

# TEACHERS' VISION

WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

## MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

### JULY – 2024

#### DATES & DAYS

- **1 July – National Doctor's Day.** Officially designated in 1991 to honour the birth and death anniversary of Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, a renowned physician, freedom fighter, and former Chief Minister of West Bengal. Dr Roy established several esteemed medical institutions, including the Indian Medical Association and the Medical Council of India and was also honoured with the Bharat Ratna in 1961 in recognition of his contributions to the medical field. Theme :- “Healing Hands, Caring Hearts.
- **1 July - GST Day:** mark the anniversary of the implementation of GST in India in 2017. An indirect and comprehensive tax in India, is levied on the supply of goods and services in India. Facts about GST: France was the first nation to implement the GST system. Canadian GST system serves as the foundation for GST system in India. Atal Bihari Vajpayee is often known as the father of GST. Assam was the first state in India to pass the GST bill. Arun Jaitley was the first GST chairman.
- **10 July:- Global Energy Independence Day.** The day offers opportunities to learn more about renewable forms of energy, such as solar, wind, and geothermal.
- **11 July - World Population Day:** To raise awareness about the issues that the world faces due to overpopulation. The UN Developing Programme (UNDP) established World Population Day on July 11, 1987, when the population of the world reached 5 billion; it was a landmark moment for the global population. Theme: To Leave No One Behind, Count Everyone
- **15th July - World Youth Skills Day.** The World Youth Skill Day is an annual event designated by the United Nations General Assembly in November 2014, with the first observance taking place on July 15, 2015. The day aims to promote awareness and understanding of the importance of youth skills development in response to the challenges of unemployment and underemployment faced by young people globally. Theme is “Youth Skills for Peace and Development.”
- **17 July - World Day for International Justice.** Also known as the Day of International Criminal Justice, Observed since 2010. It marks the importance of fighting against impunity and bringing justice for the victims of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. On the 17th of July, 1998, the Rome Statute was adopted, thus providing a platform for the formation of the International Criminal Court. HQ: Hague, Netherlands.
- **18 July - International Nelson Mandela Day.** Designated by UN in 2009. Theme, “It’s still in our hands to combat poverty and inequality”. It represents the 67 years Nelson Mandela dedicated to public service in South Africa 1993: Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize jointly with South African President F.W. de Klerk. 1994: Elected President of South Africa.

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- **20 July - International Chess Day.** Observed since 1966 to mark the date of the establishment of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) in Paris in 1924.
- **22 July - National Flag Day.** To commemorate the historic day when the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the present-day tricolour flag as the official National Flag of the country.
- **23 July - National Broadcasting Day.** The Indian Broadcasting Company (IBC) was established on July 23, 1927, marking the birth of organized radio broadcasting in the country. This date is now celebrated as National Broadcasting Day. All India Radio (AIR) emerged in 1936, evolving from the Indian State Broadcasting Service. Post-independence, AIR expanded rapidly, adopting the name "Akashvani" in 1956.
- **24 July - National Income Tax Day 2024.** India celebrates the Income Tax Day, or Aaykar Divas, every year on July 24. On this day, Income tax was first levied as a duty in India by James Wilson in 1860. It was the comprehensive Income Tax Act of 1922 that truly established a structured tax administration in the country.
- **26 July - Kargil Vijay Diwas.** Annually celebrated on July 26, this year, Kargil Vijay Diwas in 2024 will be observed July 26, marking the 25th anniversary of India's victory in the Kargil War. It is observed to pay tribute to the bravery of Indian soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the country during the Kargil War of 1999.
- **27 July - APJ Abdul Kalam's Death Anniversary.** Abdul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, aka APJ Abdul Kalam, was the 11th President of India. He took his last breath on July 27 2015. Born on October 15, 1931, in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu. Kalam played a pivotal role in developing the Polar Satellite Vehicle (PSLV) and the Prithvi [surface-to-surface short-range ballistic missile] and Agni missiles [medium-range surface to surface ballistic missile], which earned him the title of "Missile Man of India."
- **29 July - International Tiger Day:** Raises global awareness about tiger conservation and the threats faced by these endangered animals. First established in 2010 at the Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

- Ravi Agrawal appointed new Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). CBDT is a statutory authority functioning under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1963, established in 1963.
- Former Prime Minister of Portugal Antonio Costa has been elected as the new President of the European Council of the European Union.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Dick Schoof on his appointment as the new Prime Minister of the Netherlands.
- Dharendra Ojha Appointed As Director General Of PIB.
- Rajinder Khanna has been promoted to additional National Security Adviser.
- Jharkhand CM Champai Soren resigns from his post; JMM (Jharkhand Mukti Morcha) President Hemant Soren becomes CM.

