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Pakistan's Parliament Dissolved: Setting the Stage for National Election Amidst Crisis

- President dissolved Pakistan's parliament based on Prime Minister's recommendation
- Parliamentary term due to end on August 12
- Caretaker administration to be established jointly chosen by Prime Minister and opposition representative

Number Of Elephants Goes Up By 346 From Last Count, Touches 6,395 In Karnataka

- Karnataka witnesses increase in elephant population
- Elephant population in Karnataka rises from 6,049 in 2017 to 6,395
- Karnataka becomes highest elephant-populated region in the country

ISB Inks MoU With Goa To Start Knowledge Partnership

- Bharti Institute of Public Policy and Government of Goa establish knowledge partnership
- Partnership aims to advance evidence-based policy formulation and impactful governance in Goa
- Specialized workshops to be conducted to enhance capabilities of state officials

Airtel Payments Bank Launched India's 1st Eco-Friendly Debit Card

- Airtel Payments Bank launches eco-friendly debit card
- Debit cards crafted from recycle-Poly Vinyl Chloride (r-PVC) material
- Drive to advocate for environmentally conscious practices in the financial industry

Australia to be testing ground for US missiles

- Australia's involvement in AUKUS pact gains attention
- Australia potentially becomes testing ground for advanced weapons
- Strategic move to address security challenges in the region

World Steelpan Day 2023: Date, Significance and History

- UN set to adopt draft resolution declaring August 11th as World Steelpan Day
- Celebration of the steelpan and its cultural importance
- Tribute to cultural diversity and sustainable development

Srinagar Tops JJM Implementation Among Har Ghar Jal Certified Districts

- Srinagar district outperforms 114 Har Ghar Jal certified villages under JJS-2023

- Achievements include Har Ghar Jal certification, water quality testing, specialized training, and skill training
- Jal Jeevan Mission provides clean, safe, and pressurized drinking water consistently

Bihar, UP, TN top 3 states with maximum Jan Dhan beneficiaries

- Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu lead in Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana beneficiaries
- Fiscal year 2022-23 records highest number of beneficiaries in these states
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana aims to provide banking services to every household in India

India ranks 6th in South Asia region for Internet Resilience

- India achieves 6th rank in Internet Resilience Index for South Asia region
- Rapid development in technology and connectivity contributes to the ranking
- Reflects the country's resilience in the field of internet services

SBI Life's Appointment of Amit Jhingran as MD & CEO Receives IRDAI Approval

- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India approves Amit Jhingran as MD & CEO of SBI Life Insurance
- Amit Jhingran has over three decades of experience in the insurance sector
- Appointment aligns with SBI Life's growth and leadership plans

NewSpace India Limited partners with Tata Play to commission GSAT-24

- NSIL teams up with Tata Play to introduce GSAT-24 for satellite broadcasting
- GSAT-24 is an Indian Communication Satellite developed by ISRO for DTH services
- GSAT-24 belongs to the 24-Ku band communication satellite category

Rajouri's chikri wood craft, Anantnag's Mushqbudji rice receive GI tag

- Rajouri Chikri Wood Craft and Anantnag's Mushqbudji Rice receive Geographical Indication (GI) Tags
- Recognition of unique nature and exceptional qualities of these products
- Collaborative effort involving NABARD, Department of Handicrafts & Handloom, and Department of Agriculture

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Government of India Forms New Standing Committee on Statistics to Enhance Oversight of NSO Data

- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) replaces Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES) with Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS).

- SCoS has a broad mandate to review framework and outcomes of surveys conducted under NSO.
- Aims to enhance oversight and transparency in statistical data.

Kerala Assembly Approves Resolution to Rename State as 'Keralam'

- Resolution passed to change the name of Kerala to Keralam, reflecting cultural and linguistic heritage.
- Proposed change to be implemented through Article 3 of the Constitution.
- 'Keralam' signifies "Land of Coconut Trees," highlighting the state's contribution to coconut cultivation.

CJI Chandrachud Launches QR Code-Based E-Pass For Entry At SC

- Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y Chandrachud unveils 'SuSwagatam' portal for access to Supreme Court.
- Portal offers QR code-enabled ePass for smooth entry and exit at Supreme Court.
- Provides role-based secure logins and enhanced validation process.

India Is Committed To Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis By 2027

- Union Health & Family Welfare Minister announces goal to eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis by 2027.
- Emphasizes diligent consumption of medicine and supervision by healthcare professionals.
- Calls for awareness campaigns at the local level to spread information about the disease and prevention methods.

Cambodia: A Woman Parliament President For 1st Time In History

- Khoun Sudary set to become the President of the National Assembly of Cambodia, the first woman to hold the position.
- Appointment reflects commitment to empowering women in government leadership roles.
- Announcement made by Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen.

Gujarat launches 'Sinh Suchna' app for tracking lions

- Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel introduces 'Sinh Suchna' app to monitor lion movements.
- App allows individuals to report lion sightings directly to the forest department.
- Facilitates real-time tracking and conflict resolution.

SEBI Shortens IPO Listing Timeline to 3 Days Post Closure for Investor and Issuer Benefit

- SEBI reduces timeline for listing shares on stock exchanges after IPO closure.
- Aims to enhance efficiency of IPOs and provide benefits to investors and issuers.
- Initially voluntary option, becomes mandatory from December 1, 2023.

Tata Group's Fresh Look for Air India: New Logo and Design

- Tata Sons introduces new logo and design for Air India, including a new brand identity.
- New logo known as 'The Vista' represents progressiveness and confidence.
- First aircraft with updated design expected to be introduced in December 2023.

AU Bank Becomes India's First Bank To Provide 24x7 Video Banking Service

- AU Small Finance Bank launches 24x7 video banking platform for face-to-face interactions with expert bankers.
- Provides round-the-clock support, even on weekends and holidays.
- Extends vital banking services to underserved areas.

RBI Levies Monetary Penalties on 4 Co-operative Banks for Regulatory Violations

- RBI imposes monetary penalties on Vita Urban Coop Bank, Shri Vinayak Sahakari Bank, Shreeji Bhatia Coop Bank, and Mizoram Urban Coop Development Bank for regulatory violations.
- Penalties imposed due to non-compliance with RBI directives.
- Banks found in breach of various regulations.

RBI's Strategic Announcements Set to Transform UPI and UPI Lite Landscape

- RBI introduces AI-powered system for UPI transactions to enhance safety and security.
- Raises transaction limit for UPI Lite from Rs 200 to Rs 500.
- Introduces offline payments using Near Field Communication (NFC) technology to boost adoption of UPI Lite.

World Elephant Day 2023: Date, Significance and History

- World Elephant Day observed on August 12 to raise awareness about challenges faced by elephants.
- Highlights issues such as habitat loss, ivory poaching, and human-elephant conflicts.
- A day to support elephant conservation and appreciate their role in ecosystems.

International Youth Day 2023: Date, Significance, and History

- International Youth Day celebrated on August 12 to address issues affecting youth.
- Recognized by the United Nations to empower and support the younger generation.
- Focuses on nurturing emerging leaders and meeting the needs of the global community.

Independence Day 2023: 'Har Ghar Tiranga' bike rally flagged-off

- 'Har Ghar Tiranga' motorcycle rally flagged off to inspire individuals to display the national flag at their residences.
- Part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative to commemorate 75 years of India's independence.
- Rally takes place nationwide from August 13 to 15.

Pluckk partners with Kareena Kapoor Khan as investor, brand ambassador

- Kareena Kapoor Khan joins Pluckk as an investor and brand ambassador.
- Pluckk offers fresh fruit and vegetables, DIY meal kits, ozone-washed products, and traceability concepts.
- Rapidly emerging as a digital leader in fresh produce market.

Lt Governor Inaugurates 9th India International MSME Expo & Summit 2023

- Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurates expo and summit to promote collaboration between policymakers and entrepreneurs in MSME sector.
- Highlights the role of micro and small enterprises in driving socio-economic transformation.
- Empowers women entrepreneurs and showcases their contributions.

New Amravati Station Becomes Central Railway's Third 'Pink Station'

- New Amravati station designated as Central Railway's third 'Pink Station' managed solely by women staff.
- All-women team oversees seamless operation of the station.
- Highlights commitment to gender equality and empowerment.

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Government Employee Unions Rally for Pension Rights in Delhi

- Joint Forum for Restoration of Old Pension Scheme (JFROPS)/National Joint Council of Action (NJCA) organized a massive rally in Delhi.
- Rally demands the reinstatement of the Old Pension Scheme for central and state departments' employees.
- Participants included employees from central and state departments, railways, PSUs, teaching professionals, defense personnel, and ex-paramilitary personnel.

New Bill Proposes Changes in Appointment Process for Election Commissioners in India

- The central government introduced a bill to modify the process of appointing the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.
- The bill proposes changes to the selection committee responsible for these appointments, including the removal of the Chief Justice of India.
- The bill follows a Supreme Court ruling in March to ensure impartiality and autonomy of the Election Commission.

The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023: Revamping India's Criminal Justice System

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah introduced the Bharatiya Sakshya Bill to replace the outdated Indian Evidence Act.
- The bill aims to establish general rules and principles of evidence for fair trials in criminal cases.

- The new bill modernizes laws surrounding evidence to meet the current needs and aspirations of the populace.

India Aims to Triple Natural Gas Share to 15% by 2030: Minister

- India plans to increase its share of natural gas in the energy mix from 6% to 15% by 2030.
- Expansion of the National Gas Grid Pipeline and setting up LNG Terminals are part of the plan.
- The government aims to ensure a steady supply of domestic gas for CNG and PNG.

Canada starts accepting PTE scores for Student Direct Stream applications

- Canada's IRCC officially sanctioned the use of Pearson's PTE Academic test as an English language proficiency assessment.
- Students who took the PTE Academic test before August 10 can benefit from this decision.
- The scores can be used for Student Direct Stream (SDS) applications as long as they are submitted within the stipulated expiry period.

CM Solar Mission launched in power deficit Meghalaya

- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma launched the Chief Minister's Solar Mission with a government investment of Rs 500 crore.
- The mission aims to transform the state's energy landscape and contribute to sustainable development.
- Net metering and subsidies for households, schools, hospitals, hotels, and commercial entities are part of the plan.

Uttar Pradesh Records Maximum Cases Of Cancer

- Uttar Pradesh registered the highest count of cancer cases in India in 2022, with 210,000 new cases.
- The state also had the highest count of cancer-related fatalities.
- The Union government has implemented initiatives to improve healthcare access for cancer patients in response to the crisis.

NCLT Approves \$10 Billion Mega-Merger Between Zee and Sony

- The National Company Law Tribunal has approved the merger between Zee Entertainment Enterprises and Culver Max Entertainment.
- The merger is expected to reshape the entertainment industry in India.
- SEBI is set to deliver its final decision on the matter on August 14.

Indian Economy to Grow at 6% in FY24, Say NIPFP Researchers

- National Institute of Public Finance and Policy forecasts India's economic growth to decelerate to 6% in FY24 from 7.2% in FY23.
- The slowdown is attributed to prevailing global economic headwinds.
- Various economic indicators and trends shape India's economic performance.

World Elephant Day 2023

- World Elephant Day on August 12 raises awareness about challenges faced by elephants and advocates for their protection.

