

Weekly One Liners 25th to 31st of March 2024

National Affairs

- In a determined effort to ensure accessibility and inclusivity in the electoral process, the **Election Commission has introduced the Saksham App**. This initiative aims to address the needs of **voters above 85 years of age and Persons-with-Disabilities (PWDs) with a 40 percent benchmark disability**, allowing them to cast their votes from the comfort of their homes. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and his Bhutanese counterpart **Tshering Tobgay** jointly inaugurated a modern hospital in the Bhutanese capital, Thimphu. The **Gyalsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuk Mother and Child Hospital** is a shining example of the strong **development cooperation** between India and Bhutan. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India aims to replace its minimum wage system with a living wage framework by 2025, seeking assistance from the International Labour Organization (ILO) for technical support in creating and implementing this transition. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** is keeping a close watch on the election process through the **cVIGIL app**. The app allows citizens to report violations of the **Model Code of Conduct** and **election expenditures** by capturing photos and videos. **Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar** said that cVIGIL empowers citizens to report violations, with assured action within **100 minutes**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In March 2024, **Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs)** pumped a massive **\$3.63 billion** into Indian equities, their biggest buying spree since December 2023. This made India the top destination for foreign funds among Asian markets. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

States in the News

- Researchers have made an exciting discovery off the coast of **Kollam in Kerala**. They have found a new species of **deep-sea isopod**, which is a tiny crustacean that feeds on fish. This new species belongs to the genus **Brucethoa** and was found living inside the **gill cavity** of a fish called the Spinyjaw greeneye. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** is conducting excavations at two **mounds in Nachne village**, located in the **Panna district of Madhya Pradesh**. The goal of these excavations is to uncover what could potentially be the **oldest temple in India**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Allahabad High Court's Lucknow bench has declared the **UP Board of Madarsa Education Act of 2004** as **unconstitutional**. The court ruled that the act violated the principle of **secularism**, as well as several articles of the Constitution, including **Articles 14, 21, and 21-A**. Additionally, the court found that the act also contravened **Section 22 of the University Grants Commission Act of 1956**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Uttar Pradesh boasts of being the state with the most districts in India, totaling 75 districts divided into 18 divisions. Additionally, it **comprises 822 development blocks, 17 municipal corporations, and 351 tehsils**. The easternmost district is Ballia, while Saharanpur is the northernmost, Sonbhadra the southernmost, and Shamli the westernmost district. In this article, we will get to know about the **village of "Choti Kashi" in Uttar Pradesh**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Gujarat's Minister of State for Education, **Praful Pansheriya**, launched the online learning platform **Shiksha Reform in Surat**. The event was attended by noted educationist **Deepak Rajguru**, trustees, principals, **Kimmo Nikkanen** from Finland's **Kajaani University of Applied Sciences**, and educationist **Antti Isovita**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

International Affairs

- The **Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore** collapsed early on March 26 after a container ship collided with a pylon, resulting in the presumed death of six individuals who fell into the cold waters below. The incident has halted operations at one of the **busiest ports on the U.S. Eastern Seaboard**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- After eight years of Socialist rule in Portugal, **Luis Montenegro**, leader of the centre-right Democratic Alliance (AD), has been appointed as the new prime minister. However, his minority government faces challenges due to his refusal to ally with the far-right Chega party. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

