

February 2023 Monthly Current Affairs

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Elon Musk Regains Top Spot As World's Richest Man On Surge In Tesla Shares

- Elon Musk reclaimed the top spot as the world's richest person, after briefly losing the title to the 73-year-old French tycoon Bernard Arnault. Musk's wealth has seen a rise by nearly 70 per cent surge in Tesla Inc's stock price this year, On Monday, Tesla shares surged 5.5 to \$207.63 at 4 pm in New York, pushing Musk's net worth to \$187.1 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. Musk overtook Arnault's \$185.3 billion personal fortune.

Putin Awards 'Friendship' Medal To US Actor And Russian Citizen Steven Seagal For 'Humanitarian Work

- Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday honoured the American actor Steven Seagal with the state Order of Friendship medal for his contribution to improving Russia's international relations. 70-year-old Seagal was granted Russian citizenship in 2016 and he received a Russian passport personally from Putin, reported CNN. From then, the actor has been serving as a special envoy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for humanitarian relations with the US and Japan since 2018,

India ranked 42 in 55 countries on the International IP Index

- India has ranked 42nd among 55 leading global economies on the International IP Index released by the U.S. Chambers of Commerce. The United States ranks first in the 2023 index, followed by the UK and France According to the report, India's size and economic influence is growing on the world stage. India is poised to become a leader for emerging markets seeking to transform their economies through IP-driven innovation.

Los Angeles Sees Rare Snow Storm And Heavy Rain, Causing Large Power Outages

- Heavy snowfall was witnessed in southern California, including hills around Los Angeles which saw the first blizzard in generations while flooding threatened other places. Snow and high winds brought down power lines, resulting in power outages for more than 100,000 customers in California.

World Bank announces \$2.5 billion in additional Ukraine aid on war anniversary

- The World Bank announced \$2.5 billion in additional grant financing from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to support Ukraine's budget and maintain essential services.
- The latest financing under the World Bank's Public Expenditures for Administrative Capacity Endurance in Ukraine(PEACE) project lifts the total to \$20.6 billion and will support salaries in core government functions and sectors such as healthcare and education while allowing Kyiv to pay pensions and support internally displaced people.

Pakistan receives \$700 mln funds

- Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said his country has received \$700 million funds from the China Development Bank. The deposit comes as Pakistan has been struggling with its external debt and has barely enough dollars to cover less than three weeks' worth of imports.

India-Germany Agreement to build 6 submarines for \$5.2 billion

- German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's visit to India on February 25–26 will focus on advancing a \$5.2 billion agreement between Germany and India to jointly construct six conventional submarines in India. The naval project is a Western military manufacturing power's most recent effort to wean New Delhi off of its reliance on Russian military hardware.

Earthquake Of 5.5 Magnitude Hits Central Turkiye, 37th Tremor In 66 Hours

- This is the 37th felt earthquake in Central Turkey in the last 66 hours, European-Mediterranean Seismological Centre said. According to news agency Reuters, the quake occurred at a depth of 10km. Saturday's quake comes just weeks after the border areas of the country were devastated by a larger earthquake that killed more than 50,000 people and destroyed thousands of homes.

UAE Hosts First I2U2 Vice-Ministerial Meeting

- The vice ministers of I2U2 countries – Israel, India, the United States and the United Arab Emirates on Wednesday focused on potential partnerships in the fields of food security, energy, water, space, transport, health, and technology. The I2U2 business forum, held in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), brought together senior private and public sector representatives from the four countries to discuss opportunities for cooperation between the business communities.

7.2 Magnitude Earthquake Hits Tajikistan Near China Border

- An earthquake of magnitude 7.2 on the Richter scale struck Tajikistan at around 8:37 a.m. (0037 GMT), at a depth of 10 km (6 miles), reported Chinese state television CCTV on Thursday. The epicentre was located about 82 kilometres from the nearest border with China and was strongly felt in Kashgar and Artux in the western part of the Xinjiang region.

Russian President Announces Suspension Of Participation In Last Remaining Nuclear Treaty With US

- President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday that Russia would withdraw from the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) pact with the United States, which limits the two countries' strategic nuclear arsenals. The New START treaty was signed in Prague in 2010, went into effect the following year, and was renewed for five years in 2021, shortly after US President Joe Biden took office.

- It restricts the amount of strategic nuclear warheads that the US and Russia can deploy, as well as the use of land-based and submarine-based missiles and bombers to deliver them.

Biden Announces \$500 Million Aid Package And More Arms Supplies To Ukraine During Surprise Visit

- US President Joe Biden on Monday announced new military aid and a fresh round of sanctions on Russia during his surprise visit to Ukraine to meet with President Volodymyr Zelensky. This is Biden's first visit to a war zone as president. Biden announced an aid package worth \$500 million that would include artillery ammunition, more javelins and howitzers.

North Korea Fires Ballistic Missile Towards South Korea's Eastern Waters

- North Korea launched an unspecified ballistic missile on Monday, the South Korean military said. This is North Korea's second missile launch in less than 48 hours and a day after joint US-South Korean drills, as reported by the news agency AFP. "North Korea fired an unspecified ballistic missile toward the East Sea on Monday," Seoul's Joint Chief of Staff said, according to the official Yonhap news agency, referring to the body of water also known as the Sea of Japan.

Israeli Missile Strikes Residential Building In Syria's Damascus : 15 Dead

- At least 15 people, including civilians, were killed in an Israeli rocket strike that hit a residential building in Damascus's Kafr Sousa neighbourhood early on Sunday, reported AFP quoting the Syrian Observatory for human rights. The Israeli airstrikes targeted a heavily guarded security complex close to Iranian installations, witnesses and officials told Reuters.

North Korea Confirms Testing Ballistic Missile

- North Korea tested a Hwasong-15 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) on Saturday in a "sudden launching drill" that confirmed its readiness for "mobile and mighty counterattack" against hostile forces, as per the state news agency KCNA. North Korea on Saturday afternoon launched a long-range ballistic missile into the sea off Japan's west coast. The launch came after North Korea warned of a strong response to South Korea and US' upcoming drills.

US Treasury Secretary Yellen To Visit India Next Week For G20 Meetings

- US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen would travel to India next week to participate in the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Ministerial. During the visit, her priority will be the war in Ukraine and addressing the challenges for building a stronger, more resilient, and global economy, as reported by the news agency PTI. "In these engagements, Yellen will join with allies in holding Russia accountable for its illegal invasion of Ukraine, and partner with countries to mitigate the spillover effects of the war.

EAM S Jaishankar Calls On Aus PM Albanese To Discuss Bilateral Strategic Ties

- External Affairs minister S Jaishankar on Saturday met Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese at the latter's official residence in Sydney and apprised him of the recent developments related to the strategic partnership between both the countries. The meeting comes ahead of the Australian PM's scheduled trip to India next month as the two countries seek to finalise a trade deal following the interim agreement signed in April 2022.

Neal Mohan, the new Indian American CEO of YouTube

- An Indian-American, Neal Mohan will become the next Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Alphabet-owned YouTube following Susan Wojcicki's announcement that she will be stepping down from her role as the head of the video-sharing platform. Neal Mohan has been serving as the chief product officer for YouTube since 2015. Prior to this, Mohan had worked at the online search giant Google, which he had joined in 2008.

MoU between India , Chile in Agricultural Sector

The Union Cabinet approved signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Chile for cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors. The MoU will come in force upon its signature and will remain effective for 5 years from the date of execution after which it will be automatically renewed for another 5 years.

The World Bank chief David Malpass to step down early

- World Bank chief David Malpass has announced his resignation nearly a year early. He ending a tenure at the head of the development lender that was clouded by questions over his climate stance. The veteran of Republican administrations in the United States was appointed to the role in 2019 when Donald Trump was president and previously served as Under Secretary of the Treasury for international affairs. Malpass's term would have originally ended in 2024.

Rolls-Royce Announced Order of Trent XWB-97 Engines from Air India

- British engineering company Rolls-Royce on Tuesday announced that it has received an order from Air India for 68 Trent XWB-97 engines, in addition to an option for 20 more.

Former Italian PM Silvio Berlusconi Acquitted In 'Bunga-Bunga' Bribe Case

- Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has been acquitted of the charges of bribing witnesses to lie about his notorious "bunga-bunga" parties, reported BBC. Apart from him, 28 other defendants have also been acquitted.
- Italy's PM Giorgia Meloni hailed his acquittal as "excellent news that puts an end to a long legal case that also had important repercussions on Italian political and

institutional life". Berlusconi's Forza Italia party is a part of the Meloni-led coalition government.

Magnitude 6.1 quake strikes off New Zealand coast

- A magnitude 6.1 earthquake struck New Zealand near Wellington on Wednesday at a depth of 48 km (30 miles), government seismic monitor Geonet said. The earthquake's epicentre was 50 km from the town of Paraparaumu, according to Geonet. A Reuters witness felt a strong shaking that lasted several seconds in the capital of Wellington. New Zealand lies on the seismically active "Ring of Fire", a 40,000-km arc of volcanoes and ocean trenches girdling much of the Pacific Ocean.

Air India: The record plane deal, a game-changer

- Air India's record deal for 470 planes from Airbus and Boeing has happened at a time when the carrier plans to become "a world-class proposition", in the words of N Chandrasekaran, chairman of Tata group, which owns the airline.

World's Biggest Aircraft Deal Between Air India And Airbus Shows Strengthening India-France Ties: PM Modi

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron launched the Air India-Airbus partnership via video conference on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, PM Modi said the deal reflected the strengthening relations between India and France. "This important deal reflects the deepening ties between India and France, as well as the successes and aspirations of India's civil aviation sector. Whether it is the issue of security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region, or global food security and health security, India and France together are making a positive contribution," PM Modi said.

Cyclone Gabrielle hits New Zealand, Declares State Of Emergency As Massive Storm Causes Floods, Landslides

- New Zealand declared a national state of emergency on Tuesday. The decision comes after cyclone Gabrielle caused widespread flooding, landslides, and huge ocean swells, as reported by the news agency Reuters. This has happened only for the third time in its history. The cyclone has forced people to evacuate and some people are left stranded on rooftops.

Marburg Disease Outbreak

- The World Health Organization recently confirmed the Marburg disease outbreak in Equatorial Guinea. Patients suffering from the disease experience diarrhoea, vomiting, and stomach pain. Also, there is bleeding in severe cases. An e-bola-related virus is causing the disease. The Spread of the disease is epidemic; meaning the disease is widespread.

Rishi Sunak Promises To Do 'Whatever It Takes' To Defend UK From 'Spy' Balloons

- According to the BBC, Prime Minister of the UK, Rishi Sunak said that his government will do "whatever it takes" to keep the country safe from spy balloons. He added that a "quick reaction alert force" of RAF Typhoon jets was on stand-by 24/7 to "police our airspace" The issue of the 'spy' balloon seems to have become a matter of international concern with now the United Kingdom putting the military on alert to review the security after the US shot down a series of flying objects recently.

Anil Kapoor And Aditya Roy Kapur Feature On John le Carre's Novel The Night Manager

- Bollywood actors Anil Kapoor and Aditya Roy Kapur have featured on the cover of the new edition of British-Irish author John le Carre's novel 'The Night Manager', on which their upcoming eponymous streaming show is based. This is the first time ever that an Indian show has featured on an international bestseller.

Russia's Rosoboronexport To Offer New Joint Venture Defence Projects To India

- Not just the US, Russia is also vying to grab its share of the 'Make In India' pie by offering a raft of projects under this programme of the Narendra Modi government, according to Russia's state-owned Rosoboronexport. Rosoboronexport, a permanent exhibitor at Aero India, is the organiser of Russia's collective display at the Aero India 2023 at the Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru.

Former Judge Mohammad Shahabuddin Chuppu to become the next president of Bangladesh

Former judge and Awami League leader, Mohammad Shahabuddin Chuppu, is poised to become the next president of Bangladesh, as his party which secured a majority in the parliament has chosen him as their candidate for the upcoming presidential election. The announcement was made by the party's General Secretary, Obaidul Quader, on Sunday (February 12).

World Government Summit 2023 to begin on February 13 in Dubai

The World Government Summit 2023 is set to begin on February 13th in Dubai. The Summit will be held under the theme of "Shaping Future Governments". It will bring together global thought leaders, global experts, and decision makers to share and contribute to the development of tools, policies, and models that will be critical in shaping future governments.

Google Doodle celebrates PK Rosy, the first female lead in Malayalam film

- Google dedicated a doodle to PK Rosy, Malayalam cinema's first lead female actor, on her 120th birthday. A page dedicated to her on Google mentions that she was born on February 10, 1903, in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

South Africa declares 'State of Disaster' over electricity crisis

- In order to speed up the government's reaction to an ongoing energy crisis, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa proclaimed a state of Disaster. He also promised to designate a minister in his office who will concentrate on increasing the supply of power.

Operation Dost, - India's massive humanitarian aid for Turkey-Syria earthquake

- The Turkey-Syria earthquake led to the collapse of over 11,000 buildings and structures across both countries, while the rescue operations to help those who are stuck in the rubble are difficult due to the onslaught of the biting cold and sub-zero temperatures in several areas.
- In an effort to help those hit by the earthquake, the Indian government is extending a hand of friendship to both countries in the form of massive humanitarian aid, with multiple jets flying off to the countries carrying relief material.

Australia Orders Review Into Chinese-Made Cameras In Defence Offices Amid Security Fears

- Amid the US-China spy balloon row, the Australian government on Thursday said that it will examine surveillance technology used in offices of the defence department, following reports that Chinese-made cameras installed there posed a security risk.

Singapore To Discard COVID-19 Border Safety Measures, Will Take Its Disease Alert To 'Lowest'

- Singapore will scrap all COVID-19 border safety measures from next Monday when the country steps down its disease alert to its lowest level. This is due to the improving pandemic situation globally and the low impact of imported cases on Singapore's healthcare capacity said the Ministry of Health (MOH) on Thursday. Singapore will also step down its disease alert to its lowest level since the COVID-19 pandemic started three years ago, with face masks no longer mandatory on local public transport as well as at some healthcare and residential care settings from Monday.

Legendary Songwriter Burt Bacharach Dies At The Age Of 94

- US media reported on Thursday that legendary American pop songwriter Burt Bacharach, whose prodigious work created a chart-topping soundtrack for the 1960s and 1970s, has died in Los Angeles at the age of 94.

Ukrainian President Zelensky Visits UK, To Meet King Charles III, Address Parliament

- Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky will meet Britain's King Charles III and UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on his second overseas trip since Russian troops invaded his country nearly a year back Downing Street also announced that

Zelensky will meet UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and the military chiefs, and address the parliament.

Indo-American Congressman Ami Bera Elected Key House Foreign Affair Subcommittee Ranking Member

- Indian American Congressman Ami Bera has been elected as Ranking Member of a key House Foreign Affairs Sub Committee that handles the Indo-Pacific region. Last November, Bera, 57, was re-elected as a member of the US House of Representatives from the Sixth Congressional District of California. He is the senior-most Indian American lawmaker in the House that now has five such lawmakers in the 118th Congress.

Indian-American Natasha Perianayagam Named World's Brightest For 2nd Consecutive Year

- Indian-American schoolgirl Natasha Perianayagam was named in the "world's brightest" students list for the second consecutive year by the US-based Johns Hopkins Center For Talented Youth, based on the results of above-grade-level tests of over 15,000 students across 76 countries. She also took the Johns Hopkins Center For Talented Youth (CTY) test in Spring 2021, when she was a Grade 5 student.
- Russia To Soon Complete Delivery Of Third Regiment Of S-400 Missile Systems To India Russia will soon complete the supplies of the third regiment of the S-400 Triumf surface-to-air missile systems to India as both sides are committed to the contract, Russian Ambassador Denis Alipov has said. - Russia has already completed supplies of the first two regiments of the missile systems.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan declares state of emergency for three months for earthquake-hit regions

- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday declared a state of emergency for three months across ten provinces ravaged by the earthquakes which killed thousands of people in the country.
- In a televised address, the Turkish President said, a state of emergency is being declared to ensure that the rescue and recovery work can be carried out quickly. President Erdogan said, they are declaring ten cities impacted by the devastating earthquakes in Southern Turkiye as a disaster zone.

