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## 15 June 2023 Daily Current Affairs

### Important days

#### 15 June 2023 - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

- ❖ World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was launched by the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization at the United Nations.
- ❖ **Theme "Closing the Circle: Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Older Age - Policy, Law and Evidence-based Responses."**



- ❖ The purpose of WEAAD is to provide an opportunity for communities around the world to promote a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older persons by raising awareness of the cultural, social, economic and demographic processes affecting elder abuse and neglect.
- ❖ Help spread the word for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day on June 15. It can be hard to imagine that anyone would deliberately want to harm an elderly person, but unfortunately, elder abuse is a widespread problem.
- ❖ Some instances of elder abuse are intended to exploit the person financially; you've probably heard of scams targeting seniors.
- ❖ In other cases, it's simple negligence: Caregivers don't provide the basic necessities, like nutritious food, appropriate medication, safety, or assistance with hygiene.

#### 15 June 2023 - Global Wind Day

- ❖ Global Wind Day or National Wind Day is an annual worldwide event which falls on June 15. It is a day for discovering wind, its power and the possibilities it holds to reshape our energy systems, decarbonise our economies and boost jobs and growth.
- ❖ It is a collaborative initiative organised by WindEurope and the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) to reinforce the idea of sustainable alternative energy.



- ❖ **Theme - "The Wind in Mind" and "Future Wind."**
- ❖ Additionally, all UN member nations participate in the celebrations by introducing the general public to wind energy through several activities.
- ❖ Global Wind Day was first celebrated in 2007 by the European Wind Energy Association (EWEA).
- ❖ The goal of Global Wind Day is to raise awareness about the importance of wind energy and its potential to help us transition to a clean energy future.
- ❖ In 2009, the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) joined forces with the EWEA to organise Global Wind Day.



## Persons in News

### Appointments Committee of the Cabinet named Sudhansh Pant as new Health Secretary; Chanchal Kumar as Aviation Secretary

- ❖ As a part of the top level bureaucratic reshuffle, Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)
- ❖ has appointed Sudhansh Pant, Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of 1991 batch Rajasthan Cadre, as the new Secretary (Officer on Special Duty - OSD), Department of Health and Family Welfare (DoH&FW) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW).
- ❖ Sudhansh Pant is currently serving as the Secretary in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW).
- ❖ He will succeed the incumbent Rajesh Bhushan, who is set to retire on 31st July 2023.
- ❖ Chanchal Kumar, a 1992 batch IAS Officer of the Bihar cadre, has been appointed as the Secretary (OSD), Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA).
- ❖ He is currently serving as the Managing Director (MD) of National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL).



## Places in the news

### G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting to begin in Hyderabad

- ❖ The G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting will begin in Hyderabad. Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of state for Agriculture and Farmers welfare Kailash Choudhary and senior officials of concerned departments will be present during the three -day event.
- ❖ About 200 delegates from G20 member countries, invitee countries and International Organizations will be attending the meeting.
- ❖ The Agriculture Ministers from various countries and the Director Generals from International Organizations will take part in the meeting.
- ❖ Harnessing the Power of Digital Technologies in Agriculture There will be multiple side events in which in-depth and focussed.
- ❖ Top Indian agriculture-based companies, start-ups and state and central government agencies relating to agri-business companies are likely to take part in these deliberations.
- ❖ According to officials, the Ministerial meeting will also deliberate on Sustainable Agriculture for Food Security and Nutrition and women-led agriculture, sustainable biodiversity, and climate change solutions.
- ❖ An exhibition will showcase the achievements of India in the field of agriculture and allied sectors on the side-lines.





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## Sports

### Srikanth, Lakshya in round 2

- ❖ India's Srikanth and Lakshya Sen advanced to the 2nd round of the Indonesian Open badminton tournament.
- ❖ In the men's singles first round, world number 22 Srikanth edged China's Lu Guangxu 21-13, 21-19.
- ❖ With this, Srikanth, who met him for the 5th time, has recorded his 5th victory.
- ❖ World No. 20 Lakshya Sen thrashed Malaysia's No. 8 seed Zi Jia Lee 21-17, 21-13 in 32 minutes.



### Egypt, India won big

- ❖ Egypt, the first seeded team, and the second seeded team in the World Cup Squash tournament organized jointly by WSF, SRFI and STDA
- ❖ India among others won their respective games tremendously.
- ❖ Similarly, Japan and Malaysia have also won their respective matches.
- ❖ The teams are divided into two divisions and the opening round matches are underway in the tournament in which 8 countries are participating.
- ❖ Second win for India: India beat South Africa 4-0 in Group B.
- ❖ Veteran stars Sourav Ghoshal, Joshna Chinnappa, national champion Abhay Singh and youngster Tanvi Khanna won their games and whitewashed South Africa.
- ❖ Tanvi beat Ward 3-1, Ghoshal beat Van Nyerg 3-0, Joshna beat Muller 3-1 and Abhay Singh beat Brits 1-1.