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- Keir Starmer, a prominent human rights lawyer turned politician, appointed the next Prime Minister of UK.
- Masoud Pezeshkian Elected As President Of Iran.
- Rachel Reeves becomes Britain's first female finance minister after the Labour Party's election victory
- The News Broadcasters & Digital Association (NBDA) has unanimously elected India TV chairman Rajat Sharma as its president.
- Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda Sworn In For Second Five-Year Term
- K P Sharma Oli appointed Nepal's new Prime Minister.
- Justice Aalia Neelum took oath as the Chief Justice of the Lahore High Court (LHC) of Pakistan, making her the first woman to be elevated as the court's top judge.
- Robert Jerard Ravi new Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited [(BSNL) Central public sector undertaking under the ownership of Department of Telecommunications, which is part of the Ministry of Communications, Headquartered in New Delhi. It was incorporated on 15 September 2000]
- Deputy National Security Advisor Vikram Misri, took over as the 35th foreign secretary.
- Mr. Sumant Sinha, Chairman and CEO of Re-New, has been named Co-Chair of the Alliance of CEO Climate Leaders, the largest CEO-led climate alliance in the world, and a flagship initiative of the World Economic Forum.
- Veteran filmmaker Shekhar Kapur, known for films such as "Mr India", "Bandit Queen" and "Elizabeth", has been appointed festival director for the International Film Festival of India (IFFI).
- Mysuru's Capt. Supreetha becomes first woman officer to be deployed at Siachen Glacier.
- Manolo Marquez Appointed Head Coach Of Indian Men's Football Team.
- Bibhuti Bhusan Nayak Elected New President of ICMAI for the 2024-25 period. Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICMAI) .He will succeed Ashwin Dalwadi, who was the president for the 2023-24 period.The Institute of Cost Accountants of India comes under the Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs.. Bibhuti Bhusan Nayak elected as the President of ICMAI.

## **AWARDS**

- Sopna Kallingal of Kallingal Plantation, Thrissur, received Spice Award 2024, instituted by ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research (Kozikode, Kerala).
- President Droupadi Murmu Gives Away Gallantry Awards At Rashtrapati Bhavan. 10 Kirti Chakras, including seven posthumously, to personnel of the Army and paramilitary forces for displaying indomitable courage and extraordinary valour in the line of duty. Kirti Chakra is India's second-highest peacetime gallantry award. 26 Shaurya Chakras, including seven posthumously , Shaurya Chakra is India's third-highest peacetime gallantry award after the Ashok Chakra and Kirti Chakra. 1952, three gallantry awards : Ashoka Chakra Class-I, Ashoka Chakra Class-II and Ashoka Chakra Class-III— were



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instituted. In January 1967, these awards were renamed as Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra and Shaurya Chakra respectively.

- Tamil writer Sivashankari selected for Dr. C. Narayana Reddy National Literary Award.
- President Vladimir Putin conferred Russia's highest civilian honour the "Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle" on PM Modi, for his distinguished contribution to the development of Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia.
- HCL Tech's Roshni Nadar Malhotra Receives France's Highest Civilian Honour "Chevalier de la Légion d' Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour), the highest civilian award of France.
- The Andhra Pradesh Community Managed Natural Farming (APCNF), a State government's initiative launched through Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS) seven years ago, has won the 2024 Gulbenkian Prize for Humanity, an award instituted by Portugal-based Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (CGF) and presented annually to individuals and organisations contributing to global food security, climate resilience and ecosystem protection.
- Nobel Laureate Rigoberta Menchú Tum Receives Prestigious Gandhi Mandela Award 2020. The award was given on Nelson Mandela's 106th birth anniversary.
- Abhinav Bindra Awarded Prestigious Olympic Order By IOC; Becomes First Indian To Receive Award.
- Curator and author Rahaab Allana has been awarded the Officer dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government for his significant contributions to contemporary South Asian photography.
- V. Vedachalam, an eminent Tamil epigrapher and historian, has been conferred the V. Venkayya Epigraphy Award for 2024.
- The team of Institute of Technology, Nirma University won the Robot Competition DD-Robocon India 2024. The two day event began at Thyagaraj Stadium in New Delhi. This event was organised by Prasar Bharati and IIT Delhi. The winning team will now represent India at the international Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union Robocon 2024 in QuangNinh, Vietnam.
- Artist Sudarshan Pattnaik won the Golden Sand Master Award with a gold medal at the International Sand Sculpture Championship held in St. Petersburg, Russia. He created a sand sculpture of Mahaprabhu Jagannath and his great devotee Balaram Das. Pattnaik is also a Padma Shri awardee (2014)
- Retired professor of victimology K. Chockalingam from Tamil Nadu has been selected for the esteemed Hans von Hentig award. The award is instituted by the World Society of Victimology (WSV), which is a not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization with Special Category consultative status with the ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council of the United Nations) and the Council of Europe. Victimology - the study of the victims of crime and the psychological effects of their experience.
- India Shines At 35th International Biology Olympiad 2024 In Kazakhstan. One GOLD medal and three SILVER medals. Vedant Sakre from Mumbai won gold medal.
- Greta Gerwig, filmmaker of 'Lady Bird', 'Little Women', and 'Barbie', was honoured with the 2024 Pioneer of the Year Award by the Will Rogers Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation.

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- Bihar State Power Transmission Company Limited (BSPTCL) has received the prestigious Skoch Gold Award.
- Nobel Laureate Rigoberta Menchú Tum Receives Prestigious Gandhi Mandela Award 2020. The award was given on Nelson Mandela's 106th birth anniversary.