India, France, UAE Establish Trilateral Cooperation Initiative

- The foreign ministers of the three nations have formally announced a trilateral initiative which will focus on solar and nuclear energy, as well as the fight against climate change and the protection of biodiversity, particularly in the Indian Ocean region.
- Ricky Kej Wins Third Grammy, Music composer Ricky Kej, based out of Bengaluru, has won his third Grammy Award for the album 'Divine Tides'. Music

composer Ricky Kej, based out of Bengaluru, has won his third Grammy Award for the album 'Divine Tides'.

Second Earthquake Strikes Turkey And Syria

- Another earthquake of magnitude 7.6 struck the Elbistan district in Kahramanmaraş Province in southern Turkey, the country's Anadolu news agency reported on Monday. The earthquake also hit neighbouring Syria, The epicentre of the first earthquake, which was 7.8 in magnitude, was near the city of Gaziantep in southern Turkey. Thousands were killed in the first earthquake that hit at 4.17 am - local time.

Rashtriya Swatantra Party decides to withdraw from Nepal's ruling coalition

- Nepal's Rashtriya Swatantra Party (RSP) has decided to withdraw from the newly-formed government led by Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' with ministers resigning en-masse as the rift widened in the ruling coalition. The announcement to this effect was made by the RSP President - Rabi Lamichhane.
- Third Quake Hits Turkey In 24 Hours, Another earthquake of magnitude 6.0 strikes central Turkey, says USGS. This is the third earthquake in Turkey after two powerful earthquakes in less than 24 hours.

India To Send Search & Rescue, Medical Teams Along With Relief Material To Turkey

- Search & Rescue Teams of NDRF and Medical Teams along with relief materials would be dispatched immediately. Relief material will be dispatched in coordination with the Turkey government and Indian

Embassy in Ankara and the Consulate General office in Istanbul

- Two teams of NDRF comprising 100 personnel with specially trained dog squads and necessary equipment are ready to be flown to the earthquake -hit area for search and rescue operations, PMO said in a statement. Medical Teams are also being readied with trained doctors and paramedics with essential medicines.

Former Pakistan President, General (Retd) Pervez Musharraf passed away in Dubai

- Pakistan President Arif Alvi has expressed condolences on the death of Pervez Musharraf, The chiefs of Pakistan's army, navy and air force expressed condolences on the former military ruler's death, the public relations wing of the military said, reported Reuters.

Centre starts process to ban 138 betting apps, 94 loan lending apps with Chinese links

- In a major crackdown, the Central government has initiated the process to ban and block 138 betting apps and 94 loan lending apps with Chinese links on an 'urgent' and 'emergency' basis, top government sources said on Sunday. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) is learnt to have

taken the decision based on the recommendations of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

Magnitude 7.8 earthquake hits Turkey

- The quake's depth is 24.1 kilometers (14.9 miles), located 23 kilometers (14.2 miles) east of Nurdagi, Gaziantep province, according to the USGS.
- Strong aftershocks have been felt. Another earthquake of 6.7 magnitude struck at a depth of 9.9 kilometers about 11 minutes after the first quake, some 32 kilometers (20 miles) northwest of the epicenter, the USGS said

Pakistan Blocks Online Encyclopedia Wikipedia For Refusing To Remove Blasphemous Content

- Pakistan has blocked Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia, after it refused to remove offensive or blasphemous material, according to media reports on Saturday. The blacklisting of Wikipedia comes days after the Pakistan Telecom Authority (PTA) degraded Wikipedia services for 48 hours, threatening to block it if the content deemed 'blasphemous' was not deleted.

NSA Ajit Doval To Meet His UK Counterpart Tim Barrow In London

- Ajit Doval will meet his UK counterpart Tim Barrow in London today – 4 Feb for the annual strategic dialogue, with the British state broadcaster BBC attempting to rake up the 2002 Gujarat riots and target Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the UK becoming a hotbed of the so-called Khalistan movement and Pakistan-sponsored movement to keep the Kashmir issue alive,

US Shoots Down Chinese 'Spy' Balloon, Beijing Threatens 'Repercussions'

- The United States military shot down the suspected Chinese spy balloon that was flying in its skies for the last several days, reported Associated Press (AP). The balloon was shot down off the Carolina coast.
- There was no delay in response from China on the shooting down of the balloon which threatened 'repercussions'. Beijing said that it reserved the right to "take further actions" and criticised the US for "an obvious overreaction and a serious violation of international practice," AP added.

India Asks Australia To Remain Vigilant On Khalistani Elements, Rejects Referendum

- The Ministry of External Affairs said New Delhi has raised the matter with Canberra even as voting for a separate Sikh homeland 'Khalistan' was carried out on January 29.

Former UK PM Boris Johnson's Brother Resigns As Director Of Adani-Linked Firm

- Lord Jo Johnson, younger brother of former British prime minister Boris Johnson, has resigned his non-executive directorship of a UK-based investment firm linked with the now-withdrawn Adani Enterprises Follow-on Public Offer (FPO).

US is preparing a military aid of more than \$2 billion for Ukraine

- The aid is expected to include longer-range rockets for the first time, other munitions, and weapons, two US officials told Reuters on Tuesday.
- According to the officials, the weapons aid is expected to be announced as soon as this week. The aid is also expected to include support equipment for Patriot air defense systems, precision-guided munitions, and Javelin anti-tank weapons, officials further stated, as reported by Reuters

Australia Radiation Alert: Tiny Radioactive Capsule Missing For Over 2 Weeks Found After 6-Day Search

- After a “relentless search”, the team looking for a radioactive capsule lost in Western Australia around two weeks ago is learnt to have found it. The 8mm by 6mm capsule that had triggered a radiation alert and posed a "significant public health risk" was part of a secure device on a truck travelling from a mine site to Perth and believed to have fallen from it during transportation somewhere along the Great Northern Highway, the longest one in Australia. It was spotted by the side of the road south of the town of Newman, The Guardian reported.

NATIONAL NEWS

Pepsi roped in Ranveer Singh as brand ambassador

- Beverage maker PepsiCo has appointed actor Ranveer Singh as its brand ambassador and also unveiled a new campaign targeting younger consumers as it gears up for a prolonged summer that could help lift sales of cold drinks.

3.7 Magnitude Earthquake Jolts Meghalaya's Tura

An earthquake of magnitude 3.7 on the Richter scale hit Meghalaya's Tura in the hourly hours of Tuesday, said the National Centre for Seismology, reported news agency ANI. The tremors were felt at 6:57 am, 59 kilometres north of Tura.

PM Modi Releases 13th Installment; Rs 16,000 Crore Transferred To Farmers' Account

- PM Narendra Modi on Monday released the 13th installment of the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana and said Rs 16,000 crore has been transferred to the personal accounts of the beneficiary farmers. “Under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, in one click, 16000 crore rupees have been deposited in the accounts of crores of farmers,” PM Modi said.

Youth 20 India Summit Hosted by Maharaja Sayajirao University, Gujarat

The Youth 20 India Summit will be held at the Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara in Gujarat which was attended by more than 600 delegates from 62 countries. The international conference of The Youth 20 India Summit was inaugurated by Bhupendra Patel, Chief Minister of Gujarat. The Youth 20 India

Summit is organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India to mark the celebration of India's G20 Presidency, the focus would be on 'Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making sustainability a Way of Life'.

PM Narendra Modi to inaugurate Shivamogga airport in Karnataka on Feb 27

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will embark on his fifth visit to poll-bound Karnataka this year on Monday to inaugurate Shivamogga airport and lay foundation for various development projects in Belagavi. According to an official statement, the Prime Minister will undertake a walkthrough and inspect the airport in Shivamogga. Inauguration and laying of the foundation stone of multiple projects in the district is also part of the programme. The new airport has been developed at a cost of around Rs 450 crore.

Maharashtra observes 56th death anniversary of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar

- People of Maharashtra are observing today : 26 Feb the 56th death anniversary of great revolutionary and freedom fighter Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, popularly known as Veer Savarkar. The Governor of state Ramesh Bais, Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis extended their tributes to the great social reformer.

Earthquake Of Magnitude 4.3 Jolts Rajkot In Gujarat

- A 4.3 magnitude earthquake rattled the Gujarat district of Rajkot on Sunday afternoon, according to the National Center for Seismology (NCS). The quake struck at 3:21 pm at a depth of 10 kilometres.

Uttarakhand govt inks deal for ropeway at Yamunotri Dham

- The Uttarakhand government has signed a contract to construct a 3.38 km ropeway from Janki Chatti in Kharsali to Yamunotri Dham. To be built at a cost of Rs 166.82 crore, the ropeway will cut down the travel time from the current 2-3 hours to just 20 minutes. At present pilgrims have to trek for 5.5 km to reach Yamunotri Dham from Kharsali.

PM Narendra Modi Inaugurated Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava Festival

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava cultural festival at Talkatora Stadium in Delhi on 25th February 2023. Prime Minister Modi addressed the gathering on the occasion. 'Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava' cultural festival is being organized to celebrate Karnataka's culture, traditions, and history.

Former Karnataka Chief Minister and BJP Leader BS Yediyurappa retire from active politics

- Former Karnataka Chief Minister and BJP Leader BS Yediyurappa has announced his retirement from active politics. He announced his retirement in his last speech in the state assembly. He said, "I have decided to retire from active

politics but will work till my last breath to make BJP win. My only aim is to bring BJP back to power and I am sure it will happen.'

Former Supreme Court Judge Abdul Nazeer Takes Oath As Andhra Pradesh Governor

- Former Supreme Court judge Justice S. Abdul Nazeer was sworn in as Governor of Andhra Pradesh on Friday. AP High Court Chief Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra administered the oath of office to Justice Nazeer at a ceremony held at Raj Bhavan in Vijayawada. Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, ministers, TDP chief N. Chandrababu Naidu, judges, and top officials attended the ceremony. The leaders and representatives greeted the new Governor following the oath of office.

Mumbai's Churchgate railway station to be renamed after India's first RBI Governor

- The Churchgate railway station in Mumbai will soon be renamed after the first governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) CD Deshmukh (Chintaman Dwarakanath Deshmukh). The station will be called 'Chintamanrao Deshmukh station'.

UP's Flying Institute IGRUA Ties Up With Flight Simulation Technique Centre To Train Student Pilots

- Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA), India's flying institute, has partnered with Flight Simulation Technique Centre (FSTC), based in Gurugram, to offer specialized training to student pilots, officials said. The training will focus on preparing aviators for flying Airbus A 320, Boeing 737, and ATR 72 aircraft, making them industry-ready.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde named as the Shiv Sena chief

- Eknath Shinde, the chief minister of Maharashtra, was elected as the Shiv Sena's supreme leader during the party's national executive meeting. The Election Commission of India (ECI) recognised his faction as the true Shiv Sena and gave him the "bow and arrow" insignia during the first national executive meeting following that recognition. The MLAs, MPs, and other Sena leaders who had joined Shinde after he split from the group headed by former chief minister Uddhav Thackeray were present at the meeting.

Former Income Tax Chief Commissioner TCA Ramanujam passes away

- TCA Ramanujam, Retired Chief Commissioner of Income Tax; Advocate, an erudite Sanskrit scholar and a columnist with businessline, passed away on Tuesday. He was 88. He is survived by his son, Arvind Rangarajan, and daughter, TCA Sangeetha. Ramanujam had been to Tirupati on Saturday and returned to Chennai the next day to deliver the keynote address at the Ananthawar festival. He complained of uneasiness and was admitted at a private hospital where he died on Tuesday at 11.30 pm, said Sangeetha.

AAP's Shelly Oberoi Elected Delhi Mayor, Becomes First Woman To Hold Post After A Decade

- After a long tussle between the Aam Aadmi Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party, AAP's Shelly Oberoi has been elected as the new mayor of Delhi on Wednesday. The mayoral election was held following the intervention by the Supreme Court. The election took place after three failed attempts by the municipal body to hold the election to the top post.

Actress And TV Host Subi Suresh Dies At 41

- Popular Malayalam actress, television host and stage-show performer, Subi Suresh died at a private hospital in Kochi on Wednesday, family sources said. She was 41 and was reportedly under treatment for liver related ailments for some time. Known for her slapstick roles, and spontaneous on-stage dialogue delivery, Suresh had a huge fan-following among audiences in small and big screens.

18th World Security Congress Begins in Jaipur

- A 3-day long 18th UIC World Security Congress jointly organised by the International Union of Railways (UIC), Paris and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) began on 21 February. Theme of this year's Congress is "Railway Security Strategy: Responses and Vision for Future". The World Security Congress is a globally recognized security platform that brings together representatives from member Railway Organizations, delegates of UIC, policy makers.

Kalinga Literary Festival 2023 To Kick Off From Feb 24

- Over 500 speakers across a vast array of nationalities from the fields of literature, cinema, media and politics will assemble to deliberate on the theme of "India and the World" at the annual Kalinga Literary Festival (KLF), which will take place from February 24-26 in Odisha's Bhubaneswar.

Earthquake Of 4.4 Magnitude Shakes Delhi-NCR And Parts Of UP

- An earthquake of magnitude 4.4 jolted parts of Delhi, NCR and Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday. Mild tremors were felt in many areas of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana and Delhi-NCR. The intensity was measured at 4.4 on the Richter scale and the epicentre has been located in Haridwar.

Ministry Of Education Asks All States, UTs To Make 6 Years Minimum Age For Class 1 Admission

The minimum age for admission in Class 1 will soon be set to six years. The Ministry of Education has directed all states and Union Territories to fix the minimum age for admission in Class 1 as six years, officials said on Wednesday.

Former Meghalaya Home Minister HDR Lyngdoh Passes Away

- Meghalaya Elections 2023: Former Meghalaya Home Minister HDR Lyngdoh passed away on Monday following a heart attack. Lyngdoh was a United

Democratic Party (UDP) candidate from the Sohiong assembly in East Khasi hills. As per ANI, the polls in the state will now be conducted in 59 out of 60 constituencies. According to ANI, Lyngdoh passed away after he suddenly collapsed during election campaigning. He was then rushed to a hospital. Lyngdoh had lost the 2018 polls which he had contested on a Congress ticket.

Nitin Gadkari Laid Foundation Stone of The First Divyang Park of Maharashtra

- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari laid the Foundation Stone of the world's largest and unique Divyang Park – Anubhuti Inclusive Park in Nagpur, Maharashtra. On the occasion, he informed that the park is being developed keeping in mind the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to build an inclusive society. Instead of sympathy, this park will show empathy, hence this park has been named Anubhuti Divyang Park.

Ujjain Breaks UP's World Record As 18.82 Lakh Diyas Illuminate City On Shivratri

- The country celebrated Mahashivratri on February 18, with great enthusiasm. From visiting the Shiva temples to the magnificent aarti in Varanasi and also the Sand Art Crafting at Juhu Beach, the festival was celebrated with devotion and fervour. Twitter and Instagram were flooded with wishes and posts amidst long hours of fasting. But, the most interesting bit of the entire celebration lay in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh. The city lit up with 18.82 lakh oil lamps, providing an outstanding view, and setting a New Guinness World Record. This took place primarily along the banks of the Kshipra river and drew over 20,000 volunteers.

World's First Om-Shaped Lord Shiva Temple Expected To Be Ready By 2024 In Rajasthan

- The Om-shaped Lord Shiva temple is soon going to be ready in the Jadan Village of Rajasthan's Pali, after nearly three decades since the laying of the foundation stone. This would be the first such temple in the world. The Om-shaped or the 'Om Aakar' temple is being constructed across a sprawling 250 acres of land in Jadan. Over 400 people worked on the construction of the temple.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Chairs 49th Meeting Of GST Council

- The 49th meeting of the GST Council is being Chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman after the presentation of the union budget earlier this month. The meeting is also being attended by Minister of State Pankaj Chaudhary, Finance Ministers of States and UTs, and senior officers of the government.

