foundation and co-founder of CitiusTech, has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and

Healthcare Providers (NABH). Mr. Koita has been a Board member of NABH over the past 2 years and has been actively involved with the Digital Health initiatives at NABH. Koita co-founded CitiusTech, a global healthcare technology company, in 2005, and served as CitiusTech's CEO till October 2021. Koita received IIT Bombay's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2019, and the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of Year Award in 2013.

### **Dilip Sanghani Re-Elected As IFFCO Chairperson For Second Consecutive Term; Balvir Singh Retains Position Of Vice Chairman.**

Senior BJP leader and former cabinet minister Dilip Sanghani has secured his position as the chairman of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) for the second consecutive term. This victory comes amidst a backdrop of internal party conflict as Jayesh Radadiya, a BJP MLA, won the election for the Director of IFFCO, defeating the party's designated candidate, Bharat Patel alias Bharat Gota. During the recent board meeting of IFFCO, held on Friday, 21 directors unanimously appointed Sanghani as the chairman and Balwinder Singh as the vice-chairman.

### **The nonprofit news organization ProPublica received the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service journalism.**

Columbia University of the United States of America announced the 2024 Pulitzer Prize winners. Columbia University announced the winners on the recommendation of the Pulitzer Prize Board. The award will be conferred by the president of Columbia University in a ceremony later. Pro Publica is a non-profit investigative journalist body in California. It was given the award for the investigative work of its reporters Joshua Kaplan, Justin Elliott, Brett Murphy, Alex Mierjeski and Kirsten Berg. The nonprofit news organization ProPublica received the Pulitzer Prize for Public Service journalism. Marjorie Miller, Administrator of the Pulitzer Prizes and the Vice President and Global Enterprise Editor at The Associated Press, announced the winners and finalists.

### **Yes Bank has partnered with Ebanx, to set up a cross-border merchant payment infrastructure in India.**

Yes Bank has partnered with Ebanx, to set up a cross-border merchant payment infrastructure in India. The partnership aims to make it easier for global merchants to sell to customers in India and make cross-border shopping easier for Indians. The partnership will offer a range of local payment methods tailored to the Indian market, including UPI, locally issued cards, and recurring payment transactions. Ebanx was founded in 2012 in Brazil to tap the retail demand for cross-border commerce. The company connects global businesses to hundreds of domestic payment systems in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

### **The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has issued guidelines that**

**put the onus of verifying merchant details on acquiring banks for BHIM Aadhaar Pay.**

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has issued guidelines that put the onus of verifying merchant details on acquiring banks for BHIM Aadhaar Pay. The obligation to acquire, manage, and monitor merchants for BHIM Aadhaar Pay rests with acquiring member banks. Acquiring member banks shall continue to be responsible for merchants onboarded by them directly or through aggregators/partners. BHIM Aadhaar Pay enables merchants to receive digital payments from customers over the counter through Aadhaar Authentication, according to the NPCI website. The NPCI issued these guidelines to an acquiring member bank's key responsibilities and accountabilities when managing merchants. Other aspects such as merchant underwriting, merchant portfolio, and risk monitoring, and their training are adequately addressed by acquiring member banks.

**India has contributed \$500,000 to the U.N Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund, underscoring its unwavering commitment to support multilateral efforts in the global fight against the scourge of terrorism.**

India has contributed \$500,000 to the U.N Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund, underscoring its unwavering commitment to support multilateral efforts in the global fight against the scourge of terrorism. India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj handed over to Under Secretary General, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) Vladimir Voronkov the country's voluntary financial contribution of half a million dollars towards the U.N. Counter-Terrorism Trust Fund (CTTF). India places great significance on the mandate and the work undertaken by the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism in building the capacity of member states to effectively deal with the threat of terrorism.

**The Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has released a draft circular which carries the reporting format for investment advisors.**

The Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has released a draft circular which carries the reporting format for investment advisors. The investment advisors (IAs) are required to furnish to SEBI, information and reports as may be specified from time to time. At present, Sebi has recognised Investment Advisors Administration and Supervisory Body (IAASB) for the purpose of administration and supervision of investment advisors. The IAASB has been seeking these reports on an ad-hoc basis. So, it was decided to specify a standardised format for periodic reporting for investment advisors. Sebi has now prepared a standardised periodic format for submission of information by investment advisors pertaining to their activities on a periodic basis after the recommendations from Industry Standards Forum (ISF).

**South Indian Bank has signed a MoU with Northern Arc Capital to explore and maximise business opportunities through combined efforts in the areas of loan**



**origination, underwriting, disbursement, collection, and reconciliation processes.**

South Indian Bank has signed a MoU with Northern Arc Capital to explore and maximise business opportunities through combined efforts in the areas of loan origination, underwriting, disbursement, collection, and reconciliation processes. The partnership will focus on co-lending and partnership lending activities, as well as facilitate seamless loan transfers between banks and originators. By joining forces, South Indian Bank and Northern Arc Capital aims to capitalize on emerging market trends, diversify their portfolios, and provide innovative financial solutions to a broader customer base.

**Fintech firm Pine Labs-owned Setu unveiled 'Sesame' India's first large language model (LLM), specifically designed for the BFSI sector.**

Fintech firm Pine Labs-owned Setu unveiled 'Sesame' India's first large language model (LLM), specifically designed for the BFSI sector. The company has named this LLM 'Sesame', which was developed in collaboration with Bengaluru-based generative AI (GenAI) startup Sarvam AI. The unveiling took place at Adbhut India, an event organised by the non-profit People+ai. Sesame leverages the rich data ecosystem enabled by India's digital infrastructure to power features such as improved credit underwriting, fraud detection, loan monitoring, upsell/cross-sell and personal finance advisory.

**Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) India has signed a pact with the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), GIFT City, Gandhinagar, to promote GIFT IFSC as a 'Global Finance Hub'.**

Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) India has signed a pact with the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), GIFT City, Gandhinagar, to promote GIFT IFSC as a 'Global Finance Hub'. FPSB India and IFSCA aim to enhance the financial market ecosystem and nurture skilled professionals for GIFT City's expanding financial workforce. Both organisations will jointly organise international and domestic events to raise awareness and establish GIFT IFSC as a 'Global Finance Hub'.