## **DEFENCE**

- 13th Edition Of India-Thailand Joint Military Exercise MAITREE. The exercise will take place at Fort Vachiraprakan in Tak Province, Thailand. The previous edition occurred in Umroi, Meghalaya, in September 2019.
- 16th edition of Annual Joint Military Exercise 'Nomadic Elephant' between armies of India and Mongolia will be conducted in Meghalaya's Umroi from July 3-16. Nomadic Elephant I – 2004 – Mongolia.
- The "Birlestik-2024" exercise; Participants: Military personnel from the five participating countries. (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. ) Location: Conducted at Cape Tokmak in Kazakhstan's Caspian Sea aquatorium.
- An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent landed at Royal Australian Air Force Base Darwin, Australia to participate in the biennial, multinational exercise Pitch Black.
- Captain Avhilash Rawat and his crew from an oil tanker have received the 2024 International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea. The annual awards ceremony will be held at IMO Headquarters in London on 2nd December 2024 during the 109th session of the Maritime Security Committee. [ IMO :- It was established in 1948 after a UN conference in Geneva and officially came into existence in 1958. It has 175 Member States, three Associate Members, India became a member in 1959.]
- INS Delhi gets Best Ship of Eastern Fleet award At the annual 'Fleet Awards Function-2024' held in Visakhapatnam. INS Kavaratti was given the award for the Best Ship in Corvettes/ offshore patrol vessel (OPVs)/ landing ship, tank(LSTs).INS Shivalik, INS Sumedha and INS Sumitra were adjudged the most spirited ships of the Sunrise Fleet (known as the 'Sword Arm' of the Eastern Naval Command) while carrying out a wide variety of challenging missions over the last one year.



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- Indian Navy Launches Its Flagship National Level Quiz Competition, THINQ2024. The theme of THINQ2024 - is 'Viksit Bharat'.
- Ten specially-trained Indian CAPF and special commando force dogs are in France to provide a counter-terrorist cover to various venues of the Paris Olympics .The ten Indian K9 (canine) teams will undertake sniffing and patrolling duties, this first-ever kind of collaboration of canine squads between the Indian and the French government.
- Sudipta Sengupta, released her memoir "Breaking Rocks and Barriers".

## SPORTS & BOOKS & AUTHORS

- RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat releases book on 1965 war hero Abdul Hamid.
- Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt General (Retd) K T Parnaik launched a book on Kargil War The book, titled 'Kargil War: The Turning Point' Authored by Vir Chakra awardee, Colonel M B Ravindranath.
- Hardik Pandya becomes first Indian to occupy top spot in ICC T20I all-rounders' rankings.
- 133rd Durand Cup Expands to New Venues. Two new cities, Jamshedpur and Shillong, along with Kolkata and Kokrajhar, will host the 133rd edition of the Durand Cup (football).
- India's Avinash Sable Sets New National Record In 3000m Steeplechase At Paris Diamond League In France.Sable finished sixth at the event with a timing of 8:09.91 (8 minutes, 9 seconds, and 91 hundredths of a second).
- Shafali Verma becomes fastest woman double centurion in Test cricket.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi released three books on the life and journey of former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu on the eve of the latter's 75th birthday (July 1st):
- Venkaiah Naidu: Life in Service, a biography authored by S. Nagesh Kumar.
- Celebrating Bharat: The Mission and Message of Shri M Venkaiah Naidu as 13th Vice-President of India, a photo chronicle compiled by I.V. Subba Rao.
- Mahaneta: Life and Journey of Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, a pictorial biography in Telugu authored by Sanjay Kishore.
- Manoj Bajpayee, The Definitive Biography has been translated into English by journalist Rohit Vats from Pandey's original Hindi book titled Kuch Paane Ki Zid.
- Saudi Arabia and IOC have announced a 12-year agreement to host the new esports Olympics in Saudi Arabia starting 2025.
- Tim Walker's "The Prisoner of Bhopal": A Novel Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy.
- The Book 'Wings To Our Hopes, Volume I,' On President Droupadi Murmu's 75 Significant Speeches. Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan released the e-book in English & Hindi.
- Book "Power Within: The Leadership Legacy of Narendra Modi" by Dr. R Bala subramaniam' launched.
- India's Paes, Amritraj make history joining Tennis Hall of Fame.

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### MISC.

