JULY – 2023

FIRST IN NEWS

1. **Jammu and Kashmir** has launched **India's 1st Tele-MANAS chatbot** to ensure the availability of health counsellors, clinical psychologists and consultants round-the-clock.

2. India's *1st* indigenously developed *700MW* nuclear power reactor starts commercial operations at the *Kakrapar Atomic Power Project.*

3. *ONGC* has become the 1st *Central Public Sector Enterprise* in India to get certified for *Anti-Bribery Management System* (ABMS).

4. *HDFC Bank* has announced the launch of *UPI QR code* interoperable with India's sovereign digital currency, *CBDC* and it is the 1st bank to do so.

5. India's 1st regional **AI news anchor *Lisa*** has been introduced by *Odisha* TV, an Odia-based news station.

6. India's 1st *Cannabis Medicine Project* is set to be launched in *Jammu* by *CSIR-IIIM*.

7. India's 1st *Atal Incubation Centre* in the field of *fisheries* is set to come up at *Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies*.

8. *Indira Gandhi International Airport* has become the 1st airport in the country to have *4 operational runways*.

9. The *Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying* has launched the 1st ever *Credit Guarantee Scheme for Livestock Sector*.

POLITY

1. *Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs* launched the field assessment for the *8th edition* of world's largest urban swachhata survey, *Swachh Survekshan 2023*.

2. **Ministry of Panchayati Raj** has launched **Action Taken Report (ATR) Module of AuditOnline** for holistic audit of all panchayat accounts.

3. Ministry of Home Affairs has launched 'Scheme for *Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services* in the state'

4. ***IIT Madras*** and ***Ministry of Education*** have signed **MoU** with **Ministry of Education and Vocational Training** of **Zanzibar (*Tanzania*)** to establish a campus of **IIT Madras** in **Zanzibar.**

5. ***Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation*** has replaced the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES) with ***Standing Committee on Statistics*** (SCoS).

ECONOMY

1. ***National Housing Bank*** has operationalised the ₹***10,000-crore Urban Infrastructure Development Fund*** (UIDF) for the creation of urban infrastructure in ***tier-2*** and ***tier-3.***

2. ***Numaligarh Refinery Limited*** (NRL, Assam) has been upgraded from Schedule B to ***Schedule A*** CPSE by the Government of India.

3. ***Propelld (Education Financing Startup*)** has received **NBFC licence** from RBI.

4. RBI has **cancelled** the licence of 2 cooperative banks (***Sri Sharada Mahila Co-operative Bank***, Karnataka & ***Harihareshwar Sahakari Bank***, Maharashtra) due to inadequate capital and earning prospects.

5. RBI has **cancelled** licence of ***United India Co-operative Bank*** in ***Uttar Pradesh*** on account of inadequate capital and earning prospects.

6. ***HDFC Ban***k becomes world's ***7ᵗʰ largest bank*** as it crosses ***$100 billion***

7. ***ONDC*** and National Stock Exchange Academy Ltd has launched the ***ONDC Academy*** to provide information to sellers and network participants about simple ways to conduct ***e-commerce business***.

8. According to ***SBI Ecowrap***, India will become world's ***3ʳᵈ largest economy*** by ***FY28.***

9. ***National Health Authority*** has launched ***100 microsites*** project under ***Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission***.

ENVIRONMENT

1. ***Ministry of Power*** has proposed the '***Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023***' to create India's ***1st domestic regulated carbon market***.

2. ***Andhra Pradesh*** has released ***Gambusia fish*** in state's water bodies to combat mosquito-borne diseases like ***malaria*** and ***dengue.***

> ### Gambusia fish
>
> - Native to the **Southeastern United States**
>
> - Can consume **100 to 300 mosquito larvae** per day
>
> - **IUCN** have declared **Gambusia** one of the **100 worst invasive alien species** in the world**.**

3. ***Department of Telecommunications*** and ***National Disaster Management Authority*** will conduct ***Cell Broadcast Alert System*** testing to enhance emergency communication during disasters.

4. U.N. Secretary-General ***Antonio Guterres*** warned that the era of global warming has ended and "***the era of global boiling has arrived***".

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. The ***Department of Telecommunications*** has launched ***Bharat 6G Alliance*** (B6GA), to spearhead the ***development of 6G technology*** in the country.

2. ***Virgin Galactic*** completes its ***1st commercial spaceflight*** mission ***'Galactic 01'***

3. ***International Astronomical Union*** has honoured ***Aswin Sekhar*** by naming a minor planet after him.

4. A rare infection called as ***Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis*** (PAM), caused by ***Naegleria fowleri*** has been reported in ***Kerala.***

Key facts on Naegleria fowleri

- **Brain-eating Amoeba**

- **Found in warm freshwater environments**

- **Does not spread from person to person**

- **Enters the body through the nose and can cause severe brain infection.**

5. *IIT Guwahati* has developed a *Deep Learning* (DL)-based framework called *OsteoHRNet* which can evaluate the severity of *Knee Osteoarthritis* (OA) by analysing X-ray images.

6. *Punjab Agricultural University* has found a new variety of *wheat PBW-RS1* with *high amylose starch* content.

7. *IIT Kanpur* has developed India's *1st 100% Dimethyl Ether* (DME) -fuelled tractor/ vehicle for on- and off-road applications.

8. *China* has successfully launched world's *1st methane-powered rocket*.