**Canara HSBC Life Insurance introduced 'Promise4Growth', a new Unit Linked Insurance Plan (ULIP) designed for customers embarking on a journey towards financial prosperity and security.**

Canara HSBC Life Insurance introduced 'Promise4Growth', a new Unit Linked Insurance Plan (ULIP) designed for customers embarking on a journey towards financial prosperity and security. The product underscores commitment towards providing holistic financial solutions, seamlessly integrating lucrative investment avenues with comprehensive protection. "Promise4Growth" from Canara HSBC Life Insurance provides unparalleled flexibility, an array of investment options including a

new fund – “Midcap Momentum Growth Index Fund”, and substantial growth prospects for the individuals. The latest offering caters to diverse financial needs with three unique plan options – Promise4Wealth, Promise4Care, and Promise4Life – each aligned with different savings goals and life stages.

**Mirae Asset Mutual Fund (AMF) launched Mirae Asset Nifty MidSmallcap400 Momentum Quality 100 ETF, an open-ended scheme replicating and tracking the Nifty MidSmallcap400 Momentum Quality 100 Total Return index.**

Mirae Asset Mutual Fund (AMF) launched Mirae Asset Nifty MidSmallcap400 Momentum Quality 100 ETF, an open-ended scheme replicating and tracking the Nifty MidSmallcap400 Momentum Quality 100 Total Return index. The product is India's first mutual fund scheme in the ‘mid and smallcap’ category where the underlying portfolio will consist of 50 midcap and smallcap stocks each. The fund house has picked the 100 stocks (50 each from midcap and smallcap segments) from based on a host of factors including quality and momentum. The MF scheme aims to offer investors exposure to high-growth potential companies within the mid and small-cap segments of the market. The new fund offer (NFO) for Mirae Asset Nifty MidSmallcap400 Momentum Quality 100 ETF will open for subscription on 6 May 2024, and close on 17 May 2024.

**The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted the restriction on Bank of Baroda (BoB)'s mobile banking application ‘BoB World’ with immediate effect.**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted the restriction on Bank of Baroda (BoB)'s mobile banking application ‘BoB World’ with immediate effect. The ban on bob World was imposed after the RBI said it found lapses in the process followed by the lender in onboarding customers through the mobile app. In October 2023, the RBI directed the government-owned Bank of Baroda to suspend any further onboarding of their customers onto the ‘bob World’ mobile application. The banking sector regulator said that any further onboarding of customers of the bank on the application will be subject to rectification of the deficiencies observed and strengthening of the related processes by the bank. The lender was also directed to ensure that the already onboarded ‘bob World’ customers do not face any disruption on account of suspension.

**SEBI has given approval to CARE Ratings Ltd's subsidiary CARE ESG Ratings to provide environmental, social, and governance (ESG) ratings.**

SEBI has given approval to CARE Ratings Ltd's subsidiary CARE ESG Ratings to provide environmental, social, and governance (ESG) ratings. Such ratings will enable the issuers to discern steps for the betterment of their sustainability performance. Having received the registration under the SEBI (Credit Rating Agencies) Regulations on May 2, 2024, CARE ESG Ratings Ltd will commence its ESG rating activity. Investors and stakeholders have adopted new perspectives on

ESG-based reporting, and performance, both domestically and internationally.

### **Padma awardee Punjabi poet Patar passes away in Ludhiana at 79 .**

Eminent poet and Padma Shri awardee Dr Surjit Patar passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday morning at his residence near Barewal Colony here. He was 79. Patar's poetic works include 'Hawa Vich Likhe Harf', 'Hanere Vich Sulagdi Varanmala', 'Patjhar Di Pazeb', 'Lafzaan Di Dargah' and 'Surzameen'. He received the Padma Shri in the field of literature and education in 2012. Patar was the president of the Punjab Arts Council. He had also been the president of the Punjabi Sahit Akademi. The poet and writer has been awarded with the Sahitya Akademi Award, Panchnad Puruskar, Saraswati Samman and the Kusumagraj Literary award. From Patar village in Jalandhar district, he did his graduation from Randhir college in Kapurthala and Ph D on 'Transformation of Folklore in Guru Nanak Vani' from the Guru Nanak Dev University. He retired as a professor of Punjabi from the Punjab Agricultural University in Ludhiana.

### **Indian Army's Kharga Corps, under the aegis of Army's Western Command, successfully conducted a three-day joint exercise 'Gagan Strike-II' with the IAF at multiple locations in Punjab.**

Indian Army's Kharga Corps, under the aegis of Army's Western Command, successfully conducted a three-day joint exercise 'Gagan Strike-II' with the IAF at multiple locations in Punjab. The exercise was conducted to refine processes and validate employment of attack helicopters in support of mechanised operations in developed terrain. The exercise incorporated Apache and ALH-WSI helicopters, Unarmed Aerial Vehicles and special forces of Indian Army, was aimed at validating various force multipliers in support of ground offensive by strike corps along with live firing by helicopters as demanded by mechanised forces during offensive maneuvers.

### **India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) revised upward the country's GDP growth estimate for FY25 to 7.1 percent from 6.5 percent earlier.**

India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) revised upward the country's GDP growth estimate for FY25 to 7.1 percent from 6.5 percent earlier. The new projection slightly exceeds the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) forecast of 7.0 percent. The agency's forecast indicates higher growth than RBI's for the first and fourth quarters of FY25 but lower for the second and third quarters. Ind-Ra expects private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) to grow by 7.0 percent year-on-year in FY25, marking a three-year high. Government capital expenditure continues to drive investment demand, with Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) expected to grow by 8.5 percent year-on-year in FY25. Ind-Ra forecasts goods and services exports to grow by 6.6 percent year-on-year and imports by 8.8 percent year-on-year in FY25, compared to 1.5 percent and 10.9 percent, respectively, in FY24.



### **HDFC Bank, Atal Innovation Mission empower social sector startups with Rs 19.6 crore grants.**

HDFC Bank on Wednesday said it supported social sector startups in India with grants worth Rs 19.6 crore in FY24, in partnership with Atal Innovation Mission (under NITI Aayog). In FY 2023-24, 170 social start-ups received funding via 41 incubators, with a total of Rs 19.6 crore in the 'Parivartan Start-up Grants programme.' The focus areas for the 2024 grants included climate innovation, financial inclusion, agriculture and sustainable rural economy, accessible and affordable healthcare, education and livelihood enhancement, gender diversity and inclusion.