- Dr. Usha Thakur Awarded 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman In Hindi Samvad Event. Hindi Samvad event organised by Embassy of India in Nepal to recognize Dr Usha Thakur's contribution in development of Hindi literature. This award is given by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India once in three years to honour people contributing in development and spreading of Hindi language. 12th World Hindi Conference was held in Fiji in 2023.
- Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) assessed 173 cities worldwide, revealing their findings in Global Liveability Index 2024. The index ranked the liveability across five key categories, including stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure. Vienna in Austria, has been crowned the world's best city to live in. Damascus, Syria, is still at the bottom of the list.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) released a full Artificial Intelligence Preparedness Index (APII) Dashboard. This tool will sort and rank 174 countries around the world. There are three main groups of countries that the APII looks at: Low- Income Countries (LIC), Emerging Market Economies (EM) & Advanced Economies (AE).
- Singapore, Denmark, and the United States are at the top of the list of AE. India, which is an Emerging Market Economy, ranked 72nd in the world . Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and China, which are all close by, were ranked 113th, 92nd, and 31st.
- Hurricane Beryl grew to an "extremely dangerous" Category 4 hurricane set to cause massive damage across the Caribbean's Windward Islands, which form part of the West Indies and comprise Barbados, Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago.
- Lieutenant General Devendra Sharma took over as the 25th General officer commanding-in-chief (GOC-in-C) of the Army Training Command (ARTRAC) in Shimla.
- The Central Railway has installed a floating solar plant of 10 MWp capacity in the Igatpuri lake located in the Western Ghats in Maharashtra, a first-of-its-kind initiative by the Indian Railways. Railway moving towards its ultimate goal of zero carbon emission by 2030.
- The eSankhyiki portal has officially been launched on the Statistics Day by Dr. Arvind Panagariya, Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission of India.
- INS Shivalik Joins 29th RIMPAC Exercise In Hawaii . The Indian Navy has joined the world's largest naval military wargame Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC) in Hawaii . The Indian Navy has deployed frontline warship INS Shivalik for the RIMPAC. Theme of RIMPAC 2024 is "Partners: Integrated and Prepared"
- India's three new criminal laws came into effect on July 1 . India has replaced its colonial-era criminal laws with a set of three new penal laws.

Old Law	New Law
➤ Indian Penal Code of 1860	Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)
➤ Code of Criminal Procedure of 1973	Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)
➤ Indian Evidence Act, 1872	Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSB)
➤ Recent Committee on Criminal Law Reforms	

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- Ranbir Singh Committee :- The Ministry of Home Affairs through a notification dated May 4, 2020, constituted a committee to review the three codes of criminal law. It was headed by Prof. (Dr.) Ranbir Singh, former Vice Chancellor of National Law University (NLU), Delhi.
- Madhav Menon Committee on Reforms in the Criminal Justice System (2007) :- N.R. Madhav Menon – head Malimath Committee:- Officially known as the Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice System.
- Tata Group's Air India is setting up South Asia's largest Flying Training Organisation (FTO) at Amravati's Belora airport, licensed by DGCA, operational by Q1 FY26.
- The biography of legendary playback singer Asha Bhosle, titled Swaraswamini Asha, was launched.
- NITI Aayog is launching 'Sampoornata Abhiyan', a 3-month campaign from 4th July – 30th September 2024. 'Sampoornata Abhiyan' seeks to achieve saturation in each of the 6 identified indicators in the 112 Aspirational Districts and 500 Aspirational Blocks under the Aspirational Districts Programme and Aspirational Blocks Programme.
- World's First Brain Implant for Epilepsy Control in UK.
- Steve Fossett became the first person to fly around the world alone, nonstop in any kind of aircraft in just under 15 days in the Spirit of Freedom balloon.
- India to host 46th UNESCO World Heritage Committee session in New Delhi from July 21 Being organised by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) . event will be attended by over 2,500 delegates from 195 countries . The 45th session of the committee was held at Riyadh in Saudi Arabia.
- Ahom 'Moidam' recommended for inclusion in UNESCO World Heritage List.
- 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) took place on July 4, 2024, in Astana, Kazakhstan. Host: Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev. Belarus Joins SCO , Belarus was admitted as the 10th full member of the SCO. [SCO was originally established in 2001 with five members; SCO Headquarters: Beijing, China; India and Pakistan joined in 2017; Iran became the 9th member in 2023; Permanent Members: 10 countries (including the latest addition, Belarus); Observer Members: Afghanistan and Mongolia].
- JAXA launched ALOS-4 satellite to revolutionize disaster management. Japan deployed an upgraded Earth observation satellite for disaster response and security . The Advanced Land Observation Satellite, or ALOS-4, is tasked primarily with Earth observation and data collection for disaster response and mapmaking.
- India ranks third-most polluted country globally: World Air Quality Report. As per the World Air Quality report - Most polluted country and region ranking 2023 based on annual average PM2.5 concentration .India ranks third-most polluted country globally, after Bangladesh & Pakistan.
- Chinese geologists have discovered two new minerals at the world's largest rare-earth mine in northern China. The two new niobium-scandium minerals, named Oboniobite and Scandio-fluoro-eckermannite, were discovered in the Bayan Obo deposit in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.
- ISRO Chairman S. Somnath has said that the Indian space agency will conduct a study of Apophis asteroid, when it will be closest to Earth in 2029. Apophis asteroid will be studied by Japan, NASA and European space agencies and ISRO will partner with them. Named after the ancient Egyptian god of chaos and darkness, it was discovered in 2004.