## Awards & honour's

### Best Governor Award to Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das

- ❖ The 'Central Banking' organization, which examines the challenges faced by central banks and financial regulatory bodies worldwide, has been honoring the governors of central banks who perform best every year.
- ❖ Shaktikanta Das was awarded the Governor of the Year Award last March for overseeing the organization, steering the Indian economy firmly through tough times and his well-crafted phrases.
- ❖ In this case, Governor Shaktikanta Das was awarded the Best Governor Award at an event held in London.





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- ❖ Speaking on the topic 'Central Bank-India's View' in Volatile Times, he said India's inflation forecast for the current fiscal year is low at 5.1 per cent, but still higher than our target. However, India's inflationary process will be slow and protracted as per the current plan. India will achieve the inflation target of 4 percent in a short period of time," he said.

## Defence News

### INS Satpura represented Indian Navy at Multilateral Naval Exercise Komodo 2023 at Indonesia.

- ❖ Indian Naval ship (INS) Satpura participated in the 4th edition of Multilateral Naval Exercise "Komodo" (MNEK 2023) held in and around Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia from June 4 to 8 2023.
- ❖ Indian Naval ship Satpura participated in the exercise as part of the Indian Navy's deployment to ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries.
- ❖ Indian Naval ship Satpura also represented the Indian Navy at the International Fleet Review (IFR) reviewed by President of Indonesia Joko Widodo on 5th June 2023.
- ❖ Indian Navy's participation in the MNEK exercise series is a reaffirmation of India's commitment to 'Act East' (Maritime Cooperation) in its attempt to ensure 'Security and Growth for All in Region' (SAGAR).



#### MNEK

- ❖ MNEK is a biennial exercise, held every 2 years, since 2014 between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.
- ❖ The last edition (3rd) of MNEK was held in Lombok Island, Indonesia from 4th to 9th May 2018.
- ❖ Komodo 2023 was the first iteration since 2018 due to the COVID-19 pandemic

## Reports and Indices

### HelpAge India report on increase in violence against the elderly in Tamil Nadu

- ❖ According to a Hellpage India report, violence against women and the elderly has increased by 16 percent in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ A presentation on 'Women and Ageing: Ignorance or Power' was held in Egmore, Chennai on the occasion of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15).
- ❖ In this report the sex ratio in India is 948/1000. However, the incidence rate for the elderly is 1065/1000. By this we can know that there are more women in old age.
- ❖ Women are socially and economically neglected more than men in old age. Due to this, women are subjected to various atrocities.



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- ❖ According to Indian population 2021, there are 66 crore women. There are 7 crore elderly women among them.
- ❖ By 2031, there will be 72 crore women in the population. Among them, elderly women are likely to be more than 10 crores.
- ❖ 54 percent of women are still illiterate. 75 percent of women do not have any savings and 66 percent of women do not have any assets and are economically dependent on others.
- ❖ As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, violence against elderly women has increased by 16 percent. Physical violence is perpetrated by 52 percent and verbal violence by 51 percent.
- ❖ According to the report, 33 percent of such violence is done by the victim's son, 33 percent by relatives, and 12 percent by daughters-in-law.
- ❖ 20 percent of affected elderly women are found to be unaware of laws and redressal centers for them.
- ❖ Schemes for senior citizens in the report, help nos. Laws and rights are also mentioned.
- ❖ Deputy Commissioner of Police, Prevention of Crimes against Women and Children, G. Vanitha, got the report titled Women and Ageing, released by retired Madras High Court Judge S. Vimala.

## Economy & Banking

### The Securities and Exchange Board of India introduces framework for Direct Mutual Fund Investment Platforms

- ❖ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced a regulatory framework for online investment (Execution Only) Platforms that facilitate investments in direct (commission-free) plans of schemes of mutual fund (MF)
- ❖ This brings clarity on obligations of such platforms, and also addresses investor concerns on associated risks and introduces grievance redressal mechanism.
- ❖ This introduction followed the public consultation and discussions in the MF Advisory Committee where it has been decided to prescribe a framework for Execution Only Platforms for transacting in direct plans of schemes of MF. In this regard, the SEBI (Stock Brokers) Regulations, 1992 have been amended.
- ❖ This circular by SEBI is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 11(1) of the SEBI Act, 1992 to protect the interest of investors in securities and to promote the development of the securities market.





## Environment and biodiversity

### Gekko Mizoramensis: New species of flying geckos found in Mizoram

- ❖ A team of researchers uncovered a new species of gliding geckos named
- ❖ Gekko Mizoramensis in Mizoram. As the new species can glide the researchers have termed it a "parachute gecko.
- ❖ The new species was also named after Mizoram, the name of the state where it was discovered i.e. Gekko Mizoramensis.
- ❖ The parachute gecko is one of the 14 geckos all over the world that are known for gliding through the air, and one specimen of the new species was collected more than 20 years ago.
- ❖ Details of the new species of gliding geckos have been published in the latest issue (15th May 2023) of, Salamandra, a German journal on herpetology.



