

Weekly One Liners 01st to 07th of May 2023

Mann Ki Baat 100th Episode: PM Modi addresses 100th episode of Mann Ki Baat

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi's** monthly radio program '**Mann ki Baat**' reached a significant milestone on Sunday, April 30th, with the broadcast of its **100th episode**. The program, which started in October 2014, has become an essential component of the Indian government's outreach program and has addressed various social groups, including women, youth, and farmers.

Broadcast at the UN Headquarters in New York:



The 100th episode of 'Mann ki Baat' was historic as it was broadcast live in the **United Nations** headquarters in New York. This program's significance has spurred community action and has become a key pillar of the government's citizen outreach program.



Arrangements for mass outreach:

The ruling **Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)** made elaborate arrangements for the Sunday special episode, and ministries of the Central government and state units have planned several programs to mark the historic feat. The party left no stone unturned to make the **100th episode of Mann Ki Baat** an unprecedented mass outreach program.

Broadcast arrangements in India and overseas:



The BJP has made arrangements at around four lakh places across the country for people to hear PM Modi's address. The party president, J P Nadda, has overseen the entire exercise to make it a historic success. Overseas Indians around the world also listened to 'Mann Ki Baat', the party said in a statement.

'Non-political' event:

The BJP made arrangements for the broadcast of the 100th episode of PM Modi's 'Mann ki Baat' in 2000 enclosures at the booth level across Odisha and appealed to people and other political parties, like the BJD and Congress, to listen to it. The party emphasized that 'Mann ki Baat' is purely non-political.

Celebrations marking the occasion:



To celebrate the 100th episode of 'Mann ki Baat', the Union Ministry of Tourism has planned "100 days of action" through its Yuva Tourism Clubs. Additionally, the Uttar Pradesh unit of the BJP made elaborate arrangements for its airing at 55,000 centers at the booth level. Union Home Minister Amit Shah rolled out a commemorative postage stamp to mark the 100th edition of 'Mann Ki Baat,' and a commemorative Rs 100 coin was unveiled to mark the momentous event in the valedictory session.

Survey reveals popularity:



Ahead of the 100th episode, an IIM Survey found that nearly 96 percent of the population is aware of PM Modi's monthly radio program 'Mann ki Baat.' The program has reached 100 crore people who are aware and have listened to the program at least once. The report states there are 23 crore regular listeners of the program and it has cited powerful and decisive leadership and emotional connection with the audience as reasons for its popularity.

World Press Freedom Index 2023: India ranks 161 out of 180 countries

World Press Freedom Index 2023

According to the latest report from global media watchdog **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)**, India has slipped to the **161st position** out of 180 countries in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index. The report was released by RSF, and it indicates a decline in India's ranking for press freedom. There are more than 100,000 newspapers (including 36,000 weeklies) and 380 TV news channels currently operating in the country. Since January 1, 2023 one journalist was killed in the country while 10 journalists are behind bars. This year's report shows the number of countries deemed "satisfactory" for their treatment of journalists rising slightly, but so does the number where the situation is "very serious" .

What is World Press Freedom Index?

The World Press Freedom Index is based on five different factors that are used to calculate scores and rank countries. These five sub-indicators include the Political indicator, Economic indicator, Legislative indicator, Social indicator, and Security indicator. Scores are calculated for each of these indicators and used to determine the overall ranking of countries in terms of press freedom.

World Press Freedom Index 2023: India

INDEX 2023

INDEX 2022

161 / 180

150 / 180

Score : 36.62

Score : 41

POLITICAL INDICATOR

169
33.65

POLITICAL INDICATOR

145
40.76

ECONOMIC INDICATOR

155
34.15

ECONOMIC INDICATOR

149
30.36

LEGISLATIVE INDICATOR

144
42.92

LEGISLATIVE INDICATOR

120
57.02

SOCIAL INDICATOR

143
45.27

SOCIAL INDICATOR

127
56.25

SECURITY INDICATOR

172
27.12

SECURITY INDICATOR

163
20.61

- India's rank in the Security indicator category is particularly concerning, as it has fallen to 172 out of 180 countries in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index. This means that only eight countries have a worse ranking than India when it comes to ensuring the safety and security of journalists.
- In terms of this parameter, India is ranked worse than all other countries except for China, Mexico, Iran, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, Ukraine, and Myanmar, with Myanmar having the lowest ranking.
- India's performance in the World Press Freedom Index is also poor compared to other countries in South Asia. Bangladesh ranks slightly worse than India at 163, while **Pakistan ranks ahead of India at 150.**
- Surprisingly, even **Afghanistan, where the Taliban government is known to restrict independent journalism, has a better ranking than India, at 152. Bhutan has a much better ranking at 90, while Sri Lanka is ranked at 135.**

World Press Freedom Index 2023: Globally

- Nordic countries like **Norway, Ireland, and Denmark** ranked top three respectively while **Vietnam, China, and North Korea** were the bottom three countries on the index.
- **Russia**, where the government has largely completed its quelling of independent media, fell nine places to **164th**. Despite the Russian invasion and its own issues with oligarchs, **Ukraine rose 27 places to 79th**.

