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YOUR DREAM...! OUR RESPONSE...!

14 June 2023 Daily Current Affairs

Important Days

14 June 2023 - World Blood Donor Day

- ❖ Every year countries around the world celebrate World Blood Donor Day (WBDD).
- ❖ The event serves to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood.
- ❖ **Theme 'Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often.'**
- ❖ A blood service that gives patients access to safe blood and blood products in sufficient quantity is a key component of an effective health system.
- ❖ The global theme of World Blood Donor Day changes each year in recognition of the selfless individuals who donate their blood for people unknown to them.

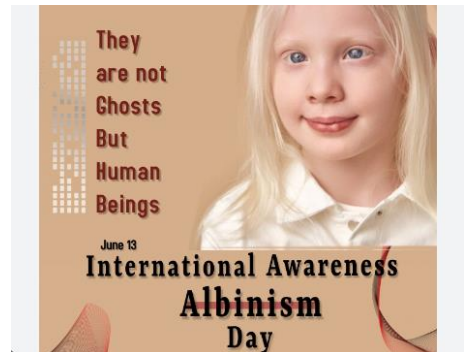


14 June 2023 - International Albinism Awareness Day

- ❖ Its aim is to ensure the inclusion of the voices of persons with albinism in all sectors of life.
- ❖ It emphasises the importance of inclusion of a diversity of groups from both within and outside the albinism community.
- ❖ **Theme, "Inclusion is Strength,"** builds on last year's theme of "United in making our voice heard."

Specifically, this year's theme highlights the importance and benefits of

- ❖ Including a broad spectrum of persons with albinism in albinism-related discussions, including youth, women, children, older persons, LGBTQ+ and persons with albinism of all races and ethnic backgrounds;
- ❖ Collaborating and embracing albinism within the disability movement, and in other sectors where decisions affect persons with albinism; and
- ❖ Seeking synergies with human rights groups and other groups from outside the albinism movement.
- ❖ Everyone is welcome to use this theme especially on and around the Day itself: 13 June. You are also welcome to choose your own theme.





Persons in News

Hyundai Signs Indian Cricketer Hardik Pandya as Brand Ambassador for Exter

- ❖ Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL) has signed Indian cricketer Hardik Pandya as the brand ambassador for Exter, its sub 4metre sports utility vehicle (SUV).
- ❖ Exter is expected to come up with safety features including the six airbags and electronic stability control.
- ❖ Hardik Pandya, hailing from Gujarat, made his international debut for India against Australia in 2016.
- ❖ In March 2023, He became India's 27th One Day Internationals (ODI) captain and made his made his captaincy debut in the first game against Australia in the India-Australia series.
- ❖ He played for Mumbai Indians (MI) in Indian Premier League (IPL) from 2015 to 2021 and since 2022 he has been player for Gujarat Titans as its Captain.
- ❖ Pandya worked with over 12 brands including Monster Energy drink, Gulf Oil, William Lawson scotch, boat, and Britannia.



Tamil Nadu Chief Information Commissioner Shakeel Akhtar

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Information Commissioner retired I.P.S. Officer Shakeel Akhtar has been appointed. Also, the government has ordered the appointment of four Information Commissioners.
- ❖ In this regard, HRD Department Secretary K. Nandakumar has issued an order.
- ❖ Mohammad Shakeel Akhtar has been appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner of Tamil Nadu. Hailing from Bihar, he joined the service as an IPS officer in the Tamil Nadu Division in 1989. He retired in October last year after holding various responsibilities.
- ❖ At this stage, he had applied for the post of Chief Information Commissioner. Governor for his selection R. N. Ravi has approved.
- ❖ Four Information Commissioners: Similarly, the vacant posts of four Information Commissioners have also been appointed at various levels.
- ❖ Retired IPS officers P. Thamarai Kannan, R. Priyakumar, K. Thirumalaimuthu and Professor M. Selvaraj have been appointed as Information Commissioners.





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- ❖ Governor RN Ravi will administer the oath of office to them in an event held at the Governor's House. He will hold office for a period of three years from the date of assumption of office or till the age of 65 years whichever comes first.

