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National & States Affairs

351. On June 16, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has developed an Indian Standard, “IS 17693: 2022”, for a non-electric cooling cabinet made of clay. Mansukh Bhai Prajapati from Gujarat is the innovator behind the refrigerator which is named as ‘Mitticool Refrigerator’. It is a natural refrigerator made primarily from clay to store vegetables, fruits, milk and also for cooling water. It provides natural coolness to foodstuffs stored in it without requiring any electricity. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BIS – developed “IS 17693: 2022” for non-electric ‘Mitticool Refrigerator’ (innovator – Mansukh Bhai Prajapati)
- HQs of BIS – Manek Bhawan, Old Delhi | Director General – Pramod Kumar Tiwari

352. In June 2022, Bhogeshwara, reportedly the elephant with the longest tusks in Asia, died of natural causes at the age of 60. The wild elephant, also known as Mr. Kabini, was found dead in the Gundre range of Karnataka’s Bandipur Tiger Reserve. According to forest department officials, Bhogeshwar’s tusks (long & pointed teeth) were 2.54 meters and 2.34 meters long. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ‘Bhogeshwara’, an elephant with the longest tusks in Asia (Mr. Kabini) – died in Bandipur Tiger Reserve ([Karnataka](#))
- Tusks length – 2.54 meters & 2.34 meters
- Karnataka: Capital – Bangalore | CM – Basavaraj Bommai | Governor – Thaawarchand Gehlot

353. On June 15, the Uttar Pradesh government decided to give incentives to set up units in the state’s first Medical Device Park proposed on 350-acre land in Sector 28 of Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA). It was also decided to implement the centrally-sponsored Pt Deendayal Upadhyay Kisan Samridhi Yojana in the state till 2026-27. The state cabinet approved a proposal to set up Pilibhit Tiger Protection Foundation under the provisions of “Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972”. Moreover, the state cabinet approved a proposal wherein no stamp duty will be levied on transfer of property between blood relations. The cabinet also approved a proposal to provide a sum of Rs 4.22 Cr to Bhatkhande Cultural University. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – decided to give incentives to set up units in the state’s first Medical Device Park in Sector 28 of YEIDA
- UP decided to implement ‘Pt Deendayal Upadhyay Kisan Samridhi Yojana’ till 2026-27
- UP – approved a proposal to set up Pilibhit Tiger Protection Foundation under “Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972”
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

354. The Delhi Airport (Indira Gandhi International Airport) is India’s first airport to introduce personalised baggage tag called “BAGG TRAX”, enabled by Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology. It will give passengers real-time information about when and on which belt is their check-in luggage arriving in the terminal. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indira Gandhi International Airport ([Delhi](#)) – India’s 1st airport to introduce personalised baggage tag called “BAGG TRAX”
- BAGG TRAX – enabled by **R**adio **F**requency **I**dentification (RFID) technology



355. The census exercise, which was originally scheduled to take place in 2021, has been further pushed to 2023-24. In a letter sent to all states and UTs, the office of the Registrar General of India (RGI) has extended the deadline of freezing of administrative boundaries to December 31, 2022. As per 'Rule 8 (iv)' of the "Census Rules, 1990", the boundaries of administrative units shall be frozen from the date intimated by the Census Commissioner, which shall not be earlier than one year from the Census reference date. According to provisional RGI data, the number of districts has gone up from 640 in 2011 to 736. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Census (originally scheduled to take place in 2021) – pushed to 2023-24
- RGI extended the deadline of freezing of administrative boundaries to – December 31, 2022
- RGI data: the number of districts has gone up from 640 in 2011 to 736

356. On June 17, Steel Minister Ram Chandra Prasad Singh inaugurated a 6-lane highway in Surat made of steel slag, a first of its kind in India. The road constructed using 100% steel-processed slag (waste) is a real example of converting "Waste into Wealth". Slag is a by-product (waste) of steel manufacturing. The road has jointly been made with the CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ram Chandra Prasad Singh – inaugurated India's first road made of steel slag in Surat, Gujarat (6-lane highway)
- The road is constructed jointly with – CSIR-CRRI (HQs of CRRI – New Delhi | Director – Ranjana Aggarwal)
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