Top 10 Countries in the List:

Rank	Countries
1	Norway
2	Ireland
3	Denmark
4	Sweden
5	Finland
6	Netherlands
7	Lithuania
8	Estonia
9	Portugal
10	East Timor

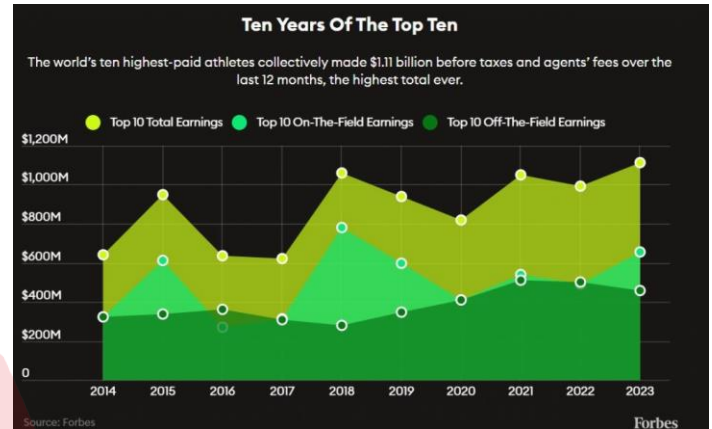
Bottom 10 Countries in the List:

Rank	Countries
171	Bahrain
172	Cuba
173	Myanmar
174	Eritrea
175	Syria
176	Turkmenistan
177	Iran
178	Vietnam
179	China
180	North Korea

The World's 10 Highest-Paid Athletes 2023 by Forbes

International soccer stars **Cristiano Ronaldo (\$136 million)**, **Lionel Messi (\$130 million)** and **Kylian Mbappe (\$120 million)** are the top three highest-paid athletes. **Ronaldo** leads the way with an estimated haul of \$136 million, including \$46 million from his playing salary and bonuses and \$90 million from endorsements, appearances, licensing income and other business endeavors. **Mbappé**, who at age 24 comes in at No. 3 with \$120 million, and Johnson, who lands at No. 6 with \$107 million, make eye-popping debuts in the top ten.

Forbes calculates on-field earnings based on prize money, salaries and bonuses, while off-field earnings are an estimate of sponsorship deals, appearance fees and memorabilia and licensing income. It also includes cash returns from businesses that are operated by the athlete. The world's ten highest-paid athletes collectively made **\$1.11 billion** before taxes and agents' fees over the last 12 months, the highest total ever.



The Top Ten

Athlete	Earnings (USD)
Cristiano Ronaldo	\$136 million
Lionel Messi	\$130 million
Kylian Mbappé	\$120 million
LeBron James	\$119.5 million
Canelo Álvarez	\$110 million
Dustin Johnson	\$107 million
Phil Mickelson	\$106 million
Stephen Curry	\$100.4 million
Roger Federer	\$95.1 million
Kevin Durant	\$89.1 million

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National Affairs

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has recently inaugurated **91 FM transmitters** in **18 states** and two union territories, aimed at improving **FM radio connectivity** in border regions and aspirational districts. The move is expected to benefit an additional two crore people who did not have access to the medium before. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India's Agriculture Minister **Narendra Singh Tomar** recently launched the **Millets Experience Centre (MEC)** at Dilli Haat in New Delhi. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (**NAFED**) established the MEC in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture to promote the adoption of **millets** among the general public. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a historic first, the **Indian Army** has inducted **five women officers** into its **Regiment of Artillery**. Lt Mehak Saini, Lt Sakshi Dubey, Lt Aditi Yadav, Lt Pious Mudgil, and Lt Akanksha have joined the Army's premier artillery units after successfully completing their training at the Officers Training Academy (OTA) in Chennai. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India's Union Railway Minister, **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, has shared a timelapse video showcasing the construction of the Anji Khad Bridge, the country's first cable-stayed rail bridge. With a total of 96 cables spanning a length of 653km, the bridge is part of the challenging **Udampur-Srinagar-Baramulla-Rail Link (USBRL) Project** in the Reasi district of **Jammu and Kashmir**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Centre for Policy Research (CPR)**, a think tank based in Delhi, has had its **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA)** registration suspended by the **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** for 180 days. A government official reported that the suspension was imposed due to initial breaches of FCRA regulations. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India** has announced that it will participate in the **International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)** and the Long-Term Aspirational Goals (LTAG) from 2027. The decision was made at a meeting of the Parliament's Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Civil Aviation held in New Delhi and chaired by the Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Supreme Court of India** has granted couples the **right to divorce** on the grounds of "irretrievable breakdown of marriage" under **Article 142** of the Constitution. This ruling applies to cases where both parties seek a mutual consent divorce or where one partner seeks a divorce despite opposition from the other. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)**, as part of the **New Education Policy (NEP) 2020**, has made the decision to include coding and **artificial intelligence (AI)** in the curriculum for Classes 6 to 8. This move recognizes the importance of mathematics and computational thinking in preparing students for future careers in AI, machine learning, and data science. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2023**, one of the most prominent global events for the travel and tourism industry, kicked off in **Dubai, UAE**, on May 1, 2023, with a substantial presence from India. The Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India, is participating in the event to promote inbound travel to India from the **Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Mumbai Coastal Road Project (MCRP)** is a Rs 12,721-crore initiative by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to link Marine Drive to the **Bandra-Worli Sea Link**. The most significant feature of the project is the construction of **India's first undersea tunnel**, which is set to open by November 2023. The 2.07-kilometer twin tunnels run 17-20 meters below sea level, connecting Girgaon to Priyadarshini Park via the Arabian Sea, Girgaon Chowpatty, and Malabar Hill. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **University Grant Commission (UGC)** Chairman **M Jagadesh Kumar** launched a new recruitment portal called **CU-Chayan** for Central University faculty, declaring it to be completely user-friendly and suitable for the needs of all the stakeholders in the recruitment process. ([Click here to read the article](#))