Defence News

Indo-Maldives Joint Military Exercise “Ekuverin” Commences at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand

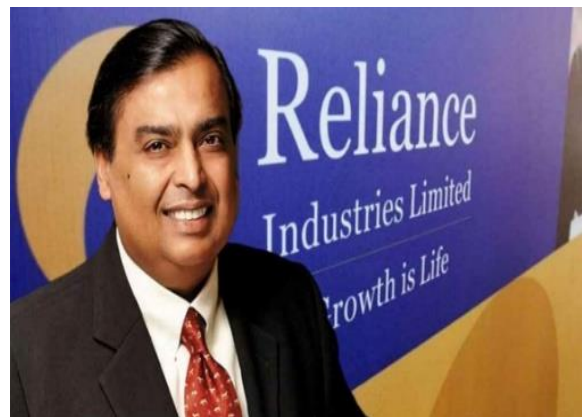
- ❖ The 12th edition of the joint military exercise 'Ex Ekuverin' between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force to be held in Chaubatia, Uttarakhand from June 11 to 24, 2023.
- ❖ Ekuverin, meaning 'friend', is a bilateral annual exercise held alternately in India and Maldives. A platoon-strength contingent of the Indian Army and Maldives National Defense Force will participate in the 14-day long exercise.
- ❖ The exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability in Counter Insurgency/ Counter Terrorism Operations under the UN mandate and to carry out joint Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief operations.
- ❖ The focus is to share best practices, enhance coordination and cooperation between both the forces at tactical level.
- ❖ The 11th edition of the exercise was held in Maldives in December 2021.
- ❖ The defense cooperation between the two countries extends
- ❖ From joint exercises to assisting Maldives with defense training and equipment requirements.
- ❖ Both the nations have very close and friendly relations in economic, cultural and military cooperation. 'Ex Ekuverin' will assist in further bolstering of these ties between the two nations.



Awards and Honors

Reliance Climbed 8 Spots and Ranked 45 On Forbes 2023 the Global 2000 List

- ❖ Indian billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) climbed eight spots to the 45th rank, the highest for an Indian company in the 2023 edition of the Global 2000 list of public companies published by Forbes'.
- ❖ Reliance held the 53rd position in the 2022 edition of the Global 2000.
- ❖ RIL ranked 45 ahead of well-known names like Germany's BMW Group,





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Switzerland's Nestle, China's Alibaba Group, the United State of America's (USA) Procter & Gamble and Japan's Sony.

- ❖ JPMorgan, America's biggest bank is at the top of the list for the first time since 2011.
- ❖ Saudi Aramco, Saudi Arabian Oil Company in the 2nd followed by 3 state-owned banks of China (ICBC, China Construction Bank and Agricultural Bank of China).

India in the Global 2000

- ❖ Totally 55 Indian companies figured in the list with State Bank of India (SBI) climbed to 77th spot (from 105 in 2022); HDFC Bank is at 128th position (from 153 in 2022); ICICI Bank is at 163 (from 204 in 2022); State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) at 226 and HDFC at 232.
- ❖ Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) made its maiden entry and ranked 363; Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) slipped to 387th rank (from 384 in 2022).

Sports

Hockey: 2023 Women's Junior Asia Cup: India beats S.Korea to win maiden title

- ❖ Indian Women's Junior Hockey Team won the Women's Junior Asia Cup 2023 title by defeating four-time champions Republic of Korea (South Korea) in the finals held in Kakamigahara, Japan.
- ❖ This marks India's first-ever Women's Junior Asia Cup title.
- ❖ Women's Junior Asia Cup 2023, the 8th edition of the women's international under-21(U- 21) field hockey championship of Asia, was held in Kakamigahara, Japan from 2nd to 11th June 2023.
- ❖ South Korea and Japan won the Silver and Bronze Medals respectively in the Women's Junior Asia Cup 2023.