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- **Rumi Alqahtani**, a 27-year-old model and influencer from Saudi Arabia, announced on Instagram that she will be the first participant from the country in the **Miss Universe** competition. Alqahtani was born in **Riyadh** and has previously won the titles of **Miss Saudi Arabia**, **Miss Arab World Peace 2021**, and **Miss Woman (Saudi Arabia)**. This will be the **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's first appearance** in the Miss Universe pageant. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Bassirou Diomaye Faye**, an anti-establishment figure, has won the **Senegalese presidential election** with **54.28 per cent** of the votes in the first round. At 44 years old, Faye is set to become **Africa's youngest elected president** and the first opponent to win in the first round since Senegal's independence from France in 1960. His victory still needs to be validated by Senegal's Constitutional Council in the next few days. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Thailand's lower house** of Parliament has passed a groundbreaking bill to **legalize same-sex marriage**, marking a significant step towards equality in Southeast Asia. The legislation, an amendment to the Civil and Commercial Code, garnered overwhelming support in the House of Representatives. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Florida Governor Ron DeSantis** has signed a bill that **prohibits minors under 14 from having social media accounts**. The law requires **parental permission** for 14- and 15-year-olds to create accounts on platforms like **Meta**, **TikTok**, and others. All social media users in Florida must **submit identification documents** to verify their ages. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- State-owned power giant **NTPC** has finalized an agreement with the **Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)** to obtain foreign currency loans totaling **USD 200 million (JPY 30 billion or approximately Rs 1,650 crore)**. This financing arrangement signifies a significant step in NTPC's endeavor to augment its renewable energy initiatives. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Indian Parliamentary Delegation**, led by **Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha Harivansh Narayan Singh**, held a bilateral meeting with their **Armenian counterparts** on the sidelines of the **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)** event in **Geneva, Switzerland**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **SatCom Industry Association of India (SIA-India)** and **ABRASAT, the Brazilian Satellite Communications Association**, have joined forces to propel advancements in the space sector. This strategic partnership aims to foster collaboration and drive innovative ventures and technological cooperation between India and Brazil. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- In a significant move poised to reshape **India's Aerospace, New Space, and Defence (ASD) industry**, the Indian Institute of Management Mumbai (**IIM Mumbai**) partners with **Starburst**, a prominent **European Aerospace, New Space, and Defence (ASD) accelerator**. This collaboration aims to bolster the ASD startup ecosystem in India, leveraging the resources and expertise of both entities. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Books and Authors

