

## Weekly One Liners 03 to 09th of July 2023

### Government of India reduces GST rate on electronics item

The **Union Finance Ministry** recently announced a reduction in the **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** for electronic items on the sixth anniversary of the GST implementation on **July 1**. The list of electronic products includes mobile phones, TVs up to 27 inches, refrigerators, washing machines, and others. With the aim of making home appliances more affordable, the Finance Ministry has lowered the GST rates for various items. Refrigerators, washing machines, fans, coolers, geysers, and similar products will now be subject to a reduced GST rate of 18 percent, previously being at 31.3 percent.

In addition, there have been reductions in GST rates for various other household items. Products such as mixers, juicers, vacuum cleaners, LEDs, vacuum flasks, and vacuum utensils have also witnessed a decrease in their GST rates. The GST rate for mixers, juicers, and similar items has been lowered from 31.3 percent to 18 percent, while LEDs now have a reduced GST rate of 12 percent, previously being at 15 percent.

Item	Earlier	Now
TV upto 27 inches	31.3%	18%
Refrigerators	31.3%	18%
Washing machine	31.3%	18%
Mixers, Juicers, Vacuum cleaners,,	31.3%	18%
Fans, coolers, geysers	31.3%	18%
LPG stove	21%	18%
LEDs	15%	12%
Sewing Machine	16%	12%
Static Converter UPS	28%	18%
Kerosene Pressure Lantern	8%	5%
Vacuum flasks, and vacuum Vessels	28%	18%
Mobile Phones	31.3%	12%

### About June GST collections

In June, the total GST revenue collected experienced a minimal increase of 2.80 percent, reaching Rs 1,61,497 crore, as compared to the collection of Rs 1,57,090 crore in May. The GST collected in June comprised Rs 31,013 crore under CGST, Rs 38,292 crore under SGST, Rs 80,292 crore under IGST (which includes Rs 39,035 crore collected on imported goods), and Rs 11,900 crore under cess (including Rs 1,028 crore collected on imported goods). From the IGST amount, the government settled Rs 36,224 crore for CGST and Rs 30,269 crore for SGST.

### SAFF Championship 2023 Final: India wins 9th title

The **Indian men's football team** emerged victorious in a thrilling penalty shootout against **Kuwait 5-4** in a thrilling penalty shootout, securing the **SAFF Championship 2023 title** at Bengaluru's Sree Kanteerava Stadium. Ranked 100th in the latest FIFA rankings, India triumphed in their ninth SAFF Championship out of 14 editions. This victory marked their second consecutive triumph after winning the Intercontinental Cup the previous month.

India, serving as the hosts, remained undefeated throughout the SAFF Championship 2023. They defeated Pakistan and Nepal while drawing against Kuwait in the group stage. In the semifinals, they overcame Lebanon in a penalty shootout and replicated the same feat against Kuwait in a nail-biting final. In addition to the medals, the team was awarded a cash prize of **USD 50,000, equivalent to INR 41 lakh**.

Kuwait football team received the award for finishing runners-up in the SAFF Championship 2023. While all the players received medals, the team also got a cheque of **US Dollar 25,000 which is around 20 lakh and about 50 thousands in Indian currency**.

### Awardees of the tournament

Award	Recipient
Fairplay Award	Nepal football team
Best Goalkeeper	Anisur Rahman Zico
Highest Goal-Scorer	Sunil Chhetri (6 Goals)
Most Valuable Player (MVP)	Sunil Chhetri
Runners-up	Kuwait football team

### About the SAFF Football Championship

The SAFF Football Championship, also known as the South Asian Football Federation Championship, is a biennial international football tournament contested by the national teams of South Asian countries. The championship aims to promote and develop football in the region. Here is a brief history of the SAFF Football Championship:

**1993: The inaugural edition of the SAFF Championship took place in Lahore, Pakistan. India emerged as the champions by defeating hosts Pakistan in the final.**

**2023 Global Peace Index**

The 2023 Global Peace Index, released by the Institute for Economics and Peace, provides a comprehensive ranking of the most peaceful countries in the world. The **17th edition** of the annual Global Peace Index (GPI), the world’s leading measure of peacefulness, reveals the average level of global peacefulness deteriorated for the ninth consecutive year, with 84 countries recording an improvement and 79 a deterioration.