- It highlights issues such as habitat loss, ivory poaching, and human-elephant conflicts.
- The day promotes the importance of safeguarding elephants for future generations.

International Youth Day 2023

- International Youth Day on August 12 is a UN-recognized day to address issues affecting the world's youth population.
- It acknowledges the potential of youth to shape the destiny of nations.
- The day originated with the United Nations' focus on the younger generation in 1965.

Poet-Diplomat Abhay K Launches his New Book 'Monsoon'

- Abhay Kumar, Deputy Director General of ICCR, launched his book "Monsoon: A Poem of Love and Longing."
- The book is a poem running across 150 four-line stanzas.
- It follows the journey of the monsoon from Madagascar to the Himalayas and back.

Subhash Runwal receives the Lifetime Achievement Award RICS

- Subhash Runwal, Chairman of Runwal, received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the first-ever RICS South Asia Awards.
- The award recognizes his exceptional contributions to the real estate sector.
- RICS aims to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and ethics in the built and natural environments.

Renowned nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha passes away

- Bikash Sinha, former director of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, passed away at the age of 78.
- He specialized in nuclear physics, high energy physics, and early universe cosmology.
- Sinha led the Indian team for the first time to participate in experiments at the European Organization for Nuclear Research.

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1. Dharmendra Pradhan launches DBT in NAPS to strengthen apprenticeship ecosystem:

- Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated DBT in NAPS to boost apprenticeship training and encourage industry involvement.
- NAPS has engaged 25 lakh youths as apprentices since its inception in 2016.
- Around 2.6 lakh apprentices successfully completed their training in the fiscal year 2023-24.

2. Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras To Be Established Across The Country:

- Railways Ministry to establish PMBJKs at railway stations to ensure availability of affordable medicines.
- Fifty railway stations selected as launching grounds for the pilot project.
- PMBJK outlets strategically positioned at easily accessible locations for convenience.

3. NCERT Constitutes 19-Member Panel for Textbook Revision in India:

- Committee responsible for aligning school syllabi, textbooks, and teaching materials with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF).
- Mandate covers Classes 3 to 12 and aims to ensure a seamless transition from Classes 1 and 2.
- Diverse range of expertise in mathematics, arts, economics, sports, policy, and administration contributing to educational framework development.

4. India inducts new Heron Mark-2 drones:

- Indian Air Force inducted Heron Mark-2 drones with strike capability and surveillance abilities.
- Medium-altitude long-endurance (MALE) drone with a range of 3,000 kilometers and endurance of 24 hours.
- Equipped with sensors like synthetic aperture radar (SAR), electro-optical/infrared (EO/IR) camera, and laser designator.

5. Employee Stock Option Plan (ESOP): Empowering Employees and Driving Growth:

- ESOP grants employees the option to purchase company shares at a predetermined price within a specified time frame.
- Motivates and engages employees while aligning their interests with the company's success.
- Widely used by startups, established firms, and publicly traded companies to incentivize employees.

6. NPCI Launches UPI Chalega 3.0 Campaign to Drive UPI Adoption and Safety Awareness:

- UPI Chalega 3.0 campaign aims to emphasize the ease, safety, and swiftness of using Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- Collaboration with key stakeholders in the payments ecosystem to drive UPI adoption.
- Objectives include enhancing brand awareness, understanding distinctive features, and driving increased adoption among new users.

7. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Introduces Reforms for Transparent Home Loan EMIs:

- Reforms introduced to enhance transparency and consumer protection in the home loan sector.
- Clarity in resetting interest rates, option for borrowers to switch to fixed rates, and prevention of unilateral changes to loan tenure.
- Emphasis on establishing a transparent framework for resetting interest rates on floating rate home loans.

8. RBI Embraces AI for Enhanced Regulatory Oversight: Collaborates with McKinsey and Accenture:

- RBI partners with McKinsey and Company India LLP and Accenture Solutions Pvt Ltd India to strengthen regulatory supervision.
- Integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) technologies for enhanced supervision.
- Extended supervisory reach over various financial entities, including banks, NBFCs, and credit information companies.

9. India Observes Partition Horrors Remembrance Day to Remember Victims of 1947 Violence:

- Remembrance Day to remember victims of violence during India's partition in 1947.
- Survivors share stories of displacement, loss, and struggle to rebuild lives.
- Day to reflect on the importance of peace, harmony, and building a better future.

10. MakeMyTrip and Ministry of Tourism To Launch Traveller's Map of India Microsite:

- Collaboration between MakeMyTrip and Ministry of Tourism to introduce over 600 unique travel destinations.
- Specialized microsite named "Traveller's Map of India" created to facilitate this initiative.
- Focus on undiscovered destinations and promoting India's cultural, historical, natural, and geographical wonders.

11. Amit Shah Hails The Team Of NAFIS Of NCRB For Winning Gold Award:

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah congratulates the team of National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) for securing the Gold Award.
- Award recognizes NAFIS' commitment to crafting an impregnable fingerprint identification system.
- NAFIS is a centralized searchable database for crime and criminal-related fingerprints.

12. Traditional Medicine Global Summit To Be Held In Gandhinagar On Aug 17, 18:

- First WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit to take place in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- Aims to galvanize political commitment and evidence-based actions in the field of traditional medicine.
- Inclusive platform bringing together practitioners, policymakers, academia, and civil society.

13. One District One Product 'ODOP Wall' Launched:

- Collaboration between ODOP program and DAY-NRLM to launch the 'ODOP Wall'.
- Showcasing Indian craftsmanship and promoting self-reliance.
- ODOP program identifies and promotes one distinct product from each district, including handlooms and handicrafts.

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1. Anwarul Haq Kakar Sworn In As Pakistan's Caretaker Prime Minister:

- Anwarul Haq Kakar becomes Pakistan's 8th and youngest caretaker prime minister.
- Kakar is responsible for supervising the forthcoming general elections.
- He has close ties to the influential military and has previously served as the spokesperson for the Balochistan provincial administration.

2. Dutch Economy Enters Recession:

- The Dutch economy contracted by 0.3% in the second quarter, entering a recession.
- Decline in consumer spending and exports contributed to the recession.
- Inflation remains relatively high at about 6%, affecting employment rates.

3. Goa To Give Free IVF Treatment In Govt Hospital:

- Goa Medical College offers free IVF treatment.
- There has been a significant rise in demand for fertility treatments in India.

- IVF treatment costs in India can range from Rs 70,000 to Rs 3 lakh per cycle.
4. India's first long-range revolver 'Prabal' to be launched on August 18:
 - Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited to unveil 'Prabal'.
 - It has a range of up to 50 meters and features a side swing cylinder.
 - Designed to be lightweight and user-friendly.
 5. INS Kulish Participates In Celebration Of 77th Independence Day in Singapore:
 - INS Kulish celebrates Singapore's 77th Independence Day.
 - Participating in the multinational SEACAT 2023 exercise.
 - Hosting a reception for distinguished officials and Indian diaspora members to enhance diplomatic ties.
 6. India's Per Capita Income Projected to Soar 7.5 Times by 2047, SBI Research Study Finds:
 - SBI Research study projects a significant increase in India's per capita income by 2047.
 - Per capita income expected to increase from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 14.9 lakh per annum.
 - Number of tax filers projected to reach 482 million by FY47.
 7. Govt Increases Windfall Tax on Crude Oil and Diesel, Reinstates Tax on Overseas ATF Shipments:
 - Indian government enhances windfall profit tax on crude oil and exported diesel.
 - Reintroduction of tax on aviation turbine fuel shipments abroad.
 - Aims to prevent excessive profits and ensure fair wealth distribution.
 8. Wholesale Price Deflation Narrows to 1.36% in July, Driven by Food Price Spike:
 - July's Wholesale Price Index (WPI) exhibits deflationary trends with a shrinkage of -1.36%.
 - Surge in food and primary article prices contributes to the narrowing deflation.
 - Primary food article inflation reaches 14.3%, with significant increases in vegetable and potato prices.
 9. Retail Inflation in India Surges to 7.44% in July:
 - Retail inflation reaches 7.44%, the highest rate since April 2022.
 - Vegetable prices surge by 37.3% and cereals and pulses become over 13% more expensive.
 - Urban and rural consumers experience significant increases in food inflation.
 10. Viacom18 Completes Merger Of JioCinema and Voot OTT Platforms:
 - Viacom18 merges JioCinema and Voot into a single brand.
 - Dissolution of Voot as a standalone platform.
 - Merger facilitated by a complex scheme involving Reliance Industries, Bodhi Tree Systems, and Paramount Global.
 11. Centre appoints R Doraiswamy as LIC Managing Director:
 - R. Doraiswamy appointed as LIC Managing Director, replacing Mini Ipe.
 - LIC is India's largest insurance company with total assets under management worth ₹45.7 trillion.
 - LIC is under the ownership of the Government of India and administrative control of the Ministry of Finance.
 12. Neymar Jr Quits PSG To Sign For Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal:
 - Neymar Jr joins Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal from PSG.

- Scored 118 goals for PSG in six injury-plagued seasons.
- Won five Ligue 1 titles and three French Cups with PSG.

13. Chandrayaan-3 Gets Closer To Moon After Fourth Orbit Reduction Manoeuvre:

- ISRO successfully executes another orbit reduction maneuver in the Chandrayaan-3 mission.
- Establishes a near-circular orbit with dimensions of 150 km x 177 km.
- Chandrayaan-3 comprises a lander module, propulsion module, and rover.

14. Former India captain Mohammed Habib passes away:

- Legendary footballer Mohammed Habib passed away.
- Represented India in international tournaments from 1965-76.
- Won a bronze medal in the 1970 Asian Games.

15. NBRI launches lotus variety which blooms in all seasons:

- CSIR-NBRI launches 'Namoh 108' variety of lotus with 108 petals.
- Lotuses brought from Manipur for research and genome sequencing.
- Dedicated to the nation on the eve of Independence Day.

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Bubonic Plague Cases Detected in China's Inner Mongolia: Authorities Respond Swiftly

- Two cases of bubonic plague reported in China's Inner Mongolia.
- Close relatives of a previously infected individual contracted the disease.
- Bubonic plague is highly infectious and primarily transmitted through rodents.
- Health authorities are taking proactive measures to prevent the further spread of the disease.
- Quarantine measures have been implemented for close contacts of the infected individuals.

Typhoon Lan Hits Japan, Causing Flooding and Power Outages

- Typhoon Lan made landfall in Japan, bringing heavy rain and strong winds.
- Flooding and power outages reported in several areas.
- Evacuation warnings issued for residents in affected areas.
- Typhoon caused widespread damage, including flooding, landslides, and fallen trees.
- Hundreds of thousands of people evacuated, and households remain without power.

ADB Approves USD 40.5 Million Loan to Enhance Childhood Development and Maternal Mental Health in Meghalaya

- Asian Development Bank sanctions a USD 40.5 million loan for Meghalaya.
- Meghalaya government contributes USD 15.27 million to the project.
- Loan aims to improve early childhood development and maternal mental health.
- Project involves upgrading existing Anganwadi centers and constructing new ones.
- New centers will be strategically located in hard-to-reach areas to benefit marginalized communities.