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- World's oldest cave painting in Indonesia shows a pig and people ( limestone cave on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi)
- India has successfully test-fired its first indigenous anti-radiation missile, the Rudram-1, developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- BPCL partnered with Indian Olympic Association as Principal Sponsor.
- National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) declared the mica mines of Jharkhand child labour-free at an event in Koderma, Jharkhand. [statutory body set up under the provisions of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005. The NCPCR came into existence in 2007 . It is under Union Ministry of Women and Child Development]
- “Project PARI (Public Art of India)”, being executed by the Lalit Kala Akademi and the National Gallery of Modern Art, in Delhi, for the beautification of the public spaces for the upcoming event. The 46th session of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) is scheduled to be held in New Delhi between July 21-31 July .India will be hosting the meeting for the first time.
- Divya Kala Mela & Shakti: India Celebrates Divyang Talent at KIIT Campus in Bhubaneswar.
- SpaceX's Polaris Dawn Mission: First Commercial Spacewalk. crew of the mission, which will take off on a Falcon 9 rocket from Florida, could spend up to five days in space. The crew's main goals are to perform high-altitude activities, carry out the first commercial spacewalk, test in-orbit communications, and investigate health effects .
- The Telecommunications Act, 2023, was passed by the Parliament in December 2023, received the assent of the President of India on 24.12.2023. The Telecommunication Act 2023 aims to amend and consolidate the law relating to development, expansion and operation of telecommunication services and telecommunication networks; assignment of spectrum; and for matters connected therewith. It replaced the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933, and the Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950.
- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) released draft rules to operationalise the Digital Bharat Nidhi, in a fresh attempt by the central government at increasing telecom connectivity in rural areas.
- The Hindu Group of Publications has released a coffee-table book titled 'Samayapuram – The Sacred Seat of Shakti. Authored by Vrinda Ramanan and J. Ramanan, it explores the history and cultural significance of the Samayapuram temple dedicated to Goddess Mariamman. The temple located in Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has shortlisted two of its four trained Gaganyaan astronauts for the Axiom-4 mission to the International Space Station (ISS) in collaboration with the United States' National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).
- Gagan Narang (men's 10m Air Rifle ) replaces Mary Kom as India's Chef-de-Mission, PV Sindhu & Sharath Kamal to be flag bearers in Paris Olympics.
- The National Commission for Minorities held a video conference meeting with 18 States/UTs on July 8 to discuss the implementation and registration of Sikh marriages under the Anand Marriage Act. Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Maharashtra reported implementation of the Act in their respective States while remaining States/UTs have assured to implement the Act within two months' time. Anand Marriage Act

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was enacted in 1909 during British colonial rule in India. In 2012, the Parliament passed the Anand Marriage (Amendment) Bill, bringing Sikh traditional marriages under the purview of legal recognition.

- Rajasthan to become first State to adopt a road safety action plan for 10 years. The action plan, to be accompanied by a government policy, will be aimed at reducing road accidents in the State by 50% till 2030.
- Punjab Gets Its First Plant Clinic & Soil Testing Laboratory In Moga.
- Bajaj Auto Ltd launched the world's first CNG motorcycle, the Freedom, priced between ₹95,000 and ₹1,10,000.
- Elisa de Anda Madrazo of Mexico has assumed the presidency of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for a two-year term from July 2024 to June 2026. FATF Founded: July 1989. FATF Headquarters: Paris, France. India became a member of FATF in 2010.
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has appointed former batter and World Cup winner Gautam Gambhir as the new head coach of the senior men's team, replaced Rahul Dravid as head coach.
- Professor Dr. Soumya Swaminathan appointed as the Principal Advisor at the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme.
- The 2nd Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Foreign Ministers' Retreat will begin tomorrow in New Delhi. The first edition of the BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat was held in Bangkok, Thailand, in July last year.
- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched the ICICI Prudential Nifty Oil & Gas ETF, India's first exchange traded fund (ETF) in the oil and gas sector.
- State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) introduced a new security feature 'Safety Ring' within its internet banking system and mobile banking system in response to the increasing number of cyber frauds
- The second phase of construction of the "world's largest Ramayan temple" began in East Champaran district of Bihar. spread over an area of 3.76 lakh sq.ft., began in June 2023 and is expected to be complete in 2025.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has lead an Indian Parliamentary Delegation to the 10th BRICS Parliamentary Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia, on July 11-12, 2024. theme 2024 is - 'The Role of Parliaments in Strengthening Multilateralism for Equitable Global Development and Security.'
- Nagaland has been adjudged as the best state in Horticulture in the prestigious Agriculture Leadership Awards 2024 at the 15th Agriculture Leadership Conclave held in New Delhi.
- Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth launched the "GRSE Accelerated Innovation Nurturing Scheme (GAINS 2024)" of Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) in Kolkata .GAINS is aimed towards the creation of fast-track innovative solutions to help GRSE turn into a future-ready shipyard.
- Ireland Surpasses Mauritius in Preferred FPI Destinations.