States in the News

- The **Telangana government** has announced a new insurance scheme for **toddy tappers** called '**Geetha Karmikula Bhima**.' The scheme is similar to the '**Rythu Bhima**' program for farmers and is aimed at providing financial assistance to the families of todody tappers who die due to accidents while collecting todody from palm trees in the fields. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Himachal Pradesh Cabinet, under the leadership of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu, has announced a **monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women** in the **Spiti Valley**. The incentive will be provided to all eligible women, including Buddhist nuns, above the age of 18 years. This initiative is called the Indira Gandhi Mahila Samman Nidhi. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **Ayodhya** as a global tourism hotspot, the **Uttar Pradesh government** is planning to develop a theme park '**Ramaland**' modelled on **Disneyland** to narrate the story of Lord Ram. With Ramaland, the tourism department is looking to attract children and adults alike to showcase the legendary tales from Ramayan in the template of 'learning with entertainment'. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The construction of India's first International Multimodal Logistics Park in **Jogighopa, Assam**, is well underway, and the jetty is expected to be completed by the end of this year. The park, which is being built at a cost of Rs 693.97 crore, will provide direct connectivity to waterways, road, rail, and air, and is expected to be completed in 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

International Affairs

- Paraguayans went to the polls to elect their next president. In a surprising turn of events, **Santiago Pena** of the **right-wing Colorado Party** emerged as the winner, defeating center-left challenger **Efrain Alegre**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Australian High Commission in India** has recently announced its government grant for a project in Kargil. This is a first-time initiative in the history of Ladakh, and it is expected to provide immense benefits to the region. The announcement was made during a special meeting at Srinagar, which was chaired by the Australian high commissioner to India, **Barry O' Farrell**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Geoffrey Hinton**, the man who won the '**Nobel Prize of computing**' for his work on neural networks and is known as the **godfather of AI**, is now speaking against the dangers of artificial intelligence. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Sberbank has developed a technology named **GigaChat** to compete with **ChatGPT** in the artificial intelligence chatbot race. Initially available in an invite-only testing mode, **GigaChat** stands out with its ability to communicate more intelligently in Russian than other foreign neural networks. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Kremlin** announced on Tuesday, 2 April, that **Ukraine** had launched two drone attacks with the intent of assassinating **Russian President Vladimir Putin**. The attacks reportedly occurred overnight, and the Russian president was not in the Kremlin at the time. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra **Devendra Fadnavis** revealed a statue of **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** in **Mauritius**. He highlighted Maharashtra's potential as a leading industrial and investment destination in India at the Indo-Mauritius Business Forum and signed an MoU to promote trade between **Mauritius** and **Maharashtra**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- State-owned power conglomerate **NTPC Group** has achieved a significant milestone in the **power sector** by expanding its installed capacity to 72,304 MW. This growth includes the recent integration of the 660 MW Unit-1 of the **Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (MSTPP)** in Rampal, Bangladesh, marking NTPC's first overseas capacity addition. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Dialog Axiata, Sri Lanka's largest telecommunications provider and a subsidiary of Malaysian Axiata, has announced a binding term sheet with India's **Bharti Airtel** for the merger of their Sri Lankan subsidiaries. The proposed transaction will grant Airtel a stake in Dialog, representing the fair value of Airtel Lanka, and will allow Airtel access to a large customer base in the island nation. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- American regulators announced that **First Republic Bank** had been taken over and that an agreement had been reached to sell the bank to JPMorgan Chase & Co. This marks the third major **U.S. financial institution** to fail in just two months. JPMorgan is set to acquire \$173 billion in loans and around \$30 billion in securities, which includes \$92 billion in deposits from First Republic Bank, but they are not taking on the bank's corporate debt or preferred stock. ([Click here to read the article](#))