### **China largest trading partner of India in FY24 with \$118.4 bn; US second with \$118.3 bn**

China has emerged as the largest trading partner of India with \$118.4 billion two-way commerce in 2023-24, slightly edging past the US, according to the data of economic think tank GTRI. The bilateral trade between India and the US stood at \$118.3 billion in 2023-24. Washington was the top trading partner of New Delhi during 2021-22 and 2022-23. The data showed that India's exports to China rose by 8.7 per cent to \$16.67 billion in the last fiscal. The main sectors which recorded healthy growth in exports to that country include iron ore, cotton yarn/fabrics/madeups, handloom, spices, fruits and vegetables, plastic and linoleum.

### **The board of directors of Piramal Enterprises, a diversified non-bank finance company (NBFC), has given approval for its merger with its wholly owned subsidiary, Piramal Capital & Housing Finance (PCHFL), which will be renamed Piramal Finance following the merger.**

The board of directors of Piramal Enterprises, a diversified non-bank finance company (NBFC), has given approval for its merger with its wholly owned subsidiary, Piramal Capital & Housing Finance (PCHFL), which will be renamed Piramal Finance following the merger. Under the terms of the merger, shareholders of Piramal Enterprises will receive one equity share of Piramal Finance (PFL) for each share they hold in Piramal Enterprises, along with one NCRPS (non-convertible non-cumulative non-participating redeemable preference share) of Rs 67 of PFL, subject to approval from the RBI. The company anticipates that the merger process as a whole will be finalised within 9-12 months.

### **Researchers at the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) have identified two new species of needlefish named as 'Ablennes joseberchmansis' and 'Ablennes gracalii' from Indian waters.**

Researchers at the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) have identified two new species of needlefish named as 'Ablennes joseberchmansis' and 'Ablennes gracalii' from Indian waters. The previously identified flat needlefish

(Ablennes hians) is a complex of at least three distinct species. The research was carried out by Toji Thomas, a research scholar at CMFRI, under the guidance of Dr. EM Abdussamad, Principal Scientist. The study focused on specimens collected from Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu. Found abundantly along the Indian coast, these fishes are pelagic resources and are available for fishing in the upper water column (0-20 metres depth).

**A new species of marine tardigrade discovered from the southeast coast of Tamil Nadu has been named Batillipes chandrayaani after the Chandrayaan-3 moon mission by researchers at the Cochin University of Science and Technology (Cusat).**

A new species of marine tardigrade discovered from the southeast coast of Tamil Nadu has been named Batillipes chandrayaani after the Chandrayaan-3 moon mission by researchers at the Cochin University of Science and Technology (Cusat). Tardigrades are microscopic marvels commonly known as 'water bears,' although they have no relation to actual bears. The names aside, what makes the Cusat discovery special is that it is the third marine tardigrade species to have been scientifically described from the Indian waters and the second from the east coast. Batillipes chandrayaani has been discovered in the intertidal beach sediments at Mandapam in Tamil Nadu. Similar in size to other tardigrades, it grows to a length of 0.15 millimetres and 0.04 millimetres in width.

**The newly identified 'green lynx spider' spider species, found in Rajasthan's Tal Chhapar Wildlife Sanctuary, has been named Peucetia chhaparajnrvin.**

The newly identified 'green lynx spider' spider species, found in Rajasthan's Tal Chhapar Wildlife Sanctuary, has been named Peucetia chhaparajnrvin. The nocturnal spider, blending with the Vachellia nilotica (babul) tree leaves due to its green hue, preys on small insects and serves as a vital predator in controlling pest populations, and maintaining ecological balance. The climatic conditions of the sanctuary, characterised by extreme temperatures, underscore the spider's adaptability. Lynx spiders are a family of active hunting spiders (Oxyopidae) that typically don't build webs.

**Every year, 8 May is observed as World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.**

Every year, 8 May is observed as World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day. At the 14th International Conference of the Red Cross held in London, England, in 1938, the delegates decided to observe 8 May as the International Red Cross Day. 8 May was chosen as it was the day in 1828 when Jean Henri Dunant was born in Switzerland. The first International Red Cross Day was observed on 8 May 1948. In 1984, the name was changed to 'World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day'. The theme of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is chosen by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC). The theme of 2024 World Red Cross

and Red Crescent Day — Keeping Humanity Alive.

### **World Thalassaemia Day is observed on May 8 to raise awareness around the genetic disorder, and support those who have it.**

World Thalassaemia Day is observed on May 8 to raise awareness around the genetic disorder, and support those who have it. Thalassaemia is a genetic disorder characterized by insufficient haemoglobin production, leading to a shortage of red blood cells and, consequently, anaemia. In the year 1994, World Thalassaemia Day was first established by Founder of Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) Panos Englezos in the memory of his son George, who died of Thalassaemia. The initiative is in alignment with the theme for the World Thalassaemia Day 2024 on May 8— “Empowering Lives, Embracing Progress: Equitable and Accessible Thalassaemia Treatment for All”.

### **Every year 8 May and 9 May, the United Nations marks the Time of Remembrance and reconciliation for those who lost their lives during the Second World War.**

Every year 8 May and 9 May, the United Nations marks the Time of Remembrance and reconciliation for those who lost their lives during the Second World War. The day pays tribute to all the victims of the Second World War. On 2 March 2010, by resolution 64/257, the General Assembly invited all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and individuals to observe 8-9 May in an appropriate manner. A special solemn meeting of the General Assembly in commemoration of all victims of the war was held in the second week of May 2010, marking the sixty-fifth anniversary of the end of the Second World War. On November 22, 2004, the U.N General Assembly declared May 8 and 9 as TIME OF REMEMBRANCE AND RECONCILIATION FOR THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES DURING WWII.

### **International Day of Argania is celebrated every year on 10 May.**

International Day of Argania is celebrated every year on 10 May. The Day celebrates the Argan tree, an ancient species that has grown in Morocco for about 80 million years. The Argan tree is a native species of the sub-Saharan region of Morocco, in the southwest of the country, which grows in arid and semiarid areas. It's the defining species of a woodland ecosystem, also known as Arganeraie, which is rich in endemic flora. It is resilient to a harsh environment under water scarcity, risk of erosion and poor soils. The theme of 4th International Day of Argania 2024 is "The Argan Tree facing the challenges of climate change". The United Nations General Assembly, by resolution 75/262 of 3 March 2021, proclaimed May 10 as International Day of Argania. The resolution, submitted by Morocco, was co-sponsored by 113 United Nations Member States and adopted by consensus.