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- India To Host 1st World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit In Goa. The Ministry of Information Broadcasting will organise the first edition of the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) from November 20-24, 2024.
- IIT Delhi And Prasar Bharati To Host Two-Day Robot Competition 'DD-Robocon' India 2024 In Delhi.
- PM Modi Becomes Most Followed World Leader On X, With Over 100 Million Followers.
- NITI Aayog, in collaboration with IIM Bangalore, Smart Freight Centre India, CALSTART/Drive to Zero, and WRI India, announced the launch of the NITI GearShift Challenge as part of the e-FAST India initiative. This pioneering hackathon aims to foster innovative business models for the adoption of zero-emission trucks in India, addressing the nation's pressing economic and environmental challenges.
- World Heritage Young Professionals Forum 2024 from 14th to 23rd July 2024, at New Delhi. Organised by the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute of Archaeology, which is part ASI. Organised as part of UNESCO World Heritage Committee Meeting. Attended by 50 Young professionals from across the globe.
- EAM S. Jaishankar Inaugurates India's First Overseas Jan Aushadi Kendra In Mauritius.
- To make Mumbai global fintech capital, PM Modi launches Rs 29,000 crore infrastructure projects. He laid the foundation stone for two underground twin tunnel projects. The 11.8 km-long Thane Borivali Twin Tunnel Project is slated to be India's longest and largest urban tunnel. It will reduce the distance between Thane and Borivali to 12 km.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi also inaugurated the Indian Newspaper Society's secretariat, INS Towers. Appealing to Indian publications to enhance their global presence, the role of newspapers is crucial in the journey to Viksit Bharat in the next 25 years.
- The second regional event of the 'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman' campaign took place in Prayagraj, UP on 16th July. Under the aegis of Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA). This event commemorates the 75th anniversary of adoption of Indian Constitution and India becoming a Republic. The campaign aims to promote understanding of the Constitution and raise awareness about legal rights.
- Uttarakhand Opens Its First-Ever Bird Gallery In Dehradun. This gallery showcases high resolution images of Uttarakhand's birds. Uttarakhand has the highest number of bird species reported in India.
- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal announced the harnessing of Tizu Zunki River for cargo and passenger transport, alongside plans to develop Doyang River Lake with community jetties and ferries to boost tourism. This river is a part of the National Waterway 101.
- The United Nations General Assembly has elected Pakistan, Somalia, Panama, Denmark, and Greece as the new non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. for a two-year term starting 1 January 2025 and end on 31st December 2027.
- Cote d'Ivoire in West Africa became the first country to begin administering R21/Matrix-M. The vaccine was granted WHO approval last year
- UAE launched trial operation of World's First 3D-Printed Abra. An abra is a traditional boat made of wood. Abras are used to ferry people across the Dubai Creek in Dubai, UAE.

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- 45th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) commenced in Busan, South Korea. Hosted for the first time by South Korea, the biennial conference gathered 3,000 scientists and industry leaders from 60 nations.
- Harela is an auspicious Hindu festival celebrated in Uttarakhand and some regions of Himachal Pradesh. Aligning with the ceremonial observance of the wedding of Shiva and Parvati.
- Union Minister for the Development of the North East Region Jyotiraditya Scindia launched the North East Region Agri Commodity E-Connect (NERACE), an online global platform for North East Farmers designed to benefit the farmers of the region and help position it as a hub of high-value horticultural products in the international market.
- Indore, already the cleanest city in India and the economic capital of Madhya Pradesh, has now achieved the world record of planting more than 1.1 million saplings in a single day. The "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 5 to mark World Environment Day.
- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh Inaugurates Asia's 1st CEPI "Pre-Clinical Network Facility" In Faridabad, Haryana. [ CEPI was founded in 2017 in Davos, Switzerland, to develop vaccines against future epidemics. CEPI labs are in Europe, Australia, and the United States of America. ]
- Gaurav Gogoi continues as Congress's Deputy Leader in Lok Sabha; Kodikkunnil Suresh remains Chief Whip. Chief Whip - Parties appoint a senior member to issue whips (written order that party members be present for an important vote), Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha – Rahul Gandhi; Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha – Mallikarjun Kharge
- The government announced that the implementation of a uniform IGST rate of 5% on all aircraft and aircraft engine parts had come into effect recommended by 53rd GST council. IGST stands for Integrated Goods and Services Tax.
- India's first museum within a medical institution to be set up at Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh.
- India will host the second Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on civil aviation on September 11 and 12. The first conference was organised in February 2018 in Beijing. As many as 39 Member States of U.N. aviation safety body International Civil Aviation Organisation fall in the Asia Pacific region and are expected to participate.