India's First Drone Common Testing Centre To Be Established In Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation to establish India's first Drone Common Testing

Centre.

- The center will be located in the SIPCOT Industrial Park, Vallam Vadagal near Sriperumbudur.
- The project aims to enhance India's capabilities in unmanned aerial technology.
- The testing center will cover an area of approximately 2.3 acres.
- The total project cost is Rs 45 crore.

IAF To Hold Multi-National Exercise 'Tarang Shakti' Next Year

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) will host the multilateral military exercise 'Tarang Shakti'.
- The exercise was originally slated for October but has been rescheduled to mid-2024.
- Air forces of France, the United Kingdom, Australia, the United States, and Japan will participate.
- Six other countries will be observers in the exercise.
- 'Tarang Shakti' aims to enhance military coordination and collaboration between participating countries.

Government clears Rs 20000 cr deal to build five warships

- The Central Government approves the construction of five fleet support ships.
- The fleet support ships will be built by Hindustan Shipyard Limited in Visakhapatnam.
- Each ship will weigh around 45,000 tonnes.
- The construction of all five ships is expected to be completed within eight years.
- The ships will serve as vital logistical lifelines for warships.

Govt of India launched 'Meri Maati Mera Desh Campaign'

- The Government of India launches the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh Campaign' to celebrate 75 years of Independence.
- Air Force Stations in and around Delhi organized events under the campaign.
- One of the key activities was the development of an Amrit Vatika in each station by planting 75 saplings.
- The campaign aims to replenish mother earth through reforestation.
- The campaign honors freedom fighters and highlights the responsibility to build a strong India.

Introducing Canara Jeevan Dhara: Tailored Savings Account for Pensioners

- Canara Bank unveils Canara Jeevan Dhara, a specialized savings account for pensioners.
- The account provides financial security and flexibility for retirees.
- It offers tailored interest rates, loan facilities, healthcare concessions, and attractive FD rates.
- The account caters to pensioners and those nearing retirement.
- Canara Jeevan Dhara ensures financial stability and value-added benefits for individuals in their post-employment phase.

Wipro Launches Center Of Excellence On Generative AI at IIT Delhi

- Wipro establishes a Center of Excellence (CoE) on Generative AI in partnership with IIT Delhi.
- The CoE is located within the Yardi School of Artificial Intelligence at IIT Delhi.
- The CoE focuses on foundational and applied research in generative AI.
- It aims to address real-world challenges and develop innovative solutions.
- The CoE harnesses the power of AI, machine learning, and other cutting-edge technologies.

Hyundai Motor To Acquire General Motors' Talegaon Plant

- Hyundai's Indian subsidiary plans to acquire General

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Union Cabinet Approves PM-eBus Sewa Scheme: Boosting Electric Public Transportation

- Aimed at expanding city bus operations by deploying 10,000 electric buses through PPP model.
- Total cost of the scheme is Rs 57,613 crore, with Rs 20,000 crore financial support from the Central government.
- Cities with a population of three lakh and above, including capital cities of Union Territories, will be covered.

Cabinet approves seven rail projects worth ₹32,500 crore to boost connectivity

- Seven railway projects worth ₹32,500 crore approved, covering 2,339 kilometers of rail network.
- Projects will enhance connectivity in states including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and more.
- Projects will be implemented through Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) model.

'India's First Village Atlas' Is Of Mayem In Goa

- Biodiversity Atlas of Mayem Village unveiled, offering a comprehensive socio-cultural history.
- Atlas traces Mayem village's journey from the 12th century to the present.
- Highlights the historical and ecological knowledge of Mayem village.

President Murmu launches INS Vindhyagiri

- President Droupadi Murmu launches INS Vindhyagiri, a vessel in the Indian Navy's fleet.
- INS Vindhyagiri joins sister ships INS Himgiri and INS Dunagiri at the Outfitting Jetty.
- Developed under Project 17A to enhance India's maritime capabilities.

OpenAI's first acquisition is an AI design company

- OpenAI acquires Global Illumination, a startup that creates innovative creative tools and infrastructure.
- Global Illumination has served tech titans like Instagram, Google, and Pixar.
- OpenAI aims to push the boundaries of AI research and enhance its offerings.

Amrit Brikshya Andolan 2023

- Assam Government launches Amrit Brikshya Andolan, providing financial aid for tree planting.
- Aims to plant one crore seedlings and increase green coverage in Assam.
- Encourages participation through Direct Benefit Transfer scheme.

'Lakhpati Didi' Scheme: Govt Planning Skill Training For 2 Crore Women

- Indian government announces 'Lakhpati Didi' scheme to provide skill training to two crore women.
- Scheme empowers women to establish and manage small-scale businesses effectively.
- Offers training in sectors like plumbing, LED bulb manufacturing, and drone operation and repair.

Cabinet Approves ₹14,903 Crore Extension of Digital India Project

- Cabinet approves extension of Digital India project with a budget of ₹14,903 crore.
- Aims to upskill, enhance cybersecurity, and improve technology accessibility.
- Demonstrates government's commitment to advancing digital landscape.

Kamlesh Varshney, Amarjeet Singh appointed SEBI whole-time members

- Kamlesh Varshney and Amarjeet Singh appointed as SEBI Whole-Time Members.
- Varshney is a joint secretary in the Finance Ministry, Singh is an executive director at SEBI.
- Appointments made for a three-year term.

AFI chief Adille Sumariwalla elected to World Athletics Executive Board

- Adille Sumariwalla elected as one of the four vice presidents of World Athletics.
- Highest post held by an Indian in the global track and field governing body.
- Sumariwalla is the president of Athletics Federation of India.

World Humanitarian Day 2023: Date, Theme, Significance and History

- World Humanitarian Day observed on August 19 to honor humanitarian efforts.
- Theme for 2023 is "No Matter What" to depict dedication of humanitarians.
- Recognizes the unyielding spirit of those who support crisis-affected populations.

Dutee Chand gets four-year ban for failing dope test

- Sprinter Dutee Chand receives four-year ban for failing out-of-competition dope test.
- Ban starts from January 3, 2023, and all competitive outcomes from sample collection annulled.
- Presence of selective androgen receptor modulators found in the test.

Wahab Riaz Announces Retirement From International Cricket

- Pakistani fast bowler Wahab Riaz retires from international cricket after 15-year career.
- Played 27 Tests, 91 ODIs, and 36 T20Is, taking 237 wickets in total.
- Part of Pakistan's 2011 Cricket World Cup team that reached the semi-finals.

Agnikul Cosmos begins integration of its first satellite rocket

- Agnikul Cosmos starts integrating launch vehicle Agnibaan SOrTeD at its private launchpad.
- Agnilet engine is a 3D-printed, single-piece, semi-cryogenic engine.
- Launch vehicle will follow a predetermined trajectory for technological validation.

British 'chat show king' Michael Parkinson passes away at 88

- Michael Parkinson, renowned British chat show host, dies at 88 after a brief illness.
- Hosted the talk show 'Parkinson' and interviewed notable personalities.
- Knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2008 for his contributions to media and entertainment.

10-day Long Budha Amarnath Yatra Begins In Jammu

- Budha Amarnath Yatra commences in Poonch district, Jammu, for 10 days.
- Devotees seek blessings from Lord Shiva at the Budha Amarnath Temple.
- Pilgrimage represents the diversity and spiritual tapestry of India.

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Russian e-visa facility for Indians:

- Russia has launched an e-visa facility for Indians and 54 other countries.
- The e-visa can be applied for online through the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia.
- The e-visa is valid for 60 days from the date of issue and allows a stay of up to 16 days in Russia.

India's First 3D-Printed Post Office Inaugurated In Bengaluru:

- Bengaluru has inaugurated India's first 3D-printed post office, completed in just 43 days.
- The project was a collaboration between Larsen and Toubro and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras.
- The post office was built at a cost of Rs 23 lakh.

CWC Launches 'Floodwatch' To Provide Real-Time Flood Forecasts To Public:

- The Central Water Commission (CWC) has launched the "FloodWatch" mobile application that provides real-time flood-related information and forecasts up to 7 days in advance.
- The app is available in English and Hindi and uses advanced technologies such as satellite data analysis and real-time monitoring.
- It aims to enhance flood preparedness and response by delivering accurate and timely flood forecasts.

Crisil Forecasts 6% GDP Growth for India in FY24:

- Crisil predicts India's GDP growth to reach 6% in the fiscal year 2024, lower than the 7% estimated by the NSO for FY23.
- Crisil anticipates an average growth rate of 6.8% for the Indian economy over the next five fiscal years.
- The projection is driven by factors such as increased capital investment and productivity enhancements.

Axis Bank partners with RBI Innovation Hub to launch Kisan Credit cards:

- Axis Bank has partnered with the RBI Innovation Hub to introduce groundbreaking lending products.
- The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) allows eligible customers to access credit up to Rs 1.6 lakh for agricultural growth.
- Unsecured MSME loans for business growth will be offered to qualified customers with loans up to Rs 10 lakh.

RBI Introduces UDGAM Portal: Your Guide to Reclaiming Unclaimed Deposits:

- The RBI has launched the UDGAM portal, a centralized web platform to simplify the process of locating unclaimed deposits across various banks.
- The portal consolidates information from multiple banks into a single accessible location.
- It streamlines the identification and claiming of unclaimed deposits through collaboration with ReBIT, IFTAS, and select banks.

Maharashtra Government Launches Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jodaraste Scheme to Connect Tribal Villages with Main Roads:

- The Maharashtra government has launched the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jodaraste Scheme to link tribal villages with main roads.
- The scheme aims to connect tribal sub-plan areas with primary health centers and ashramshalas through main roads.
- Approximately 6,838 kilometers of roads will be constructed as part of the scheme at a cost of Rs 5,000 crore.

Trinidad And Tobago Inks Pact For Sharing Indian Technology Stack:

- India and Trinidad and Tobago have signed an MoU to share the INDIA STACK technology.

- INDIA STACK is a collection of technologies that facilitate identity verification, data management, and payment services.
- The adoption of India Stack enables countries to enhance their digitalization efforts and transform their economies and governance.

AICTE and Jio Institute FDP on Artificial Intelligence & Data Science:

- AICTE and Jio Institute have launched a faculty development program (FDP) on AI and DS to enhance education integration.
- The program equips academic leaders and faculty members with an in-depth understanding of AI and DS.
- The curriculum covers a wide range of topics to provide a comprehensive understanding of AI technologies and their ethical dimensions.

Parminder Chopra appointed as CMD of Power Finance Corporation (PFC):

- Parminder Chopra has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation.
- She is the first woman to lead India's largest NBFC.
- Chopra played a key role in the successful implementation of the Liquidity Infusion Scheme (LIS) for the power distribution sector.

PR Seshadri appointed new MD & CEO of South Indian Bank:

- PR Seshadri has been appointed as Managing Director & CEO of the South Indian Bank for a period of three years.
- Seshadri brings significant banking experience and expertise to the role.
- He has managed multiple businesses, functional lines, and geographies in his career.

World Photography Day 2023: Date, Celebration, Significance and History:

- World Photography Day is observed annually on August 19 to celebrate photography's rich history and its role as an art form and scientific achievement.
- It commemorates the invention of the daguerreotype process by Louis Daguerre in 1837.
- The daguerreotype process was announced to the public on August 19, 1839.