**World Portuguese Language Day is annually observed across the globe on 5 May to raise awareness of the Portuguese language.**

World Portuguese Language Day is annually observed across the globe on 5 May to raise awareness of the Portuguese language. It was established on July 20, 2009 by the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) as Portuguese Language and Culture Day. The date of May 5 was chosen to coincide with the first meeting of the Ministers of Culture of the CPLP which occurred in 2005 and was subsequently declared Dia da Cultura da CPLP. In November 2019, the 40th session of UNESCO's General Conference decided to proclaim May 5 of each year as "World Portuguese Language Day".

**5th May 2024 marked the observance of the 9th edition of African World Heritage Day.**

5th May 2024 marked the observance of the 9th edition of African World Heritage Day. Proclaimed by the 38th session of the General Conference of UNESCO (November 2015), African World Heritage Day is an opportunity for people around the world, and particularly Africans, to celebrate the Continent's irreplaceable cultural and natural heritage. According to UNESCO's news article, May 5, 2017 - African World Heritage Day, "Africa remains underrepresented on the World Heritage List". The Day was established to raise awareness of the immense potential of the African cultural and natural heritage. African World Heritage Day celebrated with on 5th May 2024, under the theme "Safeguarding Africa's Heritage Through Education".

**International No Diet Day is celebrated worldwide on 6 May to promote body acceptance, embracing diversity and regarding all body shapes and sizes.**

International No Diet Day is celebrated worldwide on 6 May to promote body acceptance, embracing diversity and regarding all body shapes and sizes. The purpose of celebrating this important day is to spread awareness on issues like weight discrimination and fatphobia, and educate the masses on unhealthy dieting practices. The theme of International No Diet Day 2024 is "Embrace Yourself: Reject Diet Culture, Love You". International No Diet Day was first observed in the United Kingdom. British feminist Mary Evans Young is credited with starting the movement, inspired by her own struggles with body acceptance and anorexia. The first No Diet Day was held on 5 May, 1992.

**World Cartoonist Day, observed annually on 5 May to dedicated to celebrating the remarkable contributions of cartoonists across the globe.**

World Cartoonist Day, observed annually on 5 May to dedicated to celebrating the remarkable contributions of cartoonists across the globe. Established by the National Cartoonist Society in the 1990s, the day aims to promote and support the cartooning industry while acknowledging its profound impact on society. The celebration of

National Cartoonists Day began in 1999, spearheaded by co-chairpersons Polly Keener and Ken Alvine of the National Cartoonists Day Committee. They drew inspiration from Richard Outcault's creation of the cartoon Hogan's Alley, which debuted on May 5, 1895, in the Sunday edition of the New York World.

### **World Asthma Day 2024 was observed on 7th May 2024.**

World Asthma Day (WAD) is every year observed on the first Tuesday of May. It is organised by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) and strives to engage individuals experiencing asthma with the appropriate education so they can deal with their condition successfully. The day aims to raise awareness of healthcare professionals about the ongoing preventable morbidity and mortality from asthma. World Asthma Day 2024 was observed on 7th May 2024. "Asthma Education Empowers" is the 2024 World Asthma Day theme. This theme has been chosen by the Global Initiative for Asthma. The Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) was founded in 1993. The first World Asthma Day was observed in the year 1998. World Asthma Day is celebrated annually by GINA with the goal of raising awareness about the challenges faced by asthmatics.

### **The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) celebrated its 65th Raising Day on 7 May 2024, with an event held in New Delhi.**

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) celebrated its 65th Raising Day on 7 May 2024, with an event held in New Delhi. The Border Road Organisation was set up on 7 May 1960 by the Pandit Nehru government to execute crucial road projects vital for the Army. It started its operation in May 1960 with two projects: Project Tuskar in the East and Project Beacon in the West. The BRO's main function is to construct and maintain roads in the border areas, which have been classified as General staff roads per the country's defence requirements. The Border Road Organisation is part of the Union Ministry of Defence and is always headed by an Army officer.

### **Every year, World Athletics Day is observed on 7 May to honour the athletes.**

Every year, World Athletics Day is observed on 7 May to honour the athletes. The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) was founded in Stockholm, Sweden on July 17, 1912. Since 2019, the organisation is referred to as World Athletics. The first World Athletics Day was celebrated on May 15, 1996, with participation from 50 countries. Late Primo Nebiolo, the then-president of the International Association of Athletics Federations started the celebrations of the special day. Till date, every May 7 is observed a World Athletics Day. The theme for World Athletics Day 2024 is 'World Mile Challenge'.

### **According to Henley & Partners' World's Wealthiest Cities Report 2024, New York City is the wealthiest city in the world.**



According to Henley & Partners' World's Wealthiest Cities Report 2024, New York City is the wealthiest city in the world. California's The Bay Area is ranked 2nd followed by Tokyo, Japan. Singapore and London ranked 4th and 5th position. Other US cities that made the list include Los Angeles (6), Chicago (12), Houston (17), Dallas (22), Seattle (26), Boston (30), Miami (33), Austin (35) and Washington D.C (41). Seven of the ten fastest-growing millionaire cities are located in APAC, with five in China and two in India. Shenzhen, China, takes the crown for the most significant increase, boasting a remarkable 140% growth in its millionaire population since 2013, reaching a total of 50,300. Other notable high-growth cities include Hangzhou (125%), Guangzhou (110%), Delhi (95%), Beijing (90%), Shanghai (84%), and Mumbai (82%).

### **As per International Organisation for Migration (IOM)' World Migration Report 2024, India received over USD 111 billion in 2022.**

As per International Organisation for Migration (IOM)' World Migration Report 2024, India received over USD 111 billion in 2022. First time India has surpassed the USD 100 billion milestone. South Asia, particularly India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, stands out for its substantial inflow of remittances. In 2022, Pakistan and Bangladesh claimed the sixth and eighth spots respectively, with Pakistan receiving nearly USD 30 billion and Bangladesh garnering around USD 21.5 billion. The biennial report recorded USD 831 billion in international remittances globally in 2022 with USD 647 billion of it, being received by low- and middle-income countries.