357. On June 17, India's first-ever girl Panchayat, "Balika Panchayat" is started in several villages of Gujarat's Kutch district. It aims to promote the social and political development of the girls and ensure their active participation of girls in politics. This is a unique initiative of the Women and Child Development Welfare department of the Gujarat Government under the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign. The Ministry of Women & Child Development is also planning to begin the girl panchayat across India. "Balika Panchayat" is a panchayat of girls between the age of 10 and 21 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Balika Panchayat", India's first-ever girl Panchayat – started in several villages of Gujarat's Kutch district
- It is initiative of Women & Child Development Welfare department of Gujarat under 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

358. On June 17, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel inaugurated India's first government desalination plant only for industrial use at Dahej in Bharuch with a capacity of 100 MLD (million litres per day), set up at a cost of Rs 881 crore. The daily requirement of water for industries in Dahej is around 200 MLD, which is currently fetched from the Narmada river. The industries will now get treated sea water for their use. Former CM Vijay Rupani had laid the foundation for the plant at Dahej on November 30, 2019, due to the increased demand for water in industries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India's first government desalination plant only for industrial use – inaugurated at Dahej in Bharuch, Gujarat
- Capacity – 100 MLD (million litres per day) | Cost – Rs 881 Cr
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat



359. In June 2022, Red Sand Dunes were recently identified in the small desert situated in Tamil Nadu. The red dunes are called “Theri” in Tamil. They consist of sediments dating back to the Quaternary Period and are made of marine deposits. The dunes are spread over Kuthiraimozhi theri (2,387.12 hectares) and Sathankulam (899.08 ha) reserve forest of Tiruchendur taluk. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Red Sand Dunes – recently identified in the small desert situated in Tamil Nadu
- The red dunes are called “Theri” in Tamil & are made of marine deposits
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

360. On June 17, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions (MoPP&P) reconstituted a 3-member panel to examine the representation of officials sacked for alleged inefficiency or corruption from the government service. Arti Ahuja has been appointed in place of Leena Nandan. Similarly, Puneet Kansal has replaced Ashutosh Jindal. One member nominated by the cadre controlling authority will also be part of the panel. The committee examines the representation of employees who are sacked under Fundamental Rule (FR) 56 (J), (I) and Rule 48 of the “Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules 1972”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MoPP&P – reconstituted a 3-member panel to examine representation of officials sacked for alleged corruption
- Arti Ahuja – replaced Leena Nandan | Puneet Kansal – replaced Leena Nandan

361. On June 18, Hanle village in Ladakh is set to become India’s first Dark Sky Reserve. The village is part of Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary. The site will host activities to promote astronomy-tourism, giving a boost to local tourism and economy through science. Once declared as the Hanle Dark Sky Reserve (HDSR), the administration, local council members along with the scientists will collectively work towards preservation of the night sky from unwanted light pollution and illumination. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hanle village (Ladakh) – to become India’s first Dark Sky Reserve
- The village is part of – Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary (Ladakh)
- Ladakh: Capital – Leh | Lt. Governor – R. K. Mathur

362. mRube, the electronic trading platform promoted by Rubber Board, went live from June 8. The electronic trading platform is contemplated to complement the existing trade system by bringing in more transparency and market visibility. The Ahmedabad-based i-Sourcing Technologies is the technology partner. Rubber Board is a statutory body under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- mRube (electronic trading platform promoted by Rubber Board) – went live from June 8
- Technology Partner – i-Sourcing Technologies (Ahmedabad) | Rubber Board – under Ministry of Commerce & Industry

363. On June 7, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has released new guidelines on “Type 1 Diabetes”, a Non-Communicable disease. To manage Type 1 Diabetes, the ICMR recommends eating a nutritious diet which includes 50-55% carbohydrates, 30% fats & 15-20% protein out of total calories consumed on a daily basis. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ICMR – released new guidelines on “Type 1 Diabetes”
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911