- The **Ukrainian Defence Ministry** faced online backlash after posting an offensive tweet depicting the **Hindu Goddess Kali** in a distorted manner. The tweet was later deleted and Deputy Foreign Minister Emine Dzhaparova issued an apology. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- India's push towards clean energy sources took another leap forward on May 1, when the **National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)** signed a supplementary joint venture agreement with the **Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL)** to develop nuclear power projects in the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Apple** and **Google**, together with **Samsung** and other companies like **Tile, Chipolo, and Pebblebee**, have collaborated to combat unwanted tracking through Bluetooth devices that were initially designed to help locate lost items such as keys or luggage. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India and Israel** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on **industrial research and development cooperation**, marking a significant milestone in their scientific and technological partnership, the Ministry of Science & Technology said. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Books and Authors

- Retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer **Amitabh Kant**, who served as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) (2016-2022), has authored a new book titled **"Made In India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise"** published by the Rupa Publications India. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Rupi Kaur**, a Canadian-Sikh poet, has made it to the list of 11 most banned books in US classrooms for the first half of the 2022-23 school year. Kaur's debut work, 'Milk and Honey', which was released in 2014, has been banned due to its exploration of issues related to sexual assault and violence, according to non-profit organisation PEN America, which provided the data. Last month, Kaur's Twitter account was also withheld in India due to the Khalistan issue. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Scheduled commercial banks (SCBs)** reported a robust **credit growth** of 15.4% in FY23 compared to 9.7% in FY22. The growth was powered by personal loans, loans to the services sector, and agriculture and allied activities. Personal loans registered a growth of 20.6% in FY23 as compared to 12.6% in the year-ago period, primarily driven by housing loans, according to RBI data on sectoral deployment of bank credit. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- For the third year in a row, **Tamil Nadu** has emerged as the State with the highest market borrowings according to data from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. During the April-February period of FY23, Tamil Nadu's gross market borrowings through **State Development Loans (SDLs)** stood at ₹68,000 crore. The State's Finance Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan announced in his budget speech last month that Tamil Nadu planned to borrow ₹1,43,197.93 crore during 2023-24 and make repayments of ₹51,331.79 crore, resulting in net borrowings of ₹91,866.14 crore. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)**, a subsidiary of the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, has signed a definitive agreement with **PPRO**, a global digital payments infrastructure provider, to expand the reach of RuPay cards and **Unified Payments Interface (UPI)**. PPRO's global clients include payment service providers (PSPs) and global merchant acquirers around the world. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India's gross GST revenues** for April 2023 reached a record high of ₹1,87,035 crore, which is a 12% increase from last year's highest tax tally of ₹1.67 lakh crore for the same month. This article discusses the breakdown of the revenue collected and highlights the key factors contributing to the rise. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India's manufacturing purchasing manager's index (PMI) surged to a four-month high of 57.2 in April, according to the S&P Global **India Manufacturing PMI report**. This figure is an increase from March's 56.2 PMI, February's 55.3 PMI, and January's 53.7 PMI. A reading above 50 indicates an overall increase in output compared to the previous month. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- India and Russia have agreed to explore the possibility of accepting each other's payment cards, **RuPay and Mir**, for hassle-free payments between the two countries. The decision was made during the latest meeting of the Internal Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological, and Cultural Cooperation (**IRIGC-TEC**), which was jointly chaired by External Affairs Minister of India **S Jaishankar** and Russia's Deputy Prime Minister **Denis Manturov**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The National Payments Corporation of India's "UPI Monthly Product Statistics" reported a decline in the volume and value of **UPI transactions** in April 2023, following a peak in the previous month. The transaction volume declined 7.96% month-on-month (m-o-m) to 796.29 crore, while the transaction value declined 9.51% m-o-m to ₹12.71 lakh crore. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Starting from May 1, 2023, businesses with an annual turnover of Rs 100 crore or more will be required to abide by a new GST rule. This rule mandates the uploading of electronic invoices on the **Invoice Registration Portal (IRP)** within seven days of their issue. The IRP is utilized to validate that these invoices are actually genuine and to assign them a unique **Invoice Reference Number** for **GST** purposes. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **HDFC Bank**, one of India's leading private sector banks, has introduced its digital distribution platform, **HDFC Bank Smart Saathi**, to connect business correspondents (BCs) and business facilitators (BFs) to the bank. The platform aims to take banking products and services to the last mile, and contribute to the development of the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Merchant payments over the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in India are expected to grow by 40 to 50 percent to reach \$1 trillion by the fiscal year (FY) 2026, according to a report by **Bain & Company**. This growth will be driven by greater awareness, increased merchant adoption of UPI, new payment capabilities like UPI Lite and UPI 123 Pay, and the introduction of international payment lanes on the domestic payment railroad. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Airtel Payments Bank** has collaborated with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** to introduce face authentication for the **Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS)** at its five lakh banking points. The move comes as one of the first initiatives of its kind in India, where four banks have partnered with NPCI to offer face authentication for AePS. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Microsoft India** has announced two new initiatives aimed at supporting **small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs)** in their digital transformation journey. The tech giant has launched a dedicated helpline and a comprehensive website, specifically designed to help **Indian SMBs** address their business challenges, improve operations, increase efficiency, and drive growth. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India's unemployment rate** climbed to a four-month high of 8.11% in April 2023, according to data from the research firm Centre for Monitoring India Economy. The nationwide **joblessness rate** rose from 7.8% in March, with urban unemployment increasing to 9.81% from 8.51% in the same period. **Rural unemployment**, however, fell marginally to 7.34% in April from 7.47% a month ago. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** and the **Bank for International Settlements (BIS)** have announced the launch of the **G20 TechSprint 2023**, a global competition aimed at improving cross-border payments through innovative technology solutions. The fourth edition of the competition was unveiled on May 4, and it is open to global innovators. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ)** announced that it has completed the sale of its Myanmar port, Coastal International Terminals Pte Limited, for \$30 million. The decision to exit the project was made based on recommendations by the Risk Committee in October 2021. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has issued new instructions to all banks and financial institutions in the country to ensure that all **wire transfers**, whether domestic or international, contain complete information about the originator and beneficiary. The move is aimed at preventing wire transfers from being used as a channel for **money laundering and financing terrorism**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Visa**, the global card transaction company, has launched a new feature in India that allows users to make online payments without the need for a **CVV number**. The feature applies to **tokenised credit and debit cards** and is only available for domestic transactions in India. When a user tokenises their card, it is secured with a unique code and transactions are completed using a two-factor authentication process, which does not require the 16-digit card number or any other card details. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- **Debadatta Chand** has been appointed as the **Managing Director (MD) of Bank of Baroda (BOB)**, according to a government announcement made on April 29. Chand is currently serving as the Executive Director of the bank. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Indian government has selected **Rajneesh Karnatak** as the **Managing Director (MD) of the Bank of India (BOI)**. Karnatak currently serves as the Executive Director of the Union Bank of India. As per the announcement, he will take up the role of MD & CEO of Bank of India for a period of three years, starting from the date he assumes office or until further instructions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Japanese table tennis star **Kasumi Ishikawa**, who won three women's team medals at three consecutive Olympic Games, announced her retirement. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Veteran Maharashtra politician and former Union minister **Sharad Pawar** has decided to step down as the president of the **Nationalist Congress Party (NCP)**. In recognition of the need for a new generation to lead the party and set its course, Sharad Pawar proposed the establishment of a committee comprising Praful Patel, Ajit Pawar, and Supriya Sule to oversee the selection of his successor as the Nationalist Congress Party's (NCP) chief. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Margherita Della Valle** has been interim **CEO of Vodafone Group** since **Nick Read** stepped down in December 2022. Vodafone Group announced that Della Valle has been named as permanent Chief Executive. Della Valle's career at Vodafone has included marketing, operational, commercial and financial positions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Ajay Banga**, who is of Indian origin, has been officially selected as the **14th President of the World Bank**. The 25-member executive board of the **World Bank** elected Ajay Banga, who previously served as the CEO of Mastercard, to hold the position for a period of five years, starting from June 2. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PSEB) recommended Central Coalfields CMD **Polavarapu Mallikharjuna Prasad** as the next Chairman and Managing Director of **Coal India (CIL)**. Prasad is expected to take the charge of India's largest coal miner accounting for almost 80 per cent of the mined commodity from July 1. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Defence News