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- NASA cancels its moon 'Viper' rover mission, citing cost overruns and launch delays VIPER actually stands for Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover, an exploration device that aimed to search for water on the Moon's South Pole
- Deepa Malik was appointed as sub-regional representative for South Asia by the Asian Paralympic Committee.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) is set to make history as it holds its Annual Conference in Sri Lanka. [Formation – 15 June 1909 ; Headquarters – Dubai, UAE Chairman – Greg Barclay (New Zealand); Membership – 108 members]
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 46th Session of the World Heritage Committee at Bharat Mandapam.
- Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy inaugurated the National Landslide Forecasting Centre (NLFC) in Kolkata. Reddy also launched the 'Bhusanket' website and the 'Bhooskhalan' mobile app, through which forecast data will be disseminated.
- Madhya Pradesh has secured the first place under the 'Best Performing State' category in the Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme, the Union housing and urban affairs ministry. Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) is micro-credit scheme for urban street vendors, started by the government in June 2020 to help street sellers after COVID-19, It provides collateral-free loans up to Rs 50,000.
- Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire) has recently become the 53rd Party to the 1992 UN Water Convention, officially known as the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International lakes. adopted in Helsinki in 1992 and entered into force in 1996.
- Airbus, in collaboration with Tata, will set up a Final Assembly Line for H-125 helicopters in India, with production starting in 2026 and an initial output of 10 helicopters per year.
- The Indian warship INS Teg has rescued nine sailors, including eight Indians and one Sri Lankan, who were on board the Comoros-flagged oil tanker, MT Falcon Prestige, that had capsized recently off the Oman coast. INS Teg was commissioned into Navy service on 27 April 2012.
- All govt buildings to be solarised by 2025 under PM Surya Ghar Yojana. The initiative, under the PM Surya Ghar Yojna Scheme, aims for complete solarisation of government-owned buildings by December 2025. The central government will provide 300 units of free electricity per month to its beneficiaries by investing worth ₹75,000 crores. Target: It aims to light up 1 crore households.
- The city of Aizawl in Mizoram will be the fourth capital in Northeast India to have train service by July 2025. Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) is laying the new Broad Gauge (BG) track up to Sairang, near Aizawl.
- Gujrat State Govt Launches Shramik Basera Sche.me For Labourers.
- European Space Agency (ESA) has announced a Rapid Apophis Mission for Space Safety (RAMSES) mission to study the Apophis asteroid when it passes by Earth at a very close distance in 2029. ESA is the second major space agency to commit a space mission for Apophis, after NASA announced OSIRIS-APEX mission to study the physical changes to asteroid Apophis that will result from its rare close encounter with Earth in April 2029.

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- China, Australia and India made the most gains in forest area: FAO report. India gained 2,66,000 hectares of forest area annually from 2010 to 2020, securing the third spot among the top 10 countries with the most significant forest area gains during this period, according to a new report by the Food and Agriculture Organisation.
- Earth experienced its hottest day in at least 84 years, with the global average temperature reaching a record high of 17.09 degrees Celsius on July 21, according to the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S).
- Researchers have found that metallic minerals on the deep-ocean floor can produce oxygen in complete darkness, a process that challenges long-held beliefs about the origins of life and the role of photosynthesis.
- Henley Passport Index 2024: Indian passport ranked 82nd, allows visa-free travel to these 58 destinations. The Henley Passport Index is based on data from the International Air Transport Authority (IATA). Singapore clinched the top spot as the world's most powerful passport as citizens of this city-state enjoy visa-free access to an impressive 195 countries. France, Italy, Germany, Spain and Japan have the second most powerful passport, each providing visa-free access to 192 destinations.
- NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited (NVVNL) will set up two green charcoal plants in Gurugram and Faridabad, Haryana.
- Tourism Minister to inaugurate Malabar River Festival . 10th edition of the Malabar River Festival at Kerala from July 25-28.
- India ranked first in milk production contributing 25 percent of global milk production.
- World Drowning Prevention Day, two pond-based swimming pools were opened in the Sundarbans in West Bengal [ Baikunthapur village] to teach young children swimming and save them from adverse drowning situations.
- Moidams Of Assam Receives Prestigious 43rd UNESCO World Heritage Site Tag In Cultural Category
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) had issued a call for articles and success stories for its upcoming issue of "Gramoday Sankalp" magazine, focusing on the theme "Viksit Bharat and Role of Panchayats."
- Nita Ambani, a renowned philanthropist and founder of Reliance Foundation, has been unanimously re-elected as a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) from India at the global olympic body's 142nd session in Paris.
- Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan makes history, becomes first Indian actor to have gold coins dedicated to him at Paris' Grevin Museum.
- Rashtrapati Bhavan renames Durbar Hall, Ashok Hall as Ganatantra Mandap, Ashok Mandap.
- 14-year-old Chandigarh golfer Neil Jolly finished as a runner-up in the FCG World Junior Golf Championship in California.
- The Palestinian heritage site of Saint Hilarion Monastery/Tell Umm Amer received the UNESCO tag on July 26 and was simultaneously put on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
- The Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympics medals will feature a unique design that incorporates a piece of the Eiffel tower. Phryge', the mascot of the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.



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- Salt Lake City to Host 2034 Winter Olympics and Paralympics.
- HS Dhaliwal appointed as new DGP of Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- Govt Launches 'Model Skill Loan Scheme' To Provide Education And Upskilling Opportunities To 25,000 Youngsters. Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Jayant Chaudhary launched the 'Model Skill Loan Scheme' in New Delhi.
- India assumed the chairmanship of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center for 2024-25 from China at the meeting of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center held in Bangkok, Thailand, on July 25, 2024.
- UNESCO Adds 25 New Sites To World Heritage List During 46th World Heritage Committee Session 19 of these sites have been inducted as Cultural Heritage Sites, while 4 have been inducted under the Natural category and 2 under the "Mixed" category. India's Moidams of Assam was inducted as India's 43rd World Heritage Site.
- French Alps to host 2030 Olympic Winter Games. The International Olympic Committee has the honor to announce that the 26th Winter Olympic Games 2030 will be attributed to the French Alps.
- Laos issues world's first-ever stamp depicting Shri Ram Lalla of Ayodhya. EAM Jaishankar unveils commemorative postage stamp of Ram Lalla in Laos.
- The average cost of a data breach in India jumped 28% between 2020 and 2023 reaching \$2.18 million, according to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) report on currency and finance. The industry-wise distribution of cyber attacks shows that the automotive industry is the most vulnerable to such incidents.
- The banking and financial services sector, governed by well-defined regulations, is relatively protected from such attack.