The G20 Film Festival kicked off with the screening of “Pather Panchali”:

- The first G20 Film Festival started in Delhi with the screening of Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali."
- The festival aims to foster cross-cultural comprehension through cinema.
- It will showcase 15 more exceptional films over a span of 17 days.

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President Droupadi Murmu Grants Assent to Central and Integrated GST Amendment Bills, 2023

- President Droupadi Murmu has granted her assent to the Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023, and the Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023.
- The Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023, introduces amendments to the existing Central Goods and Services Tax Act of 2017.

- The Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023, focuses on refining the provisions of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act of 2017, particularly related to online activities.

BRO Initiates Construction of World's Highest Motorable Road in Eastern Ladakh

- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has started constructing the 'Likaru-Mig La-Fukche' road in the Demchok sector of Ladakh.
- This road will establish the world's highest motorable road, surpassing the previous record held by Umling La Pass.
- The road will connect crucial military outposts in the sensitive Fukche sector, improving communication and accessibility to remote military installations.

President Launches 'My Bengal, Addiction-Free Bengal' Campaign In Kolkata

- President Droupadi Murmu launched the 'My Bengal, Addiction-Free Bengal' campaign organized by the Brahma Kumaris in Kolkata.
- The campaign aims to tackle drug usage among the youth through spiritual awakening, medical intervention, social unity, and political will.
- President Murmu emphasized that addiction often stems from mental stress and peer pressure, causing harm to individuals and their families.

INS Vagir Sets New Record For Longest Scorpene Submarine Deployment

- The Indian Navy's submarine, INS Vagir, holds the record for the longest-ever deployment of any scorpene-class submarine.
- The submarine covered a distance of 7,000 kilometers on its journey to Australia for joint military exercises.
- This expedition marks the first time an Indian scorpene-class submarine has ventured into Australian waters, enhancing maritime security and defense cooperation.

RBI's Revised Guidelines for IDF-NBFCs to Boost Infrastructure Financing

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced updated guidelines for Infrastructure Debt Fund-Non-Banking Financial Companies (IDF-NBFCs).
- IDF-NBFCs are required to maintain a minimum Net Owned Fund of Rs 300 crore to engage significantly in infrastructure financing.
- The revised norms stipulate a Capital-to-Risk Weighted Assets Ratio of at least 15% and a minimum Tier 1 capital of 10% to ensure financial stability.

Ratan Tata conferred with Maharashtra govt.'s 'Udyog Ratna' award

- Industrialist Ratan Tata was conferred with Maharashtra government's 'Udyog Ratna' award.
- The award recognizes his contributions to the economic development of the state.

- The Tata group operates in more than 100 countries across six continents, with collective revenue of \$128 billion in 2021-22.

BPCL announces Rahul Dravid as Brand Ambassador

- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) has chosen Rahul Dravid as its brand ambassador.
- Dravid will endorse BPCL's Pure for Sure initiative and range of MAK lubricants.
- BPCL is India's second-largest government-owned downstream oil producer, operating three refineries in Bina, Kochi, and Mumbai.

Jan Dhan Accounts Cross 50 Crore-Mark In Less Than 9 Years: Centre

- The total number of Jan Dhan accounts in India has surpassed 50 crore within less than 9 years.
- Around 56% of these accounts are owned by women, promoting gender inclusivity in financial matters.
- The cumulative deposits in Jan Dhan accounts have exceeded ₹2.03 lakh crore, promoting financial engagement and empowerment.

FIFA Women's World Cup 2023: Spain wins the title with 1-0 victory over England

- Spain won their first-ever Women's World Cup title with a 1-0 victory over England in the final.
- Captain Olga Carmona scored the decisive goal, marking a historic campaign for Spain.
- The victory adds to the success of the Spanish women's national team in international competitions.

Mohit Kumar becomes U-20 World Champion in Men's 61 kg Freestyle category

- Mohit Kumar became the U-20 World Champion in the Men's 61 kg Freestyle category.
- He achieved the title by trailing 0-6 and then securing nine consecutive points to win the gold medal.
- Mohit joins an elite group of Indian wrestlers who have attained this honor.

India's Anahat Singh Clinches Gold In Asian Junior Squash Championships

- Anahat Singh won the gold medal in the U-17 category of the Asian Junior Squash Individual Championships.
- She defeated Hong Kong's Ena Kwong in the finals with a 3-1 victory.
- Anahat's victory adds to her growing list of accomplishments in squash.

Priya Malik Wins Gold at U20 World Wrestling Championships In Jordan

- Indian wrestler Priya Malik won the gold medal at the U20 World Wrestling Championships in Jordan.

- Competing in the 76 kg category, she triumphed over Germany's Laura Kuehn with a score of 5-0.
- Priya Malik is the second

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CSIR Introduces 'Namoh 108':

- CSIR introduces new lotus species called 'Namoh 108', honoring PM Modi's legacy
- 'Namoh 108' has 108 petals and its genome has been sequenced
- Only lotus variety in India with a sequenced genome; only other sequenced variety is from China

India announces 'Green' Hydrogen standard:

- India defines Green Hydrogen with an emission threshold of 2 kg CO2 equivalent per kg H2
- Guidelines by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for hydrogen production from renewable sources
- Green hydrogen aids in carbon-neutral economy and climate change mitigation

Nitin Gadkari launches Bharat NCAP:

- Bharat NCAP launched to enhance road safety and vehicle standards in India
- Aims to promote healthier competition among OEMs to manufacture safer vehicles
- Improves vehicle safety, creates consumer awareness, and reduces road accidents/fatalities

Onam 2023: History, Significance and Celebrations:

- Onam is a significant cultural celebration in Kerala that lasts for ten days
- Each day of Onam holds rituals, traditions, and festivities
- Onam marks the commencement of the Malayalam year

Guwahati Airport gets 'Digi Yatra' Facility:

- Guwahati's airport becomes the first in the Northeast to introduce 'Digi Yatra' facility
- Digi Yatra uses facial recognition technology for seamless airport journey
- Eliminates traditional methods of ticket verification and ID checks

TN CM Stalin Lays Foundation Stone for South-East Asia's Largest Desalination Plant:

- Tamil Nadu CM lays foundation stone for South-East Asia's largest water desalination plant
- Project led by VA Tech Wabag to alleviate Chennai's water scarcity concerns
- Seawater reverse osmosis facility with 400 MLD capacity to generate clean water

Canara Bank pioneers UPI-Interoperable Digital Rupee Mobile App:

- Canara Bank introduces UPI interoperable digital rupee mobile application
- Enables customers to make seamless transactions using the Canara Digital Rupee app
- App facilitates payments through scanning merchant UPI QR codes

Viacom18 appoints Google's Kiran Mani as CEO of Digital Business:

- Viacom18 appoints Kiran Mani, a Google executive, as CEO of Digital Business

- Mani's expertise in digital markets and insights into user behaviors and market trends
- Strategic move to boost Viacom18's digital business operations

Neelkanth Mishra appointed part-time chairman of UIDAI:

- Neelkanth Mishra appointed as part-time Chairperson of UIDAI
- Mishra is Chief Economist of Axis Bank and has expertise in economics and research
- Government also announced two part-time members of UIDAI

SBI appoints four directors to the board:

- SBI appoints Ketan Shivji Vikamsey, Mrugank Madhukar Paranjape, Rajesh Kumar Dubey, and Dharmendra Singh Shekhawat as directors
- Ketan Shivji Vikamsey is a senior partner at KKC & Associates LLP, Chartered Accountants
- Mrugank Madhukar Paranjape is currently MD & CEO of NCDEX e-Markets Limited

Om Birla Inaugurates 9th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference:

- Om Birla inaugurates 9th India Region Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Udaipur
- Conference explores the theme "Enhancing Democracy and Effective Governance in the Digital Era"
- Aims to facilitate discussions and exchange of ideas among participants

G20 Pandemic Fund Allocates \$25 Million to Enhance Animal Health System in India:

- G20 Pandemic Fund grants \$25 million to India's Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying
- Funding to bolster the country's animal health system as part of the One Health strategy
- Collaborative effort led by Asian Development Bank, supported by The World Bank and FAO

India, ASEAN agree to review FTA by 2025:

- India and ASEAN agree to reevaluate existing free trade pact for goods to address trade imbalances
- Commitment to enhance bilateral trade relations, strategic approach for the review process
- Review of AITIGA aims to boost and diversify trade engagements

International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief 2023:

- International Day commemorates victims of acts of violence based on religion or belief on August 22nd
- Aims to achieve justice for survivors and hold perpetrators accountable
- Spread awareness and ensure tolerance and prevention of atrocities

World Water Week 2023: Date, Theme, Significance and History:

- World Water Week is organized annually by the Stockholm International Water Institute since 1991
- Theme: Seeds of Change: Innovative Solutions for a Water-Wise World
- Aims to develop solutions for the global water crisis and promote water conservation

Tirupati boy bags silver at Singapore Math Olympiad:

- Raja Anirudh Sriram, a fourth-standard student from Tirupati, wins silver medal at Singapore Math Olympiad
- Sole participant from Andhra Pradesh, competed

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1. Srettha Thavisin Elected As Thailand Prime Minister

- Srettha Thavisin elected as the new prime minister of Thailand with two-thirds support in a parliamentary vote.
- Thavisin is a Thai property tycoon and co-founder of Sansiri, a prominent real estate development company in Thailand.
- His election ends weeks of political uncertainty following an election held 100 days ago.

2. Yes Bank Launches All-In-One 'IRIS' Mobile App

- YES BANK introduces IRIS, a groundbreaking mobile banking app revolutionizing digital banking in India.
- The app offers over 100 features and services, providing convenience, efficiency, and personalization to customers.
- IRIS has a user-friendly design and advanced safety features such as Biometric Authentication and 2-factor Verification for customer data security.

3. LIC Acquires 6.7% Stake In Jio Financial Services

- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) acquires a 6.7% stake in Jio Financial Services through a Reliance Industries demerger action.
- Jio Financial Services debuted on the stock exchanges with a market capitalization of approximately Rs 1.60 lakh crore.
- The acquisition has notable implications for both LIC and Jio Financial Services and sparks discussions about market reactions and company valuation.

4. International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

- Observed on August 23 with the theme "Fighting slavery's legacy of racism through transformative education."
- Commemorates the uprising against the slave trade that began in Haiti on August 23, 1791.
- A day to remember the victims of the slave trade, fight racism and discrimination, and work towards a more just world.

5. Sachin Tendulkar to be EC's National Icon

- Former cricketer Sachin Tendulkar appointed as the Election Commission's national icon.
- Tendulkar will spread awareness about greater voter participation in the electoral process.
- This appointment aims to encourage voter engagement, leveraging Tendulkar's popularity among the youth.

6. Justice Prakash Shrivastava Appointed as NGT Chairperson

- Justice Prakash Shrivastava appointed as the Chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) after Justice A.K. Goel's retirement.
- Justice Shrivastava enrolled as an Advocate in 1987 and practiced at the Supreme Court of India.
- He later became a Judge of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh and now assumes the role of NGT Chairperson.