This demonstrates that the deteriorations were larger than the improvements, as the post-COVID rises of civil unrest and political instability remain high while regional and global conflicts accelerate. This article highlights key findings from the report, including Iceland’s continued reign as the most peaceful country and India’s ranking.

- Iceland:** The No. 1 Most Peaceful Country: Iceland has retained its position as the most peaceful country since the inaugural study in 2008. It excels in domains such as ongoing domestic and international conflict, societal safety and security, and militarization. Additionally, Iceland ranks as the third happiest country globally, following Finland and Denmark.
- European Dominance in Peacefulness:** Seven out of the top 10 most peaceful countries in the world are located in Europe. Denmark, Ireland, and Switzerland are among the nations that contribute to Europe’s peaceful reputation. New Zealand, Singapore, Japan, and Slovenia also feature prominently in the top 10.

**Overall GPI Score**

A composite index measuring the peacefulness of countries made up of 23 quantitative and qualitative indicators each weighted on a scale of 1-5. The lower the score the more peaceful the country.

RANK	REGION	SCORE
1	Iceland	1.124
2	Denmark	1.31
3	Ireland	1.312
4	New Zealand	1.313
5	Austria	1.316
6	Singapore	1.332
7	Portugal	1.333
8	Slovenia	1.334
9	Japan	1.336
10	Switzerland	1.339

**India’s Peacefulness Ranking:**

India’s position on the Global Peace Index stands at **126 out of 163 countries**. With an overall score of 2.31, India falls below the global average of 2.314. While the country faces ongoing challenges in achieving high levels of peace, it presents an opportunity for improvement.

**Key Findings from the Global Peace Index:**

- Global Peace Deterioration:** For the ninth consecutive year, the average level of global peacefulness has deteriorated. While 84 countries experienced improvements, 79 witnessed a decline. The post-COVID era has seen a rise in civil unrest, political instability, and regional conflicts.
- Increase in Conflict Deaths:** Deaths resulting from global conflict rose by 96% to reach 238,000. Surprisingly, conflict-related fatalities in Ethiopia surpassed those in Ukraine, eclipsing previous peak levels observed during the Syrian war. Several countries, including Myanmar, Israel, and South Africa, reported increased conflict levels.
- Economic Impact of Violence:** The global economic impact of violence surged by 17% or \$1 trillion, amounting to \$17.5 trillion in 2022. This figure corresponds to approximately 13% of the global GDP. Notably, a hypothetical Chinese blockade of Taiwan would cause a staggering \$2.7 trillion drop in global economic output, nearly double the impact of the 2008 financial crisis.
- Changing Military Dynamics:** Despite the conflict in Ukraine, military expenditure improved in 92 countries, while 110 countries reduced their military personnel. Conflicts are increasingly internationalized, with 91 countries currently involved in some form of external conflict, up from 58 in 2008.

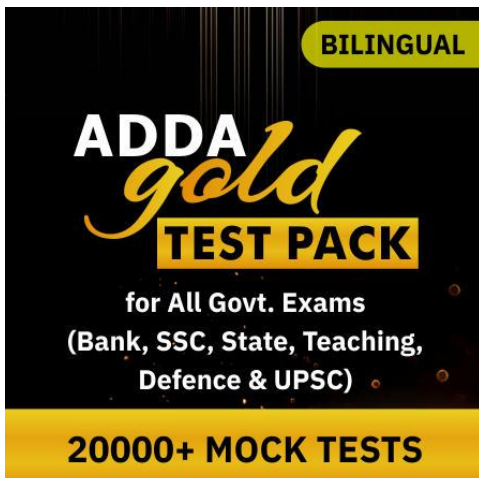
**Impact of the War in Ukraine on Peacefulness:**

- Ukraine’s Deterioration:** Ukraine experienced the largest decline in peace, falling 14 places to 157th position. The economic impact of violence in Ukraine increased by 479% or \$449 billion, accounting for 64% of the country’s GDP.
- Positive Trends in Russia:** Despite the conflict, Russia showcased improvements in areas such as incarceration rates, violent demonstrations, terrorism impact, and homicide rates. The homicide rate reached its lowest point since 2008.
- Human Cost:** The conflict in Ukraine has led to significant human losses, with 65% of men aged 20 to 24 either fleeing the country or losing their lives in the conflict.