### **ADB and Citi have partnered to sign a master risk participation agreement (MRPA) to enhance access to supply chain financing for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Citi have partnered to sign a master risk participation agreement (MRPA) to enhance access to supply chain financing for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and support more than \$100 million in additional annual trade across Asia and the Pacific. The agreement was signed between ADB's Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program (TSCFP) and Citibank North America. This partnership harnesses Citi's expansive network and origination capabilities alongside ADB's extensive presence in the Asia Pacific region's developing countries, amplifying the developmental impact of trade and supply chain finance.

### **India and Ghana have agreed to "expeditiously" operationalise the unified payments interface (UPI) on Ghana interbank payment and settlement systems (GHIPSS) in the next 6 months.**

India and Ghana have agreed to "expeditiously" operationalise the unified payments interface (UPI) on Ghana interbank payment and settlement systems (GHIPSS) in the next 6 months. The discussion was a part of the joint trade committee meeting between the two countries in Accra between 2 May and 3 May 2024. The two sides

also discussed the possibility of signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on digital transformation solutions, among other things. Both India and Ghana also identified multiple focus areas such as digital economy and digital infrastructure for enhancing bilateral trade. The seven-member official delegation from India was also accompanied by representatives from the local fintech sector.

### **Swiss company Climeworks has opened the biggest operational direct air capture (DAC + S) plant 'Mammoth' in Iceland.**

Swiss company Climeworks has opened the biggest operational direct air capture (DAC + S) plant 'Mammoth' in Iceland. The Mammoth plant, located in Iceland, is nearly ten times bigger than Orca, its second-largest plant. The DAC process sucks carbon from the air and stores it, most often underground, where it can no longer contribute to global heating. Climeworks' new DAC plant has an annual carbon capture capacity of 36,000 metric tons. The Mammoth plant, begun in 2022, will be completed by the end of this year. The company's first commercial DAC project was also in Iceland — the Orca plant — and has an annual capacity of 4,000 metric tons. Mammoth has successfully started to capture its first CO<sub>2</sub>.

### **The UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) has inked an agreement with Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) to promote trade between the two countries.**

The UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) has inked an agreement with Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) to promote trade between the two countries. Under the MoU, both organisations will collaborate on increasing awareness within the UAE and India regarding the significant potential of the bilateral economic partnership, highlighting opportunities for companies to leverage the free trade agreement. The UICC, established in early 2024, has played a pivotal role in significantly enhancing the economic, investment, and trade ties between the two nations. The UICC is dedicated to promoting economic cooperation and trade relations between the UAE and India.

### **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Partners with Mahindra & Mahindra for Drone Didi Yojana Pilot Projects.**

The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has forged a significant partnership with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd to advance the objectives of the Drone Didi Yojana through two Pilot Projects. Aimed at training 15,000 women in drone operation for agricultural purposes, this collaboration underscores a commitment to empowering women in the workforce. Under this initiative, MSDE and M&M will conduct exclusive training sessions for 500 women at the National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) centers in Hyderabad and Noida. The 15-day curriculum, approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), will be delivered by Remote Pilot Training Organisation (RPTO) instructors. NSTIs will provide infrastructure and mobilize participation, while Mahindra Group will furnish necessary

equipment and cover operational costs, exemplifying a pioneering convergence of women, farming, and technology.

### **ICG signs MoU with Hindalco for manufacturing & supply of indigenous marine-grade aluminum for construction of ships.**

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Hindalco Industries, on May 09, 2024, inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi for the manufacturing and supply of indigenous marine-grade aluminium to Indian public and private shipyards for the construction of ships. The MoU will also provide benefits such as quarterly pricing, priority in supplies and Turnover discount. The ICG fleet is presently operating 67 ships with aluminium hull with capability of operating in shallow waters. To further boost coastal security, it has planned to induct more such vessels where the indigenously manufactured marine-grade aluminium will be utilised. The MoU was signed by Deputy Director General (Materiel & Maintenance), ICG IG HK Sharma and CEO, Downstream Aluminum Business, Hindalco Shri Nilesh Koul in the presence of senior officials of the ICG.

### **Bank of India Signs MOU with Indian Coast Guard for BOI Rakshak Package.**

Bank of India, one of the leading public sector banks, reinforced its commitment to the Defence Sector by signing an MOU with the Indian Coast Guard, offering a Defence service Salary Package with best-in-class features under its "BOI Rakshak Salary/ Pension Savings Scheme". The Signing Ceremony was held on 9th May 2024 at the Coast Guard Headquarters, New Delhi with the Indian Coast Guard represented by Shri Narendra Singh, Deputy Inspector General & Principal Director (Administration) and Bank of India was represented by Shri Sharda Bhushan Rai, Chief General Manager Head Office (Resource/ Marketing/ GBD) Mumbai, Shri Lokesh Krishna, General Manager FGMO New Delhi and Shri Ajay Kumar Panth, Deputy General Manager, Government Business Department. Through this exclusive BOI Rakshak Package, Bank of India will offer numerous benefits to all Ranks of the Indian Coast Guard, Veterans, Recruits and Agniveers including Personal Accidental Insurance coverage upto 150 Lakhs, Permanent Total Disability cover upto Rs 50 Lakhs, Air Accidental Cover upto Rs 100 Lakhs and Permanent Partial Disability Cover of Rs 25 Lakhs. Apart from this the Bank will also offer Concessions in Retail Loans, Processing Charges and Locker Rentals.

### **Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Limited (TSSEZL) and Hygenco signed a MoU to establish a green hydrogen and green ammonia project at TSSEZL's Gopalpur Industrial Park in Odisha.**

Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Limited (TSSEZL) and Hygenco signed a MoU to establish a green hydrogen and green ammonia project at TSSEZL's Gopalpur Industrial Park in Odisha. Hygenco, known for its low-cost green hydrogen

production, plans to build its new facility in Ganjam district, where it will manufacture green hydrogen, green ammonia, and related products. The facility is projected to have an annual production capacity of 1 million tonnes, with the initial phase expected to be operational by December 2026. The total committed capacity of green hydrogen and green ammonia production at the industrial park now stands at approximately 2.6 million tonnes per annum. This solidifies Gopalpur Industrial Park as a hub for green hydrogen and ammonia in India.