- The **Dibrugarh University International Literary Festival** held on 19-21 March 2024 witnessed the launch of a remarkable literary work – the English translation of the first Magahi novel, '**Phool Bahadur**'. The translation was done by **Abhay K**, a renowned writer from **Nalanda, Bihar**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- S. Raman's autobiography, "From A Car Shed To The Corner Room & Beyond," offers a **first-person account** of his remarkable journey from a **clerk at SBI** to becoming the **Chairman and Managing Director of Canara Bank** and a **full-time Member of SEBI**. The book explores the **intricate dance between personal integrity, professional challenges, and systemic issues in the financial world**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The inaugural Women's Prize for Non-Fiction has announced its shortlist of six books, including "**Code Dependent: Living in the Shadow of AI**" by Indian-British journalist and commentator **Madhumita Murgia**. The book explores the **impact of artificial intelligence on human society**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- In a significant move, the **Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF)**, the organization behind the iconic **Amul** brand, is set to launch its fresh milk products in the United States for the first time. This expansion marks a major milestone for the brand, as it aims to cater to the **Indian diaspora and Asian population** in the US. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a strategic collaboration with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, Federal Bank introduces '**Flash Pay**,' a revolutionary RuPay smart key chain facilitating contactless NCMC (National Common Mobility Card) payments. This innovative solution enables users to tap and pay at metro stations and PoS terminals, ensuring swift transactions with enhanced security. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- The Modi government has allocated **Rs 6212.03 crore to Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)** as part of the recapitalization scheme on **March 6**. RRBs, established in 1975 and owned by the Indian government, function at the regional level across various states. They were set up with the objective of offering fundamental banking and financial services to rural regions, specifically targeting small and marginal farmers, agricultural laborers, artisans, and small entrepreneurs. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **S&P Global** released its Economic Outlook **Asia-Pacific Q2 2024** report, offering insights into the region's economic landscape. The report focuses on **GDP** growth forecasts for various economies, factors influencing growth trajectories, and expectations regarding monetary policy adjustments. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **PepsiCo**, the U.S. food and beverage giant, has committed to investing an additional **\$400 million in Vietnam**. This decision was made public during a visit by delegations from over 60 U.S. enterprises, including Suntory PepsiCo Vietnam Beverage, to Vietnam last week. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In the third quarter of the fiscal year 2023-24, India's current account balance showed a deficit of **US\$ 10.5 billion, equivalent to 1.2 per cent of GDP**. This marked a decrease from **US\$ 11.4 billion (1.3 per cent of GDP)** in the previous quarter and **US\$ 16.8 billion (2.0 per cent of GDP)** in the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- S&P Global Ratings anticipates a repo rate reduction of up to **75 basis points by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** during the fiscal year 2024-25. This move aligns with projected adjustments in US policy rates, with the majority of the cuts expected in the latter **half of the financial year**. The agency also foresees similar rate adjustments in Indonesia, New Zealand, and the Philippines. Factors such as **declining inflation, a reduced fiscal deficit, and lower US policy rates** set the stage for the RBI to initiate rate cuts, possibly around June 2024 or later. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken action against **five co-operative banks** for various rule violations. These penalties are imposed based on regulatory compliance shortcomings and do not question the validity of the banks' transactions with customers. **Navsarjan Industrial Co-operative Bank Ltd, Mehsana Jilla Panchayat Karmachari Co-operative Bank, Halol Urban Co-operative Bank, Stambhadri Co-operative Urban Bank and Subramanianagar Co-operative Urban Bank**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Innoviti Payments and Concerto Software** have received **payment aggregator (PA) licences** from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), marking significant milestones in the digital payments landscape of India. Innoviti operates the PA '**Innoviti Link**', serving 2,500 online merchants, while Concerto Software's gateway '**Vegaah**' joins the league of authorized PA solutions. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Indian government has outlined its borrowing strategy for the first half of the fiscal year 2024-25, aiming to raise **Rs 7.5 lakh crore** from the market through the issuance of various bonds, including sovereign green bonds. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Morgan Stanley has increased its **GDP growth forecast** for India for the **financial year 2024-25 (FY25) to 6.8%**, up from the previous estimate of 6.5%. This revision reflects a positive outlook on India's economic trajectory, emphasizing its strength and stability in the current cycle. The firm also revised its growth forecast for the ongoing financial year, FY24, to 7.9%. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ)**, a subsidiary of the Adani Group, has acquired a controlling **95% stake in Gopalpur Port** located in **Odisha**. The deal, valued at Rs 3,350 crore, solidifies APSEZ's position in the ports and logistics sector. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- On March 26, 2024, the **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** granted approval to **Adani Power Limited**, a subsidiary of the Adani Group, for the complete acquisition of Lanco Amarkantak Power Limited. This acquisition involves the transfer of **100% equity share capital of Lanco Amarkantak Power Limited to Adani Power Limited**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has designated three insurers as **Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs)** for the year 2023-24. These insurers, namely **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re), and New India Assurance Co Ltd**, have retained their D-SII status from the previous year. D-SIIs are insurers of significant size and market importance whose distress or failure could disrupt the domestic financial system. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Wipro-GE Healthcare**, a prominent player in medical technology and digital solutions, is set to invest **Rs 8,000 crore** over the next five years in India. This investment aims to strengthen its manufacturing output and research and development capabilities. The company's focus is on expanding its '**Make in India for the World**' initiative, emphasizing increased localization and exports of medical equipment. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- In a remarkable move, two of India's richest businessmen, **Mukesh Ambani** and **Gautam Adani**, have joined forces for the first time. **Reliance Industries**, owned by Ambani, has acquired a **26% stake** in a power project owned by Adani's company in **Madhya Pradesh**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) witnessed a significant **6.7% increase** (provisional) in **February 2024** compared to the same month in 2023. This growth was driven by positive performances across various sectors, including **Coal, Natural Gas, Cement, Steel, Crude Oil, Electricity, and Refinery Products**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a significant move, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has **cancelled the registration** of **Karvy Investor Services Ltd (KISL)** as a **merchant banker** due to a **breach of eligibility criteria**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a strategic move, **Kotak Mahindra Bank** has successfully acquired **Sonata Finance Private Limited (Sonata)** for a total consideration of approximately **Rs. 537 crore**. This acquisition grants Kotak Mahindra Bank **full ownership** of Sonata, bolstering its presence in the microfinance sector. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Tata Passenger Electric Mobility (TPEM)**, a unit of **Tata Motors**, has announced a strategic partnership with **Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL)** to establish a **nationwide network of 5,000 public charging stations** for electric vehicles (EVs) by the end of 2024. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **The Adani Group** has announced the start of the first phase of the world's largest single-location **copper manufacturing plant** at **Mundra in Gujarat**. The facility, owned by **Kutch Copper** (a subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Ltd), will help reduce **India's dependence on copper imports** and support the **energy transition**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Axis Bank** has announced the introduction of **digital US dollar fixed deposits (FDs)** for **NRI customers** at the **IFSC Banking Unit (IBU)** at **GIFT City, Gujarat**. The bank has become the **first** to offer a **digital journey** for opening deposits at GIFT City. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- India's foreign exchange reserves have soared to a new peak, **reaching \$642.631 billion** in the week ending March 22, marking the fifth consecutive week of increase, according to the latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Bank of India (BoI)** has disclosed the receipt of an order from the Income Tax Department, Assessment Unit, concerning the Assessment Year (AY) 2018-19. The order imposes a **penalty of ₹564.44 crore** on various disallowances made by the bank. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- The Government e Marketplace (GeM) has witnessed a remarkable growth, doubling its Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) to **₹4-lakh crore in fiscal year 2023-24**. **CEO P K Singh** announced plans for potential expansion, including opening the portal for consumer use and enhancing its services. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- Senior Indian diplomat **Abhay Thakur** has been appointed as the country's next **ambassador** or top **envoy** to **Myanmar**. This was announced by the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** on **March 26**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Eveready Industries India (EIL)**, a leading battery brand, has announced a partnership with **Neeraj Chopra**, the reigning Olympic gold medalist and World no. 1 in men's javelin throw, as its new **brand ambassador**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Hansha Mishra**, an officer of the **Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS)** from the **2010 batch**, has been appointed as **Director** in the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**, Delhi. Her appointment comes after she was recommended for central deputation by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi** has taken oath as the new judicial member of the **Lokpal** (ombudsman) on **27 March 2024**. The oath was administered by **Justice AM Khanwilkar**, the Chairman of the **Lokpal of India**. **Central Vigilance Commissioner Praveen Kumar Srivastava** and senior officers from CBI and Enforcement Directorate were present. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Sadanand Vasant Date**, a distinguished 1990-batch **IPS officer** from **Maharashtra cadre**, has been appointed as the new **Director General of the NIA**. **Piyush Anand**, a 1991-batch **IPS officer** from the **Uttar Pradesh cadre**, has been entrusted with the responsibility of heading the **NDRF**. **Rajeev Kumar**, an accomplished **IPS officer** from the **Rajasthan cadre**, has been appointed as the **Director General of the BPR&D**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))