**National Affairs**

- India’s first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor at the **Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP)** in Gujarat has successfully commenced commercial operations, marking a significant milestone in the country’s nuclear energy sector. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the **Sai Hira Global Convention Centre** in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh. The grand event witnessed the presence of prominent dignitaries and devotees from around the world. The Convention Centre, constructed by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, stands as a testament to the vision of promoting cultural exchange, spirituality, and global harmony. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **Startup20 Shikhar Summit**, organized by the Startup20 Engagement Group under the India G20 Presidency, concluded successfully in **Gurugram**. This two-day summit served as a platform for fostering innovations, collaborations, knowledge sharing, and strategic alliances within the global startup ecosystem. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The foundation stone-laying ceremony of Shri Motibhai R. Chaudhary Sagar Sainik School in Boriyavi village of **Mehsana**, Gujarat marked a significant milestone in the education sector. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Union Government** approved the draft **Digital Personal Data Bill** and come before Parliament in the monsoon season. Sources in the government said the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** received and considered 21,666 suggestions to the draft bill that have been circulated for comments in **November, 2022**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
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- India has joined the Champions Group of the **Global Crisis Response Group (GCRG)** at the invitation of the UN Secretary-General. The GCRG was established in March 2022 to address urgent global issues in food security, energy, and finance, and to coordinate a global response. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently unveiled a series of development projects worth **Rs 12,100** crores in its parliamentary constituency, **Varanasi**. These initiatives, spanning various sectors, reflect the government's focus on transforming the city and fostering growth in key areas such as infrastructure, education, and more. ([Click here to read the article](#))



## States in the News

- Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader **Ajit Pawar**, who took oath as the **Deputy chief minister of Maharashtra** after joining the Eknath Shinde-led government, is the son of Sharad Pawar's elder brother Anantrao. He made his first foray into politics by being elected to the board of a sugar cooperative in 1982. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant achievement, **Tamil Nadu** has reclaimed its position as the leader in electronic exports in India. The state's electronic exports, valued at USD 5.37 billion in the 2022-23 financial year, now account for a 23% share in the electronics market. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy of Andhra Pradesh has taken a significant step towards promoting education and empowering mothers through the implementation of the **Jagananna Amma Vodi** scheme. By releasing a substantial amount of **₹6,392 crore**, the government is demonstrating its commitment to providing quality education for all. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The Greater Chennai City Police (GCP)** has launched '**Police Drone Unit**' for aerial surveillance over vast areas and quick detection of criminal activities. The project, which costs approximately **Rs 3.6 crore** according a press release by the GCP, was inaugurated by outgoing Tamil Nadu Director General of Police (DGP) C Sylendra Babu, in the presence of Chennai Police Commissioner Shankar Jiwal at Besant Avenue, Adyar. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Bihar** has overtaken **Tamil Nadu** to become the state with the highest **microlending borrowings in India** as of March 2023, according to a report released. The report, published by credit information company Crif High Mark, highlighted Bihar's impressive growth with a **13.5 percent** increase in the gross lending portfolio during the March quarter compared to the previous quarter. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) in Madhya Pradesh, India, has made history by becoming the **first** urban body in the country to receive Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) credit for recycling banned single-use plastic items. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Tomato farmers in Maharashtra and Karnataka** have attributed the decline in their yields earlier this year to two distinct viruses. Those in Maharashtra reported that their tomato crops were adversely affected by the **cucumber mosaic virus (CMV)**, whereas growers in Karnataka and other South Indian states attributed their losses to the **tomato mosaic virus (ToMV)**. In the past three years, farmers cultivating tomatoes have observed a rise in the prevalence of these two viruses, resulting in varying degrees of crop damage, ranging from partial to total loss. ([Click here to read the article](#))



- The state government of **Gujarat** has taken a significant step towards improving healthcare access for its citizens by doubling the insurance cover under the **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana** (PMJAY). Starting from the 11th of July, beneficiaries of PMJAY in Gujarat will now receive an insurance cover of **Rs 10 lakhs**, a twofold rise from the previous coverage of Rs 5 lakhs. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### International Affairs