BCCI Chief Selector Chetan Sharma Resigns After Viral Sting Operation: Report

- After a sting operation of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) chief selector Chetan Sharma went viral, where he allegedly talked about Virat Kohli's captaincy woes and other issues, he has tendered his resignation from the

coveted post. As per ANI sources, Chetan Sharma sent his resignation to BCCI Secretary Jay Shah who has accepted it.

Actor Shah Nawaz Pradhan Passes Away At the age of 56, After A Heart Attack

- After having a heart attack on February 17, actor Shah Nawaz Pradhan passed away. He was 56. While attending a social event, he collapsed after complaining of terrible chest pain. He was sent to Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital immediately, but the doctors there were unable to save his life.

3.6 Magnitude Earthquake Jolts J&K's Katra

- Tremors were felt in Jammu and Kashmir's Katra early morning on Friday, as a 3.6 magnitude earthquake hit the area at 5.02 am as per the National Centre for Seismology. The depth of the earthquake was 10 kilometres under the surface.

Tamil Nadu Government's Electric Vehicle Policy 2023, Eyes Rs 50,000 Cr Investments.

- The Tamil Nadu government on Tuesday unveiled its electric vehicle (EV) policy 2023 which aims to garner investments to the tune of Rs 50,000 crore and generate 1.50 lakh jobs, in a boost to the EV industry. Chief Minister M K Stalin formally released the new policy in the presence of government officials at the Secretariat here

Actor Javed Khan Amrohi passes away in Mumbai

- Actor Javed Khan Amrohi passes away in Mumbai, he died due to lung failure. Javed Khan Amrohi appeared in films like Lagaan, Andaz Apna Apna, Chak De India, Coolie No 1, Hum Hain Rahi Pyaar Ke, Laadla, Ishq among many others. He was also seen in TV shows Mirza Ghalib and Nukkad.

Army gets its first set of offensive swarm drone system, IAF next

- This delivery for the Army may possibly be the world's first operational high density swarming Unmanned Aerial System induction for military applications.

RBI's financial literacy week starts from 13 to 17 February, 2023

- RBI's 'Financial Literacy Week' started on 13th and will last till February 17, 2023. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been conducting this every year since 2016 to propagate financial education messages on a particular theme among members of public across the country. Last year, RBI observed 'financial literacy week' from February 14 to February 18, 2022. The central bank held an event to propagate financial education messages on the theme of "Go Digital Go Secure".
- The theme selected for 2023 year's FLW is "Good Financial Behaviour - Your Saviour" which will be observed between February 13 and 17, 2023.

Mumbai ranks second most polluted city in the world according to Swiss air tracking index IQAir

- Mumbai was the second most polluted city in the world between January 29 and February 8, according to the Swiss air tracking index IQAir (a real-time worldwide air quality monitor).

Strict Anti-Copying Law comes into force in Uttarakhand

- The country's strictest Anti-Copying Law has come into force in Uttarakhand. Governor Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh has approved the Uttarakhand Competitive Examination (Measures for Prevention and Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Ordinance 2023. In view of this, the Anti -Copying Law is being described as the biggest anti-copying law in the country. This comes after the UKPSC paper leak which led to cancellation of exam for around 1.4 lakh government job aspirants.

TRIFED Aadi Mahotsav Festival

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate the national Aadi Mahotsav on 16th February, 2023 at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi. This was announced at a media briefing by the Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Arjun Munda in New Delhi. Ministers of State for Tribal Affairs, Ms Renuka Saruta was also present on the occasion.

Mumbaikars gear up to ride on India's first double-decker AC electric bus

- The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport, also known as 'BEST', inducted India's first air-conditioned double decker bus into its fleet on Monday. The agency has placed an order of 200 such unique electric double-decker air-conditioned buses with manufacturers 'Switch'.

Rajya Sabha Adjourned Till March 13 After Oppn Demand Over Adani Issue

- Union Minister Piyush Goyal on Monday said that the Opposition comes to Parliament with the motive of not letting dialogues happen peacefully after Rajya Sabha was adjourned following a ruckus by the Opposition over the Adani issue. "The opposition leaders didn't let the Rajya Sabha function smoothly. It is indirectly a disrespect of the Chair. Many members were passing comments. The opposition comes to the parliament with the motive of not letting dialogues happen peacefully.

Delhi to have India's first National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre

- The first National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre is in the process of development in New Delhi. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has awarded the contract, for the design and construction of the facility, to GA Infra Private Limited. The National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre will be an essential facility and act as a hub of resources for the metro's growth story.

AMRITPEX 2023 Inaugurated by Communications Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

- The Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated AMRITPEX 2023 – National Philatelic Exhibition. This five-day Mahakumbh of Stamps is being celebrated from 11th February to 15th February 2023 and is being organized as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Celebrations. The Minister of State for Communications, Devusinh Chauhan, Secretary, Department of Posts, Vineet Pandey, Director General Postal Services, Alok Sharma, and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

PM Narendra Modi To Inaugurate First Section Of Delhi-Mumbai Expressway In Rajasthan's Dausa

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate to the nation the Delhi-Dausa-Lalsot stretch, the first completed section of the Delhi-Mumbai Expressway on Sunday. The 246-kilometre section has been developed at a cost of over Rs 12,150 crore. The operationalisation of this stretch will reduce the travel time from Delhi to Jaipur from 5 hours to around 3.5 hours and provide a major boost to economic development of the entire region

Ramesh Bais appointed as the new Maharashtra governor

- Ramesh Bais has been appointed as the new Governor of Maharashtra; the President of India has accepted the resignation of Bhagat Singh Koshiyari as Governor of Maharashtra. Ramesh Bais was the tenth Governor of Jharkhand, succeeding Draupadi Murmu.

Earthquake Of Magnitude 4.0 Strikes Nagaon In Assam

- An Earthquake of Magnitude:4.0, Occurred on February 12, 2023, 16:18:17 IST, Lat: 26.10 & Long: 92.72, Depth: 10 Km, in Nagaon, Assam, As of now, there are no details regarding any impact or damage from the 4.0 magnitude earthquake.

PM Narendra Modi To Visit Bengaluru On Feb 13 To Inaugurate 14th Edition Of Aero India 2023

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit poll-bound Karnataka again on February 13 (Monday). to inaugurate 14th edition of Aero India 2023 at Air Force Station in Bengaluru. Aero India 2023, the biennial air show and aviation exhibition, will be held from 13-17 February. Hailed as Asia's largest air show, the Aero India show is organised by the Defence Ministry.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated Dawoodi Bohra community's Arabic Academy in Mumbai

- "I'm not here as Prime Minister, but as part of the family. Visiting you is like visiting my family. Please don't refer to me as PM or CM. I'm your family member," he said while addressing the community members.

G20 International Food Festival begins in Delhi

- The New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) is organizing the G20 food festival which aims at people to enjoy the delicacies of member countries and guest countries. Delhi's civic body has invited 29 countries to participate in the G20 food festival. An NDMC official said that the focus will be on unique Indian cuisines and it will create awareness of various international cuisines and knowledge about nutritional health and food preparation.

PM Narendra Modi Addresses UP Global Investors Summit, Hails Uttar Pradesh For Good Governance

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 in Lucknow Today in the presence of UP Governor Anandiben Patel, CM Yogi Adityanath and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and addressed the gathering present there. Speaking at the occasion the Prime Minister praised the Uttar pradesh government for "good governance" and "stability" in the state.

2 More Judges Appointed To Supreme Court, Top Court Gets Full Bench Strength Of 34 Judges

- Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Friday announced that President Droupadi Murmu appointed Chief Justices of Gujarat and Allahabad High Courts as Judges of the Supreme Court. With this, the top court now has full bench strength of 34 judges. Rajesh Bindal, the Chief Justice of Allahabad HC, and Aravi nd Kumar, the Chief Justice of Gujarat HC, have been appointed to the apex court.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurates Dawoodi Bohra Community's Arabic Academy In Mumbai's Marol

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 10th Feb inaugurated a new campus of an educational institute by the Dawoodi Bohra community during in Mumbai, The new campus of Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah, or the Saiffee Academy, the primary educational college of the Dawoodi Bohra community, is in Marol, a suburb of Mumbai.

PM Narendra Modi flags off two Vande Bharat trains from Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus in Mumbai

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday flagged off two Vande Bharat trains, one between Mumbai and Solapur and another between Mumbai and Shirdi. The inauguration ceremony was held in Mumbai, with Union Railways minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde and deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis in attendance.

Urban-20 City Sherpas' Meeting Under G20 Begins In Ahmedabad

- A two-day Urban-20 City Sherpas' meet that aims to focus on promoting solidarity among cities to find common solutions that are in sync with the overall objectives of the G20 began here on Feb - Thursday.

Tamil Nadu To Expand Free Breakfast Scheme For Primary School Students In April

- While Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin had informed the state Legislative Assembly that the free breakfast scheme was a major success and that the government was keen to expand it. The government sources told IANS that the scheme would be expanded catering to more schools in April 2023.

Rajasthan: Large Quantity Of Explosives Found In Dausa Ahead Of PM Modi's Visit

- One person has been arrested after large quantities of explosives were found in Rajasthan's Dausa district ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit on February 12.
- Taking stock of the security preparations ahead of the Prime Minister's visit, Dausa Police arrested the accused who was allegedly transporting the explosives near Khan Bhankari Road in the district.

PM Modi Wears Blue Sadri Jacket In Parliament

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday attended the Budget Session of the Parliament wearing a jacket made of material recycled from plastic bottles. He was seen wearing a light blue "sadri" jacket as he sat in the Rajya Sabha in the morning. The Prime Minister chose the outfit to promote phasing out of single-use plastic under the 'Unbottled' initiative of Indian Oil.

Vina Rani, Delhi zoo's eldest white tigress, is no more

- The Seventeen-year-old Vina Rani, the oldest white tigress at the National Zoological Park (also known as the Delhi Zoo), died due to complications from old age at her enclosure on Monday evening. It was the zoo's oldest white tigress, according to a communication issued by the zoo director. The tigress, Vina Rani, had been "off-feed" from February 4, the communication said, referring to a loss of appetite.

PM Modi To Visit Poll-Bound Tripura On February 11 & 13, To Address 2 Election Rallies

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a visit to poll-bound Tripura on February 11 and February 13 where he will address two election rallies, sources told ABP News. On February 11, Modi is scheduled to hold poll campaigns in Gomati and Dhalai districts of the north eastern states while he will address an election campaign in capital city Agartala on February 13.

SC Dismisses Petitions Challenging Victoria Gowri's Appointment As Madras High Court Additional Judge

- Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed the petitions challenging Victoria Gowri's appointment as Madras High Court Judge. The oath-taking ceremony started while the hearing in the top court was still underway.

Despite the opposition from the lawyers to her appointment, the Centre on Monday notified the appointment of advocate Lakshmana Chandra Victoria Gowri as an additional judge of the Madras High Court.

3 HC Chief Justices, 2 Senior Judges To Take Oath In Supreme Court Today

- The Supreme Court of India will welcome five new judges on Monday, increasing its strength to 32, as three Chief Justices of high courts, Justice Pankaj Mithal, Justice Sanjay Karol, and P V Sanjay Kumar, take their oaths of office. The two other senior high court judges to be administered the oath by the Chief Justice of India are Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah of the Patna High Court and Justice Manoj Misra of the Allahabad High Court.

West Bengal: TMC Factions Clash Over Madrassa Panel Election In Malda, Several Injured

- Malda's Ratua was transformed into a battlefield on Sunday during the High Madrassa Management Committee elections as two factions of the Trinamool Congress clashed in the Batna area of Ratua.
- The clash ensued as two factions of the ruling party fielded candidates separately for six seats in the Batna High Madrassa. The issue had already created tension in the area in the run up to the polls.

Air Vistara Fined Rs 70 Lakh For Not Operating Minimum Mandated Flights In Northeast:

- DGCA . DGCA has imposed a Rs 70 lakh fine on Air Vistara for not operating minimum number of mandated flights to underserved areas of country's northeast, as reported.

Govt Hikes Windfall Profit Tax On Domestically Produced Crude Oil, Exports Of Diesel & ATF

- The Centre has hiked windfall profit tax levied on domestically -produced crude oil and export of diesel and aviation turbine fuel in line with firming international oil prices, as per an official order, reported PTI. The tax on crude oil produced by companies such as Oil and Natural Gas Corporation of India has been increased to Rs 5,050 per tonne from Rs 1,900 per tonne, the order dated February 3.

Green hydrogen hubs to be established in Kochi

- The Budget presented by Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal on Friday announced a road map for setting up green hydrogen hubs in Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram in the next two years. A scheme of ₹200 crore has been announced for viability gap funding/grant/equity support to set up the green hydrogen hubs.

PM Modi To Visit Poll-Bound Karnataka On Feb 6 To Inaugurate Slew Of Projects

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to visit Karnataka to inaugurate multiple projects in the poll-bound state on Monday. During his visit, PM Modi is scheduled to inaugurate India Energy Week 2023 at Bengaluru, lay the foundation stone of various development initiatives and dedicate the HAL helicopter factory at Tumakuru to the nation.

BMC Presents Rs 52,619.07 Cr Budget, Focus On Pollution Control Measures, Electronic Vehicles

- The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) presented its annual Budget for the financial year 2023-24 on Saturday with a total estimated amount of Rs 52,619.07 crore. According to ANI, it is 14.52 percent higher than the Budget estimate for 2022-23 which was Rs 45,949.21 crore.

Popular Playback Singer Vani Jayaram Passes Away In Chennai

- Vani Jayaram has sung over 10,000 songs including devotionals and private albums. She has also performed several solo concerts across the world. She has also sung in 19 Indian languages including Tamil, Hindi, Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Bengali and Tulu.
- On the Republic Day, she was also announced as the recipient of Padma Bhushan 2023, the third-highest civilian award in the Republic of India.

Mail Threatening Talibani Terror Attack In Mumbai

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Friday received an email from an unidentified person, claiming to be a member of the Taliban, threatening to carry out a terror attack in Mumbai. NIA with Mumbai Police has launched a joint probe into the matter.

PM Modi To Inaugurate India Energy Week In Bengaluru On Feb 6

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be in Karnataka on February 6 to participate in programmes organised in Bengaluru and Tumakuru including India Energy Week, a G20 event. According to a statement issued by the Karnataka Information Department, the Prime Minister will inaugurate India Energy Week at Bengaluru International Exhibition Centre, near Madavara on February 6 morning.

India's G20 Presidency: Gujarat's Rann Of Kutch To Host First Tourism Working Group Meet

- The TWG meeting, which will be attended by Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, will be the second G20 event in the state after the 'Business 20 Inception' programme held in Gandhinagar last month, he said.

Indian Railways to run Hydrogen-powered trains at heritage routes by December

- Hydrogen trains, as the name suggests run on hydrogen fuel cells. These are much more environmentally friendly than traditional diesel engines. Hydrogen fuel cells convert hydrogen and oxygen which then produces the electricity that is used to power the train's motors. They will run on India's narrow gauge heritage routes by Dec 2023.

Legendary Filmmaker K Viswanath Passes Away At 92

- Filmmaker Kasinadhuni Viswanath died in the wee hours of Friday at a private hospital in Hyderabad. The director was under treatment for quite some time due to age-related ailments and was recently admitted to a hospital where he breathed his last.

BJP to contest on 20 seats in Nagaland State

- "We will contest on 20 out of 60 seats in Nagaland. Rest of the seats have been given to our alliance partner NDPP. We'll contest on all 60 seats in Meghalaya. Our tagline is 'M Power Meghalaya' means Modi-powered Meghalaya and a double-engine government will be formed there," the party informed.

First G20 Sustainable Financial Working Group meeting to begin in guwahati

- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, Waterways and AYUSH, Sarbananda Sonowal will inaugurate the 1st Sustainable Financial Working Group (SFWG) meeting under India's G20 Presidency on Thursday in Guwahati with the theme 'One Earth. One Family. One Future' and with the motto "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".

PM Pranam Yojana for promotion of alternative fertilizers

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Budget 2023, announced the launch of "PM Pranam Yojana" for the promotion of alternative fertilizers and balanced use of chemical fertilizers.
- Finance Minister in her speech said, "PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth' (PM Pranam) will be launched to incentivize States and Union Territories to promote alternative fertilizers and balanced use of chemical fertilizers."