364. On June 14, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated an underground “Gallery of Revolutionaries” museum dedicated to the luminaries of the freedom struggle, at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai. The underground gallery is established in the subterranean network of 13 pre-World War-I British era bunkers. The gallery includes information on the freedom movement heroes, their role in the movement, sculptures, rare photographs, murals and details on tribal revolutionaries drawn by school-kids. [{Read more}](#)

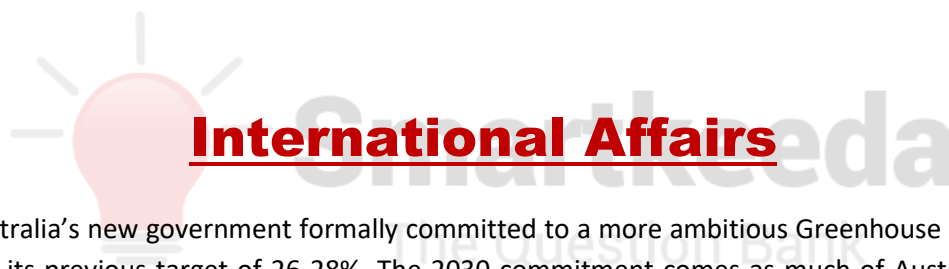
Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated an underground “Gallery of Revolutionaries” museum in Mumbai
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

365. In June 2022, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. K. Stalin inaugurated “Empress”, India’s premium cruise, from Chennai Port. It is the first-ever luxury cruise line from the State. The vessel is operated by Cordelia Cruises. It sailed with 1,800 passengers and 600 crew. The Empress has 11 decks with 796 cabins and it will anchor at Puducherry and Visakhapatnam harbours. The two-night and three-day package costs around Rs 40,000 and a five-day trip to Puducherry costs around Rs 90,000 and could go beyond Rs 1.5 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M. K. Stalin – inaugurated “Empress”, India’s premium cruise, from Chennai Port
- It is first-ever luxury cruise line from TN | Operated by – Cordelia Cruises
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi



International Affairs

366. On June 16, Australia’s new government formally committed to a more ambitious Greenhouse Gas reduction target of 43% by 2030, against its previous target of 26-28%. The 2030 commitment comes as much of Australia’s population faces soaring electricity and gas prices due in part to the Russia-Ukraine war. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Australia – committed to ambitious Greenhouse Gas reduction target of 43% by 2030, against previous target of 26-28%
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese

367. During a two-day summit in Brussels in June, the European Council accepted Ukraine and Moldova as candidates for membership of the European Union (EU). Candidate status is the first official step towards EU membership. However, observers say even with candidate status, it may take years, for Ukraine to obtain EU membership. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- European Council – accepted Ukraine & Moldova as ‘candidates for membership’
- Candidate status – first official step towards EU membership
- The summit of European Council took place in – Brussels, Belgium
- HQs of EU – Brussels, Belgium | Member Countries – 27
- President of European Parliament – Roberta Metsola
- President of European Council – Charles Michel
- President of European Commission – Ursula von der Leyen
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian Hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

368. India's total Merchandise Exports are estimated to reach at \$117.2 billion in the first quarter (Q1) of FY23, according to India Exim Bank. The total merchandise exports stood at \$95.5 billion in Q1 of FY22. Non-oil exports continue to witness a double-digit growth of 12.6%, amounting to \$93 billion in Q1 FY23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Exim Bank: India's total Merchandise Exports are estimated to reach at \$117.2 billion in Q1 of FY23
- India's total Merchandise Exports stood at \$95.5 billion in Q1 of FY22
- Non-oil exports will witness a double-digit growth of 12.6%, amounting to \$93 billion in Q1 FY23
- HQs of EXIM Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD – Harsha Bangari | Founded in – 1982

369. On June 15, Kotak General Insurance partnered with PhonePe Insurance Broking Services Pvt. Ltd (PhonePe) to offer motor insurance to 380 million customers on the PhonePe platform. Through PhonePe, Kotak General Insurance will provide quick and seamless car and two-wheeler insurance policies to its customers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak General Insurance + PhonePe = partnered to offer 'motor insurance' on the PhonePe platform
- HQs of PhonePe – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