- New Zealand** has taken a momentous step towards reducing plastic waste by becoming the **first** country to implement a complete ban on thin plastic bags commonly used in supermarkets for fruit and vegetable purchases. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Iran has officially become a full member of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** during an India-hosted virtual summit of the influential grouping. Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and the people of Iran on this significant occasion. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant ceremony at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh, **King Charles III** of the United Kingdom was presented with the Scottish Crown Jewels, solidifying his authority in Scotland. The event took place two months after his official coronation and included the unveiling of a new sword named after the late Queen Elizabeth. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- During **India-EU Aviation summit** held at New Delhi, India, the **Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)** has signed a MoU with the **European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)** for cooperation in unmanned aircraft and systems and innovative air mobility. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Taiwan** has announced its decision to open its third representative office in India, this time in Mumbai. The move comes after more than a decade since Taiwan last expanded its presence in the country. The establishment of the **Taiwan Economic and Cultural Center (TECC)** in Mumbai aims to facilitate trade, investment, and provide various services to Taiwanese nationals and Indian businesspeople and tourists. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte's coalition government collapses due to "insurmountable" differences on handling migration. After days of crisis talks, the four-party coalition fails to reach a deal. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** India and the South Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organization (SARADO) joined forces through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in anti-doping efforts. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances of India and the Public Service Division of the Republic of **Singapore** recently signed a protocol document to extend their memorandum of understanding for five more years until 2028. The MoU encompasses various areas of cooperation aimed at promoting administrative reforms, public sector transformation, and capacity building. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Books and Authors

- Sudha Pai and Sajjan Kumar** have authored a book called "**Maya, Modi, Azad: Dalit Politics in the Time of Hindutva.**" In this book, they provide a perceptive and thought-provoking examination of the interplay between Maya, Modi, and Azad in the realm of Dalit politics. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A book titled "**Colours of devotion**" authored by **Anita Bharat Shah**. 'Colours of Devotion' aims at understanding the underlying connection of Indian philosophical concepts of Pushti Marg, as laid down by the saint and founder Shri Vallabhacharya, which inspired the art that was created for use in the religious practices of the Vallabha Sampradaya. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Banking/Economy/Business News

- India's **Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection** for the month of June reached ₹1.61 trillion, according to the Ministry of Finance. This amount represents a significant 12% increase compared to the revenue collected from GST in the same month of the previous year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India's **external debt** has witnessed a slight increase, reaching USD 624.7 billion at the end of March 2023, according to data released by the Reserve Bank. However, the debt-to-GDP ratio has declined during the same period. Valuation gains resulting from the appreciation of the US dollar against major currencies, including the Indian rupee, yen, SDR, and euro, amounted to USD 20.6 billion. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- According to official data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), the central government's fiscal deficit for the financial year 2023-24 stood at Rs 2.1 lakh crore or 11.8% of the full-year budget estimates at the end of May 2023. This marks a significant improvement compared to the previous year when the fiscal deficit was 12.3% of the budget estimates. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **IDFC First Bank** and IDFC Ltd have announced their merger plans, with a share exchange ratio of 155 equity shares of IDFC First Bank for every 100 equity shares of IDFC. The merger aims to simplify the corporate structure, increase the book value per share, and streamline regulatory compliances. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Indian government has taken a significant step towards establishing **India's first carbon market** by notifying a draft framework for the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023. The framework outlines the regulatory structure and key stakeholders responsible for the formation and functioning of the carbon market. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- State Bank of India, the country's largest lender, has announced the appointment of **Kameshwar Rao Kodavanti** as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Kodavanti, who has been with the bank since 1991, assumed the position on July 1, 2023. This article provides details about Kodavanti's appointment and his professional background. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- On the occasion of its 68th foundation day, the **State Bank of India (SBI)** has inaugurated 34 Transaction Banking Hubs across 21 district centres in the country. These hubs aim to provide efficient and quick Transaction Banking solutions to customers. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Ministry of External Affairs declared that trade between **India and Malaysia** can now be conducted using the **Indian Rupee (INR)** as a mode of settlement, in addition to other currencies. This announcement follows the launch of the **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023** by the Ministry of Commerce the day before, which reaffirmed the government's determination to establish the rupee as a global currency. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- According to a recent report by the **World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO)**, India has witnessed a significant increase in its share of global commercial services exports. The country's share has doubled from 2% in 2005 to 4.4% in 2022. This growth is attributed to various factors, including the rise of the services sector and the implementation of reforms to facilitate foreign direct investment (FDI) in services. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **State Bank of India** celebrated its **68th Bank Day** on **01st July 2023**. The Bank was incorporated by an Act of Parliament on 01.07.1955. The day was celebrated throughout the country by organizing various programmes at different centers. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced the **Centralised Information Management System (CIMS)** to revolutionize its data handling, analysis, and governance. The system leverages advanced technology to manage big data, enabling powerful data mining, text mining, visual analytics, and statistical analysis. Governor **Shaktikanta Das** announced the launch during the 17th Statistics Day Conference in Mumbai, highlighting the system's potential to transform economic analysis, supervision, monitoring, and enforcement across various domains. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Piramal Finance**, a leading housing finance company, has taken a significant step towards empowering women by opening its first all-women branch called "**Maitreyi**" in Tripunithura, a suburban area in **Kochi**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a bid to tackle fake registrations and enhance the integrity of the **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** system, the GST Council is considering implementing new measures. These measures include reducing the time period for submission of PAN-linked bank account details, introducing mandatory physical verification for "high risk" applicants, and amending GST Rules regarding the presence of applicants during verification. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) has announced the launch of PNB Metaverse, a virtual branch that offers a unique banking experience. Customers can explore various products and services such as bank deposits, loans, digital products, and government schemes through their mobile phones and laptops. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The disbursement of loans under the **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)** in India has seen a significant increase, reaching ₹81,597 crore in the first quarter of FY24. This marks a notable 23% growth compared to ₹62,650 crore disbursed in the same quarter last year. The surge in disbursements can be attributed to the rising demand for loans in the **Tarun category** and other factors. It is the highest-ever increase in disbursements during the first quarter since the launch of the scheme. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has unveiled a draft regulation that grants debit, credit, and prepaid cardholders the authority to select their desired card network, marking a potentially revolutionary development on a global scale. This regulation challenges the prevailing practice where card network options are predetermined through agreements between issuers and networks. ([Click here to read the article](#))