Initiatives For Green Growth And Clean Energy

- To achieve India's goal of net zero carbon emission by 2070, Sitharaman announced a Rs 35,000 crore outlay towards the country's transition to cleaner energy besides listing out initiatives related to green fuel and green farming.

SPORTS

Lionel Messi scores 700th career club goal

- The all-time great scored his 700th career club goal in Paris St. Germain's 3-0 win over Marseille. With the goal, Messi became just the second player in history to score 700 career club goals, according to IFFHS (International Federation of Football History and Statistics). The other player to do so is Messi's longtime rival Cristiano Ronaldo.

Daniil Medvedev win Qatar Open title

- Daniil Medvedev won the Qatar Open in his professional tennis debut by defeating Andy Murray 6-4, 6-4, in the final game between two former No. 1s. In every set, Medvedev converted quick beginnings. In the first, he got to 4-1, and in the second, he got to 3-1.

Aussie Legend To Lead Gujarat Giants In Inaugural WPL, Sneha Rana Named Vice - Captain

- Gujarat Giants, Monday, announced ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2023 winner Beth Mooney as their captain for inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL 2023), ESPNCricinfo reported. Mooney leading the Giants in WPL 2023 also marks her reunion with ex-Aussie star Rachael Haynes, the head coach of franchise Gujarat Giants. Also, India's star all-rounder Sneha Rana has been selected as the vice-captain.

The BEST FIFA Football Awards 2022 Winners: Lionel Messi Adjudged Best Men's Player, Alexia Putellas Bags Best Women's Player Prize

- Paris Saint-Germain forward and Argentina captain Lionel Messi was adjudged the Best Men's Player at The Best FIFA Awards announced in Paris on Sunday night. Messi beat other finalists Karim Benzema and Kylian Mbappe to get the coveted prize.
- The 35-year-old seven-time Ballon d'Or Winner produced several memorable performances during Argentina's FIFA World Cup-winning campaign in Qatar last year. The other big individual award was the BEST FIFA Women's Player recognition which went to Alexia Putellas, the Spanish forward. She beat England's Beth Mead and United States' Alex Morgan to get the honour. Putellas had also bagged the prize last year.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik Receives Sportstar's 'Best State for the Promotion of Sports' Award

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik received the 'Best State for the Promotion of Sports' Award at an event in Mumbai on Monday. The award was conferred on the state at the 2023 Sportstar Aces 2023 Awards hosted by The Hindu group.

Australia Defeat South Africa, Seal Their Sixth Women's T20 World Cup Title

- Defending champions Australia continue their enviable dominance in Women's cricket as they defeated South Africa by 19 runs in AUS vs SA ICC Women's T20 World Cup final on Sunday at Cape Town's jam-packed Newlands Stadium. By the virtue of tonight's win, Australia won their sixth T20 World Cup title. This is the second time Australia have done a hat-trick when it comes to World Cup wins in T20 World Cups (2010, 2012, 2014 and 2018, 2020, 2023). For the first time, a men's or women's team has scored a title hat-trick for the second time in an ICC tournament.

Armand Duplantis Sets New Pole Vault World Record In Third Attempt To Clear The Height

- Sweden's Armand Duplantis shattered his own pole vault world record in a World Athletics Indoor Tour Silver meeting in Clermont-Ferrand in France. While the previous record set by the Olympic champion was of 6.21 metres, he added one more centimetre to the tally and cleared the 6.22 metres mark at the All -Star Perche.

ISL 2022-23: Chennaiyin End Season With Thrilling 4-3 Win Over NorthEast United

- Goals from skipper Anirudh Thapa, Rahim Ali Kwame Karikari and Sajal Bag powered Chennaiyin FC to an action-packed 4-3 victory against NorthEast United FC in their final league game of the Indian Super League (ISL) 2022-23 season at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Friday.

Pat Cummins Won't Play The Third Test Against India, Steve Smith To Lead The Side

- Australia skipper Pat Cummins will not be taking part in the third Test against India. He returned to Australia as his mother is ill. Steve Smith will be leading the side for the Indore Test, starting from March 1. Steve Smith was in Dubai with his wife and has now joined the Australian team on Thursday. He already led the side in 34 Tests between 2014 and 2018 and during the 2017 series, he amassed three centuries.

Spain's Sergio Ramos announces international retirement

- Paris Saint-Germain's and former Real Madrid defender Sergio Ramos has announced that he is retiring from international football after a record 180 appearances for Spain. The 36-year-old, who will be 37 in March, published a letter on Thursday night, in which he confirmed he would no longer be available for the Spanish national side -- nearly two years after he made his last appearance on March 31, 2021, as a substitute against Kosovo.

South Africa Reach Women's T20 World Cup Final With Upset Win Over England

- Openers Laura Wolvaardt (53) and Tazmin Britz (68) struck entertaining half-centuries to take South Africa to 164 for four in the second semifinal at Newlands. The game went down to the wire thanks to the efforts of Ismail (3/27)

and Khaka (4/29), who both came up with momentum changing overs. The 2009 champions England ended with 158 for eight in 20 overs.

Aiden Markram named as new Sunrisers Hyderabad captain

- Sunrisers Hyderabad have decided to go with South African batter Aiden Markram as their new captain for the upcoming IPL 2023 season. Markram has attained tremendous success with the SRH's sister franchise, Sunrisers Eastern Cape, and led them to the inaugural SA 20 title recently. The 29-year-old will now take over from Kane Williamson, who was let -go by the franchise and went on to join defending champions Gujarat Titans during the IPL 2023 auction.

14-Year old Tilottama Sen wins Bronze in the women's 10m Air Rifle at ISSF World Cup 2023

- Indian teen Tilottama Sen won the bronze medal in the women's 10m Air Rifle at ISSF World Cup 2023 in Cairo in Egypt. The 14-year-old Tilottama Sen won the second bronze for India, fifth overall after ending the top eight ranking round with a score of 262. She missed out on the gold medal match by a narrow possible margin of 0.1. Great Britain's Seonaid McIntosh won gold and Switzerland's Olympic Champion Nina Christen came second to win silver.

IND vs AUS, Women's T20 World Cup 2023 Semifinal: Australia win by five runs

- Australia have beaten India by 5 runs in the first semifinal of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2023 at the Newlands, Cape Town to knock the Women in Blue out of the tournament. The win has taken the Aussies into yet another final, having previously won all their summit clashes

Sania Mirza Indian star retires from tennis

- The 36-year-old Sania, who turned Pro in 2003, walks out of competitive tennis with six Grand Slam titles, including three women's doubles with Swiss legend Martina Hingis. She won two of her three mixed doubles with compatriot Mahesh Bhupathi (2009 Australian Open and 2012 French Open). She won the US Open trophy with Bruno Soares.

Indian boxing team appoints new foreign coach

- Dmitry Dmitruk was roped in by the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) as India's foreign coach on a two-year contract. Renowned coach Dmitruk was known for his work with the Irish national team and its youth teams in the past. He served as the high-performance coach in Ireland for the last 12 years.

UEFA Champions League: Real Madrid Come Back From Behind To Beat Liverpool, Napoli Ease Past Frankfurt

- Real Madrid came back from behind to beat Liverpool in a sensational comeback. The La Liga giants were 0-2 down at one stage but Vinicius Junior and Karim Benzema scored two goal each to aid Madrid to a convincing win in the end. The

fixture at Anfield started on a positive note for the hosts as Darwin Núñez put the Reds in the lead in just the 4th minute of the match. It all seemed to be going Liverpool's way as Mohammed Salah doubled the lead in the 14th minute to put the Liverpool fans into ecstasy. But not for the first time in Champions League history, did Madrid find a way to stage a comeback.

Tata Group Bags Title Rights For Inaugural Women's Premier League

- BCCI Secretary Jay Shah, Tuesday, announced Indian multinational conglomerate Tata Group as the official title sponsors for the inaugural Women's Premier League beginning in Mumbai on March 4.
- It will be played across two venues in Mumbai, Brabourne Stadium and DY Patil Stadium.

Women's T20 World Cup: England Script History, Thrash Pakistan By 114 runs

- England smashed the highest score in the history of the Women's T20 World Cup and won by the biggest margin ever seen at the tournament, hammering Pakistan by 114 runs, here on Tuesday. The England batters warmed up for the knockout stages with a thrilling display, smashing Pakistan's attack to all corners of Newlands as they reached 213/5 in their 20 overs, Pakistan ended their tournament in disappointing fashion, managing to avoid being bowled out, but finishing on 99/9.

India Beat Ireland To Reach T20 WC Semis In Rain-Affected Match

- India women's cricket team qualified for Women's T20 World Cup semi-final after winning the rain-affected match against Ireland women's cricket team at St. George Park in Gqebera on Monday, February 20. India secured a 5-run win vs Ireland on the D/L method. Smriti Mandhana, who was dropped thrice by Ireland fielders during the match, starred with the bat as she played a heroic 87 - run knock off 56 balls -- her career best score, highest score by an Indian women's batter in T20Is.

No Jasprit Bumrah In the Team For 3rd And 4th Test Matches Vs Australia

- Ranji stalwart Jaydev Unadkat has made it into the Indian red-ball side after missing the 2nd Test against Australia. Jasprit Bumrah has still not been added to the squad as he is still recuperating from the back injury.

Josh Hazlewood Ruled Out Of The Border-Gavaskar Trophy

- Australia's speedster Josh Hazlewood has been ruled out of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy due to an Achilles injury. Australia coach Andrew McDonald confirmed the same. The pacer will be flying back to Australia for his rehabilitation. Hazlewood confirmed the same as he sustained a left Achilles niggle at last month's Test against South Africa.

Ben Stokes breaks the record for the most number of sixes ever hit in a Test match

- England Test captain Ben Stokes became the player to hit the most number of sixes in the history of Test cricket, surpassing England coach and former New Zealand cricketer Brendon McCullum in the match against New Zealand.

Saurashtra beats Bengal By Nine Wickets To Bag Second Ranji Trophy Title

- Left-arm pacer Jaydev Unadkat claimed a match haul of nine wickets, including 6/85 in the second innings, as Saurashtra thrashed Bengal by nine wickets in the Ranji Trophy final here on Sunday.
- Brief Scores Bengal 174 and 241 in 70.4 overs (Manoj Tiwary 68, Anustup Majumdar 61; Jaydev Unadkat 6/85, Chetan Sakariya 3/76). Saurashtra: 404 and 14/1 in 2.4 overs. Saurashtra won by nine wickets.

India Beat Australia In 2nd Test of The Border–Gavaskar Trophy

- The Indian team outplayed the Australians by six wickets in the second Test and took a 2-0 lead in the four-match series in another three-day finish on Sunday. India got the target of 115 after they restricted the Kangaroo's batters for 113 in their second innings. India completed the chase in 26.4 overs on the third day of the match.

Virat Kohli Breaks Sachin Tendulkar's All-Time Record, Becomes Quickest To Score 25,000 Runs In International Cricket

- India batter Virat Kohli scaled another historic milestone in his career, becoming the fastest batter to score 25,000 runs in international cricket. He did so on Day 3 of the second Test against Australia in New Delhi. In the process, Kohli surpassed his idol and the Master Blaster, Sachin Tendulkar, who had reached the landmark in 577 matches. Virat, on the other hand, did so in 549 matches. Following Virat and Sachin are the likes of Ricky Ponting (588), Jacques Kallis (594), Kumar Sangakkara (608) and Mahela Jayawardene (701).

Women's T20 World Cup: Hayley Matthews' All-Round Show Steers West Indies To Thrilling Win Over Pakistan

- West Indies registered a thrilling three-run win over Pakistan in their Women's T20 World Cup face-off to keep their dim hopes of a semifinal qualification alive at the Boland Park, Paarl on Sunday. Opting to bat first, the Windies had posted 116/6 with the help of useful knocks from Rashada Williams (30 off 34) and Hayley Matthews (20 off 21) with S Campbelle (22), Chinelle Henry (11) and Shabika Gajani (13) also chipping in with the bat.

Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championships 2023: India Enter Semifinals After Sensational Comeback, Ensure First-Ever Medal In Continental Tournament

- India staged a remarkable comeback to down Hong Kong 3 -2 and qualify for the semifinals of the Asia Mixed Team Badminton Championships and ensure a first-ever medal in the continental tournament here on Friday. Down 0-2, the Indians

showed great fighting spirit as the doubles pair of Dhruv Kapila and Chirag Shetty and PV Sindhu levelled the scores after reverses in the first two matches.

South Africa Test Captain: Temba Bavuma Becomes First Black African To Lead Proteas In Test Cricket

- Cricket South Africa (CSA) have appointed Temba Bavuma as their new Test captain replacing Dean Elgar at the helm of affairs in red-ball cricket. While Bavuma has retained his position as the captain of the ODI team, his first assignment as a full-time leader in the game's purest format will be the forthcoming series against West Indies. With this announcement, the 32-year-old became the first Black African to lead South Africa in Test match cricket.

WPL 2023: Royal Challengers Bangalore Appoint Smriti Mandhana As Team's Captain

- On Saturday, Royal Challengers Bangalore appointed Smriti Mandhana as the skipper of the women's team ahead of the inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL) 2023. Virat Kohli and current RCB captain Faf du Plessis announced on RCB's social media handles. "Now it's time for another No. 18 to lead a very special RCB team in WPL. Yes, we are talking about Smriti Mandhana. Go on Smriti. You have the support best team and best fans in the world," - Kohli said.

IND vs ENG, Women's T20 World Cup 2023 England defeat India by 11 runs

- India vice-captain Smriti Mandhana's half-century (52 off 41 balls) and an entertaining 34-ball 47 from Richa Ghosh went in vain as India lost their ICC Women's T20 World Cup group match to England by 11 runs on Saturday. India restricted England to 151 for seven with medium pacer Renuka Singh (5/15) registering her best bowling figures in the format after India opted to bowl. Her five-wicket haul gave India hope that they could defeat the Heather Knight-led side, but Sarah Glenn (2/27 in 4 overs) and Sophie Ecclestone's (1/11 in 3 overs) restrictive bowling didn't allow Indian batters play their strokes freely.

Cheteshwar Pujara became the 13th cricketer to play 100 Test matches for India

- Cheteshwar Pujara got felicitated at Arun Jaitley Stadium in Delhi. "It is an honour to receive this cap from you (Sunil Gavaskar), legends like you have inspired me (On getting the cap from Sunny G). I wanted to play for India as a youngster but I never thought I'd get to 100 Test matches. Test cricket is the ultimate format for me, it challenges you just like life. To all the youngsters, I'd encourage y'all to work hard to play Test cricket for India. I'd like to thank my wife, my family, everyone in BCCI and all my teammates who've supported me throughout this journey, " Pujara said.

BCCI Chief Selector Chetan Sharma Resigns After Viral Sting Operation

- The BCCI chief selector Chetan Sharma resigned after a sting operation went viral, as per ANI. Sharma was in Kolkata for the Ranji Trophy final and sent his resignation on Friday morning and it has been accepted immediately by the BCCI.

- According to the sting operation, he alleged that former India captain Vir at Kohli attempted to defame the then-president of BCCI, Sourav Ganguly, as he believed Ganguly was to blame for his removal as captain of the One Day International (ODI) team."No player or selector will be comfortable on sharing a cordial relationship even with well-meaning journalists after this sting as the trust factor has been compromised," a senior BCCI source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

IPL 2023 Schedule Announced: T20 Tournament To Begin On March 31

- The much-awaited schedule of the Indian Premier League 2023 has been announced and it is the defending champions Gujarat Titans who will face the Chennai Super Kings in the opening fixture of the competition at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. The last league match will be played on May 21.
- There will be a total of 70 league matches this year with the first match on double-header days set to commence on 03:30 pm (IST). The evening matches have been given a 07:30 pm (IST) start time.