7. Khelo India Women's League To Be Known As Asmita Women's League

- The Khelo India Women's League will now be recognized as the "Asmita Women's League."
- ASMITA stands for "Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action."
- The renaming symbolizes the resilience, determination, and achievements of women athletes in India.

8. Chandrayaan-3 Soft Landing on the Moon

- India's lunar mission, Chandrayaan-3, aims to achieve a soft landing on the moon's surface.
- This achievement would make India the only country to successfully accomplish a soft landing.
- Chandrayaan-3 aims to demonstrate safe landing, rover mobility, and conduct scientific experiments.

9. Chandrayaan-3 vs Lunar-25

- Chandrayaan-3 and Lunar-25 are lunar exploration missions undertaken by India and Russia, respectively.
- Lunar-25 has a liftoff weight of approximately 3,860 lbs and features the Lunar Manipulator Complex (LMK) for excavating lunar regolith.
- Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander weighs 3,862 lbs and focuses on maximizing operational capabilities on the moon's surface.

10. India's First Hydrogen Bus Hits the Public Roads in Leh, Ladakh

- NTPC Limited launches India's first hydrogen bus trial in Leh, Ladakh.
- The trial signifies a commitment to sustainability and reducing carbon emissions.
- The bus undergoes rigorous field trials, roadworthiness assessments, and regulatory clearances for future integration into Ladakh's transport system.

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1. US FDA Approves Pfizer's Maternal RSV Vaccine To Protect Infants

- FDA grants approval to the first vaccine created to prevent RSV-associated lower respiratory tract disease (LRTD) and severe cases in infants.
- This is the first vaccine approved for use specifically in pregnant individuals, administered between 32 and 36 weeks of gestation.
- RSV-related health issues usually occur within the first three months of an infant's life.

2. African Swine Fever Spreads Globally: 49 Countries Affected Since 2021

- Highly contagious African Swine Fever (ASF) virus has spread to 49 countries, causing a 100% fatality rate among domestic and wild pigs.
- Over 1.5 million animals lost due to ASF between January 2021 and August 2023.
- World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) released a report detailing the alarming spread of ASF.

3. Kerala's First AI School Launched In Thiruvananthapuram

- Kerala introduces its first AI school with innovative learning methods and international standards.
- Inaugurated by the Former President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, the AI School promises an unparalleled educational experience.
- Aligned with the National School Accreditation Standards and the New National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020.

4. LCA Tejas Successfully Test-Fires Astra Beyond Visual Range Air-To-Air Missile

- LCA Tejas successfully fires the indigenous Astra Beyond Visual Range (BVR) air-to-air missile demonstrating precision and readiness.
- The Astra missile system, a product of collaborative efforts involving DRDL, RCI, and other DRDO laboratories, is designed to engage high-speed aerial targets.
- The missile release was executed flawlessly at an altitude of approximately 20,000 feet off the coast of Goa.

5. RBI Approves Amalgamation of Twin Cities Co-operative Urban Bank and Kranti Co-operative Urban Bank

- RBI approves the voluntary amalgamation of Twin Cities Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd with Kranti Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd.
- The amalgamation scheme takes effect from August 23, 2023, ensuring a smooth transition of operations and services.
- Customers of Twin Cities Co-operative Urban Bank will have continued access to banking facilities without interruption.

6. 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikar' GST Reward Scheme To Launch Soon

- Indian government set to launch the 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikar' invoice incentive scheme to enhance transparency in financial transactions.
- The scheme aims to promote the habit of requesting bills during purchases and offers cash prizes ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹1 crore.
- Consumers will have the opportunity to participate in monthly and quarterly draws, making it exciting and rewarding.

7. North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) with an approved outlay of Rs.8139.50 crore

- Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region announces the continuation of NESIDS with a budget of Rs. 8139.50 crore for 2022-2023 to 2025-2026.
- The initiative aims to enhance road connectivity and accessibility in the North Eastern States, addressing gaps and contributing to overall development.
- The funding for this scheme is fully borne by the central government.

8. Panel Formed For 'Restructuring And Redefining' Role Of DRDO

- Ministry of Defence forms a nine-member committee to revamp the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

- The committee, led by former Principal Scientific Advisor K. Vijay Raghavan, will propose a revamped structure aligned with contemporary defense research needs.
- The goal is to enhance technological advancements beyond the missile program and improve resource allocation and operational processes.

9. BRICS Summit 2023 Highlights: Strengthening Global South Cooperation and Expansion Ambitions

- 15th BRICS Summit held in Johannesburg to enhance cooperation among Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlights the importance of addressing global South issues and developmental matters.
- Expansion of BRICS membership discussed, reflecting the significance of the summit.

10. ICC Ties Up With Mastercard For Men's Cricket World Cup 2023

- ICC partners with Mastercard for the upcoming ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023.
- Collaboration aimed at enhancing the cricketing experience for fans worldwide.
- Mastercard's innovative solutions and secure data will empower individuals, financial institutions, and businesses in the

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Iran Unveils Mohajer-10 Combat UAV, Claiming Extended Range, Payload:

- Mohajer-10 drone introduced with a range of 2,000 kilometers.
- The drone is designed to carry a payload of up to 300 kilograms.
- Equipped with a fuel capacity of 450 liters and can remain airborne for 24 hours.

PM Modi first Indian prime minister to visit Greece in 40 years:

- PM Modi visited Greece, becoming the first Indian PM to do so in 40 years.
- Warmly greeted by the Indian community in Greece, received traditional Greek headdress.
- Engaged in crucial talks with Greek PM to strengthen the relationship between the two countries.

Finance Minister Launches HSBC India's Green Hydrogen Partnerships:

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman launched partnerships between HSBC India, IIT Bombay, and SSEF.
- Partnership aims to foster innovation in the field of green hydrogen.
- Grant support totaling ₹15 crore (\$2 million) provided for projects focusing on green hydrogen.

PM Modi gifts Bidri Surahi, Nagaland Shawl, and Gond Painting to BRICS leaders:

- PM Modi gifted Bidri Surahi to South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.
- Nagaland shawl presented to the First Lady of South Africa, Tshepo Motsepe.
- Gond Painting from Madhya Pradesh gifted to Brazilian President, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.

NHA Launches First ABDM Microsite In Mizoram:

- National Health Authority (NHA) launched the first Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) Microsite in Mizoram.
- Sets an example for other regions to implement innovative digital solutions in healthcare.

- Microsites create a network of private healthcare providers to improve healthcare delivery.

Telangana Partners With UNESCO To Implement Recommendation On Ethics Of AI:

- UNESCO and Telangana's ITE&C Department partner to advocate for ethical AI development.
- Focus on establishing guidelines prioritizing humanity, privacy, accountability, and fairness.
- Collaboration contributes to UNESCO's Global Observatory on AI Ethics.

Naval Chiefs of India and Philippines Sign SOP for White Shipping Information Exchange:

- The Chief of Naval Staff and Commandant of the Philippine Coast Guard signed the SOP for White Shipping Information Exchange.
- SOP facilitates information exchange on commercial non-military merchant vessels.
- Enhances maritime safety and security in the region.

ICRA Forecasts India's GDP Growth of 8.5% in Q1, 2023:

- ICRA Ratings projects India's GDP growth of 8.5% in Q1 2023.
- Growth attributed to supportive base effect and recovery in the services sector.
- Potential challenges highlighted for the second half of the fiscal year.

HDFC Bank Launches India's First Co-Branded Hotel Credit Card With Marriott:

- HDFC Bank partners with Marriott Bonvoy to launch the co-branded Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card.
- Card operates on the Diners Club platform, offering rewarding travel benefits.
- Cardholders can earn Marriott Bonvoy points on eligible expenditures.

Microfinance Landscape Shift: Standalone MFIs Take Lead with 40% Microlending Share:

- Standalone MFIs reclaim dominant position in microlending, surpassing banks.
- Share of standalone MFIs in microfinance loans increases from 32% to 40%.
- Microfinance industry witnesses 37% growth, driven by favorable macroeconomic conditions.

BHEL Achieves Milestone in Curbing NOx Emissions: Indigenous SCR Catalysts Manufactured:

- BHEL successfully develops indigenous SCR Catalysts to mitigate NOx emissions.
- Catalysts to be used at Yadadri Thermal Power Station in Telangana.
- Supports 'Make in India' initiative and reduces reliance on imports.

Infosys Signs Tennis Legend Rafael Nadal As Ambassador For 3 Years:

- Infosys partners with Rafael Nadal, appointing him as its brand ambassador.
- Collaboration aims to transform the tennis landscape through AI-powered match analysis tool.
- Nadal to provide real-time insights to his coaching team during live matches.

B20 Summit India 2023:

- B20 Summit India 2023 held in Delhi under the theme R.A.I.S.E Businesses.
- Emphasis on responsible AI development, financial structure alignment, and climate change.

- Prioritizes innovative, sustainable, and equitable business practices.

Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan-2023: Madhya Pradesh's IT Hub Indore Secures First Rank:

- Indore secures first rank in Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan-2023 among cities with a population exceeding 10 lakhs.
- Impressive score of 187 out of 200 highlights environmental

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PM Modi Pays Tribute to Tomb of the Unknown Soldier during Greece Visit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays respect to the 'Tomb of the Unknown Soldier' in Athens during his visit to Greece.
- The tomb is situated in Syntagma Square and commemorates Greek soldiers who sacrificed their lives in conflicts.
- The act highlights India's commitment to global partnerships and symbolizes valor and sacrifice.

India's new National Curriculum Framework for school education, decoded

- The Education Ministry unveils a new National Curriculum Framework for school education.
- The framework offers increased flexibility, allowing students to choose from a wider array of subjects.
- Plans include the introduction of a dual-board examination system and a focus on language proficiency.

Assam Govt Issues Notification Banning Plastic Water Bottles Below 1 Litre

- Assam's Environment and Forest Department announces a ban on plastic water bottles below 1000 ml capacity.
- The ban falls under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and will be effective from October 2.
- The move aims at environmental conservation and aligns with the government's commitment to reduce plastic waste.

UP cabinet approves 18 'Atal Residential' schools, to cost Rs 1,250 crore

- The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet allocates a budget of Rs 1,250 crore for the establishment of 18 'Atal Residential Schools'.
- These schools will provide high-quality education with a capacity of 1,000 students each.

- The curriculum will span from classes six to twelve and cater to students affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Hindustan Shipyard Signs ₹19,000 cr Contract With Defence Ministry

- The Ministry of Defence signs a contract with Hindustan Shipyard Limited for the acquisition of five Fleet Support Ships.
- The contract marks a new era in naval logistics and bolsters the Indian Navy's operational capabilities.
- The venture is estimated to cost approximately ₹19,000 crore.

Reliance Retail Launches 'Yousta' Fashion Stores; First Outlet In Hyderabad

- Reliance Retail introduces its new brand, Yousta, with the opening of its flagship store in Hyderabad.
- Yousta offers contemporary fashion at affordable prices, mostly below Rs 999.
- The brand aims to cater to the fashion needs of the youth segment and provides technology-enabled shopping experiences.

CCI Imposes Penalty On Bharti Airtel

- The Competition Commission of India imposes a penalty of Rs 1 crore on Bharti Airtel for violating the Competition Act.
- The penalty is related to Bharti Airtel's acquisition of a stake in Bharti Telemedia from Lion Meadow Investment Limited.
- Bharti Airtel acknowledges the penalty and the action taken by the CCI.