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### Appointments/Resignations

- Indian government announced the extension of **Brajendra Navnit's** tenure as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India to the World Trade Organization (WTO) by **nine** months. This decision comes ahead of the crucial 13th ministerial conference of the WTO in 2024. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Tushar Mehta**, the incumbent Solicitor General of India, has been reappointed for a three-year term by the Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- P M Prasad**, who currently serves as the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL), has been appointed as the **Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Coal India Limited (CIL)**, a Schedule 'A' Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE). Prior to his new role, Prasad successfully led CCL, a subsidiary of Coal India, located in Jharkhand, to achieve its production targets in the fiscal year 2022-23. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- State Bank of India**, the largest lender in the country, has recently announced the appointment of **Kameshwar Rao Kodavanti** as its Chief Financial Officer as Charanjit Surinder Singh Attra, the former CFO, resigned from the post. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Aadhav Arjuna**, the president of the Tamil Nadu Basketball Association (TNBA), emerged victorious in the election held at Nehru Stadium and secured the position of president of the **Basketball Federation of India (BFI)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- B. Neeraja Prabhakar**, the Vice-Chancellor of Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University, has been appointed as the chairperson of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for the **ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (IIOPR) in Pedavegi, Andhra Pradesh**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Tech giant **Google** is reportedly set to appoint manufacturing and policy veteran **Sreenivasa Reddy** as its top government affairs executive in India. The company is looking to make this hiring with an eye on tackling legal challenges and expanding hardware assembly in the country. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Lloyds Banking Group**, one of the leading UK-based financial services groups has appointed **Sirisha Voruganti** the chief executive officer and managing director of its new **Lloyds Technology Centre, based in Hyderabad, India**. Voruganti, a globally renowned technology and innovation leader joins from JCPenney, where she has served as the managing director and member of the Board for JCPenney in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) of India** has appointed **Krishan Mishra** as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective 1 August 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has appointed **P. Vasudevan** as executive director. His appointment is effective from July 03, 2023. The Reserve Bank in a statement said Vasudevan will look after Department of Currency Management, Corporate Strategy and Budget Department (Areas other than that of Budget & Funds) and Enforcement Department. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Russian energy giant Rosneft** has taken a significant move towards enhancing trade ties with India by appointing a former **Indian Oil Cooperation (IOC)** director **Govind Kottis Satish** as its board member. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Asics India Private Limited**, a sports gear company, has appointed actor **Shraddha Kapoor** as its new brand ambassador. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Defence News