UEFA Champions League: Benfica Ease Past Brugge To Secure First-Leg Win In Round Of 16

- João Mário converted a penalty and David Neres made a cool finish which earned Benfica a comfortable win at Club Brugge in the first leg match in the Round of 16 stage of the Champions League. Roger Schmidt's Benfica took a major step towards the Champions League quarterfinals following a 2-0 victory as they will take a two-goal advantage back to Lisbon.

India's Asian Games Gold-Medal Winning Footballer Tulsidas Balaram Dies At 87

- Tulsidas Balaram, India's Asian Games gold-medal winning footballer and Olympian, has passed away aged 87 after a prolonged illness. The same has been confirmed by sources close to his family, as reported by news agency PTI. A widower, Balaram, was living in a flat on the banks of the river Hooghly in Uttarpara.

Sania Mirza to be the mentor of RCB in Women's Premier League

- Indian tennis icon Sania Mirza, who played her last Grand Slam at the Australian Open last month, was roped in by the Royal Challengers Bangalore team as its mentor in the upcoming Women's Premier League.

FIFA confirms US, Mexico, Canada automatically in 2026 World Cup

- The U.S. men's national team, along with Mexico and Canada, will automatically qualify for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- The 2026 FIFA World Cup will be the 23rd FIFA World Cup, the quadrennial international men's soccer championship contested by the national teams of the

member associations of FIFA. The tournament will be jointly hosted by 16 cities in three North American countries: Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

Women's T20 World Cup : IND beat WI by 6 wickets, join ENG in top 2 of Group 2 table

- A disciplined bowling performance from Team India bowlers kept the Windies down to 118/6 in 20 overs. Opener Stafanie Taylor top-scored for West Indies with a 40-ball 42 while Shemaine Campbelle contributed 30. Deepti Sharma was the most successful bowler for India with three wickets for 15 runs while Pooja Vastrakar and Renuka Singh got one apiece.
- Chasing 119 to win, India lost their top three batters within the first seven overs, making it a tricky run-chase. However, the duo of Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa Ghosh once again joined hands in the middle and stitched a brilliant fifty-run partnership to take India to victory.

Eoin Morgan, England's World Cup-winning captain, announces retirement from all forms of cricket

- England's Cricket World Cup-winning captain called time on his international career in June 2022. Eoin Morgan, who led England to their first-ever ICC Men's Cricket World Cup title in 2019, has announced his retirement from professional cricket with immediate effect

WPL 2023 Auction: RCB Ropes In Smriti Mandhana For Huge Rs 3.40 Cr

- India's explosive left-hander batter Smriti Mandhana entered the auction with a Base price of 50 lakhs. Royal Challengers Bangalore and the Mumbai Indians were the two teams who went in to rope her. Bangalore won the bid and got Mandhana for a whopping amount of 340 Lakhs. also ,Mumbai Indians Bags Harmanpreet Kaur For 1.80 Crore.

FIFA Club World Cup Final: Real Madrid beat Al Hilal to win record fifth Club World Cup

- Real Madrid has won the Club World Cup for a record-extending fifth time after beating Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal 5-3 in the final in Rabat, Morocco. Vinícius Júnior scored twice and assisted Karim Benzema to lead Real Madrid to its record-extending eighth Club World Cup title by beating Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal 5-3. Madrid last won the tournament in 2018. It also lifted the trophy in 2014, 2016 and 2017. Madrid also won three Intercontinental Cups in 1960, 1998 and 2002 — a match between European and South American champions, which merged with the Club World Cup in 2005.

WPL 2023: Check The Top 5 Most Expensive Players At The Auction.

1. Smriti Mandhana - 3.60 Crore by Royal Challengers Bangalore
2. Ashleigh Gardner - 3.20 Crore by Gujarat Giants
3. Natalie Sciver - 3.20 Crore by Mumbai Indians
4. Deepti Sharma - 2.60 Crore by Delhi Capitals

5. Jemimah Rodrigues - 2.20 Crore by the Delhi Capitals

India Win Silver And Bronze In Women's Pole Vault In Asian Indoor Championships

- Pavithra Vengatesh and Rosy Meena won a silver and a bronze respectively in the women's pole vault event of the Asian Indoor Athletics Championship here on Saturday. Vengatesh and Meena cleared 4m and 3.90m respectively in the final, which was won by Mayu Nasu of Japan.

Vedaant Madhavan,, Wins Seven Medals At Khelo India Youth Games

- Indian swimming's latest sensation Vedaant Madhavan lived up to the hype and expectations and clinched as many as seven medals at the Khelo India Youth Games. Vedaant, who is the son of actor R Madhavan, secured the pole position in 100m, 200m and 1500m. Other than Vedaant, swimmer Apeksha Fernandes was also impressive and matched Vedaant's tally of medals. In fact, while Vedaant managed to win 5 gold medals and 2 silver medals in these games, Apeksha won 6 golds and a silver along with surpassing her personal best record

The 3rd Test Of Border-Gavaskar Trophy Shifted From Dharamshala to Indore

- The third Test between India and Australia is set to be moved from the picturesque HPCA Stadium in Dharamshala to Indore due to concerns about the surface. The Indian board (BCCI) has reportedly taken the decision to shift the match from the Himalayas after an unfavourable report of the venue.

3rd edition of Khelo India National Winter Games begins at Gulmarg

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday stated that Khelo India National Winter Games in Gulmarg will bolster the sporting culture in Jammu and Kashmir, and congratulated the athletes participating in the event.

IND vs AUS 1st Test India Beat Australia By An Innings And 132 Runs

- Rohit Sharma's men have outplayed the Australians by an innings and 132 runs in the first Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Nagpur. The Kangaroos lost 10 wickets in a single session, Indian bowlers bowled out Australia for 91 runs. With this win, India are 1-0 ahead in the series.

Ravindra Jadeja Fined, For Applying Cream On Finger In 1st Test Vs Australia

- India's spinner Ravindra Jadeja has been fined 25 percent of his match fee for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct during the first Test against Australia in Nagpur on Thursday. He applied some cream without umpire's consent.

Women's T20 World Cup: Harmanpreet Fit To Play Against Pakistan; Smriti Doubtful Injured

- On the eve of India's opening match in the Women's T20 World Cup against Pakistan, batting coach Hrishikesh Kanitkar on Saturday said that captain

Harmanpreet Kaur is fit to play in Sunday's highly-anticipated game. At the same time, Kanitkar also mentioned that vice-captain and left-handed opener Smriti Mandhana is 'most likely' going to miss out on India's tournament opener due to a finger injury which is not related to fracture.

Indian Golfer Aditi Ashok Won Kenya Ladies Open Title 2023

- Indian Olympian Aditi Ashok won the 2023 Magical Kenya Ladies Open Title with a final-round score of 74. This is the fourth Ladies' European championship of Aditi Ashok overall. Her first LET title comes after winning the Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies Open in Abu Dhabi in 2017. She finished with a score of 12-under 280 at the Vipingo Ridges after shooting a final round of 67-70-69-74.

Ravichandran Ashwin becomes the fastest Indian to take 450 Test wickets

- Ravichandran Ashwin picked up his 450th Test wicket during the first Border - Gavaskar Trophy game between India and Australia at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium in Nagpur. He achieved the feat when he bowled Alex Carey in the 54th over. He also became the fastest Indian to scale the landmark, going past former leg-spinner Anil Kumble. Ashwin took 89 Tests to reach the milestone as compared to Anil Kumble who took 93 Tests.

Ind vs Aus: Suryakumar Yadav Makes Debut In First Test Of Border-Gavaskar Trophy

- India's Mr 360, Suryakumar Yadav has made his Test debut for India in the first test match against Australia in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. Talented wicketkeeper/batter KS Bharat to get the Test cap. With Surya making his way into the playing XI, the Punjab-based batter Shubman Gill missed out.

Border Gavaskar Trophy will start on February 9 in Nagpur

- The latest edition of the Border Gavaskar Trophy will kick start on February 9 in Nagpur. While Team India aim to retain the trophy after a historic win in Down Under, Australia will look to win their first Test series in India since 2004-05. Instituted in 1996 and named after legendary batters Allan Border and Sunil Gavaskar, the Border Gavaskar Trophy has had its moments of glory, where history was rewritten, records were shattered, and careers were molded

LeBron James Breaks Kareem Abdul-Jabbar NBA Scoring Record

- Los Angeles Lakers LeBron James has overtaken the long-standing NBA scoring record, held by former Lakers icon Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, against the Oklahoma City Thunder on Wednesday morning (Tuesday night in the US). 38-year-old James, in his 20th season, with his 38,388th point became the NBA all-time score leader, breaking Abdul-Jabbar's 38,387 points previous long-standing record.

Women's T20 World Cup: Richa Ghosh Shines As India Beat Bangladesh In Warm-Up Fixture

- Richa Ghosh smashed an attacking unbeaten 91 as India defeated Bangladesh by 52 runs in a warm-up match ahead of the Women's T20 World Cup
- Opting to bat, India made an imposing 183 for 5 riding on Ghosh's exploits with the bat and then restricted Bangladesh to 131 for 8.

Aaron Finch, Australia's T20I Captain, Announces Retirement From International Cricket

- Australia's T20I captain Aaron Finch has announced his retirement from international cricket. Finch famously led the Aussies to their first and only ICC Men's T20 World Cup trophy in 2021. The right-handed batter led the Kangaroos in 76 T20Is and 55 ODIs before he calling time on his international career. Overall, the 36-year-old represented the Aussies in 254 international matches across all formats- five Tests, 146 ODIs and 103 T20Is.

Women's T20 World Cup: Darcie Brown's Spell, Lower-Order Batting Helps Australia Beat India In Warm-up

- The Indian Women's team faced a defeat to Australia in their first-warm match. The Women In Blue first allowed Australia to escape from a precarious 79/8 in the 16 over to post a modest 129/8 and then batted poorly to lose the match by 43 runs.

Gary Ballance achieves rare feat, becomes second player to score centuries for two countries

- The 33-year-old's century was the fifth of his Test career, but his first for Zimbabwe after officially moving to represent the country of his birth in late 2022. And on his Zimbabwe Test debut against West Indies, Ballance has written himself into the history books. The 33-year-old's outstanding 137* means he is just the second player in the history of the game to have scored Test centuries for two different countries, following in the footsteps of former Australia and South Africa international Kepler Wessels.

SAFF Under-20 Women's football: India Bangladesh match ends in goalless draw in Dhaka

- In SAFF Under 20 Women's football championship, the match between India and Bangladesh ended in a draw in Dhaka. Both teams played well but could not score a single goal.

The Formula E World Championship to be held in India for the first time

- Hyderabad will host India's first ever E-Prix on February 11. The Formula E World Championship heads to India for the first time this week, with the inaugural E-Prix in Hyderabad.

- The electric mobility revolution is certainly unfolding rapidly across the globe and India is no different. With Indian brands such as Tata and Mahindra launching EV ranges and the government taking proactive steps to push the electric infrastructure across the country, this is a good time for the premier all-electric racing championship in the world to come to India.

Women's Premier League To Be Held In Mumbai From March 4-26

- The much-awaited inaugural season of the Women's Premier League (WPL) will be played from March 4 to 26 in Mumbai. The Brabourne Stadium and the DY Patil Stadium will host all the matches with the tournament opener expected to be played between Gujarat Giants and Mumbai Indians -owned franchise.

Aussies Suffer A Major Blow As Josh Hazlewood Ruled Out Of 1st Test Of Border-Gavaskar Trophy

- The much-awaited Border-Gavaskar Trophy is just a few days away and Australia suffered a huge blow as Josh Hazlewood will not play the first Test that is set to take place from February 9 in Nagpur. The report further mentioned that he is doubtful for the second Test also. Hazlewood is still recuperating from an Achilles injury on his left leg that he sustained during Sydney Test against South Africa last month.

UAE Set To Host Asia Cup, Venue To Be Finalised In March

- The Asian Cricket Council will decide on an alternate venue for the Asia Cup ODI tournament in March after BCCI secretary Jay Shah and PCB chairman Najam Sethi had their first formal meeting in Bahrain on Saturday.
- The Asia Cup was initially allotted to Pakistan and was scheduled in September this year but Shah, who is also the ACC chairman, had announced last October that India will not travel to Pakistan.

Ravindra Jadeja sheds light on recovery from knee surgery

- After a knee surgery and five months away from international cricket, a fully fit all-rounder is all in readiness to don the national jersey again in the upcoming marquee Border-Gavaskar Trophy, starting February 9 in Nagpur.

Dipa Karmakar Banned For 21 Months For Use Of Prohibited Substance

- The International Testing Agency confirmed on Saturday that Indian gymnast Dipa Karmakar has been sanctioned with a 21-month period of ineligibility after testing positive for the prohibited substance higenamine .

Nagal Brings India Back With Close Win After Yuki's Defeat : Davis Cup

- Sumit Nagal fought fire with fire to bring India back in the Davis Cup World Group Play-off tie against Denmark, winning the second singles after Yuki Bhambri was outplayed in the opening match here Friday. It was always a tall

task for Bhambri to counter world number nine Holger Rune and there was no surprise as Denmark's top singles player raced to a 6-2 6-2 win to put the hosts up 1-0.

Sports Minister Anurag Thakur Launches Khelo India Winter Games Mascot, Theme Song

- Khelo India Winter Games will be taking place in Gulmarg, Jammu, and Kashmir from Feb 10-14. On Saturday, Union Minister Anurag Thakur took part in the official launch of the mascot, anthem & jersey of the Games with Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.

All-Round Bhut Takes Five-For As Saurashtra Beat Punjab To Enter Semi-Final

- Needing 252 to win, Punjab started the day at 52 for 2 and were all out for 180 in 89.1 overs with veteran Mandeep Singh's 45 being the highest score. Mandeep, a veteran of 13 seasons, failed to show any intent and his selfish, ultra-defensive 128-ball stay put Punjab in a hole.

Joginder Sharma Retires: India's 2007 T20 World Cup Hero Bids Adieu To All Forms Of Cricket

- India's 2007 T20 World Cup hero Joginder Sharma has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on Friday. The right-arm pacer who was handed over the final over of the T20 World Cup final against Pakistan in the inaugural edition of the T20 World Cup by the then captain MS Dhoni took to social media to announce the decision.

Australian PM To Attend IND vs AUS 4th Test In Ahmedabad

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Australian PM Anthony Albanese will attend the fourth and final Test of Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2023. As per reported by the Times of India, the leaders of both the nations will witness India vs Australia 4th Test at Ahmedabad's picturesque Narendra Modi Stadium - largest cricket stadium of the world.

India maul Bhutan 12-0 in SAFF U-20 Women's Championship

- The players scored a hat-trick each after coming in as substitutes as India mauled 12-0 in their opening match of the SAFF U-20 Women's Championship on Friday

Mumbai vs Ahmedabad On March 4 Likely To Be The Tournament Opener

- Even though the official schedule for the first season of the tournament is yet to be released, a tentative schedule doing the rounds among the concerned authorities of the competition has listed Mumbai vs Ahmedabad as the opening match of the T20 league.

England's win in the third and final ODI put a massive dent in South Africa's hopes of qualifying for this year's World Cup

- England's 59-run win in the third and final ODI put a massive dent in South Africa's hopes of qualifying directly for this year's ICC Mens Cricket World Cup. Skipper Jos Buttler (131 off 127 balls) and Dawid Malan (118 off 114 balls) shared a 232-run partnership for the fourth wicket after the hosts had reduced England to 3/14 in the sixth over. That helped the visitors put up a massive 346/7 in their 50 overs. Archer collected his best ODI bowling figures of 6-40 in just his second international appearance back from a long injury break as South Africa were bowled out for 287 in 43.1 overs.

South Africa beat India by 5 wickets in the final of the Women's T20 Tri-Series

- South Africa beat India by 5 wickets in the final of the Women's T20 Tri-Series in South Africa in what was a low-scoring contest at the Buffalo Park, East London. While the visitors had opted to bat first, they got off to a poor start losing both their openers within the first 7 overs with just 21 runs on the board.