- **Indian Naval Ships Satpura** and **Delhi** on May 1st, 2023, led by **RAdm Gurcharan Singh**, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, arrived in Singapore to participate in the inaugural **ASEAN India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023)**. The exercise is scheduled to take place from May 2nd to May 8th, 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- To honor the sacrifices and contributions made by its Karmyogis in nation-building, the **Border Roads Organisation (BRO)** is organizing "**Ekta Evam Shradhanjali Abhiyan**" as part of its 64th BRO Day Celebrations. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Shivangi Singh** being the first woman pilot to fly the **Rafale** fighter aircraft, is a trailblazer in the **Indian Air Force**. Her achievements do not end there, as she is also part of the IAF team set to participate in the multinational **Exercise Orion** in **France**. This is an opportunity for Shivangi to further cement her place in history by demonstrating her skills in flying the multi-role air dominance aircraft. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Indian Navy** and **Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO)** collaborated to conduct the first successful test trial of a locally-made **Air Droppable Container** called '**ADC-150**' from the IL 38SD aircraft off the coast of Goa on April 27, 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- **Dr M.N. Nandakumara**, a renowned Sanskrit scholar and Executive Director of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan centre in London, has been awarded an honorary MBE by **King Charles III** for his contributions to Indian classical arts in Britain. The UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) has confirmed the award. ([Click here to read the article](#))