- The government has named **Lt Gen M U Nair** as the newly appointed **National Cybersecurity Coordinator (NCSC)**. Lt Gen Nair, who took on the role of the 28th Signal Officer-in-Chief in July 2022, brings a wealth of experience and expertise in the areas of cyber warfare, signal intelligence, and communication and information technology. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **seventh** edition of the bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) is set to take place from 5th to 10th July 2023 in Visakhapatnam, India. This exercise marks the 11th anniversary of JIMEX since its inception in 2012 and aims to enhance the interoperability and cooperation between the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) and the Indian Navy. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Indian Navy and the US Navy successfully concluded the seventh edition of the Indian Navy – US Navy (IN – USN) **Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise**, SALVEX, held from June 26 to July 6, 2023, in Kochi. This joint exercise has been a regular feature since 2005, promoting collaboration and cooperation between the two navies in the fields of salvage and EOD operations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Awards and Recognitions

- Renowned children's writer and performance poet, **Michael Rosen**, aged 77, has been honored with the esteemed **PEN Pinter Prize 2023**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Rajindar Singh Dhatt**, the driving force behind the "Undivided Indian Ex-Servicemen's Association" has been honored with the prestigious **Points of Light** award for his exceptional service and relentless efforts to bring together British Indian war veterans. Dhatt demonstrated his dedication to serving his country by joining the British Indian Army during the Second World War. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- King Charles III and Queen Camilla of the United Kingdom recently presented the prestigious Elephant Family environmental award to Indian conservationists. The award ceremony recognized filmmaker **Kartiki Gonsalves**, the creative mind behind the Oscar-winning documentary “The Elephant Whisperers,” and the Real Elephant Collective (TREC), a group of 70 Adivasi artists. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India’s mining major, **NMDC** (National Mineral Development Corporation), was honored with two prestigious awards at the ASSOCHAM Business Excellence Awards 2023 held in Kolkata. The company received the ‘Mineral Development Award’ and the ‘Employer Brand of the Year Award’ in recognition of its significant contributions to the mining sector and its exemplary human resources practices. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Summits and Conferences News

- The Startup20 Shikhar Summit, organized by the Startup20 Engagement Group under the India G20 Presidency, commenced in Gurugram, marking a significant achievement for the global startup ecosystem. The two-day event celebrates the successful completion of Startup20’s inaugural year and the release of the final Policy Communiqué. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The three-day **International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2023)** commenced in New Delhi, organized by the Government of India. The conference aims to establish a **Green Hydrogen ecosystem** and discuss advancements in the green hydrogen value chain. It brings together global leaders from scientific, policy, academic, and industrial sectors to foster innovation and sustainability in the industry. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The three-day **67th Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI)** convention commenced in Colombo on July 6. The conference brought together industry professionals from India and Sri Lanka, offering valuable business opportunities and fostering collaboration in the travel industry. The convention kicked off with a star-studded opening ceremony featuring esteemed guests such as Sri Lankan President **Ranil Wickremesinghe** and High Commissioner of India Gopal Baglay. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Ranks and Reports

- Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj, Shri **Kapil Moreshwar Patil**, released the Report on Panchayat Development Index (PDI) at a National Workshop on PDI. The workshop saw the participation of over 250 stakeholders, including senior government officials, ministry representatives, and key stakeholders in the field. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The **UNCTAD’s World Investment Report 2023** reveals that foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows to developing Asia remained unchanged at \$662 billion in 2022 compared to the previous year. However, the report highlights significant variations among countries in the region. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Sports News

- **Max Verstappen**, the reigning Formula One champion, continued his impressive performance by securing a commanding victory at the **Austrian Grand Prix 2023**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **132nd** edition of the **Durand Cup**, India’s oldest football tournament is scheduled to commence at Kolkata from 03 August to 03 September 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Indian football team midfielder **Lallianzuala Chhangte** was named the **AIFF Men’s Footballer of the Year for 2022-23** while **Manisha Kalyan** won her second consecutive Women’s Footballer of the Year award. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Board of Control of Cricket (BCCI)** has appointed **Ajit Agarkar** as the chairman of the **Senior Men’s Cricket Selection Committee**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Bangladesh** one-day captain **Tamim Iqbal** announced his shock retirement from international cricket, three months before the team begins its ODI World Cup campaign in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Netherlands** men team finish their season four campaign on 35 points, making them champions of the **FIH Hockey Pro League 2022/23 season**. With this win, Netherlands become the first team in the men’s competition to win a second title, successfully defending their first title, won in the competition last year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