370. On June 16, capital markets regulator SEBI has formed a Building Advisory Committee, which will advise and assist it in all the premises related matters such as planning, acquisition and furnishing. The seven-member committee will be headed by B. K. Katyal, former Chief General Manager at the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – formed a Building Advisory Committee – headed by B. K. Katyal
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

371. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation rose to a record high of 15.88% in May from 15.08% in April, according to data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The high rate of inflation in May, 2022 is primarily due to rise in prices of mineral oils, crude petroleum & natural gas, food articles, basic metals, non-food articles, chemicals & chemical products and food products etc. Inflation in food articles in May was 12.34%. Retail inflation in May was 7.04%. The highest inflation rate was recorded by Telangana at 9.45%. To tame stubbornly high inflation, the RBI hiked its key interest rate by 40 basis points in May and 50 basis points in June. The RBI also raised inflation projection by 100 basis points to 6.7% for 2022-23. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NSO: Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation rose to a record high of 15.88% in May 2022
- In May: Inflation in food articles – 12.34% | Retail inflation – 7.04% | Highest inflation rate recorded by – Telangana
- RBI – hiked its key interest (repo) rate by 40 basis points in May & 50 basis points in June – to 4.9%
- RBI – raised inflation projection by 100 basis points to 6.7% for 2022-23
- HQs of NSO – New Delhi | Chairperson – Bimal Kumar Roy

372. On June 19, Equitas Small Finance Bank launched an exclusive savings account called "ENJOI" for kids on the occasion of Father's Day. This account will introduce young kids to the financial world, encouraging them to develop an early habit of saving. ENJOI will allow kids of 0-18 years to open savings accounts under the supervision of their parents. Minors aged 10 and above will also get an option for a personalised Debit Card. The saving account starts with the minimum balance of Rs 1,000. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Equitas SFB – launched an exclusive savings account called “ENJOI” for kids on Father’s Day
- ENJOI will allow kids of 0-18 years to open savings accounts under the supervision of their parents
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan

373. In June 2022, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the “Payments Vision 2025” document to drive digitisation at the last mile. The central bank expects the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) to register growth of 50% and more than 3x increase in the number of digital payment transactions by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – released the “Payments Vision 2025” document to drive digitization at the last mile
- RBI expects the UPI to register growth of 50% & more than 3x increase in digital payment transactions by 2025
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

374. The Shriram Group has received RBI approval for the merger of Shriram City Union Finance and Shriram Capital Ltd with Shriram Transport Finance Company in a consolidation set to create the largest retail finance NBFC in India. The RBI issued its No Objection to the scheme of amalgamation through a letter. Shriram City’s MD & CEO, YS Chakravarti would serve as MD & CEO of Shriram Transport Finance Company. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shriram Group – received RBI approval for merger of Shriram City Union Finance and Shriram Capital Ltd with Shriram Transport Finance Company
- It will create the largest retail finance NBFC in India
- YS Chakravarti (MD & CEO of Shriram City) – will serve as MD & CEO of Shriram Transport Finance Company

375. On June 15, the US Federal Reserve hiked interest rates by 0.75 percentage point, highest rate hike in 28 years since 1994, in a bid to tame runaway inflation. The hike in rates by the Fed came after inflation in the US surged unexpectedly in May, 2022. After the conclusion of a two-day Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting in June, the US Central Bank chair Jerome Powell indicated that the Fed would increase its key interest rate by three quarters of a percentage point to a range of 1.5% to 1.75%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US Federal Reserve – hiked interest rates by 0.75% point (highest rate hike in 28 years since 1994)
- US Fed – to increase its key interest rate by 3 quarters of a percentage point to a range of 1.5% to 1.75%
- US Central Bank Chair – Jerome Powell
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

376. The 47th meeting of the GST Council was held in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir on June 28-29, 2022. Before the launch of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on July 1, 2017, the 14th meeting of the Council was also held in Srinagar. GST rates on 1,211 items were approved at the two-day meeting. The GST Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprises state counterparts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 47th meeting of the GST Council – held in Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir
- GST Council – chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman



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Sports & Games

377. In June 2022, the official “FIFA U17 Women’s World Cup 2022” draw was held at the FIFA Headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland in which hosts India have been clubbed with the USA, Morocco, and Brazil in Group A. The tournament will start on October 11 in Bhubaneswar and Goa. The DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai will host the third-place match and final on October 30. This is the second time India is hosting a FIFA tournament after the U-17 Men’s World Cup in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “FIFA U17 Women’s World Cup 2022” – to be played in India
- HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

378. On June 15, India’s Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra set a new national record and finished with a silver medal with a throw of 89.30 metres at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Finland, bettering his own previous national record of 88.07 meters which he had set in Patiala in March, 2021. At the Tokyo Olympics on August 7, 2021, Chopra had won Gold medal for his throw of 87.58 meters. Finland’s Oliver Helander won Gold medal with his personal best of 89.93 meters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Neeraj Chopra ([Javelin thrower](#)) – won Silver at the ‘Paavo Nurmi Games’ in Finland | Gold – Oliver Helander ([Finland](#))
- With this, Neeraj Chopra set a new National Record with throw of 89.30 metres (His previous national record - 88.07m)

379. On June 17, Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) announced that the “FIFA World Cup 2026” will be co-hosted by three nations for the first time and will also see participation from 48 nations, up from 32. US, Canada and Mexico will hold matches in Los Angeles, Toronto and Mexico City, respectively. Reportedly, Mexico is the first nation in football world to host the FIFA World Cup three times. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- US, Canada & Mexico – will co-host the “FIFA World Cup 2026” in Los Angeles, Toronto & Mexico City
- Mexico – the first nation in football world to host the FIFA World Cup 3 times
- HQs of FIFA – Zurich, Switzerland | President – Gianni Infantino

Persons in News

380. On June 12, Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II overtook Thailand’s King Bhumibol Adulyadej to become the world’s second-longest reigning monarch in history, after France’s Louis XIV. The UK celebrated the 96-year-old Queen’s Platinum Jubilee to mark 70 years of service to the nation with grand events. Thailand’s King reigned for 70 years and 126 days between 1927 and 2016. Louis XIV of France remains the longest-reigning monarch, with a 72-year and 110-day reign from 1643 until 1715. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Queen Elizabeth II ([England](#)) – became the world’s 2nd longest reigning monarch in history
- Queen overtook – Bhumibol Adulyadej ([Thailand](#)) | Top – Louis XIV ([France](#))



381. In June 2022, Shreyas G. Hosur became the first officer from the Indian Railways to complete the gruelling “Ironman Triathlon” in Hamburg, Germany. He completed the event in 13 hours and 26 minutes. The Ironman Triathlon is considered to be the toughest single-day sports event in the world comprising - 3.8 km of Swimming, 180 km of Cycling and 42.2 km of Running. Hosur is a 2012-batch Indian Railway Accounts Service (IRAS) officer. This year was the race’s 5th edition in Hamburg. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shreyas G. Hosur – became the first officer from the Indian Railways to complete the gruelling “Ironman Triathlon”
- He completed the event in 13 hours & 26 minutes – held in Hamburg, Germany
- ‘Ironman Triathlon’ comprises: 3.8 km of Swimming + 180 km of Cycling + 42.2 km of Running

Science & Technology

382. On June 16, the scientists discovered a new species of bamboo-dwelling bat in Nongkhylllem Wildlife Sanctuary in Ri Bhoi district of Meghalaya. The species has been named “Glischropus Meghalayanus” in honour of Meghalaya’s 50th statehood year. This discovery is the first report of a thick-thumbed bat not only from India but also from South Asia. The discovery was published in journal “Zootaxa”. With this new discovery, the total number of bat species known from India stands at 131. Meghalaya harbours the highest bat diversity in the country with 67 species (51%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists discovered a new species of “bamboo-dwelling bat” in ‘Nongkhylllem Wildlife Sanctuary’ in Meghalaya
- The species is named – “Glischropus Meghalayanus”
- Total number of bat species known from India – 131 (67 species from Meghalaya alone)
- Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik

383. On June 15, Bharti Airtel has launched India’s first multiplex on the Partynite Metaverse platform. The ‘Airtel Xstream’ multiplex is an extension of Airtel’s Xstream Premium offering. It is a 20-screen platform with access to content portfolios from leading OTT partners available on the application. The idea was conceived by Essence, Airtel’s integrated media agency of record, and developed by Gamitronics, the creator of Partynite, a blockchain-powered digital parallel universe. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bharti Airtel – launched India’s first multiplex namely ‘Airtel Xstream’ on the ‘Partynite’ Metaverse platform
- The idea was conceived by – Essence & developed by – Gamitronics (the creator of Partynite)
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

384. On June 13, Former Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey recently announced his vision for a new decentralized web platform called “Web 5.0” which is being built by Dorsey’s Bitcoin business unit, The Block Head (TBH) with an aim to return ownership of data and identity to individuals. Web 1.0 was the first generation of the global digital communications network. It is often referred to as the “Read-Only” Internet. The next stage in the evolution of the web was Web 2.0 - the “Read and Write” Internet. Web 3.0 is an evolving term that is used to refer to the next generation of Internet - a “Read-Write-Execute” web. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Jack Dorsey – announced his vision for a new decentralized web platform called “Web 5.0”
- Jack Dorsey’s Bitcoin business unit – The Block Head (TBH) is building “Web 5.0”
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006

Appointments & Resignations

385. On June 18, Former Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai has been nominated as Chairperson of the Press Council of India (PCI). She replaced Justice (retd) C. K. Prasad who vacated office in November 2021. Desai was the Chairperson of the Indian Appellate Tribunal for Electricity after her retirement from the Supreme Court. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai (Former Supreme Court judge) – nominated as Chairperson of Press Council of India (PCI)
- She replaced Justice (retd) – Chandramauli Kumar Prasad
- HQs of PCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ranjana Prakash Desai | Established on – November 16, 1966

386. On June 15, Equitas Small Finance Bank (ESFB) announced that the RBI has approved its proposal to reappoint MD & CEO Vasudevan P. N. for one year. Earlier in May, Vasudevan had asked ESFB to look for his successor as he wanted to step down. He is also the Managing Director of Equitas, which began as a micro finance institution in 2007 and was later converted into bank in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vasudevan P. N. – reappointed as MD & CEO of Equitas SFB for 1 year
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan

Schemes & Initiatives

387. In June 2022, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched the State Animal Helpline “1962” for protection of stray and abandoned animals. The CM also inaugurated the ‘Tele Veterinary Service’ and launched the ‘Animal Resources Mapping’ initiative. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Odisha – launched the State Animal Helpline “1962”, the ‘Tele Veterinary Service’ & the ‘Animal Resources Mapping’
- Odisha: Capital – Bhubaneswar | CM – Naveen Patnaik | Governor – Ganeshi Lal



Important Days & Dates

388. World Sea Turtle Day is observed on June 16 to recognise this group of animals and the people who protect them. The day creates awareness about the sea turtles and their conservation. The day also marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Archie Carr who is known as the “Father of Sea Turtle Biology”. Moreover, Sea Turtle Week was observed from June 13 to 17, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 16 – World Sea Turtle Day (birth anniversary of Dr. Archie Carr - “Father of Sea Turtle Biology”)
- June 13 to 17 – Sea Turtle Week

389. Every year, the world observes “Sustainable Gastronomy Day” on 18 June. The objective of this day is to recognise the practices associated with sustainable food consumption. The day was recognised on 21 December, 2016 after the UNGA adopted the resolution A/RES/71/246. Every year, UNGA, FAO and UNESCO work together to ensure that the day is celebrated properly around the world. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 18 – Sustainable Gastronomy Day by – UNGA (since 2016)
- UNGA, FAO & UNESCO work together to ensure that the day is celebrated properly around the world
- HQs of UNGA – New York, USA | President – Abdulla Shahid | Member Countries – 193

390. Every year, World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is observed on June 17. The day is celebrated to turn the degraded land into healthy land. In 2022, the theme is “Rising up from Drought Together”. The factors that led to the desertification of land are caused due to human activities and climatic variations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 17 – World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought
- 2022’s Theme – “Rising up from Drought Together”