- **Maria Stepanova**, a renowned Russian writer currently residing in Berlin, has been awarded the **Leipzig Book Prize** for European Understanding in 2023. Her novel, **In Memory of Memory**, which delves into the themes of Stalinism and the collapse of the Soviet Union, earned her a nomination for the Booker Prize in 2021. However, it was her volume of poetry, *Girls Without Clothes*, that earned her the prestigious Leipzig Book Prize. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- On May 3, UNESCO marked World Press Freedom Day by awarding its annual World Press Freedom Prize to three imprisoned Iranian female journalists. The winners, **Niloufar Hamedei, Elaheh Mohammadi, and Narges Mohammadi**, were recognized for their work in reporting on human rights abuses in **Iran** and their commitment to truth and accountability. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Former Lok Sabha MP **Pandit Ramkishan** was recently awarded the title of "**Shatabdi Purush**" (**Man of the Century**) in New Delhi in recognition of his contributions as a socialist leader. The honor was bestowed on him during the birth centenary celebrations of Madhu Limaye, a renowned socialist ideologue and parliamentarian. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Cannes Film Festival will honor **Michael Douglas** with an honorary **Palme d'Or** for his outstanding career and contributions to cinema. The 78-year-old actor will be celebrated during the festival's opening ceremony on May 16. Douglas has had a diverse career, starring in numerous acclaimed films like *The China Syndrome*, *Basic Instinct*, *Falling Down*, and *Behind the Candelabra*, all of which have previously been shown at Cannes. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Summits and Conferences News

- **Science 20**, during the opening session of the Thematic Conference on **Universal Holistic Health in Bangaram Island, Lakshadweep, India** emphasized the significance of respecting and acknowledging cultural diversity in promoting universal holistic health. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The foreign ministers of eight member countries of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** are meeting in **Goa** on May 4 and 5. This meeting will set the stage for the **SCO Leaders' Summit** to be held in July in New Delhi. India, the host country, attaches special importance to the SCO in promoting multilateral, political, security, economic, and people-to-people interactions in the region. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **UAE government** recently launched the '**Machines Can See 2023**' **Summit**, an international conference on **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** held at the Museum of the Future in Dubai. The event was held in partnership between the Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy, and Remote Work Applications Office and 'Machines Can See' company. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- **Kpler data** has revealed that **India** has become the largest supplier of refined fuels to Europe, surpassing **Saudi Arabia**. This comes as a result of Europe's reduced access to **Russian oil** and their growing dependence on Indian crude oil products. Europe is set to increase its refined fuel imports from India to over **360,000 barrels** a day, however this ultimately yields more demand for Moscow's crude, which carries freight costs. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A new study by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** suggests that the **Indian job market** is expected to witness a **22% churn** over the next five years, with top emerging roles coming from AI, machine learning, and data segments. Globally, the job market churn is estimated at 23%, with 69 million new jobs expected to be created and 83 million eliminated by 2027. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- As per a report by **US Immigration and Customs Enforcement**, there has been a significant rise in the number of Indian students who have gone to the **United States in 2022**. India has emerged as the leader when it comes to international students in the US, surpassing China, as reported by the US annual report which states that **64,300 students** from India went to the US in 2022, whereas the number from China declined to 24,796. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A survey on the degree of innovation among manufacturing firms found that **Karnataka**, overall, is the most "innovative" State, followed by **Telangana, and Tamil Nadu**. The National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22, released earlier this month, also found that innovation in manufacturing is the lowest in the Northeastern states (excluding Assam), followed by Bihar. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** recently released a report for the fiscal year **2022-23**, with a focus on **sustainable growth** and **reducing carbon emissions**. The report addresses the four critical aspects of climate change, including its **macroeconomic impacts, financial stability implications, and strategies to mitigate climate risks**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sports News