RBI Raises Offline Payment Transaction Upper Limit to ₹500 from ₹200

- The Reserve Bank of India increases the upper limit of offline payment transactions to ₹500.
- The change aims to enhance user convenience and promote digital payment adoption.
- The total limit for offline transactions on a payment instrument remains ₹2,000 to ensure a balance between convenience and security.

Women's Equality Day 2023

- Women's Equality Day, observed on August 26, emphasizes the ongoing struggle for equal rights and opportunities for women.
- The theme for 2023 is "Embrace Equity," highlighting gender equality as a fundamental human right.
- Women's Equality Day commemorates the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

States Constitution, granting women full suffrage.

Indore Named Best City and Madhya Pradesh Best State in India Smart Cities Awards 2022

- Indore is recognized as the best city and Madhya Pradesh as the best state in the India Smart Cities Awards 2022.
- Surat and Agra secure the second and third positions, respectively, for their notable efforts in urban development.
- The awards celebrate sustainable development and the enhancement of urban life across India.

Infosys Signs Women's Tennis Champ Iga Swiatek As Brand Ambassador

- Infosys announces a partnership with women's tennis World No. 1, Iga Swiatek, as its brand ambassador.
- The collaboration aims to promote Digital Innovation and empower women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.
- This partnership follows Infosys signing tennis legend Rafael Nadal as a brand ambassador.

PM Modi honoured with Greece's Grand Cross of the Order of Honour

- Greek President Katerina N. Sakellariopoulou confers the Grand Cross of the Order of Honour on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The award recognizes PM Modi's outstanding contributions to bilateral relations between Greece and India.
- He is the first Indian prime minister to receive this honor and the first foreign head of government since 2017.

Amrit Mathur's autobiography 'Pitchside: My Life in Indian Cricket'

- Amrit Mathur's book, 'Pitchside: My Life in Indian Cricket,' provides insightful first-person accounts of memorable moments in Indian Cricket.
- Mathur, a cricket administrator, shares anecdotes and experiences from his decades-long involvement with the game.
- He has worked closely with BCCI presidents, state cricket associations, and was involved in shaping plans for the IPL.

Chandrayaan-3: India to celebrate August 23 as 'National Space Day'

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announces the celebration of August 23 as National Space Day.
- The day marks the landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon and aims to promote India's space industry.
- The Prime Minister projects the growth of India's space industry from \$8 billion to \$16 billion in the coming years.

ISRO's next mission to Moon is with Japanese, named LUPEX

- ISRO collaborates with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) for the LUPEX mission to explore the polar regions of the Moon.
- The mission aims

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1. Khanan Prahari App Helping to Curb Illegal Coal Mining Activities Through Public Participation

- Introduced by the government of India to curb illegal coal mining
- Allows citizens to report suspicious activities related to coal mining
- Ensures user confidentiality and accessible on major platforms

2. Emmerson Mnangagwa Wins Second Term As President Of Zimbabwe

- Mnangagwa declared winner with 52.6% of the vote
- Zanu-PF secured 136 seats in parliamentary elections
- Mnangagwa's ascendancy followed a 2017 military coup

3. Kolkata Becomes 3rd Indian City To Get Air Quality Early Warning System

- Kolkata adopts an Air Quality Early Warning System (AQEWS)
- System offers real-time air pollution data and forecasts
- Uses data from national air quality network and satellite sources

4. Assam Cabinet Creates 4 New Districts, 81 Sub-Districts After Delimitation

- Assam cabinet creates four new districts: Hojai, Biswanath, Tamulpur, and Bajali
- Part of the delimitation process initiated by the Election Commission
- 24 civil sub-divisions abolished, replaced by circles and sub-districts

5. MP govt hikes financial aid, 35% reservation in govt jobs for women

- Madhya Pradesh raises financial aid for women in Ladli Behna Scheme
- 35% reservation for women in government jobs
- Cooking gas cylinders provided to women at a discounted price

6. Indian Air Force Makes Its Debut In Exercise BRIGHT STAR-23 In Egypt

- Indian Air Force participates in Exercise BRIGHT STAR-23 in Egypt
- Contingent comprises aircraft and personnel from various units

- Exercise promotes international partnerships and joint operations

7. Airtel Payments Bank partners with Frontier Markets, Mastercard to support 1 lakh women-owned businesses

- Airtel Payments Bank collaborates with Frontier Markets and Mastercard
- Launches She Leads Bharat:Udyam initiative for women-owned businesses
- Aims to uplift 100,000 women-owned small businesses by providing opportunities

8. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approves merger of Akola Merchant Co-operative Bank with Jalgaon Peoples Co-operative Bank

- RBI approves amalgamation of Akola Merchant Co-operative Bank and Jalgaon Peoples Co-operative Bank
- Integration of branches to streamline operations and services
- Recent trend of consolidations in co-operative banking sector

9. Zepto is first Indian unicorn of 2023, raises \$200 million at \$1.4 billion valuation

- Zepto becomes the first unicorn of 2023
- Raises \$200 million in Series E funding round
- Valued at \$1.4 billion, funding led by StepStone Group

10. SVAMITVA Scheme Of Ministry Of Panchayati Raj Won National Award For E-Governance 2023

- SVAMITVA Scheme receives National Award for e-Governance 2023
- Recognized for its application of emerging technologies in delivering citizen-centric services
- Scheme grants property ownership rights to individuals in village-inhabited areas

11. National Sports Day 2023: Date, Theme, Significance and History

- National Sports Day celebrated on August 29
- Tribute to Major Dhyan Chand and recognition of athletes' contributions
- Celebration of Indian sporting excellence

12. Max Verstappen wins Dutch Grand Prix 2023

- Max Verstappen wins Dutch Grand Prix for the third consecutive year
- Equals Sebastian Vettel's record of nine F1 victories in a row
- Extends lead in the Drivers' Championship

13. Neeraj Chopra Makes History as First Indian to Secure Gold at World Athletics Championships

- Neeraj Chopra wins gold in men's javelin throw at World Athletics Championships
- First-ever Indian athlete to achieve this feat
- Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem takes silver, Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch wins bronze

14. HS Prannoy Clinches Bronze At BWF World Badminton Championships 2023

- HS Prannoy wins bronze in men's singles at BWF World Badminton Championships

- Fifth Indian men's singles player to secure a medal at the championships
- Kidambi Srikanth remains the only Indian finalist in the men's singles category

15. Update on ISRO's Gaganyaan mission and 'Vyommitra' robot

- Trials for the Gaganyaan mission to commence in October
- Second phase of the mission to feature 'Vyommitra' humanoid robot
- Vyommitra designed to simulate tasks in a space environment

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A Chapter On National War Memorial Included In NCERT Curriculum Of Class VII From This Year

- NCERT introduces new chapter in Class 7 English textbook titled "A Homage to Our Brave Soldiers"
- Chapter explores history and importance of National War Memorial
- National War Memorial stands as tribute to soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the nation

India, Asian Development Bank to set up climate change and health hub in Delhi

- India partners with ADB to open climate change and health hub in Delhi
- Hub to promote knowledge sharing, partnerships, and innovations
- Prioritizes climate-resilient health systems and low-carbon healthcare supply chains

President Murmu Releases Commemorative Coin On Former Andhra Pradesh CM N T Rama Rao

- President Murmu unveils commemorative coin in honor of N T Rama Rao
- Coin marks the centenary year of the legendary actor and former CM
- N T Rama Rao made significant impact on Indian cinema and culture

Akashvani organizes event related to KIP under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs

- Akashvani organizes event for PIO students as part of Know India Programme (KIP)
- KIP aims to familiarize Indian diaspora with their roots and contemporary India
- Provides exposure to the country of origin and strengthens bonds with Indian diaspora

Draupadi Murmu released Postage Stamp in memory of Dadi Prakashmani

- President Murmu unveils postage stamp in memory of Dadi Prakashmani
- Stamp immortalizes her legacy and symbolizes her wisdom and positive impact
- Dadi Prakashmani played a pivotal role in Brahma Kumaris organization

IDFC First Bank Grabs 3-Year Title Sponsorship for BCCI Matches at Rs 4.2 Crore Per Match

- IDFC First Bank secures title rights for BCCI matches for three years
- Bank to provide Rs 4.2 crore per international match
- Agreement covers 56 matches, including ODIs, test matches, and T20 matches

SBI launches Aadhaar-Based Enrolment For Social Security Schemes

- SBI introduces Customer Service Points (CSP) functionality for Aadhaar-based enrolment
- Enhances financial inclusivity by making social security schemes more accessible
- Customers can easily enrol in schemes like PMJJBY, PMSBY, and APY using Aadhaar

FDI Equity Inflows Decline 34% To \$10.94 Billion In April-June 2023

- Government data shows a 34% decline in FDI inflows in India
- Decline influenced by reduced investments in sectors like computer hardware, telecom, and pharmaceuticals
- Major countries report reduced FDI equity inflows during the period

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) Completes Nine Years Of Successful Implementation

- PMJDY completes nine years of successful implementation
- Over 50 crore individuals brought into formal banking system through Jan Dhan Accounts
- PMJDY promotes financial inclusion and access to credit, insurance, and pensions

India Officially Hands Over B20 Presidency to Brazil to Host G20 Summit in 2024

- India hands over B20 presidency to Brazil for G20 summit in 2024
- B20 summit focused on responsibility, acceleration, innovation, sustainability, and equity
- B20 forms actionable policy recommendations for economic growth and development

Maharashtra Govt Signs MoU With Germany's Professional Association Football League

- Maharashtra government signs MoU with Bundesliga to elevate football in the state
- Partnership aims to improve under-14 age competitions and training programs
- Collaboration expected to boost sports development in Maharashtra

International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances 2023, 30 August

- International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances observed on August 30

- Raises awareness about global crime of enforced disappearance
- Commemorates enforced disappearance of Jonas Burgos, a Filipino human rights activist

National Small Industry Day 2023: Date, Significance and History

- National Small Industry Day observed on August 30
- Recognizes contribution of small industries to economic development
- Showcases commitment to nurturing and supporting small businesses

National Sports Day 2023

- National Sports Day celebrated on August 29
- Tribute to the legacy of Major Dhyan Chand
- Raises

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Nitin Gadkari Launches World's First Ethanol-Run Toyota Innova car:

- Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari introduced the world to a 100% ethanol-fueled variant of Toyota's Innova HyCross car.
- The car is the world's premier BS-VI (Stage-II) electrified flex-fuel vehicle.
- It challenges the norm by adopting ethanol as its singular energy source.

Kampala Ministerial Declaration:

- The Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment, and Climate Change (KDMECC) is an agreement adopted by 48 African countries.
- It provides an action-oriented framework to manage climate-induced migration effectively.
- It is the first comprehensive framework driven by African member states to address climate-induced migration.

ORON Aircraft: Israel's Advanced Intelligence-Gathering Asset:

- The ORON aircraft is a result of Israel's Defense Ministry's progress in intelligence-gathering.
- It is based on the Gulfstream G550 Aerospace platform with state-of-the-art sensors, cameras, and artificial intelligence.
- The ORON operates at an altitude range of 40,000-50,000 feet and offers a flight range of up to 1,000 kilometers.