### **Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Jindal Steel & Power (JSP) signed a MoU in New Delhi for the supply of indigenous marine grade steel to enhance the indigenous content in shipbuilding.**

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Jindal Steel & Power (JSP) signed a MoU in New Delhi for the supply of indigenous marine grade steel to enhance the indigenous content in shipbuilding. Through this partnership, both entities have committed to foster indigenisation, enhance capabilities to produce and use these items in the Nation's interest. The MoU underscores the importance of public-private partnerships in addressing complex security challenges, emphasising the need for collaboration between government agencies and the private sector. The MoU was signed by Deputy Director General (Materiel & Maintenance), ICG IG HK Sharma and Chief Marketing Officer, JSP Shri SK Pradhan in the presence of senior officers of the ICG.

### **Springer Nature has signed a landmark transformative agreement (TA) with the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), India.**

Springer Nature has signed a landmark transformative agreement (TA) with the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), India. The agreement marks the first TA by any publicly funded department in India, which is a significant leap forward for India's research and academic community. The deal will allow all 50+ centers affiliated to the DAE to read and publish Gold Open Access (OA). An article is published immediately as OA in an online journal of book and is available for all to use and reuse from the moment it is published - in Springer Nature's 2,000+ hybrid journals across all disciplines.

### **Nepal set to introduce a new Rs100 currency note with a map that shows the controversial territories of Lipulekh, Limpiyadhura and Kalapani.**

Nepal set to introduce a new Rs100 currency note with a map that shows the controversial territories of Lipulekh, Limpiyadhura and Kalapani. The meeting of the council of ministers chaired by Prime Minister Pushpakamal Dahal 'Prachanda' took a decision to print the new map of Nepal, which includes the Lipulekh, Limpiyadhura and Kalapani in the Rs100 denomination bank notes. The cabinet approved to re-design the banknote of Rs100 and replace the old map printed in the background of the bank note during the cabinet meetings held on 25 April and 2 May 2024. India maintains Lipulekh, Kalapani and Limpiyadhura belongs to it.

**Infosys has been certified with ISO 42001:2023, world's first international standard on AI management systems, by TUV India (part of TUV Nord Group).**

Infosys has been certified with ISO 42001:2023, world's first international standard on AI management systems, by TUV India (part of TUV Nord Group). Infosys is among the first IT services companies globally to have earned the certification for implementing an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS) framework that fosters responsible AI practices and adherence to regulatory requirements for enhanced efficiency and accountability in AI initiatives. This AIMS framework is a part of Infosys Topaz Responsible AI Suite, a set of 10+ offerings built around the Scan, Shield, and Steer framework. The certification underscores Infosys' dedication to responsible AI practices, enhancing accountability, and mitigating risks associated with AI initiatives.

**Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Dr Arunish Chawla, has launched the Meditech Stackathon 2024 in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).**

Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Dr Arunish Chawla, has launched the Meditech Stackathon 2024 in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The Stackathon is a groundbreaking initiative designed to catalyse transformative change within India's burgeoning medtech sector by undertaking a comprehensive value chain analysis of select medical devices. The Stackathon would deliberate in 8 focused groups namely Cancer Therapy, Imaging, Critical Care, Assistive Medical Devices, Body Implants, Surgical instruments and Hospital Equipment, Consumables & Disposables, and IVD Instruments and reagents. India's MedTech industry holds immense potential, with projections estimating a growth rate of 28% annually, reaching a size of USD 50 billion by 2030.

**The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) organised "Telecom Design Collaboration Sprint", first-of-its-kind initiative, at IIT, Bangalore.**

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) organised "Telecom Design Collaboration Sprint", first-of-its-kind initiative, at IIT, Bangalore. 15 leading startups/MSME in the Radio Access Network (RAN), Core ecosystems, esteemed institutions such as IIT Madras, C-DOT, IIT Delhi and other network entities participated. This collaboration engaged in deep-Tech rapid ideation and innovative solution towards developing a comprehensive and future-ready telecom stack encompassing comprehensive 5G solution and setting the stage for future advancements to 6G. The Sprint underscores DoT's commitment to nurturing innovation and fostering industry collaboration to propel India's telecommunications sector towards global leadership in the 5G era and beyond. Bringing together unique strengths and competence of start-ups and MSMEs, together with academia and industry, the DoT aims at creating a robust and forward-looking mobile telecom stack



with an emphasis on advancing towards 6G technology.

**The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) has granted regulatory approval to India's first commercial standalone battery energy storage system (BESS) project.**

The Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) has granted regulatory approval to India's first commercial standalone battery energy storage system (BESS) project. The project is being developed by BSES Rajdhani Power (BRPL) in partnership with IndiGrid and the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet's (GEAPP). It is supported by GEAPP's concessional loan, covering 70% of the total project cost. The approved project, a 20 MW/40 MWh BESS, will be strategically installed at BRPL's 33/11 kV Kilokari substation and is on track to achieve commissioning within a record time of 18 to 20 months – purportedly the fastest for a BESS project. The project, located at a high demand sub-station, will improve power quality and enable 24/7 reliable power in the area for more than 12,000 low-income consumers.

**Varugeese Koshy, chess International Master and renowned trainer, dies.**

International Master, renowned trainer and a mentor to many aspirants, Varugeese Koshy, has died. He was 66. Starting out as a rebel, Koshy was one of the few self-taught gentlemen of the chess world. His hyper-modern approach to the 64-squares gave him a distinct advantage over most of his peers. In the era when computers played very little role, Koshy rose from the ashes with his superior skills to analyze various positions and went on to become India number two in the National Championship of the early nineties. Koshy represented the country on various occasions but his biggest contribution to the game came as a trainer.

the dreaded disease with his impeccable sense of humour. "Apna time aa gaya (My time has come)," he had said in October last year. He had trained many other Indian players, like former world junior champion Abhijeet Gupta.

**Moosa Raza, former Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir and chairman of Southern Indian Education Trust (SIET), died in Chennai.**

Moosa Raza, former Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir and chairman of Southern Indian Education Trust (SIET), died in Chennai. Besides serving in J&K, Raza, an IAS officer, also served in Gujarat. He also authored 'Of Giants and Windmills – An Autobiography'. He was instrumental in negotiations during the armed uprising in Jammu and Kashmir in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Known for his dedication to public service, Mr. Raza was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2010.

**Renowned Urdu litterateur and academician, Shaikh Abdussalam Abdurrazzaq, famous by his pseudonym Salam Bin Razzaq, passed away at his residence in Navi Mumbai.**

Renowned Urdu litterateur and academician, Shaikh Abdussalam Abdurrazzaq, famous by his pseudonym Salam Bin Razzaq, passed away at his residence in Navi Mumbai. Razzaq won the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award for Urdu literature for his acclaimed short stories collection, 'Shikasta Buton Ke Darmiyan', in 2004. Over his long literary career spanning more than six decades, Razzaq was decorated with honours like the Sahitya Akademi Award, Ghalib Award, Maharashtra Urdu Sahitya Akademi Award, and many more.