Team	Position
India	1
South Korea	2
Japan	3
China	4
Malaysia	5



Japan, India, Egypt start on a winning note

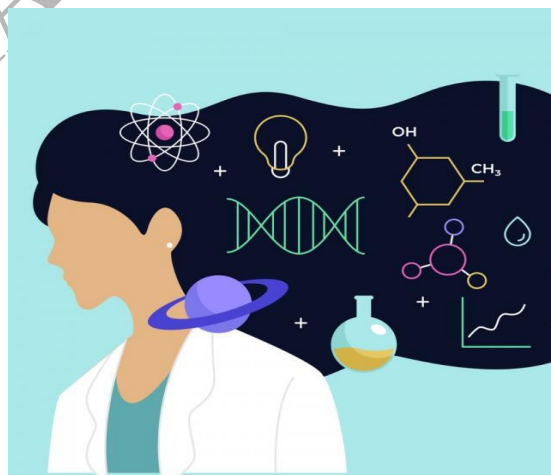
- ❖ Teams from Japan, Egypt and Malaysia have won the opening matches of the WUSF, SRFI, STDA World Cup Squash tournament which started in Chennai.
- ❖ After 11 years, the World Cup squash matches are again being held in Chennai. Tamil Nadu Sports Minister Udayanidhi Stalin inaugurated the tournament.
- ❖ First, Japan and South Africa clashed in Group B. Japan beat South Africa 3-1. On the Japanese side, Tomadaka Nto, world number 18 Satomi Watanbe and Ryūnosuksuke won their respective matches. Hailey Ward was the consolation winner for the South African side.
- ❖ Big win for India: Hong Kong against China
- ❖ India won by a score of 4-0.
- ❖ National champions Abhay Singh, Joshna Chinnappa, veteran Sourav Ghoshal and young star Tanvi Khanna defeated the Hong Kong team in their respective matches.



Schemes and their Utility

Vigyan-Vidushi – 2023: Empowering Women in Physics

- ❖ Vigyan-Vidushi – 2023, an initiative aimed at achieving gender balance in the field of Physics at the doctoral level, has commenced at the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE) in Mumbai.
- ❖ This program brings together 40 female students from various institutes across India who have recently completed their first year of MSc in Physics.
- ❖ The program aims to provide them with exposure to advanced physics courses and encourage them to conduct innovative experiments.
- ❖ Since 2020, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) has been organizing a three-week summer program called “Vigyan Vidushi” for female students pursuing Physics at the MSc level.
- ❖ Urges students to become ambassadors and inspire other girls to study physics.





Science and Technology

India's Azista BST Aerospace launched its 1st satellite "AFR" on SpaceX

- ❖ Azista BST Aerospace (ABA), a Ahmedabad (Gujarat)-based aerospace firm, launched its 1st satellite "ABA First Runner (AFR)" onboard the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket as part of the Transporter-8 Mission from Space Launch Complex 4E at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, the United States of America (USA).



Transporter-8 Mission

- ❖ Transporter 8 mission is a dedicated rideshare flight to a Sun-Synchronous Orbit (SSO) with 72 small microsattellites and nanosatellites for commercial and government customers.

Azista BST Aerospace (ABA)

- ❖ Azista BST Aerospace is a joint venture (JV) between Azista Industries Ltd, Hyderabad, Telangana and Berlin Space Technologies (BST) GmbH, Berlin, Germany.
- ❖ Berlin Space Technologies Aerospace Company claims to have a production capacity of at least two satellites per week at its 50,000-square-foot facility.

Economy and Banking

OmniCard Becomes 1st RBI Licensed PPI to Launch Cash Withdrawal across All ATMs PAN India

- ❖ Payment solution provider, OmniCard has announced that it became the 1st RBI licensed PPI (Prepaid Payment Instrument) to launch cash withdrawal using a RuPay-powered card from any ATMs across the country.
- ❖ The move came in after RBI permitted the non-bank licensed entities to enable cash withdrawals from the digital wallets.
- ❖ OmniCard users can withdraw cash from any ATM at their convenience with full security from frauds like card theft, card cloning, and PIN skimming as the withdrawal facility comes with high safety & secure features and protects the user from exposing their money and bank account details.
- ❖ The company worked with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) team to enable the facility.