- In a significant development, the central government has approved the appointment of **Nidhu Saxena** as the **Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO)** of the **Bank of Maharashtra**. This appointment will be effective for a period of **three years** starting from **27 March 2024**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has appointed **Kamal Kishore** of **India** as the new **Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction**. He will lead the **United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Justice Mohammad Yousuf Wani** was administered the **oath of office** as an **Additional Judge of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh**. The oath was administered by **Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh** in Srinagar. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Arnab Banerjee**, the **Managing Director & CEO** of **CEAT Ltd.**, has been elected as the new **Chairman** of the **Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA)**. ATMA is the national industry body representing the **automotive tyre sector** in India. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Microsoft** has named **Pavan Davuluri** as the new head of its combined **Windows** and **Surface** teams. This move comes after the previous leader, **Panos Panay**, left for **Amazon** last year. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Girija Subramanian**, the current Chairperson and MD of **Agriculture Insurance Company (AIC)**, has been selected as the next CMD of **New India Assurance**. **Bhupesh Sushil Rahul**, a General Manager at AIC, has been chosen as the new CMD of **United India Insurance**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Defence News

- In response to escalating tensions along the northern borders with **China**, the **Indian Army** has initiated significant enhancements to its air defence capabilities. Central to this strategic maneuver is the deployment of cutting-edge **Integrated Drone Detection and Interdiction Systems (IDD&IS)**, developed domestically in collaboration between the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** and **Bharat Electronics**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The second edition of the **India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise, IMT TRILAT 24**, concluded successfully in **Nacala, Mozambique** on March 28th, 2024. This week-long exercise aimed to strengthen maritime cooperation and interoperability among the navies of **India, Mozambique, and Tanzania**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- The **International Astronomical Union (IAU)**, a global organization responsible for naming celestial objects, has bestowed a rare honour upon an Indian scientist. Professor **Jayant Murthy**, an esteemed astrophysicist, has been recognized for his remarkable contributions to the field by having an asteroid named after him – **(215884) Jayantmurthy**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters has awarded the **2024 Abel Prize** to **Michel Talagrand** of the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Paris, France. Talagrand received the prestigious prize “for his **groundbreaking contributions** to **probability theory** and **functional analysis**, with outstanding applications in **mathematical physics** and **statistics**.” ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- At a glittering event recently held in **Noida**, organized by **The Times Group**, **Vijay Jain**, the **Managing Director of Star Estate**, was awarded the prestigious **Times Power Icon 2024 Award**. The event celebrated and honoured top industry leaders, gracing the occasion with the presence of industry leaders and celebrities, including **Cine icon Ada Sharma**, who presented the award to Vijay Jain. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Summits and Conferences News

- The Indian Army is organizing the first **Army Commanders' Conference** for the year 2024 in a **hybrid mode**. The virtual segment of the conference is scheduled for **28th March 2024**, followed by the physical mode in **New Delhi** on **1st and 2nd April 2024**. The conference will be chaired by the **Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), General Manoj Pande**, and attended by senior military leadership, including Army Commanders participating virtually from their respective Command Headquarters. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The METOC seminar '**Meghayon-24**' was conducted by the School of Naval Oceanology & Meteorology (SNOM) and the Indian Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre (INMAC) at the Southern Naval Command on March 28, 2024. It was organized in commemoration of World Meteorological Day, with the theme '**At the Frontline of Climate Action**' set by the **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** for 2024. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- In a landmark shift, **Mumbai has overtaken Beijing as Asia's billionaire capital**, according to the latest report from the **Shanghai-based Hurun Research Institute**. This monumental achievement reflects Mumbai's burgeoning economic landscape and underscores India's rising prominence in global wealth distribution. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- In the latest **Brand Finance Insurance 100, 2024 report**, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) solidifies its position as the strongest insurance brand worldwide, maintaining a stable brand value of Rs 816 billion. With a **Brand Strength Index score of 88.3 and an AAA brand strength rating**, LIC showcases its unparalleled prominence in the industry. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **International Labour Organization (ILO) in collaboration with the Institute of Human Development (IHD)** has released the 'India Employment Report 2024,' shedding light on the challenges faced by the Indian job market as the financial year comes to a close. **Chief Economic Adviser V. Anantha Nageswaran** unveiled the report, which outlines significant shifts in employment patterns and trends in education levels among the unemployed, spanning two decades up to 2022. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Sports News