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### Schemes and Committees News

- The Central Government has started a new relief scheme under the **'Mission Vatsalya'** scheme in relation to the abandonment of the families of minor girls who are victims of rape when they become pregnant. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Swarnima Scheme** is a term loan scheme introduced by the **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** to provide financial assistance to women entrepreneurs from backward classes. The scheme aims to empower women by offering social and financial security through term loans. Implemented by the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) and carried out by State Channelising Agencies (SCAs), the scheme facilitates access to loans of up to ₹2,00,000/- at an interest rate of 5% per annum. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Ministry of Home Affairs has introduced the **"Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States"** with a significant allocation of **Rs. 5,000 Crore**. This scheme was announced by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah during a meeting with Ministers of Disaster Management of the States/Union Territories in New Delhi on June 13, 2023. The objective of the scheme is to strengthen fire services across the country and make India disaster-resilient. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Science and Technology News

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has completed the assembly of the **Chandrayaan-3** rocket and is now preparing for the final round of tests before the anticipated launch. The spacecraft, including the indigenous lander module, propulsion module, and rover, is fully integrated, and the payload faring has also been completed. The launch is expected to take place between July 12 and July 19. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- India has taken a significant stride forward in the field of telecommunications, with the acquisition of over 200 patents for **6G** technology. The announcement was made by the Communications and IT Minister, Ashwini Vaishnav, during the launch of the Bharat 6G Alliance in New Delhi. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Meta**, the owner of Instagram, has introduced a new social media platform called **Threads**. With **Twitter** facing instability under its billionaire owner **Elon Musk**, Meta aims to capitalize on the situation. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **India's lunar mission Chandrayaan-3** is going to be launched on July 14, at 2:35 P.M. from **Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota** announced by the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**. The date was later confirmed by Secretary of Space department and ISRO Chairman S. Somnath at a press briefing on the sidelines of the **G-20 Fourth Economy Leaders Meeting in Bengaluru**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In a significant stride towards achieving self-reliance in navigation applications and services, **Elena Geo Systems**, a Bengaluru-based firm, has unveiled the country's first hand-held navigation device based on the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (NavIC). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **SpaceX**, the aerospace company founded by Elon Musk, has achieved two significant milestones in its quest to expand global internet connectivity through its **Starlink** satellite communications service. The **Mongolian** government has granted SpaceX licenses to operate as an internet service provider. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Important Days News

- **International Plastic Bag Free Day** is observed every year on **July 3rd** to increase awareness about the detrimental effects of disposable plastic bags on the environment. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **World Sports Journalist Day** is celebrated worldwide on **July 2nd** each year. Sports holds great significance in the overall growth of individuals, serving as both a recreational pursuit and a potential career path. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **World UFO Day**, celebrated annually on **July 2**, serves as a platform for individuals around the globe to delve into the intriguing realm of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **The International Day of Cooperatives** is commemorated on **July 1st** and is celebrated on the **first Saturday of July**. This significant event unites people, communities, and organizations worldwide to honor the impressive influence of cooperative businesses. The designated theme for the International Day of Cooperatives 2023 is **"Cooperatives for Sustainable Development."** ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The United States is celebrating its **247th Independence Day** this year on **4th July**. Independence Day is a federal holiday in the United States to commemorate the declaration of Independence. The celebration of Independence Day in U.S. is associated with parade, fireworks, carnival, fairs, picnics, political speeches, games and ceremonies. This day is considered to be a National Day of U.S. ([Click here to read the article](#))



- **World Zoonoses Day** is observed annually on **July 6th** to honor the achievements of **Louis Pasteur, a renowned French biologist.** ([Click here to read the article](#))
- At the **Dharma Chakra Divas (3rd July)**, President of India highlighted the importance of Buddha's teachings and called upon their attention to take inspiration from them. The Ministry of Culture, government of India in partnership with the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) celebrated Dharma Chakra Day. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization(UNESCO)** celebrated the World Kiswahili Language Day on **7th July**. In the **1950s** the United Nations established the **Kiswahili language** unit of United Nations Radio, and today Kiswahili is the only African language within the Directorate of the Global Communications at the United Nations. ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Obituaries News