## **BANKING AWARENESS**

- SBI Launches MSME Sahaj: 15-Minute Online Loan Solution. The solution, named "MSME Sahaj - End to End Digital Invoice Financing", has been developed that will provide solutions ranging from applying the loan, documentation and disbursement of the sanctioned loan within 15 minutes, without any manual intervention. The bank's customers can avail finance against their GST-registered sales invoices of up to ₹1 lac in less than 15 minutes.
- ICICI Bank launched a pre-paid Sapphire Forex Card, crafted specifically for students who are going abroad for higher education
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) recently announced that all credit card bill payments via third-party applications must now be routed through the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS), effective from July 1. This move impacts credit card holders from major banks who will no longer be able to use third-party applications like CRED, PhonePe, Amazon Pay, and Paytm for settling their bills.
- Bank of India (BOI) received the Atal Pension Yojana Annual Award for FY2023-24 and the APY Ultimate Champions Cup from PFRDA. Three BOI branches were recognized among the top five across India for APY enrolments. BOI founded – 1906; Nationalized – 1969; HQ – Mumbai ; CMD - Rajneesh Karnataka.

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- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has joined Project Nexus, a multilateral international initiative to enable instant crossborder retail payments by interlinking domestic Fast Payments Systems (FPSs). Project Nexus is conceptualised by the Innovation Hub of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS). India's (UPI) and FPSs of Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand will be interlinked through Nexus.
- Bandhan Bank appoints Ratan Kumar Kesh as interim MD & CEO
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has re-designated its chairman Siddhartha Mohanty as managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO).
- Bank of Baroda has signed tennis player, Sumit Nagal, as its brand endorser.
- New banking malware called 'Snowblind' is targeting Android users to steal banking credentials. Snowblind is made to get banking login information, and make deals without permission. They are spread through other platforms or phishing. Snowblind is mostly active in Southeast Asia. Unlike most Android malware, Snowblind exploits a feature of Linux kernel and the Android operating system called 'seccomp', which stands for 'secure computing' - used to check applications for signs of tampering.
- Challa Sreenivasulu Setty has been selected as the next chairman of State Bank of India (SBI) by the Financial Services Institution Bureau (FSIB)
- The Border Security Force (BSF), in collaboration with the State Bank of India (SBI), organized the "Grow with the Trees" plantation drive at the BSF Headquarters in Srinagar.
- Paytm Payments Bank appoints ex-IDBI Bank executive Arun Bansal as new MD & CEO. Paytm Payments Bank, an associate entity of One97 Communications (OCL). Founded in 2017 ; Headquartered in Noida.
- India's digital payments are likely to reach \$7 trillion, double as compared to current levels by 2030, according to Kerney and Amazon Pay joint study report named 'How Urban India Pays'. The digital transaction levels have seen a 138 % growth in the Unified Payment Interface (UPI) payments levels from the financial year 2018 to 2024.
- Jio Financial Services received the Reserve Bank of India's approval to convert from a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) to a Core Investment Company (CIC). As a CIC, Jio Financial will focus on investments in equity, preference shares, bonds, and loans within its group companies, enhancing operational flexibility and investment management.
- Federal Bank Ltd. has announced the appointment of Krishnan Venkat Subramanian as its new Managing Director & CEO. [ Founded: 23 April 1931 ; Headquarters: Kochi, Kerala ]
- IndusInd Bank partnered with Inspire Institute of Sport (IIS) to launch the 'Wrestle for Glory' CSR program, providing fully-funded scholarships to 50 talented female wrestlers across India for training at IIS.
- Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company appoints Ravindra Kumar Kundu as its Managing Director.



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- Manoj Mittal has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). SIDBI was established on April 2, 1990, under an act of the Indian Parliament. Headquarters - Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- SBI's Amrit Vrishti: 444-Day FD Scheme with Up to 7.75% Interest. Interest Rates: Base interest rate of 7.25% p.a. with an additional 0.50% for senior citizens, totaling 7.75% p.a. Deposit Period: Fixed term of 444 days, available for investment from July 15, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Premature Withdrawal Penalty: 0.50% for deposits up to Rs 5 lakh, 1% for deposits above Rs 5 lakh but below Rs 3 crore. No penalty for staff and SBI pensioners.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF) revised the country's growth forecast for current year by 20 bps to 7 per cent. Last month, the World Bank retained India's growth forecast at 6.6 percent. The RBI revised the estimate by 20 bps to 7.2 per cent.
- Indian Oil launches high-speed car racing fuel STORM-X. Indian Oil partnered with Madras Motor Sports Club to supply STORM-X for the Indian National Racing Championship.
- HSBC Appoints Georges Elhedery As CEO.

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