- Red Bull's **Sergio Perez** won the **Azerbaijan Grand Prix**, the fourth round of the 2023 Formula 1 World Championship, in Baku. Sergio Pérez took advantage of a fortunately timed safety car to beat his teammate Max Verstappen to the victory in the Azerbaijan Grand Prix. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty** made history on April 30, becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to win a gold medal at the **Badminton Asia Championships**. The Indian pair defeated the Malaysian duo of Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi in a thrilling three-game match that lasted for over an hour. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Indian sailor Commander **Abhilash Tomy** (retd.) will finally set foot on land, 236 days after setting sail in the **Golden Globe Race (GGR)**, a solo non-stop yacht race around the world. The retired Naval Commander, who is also a recipient of the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award, had on March 22, 2022, declared his participation in the Golden Globe Race 2022, one of the most dangerous and craziest of endeavours. The GGR began on September 4, 2022. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Luca Brecel**, the 28-year-old **Belgian snooker player**, has claimed his first world title after defeating Mark Selby in a thrilling final at the Crucible in Sheffield. The match went down to the wire, with Selby putting up a strong fightback to push Brecel to the brink. However, Brecel held his nerve and eventually prevailed with an 18-15 victory. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The Odisha government** has decided to further extend its sponsorship for both the **Men and Women Indian Hockey Teams (senior and junior)** for another ten years from 2023 to 2033. The decision in this regard was taken at the Cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Naveen Patnaik. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Geoffrey Emmanuel** will become the first Indian to participate in the **FIM World JuniorGP World Championship**. Geoffrey, son of seven-time National Champion Emmanuel Jebaraj, will race for Cuna De Campeones in his maiden FIM JuniorGP season. The first round of the 2023 season is scheduled for May 5-7 at the Circuit de Estoril in Portugal. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Shabnim Ismail**, the fastest bowler in women's cricket, has announced her retirement from international cricket. This is a significant blow to South Africa, who heavily relied on Ismail's pace and skill in their recent **Twenty20 World Cup** campaign, where they finished as runners-up. Ismail, who is 34 years old, played in 241 international matches across all formats, including one-day Internationals, Twenty20s, and tests. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Global Chess League (GCL)**, a joint venture between FIDE and Tech Mahindra, announced **Dubai** as the venue for the inaugural edition. The world's largest and first franchise-based chess league will be held in Dubai in association with Dubai Sports Council, the league's Host Partner. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Former 100m world champion sprinter from the United States of America, **Tori Bowie**, died at the age of 32. The American was crowned world champion in 2017 and won three Olympic medals at the Rio Games in 2016. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Olympic gold medal winner **Neeraj Chopra** has secured victory with **88.67 m throw** at Doha Diamond League 2023. Chopra's first throw was 88.67 which was a great way to start the new season. His first throw was enough to seal the victory for him but he still tried to push ahead. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Mark Nicholas**, a former England cricketer and well-known commentator, has been chosen as the next president of the **Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)**. He will take over from the current president, Stephen Fry, and begin his duties in October of this year. The announcement of his appointment was made during the MCC's Annual General Meeting. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Babar Azam**, the captain of the **Pakistan cricket team**, has set a new record by becoming the fastest player to score **5000 runs** in One Day International (ODI) cricket. He achieved this feat in 97 innings, breaking the previous record set by South Africa's **Hashim Amla**, who reached the 5000 run mark in 101 innings. Babar accomplished this milestone during the fourth match against New Zealand in Karachi on Friday. Prior to Babar, Amla held the record for the fastest 5000 runs in ODI cricket, but the 28-year-old batter broke it by achieving the feat in 97 innings. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- The Indian government is pushing to onboard **social sector ministries** onto the **National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)** platform for socio-economic development. Special Secretary of Logistics Division, DPIIT, Sumita Dawra highlighted the potential for NMP adoption in social sector planning during a high-level meeting on PM Gati Shakti NMP adoption. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India** is in discussions with several countries, including **Ecuador, Panama, and Nigeria**, to offer affordable **generic medicines** to their populations, replicating the **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) scheme**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Ayushman Bharat Diwas**, celebrated annually on **April 30th**, is aimed at promoting the values of Ayushman Bharat Yojana. The scheme aligns with India's commitment to achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals** set by the **United Nations**. Ayushman Bharat Diwas signifies the Indian government's success in fulfilling its objectives through the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **National SC-ST Hub Scheme** has received praise from **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** for crossing over **one lakh beneficiary** registrations. In response to the Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises **Narayan Rane**, the Prime Minister stated that strengthening the MSME sector amounts to strengthening every section of society. He further added that the success of the National SC-ST Hub Scheme is encouraging. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Officials announced on Monday that the deadline for the **Smart Cities Mission** will be extended until **June 2024**, as requested by some cities that require additional time to finish their ongoing projects. The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry decided to extend the existing deadline of **June 2023**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Officials said that **India** could launch the next phase of its **primary subsidy scheme** for **electric vehicles - Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric vehicles**, only if the funds allocated for it remain unused at the end of the current financial year. The FAME India Scheme is divided into two phases: **Phase I and Phase II**. The first phase began in 2015 and was operational until March 31, 2019. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- Launch of **Khelo India University Games 2022** Logo, Mascot, Jersey, and Anthem by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur in Uttar Pradesh Tomorrow. **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports'** flagship **Central Sector Scheme**, the **Khelo India Scheme**, aims to foster a sporting culture and achieve national sporting excellence by tapping into the transformative power of sports. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Indian government is pushing to onboard **social sector ministries** onto the **National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP)** platform for socio-economic development. Special Secretary of Logistics Division, DPIIT, Sumita Dawra highlighted the potential for NMP adoption in social sector planning during a high-level meeting on PM Gati Shakti NMP adoption. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)** and the **National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)** jointly held the '**River-Cities Alliance (RCA) Global Seminar: Partnership for Building International River-Sensitive Cities**' in New Delhi. The seminar aimed to facilitate discussions and exchange of best practices on urban river management among member cities and global stakeholders. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Science and Technology News

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology Madras** have developed a machine learning-based computational tool called GBMDriver to improve the detection of cancer-causing tumours in the brain and spinal cord. The tool is freely accessible and was primarily developed to identify driver mutations and passenger mutations in glioblastoma, a rapidly proliferating tumour. ([Click here to read the article](#))