- **Alan Arkin**, a veteran US actor known for his remarkable talent and a career that spanned over six decades died due to heart problems. Arkin, who received multiple Academy Award and Emmy nominations, left an indelible mark on both the film and television industry. His unforgettable performances in films like "Catch-22," "Edward Scissorhands," and his Oscar-winning role in "Little Miss Sunshine" endeared him to audiences. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Renowned artist **Namboothiri**, recognized for his exceptional talent in painting and sculpture, has passed away at the age of 97 in **Kottakkal, Malappuram district.** ([Click here to read the article](#))

ENGLISH



**MAESTRO**

**RBI GRADE 'B'**  
**PHASE-I + II**

**200+ TOTAL TESTS**

### Miscellaneous News

- The **full moon in July 2023** will be called the **Buck Moon**. It is also known as the Thunder Moon, Berry Moon, Salmon Moon, Feather Moulting Moon, and Raspberry Moon. The name Buck Moon comes from the fact that the antlers of male deer are in full growth at this time of year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Dalai Lama**, the revered Tibetan spiritual leader, marked his **88th** birthday with a joyous celebration at his headquarters in **Dharamsala, India.** ([Click here to read the article](#))

### Static Takeaways

- International Sports Press Association Executive Director: Dave Goren;
- International Sports Press Association of Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland;
- International Sports Press Association Founded in 1924.
- Austria Capital: Vienna;
- Austria Chancellor of Austria: Karl Nehammer;
- Austria Currency: Euro.
- World UFO Day is observed annually on July 2 worldwide
- First UFO was spotted on June 24, 1947 in Washinton D.C.,US
- Full form of UFO is Unidentified Flying Objects
- Maharashtra Chief minister: Eknath Shinde;
- Maharashtra Capital: Mumbai;
- Maharashtra Governor: Ramesh Bais.
- Prime Minister of New Zealand is Chris Hipkins
- Rachel Brooking is the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries of New Zealand.
- Durand Cup was established in: 1888
- President of All India Football Federation (AIFF) is: Mr Kalyan Chaubey
- All India Football Federation President: Kalyan Chaubey;
- All India Football Federation Founded: 23 June 1937;
- All India Football Federation Headquarters: New Delhi;
- All India Football Federation affiliation: 1954;
- All India Football Federation Parent organization: South Asian Football Federation.
- Union Minister of Ministry of Communications is: Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw
- South Korea to launch 6G network and services by: 2028
- Tamil Nadu Chief minister: M. K. Stalin;
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai;
- Tamil Nadu Governor: R. N. Ravi.
- The Elephant Whisperers was launched in: 2022

- Director of The Elephant Whisperers is: Kartiki Gonsalves
- Chairman & MD of National Mineral Development Corporation: Sumit Deb
- National Mineral Development Corporation is a Navratna Public Sector Enterprise headquartered in: Hyderabad
- National Mineral Development Corporation comes under: Ministry of Steel
- State Bank of India Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara;
- State Bank of India Founded: 1 July 1955;
- State Bank of India Managing directors: Challa Sreenivasulu Setty;
- State Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Director General (ICAR): Himanshu Pathak;
- ICAR established: 16 July 1929;
- ICAR HQ: New Delhi.
- Google Founders: Larry Page, Sergey Brin
- Google Parent organization: Alphabet Inc.
- Google Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States
- Google Founded: 4 September 1998, Menlo Park, California, United States
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai (2 Oct 2015–)
- Bihar Chief minister: Nitish Kumar;
- Bihar Governor: Rajendra Arlekar;
- Bihar Capital: Patna.
- Managing Director of Piramal Finance is: Jairam Sridharan
- Headquarters of Piramal Finance: Mumbai.
- Lloyds Banking Group Headquarters: Edinburgh, United Kingdom;
- Lloyds Banking Group chairman: Robin Budenberg;
- Lloyds Banking Group Founded: 19 January 2009.
- Meta Founders: Mark Zuckerberg;
- Meta Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States;
- Meta Founded: February 2004, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States.



# Adda247