Indian Oil ropes in Chef Sanjeev Kapoor as its Brand Ambassador:

- Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC) launched a video featuring Chef Sanjeev Kapoor as a brand ambassador.
- The video highlights the Indane XTRATEJ LPG Brand, providing a cost-efficient solution for various segments and meeting customer expectations.
- Indian Oil has a dominant market share of 49% in the LPG sector serving 16 crore customer connections.

FIDC Announces Appointment Of Umesh Revankar As Chairman:

- Umesh Revankar, the Executive Vice Chairman for Shriram Finance Limited, has been appointed as the new Chairman of FIDC.
- Kamlesh Gandhi and K.V. Srinivasan have been appointed as Co-chairmen of FIDC.
- Umesh Revankar will serve as Chairman for a two-year term starting from August 23, 2023.

Nita Ambani Steps Down, Isha, Akash & Anant To Join Reliance Board:

- Isha Ambani, Akash Ambani, and Anant Ambani have been appointed as non-executive directors on Reliance Industries' board.
- Nita Ambani, Mukesh Ambani's spouse, has decided to step down from the board but will continue as the Chairperson of Reliance Foundation.
- Mukesh Ambani's vision involves guiding his children towards a unified direction and mapping Reliance's trajectory for expansion and value.

India, New Zealand Sign MoU To Enhance Cooperation In Civil Aviation:

- India and New Zealand have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance collaboration in civil aviation.
- The MoU aims to further air transport between the two countries, expand point of calls, and transform the aviation landscape.
- Traffic rights have been broadened for designated New Zealand airlines, enabling them to operate a multitude of services utilizing various aircraft types.

GSL and Kenya Shipyard Ltd Sign MoU For Collaboration In Shipbuilding:

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) and Kenya Shipyards Limited (KSL).
- The agreement focuses on capacity building and collaboration in ship design and construction.
- GSL's expertise in exporting defense ships and Kenya's strategic location position them to strengthen maritime security cooperation effectively.

Shivraj Singh & Anurag Thakur Release Books Based on Speeches of PM Modi:

- Anurag Thakur and Shivraj S. Chauhan unveiled books on the speeches of PM Narendra Modi.
- The books titled "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" compile inspiring speeches emphasizing unity, development, and trust.
- The books consist of 86 speeches in one section and 80 speeches in another, covering various topics.

International Day For People Of African Descent:

- The United Nations marked the first-ever International Day for People of African Origin on August 31, 2021.
- The day recognizes the cultural, social, and historical contributions of individuals with African heritage globally.
- It serves as a platform to spotlight the contributions made by Africans and the wider African diaspora and combat discrimination against individuals of African descent.

Aditya-L1: Why is ISRO sending spacecraft to study Sun?:

- ISRO is launching the Aditya L1 mission, which will study the Sun's layers, specifically the photosphere and chromosphere.
- The spacecraft is equipped with seven advanced payloads to unravel the Sun's mysteries.

- The launch is scheduled for September 2 at the Sriharikota launch site in Andhra Pradesh, India.

ISRO-developed device for fishers' safety successfully tested at Neendakara:

- ISRO has successfully tested the 'Nabhmitra' device, designed to enhance the safety of fishermen during their sea expeditions.
- The device utilizes satellite communication technology for two-way messaging between fishing boats and maritime authorities.
- It facilitates the transmission of critical weather updates and cyclone warnings to fishing boats, improving safety measures.

Chandrayaan-3's Pragyan Rover Confirms Sulphur Presence On The Surface Of Moon:

- Chandrayaan-3's Pragyan rover has confirmed the presence of sulphur on the lunar surface.
- The in-situ recordings near the lunar south pole provide insights into the Moon's elemental composition and geological history.
- The Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscope (LIBS) instrument identified several other elements present on the lunar surface.

Chokuwa Rice: The Enchanting "Magic Rice" of Assam Gets GI Tag:

- Chokuwa rice, known as "Magic rice," has been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- It is a semi-glutinous winter rice variety cultivated in the Brahmaputra River region of Assam.
- Its sticky and glutinous characteristics make it unique, and it has historical significance as a staple during the Ahom dynasty.

Note: The summaries have been edited for brevity and clarity.

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MASI Portal for Monitoring CHILD CARE HOMES

- The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) developed the 'MASI' application for real-time monitoring of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and their inspection process.
- The app aims to ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the inspection mechanism for CCIs under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
- It synchronizes the monitoring of the system by various authorities, including CWCs, State Inspection Committees, District Inspection Committees, JJBs, and SCPCRs.

Govt defers implementation of restrictions on imports of laptops, PCs and tablets to Nov 1

- The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) announced the postponement of the licensing mandate for the import of laptops, tablets, and personal computers.
- The government had imposed import restrictions earlier due to security concerns and to boost domestic manufacturing.
- Implementation of the restrictions has been deferred until November 1, 2023.

U.S. Debt: Understanding the Impact of Losing a AAA Credit Rating

- Fitch downgraded the United States' credit rating from AAA to AA+.
- The AAA rating signifies a strong ability to repay debts and reflects the economic and financial health of the borrower.
- Ratings agencies use a letter-based system to rank credit ratings, with AAA being the highest.

TNPCB to Hold Public Hearing on Adani Kattupalli Port Expansion Amid Controversy

- TNPCB is conducting a public hearing on the proposed expansion of Adani group's Kattupalli Port.
- The project has drawn opposition from environmentalists and opposition parties due to concerns about its environmental impact.
- The expansion aims to transform the port into a multipurpose cargo facility.

Indian Air Force Gets Israeli Spike Missiles

- IAF received air-launched Israeli Spike Non Line of Sight (NLOS) Anti-Tank Guided Missiles.
- The missiles can hit targets up to 50 km from a helicopter and 32 km from the ground.
- They will be integrated with the fleet of Mi-17V5 helicopters.

India successfully concludes trials of anti-tank guided missiles

- India's indigenous Nag ATGM and HELINA (Dhruvastra) missiles are set to be inducted into the Indian army and IAF.
- Both missiles are developed by DRDO and manufactured by BDL.
- Nag is a surface-to-air missile, while Dhruvastra is an air-to-surface missile.

SBI Posts Highest-Ever Quarterly Profit Of ₹ 16,884 Crore

- SBI reported its highest-ever quarterly profit at ₹ 16,884 crore.
- The performance was attributed to a decline in bad loans and increased interest income.
- On a consolidated basis, SBI's net income also saw significant growth.

Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba gets one-year extension

- Rajiv Gauba has been granted a one-year extension, making him the longest-serving cabinet secretary in India's history.
- The decision was made by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- Gauba's tenure will surpass that of BD Pande, the previous longest-serving cabinet secretary.

PNGRB and World Bank to draft a roadmap for hydrogen blending in natural gas

- PNGRB and the World Bank are developing a roadmap for integrating hydrogen blending in natural gas.
- This includes proposing amendments to regulatory frameworks to align with the national objective of achieving a hydrogen consumption target by 2030.
- The study is scheduled to be completed within 16 weeks.

Kerala to soon see off its overseas emigrants with Shubhayatra scheme

- The State government of Kerala has launched the 'Shubhayatra' scheme to support first-time overseas emigrants.
- The scheme provides financial assistance, tax holidays, and interest subvention.
- It aims to enhance the quality of professional migration from Kerala.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi to lay foundation stone for railway station redevelopment

- PM Modi will virtually lay the foundation stone for the redevelopment of 508 railway stations across India.
- The project aims to enhance passenger amenities and improve railway infrastructure.
- The work is part of the Amrit Bharat Scheme and carries a budget of ₹24,470 crore.

Alex Hales from England announces retirement from International Cricket

- Alex Hales has retired from international cricket at the age of 34.
- He played 11 Tests, 70 ODIs, and 75 T20Is for England.
- Hales was a T20 World Cup winner and had a successful career in limited-overs cricket.

World Archery Championships 2023: India wins historic gold medal

- The Indian women's compound archery team won a gold medal at the World Archery Championships.
- It was India's first-ever gold at the archery world championships.
- The team comprised Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur, and Aditi Gopichand Swami.

Padma Bhushan awardee and IAS officer N Vittal passes away

- N Vittal, a Padma Bhushan awardee and IAS officer, passed away.
- He had a wide-ranging experience in industrial administration, science and technology, and security.
- Vittal played a key role in boosting the software industry in India.

Health Ministry prohibits sale of Ketoprofen and Aceclofenac

- The production, sale, and distribution of Ketoprofen and Aceclofenac for animal use are prohibited.
- These drugs have adverse effects on vultures and raptor species.
- The ban aims to protect the vulture population, which declined due to the use of diclofenac in cattle.

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Prime Minister launches Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in 13 railway stations

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) to rejuvenate 13 railway stations.
- The scheme aims to transform and revitalize 1,309 railway stations across the country.
- Work on 508 stations has already begun with an investment of ₹25,000 crore.

India imposes anti-dumping duty on optical fibre imports from China, Korea and Indonesia

- Anti-dumping duty has been imposed on Dispersion Unshifted Single-Mode Optical Fiber (SMOF) imports from China, South Korea, and Indonesia.
- The duty has been introduced to address the adverse impacts of cheap and substandard imports on the domestic optical fiber industry.
- The Finance Ministry has taken this step based on the recommendations of the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR).

Iraq becomes 18th country recognised by WHO for eliminating Trachoma

- Iraq has been officially recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the 18th country to eliminate trachoma.
- The WHO has also acknowledged Iraq as the 50th country to eliminate at least one Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) globally.
- Trachoma is a contagious bacterial eye infection that primarily affects the surface of the eye and the inside of the eyelid.

Bihar to Constitute ‘Rhino Task Force’ for Reintroduction of Rhino Conservation Scheme

- The Bihar government will establish a ‘Rhino Task Force’ to reintroduce the rhino conservation scheme in Valmiki Tiger Reserve.
- The task force aims to suggest measures for increasing the rhino population in the region, which currently has only one rhino.
- The authorities plan to bring back more rhinos to the reserve through the efforts of the task force.

India launches ‘Neerakshi’ – Autonomous Underwater Vehicle for mine detection

- The Indian Navy, Coast Guard, and Army will conduct user trials of an autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) called ‘Neerakshi’.
- Developed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd and AEPL, the AUV is designed for mine detection.
- The AUV has a length of 2.15m, an endurance of nearly 4 hours, and can operate up to a depth of 300m.

HDFC Bank’s Jagdishan Highest Paid Bank CEO in FY23 with Rs 10.55cr Pay

- Sashidhar Jagdishan, the CEO of HDFC Bank, is the highest-paid bank CEO in the fiscal year

2023.

- Amitabh Chaudhary of Axis Bank and Sandeep Bakshi of ICICI Bank are among the highest-paid bank CEOs in the country.
- The remuneration of bank CEOs is based on their contribution to the growth and profitability of their respective banks.

FISU World University Games 2023, Complete Medal Tally

- The World University Games, also known as the Universiade, is currently taking place in Chengdu, China.
- Over 9,500 student-athletes from universities around the world are competing in 18 different sports.
- Japan emerged as the dominant nation in the previous edition, securing the highest position on the medal table.