391. World Crocodile Day was recently observed across the globe on June 17. India is home to three crocodilian species: Muggor or Marsh Crocodile, Estuarine or Saltwater Crocodile and Gharial. Crocodile’s status in the IUCN List of Threatened Species is ‘Least Concern’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- June 17 – World Crocodile Day
- India is home to 3 crocodilian species: Muggor or Marsh Crocodile, Estuarine or Saltwater Crocodile, Gharial

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

392. In June 2022, Switzerland and Kazakhstan co-hosted the 12th Ministerial Conference of World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva, Switzerland. The Ministerial Conference is the WTO’s top decision-making body and usually meets every 2 years. The World Trade Organization is the only international organization that deals with the rules of trade between countries. Founded in 1995, the WTO is run by its 164 members. During the meeting, the WTO passed a multilateral agreement that would curb ‘harmful’ subsidies on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing for the next four years. The current agreement, which establishes new trading rules, is the second multilateral agreement in WTO’s history. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Switzerland + Kazakhstan = co-hosted the 12th Ministerial Conference of WTO in Geneva, Switzerland
- HQs of WTO – Geneva, Switzerland | 7th DG – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala (Nigeria) | Members – 164 | Founded – 1995

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

393. On June 14, Researchers from the University of Adelaide, Australia launched a new study titled “New Maps of Global Geological Provinces & Tectonic Plates” that includes an updated map of the Earth’s Tectonic plates. The material will help in forming a better understanding of natural hazards like earthquakes and volcanoes. A tectonic plate is a massive, irregularly shaped slab of solid rock, made up of lithosphere (Earth’s top layer). The delved into the past construction of continents like the first supercontinent, Vaalbara. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- University of Adelaide (Australia) – launched a study “New Maps of Global Geological Provinces & Tectonic Plates”
- The study includes an updated map of the Earth’s Tectonic plates
- Tectonic plate – a slab of solid rock, made up of lithosphere (Earth’s top layer)
- Australia – Canberra – Australian Dollar | PM – Anthony Albanese

394. The Unemployment Rate (UR) for persons aged 15 years and above in urban areas dipped to 8.2% in January-March 2022 from 9.3% in the year-ago quarter, as per the 14th “Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly Bulletin (Jan-March 2022)” by the National Statistical Office (NSO). It was 8.7% in last quarter October-December 2021. Among males, the unemployment rate in urban areas dipped to 7.7% in January-March 2022, while 10.1% decline was noticed in women's unemployment rate in urban areas. Labour force participation rate in CWS (Current Weekly Status) in urban areas for persons aged 15 years and above declined to 47.3% in this quarter. While Worker Population Ratio (WPR) in CWS in urban areas for persons aged 15 years and above stood at 43.4% in the same quarter. The NSO launched PLFS in April 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 14th “Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly Bulletin (Jan-March 2022)” – released by NSO
- UR for persons aged 15 years & above in urban areas declined to – 8.2% (7.7% among males & 10.1% among females)
- Labour force participation rate in CWS (Current Weekly Status) in urban areas declined to – 47.3%
- WPR in CWS in urban areas for persons aged 15 years & above stood at – 43.4%

395. As per the Kantar Brandz’s “2022 Most Valuable Global Brands” report, the number of Indian brands in the Global Top 100 rose to 4: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) at 46th, HDFC Bank at 61st, Infosys at 64th and Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) at 92nd. The total value of the “2022 Kantar BrandZ Top 100 Most Valuable Global Brands” has grown by 23% to reach almost \$8.7 trillion. Apple is the world’s number one most valuable brand, growing 55% to USD 947 billion, followed by Google (USD 820 billion). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kantar Brandz’s “2022 Most Valuable Global Brands” report – Number of Indian brands in the Global Top 100 – 4
- 4 brands: TCS (46th), HDFC Bank (61st), Infosys (64th) & LIC (92nd)
- Apple – world’s No. 1 most valuable brand followed by Google