**Frank Anderson Shrontz, the former chief executive officer and chairman of planemaker Boeing, has passed away.**

Frank Anderson Shrontz, the former chief executive officer and chairman of planemaker Boeing, has passed away. Shrontz joined Boeing in 1958 before taking a hiatus and then rejoined the company to later become its chief executive officer for a decade. He passed away on May 3 at the age of 92. Shrontz served in the Department of Defense in the Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford administrations during his brief tenure outside company, including as assistant secretary of the Air Force, before rejoining the planemaker in 1977.

**Google launched the 'Google Wallet' app in India, for Android users in India, allowing users to securely store cards, tickets, passes, keys and IDs.**

Google launched the 'Google Wallet' app in India, for Android users in India, allowing users to securely store cards, tickets, passes, keys and IDs. Google Wallet can be downloaded from Play Store and would allow users to store their loyalty cards, and gift cards among other things. It is different from Google Pay app which helps manage money and finances. Google has also collaborated with integrators Wavelynx and Alert Enterprise to provide users with the option to store and access a corporate badge inside the wallet app.

**The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully conducted the first ignition trial of a semi-cryogenic pre-burner at its ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu.**

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully conducted the first ignition trial of a semi-cryogenic pre-burner at its ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu. This achievement marks a crucial step in the development of a 2,000 kN thrust semi-cryogenic engine, which is set to enhance the payload capability of Isro's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mk III (LVM3) and power future launch vehicles. The semi-cryogenic engine, being developed by Isro's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC), utilizes a propellant combination of liquid oxygen (LOX) and refined kerosene (IsroSENE). This engine is designed to provide heavy-lift capability to Isro's upcoming launch vehicles, including the Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV).

### **The Indian Army and the Indian Air Force are planning to jointly deploy MQ-9B Predator drones at air bases in Sarsawa and Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh.**

The Indian Army and the Indian Air Force are planning to jointly deploy MQ-9B Predator drones at air bases in Sarsawa and Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, for upgrading their surveillance capabilities all along the Line of Actual Control with China from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh. The drone deal, expected to be worth around USD 4 billion is being done at tri services level with the Indian Navy leading the negotiations for it with the American side. The MQ-9B drones require a significant runway length for take off and landing which are available with the Indian Air Force. That is why, the Army drones are planned to be deployed with the IAF at airbases in Sarsawa and Gorakhpur. As per of the drone deal with the US, 31 MQ-9B drones are being acquired of which 15 would be for coverage of the maritime zone and would be deployed by the Indian Navy.

### **National Technology Day 11 May,2024: On this day, India successfully tested nuclear bombs in Pokhran.**

On May 11, 1998, India marked a significant milestone in its defense and scientific endeavors with the initiation of Operation Shakti, also known as Pokhran II. This operation, led by the government under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, comprised a series of nuclear bomb tests conducted at the Pokhran Test Range. The operation included the detonation of five nuclear devices, classified as Shakti I to Shakti V, with the first being a fusion bomb and the rest fission bombs. This event solidified India's status as a nuclear power and underscored its capability in defense technology. It also emphasized the importance of science and innovation in national security and development.

### **New guidance aims to reduce bloodstream infections from catheter use - WHO.**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has released groundbreaking global guidelines aimed at preventing bloodstream and other infections resulting from the use of catheters in minor blood vessels during medical procedures. These infections, often caused by poor practices in catheter insertion, maintenance, and removal, pose significant risks including sepsis and organ complications. Up to 70% of hospitalized patients require catheterization at some point, making them vulnerable to infections, particularly those with compromised immunity. WHO emphasizes the urgent need for clean care and infection prevention measures, stressing the grave impact of healthcare-associated infections on mortality rates, especially due to antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The guidelines offer 14 good practice statements and 23 recommendations for healthcare workers, focusing on education, aseptic techniques, hand hygiene, and proper catheter management, underscoring the importance of implementing preventive measures to mitigate avoidable suffering worldwide.

### **ISRO Successfully Tests New Liquid Rocket Engine AM PS4 In Tamil Nadu.**

The Indian Space Research Organisation, ISRO successfully tested the new liquid rocket engine manufactured through Additive Manufacturing technology. The test was successfully carried out on May 9th at ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri in Tamilnadu. This new redesigned PS4 engine has brought down the number of parts from 14 to a single piece and eliminated 19 weld joints. This will significantly save on the raw material usage per engine, reduce metal powder from 565 kgs to 13.7 kgs and reduce the production time by 60 percent. Akashvani Correspondent reports that this new redesigned engine will be used for the fourth stage of PSLV launch vehicle and also in the Reaction Control System of the First Stage in PSLV. ISRO is planning to induct this PS4 engine into the regular PSLV program. Additive Manufacturing technology means 3D printing of PS4 engines. The Private partner Wipro 3D joined hands with ISRO to successfully carry out the hot testing of the 3D printed PS4 engine. This will usher in a new era of advanced 3D manufacturing technique of India's space programme

### **LANDMARK ACHIEVEMENT: DMSRDE DEVELOPS RAMJET FUEL FOR ADVANCED AIR-BREATHING ENGINE.**

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) announced in a recent tweet on X that the Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE) has developed liquid Ramjet fuel for an advanced air-breathing engine. Calling it a 'landmark achievement', DRDO further informed that the fuel was tested successfully at the Ramjet Testbed at the Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL) on May 8. BPCL and Mineral Oil Corporation are industry partners in this development, it added. DRDO Tableau Showcases Liquid Ramjet Technology, MPATGM, Agni-V.

### **Nasa-JAXA XRISM mission discovers iron fingerprints in active galaxy NGC 4151.**

In a recent scientific breakthrough, the XRISM (X-ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission), a joint venture between NASA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), successfully detected iron in the active galaxy NGC 4151. Utilizing the Resolve instrument aboard XRISM, crucial data was obtained from the galaxy's core, where a supermassive black hole actively consumes material from its surrounding accretion disk. The spectral analysis conducted by XRISM revealed distinct iron signatures at approximately 6.5 keV, with observed peaks and dips around 7 keV, indicating interactions much more energetic than those detectable in the visible spectrum.