SAI launched short movie series 'Halla Bol' Under 'Cheer4India' Campaign

- The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has launched a short movie series called 'Halla Bol' under the 'Cheer4India' campaign.
- The series aims to motivate Asian Games-bound athletes and raise awareness about the upcoming Asian Games.
- The first episode of the series, featuring star athlete Neeraj Chopra, has gained significant popularity on social media.

India observes 3rd 'Javelin Throw Day' on August 07, 2023

- August 7th is observed as National Javelin Day in India to celebrate the achievement of Neeraj Chopra.
- The Athletics Federation of India dedicated this day to honor Neeraj Chopra's contribution to Indian athletics.
- This year marked the 3rd observance of Javelin Throw Day.

National Handloom Day 2023: Date, Significance and History

- August 7 is celebrated as National Handloom Day in India to support and acknowledge the handloom industry.
- The day aims to enhance the economic well-being of artisans, weavers, and producers in the handloom sector.
- This year marked the 9th celebration of National Handloom Day.

Rabindranath Tagore death anniversary

- August 7 marks the death anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, a Nobel laureate and legendary figure in Bengali literature.
- Tagore composed over 2,000 songs and wrote novels, short stories, and poems throughout his prolific career.
- His compositions were chosen as national anthems for India and Bangladesh.

World rice price index jumps to near 12-year high in July: FAO report

- The FAO All Rice Price Index increased by 2.8 percent in July, reaching its highest level since September 2011.
- India's exports of non-basmati white rice have significantly increased in the fiscal year 2022-23.
- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) works towards eliminating hunger and improving food security globally.

Digital registry on organ transplants to streamline donations on cards

- The National Health Authority (NHA) and the Ministry of Health are developing an Organ Donation Registry.
- The registry aims to introduce digital improvements to the National Organ Tissue Transplantation Organisation (NOTTO).
- The digital registry will enhance transparency and streamline the organ allocation process for patients in need.

Telangana folk singer Gaddar passes away

- Renowned folk singer and activist Gaddar passed away at the age of 74.
- Gaddar gained popularity for his songs that brought attention to the issues faced by common people.
- He was known as the people's singer and made significant contributions to the field of folk music.

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Cabinet approves Rs 1.39 lakh cr for connecting 6.4 lakh villages with broadband

- Final phase of BharatNet project approved by Union Cabinet
- Budget of Rs 1.39 lakh crore allocated for broadband connectivity
- Department of Telecommunications aims to link all villages within 2.5 years

New COVID variant Eris spreading rapidly in UK; know signs and symptoms

- Eris variant rapidly spreading in UK, Europe, Asia, and North America
- One out of every seven COVID-19 cases in the UK linked to Eris
- Variant believed to have originated from Omicron lineage

Cambodian King appoints Hun Sen's son as new Prime Minister

- Hun Manet appointed as Prime Minister of Cambodia by King Norodom Sihamoni
- Hun Sen stepped down and handed power to his son after landslide victory in July polls
- Cambodia's capital: Phnom Penh, Currency: Cambodian riel, Official language: Khmer

Profit Of PSU Banks More Than Doubles To Rs 34,774 Cr In Q1

- Public sector banks recorded over Rs 34,774 crore profit in Q1 of June 2023
- 12 state-owned banks reported collective profit of Rs 15,306 crore in the previous year's April-June period
- Punjab National Bank achieved highest percentage growth, 307 percent increase in profit

IndiaFirst Life Insurance launches new G.O.L.D. plan

- IndiaFirst Life Insurance introduces non-linked and non-participating G.O.L.D. plan
- Plan offers regular, long-term income to policyholders for financial security
- Premium payment terms of 6, 8, or 10 years available, with policy terms of 30 and 40 years

SC to Appoint All-Woman Panel to Oversee Relief in Manipur

- All-woman panel formed by Chief Justice of India to provide relief in Manipur
- Panel consists of three former High Court judges, headed by Justice Gita Mittal
- Panel to oversee relief and rehabilitation efforts, restore homes and places of worship

Chhattisgarh CM transfers Rs 15 crore as part of Godhan Nyay Yojana

- Chhattisgarh government transfers over Rs 15 crore as part of Godhan Nyay Yojna
- Initiative supports cattle rearers, women's self-help groups, and 'gauthan' committees
- Program recognized nationally, inspiring other states to adopt similar initiatives

Tesla appoints India-origin Vaibhav Taneja as its CFO

- Vaibhav Taneja named Tesla's new Chief Financial Officer
- Previous CFO Zachary Kirkhorn steps down from the post
- Taneja joined Tesla in 2017 and is a commerce graduate from Delhi University

International Day Of The World's Indigenous Peoples 2023: Date, theme, Significance and History

- UN's International Day of the World's Indigenous People observed on August 9
- Event promotes and protects rights of Indigenous population and recognizes their contributions
- This year's theme: Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-determination

World Nagasaki Day 2023: Date, Significance and History

- Nagasaki Day observed on August 9, commemorating devastation caused by atomic bomb during World War II
- Serves as a reminder of destructive power of nuclear weapons and need for peace
- Nagasaki was hit by second atomic bomb, codenamed "Fat Man," on August 9, 1945

Quit India Movement: Date, History and Significance

- Quit India Movement initiated by Indian National Congress on August 8, 1942
- Led by Mahatma Gandhi, movement aimed for India's independence from British rule
- Movement known as August Movement and marked significant milestone in India's history

Indian wrestlers win 11 medals at World u-17 championships

- India wins 11 medals at World Cadet Wrestling Championships in Istanbul, Turkey
- Savita wins gold in women's 61kg weight division
- India finishes sixth in men's freestyle, fourth in men's Greco-Roman, and third in women's freestyle team rankings

Five percent of birds in India are endemic: Zoological Survey of India publication

- Zoological Survey of India reveals 5% of India's bird species are endemic
- India has 1,353 documented bird species, with 78 exclusively endemic to the country
- India has significant avian diversity, accounting for approximately 12.40% of global avian population

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1. Over 5.25 crore subscribers enrolled in Atal Pension Yojana

- The Atal Pension Yojana (APY) scheme has gathered over 5.25 crore subscribers in eight years.
- APY aims to provide old age income security for Indian citizens, particularly those in the unorganized sector.
- New enrollments in FY 2022-23 increased by 20%, continuing the upward trend observed in previous years.

2. Iraq bans media from using term 'homosexuality'

- Iraqi media and social media entities are instructed to use the term 'sexual deviance' instead of 'homosexuality'.
- This decision comes amid growing opposition to LGBT rights in Iraq, including protests against rainbow flags.
- The ban applies to all media and social media establishments in the country.

3. China's July Exports Experience Double-Digit Plunge, Adding Pressure to Bolster Ailing Economy

- China's exports drop by 14.5% in July, marking the most significant contraction since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Economic growth in the second quarter decelerates to 0.8%, one of China's weakest performances in decades.
- The decline in exports is attributed to falling prices, while the volume of goods remains higher than pre-pandemic levels.

4. Defence Ministry to switch to locally built OS in computers amid threats

- India's Ministry of Defence opts to replace Microsoft OS with the domestically developed 'Maya' operating system.
- Maya OS was created within six months by a government organization, showcasing local

innovation.

- The switch aims to enhance cybersecurity measures in response to escalating cyber threats.

5. Quad Navies Set to Commence Malabar Joint Drills with a Focus on Anti-Submarine Warfare

- The Malabar naval exercises involving India, Japan, the United States, and Australia will focus on anti-submarine warfare.
- The exercises aim to enhance maritime security and cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Coordinated maneuvers, air defense strategies, and sea operations will be practiced to improve interoperability among the Quad navies.

6. Swathi Mountains: A Compact Weapon Locating Radar

- The Indian Army introduces the "Swathi Mountains," a lighter and more compact version of the indigenous Weapon Locating Radar (WLR-M).
- Developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), the Swathi Mountains WLR enhances military operations in challenging terrains.
- This advanced radar system caters to mountainous and high-altitude regions, contributing to India's defense capabilities.

7. Public sector banks and major private banks collected over ₹35,000 cr in charges

- State-owned and private banks in India accumulate over ₹35,000 crore in fees since 2018.
- Charges primarily come from account holders failing to maintain the minimum balance, additional ATM transactions, and SMS services.
- The RBI emphasizes the need for reasonable charges based on the average cost of providing services and fairness in SMS alert fees.

8. World Lion Day Observed Globally On 10th August

- World Lion Day is celebrated on August 10th worldwide to raise awareness about lion conservation.
- It aims to inform people about the challenges faced by lions globally and promote initiatives for their preservation.
- World Lion Day was established in 2013 by Big Cat Rescue, a sanctuary dedicated to lions, and co-founded by Dereck and Beverly Joubert.

9. World Biofuel Day 2023 Observed Globally On 10 August

- World Biofuel Day, observed on August 10th annually, raises awareness about non-fossil fuels as alternatives to conventional fuels.
- It honors Sir Rudolf Diesel's research experiment in 1893, which predicted the future significance of vegetable oil as fuel.
- The day acknowledges the efforts made by the Government in the biofuel sector and is organized by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

10. What is BHU-VISION?

- Bhu-Vision (or KRISHI-RASTAA Soil Testing System) is an IoT-based automated soil testing and agronomy advisory platform launched in India.
- It is a portable device that can be operated by anyone with minimal training, connecting to a cloud-based server and a mobile app.

- Bhū-Vision performs 12 key soil parameter tests in 30 minutes, including pH, organic carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and more.

11. GOI says Crop Insurance Claims of worth Rs. 2,761.10 crore pending

- Pending crop insurance claims under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY) amount to approximately Rs. 2,716.10 crore.
- Delays in settling claims result from factors such as late transmission of yield data, delayed release of government premium subsidy, and disagreements between insurance companies and states.
- Rajasthan has the highest amount of pending claims, followed by Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, and Jharkhand.

12. Justice Subhasis Talapatra sworn in as new Chief Justice of Orissa High Court

- Justice Subhasis Talapatra takes over as the 33rd Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court, succeeding Justice S Muralidhar.
- He will hold the position for under two months, retiring on October 3, 2023.
- Justice Talapatra began his judicial journey in 2013 and was transferred to the Orissa High Court in 2022.

13. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal takes charge as CBIC Chairman

- IRS officer Sanjay Kumar Agarwal becomes the Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- Agarwal succeeds Vivek Johri, who superannuated on May 31.
- CBIC, responsible for policy-making in indirect taxes, is headed by a chairman and supported by six members in the board.

14. Renowned Malayalam director, screenwriter Siddique Ismail passes away

- Renowned Malayalam director and screenwriter Siddique Ismail passes away at 63.
- Notable movies directed by Siddique include Friends, Engal Anna, Sadhu Miranda, and Bhaskar Oru Rascal.
- Siddique began his directorial journey as part of the 'Siddique-Lal' duo, delivering iconic Malayalam films like Ramji Rao Speaking and In Harihar Nagar.

15. Oscar Winning American Director William Friedkin Passes Away

- William Friedkin, director of films like The Exorcist and The French Connection, passes away at the age of 87.
- The French Connection won five Oscars, including Best Picture and Best Director.
- Friedkin's last film, The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial, is set to premiere at the Venice International Film Festival.