396. The annual “Global Trends Report” by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) highlighted that globally 100 million people were forced to flee from their homes last year due to violence, human rights abuses, food insecurity, the climate crisis, war in Ukraine, and other emergencies from Africa to Afghanistan. Nearly 5 million people in India were internally displaced due to climate change and disasters in 2021. According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), in 2021, there were 23.7 million new internal displacements globally due to disasters. This represented a decrease of 7 million, or 23%, compared to the previous year. The largest displacements in the context of disasters in 2021 occurred in China (6.0 million). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Global Trends Report” – released by the UNHCR
- Globally 100 million people were displaced due to climate change & disasters in 2021 (5 million in India)
- The largest displacements in the context of disasters in 2021 occurred in – China (6.0 million)
- HQs of UNHCR – Geneva, Switzerland | Head – Filippo Grandi

397. Financial Services led with more than 20% of the cumulative value of the “Burgundy Private Hurun India 500” list, followed by Software & Services (14%) and Healthcare (7.2%). As per the list, Reliance Industries is India’s most valuable company with a value of ₹18.9 lakh Cr, followed by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) with ₹12.9 lakh Cr and HDFC Bank with ₹7.7 lakh Cr. As per the report, the value of the top 500 companies in India increased marginally by 2% to ₹232 lakh Cr. The highest gain was by Vedant Fashions with a growth in valuation of 313.9%. The minimum valuation to make it into the top-500 valuation list was ₹5,800 Cr or \$760 million. The companies in the list came from 15 states, led by Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Burgundy Private Hurun India 500” list:
- Topped by – Financial Services (20%) | Followed by – Software & Services (14%) & Healthcare (7.2%)
- 3 Most valuable company: Reliance Industries (₹18.9 lakh Cr), TCS (₹12.9 lakh Cr), HDFC Bank (₹7.7 lakh Cr)

398. In June, the scientists have found microplastics (plastic pieces smaller than a grain of rice) in freshly fallen Antarctic snow for the first time. It has potential to influence the climate by accelerating melting of ice. The findings, published recently in The Cryosphere journal, brought to light a serious threat to the Antarctic region. The researchers found an average of 29 microplastic particles per litre of melted snow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Scientists found microplastics in freshly fallen Antarctic snow for the first time
- The researchers found an average of 29 microplastic particles per litre of melted snow
- The findings were published in – ‘The Cryosphere’ journal

399. According to REN21’s “Renewables 2022 Global Status Report (GSR 2022)”, India ranked 3rd globally for total renewable power capacity additions with 15.4 GW in 2021, behind China (136 GW) and the US (43 GW). The GSR 2022 is the 17th consecutive edition. While in Asia, India was second. India ranked 4th for total installations (60.4 GW), overtaking Germany (59.2 GW) for the first time. According to the report, India added 843 MW of hydropower capacity in 2021, raising the total capacity to 45.3 GW. Moreover, India ranked 3rd globally for the total installed capacity of wind power (40.1 GW), behind China, the US & Germany. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Renewables 2022 Global Status Report (GSR 2022)” – released by REN21
- India – ranked 3rd globally for total renewable power capacity additions with 15.4 GW in 2021 | 1st – USA | 2nd – China
- India – added 843 MW of hydropower capacity in 2021, raising the total capacity to 45.3 GW

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

400. On June 17, National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Ministry of Earth Sciences, signed an MoU with Indian Navy, Ministry of Defence for 'Cooperation on Numerical Model Based Applications in Meteorology and Oceanology'. NCMRWF would provide support to two of the premier establishments of Indian Navy located at Kochi, i.e., Naval Operations Data Processing and Analysis Centre (NODPAC) and Indian Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre (INMAC) in developing advanced numerical weather prediction systems. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NCMRWF + Indian Navy = MoU for 'Cooperation on Numerical Model Based Applications in Meteorology & Oceanology'
- NCMRWF – under Ministry of Earth Sciences
- MoS I/C in Ministry of Earth Sciences: Dr. Jitendra Singh | Constituency – Udhampur, J&K
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt
- HQs of Indian Navy – Delhi | Chief – Admiral R. Hari Kumar | VC – S. N. Ghormade | Founded in – 26th Jan, 1950





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