- Australian Grand Prix, **Carlos Sainz of Ferrari** emerged victorious, marking a remarkable comeback just **two weeks after undergoing appendicitis surgery**. The race was filled with drama, including the **first retirement** in two years for **Red Bull's reigning world champion Max Verstappen**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Indian cricket captain **Virat Kohli** has etched his name in history by becoming the **first Indian cricketer** to score **12,000 runs** in the **T20 format**. Kohli accomplished this remarkable feat during the opening match of the **2024 Indian Premier League (IPL)** between **Chennai Super Kings (CSK)** and **Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB)** at the **MA Chidambaram Stadium**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- In a historic move, the **Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG)** will host a **day-night Test match** between the **Australian and English women's cricket teams**. This will be the first time a **pink-ball Test** is played at the iconic venue. The **four-day match** is scheduled from **January 30 to February 2, 2025**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Haryana** clinched the **team titles** in both the boy's and girls categories with an impressive combined haul of **19 medals** at the **Boxing Sub Junior National Championship**. Haryana showcased its dominance by finishing on top in both categories. The tournament witnessed the participation of **612 boxers**, including **337 boys and 275 girls**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH)** team created history by posting a mammoth **277/3** against the **Mumbai Indians (MI)** in their **Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024** match in Hyderabad. This score surpassed the previous **highest total in the IPL** of 263 runs, set by the **Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB)** against Pune Warriors India in 2013. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- Indian paddler **Sreeja Akula** clinched the **women's singles title** at the **WTT Feeder Beirut II 2024** in Beirut, Lebanon. The **world no. 47** Indian came from behind to secure a **6-11, 12-10, 11-5, 11-9** victory over the lower-ranked **Sarah D Nutte** of Luxembourg in the final. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- Veteran Kenyan allrounder **Collins Obuya** has announced his **retirement from cricket** following Kenya's defeat to Uganda in the **third-place play-off match** at the **African Games**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has appointed former Indian men's hockey team captain and goalkeeper **PR Sreejesh** and Chile's **Camila Caram** as **co-chairs of the FIH Athletes Committee**. This announcement was made by the FIH on March 27, 2024. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **IIT Madras** is set to host the prestigious '**6th Shastra Rapid FIDE Rated Chess Tournament**' on March 30 and 31, 2024. The tournament, sanctioned by the **International Chess Federation (FIDE)**, will draw the participation of esteemed players from across the globe, including Grandmasters, International Masters, and Women Grandmasters. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Sharfuddoula** has created history by becoming the first **Bangladeshi umpire** to be appointed to the **ICC Elite Panel of Umpires**. His appointment was confirmed following the **International Cricket Council's** annual review and selection process. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Schemes and Committees News

- In response to the urgent need to protect the endangered **Great Indian Bustard (GIB)** population from extinction caused by collisions with high-powered power cables in **Gujarat and Rajasthan**, the Supreme Court of India has taken decisive action. A bench led by **Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, JB Pardiwala, and Manoj Misra** has appointed an expert committee to address this critical issue while balancing conservation efforts with renewable energy goals. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

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Science and Technology News

- The **Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati (IIT-G)** has transferred a **first-of-its-kind vaccine technology** to **BioMed Pvt. Ltd.**, a company specializing in vaccine manufacturing. This revolutionary technology involves a **recombinant vector vaccine** specifically designed to combat the **classical swine fever virus** in **pigs** and **wild boars**. It fills a significant gap in India's vaccine landscape. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will conduct the **Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START) 2024** program during **April and May**. ISRO is inviting **Expression of Interest (EOI)** from educational institutes, universities, and colleges within India offering **UG and PG courses in physical sciences and technology** to host START-2024. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Important Days News