BCCI is finding it difficult to book hotel for the auction, For WPL

- The inaugural season of the Women's Premier League (WPL) is all set to get underway next month. However, the player's auction before the first season of the much-anticipated tournament hasn't yet taken place. While it is being reported that the WPL Auction will take place either on February 11 in New Delhi or February 13 in Mumbai, there is still no clarity on where the bidding war will actually take place between the five teams- Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Delhi, Lucknow, and Bengaluru. And now a fresh report has emerged which suggests that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is finding it difficult to book hotel for the auction owing to the ongoing wedding season in India.

Around 1,000 cricketers have sign up for the WPL auction

- Days before the Women's Premier League Auction set to happen in the second week of February, a recent media report suggests that around 1,000 cricketers have given their names for the auction. It should be noted that 5 teams are participating in the competition- Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Delhi, Lucknow, and Bengaluru. This means that around 100-120 players will be picked by the franchises.

Fit Again - Ravindra Jadeja to join the India squad in Nagpur

- After testing his match-fitness with a successful return to action in the Ranji Trophy, star all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja is set to join the India squad in Nagpur this week, ahead of the first Test against Australia, which begins on February 9. Jadeja played for Saurashtra in their final group-stage match against Tamil Nadu last week in Chennai and bowled 41.1 overs and bagged a seven-for in the second innings. Since undergoing surgery in his right knee in September, it was his first match.

Women's Premier League: Jhulan Goswami Roped In By Mumbai As Bowling Coach

- Legendary Indian pacer Jhulan Goswami has been roped in by the Mumbai based franchise ahead of the inaugural season of the Women's Premier League (WPL) this year. The development was reportedly confirmed by former BCCI President and current Director of the Delhi Capitals who said that while even the Delhi side had offered Jhulan a role, she was going to Mumbai.

Legendary Sprinter Usain Bolt refuted all reports of him being BROKE

- Legendary sprinter Usain Bolt, fastest man on the planet years after his retirement, lost at least \$12 million which he had in his account with a Jamaican investment firm, reportedly leaving him on the verge of being bankrupt. The billion dollar fraud affected over 40 clients, with Bolt being one of the high-profile victims. Soon after the fraud, rumors started circulating about Bolt's account balance inexplicably dwindling from \$12 million to just \$12,000

IND vs NZ, 3rd T20 Men in Blue register their biggest-ever win in T20I in terms of runs

- While India opted to bat first and posted 234/4 with the help of Shubman's highest-ever score by an Indian in T20Is- an unbeaten 126* off 63- they later bowled out the Kiwis for 66, they defeated New Zealand by 168 runs in the third and final T20I at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Wednesday.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Jupiter and Venus are destined to come together in a rare conjunction

- Days after the Moon joined the party with Venus and Jupiter, dazzling stargazers across the world, the two planets are set to come closest to each other. The biggest planet in the solar system, Jupiter, and Earth's mysterious twin are set to form a rare conjunction in the skies across the world on March 1.

Nokia changes its logo to mark the start of a new era

- Nokia is ditching the blue color and it's replacing it with whatever is more appropriate given the situation, meaning no specific color scheme is assigned. Lundmark said that Nokia is no longer just a smartphone company, but a "business technology company".

This Natural Dietary Supplement Can Have A Therapeutic Effect On Brain

- A naturally occurring dietary supplement called nicotinamide riboside (NR) can enter the brain and have a therapeutic effect on the organ, according to a new study published in the journal Aging Cell. The research marks the first time it has been determined that NR can enter the brain. Christopher Martens, assistant professor of kinesiology and applied physiology at the Delaware Center for

Cognitive Aging Research, and Dr Dimitrios Kapogiannis, a senior investigator at the National Institute on Aging, made this discovery.

Artifact, the AI-powered news app from Instagram's co-founders

Instagram's co-founders are throwing open the doors to their new personalized news app, Artifact. Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger's new app launched last month with a waitlist, but now anyone on iOS or Android can download Artifact to try it for themselves.

India's lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 achieves another milestone

- In a boost to India's lunar mission, Chandrayaan-3 has successfully underwent EMI-EMC (Electro-Magnetic Interference/ Electro-Magnetic Compatibility). The EMI-EMC test is conducted for satellite missions to ensure functionality of the satellite subsystems in the space environment and their compatibility with the expected electromagnetic level.

Special 'Protein Toolbox' Developed By IIT Guwahati Can Convert Skin Cells To Heart Cells

- Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati have developed a special 'Protein Toolbox' which can be used to convert skin cells into heart cells, and hence, fix a damaged heart. Known as a 'Recombinant Protein Toolbox', it comprises six special proteins, and can be used to regenerate damaged heart tissues.

These Silicon Nanowires Can Produce Hydrogen From Water And Sunlight

- A team of researchers has engineered silicon nanowires that can produce hydrogen from water and sunlight. Hydrogen is a greener alternative to fossil fuels. The nanowires, developed by researchers from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, can split water into oxygen and hydrogen gas, and hence, convert sunlight into electricity.

Lexi': India's first AI assistant powered by ChatGPT

- Lexi, a ChatGPT-powered AI chatbot, has arrived in India. Velocity, a financial technology firm, launched the chatbot to assist e-commerce owners by presenting them with business information in a simplified manner. Velocity insights, Velocity's proprietary analytics platform, has been linked with the chatbot.

World's First Cloud-Built Demonstration Satellite Launched JANUS-1 Successfully

- LOS ALTOS, Calif., Feb. 10, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- Antaris, creator of the most advanced software platform for space, announced today that the world's first satellite fully conceived, designed and manufactured using the company's end-to-end cloud platform has successfully reached orbit. JANUS-1 rode on the Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) SSLV-D2 rocket, which was launched from

the Satish Dhawan Space Centre of India under a commercial arrangement with New Space India Limited (NSIL). The satellite features five payloads from a range of global providers, which will be commissioned and begin nominal operations in the coming days.

Saudi Arabia To Send Its First Woman Astronaut Into Space In Second Quarter Of 2023

- This is the latest attempt by the kingdom to change its ultra-conservative image. The official Saudi Press Agency announced on Sunday that Rayyana Barnawi and fellow Saudi male astronaut Ali Al-Qarni will embark on a mission to the International Space Station (ISS) "during the second quarter of 2023.

Space Dust, Including That From Moon, Could Protect Earth From Climate Change

- Space dust, including that launched from the Moon, can protect the Earth from climate change by acting as a sunshield, a new study suggests. Greenhouse gases emitted due to various human activities form a blanket around Earth, and trap the Sun's energy. This increases Earth's temperature gradually, and is one of the reasons behind global warming. In order to avoid the trapping of heat by greenhouse gases, a fraction of the sunlight must be intercepted before it reaches Earth, according to the study.

Quad Nations begins Public Campaign To Improve Cyber Security

- The commencement of a public campaign to strengthen cyber security in these four countries has been announced by The Quad, a plurilateral structure made up of India, Australia, Japan, and the US.

ISRO launches SSLV-D2 rocket with 3 satellites lifts off from Sriharikota

- ISRO launches Small Satellite Launch Vehicle-SSLV-D2- from Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota to put three satellites EOS-07, Janus-1 & AzaadiSAT-2 satellites into a 450 km circular orbit.

NASA to launch 'Mars mission' on Blue Origin's New Glenn.

- Jeff Bezos-led Blue Origin scored a big contract from the American space agency, Nasa, to launch a mission to Mars. The private space company was given its first interplanetary NASA contract to launch the mission to study the magnetic field around the Red Planet. The expected launch date for the mission is 2024.

Twitter Suffers Massive Outage, Users Get Message They Have Exceeded Daily Tweet Limit

- Twitter suffered a massive outage where its users were unable to tweet, send direct messages and use other features. This was the largest outage ever that Twitter has suffered.
- "Twitter may not be working as expected for some of you. Sorry for the trouble. We're aware and working to get this fixed," Twitter's support account tweeted.

Microsoft Launches ChatGPT-Powered Bing Search, Edge Browser

- Microsoft on Tuesday launched a new version of its Bing search engine and Edge browser. The new AI-powered Bing search engine and Edge browser aim to deliver better search, more complete answers, a new chat experience, and the ability to generate content, the company said in its blog. "Today, we're launching Bing and Edge powered by AI copilot and chat, to help people get more from search and the web," said Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella.

India Emerges As Second Biggest Market For LinkedIn As Users Cross 100 Million Mark

- Microsoft-owned professional network LinkedIn on Wednesday announced that it has crossed 100 million members in India. The country has witnessed a 56 per cent growth in its member base over the last three years and has cemented its position as the second-largest market for LinkedIn globally.
- The largest share of LinkedIn members in India come from software & IT, followed by manufacturing, corporate services (consulting, accounting and HR), finance and education industries.

Coming soon: QR Code based coin vending machine at railway stations, malls, markets across 12 cities in India

- The Reserve Bank of India on Wednesday said it will launch a pilot project on QR code-based coin vending machine. Giving details, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said that the RBI will start the project to launch QR code based coin vending machines and added that the machines will be launched to promote distribution of coins, and enhance the accessibility to coins.

ISRO to make 2nd attempt to launch new mini-vehicle SSLV tomorrow

- Isro will make a second attempt to launch its newly-developed mini-PSLV or Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV), which can carry a maximum payload of 500kg to space, from Sriharikota on Friday morning. In its maiden flight on August 7 last year, the SSLV had failed to place the satellites in their desired .

Hunting For Rare Toad, Scientists Discover A Voiceless Species Of Frog

- Researchers have discovered a previously unknown species of frog, which is unique in itself because it is voiceless. The team has described the Ukaguru spiny-throated reed frog (*Hyperolius ukaguruensis*) in the journal PLOS One. (Image Source : Christoph Liedtke/University of Cincinnati).

111 Payloads, 105 Space Debris 'Identified As Indian Objects' Orbiting Earth

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology Dr Jitendra Singh said Thursday a total of 111 payloads and 105 space debris, which have been identified as Indian objects, are orbiting the Earth as on January 20, 2023, as per USSPACECOM, which tracks and catalogues such objects also , ISRO has carried out 21 collision avoidance manoeuvres of Indian Operational Space assets in 2022.

IISc launches new research programme

- The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in collaboration with Brunel University London has launched a £100,000 (₹1,00,00,000) programme for joint research projects in areas of combustion, manufacturing, design and energy.
- The Brunel–IISc International Collaboration Programme was announced on 1 February during a visit by Brunel’s Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Andrew Jones to IISc’s campus in Bengaluru. The programme is being rolled out in support of the universities’ aim to build long-term research and educational collaboration.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

Shailesh Pathak appointed as new FICCI Secretary General

- Industry chamber Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Ficci) on Monday announced the appointment of former bureaucrat Shailesh Pathak as its secretary general from 1 March. The industry body said that in a career spanning 37 years, Pathak has worked with the government as an IAS officer as well as helmed large companies in the private sector.

BVR Subrahmanyam, the new NITI Aayog CEO

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Shri BVR Subrahmanyam, IAS (Retd.) as Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, vice Shri Parameswaran Iyer, upon his appointment as Executive Director, World Bank Headquarters, Washington DC, USA, for two years from the date of assumption of the charge of the post or until further orders, a statement released by the government said.

Parameswaran Iyer New Executive Director, World Bank

- Parameswaran Iyer, who was working as Niti Aayog CEO since June 2022, has been appointed as Executive Director, World Bank headquarters, Washington DC, USA for a tenure of three years.

Rajesh Rai appointed as CMD of ITI Limited

- Rajesh Rai has been appointed as Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of ITI Limited, a PSU under the Department of Telecommunications, According to an order issued from the Personnel & Training (DoPT) on Monday, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Rajesh Rai for a period of five years with effect from the date of his assumption of charge of the post, or till the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest. Presently, he is serving as General Manager in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL).

Brigadier BD Mishra (Retd) Takes Oath As New Lieutenant Governor Of Ladakh

- Brigadier BD Mishra (Retd.) was sworn in as the next lieutenant governor (LG) of Ladakh on Sunday. N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, administered the oath of office at the Raj Niwas in Leh. Mishra, a former governor of Arunachal Pradesh, is the second LG of Ladakh after Radha Krishnan Mathur, who resigned after three years in office, from 31 October 2019 to 11 February 2023, following Ladakh's secession from Jammu and Kashmir.

Rajan Amba appointed as MD of Jaguar Land Rover India

- Rajan Amba, VP of Sales, Marketing & Customer Care, Tata Motors, has been appointed as the Managing Director of Jaguar Land Rover India. He will take charge on March 1, 2023. Amba replaces Rohit Suri, who announced his retirement earlier this year. Prior to joining Tata Motors, Amba was the Chief Operating Officer at Carat Lane. He also held several top managerial posts at Titan and Nike.

Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar to be new Vice Chief of Army Staff

- Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of Army Staff, while incumbent Lt Gen B S Raju will take charge as South Western Army Commander, Lt General MV Suchindra Kumar has also served important staff appointments, including Additional Director General Military Intelligence and Director General Military Intelligence at Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (Army)

Five Judges Appointed To Supreme Court, Says Law Ministe

- Centre clears appointments of 5 new Judges for Supreme Court - Pankaj Mithal (Rajasthan HC chief justice), Sanjay Karol (Patna HC chief justice), PV Sanjay Kumar (Manipur HC chief justice), Ahsanuddin Amanullah (Patna HC judge) & Manoj Misra (Allahabad HC judge).

Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh Becomes New Chief Justice Of Patna High Court

- Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh, the senior-most judge of the Patna High Court, was on Saturday appointed the Acting Chief Justice, according to a notification released by the Union government.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Science Day: India

- National Science Day is celebrated every year in India on 28 February to mark the discovery of the Raman Effect by the Indian physicist Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman. He discovered the Raman Effect on 28 February 1928 and for this discovery, he was honored with the Nobel Prize in Physics subject in 1930.

National Essay Day

- National Essay Day takes place on February 28, the birthday of Michel de Montaigne, who was the author of the first-ever writings called 'essays.' This day encourages students to unleash their inner writers and compose essays on different topics. This lets them explore idea generation and writing freely and without stern academic guidelines and restrictions.

Rare Disease Day

- Rare Disease Day is an observance held on the last day of February to raise awareness for rare diseases and improve access to treatment and medical representation for individuals with rare diseases and their families. The European Organization for Rare Diseases established the day in 2008 to raise awareness for unknown or overlooked illnesses.

World Spay Day

- World Spay Day advocates spaying, or neutering, advocating it "as a proven means of saving the lives of companion animals, community cats, and street dogs who might otherwise be put down in a shelter or killed on the street." It is an event held on the last Tuesday in February each year.

Marathi Language Day

- Marathi Language Day is celebrated on February '27th' every year across the Indian states of Maharashtra. This day is regulated by the State Government. It is celebrated on Birthday of eminent Marathi Senior poet Kusumagraj

World NGO Day

- World NGO Day is observed every year on February 27. N.G.O. is an acronym for non-governmental organization. World NGO Day is a day set aside to recognize, celebrate and honor the fundamental contributions and profound impact that these independent organizations have had on the world. N.G.O.s are nonprofit organizations and although they're a modern phenomenon, their history spans back hundreds of years. Their influence continues to grow and make positive changes where needed in today's world.

International Polar Bear Day

- International Polar Bear Day on February 27 raises awareness on the issues facing polar bears and the ways in which we can reduce our carbon footprint. Climate change is a huge threat to polar bears' existence and it's up to us to take action and protect their future.

Dominican Republic Independence Day

- Dominican Republic Independence Day is celebrated every year on February 27. The first celebration was observed in 1844 and it has been almost two centuries since. The Dominican Republic was under Haitian rule for 22 years before the

independence war finally set them free. The Dominican Republic is a Caribbean nation that shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti to the west.

Kuwait Liberation Day

- Kuwait Liberation Day is observed annually on February 26. This holiday remembers the day Kuwait was liberated from Iraqi occupation in 1991. The Liberation was the U.S. marshaled military operation — Operation Desert Storm, to recoup Kuwait from Iraq after the 1991 bombing of Iraq.

International Sword Swallowers Day

- The International Sword Swallowers Day, which takes place on the last Saturday in February, is the day for you. This year, it will be held on February 25. Sword swallowers, a.k.a. those guys who pass long, pointy, sharp instruments through their mouths into their stomachs, often don't get the same level of fame and respect as other entertainers. This holiday was specially created to recognize and appreciate sword swallowers while educating people about their contribution to the world.