### **ISRO Chief Somanath unveils Zero Emission initiative of SFO Technologies.**

ISRO Chief, S. Somanath, recently unveiled the Zero Emission initiative of SFO Technologies, marking a significant step towards sustainable space technology. SFO Technologies, a leading Indian aerospace and defense firm, has pledged to mitigate its environmental impact through this initiative. The Zero Emission initiative aims to reduce carbon emissions and promote eco-friendly practices across its operations. As part of the endeavor, SFO Technologies plans to implement energy-efficient technologies, optimize resource utilization, and invest in renewable energy solutions. This initiative aligns with ISRO's commitment to environmental conservation and underscores the importance of adopting green practices in the aerospace industry.

**GalaxEye, a space-tech startup has signed an MoU with the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), an autonomous agency under the Department of Space.**

GalaxEye, a space-tech startup has signed an MoU with the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), an autonomous agency under the Department of Space. The partnership facilitates the utilisation of ISRO's laboratories and testing facilities. GalaxEye is planning to build multi-sensor earth observation (EO) satellites and is set to launch their first satellite, Drishti Mission, within a year from now. In 2023, GalaxEye developed a UAV SAR system for defence markets and completed over 200 successful flights with UAV SAR Payload.

**Kadet Defence Systems (KDS) has launched India's first Loitering Aerial Munitions (LAM) for the Indian Armed Forces.**

Kadet Defence Systems (KDS) has launched India's first Loitering Aerial Munitions (LAM) for the Indian Armed Forces. Under a unique Development cum Production Partner (DCPP) model with the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO), KDS has unveiled a game-changing array of cutting-edge technologies aimed at enhancing the operational efficacy of the Indian armed forces. These LAM systems encompass cutting-edge technologies, including Canister Aerial Loitering Munition (CALM), Combat UAVs with stand-off capabilities, and Tactical VTOL UAVs. Kadet has secured a contract to deliver over 50 LAM systems by year-end, meeting the operational requirements of the Indian armed forces. These indigenous LAMs, designed and manufactured entirely in India, boast adaptability to various terrains and altitudes, with over 90 per cent of components domestically sourced.

**NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) has detected atmospheric gases surrounding 55 Cancri e, a hot rocky exoplanet 41 light-years from Earth.**

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) has detected atmospheric gases surrounding 55 Cancri e, a hot rocky exoplanet 41 light-years from Earth. This discovery marks the first time an atmosphere has been identified surrounding a terrestrial planet outside our Solar System. "55 Cancri e" is a hot rocky planet orbiting a star 41 light-years from Earth. Its orbit is just 2.25 million km from its host star – so



close that the planet's surface is likely molten. The planet is twice as big as Earth, making it a "super-Earth." Despite not being able to capture a direct image of 55 Cancri e, JWST's NIRCam and MIRI instruments are able to detect subtle changes in the light as the planet orbits the star.

### **Mumbai City FC defeated Mohun Bagan Super Giant with a score of 3-1 at 10th edition of the Indian Super League 2023-24 final in Kolkata.**

Mumbai City FC defeated Mohun Bagan Super Giant with a score of 3-1 at 10th edition of the Indian Super League 2023-24 final in Kolkata. 2023-24 Indian Super League (ISL) final, was played at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan Stadium in Kolkata (West Bengal). This was Mumbai City FC's second title. In the final match, Jorge Pereyra Diaz, Bipin Singh and Jakub Vojtus scored for Mumbai City FC, while the solitary goal for the Mohun Bagan Bagan Super Giant was scored by Jason Cumming. The winner of the ISL 2023-24 Mumbai City FC took Rs6 crore as the prize money, and the runners-up, Mohun Bagan Super Giant, got Rs3 crore as prize money. The prizes to the winning team and the players were given by the All India Football Federation President, Kalyan Chaubey.

### **Indian boxers secure 43 medals at the ASBC Asian U-22 & Youth Boxing Championships 2024.**

Indian boxers secure 43 medals at the ASBC Asian U-22 & Youth Boxing Championships 2024. Five youth Indian boxers Brijesh Tamta, Aryan Hooda, Yashwardhan Singh, Laxmi and Nisha put up impressive performances to clinch gold medals at the ASBC Asian U-22 & Youth Boxing Championships 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan. Brijesh gave India its first gold medal of the tournament with a unanimous 5-0 win over Tajikistan's Muminov Muinkhodzha in the men's 48kg final. Later, Laxmi (50kg) won India's fifth gold medal with a referee stop the contest (RSC) win in the second round of the bout against Enkh Nomundari of Mongolia. Meanwhile, nine youth boxers, Sagar Jakhar (60kg), Priyanshu (71kg), Rahul Kundu (75kg), Aryan (92kg), Tamanna (54kg), Nikita Chand (60kg), Shrushti Sathe (63kg), Rudrika (75kg) and Khushi Pooniya (81kg) ended campaigns with silver medals after losing in their respective finals. Olympic-bound boxer Preeti (54kg) entered the U-22 finals along with five other Indian women.

### **Lando Norris of McLaren won his first-ever Grand Prix victory at the Miami Grand Prix 2024.**

Lando Norris of McLaren won his first-ever Grand Prix victory at the Miami Grand Prix 2024. Norris finished 7.61 seconds ahead of second-placed Verstappen to win the 2024 Miami Grand Prix. Norris, in his 110th race for McLaren, beat Verstappen by more than seven seconds, with Ferrari's Charles Leclerc finishing third. The 2024 Miami Grand Prix (officially known as the Formula 1 Crypto.com Miami Grand Prix 2024) was a Formula One motor race held on May 5, 2024, at the Miami International

Autodrome in Miami Gardens, Florida. It was the sixth round of the 2024 Formula One World Championship.

**Anandana, The Coca-Cola India Foundation, announces its first ever partnership with Hockey India, for the National Women's Hockey League 2024-25.**

Anandana, The Coca-Cola India Foundation, announces its first ever partnership with Hockey India, for the National Women's Hockey League 2024-25. The 1st Phase of the tournament commenced on 30th April, and it will conclude on 9th May 2024, in Ranchi, Jharkhand. The National Women's Hockey League features teams that secured top-eight positions in Pune's recently concluded 14th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2024. The participating athletes represent various states, including Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Bengal, Mizoram, Manipur, and Odisha.