- **World Theatre Day** is a special day celebrated every year on **March 27** to honour the art of **theatre**. It celebrates the **importance** of theatre and its role in the **entertainment industry**. This day is a reminder for everyone to recognize the **value** of theatre. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- This year, **World Piano Day 2024** has celebrated on **Thursday, March 28th, 2024**. Marking the 88th day of the year, this date symbolizes the **88 keys on a standard piano keyboard**, a fitting tribute to the instrument's unique characteristics. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- On **March 29th, 2024**, Christians around the globe will solemnly observe **Good Friday 2024**, a pivotal day in the Christian calendar. Good Friday, also known as **Holy Friday** or **Great Friday**, commemorates the **crucifixion of Jesus Christ**, believed by Christians to be the Son of God, and his ultimate sacrifice for the redemption of humanity's sins. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- On **December 14, 2022**, the **United Nations General Assembly** passed a resolution to have an **International Day of Zero Waste** celebrated every year on **March 30th**. This day aims to raise awareness about reducing **waste** and promoting **zero-waste initiatives** to achieve **sustainable development**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Obituaries News

- **Lakshmi Narayanan Seshu**, a beloved figure in the Tamil entertainment industry, breathed his last on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at a private hospital in Chennai. The versatile actor, affectionately known as **Lollu Sabha Seshu**, was 60 years old at the time of his unfortunate demise. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Louis Gossett Jr.**, the first **Black man** to win the **Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor**, has sadly passed away at the age of 87. His cousin, Neal L Gossett, confirmed his demise on **March 29**, stating that he died at a rehabilitation center in **Santa Monica, California**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

- **Daniel Kahneman**, a psychologist who never studied economics but pioneered the field of **behavioural economics**, has passed away at the age of 90. Despite not having formal training in economics, Kahneman's groundbreaking work exploring the **psychology of decision-making** earned him the **Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences** in 2002. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- The **Chipko Movement** originated in the **Uttarakhand** region of the Himalayas in early 1973. The name "Chipko" means "to hug" in Hindi, referring to the practice of **embracing trees** to protect them from being cut down. The Chipko movement, which began in Uttarakhand, a state in the Himalayas, in early 1973, marks its 50th anniversary. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- A **900-year-old Kannada inscription** dating back to the **Kalyana Chalukya dynasty** has been discovered in a state of utter neglect at **Gangapuram**, a temple town in **Jadcherla mandal, Mahabubnagar district**. The rare inscription was found lying uncared for on a tank bund near the **Chowdamma temple**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- The world's first-ever temple designed in the iconic **Om shape** has been inaugurated in the village of Jadan, **Pali district of Rajasthan**. This architectural masterpiece, spanning across **250 acres**, is not only expected to attract tourists but will also boast an impressive visual presence visible from space. ([Read the Complete Article](#))
- **Allu Arjun**, the popular **Telugu actor**, has achieved a new milestone in his career. He has been honoured with a **wax statue** at the renowned **Madame Tussauds Museum** in **Dubai**. ([Read the Complete Article](#))

Static Takeaways

- Bhutan Capital: Thimphu;
- Bhutan King: Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck;
- Bhutan Currencies: Bhutanese Ngultrum, Indian Rupee;
- Bhutan Official language: Dzongkha.
- Amul Founders: Verghese Kurien, Tribhuvandas Kishibhai Patel;
- Amul Headquarters: Anand;
- Amul Founded: 14 December 1946;
- Chairman of Amul: Shamalbhai B Patel.
- ISRO Founder: Vikram Sarabhai;
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- ISRO Founded: 15 August 1969;
- ISRO Chairman: Sreedhara Somanath.
- International Astronomical Union President: Debra Elmegreen;

- International Astronomical Union Headquarters: Paris, France;
- International Astronomical Union Founded: 28 July 1919;
- International Astronomical Union General Secretary: Piero Benvenuti.
- Archaeological Survey of India Director General: Yadubir Singh Rawat;
- Archaeological Survey of India Headquarters: New Delhi, India;
- Archaeological Survey of India Established: 1861.
- Saudi Arabia Capital: Riyadh
- Saudi Arabia King: Salman of Saudi Arabia
- Saudi Arabia Currency: Saudi Riyal
- Senegal Capital: Dakar
- Senegal President: Macky Sall
- Senegal Currency: West African CFA franc
- Senegal Official language: French