Central Excise Day : India

- Central Excise Day is observed in India on 24 February every year to encourage the employees of the excise department to carry out the central excise duty in a better way to prevent corruption in the manufacturing business and to carry out the best possible exercise services in India.

Flag Day Mexico

- Flag Day, or 'Día de la Bandera' as it's known in Mexico, is celebrated on February 24 every year, since it was first established. For those who did not know, the modern-day Mexican flag depicts an eagle atop a cactus, eating a snake. This fascinating emblem stems from an Aztec legend where this sight was witnessed by the Aztecs and taken to be a sign from the gods. As a result, they built their empire on that spot, and today, that spot is Mexico City, the capital of Mexico.

Estonia Independence Day

- Independence Day in Estonia is a public holiday on February 24 each year. Independence Day is also Estonia's national day that marks the anniversary of the Declaration founding the Republic of Estonia on this day in 1918. Estonia is a country in Northern Europe that borders the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Finland. Home to more than 1,500 islands, Estonia's diverse topography spans rocky beaches, old-growth forests, and many lakes.

International Stand Up to Bullying Day

- International Stand Up to Bullying Day is observed twice a year in February and November. In February, it is on the last Friday of the month while in November,

the day takes place on the third Friday of the month. It will next be observed on February 24. The observations in February are a part of the Anti-Bullying Week that aims to create empathy and end bullying and harassment. It's observed by schools, workplaces, and organizations in more than 25 countries.

Diesel Engine Day

- Diesel Engine Day is celebrated annually on February 23. The invention of this engine is credited to Rudolf Diesel, an engineer, who was granted a patent for the diesel engine on February 23, 1893. He came up with the engine after setting out to improve the efficiency of the Otto engine, a large, single-cylinder, four-stroke engine developed back in the 1870s. Did you know that diesel engines today, power all sorts of things including heavy construction machinery, farm tractors, trucks, marine vessels, buses, and locomotives? They are even turned into power generators at offices, airports, and hospitals. It is simply impossible to imagine our current world without this unique power system.

International Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day

- No one quite knows the origin of this wagstastic holiday, but we all know that dogs love these treats. Created in the mid-19th century by American James Spratt, the cake-like biscuit comprised of meat, grains and vegetables have evolved over time, but are still dogs favorite reward. So lets raise a baked treat to International Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day on February 23 and our companions who love them.

World Understanding and Peace Day

- World Understanding and Peace Day takes place on February 23 every year. This day is actually a commemoration of the first meeting of Rotary that was held. This meeting of businessmen, which aimed to be a space where their backgrounds didn't matter, started the chain of events that led to the formation of Rotary International. An international organization dedicated to humanitarian service as well as peace and goodwill throughout the world, Rotary International began in Chicago, U.S.

Digital Learning Day

- Digital Learning Day is celebrated annually on the last Thursday of every February. This year, it takes place on February 23. This day is an ongoing initiative led by the Alliance for Excellent Education (All4Ed) to engage students and empower educators through the effective use of digital tools.

World Thinking Day

- Scouts and Girl Guides across 150 countries celebrate World Thinking Day. It's a day of international friendship and a time to stand up for causes that could improve the lives of girls around the globe.

- Observed by 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide, World Thinking Day has a different theme each year. In 2023, the theme is “Our World, Our Peaceful Future: The environment, peace, and security.” To earn your World Thinking Day Award, you will explore environmental problems and learn how you can work with nature to create a more peaceful and secure future for girls everywhere. Check out the activity guides below to get involved and learn about how you can make a difference in the world.

National California Day

- We celebrate National California Day on February 22. It is a day to commemorate the Golden State of the United States of America. California is one of the western states in the U.S. It is also the most populous state and the third-largest state by area. California has a rich history that witnessed native American life, European exploration, Spanish colonization, the Mexican era, the Gold Rush, and U.S. statehood. California is one of the most popular destinations, famous for monuments like the Golden Gate Bridge, places like Disneyland and Hollywood, and last but not least, for events like Coachella.

Scouts Founder's Day

- Scouts Founder's Day on February 22 honors Lord Baden-Powell and his wife, Olave, the first Chief Girl Guide. Scouts Founder's Day is known as Founders Day throughout the world. It's a time for Scouts and Guides to reaffirm their oaths together and contemplate how Scouting's century-old values are still relevant in today's fast-paced world.

International Mother Language Day

- International Mother Language Day is a worldwide annual observance held on 21 February to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and to promote multilingualism. First announced by UNESCO on 17 November 1999, it was formally recognized by the United Nations General Assembly with the adoption of UN resolution in 2002. Mother Language Day is part of a broader initiative "to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world" as adopted by the UN General Assembly on 16 May 2007 in UN resolution which also established 2008 as the International Year of Languages.
- The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of Bangladesh. In Bangladesh, 21 February is the anniversary of the day when the people of Bangladesh (then East Bengal of Pakistan) fought for recognition for the Bengali language. It is also celebrated in West Bengal, India.

Mizoram State Day

- Mizoram State Day is on February 20. The day marks the formation of Mizoram as a state. The region is a state in north-eastern India and shares a border with countries like Bangladesh and Myanmar. Are you wondering why this particular

name was chosen for the state? Well, it's because the inhabitants of the region are called Mizo. Based on the history, the British were particularly interested in the region's resources such as tea and milk when they took over India. Hence, the state was officially formulated once India gained independence.

World Day of Social Justice

- World Day of Social Justice is observed annually on February 20. Internationally, the world is plagued with unfortunate issues that prohibit millions of individuals from living a fair life. Many of the world's population, through no fault of their own, are deprived of basic facilities, such as homes, jobs, healthcare, education, nutrition, and more.

President's Day : United States

- On the third Monday in February, the United States celebrates the federal holiday known as Presidents Day. The day takes place during the birth month of the country's two most prominent presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. While the day once only honored President George Washington on his birthday, February 22nd, the day now never lands on a single president's birthday.

National Love Your Pet Day

- On February 20th, pet lovers everywhere observe National Love Your Pet Day. This holiday focuses on giving extra attention to our pets. The day encourages pampering our pets and focusing on the special relationship pets hold in our lives.

Shivaji Jayanti

- Shivaji Jayanti, also known as Shiv Jayanti and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti, is a grand celebration that honors the birth of the great Maratha warrior, Shivaji Maharaj. From cultural programs to parades, the festival is a feast for the senses and a great chance to immerse yourself in the rich tradition and legacy of Maharashtra.

World Whale Day

- World Whale Day is celebrated every year on the third Sunday in February and this year, it takes place on February 19. This day seeks to appreciate these aquatic creatures that are an important part of the ecosystem. World Whale Day, was founded in Maui, Hawaii in 1980 to honor humpback whales, which swim off the coast of this tropical island. This day was started as an idea by Greg Kauffman, founder of the Pacific Whale Foundation, to raise awareness about the threat of extinction faced by humpback whales.

International Tug of War Day

- Tug of War Day is celebrated on February 19 every year. The day is dedicated to honouring one of the easiest sports, Tug of War. This game is a competitive sport that is beneficial for muscle development, and it is a lot of fun to play. The Tug of War is played all over the world.

Taj Mahotsav or Taj Festival

- Taj Mahotsav Agra, one of the most eagerly awaited festivals, is celebrated from 18th to 27th February every year at Shilpgram near the Eastern gate of “Taj Mahal”. This 10 days long carnival is actually a vibrant platform that gives you information of India where you can find India's rich arts, crafts, cuisine, dance and music. Taj Mahal is the most beautiful historical place of India which tells about incredible India. Taj Mahotsav is organized by UP Tourism and it is a source to increase Indian Tourism.

World Pangolin Day

- World Pangolin Day is observed annually on the third Saturday in February and takes place on February 18 this year. The day aims to celebrate pangolins, raise awareness and recommit international N.G.O.s to the fight against the global capturing of pangolins in Africa and Asia.

Global Tourism Resilience Day

- The United Nations General Assembly has adopted a resolution from Jamaica to declare the first-ever Global Tourism Resilience Day on 17th February 2023, in an effort to future-proof the sustainability of tourism. The move to mark the day annually was supported by more than 90 countries.

World Human Spirit Day

- So many of our statements nowadays end with ‘the world as we know it’. World Human Spirit Day is a celebration of the fact that what we know about our own world is limited and superficial. It is a day to wonder at our achievements on this planet as humans, and to contemplate the endless possibilities we have as spirits.

Random Act of Kindness Day

One can never go wrong with kindness, and there can never be too much of it. The idea behind Random Act of Kindness Day is to cultivate feelings of kindness and brighten up someone's day. Every small act of kindness is significant. It may seem like it doesn't accomplish much but, just like the domino effect, one act of kindness can lead to more positive outcomes. Don't hold back from uplifting others with compliments and compassion on this day.

World Anthropology Day 2023

- World Anthropology Day is a holiday that falls on the third Thursday of February — it takes place on February 16 this year. The day is set aside to celebrate the field and share information about anthropology with the public. Anthropology can be explained as the scientific study of humanity. It covers human behavior, biology, and how human societies function.
- It considers past and present information and looks to explore the future. Anthropology helps explain the origins of humans and what makes us unique as a species. It helps us understand how our world works, why we behave the way we do, and how we influence our environments.

National Almond Day

- National Almond Day is a reason for foodies to celebrate! It's generally believed and agreed by historians (and food historians in particular) that almonds were one of the earliest cultivated foods by mankind. Almonds are mentioned as far back in history as the Bible!

Innovation Day

- Innovation Day is commemorated on February 16 to recognize the role that new knowledge plays in making a country more advanced and powerful. This day is a great way to not only make the existing crop of scientists feel valued and appreciated, but it also inspires young people to pursue a career in technology and innovation. This special day celebrates the achievements of the scientific community and opens the doors to new technologies, inventions, and careers for the younger generation.

World Hippo Day

- Drought has led to habitat loss, and the hunting and poaching of hippos, both for their meat and ivory teeth, is also a major threat. World Hippo Day reminds us to celebrate and value these mud-loving mammals, in the hope that they'll be around for many more years to come.

National Flag of Canada Day

- On February 15, 1965, Canada's red and white maple leaf flag was raised for the very first time on Parliament Hill. On the same day in 1996, National Flag of Canada Day was declared. - Our national flag is a symbol that unites Canadians and reflects the common values we take pride in — equality, freedom and inclusion.

International Childhood Cancer Day

- International Childhood Cancer Day is observed on February 15 every year and all over the world. The day raises awareness of childhood cancer and honors all the children and families experiencing the effects of the disease. It

acknowledges their pain and difficulties, giving them space to process and grieve.

International Book Giving Day

- International Book Giving Day, celebrated every year on February 14, is a day to do exactly what the day says — give books. This special holiday is celebrated by book lovers all over the world. It is a day to share your love of books with someone — especially children — who might not have access to as many books as you do. It's not a coincidence that International Book Giving Day falls on the same day as Valentine's Day — it is a day of love after all. International Book Giving Day is about two things — a love of books and a love for fellow human beings.

Black Day : India

- As on February 14, 2019, a terror attack was carried out in Pulwama in Jammu and Kashmir by a suicide bomber resulting in the death of 40 CRPF personnel in Pulwama.

National Women's Day: India / Sarojini Naidu Birth Anniversary

- Every year 13 February is celebrated as National Women's Day only in India. But, very few people know why Women's Day is celebrated on February 13. As on this day prominent freedom fighter and poetess Sarojini Naidu was born. She is also known as the 'Nightingale of India' because of her poems. Sarojini Naidu played an active role in the Indian National Movement for the independence of the country.

World Radio Day

- World Radio Day is observed on 13 February every year to remember the special power of Radio which brings people together and provides vital information. It touches the lives of people across the world. In 2023, the theme for World Radio Day is "Radio and Peace" which aims to focus on the importance of independent radio to foster peace and prevent conflict.

International Epilepsy Day

- International Epilepsy Day, is observed each year on the 2nd Monday of February International Epilepsy Day is an annual event organized by the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) and the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) to raise awareness about epilepsy and its impact on individuals, families and communities around the world.

National productivity day : India

- India celebrates National Productivity Day every year on February 12 to mark the foundation day of the National Productivity Council (NPC). The NPC's mission is to promote awareness towards increasing the productivity of the country.

Darwin Day

- Darwin Day is a celebration to commemorate the birthday of Charles Darwin on 12 February (12 February 1809). The day is used to highlight Darwin's contributions to science and to promote science in general. Darwin Day is celebrated around the world.

International Day of Women and Girls in Science

- It is observed on 11 February to recognize the role of women and girls in science, not only as beneficiaries but also as agents of change. Therefore, the day focuses on achieving full and equal access to and participation in science for women and girls. Also, to achieve gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

World Day of Sick

- Every year on February 11th, World Day of the Sick offers a way for the Catholic Church to come together and pray for those who are suffering from sickness. It's also a day to remember the caregivers and hospital chaplains who look after those who are ill.

World Unani Day

- World Unani Day is observed on February 11 every year to mark the birth anniversary of "Hakim Ajmal Khan", an eminent Indian Unani physician. The first Unani Day was celebrated in 2017 at the Central Research Institute of Unani Medicine (CRIUM), Hyderabad. The main objective is to spread the awareness in masses and action about healthcare delivery through the Unani system of medicine worldwide through its preventive and curative philosophy.

National Deworming Day : India

- The National Deworming Day is being observed on 10 February across the country. Children and adolescents in the age group of 1 to 19 years are being administered a single dose of a safe medicine Albendazole in all states and Union Territories on the occasion.
- The objective of the day is to deworm children and adolescents to reduce the prevalence of parasitic worms in the intestine. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare initiated the observation of the National Deworming Day. The first National Deworming Day in India was observed on 10 February 2015.

World Pulses Day

- World Pulses Day is observed on 10th February. It is organized to create awareness among people to get nutritional food including pulses.
- It is a global event and is celebrated on 10 February to highlight the importance of pulses as a worldwide food. The day recognizes the significant role that pulses

play in achieving the comprehensive, far-reaching, and people-centred set of universal and transformative goals.

Birth anniversary of Dr. Zakir Hussain

- Dr. Zakir Husain, (8 February 1897 – 3 May 1969) was an Indian educationist and politician who served as President of India from 13 May 1967 until his death on 3 May 1969.

Ballet Day

- Ballet Day is every year on February 7, and we can't wait to celebrate this elegant and theatrical dance form. When the ethereal outfits, passionate dancers, and classical music come together, it uplifts the spirit like no other form of artistic expression.
- The grace in ballet is undeniable and we tend to forget the unbelievable athleticism and strength needed to achieve that. Female ballerinas can carry three times their body weight while dancing on the tip of their big toe. Male ballerinas are capable of lifting one and a half tons during a single performance. These are just one of several reasons why ballet leaves us starstruck so let's tip our hats this Ballet Day.

E-Day

- Whip out your TI-87 calculator this e-Day, February 7, and spot the little button that bolsters logarithmic and exponential functions on the daily. While you may not be too familiar with e, you're surely acquainted with its more famous cousin, pi. Just like pi, e is an inexplicably recurring number in the world of mathematics.
- It has a never-ending chain of decimal points, the beginning of which is 2.718281828, and on and on it goes. This holiday is celebrated on 2/7 for the obvious reason that the date holds the same digits as e rounded to the nearest tenth.

International Development Week

- International Development Week (IDW) is celebrated from 6 February to 12 February and this year marks the 30th anniversary of International Development Week in Canada. This day informs about different roles and career paths in the international development sector.

Lata Mangeshkar Death Anniversary: More Than 5,000 Songs In 36 Languages — A Career Like No Other

- The legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar, fondly known as The Nightingale of India, was a musical force to reckon. February 6, 2023 marks the first death anniversary of the veteran singer, The legendary singer died due to multiple organ failure, the doctors said.

National Weather Person's Day

- The National Weather Service explained the holiday — celebrated on Feb. 5 — as a day commemorating the birth of John Jeffries in 1744. Jeffries, one of America's first weather observers, began taking daily weather observations in Boston in 1774 and he took the first balloon observation in 1784.
- Guru Ravidas Jayanti 2023. Every year on the full moon day of the month of Magha, Sant Ravidas Jayanti is observed. Ravidasji's birth anniversary, or Ravidas Jayanti, is observed on February 5 this year.