India Has Made A Big Record In Terms Of Digital Payments And Ranked On Top

- ❖ According to My Gov India data, in the year 2022, 89.5 million digital transactions have been done.



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- ❖ According to statistics, global real-time payments accounted for 46 percent of India's total digital transactions in 2022.
- ❖ My Gov India has said that the large scale adoption of innovative solutions has brought about this change and the country is moving towards a cashless economy.
- ❖ India is followed by Brazil with 29.2 million, China with 17.6 million, Thailand with 16.5 million and South Korea with 8 million.
- ❖ Even if the figures of the other four countries are combined, India is ahead of them.
- ❖ The first online payment platform in India was from 'Billdesk'.
- ❖ It started its operation in 2000, in just 23 years India is on top of the world in terms of digital payments.
- ❖ After the year 2014, there has been a significant increase in it, because the central government has done a lot of work on Digital India.
- ❖ In July 1, 2015, Digital India was launched by PM Modi with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- ❖ RBI also launched a pilot project of E-Rupee in 2022.
- ❖ My Gov India is a citizen-government engagement platform that started in 2014 and owned by the Government of India.

In A First, IOB Launches 'My Account My Name' For SB Account Holders

- ❖ The Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has launched first-of-its-kind in the banking sector 'My Account My Name' feature enabling its Savings Bank (SB) account customers to choose any easy to remember 7 Digit/Character Account Name as their account number with IOB.
- ❖ The schemes were launched from Bank's Central Office, Chennai in Tamil Nadu (TN) virtually by IOB Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ajay Kumar Srivastava with all the 49 Regional Offices spread over India.

Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)

- ❖ MD & CEO - Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- ❖ Headquarters- Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- ❖ Tagline- Good people to grow with
- ❖ Establishment- 1937 (Nationalized- 1969)

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank Launched New Deposit Scheme 'Vikas Ashadeep 400 Days'

- ❖ Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has introduced a new deposit scheme named 'Vikas Ashadeep 400 days'.
- ❖ The scheme was launched by Shreekant M Bhandiwad, Chairman of KVGB.

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)

- ❖ KVGB came into existence in September 2005 by amalgamating 4 erstwhile Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) - Malaprabha, Bijapur, Varada and Netravati Grameena Banks.
- ❖ Chairman - Shreekant M Bhandiwad
- ❖ Headquarters - Dharwad, Karnataka



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Punjab National Bank Launches IVR-Based UPI 123PAY To Enable UPI Transactions Without Internet

- ❖ Punjab National Bank (PNB), has become the first public sector bank to launch an Interactive Voice Response (IVR)-based Unified Payments Interface (UPI) solution, UPI 123PAY, in accordance with the Digital Payment Vision 2025 of a cashless and cardless society.
- ❖ Supplementary Service Data (USSD) service and was dependent on good internet connectivity.
- ❖ Now the launch of offline IVR-based facility UPI 123PAY would enable the customers to make UPI-based transactions, at any time with any phone from anywhere in India i.e. even if they do not have access to smartphones or internet connectivity.
- ❖ This function is also available for non-PNB customers. The UPI 123PAY will be multilingual and be available in the customer's preferred language.

Environment and biodiversity

Publication of Chennai Climate Action Plan Manual

- ❖ Chief Minister M.K.Stalin released the climate action plan manual to achieve carbon balance in Chennai by 2050.
- ❖ The event was held at the Chennai Headquarters. The Chennai Climate Action Plan has been developed in conjunction with the Tamil Nadu State Action Plan on Climate Change.
- ❖ According to this action plan, carbon emissions are on track to reach zero by 2050. It has been decided to encourage various activities to achieve this level.
- ❖ That is, by the year 2050, the target has been set to reach 93 percent of electricity from renewable energy sources.
- ❖ It has been decided to promote various activities including use of high efficiency renewable energy in all commercial buildings in Chennai and 100 per cent electrification of City Transport Corporation buses.
- ❖ According to a press release of the Tamil Nadu government, the Chennai Climate Action Plan has provided for carbon neutrality by 2050 through these activities.