#### Genus and Species

- ❖ The new species belongs to the gekkonid genus Gekko, and gliding flight in members of the subgenus Ptychozoon, commonly known as Parachute Geckos, and are nocturnal.

#### Features

- ❖ Geckos are small, mostly carnivorous lizards found in warm climates throughout the world.
- ❖ The Gekkomizoramensis had evolved the adhesive pads on their feet, which let them climb almost on any surface using a network of microscopic hairs.
- ❖ It became one of the most successful lizard groups by some adaptations such as the ability to discard and regrow their tails to distract predators, or see well in the dark.
- ❖ These geckos have flaps of skin and when they leap off a tall structure, air resistance pushes the flaps out to their full extent much like a parachute, slowing the speed at which they fall, while other gliding reptiles use the bone to form their flying surfaces.
- ❖ The skin flaps also help to break up their shape, acting as a camouflage against predators.
- ❖ The new species is most similar to its sister species Gekkopopaensis (by the Arakan Hill range of Burma), from which it differs in having an uncorrected pairwise sequence divergence of 7-14% and by discrete differences in morphology and colour pattern.

## Science and Technology

### ISRO to launch India's moon mission Chandrayaan 3 in second half of July this year

- ❖ Union Science and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said, if things go as planned, the Indian Space Research Organisation will launch its ambitious Chandrayaan-3 Mission which is aimed at demonstrating critical technology to land the Spacecraft on the South Pole of the Moon.



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- ❖ The Minister said, India's earlier lunar mission, Chandrayan -1 had earned the country a place of pride and supremacy in the world arena by identifying for the first time ever, the presence of water on the surface of the moon.
- ❖ He added that this input was noted with great significance even by the world's premier Space agencies like the USA's NASA.
- ❖ The Chandrayaan-3 is a follow up mission to Chandrayaan-2.
- ❖ Living upto the theme of Science of the Moon, the scientific instruments on the lander and the rover in the Chandrayaan will be capable of studying the various aspects of Moon including the Lunar environment and thermo-physio properties.

## Chikungunya - discovery of a safe single-dose vaccine

- ❖ A single-dose VLA-1553 vaccine against chikungunya disease has been found to be safe, the Lancet Journal of Medical Research reported.
- ❖ It is also reported that this result was reached in the third time the test was conducted.
- ❖ There is currently no approved vaccine or immune-boosting treatment for chikungunya.
- ❖ Medical experts have said that the VLA-1553 vaccine, which has been discovered for the first time, will be very useful for people living in and traveling to countries where chikungunya has increased.
- ❖ However, experts are skeptical that this vaccine, produced by France-based biotech company Val Neva, has not been tested in countries where chikungunya is prevalent, so it is not possible to say to what extent it will protect people in that region from the disease.
- ❖ Martinschneider, the manager of the VLA-1553 vaccine company, said that after administration of this vaccine, the immunity will increase to a great extent, and this vaccine will help control it if there is a sudden outbreak of chikungunya.

## National news

### Global DPI Summit 2023 held in Pune; MoU signed between India & 4 Nations on sharing INDIA STACK

- ❖ On June 12-13, 2023, the Global DPI Summit 2023 was held as part of the side event of the third meeting of the G20 (Group of Twenty) Digital Economy Working Group (DEWG) in Pune, Maharashtra.
- ❖ It was inaugurated by Union Minister of State (MOS) Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity).
- ❖ The theme of the summit was Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Ease of Living, Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Governance
- ❖ The event saw the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and the four countries of Armenia, Sierra Leone, Suriname, and Antigua and Barbuda on sharing INDIA STACK.
- ❖ During the summit, India signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with four countries namely Armenia, Sierra Leone, Suriname and Antigua and Barbuda on



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sharing INDIA STACK i.e. successful digital solutions implemented at population scale

## Armenia

- ❖ Capital-Yerevan
- ❖ Currency-Armenian Dram
- ❖ Prime Minister-Nikol Vovayi Pashinyan

## International Relation

### Plan to close India-Bangladesh border to prevent illegal migration

- ❖ Chief of Bangladesh Border Security Najmul Hasan said that the closure of the border between the two countries is being planned to prevent illegal migration of Indians to Bangladesh and Bangladeshis to India. Bi-annual talks on India-Bangladesh border security were held in Delhi.
- ❖ Subsequently, Indian Border Security Force Chief (in-charge) Sujay Lal Thavsen and Bangladesh Border Security Force Chief Najmul Hasan jointly met the media.
- ❖ In a statement issued by them, 'Both Border Security Forces have decided to jointly initiate work on 5 development projects along the India-Bangladesh border. The development projects involve construction of bridges, repair of roads and strengthening of barricades in the border areas of the five states of Assam, West Bengal, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Tripura.
- ❖ It has been informed that extra vigilance has been taken to prevent cross-border crimes such as smuggling of narcotics, counterfeit Indian notes, gold etc. at the border of the two countries.