Important Days News

- **Labour Day 2023:** May 1st is a globally recognized holiday that acknowledges the accomplishments of the labour movement. It is commonly referred to as **International Worker's Day** or **May Day**, and is commemorated with a public holiday across more than 80 countries. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Maharashtra Day** is celebrated on May 1st every year to commemorate the creation of the state of **Maharashtra** after the **Bombay Reorganization Act of 1960** was enacted. The law came into effect on May 1st, 1960, and thus this day is significant in the history of the state. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Gujarat Day** is celebrated on May 1 every year to mark the foundation day of the Indian state of Gujarat. The state was established on May 1, 1960, after the **State Reorganization Act** was passed by the Indian government. Gujarat was carved out of the larger bilingual Bombay state, which was divided into Gujarat and Maharashtra. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- World Tuna Day is observed on **May 2nd** every year to raise awareness about the importance of tuna fish and promote sustainable fishing practices. Tuna is a popular fish species that is widely consumed around the world, and it plays a crucial role in the marine ecosystem. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Every year on **May 3**, we observe **World Press Freedom Day** to increase understanding about the significance of a press that is free and not influenced by external forces. The occasion emphasizes the importance of unrestricted journalism and advocates for the fundamental right of freedom of speech. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **World Asthma Day** is a yearly event that takes place on the **first Tuesday of May**. Its aim is to increase awareness and encourage better management and care of asthma on a global scale. The day is coordinated by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) in partnership with healthcare providers, patient groups, and public health agencies. In 2023, World Asthma Day observed on May 2. World Asthma Day was first established by the **Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) in 1998** as "World Asthma Awareness Day". ([Click here to read the article](#))

- Every year on **May 4th**, **Coal Miners Day** is celebrated to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work and noteworthy contributions of coal miners in the extraction of coal. Coal is a crucial fossil fuel that is extensively used for a variety of purposes, such as power generation and industrial production, particularly in the manufacturing of steel and cement. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **International Firefighters Day** is a day dedicated to recognizing and honouring the brave individuals who put their lives on the line every day to save others. These firefighters demonstrate courage, strength, and selflessness as they work tirelessly to protect their communities, often putting themselves in harm's way. **On May 4th each year**, we have the opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation for their unwavering commitment to keeping us safe from fires and other hazards. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The 40th session of UNESCO's General Conference, in 2019, designated **May 5th as "World Portuguese Language Day,"** in honor of the Portuguese language and Lusophone cultures. The Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP), an intergovernmental organization that includes countries where Portuguese is spoken, established this date in 2009, and has been in official partnership with UNESCO since 2000. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **World Athletics Day**, established by the International Amateur Athletic Federation, is celebrated on **May 7th each year**. The theme for World Athletics Day 2023 is **"Athletics for All - A New Beginning,"** which focuses on promoting diversity and inclusivity in athletics and making sports accessible to people regardless of their gender, age, ability, or background. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Obituaries News

- **N. Gopalakrishnan**, the creator of the Indian Institute of Scientific Heritage (IISH) and a former scientist at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), has passed away at the age of 68. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Mahatma Gandhi's grandson **Arun Gandhi** passed away at Kolhapur in Maharashtra. Born to Manilal Gandhi and Sushila Mashruwala in Durban on April 14, 1934, Arun Gandhi followed in the footsteps of his grandfather as an activist. Arun Gandhi is an Indian-American activist, speaker, and writer who is known for his work in promoting nonviolence and social justice. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Static Takeaways

- Bank of India Founder: Ramnarain Ruia;
- Bank of India Founded: 7 September 1906, Mumbai;
- Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Bank of Baroda Founder: Sayajirao Gaekwad III;
- Bank of Baroda Founded: 20 July 1908, Vadodara;
- Bank of Baroda Headquarters: Alkapuri, Vadodara.
- WHO Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- WHO Founded: 7 April 1948;
- WHO Director-General: Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin;
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States;
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States;
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–).
- Coal India Headquarters: Kolkata;
- Coal India Founded: November 1975.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief minister: Yogi Adityanath;
- Uttar Pradesh Capital: Lucknow (Executive Branch);
- Uttar Pradesh Governor: Anandiben Patel.
- Defence Minister of India: Rajnath Singh
- Defence Minister of Maldives: Mariya Didi
- Capital of Maldives: Malé
- Currency of Maldives: Maldivian rufiyaa.
- Basketball Federation of India Founded: 1950;
- Basketball Federation of India Headquarters: New Delhi.
- Andhra Pradesh' s Chief Minister: Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy
- Managing Director of Adani Group: Rajesh Adani
- CEO and Whole Time Director of Adani Ports & SEZ (APSEZ) Limited: Karan Adani.
- International Amateur Athletic Federation was founded in 1912;
- President of the International Association of Athletics Federations: Sebastian Coe.
- Accenture CEO: Julie Sweet (1 Sept 2019–);
- Accenture Founded: 1989, Hamilton, Bermuda.