World Cancer Day

- It takes place every year on 4 February. World Cancer Day aims to prevent millions of deaths each year by raising awareness and education about cancer, and pressing governments and individuals across the world to take action against the disease.

Feed the Birds Day

- Every year February 3rd is observed as Feed the Bird Day. This day reminds all of us to feed the birds, who find it difficult to survive during winters because of lack of food.

World Wetlands Day

- Every year on 2nd February, World Wetlands Day is celebrated internationally. This day marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in Ramsar, Iran. It was first celebrated in 1997.

RA Awareness Day

- RA Awareness Day is Rheumatoid Arthritis Awareness Day and is observed on 2 February to spread awareness for patients suffering from rheumatoid arthritis.

1 February – Indian Coast Guard Day

- On 1st February, the Indian Coast Guard celebrates its foundation day. This year, the Indian Coast Guard is celebrating its 46th Raising Day. Indian Coast Guard has played a significant role in securing the Indian Coasts and enforcing regulations within the Maritime Zones of India.

SUMMITS AND MOU'S

Japanese HMI Company Limited has inked an MoU with the Uttar Pradesh

- Japanese hotel chain Hotel Management International (HMI) Company Limited has inked an MoU with the Uttar Pradesh government to develop 30 new hotel with an investment of ₹7,200 crore in the state. The industrial policies of UP are encouraging to the HMI group. The Group will expand its hotel chain in 30 major places including Agra, Varanasi and Ayodhya.” He further added that this will also create over 10,000 jobs in the state.

MoU signed between CSC Academy and NIELIT

- CSC Academy, a subsidiary of Common Service Centre e-Governance Services India Limited, and NIELIT (National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance digital literacy and skill development in India. The MoU aims to establish a long-term partnership between the two organizations to jointly develop and implement initiatives that promote digital literacy and create employment opportunities for the youth of India.

University of Auckland and Tata Memorial Hospital sign MoU for cancer care

- Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland, New Zealand, and Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH), Mumbai, the largest and the most renowned cancer care hospital and research centre in India, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to engage in long-term cooperation in cancer care. The MoU aims to explore ways to enhance cancer care using digital health. The two countries have a long history of cooperation in healthcare and this partnership builds on an already strong relationship. The University of Auckland is strongly committed to finding solutions to some of the most pressing global health issues in partnership with leading institutions.

At UAE's defence expo, an Abu Dhabi defence firm signs an MOU with India's HAL

- At the International Defence Expo and Conference on Wednesday, Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL), an aerospace company in India, and EDGE, the top defence company in the UAE, inked a Memorandum of Understanding. The agreement is inked to investigate potential areas of collaboration, such as the collaborative development of missile systems and unmanned aerial vehicles (drones).

Uber signs MoU with Tata Motors to bring 25,000 EVs in India

- Marking a key milestone in sustainable mobility in India, Uber has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tata Motors to bring 25,000 electric vehicles onto the platform. This agreement is both in alignment with India's vision to reach net zero by 2070 and Uber's commitment to 100% zero-emission vehicle rides by 2040. This deal between a ride-hailing app and India's top carmaker is the largest EV commitment ever of this kind. In a statement, Uber said that Tata Motors will begin deliveries of "XPRES-T EVs to Uber fleet partners in a phased manner starting this month."

Bharat Electronics signs MoU with ADA, DRDO to jointly support Indian Air Force

- Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL), the government-owned aerospace and defense electronics company, in an exchange filing on February 21, announced it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) under DRDO, to develop and provide a supportive infrastructure for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

RRR wins Best International Film at HCA Awards

- RRR has made the country proud again. The SS Rajamouli-directed movie has won in multiple categories at the recently-held Hollywood Critics Association Awards.
RRR hit screens in 2022.
RRR is directed by SS Rajamouli.
RRR stars Jr NTR and Ram Charan.

JSW Group chairman Sajjan Jindal wins EY entrepreneur of the year award 2022

- Sajjan Jindal, the chairman and managing director of JSW Group, was awarded as the EY Entrepreneur of the Year (EOY) 2022. The seven-member jury led by former ICICI Bank chairman K V Kamath selected Jindal as the EOY 2022 winner for his “exceptional entrepreneurial journey in scaling the global conglomerate with presence in steel, cement, infrastructure, energy, and paints to revenues of US\$22 billion.

Poet V Madhusoodanan Nair to receive Jnanappana award

- V Madhusoodanan Nair, noted writer, and teacher, has been selected for this year’s Jnanappana Puraskaram, instituted by Guruvayur Devaswom in memory of ‘Poonthanam Namboothiri’, the ardent devotee of Guruvayoorappan, who wrote Jnanappana.

Rafael Nadal Backs Fellow Nominee Lionel Messi To Win 2023 Laureus Sportsman Award.

- Tennis superstar Rafael Nadal has backed Lionel Messi to win the 2023 Laureus Sportsman Of The Year Award. He said that the 2022 FIFA World Cup winner deserves the honour. Notably, Laureus announced the nominees for various categories and the Sportsman and Sportswoman of the year shortlist list includes both Nadal and Messi among other athletes like Kylian Mbappe, Iga Swiatek, Tiger Woods and Mikaela Shiffrin.

German Film 'All Quiet On The Western Front' Creates Buzz With Seven Wins at BAFTA Awards

- The German epic film "All Quiet on the Western Front" dominated the BAFTA Awards in London on Sunday night with a record-breaking seven wins, including for Best Director, Best Film and Best Film Not in the English Language. The previous record was held by 1988 film "Cinema Paradiso", which won five BAFTA Awards.

Karnataka Bank awarded 'Prathista Puraskar'

- Karnataka Bank was awarded with 'Prathista Puraskar' under 'Digidhan Awards 2021-22' by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), government of India for achieving target with highest percentage in BHIM-UPI

transactions in private sector bank category. Labelled as 'KBL-NxT', the bank is currently undertaking an accelerated digital drive under its transformation journey 'KBL VIKAS 2.0'. This award is an ideal tribute to the founding fathers of this great institution as Karnataka Bank is stepping into its 100th year of its fruitful existence."

IIT Indore Students Awarded with Global Best M-GOV Awards by Egyptian President

- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore Students won AED 1 million by winning the gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai. Niyat i Totala and Neel Kalpeshkumar Parikh of The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore, were awarded the prestigious medal by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi.

Appasaheb Dharmadhikari awarded with Maharashtra Bhushan award

- The state government of Maharashtra has announced that renowned social worker, preacher and reformer Dattatreya alias Appasaheb Dharmadhikari will be honoured with Maharashtra Bhushan award for the year 2022. The Maharashtra Bhushan award comprises a medal, a citation and Rs 25 lakh, which will be conferred to Appasaheb at a function later in the year. Appasaheb was honoured with Padmashri in 2017.

BRIT Awards 2023: Harry Styles Leads Winners' List Bagging Album of the Year, Song of the Year And Best Pop/R+B Act

- The former One Direction singer, 29, also scooped Album of the Year, Song of the Year and Best Pop/R+B Act, and is making headlines for dedicating his Artist of the Year trophy to a string of female artistes who weren't nominated, after the BRITs was slammed for the all-male nominees line-up for the trophy after the category went gender-neutral.

Mrf's Mammen Gets Atma Lifetime Achievement Award

- MRF Ltd. Chairman and Managing Director K.M. Mammen was presented the ATMA Lifetime Achievement Award by Maruti Suzuki India MD & CEO Hisashi Takeuchi at the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA) Annual Conclave 2023 in New Delhi. It is noted that Mammen has been at the helm of every landmark achievement that has brought MRF to the milestone of over INR 19,000 crore turnover and in its ranking, of being amongst one of the top tyre companies in the world.

VP Nandakumar, Manappuram Finance gets Hurun India award

- Managing Director & CEO, Manappuram Finance Ltd, VP Nandakumar has bagged the Hurun India's award for his remarkable achievements in the world of business. He received The Hurun Industry Achievement Award 2022 from top Hurun India officials at a function held in Mumbai. Adi Godrej, chairman, Godrej Group, Cyrus S. Poonawalla, Managing Director, Serum Institute of India Ltd, Kris

Gopalakrishnan, co-founder, Infosys Ltd and Sanjiv Goenka of RPG Group were the earlier recipients of this award.

RANKING

Mukesh Ambani Overtakes Gautam Adani as Richest Indian in the world

- Adani Group stocks have been under stress since Hindenburg in its research report last week questioned the accounting and corporate governance practices of the conglomerate.
- Reliance Industries chairman and Managing Director Mukesh Ambani has been named the richest Indian in the world, according to the Forbes Real Time Billionaires' list.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Westland Books To Publish Late Actress Sridevi's Official Biography

- Westland Books on Wednesday announced publishing of the official biography of superstar Sridevi. Titled "Sridevi: The Life of a Legend", the book draws a complete portrait of the actor, who ruled the commercial cinema space in the '80s and '90s. It is written by debutant author Dhiraj Kumar and will be released this year, informed the publishing house.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

RBL Bank enters into an agreement with Exim Bank for trade finance

- Private lender RBL Bank on Monday announced it has entered into an agreement with Export-Import Bank of India (India Exim Bank) under Trade Assistance Programme (TAP) to support cross-border trade transactions.

Bill Gates Buys Stake in Heineken for \$902 Million

- Bill Gates has acquired a minority stake in Heineken Holding NV, the controlling shareholder of the world's second-largest brewer, for about \$902 million. The Microsoft founder and philanthropist picked up 3.8% of Heineken Holding, according to a filing by the Dutch regulator AFM. He bought 6.65 million shares in Heineken Holding, in his individual capacity, and another 4.18 million shares through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Trust.

Adani company gives up bid to acquire DB Power

- Gautam Adani-led Adani Power said on Wednesday an agreement signed last year to acquire DB Power, which operates a thermal power plant in Chhattisgarh, for an enterprise value of Rs 7,017 crore, has expired.
- The date to complete the process was extended four times after the initial deal was signed in August 2022. "We wish to inform that the long stop date under the memorandum of understanding (MoU) dated August 18, 2022, has expired," Adani Power said in a stock exchange notice on Wednesday, but did not provide

details as to whether the date will be extended or the agreement will be renegotiated.

Reliance To Invest Rs 75,000 Crore In UP In 4 Years

- At UP Global Investor Summit 2023 in Lucknow, Mukesh Ambani said, "Reliance to invest Rs 75,000 crore in next four years in UP across telecom, retail and new energy business...Reliance will set up 10 GW of renewable capacity in Uttar Pradesh, start bio-energy business in state."

RBI repo rate hike

- RBI hikes repo rate: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das released the Monetary Policy statement on Wednesday, February 8, 2023. The Monetary Policy 2023 includes an increase in the repo rate by 25 basis points. The RBI has increased the repo rate by a cumulative 250 basis points to 6.50 per cent since May this year.

New Leave Encashment Rule: Non-Govt Employees To Gain Rs 20,000 Per Year

- Revenue secretary Sanjay Malhotra said those outside the government stand to gain at least Rs 20,000 annually due to the change in tax rules for leave encashment. The Union Budget announced several measures to offer relief to salaried individuals and the common man. Finance Minister (FM) Nirmala Sitharaman proposed to raise tax exemption on leave encashment on the retirement of non-government salaried employees to Rs 25 lakh from Rs 3 lakh. "In line with the increase in government salaries, I am proposing to increase this limit to Rs 25 lakh," the FM said.

Telangana Finance Minister Harish Rao Presents Rs 2.90 Lakh Crore Budget

- Telangana Finance Minister T Harish Rao presented the budget in the Assembly on Monday. He commented that Telangana focuses on both development and welfare in the state. The Finance Minister presented an Rs 2,90,396 crores budget with a Revenue Expenditure of Rs 2,11,685 crore while capital expenditure was Rs 37,525 crores.

Modi Govt Likely To Increase Dearness Allowance By 4%.

- The central government is likely to increase dearness allowance (DA) for its over one crore employees and pensioners by four percentage points to 42 per cent from existing 38 per cent as per the agreed formula for the purpose.

Pakistani Rupee Continues Speedy Crash Against USD, Suffers Another Big Fall

- According to Pakistan media Geo News, since the start of this year, the rupee has depreciated by 44.92 against the US dollar.
- The Pakistani rupee (PKR) has continued a speedy crash against the US dollar with another big fall as the greenback was traded at a record high price of 276.58 PKR in the interbank market, the central bank announced.

SBI Chairman said lending to Adani Group projects is with regard to one having tangible assets and adequate cash flows

- State Bank of India (SBI) on Friday said its overall exposure to the Adani Group is at 0.88 per cent of the book or around Rs 27,000 crore. After the country's largest lender reported a 62 per cent growth in its net profit at Rs 15,477 crore during the December 2022 quarter, SBI chairman Dinesh Khara said that the bank has not given any loans against shares to the group, reported PTI.

Budget and More

- The Government has also enhanced the outlay for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana by 66 per cent to over 79 thousand crore rupees.
- The Defence Ministry has been allocated 5.94 lakh crore rupees in Budget 2023-24. This is 13.18 percent of the total budget, and a jump of 13 percent over previous year.
- The Government has also decided to continue the 50-year interest free loan to state governments for one more year to spur investment in infrastructure and to incentivize them for complementary policy actions, with a significantly enhanced outlay of 1.3 lakh crore rupees.

SBI Gave Loans Worth \$2.6 Billion To Companies Of Adani Group

- State Bank of India (SBI) gave loans worth as much as \$2.6 billion to the Adani Group of companies, reported Bloomberg citing a person familiar with the matter. According to the report, the person said that SBI's loans to companies in the Adani conglomerate are about half of what is allowed under the rules.

Sitharaman has set a record of being the sixth minister to present five consecutive Budget

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who arrived at the Rashtrapati Bhavan wearing a red colour saree to call on President Droupadi Murmu, will present Union Budget 2023-24 on Wednesday. Sitharaman has set a record of being the sixth minister to present five consecutive Budget. She has joined a select league of leaders likes of Manmohan Singh, Arun Jaitley and P Chidambaram.

Budget 2023 Taxation and more

- FM Sitharaman proposes to increase income tax rebate limit to Rs 7 lakh under new tax regime.
- Govt to reduce customs duty on shrimp feed to promote exports: FM Sitharaman
- Taxes on cigarettes hiked by 16 percent
- Basic import duty on compounded rubber increased to 25 percent from 10 percent.
- Basic customs duty hiked on articles made from gold bars
- Customs duty on kitchen electric chimney increased to 15 percent from 7.5 percent.
- Customs duty on parts of open cells of TV panels cut to 2.5 percent.

- Govt proposes to reduce customs duty on import of certain inputs for mobile phone manufacturing.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed increase in the agriculture credit target in the Budget 2023 to Rs 20 lakh crore, with an emphasis on industries such as animal husbandry, dairy and fishery. She also proposed a sub-scheme of PM Matsya Sampada Yojana with a targeted investment of Rs 6,000 crore.

FY24 nominal GDP growth assumed at 10.5%

- "Nominal GDP for BE 2023-2024 has been projected at Rs 3,01,75,065 crore (Rs 301.75 lakh crore) assuming 10.5 percent growth over the estimated Nominal GDP of Rs 2,73,07,751 crore (Rs 273.08 lakh crore) as per the First Advance Estimates of FY 2022-23," the Budget documents said.

The Railway Ministry has been allocated 2.40 lakh crore

- In the Budget 2023, the Railway Ministry has been allocated 2.40 lakh crore. The amount allocated in this year's budget is 9 times of what was allocated in 2013.

The Education Budget 2023 saw the highest-ever allocation for the education sector

- With Rs 1.12 Lakh Crore. School Education and Higher Education allotment increased by 8 and 7.9%, respectively. The Union Budget 2023 allocated a total of 1,12,898.97 crore to the education sector. The Education Budget 2023 saw an increase of 8621.25 crore in its allocation, compared to 104,277.72 crore in the previous year.

Fundamakers