Tamilnadu News

E-Vault mobile app for certificates security

- ❖ E-Vault mobile application service has been launched for safe sharing of educational certificates and mark sheets by the general public.
- ❖ The app was launched by Information Technology Minister Palanivel Thiagarajan. The service of the new app was launched at an event held at the Tamil Nadu E-Governance Agency office in Chennai.



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- ❖ Trust Web will enable you to secure certificates, academic certificates, mark sheets, licenses, land transaction documents and data provided by the web service center.
- ❖ This web of trust will help the government to protect certificates from tampering. Similarly, e-Pettakam mobile app has been launched to help the general public.
- ❖ Through this app, the certificate files, educational certificates and merit lists provided by the internet service centers can be stored and shared securely by the general public.
- ❖ With this service, people can share their digital documents in a secure and paperless manner for verification by employers, higher education institutions, government agencies, banks and other officials.
- ❖ This will greatly reduce the need to submit original paper copies of documents in person for job placement, education admission, access to government services, travel abroad, work etc.
- ❖ As the first phase of the new service, 24 types of certificates including caste certificate, birth certificate, income certificate and first graduation certificate will be e-Vaulted.
- ❖ Mobile App Protects. With this app, users can choose their preferred way to securely share documents via email, SMS or other means.
- ❖ In the launch program of the new app, Information Technology Department Secretary J. Kumaragurupa Ran, E-governance Director B. Veen B. Nair, Joint Chief Executive Officer B. Ramana Saraswathi and many others participated.

National days

Kotak Life & DGR signed MoU to Provide Employment Opportunities for Ex- Servicemen

- ❖ On 12th June, 2023, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Limited (Kotak Life) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Directorate General Resettlement (DGR), an Inter Service organization under the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence, to offer employment opportunities to Ex-Servicemen of the Defence Services,
- ❖ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) under Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence and M/s Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Limited today on 12 June, 2023 in New Delhi.
- ❖ Under this MoU, Ex-Servicemen will be offered various roles in Kotak Life across multiple distribution channels.

International Relation

Bangladesh Foreign Minister attends G20 meet in Varanasi

- ❖ Bangladesh Foreign Minister Dr A K Abdul Momen has called for upholding the true spirit of multilateralism for the greater interest of the global community.
- ❖ In his intervention during the G20 Development Ministers meeting (G20 DMM) in Varanasi , Dr. Momen stressed on the challenges faced by the countries of Global South.
- ❖ He called for support from developed countries on means of implementation, financing and capacity building.



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- ❖ Foreign Ministers/Ministers from a number of the G20 countries as well as guest countries attended this meeting between June 11-13.
- ❖ which primarily focused on multilateralism, progress of implementation of SDGs and Green Development.
- ❖ They discussed issues of bilateral interest and the various important events which are expected to take place in the coming days.
- ❖ Dr. Momen appreciated India for successfully steering the G20 meetings and their leadership role in addressing the global challenges under India's G20 presidency.

1st Meeting of the Joint Committee of the India-UAE CEPA, concluded successfully

- ❖ India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) successfully held the 1st Meeting of the Joint Committee (JC) of the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in New Delhi, Delhi.
- ❖ The meeting was co-chaired by Union Minister Piyush Goyal, Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoCI) and Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, UAE's Minister of State for Foreign Trade.

Outcome of the meeting

- ❖ India-UAE have agreed to set a target of USD 100 billion for trade in non-petroleum products by 2030. Presently, the trade of non-petroleum products stands at USD 48 billion.
- ❖ They have also agreed to exchange services trade data, for both preferential and on most favoured nation (MFN), on a quarterly basis.
- ❖ As a Business to Business (B2B) collaboration mechanism, the UICC will focus on sectors like Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), startups, women entrepreneurs, service sector participants to build economic linkages and optimize Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) benefits.