9. **FAO, UNEP, WHO** and **WAOH** have announced the launch of '*One Health Priority Research Agenda'* on *Antimicrobial Resistance* (AMR)

10. *National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Mission* was launched in *Madhya Pradesh* to eliminate sickle cell disease as a public health problem in India before *2047*.

11. *CERT-In* has warned of a new ransomware called '*Akira'*, which can get into the computer and lock the files by encryption.

12. *SpaceX* has launched the *world's largest private commercial communications* satellite – *Hughes Jupiter 3* (*EcoStar XXIV*) using the Falcon Heavy launch vehicle.

13. *ISRO* and *BARC* join hands to develop *nuclear powered engines* for rockets called *Radio thermoelectric generators.*

NATIONAL NEWS

1. *UNSG* has removed India from a list of countries mentioned in a report on *children and armed conflict*.

2. *India* and *Japan* have signed Memorandum of Cooperation for the development of the *Integrated Mast United Combined Radio Antenna (NORA-50)*.

3. *Kerala* has got India's 1st *Construction Innovation Hub* (CIH) that seeks to promote affordable and sustainable building facilities.

4. Odisha's *Naveen Patnaik* became the 2nd -longest-serving chief minister in the country, replacing *West Bengal's Jyoti Basu*.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. *NADA India* signed MoU with *SARADO* at the *NADA India – SARADO Cooperation Meet* in New Delhi.

2. *India* has joined the *Champions Group* of the *Global Crisis Response Group* (GCRG).

Groups/Organisation	Members
South Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organization (SARADO)	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka
Champions Group	Heads of state or government from Bangladesh, Barbados, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia, and Senegal

3. *UK* has formally signed the *Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership* (CPTPP) trade bloc.

4. *World Humanitarian Drive* which promotes international education and trade, has been granted *special consultative status* by United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

TAMILNADU NEWS

1. For the 1st time in India, **Greater Chennai Police** established a '**Drone Police Unit'** to assist cops in **aerial surveillance**.

2. Tamil Nadu Police has launched an initiative '**Pengal Pathukappu Thittam**' to ensure women's protection.

3. Tamil Nadu government has issued the operational guidelines for '**Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai**' scheme

4. Tamil Nadu government has signed an MOU with Royal Botanic Garden, London for setting up a **botanical garden** in **Chengalpattu** near Chennai.

5. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **M.K. Stalin** inaugurated the state-of-the-art **Kalaignar Centenary Library** in **Madurai**

6. Honble Chief Minister **Stalin** was conferred with **Man of the Year - Asian Chess Excellence Awards 2023** for successful hosting of the **FIDE Chess Olympiad**

7. **Authoor betel leaves** from **Thoothukudi** got **Geographical Indication Tag**

CULTURE

Festival	State
Hemis Teschu Festival	**Ladakh** (Hemis Buddhist monastery)
Chachin Grazing Festival	Arunachal Pradesh

1. The **125th** Birth Anniversary of **Alluri Sitarama Raju** (A freedom fighter from **Andhra Pradesh**) was celebrated.

2. **Ministry of Culture** and the **Indian Navy** have signed an MoU to revive the **ancient stitched shipbuilding** method (**Tankai method**)

3. India has contributed **USD 1,000,000** to the **United Nations** as part of the initiative to promote the **usage of the Hindi language** at the global organisation

4. **Bengaluru** has become the 1st Indian city to join **World Cities Culture Forum**.

AWARDS/PRIZE

Award	Awarded by	Awarded to	Known for
Global Indian Icon of the Year award	At the Annual 5th UK-India Awards in England	**Mary Kom**	-
Elephant Family environmental award	King Charles III and Queen Camilla	**Kartiki Gonsalves**	Oscar-winning documentary **'The Elephant Whisperers'** and the **Real Elephant Collective** (TREC) of 70 Adivasi artists.
PEN Pinter Prize 2023	English PEN	**Michael Rosen**	A renowned poet and writer
Philippe Chatrier Award (highest honour of ITF)	International Tennis Federation	**Justine Henin**	Belgian tennis player
Rising Star Award	Ministry of Commerce (Awards for excellence in procurement through the GeM portal)	**Coal India Limited**	-
Best Engagement category		**Ministry of Coal**	-
Timely Payments category		**NLC India Limited**	-

SKOCH Award under State of Governance India 2047		Gold category - Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission	**For outstanding efforts in creating marketing avenues for Self-Help Groups**
Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour	**France's highest civilian and military honour**	PM Narendra Modi	
International Eni Award	Italian energy company Eni	**Pradeep**	From **IIT-M** For his work on sustainable and affordable **nanoscale material** for removing **toxic contaminants from water**
Chevalier award	**French government**	Carnatic vocalist **Aruna Sairam** and flautist **Shashank Subramanyam**	
British Prime Minister's Points of Light award		**Moksha Roy** (7 Year old)	For her outstanding efforts in helping the **environment**
National Geoscience Awards 2022	**Ministry of Mines**		22 Geoscientists have received
Asia Pacific Cultural heritage award	**UNESCO**	**Byculla** (Central Mumbai)	India's **oldest Railway station** (**169 years**)

PERSONS IN NEWS

Person	Why in news?
Tushar Mehta	Reappointed as the Solicitor General of India
Justice Sheo Kumar Singh	Appointed as the Acting chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)
K Rajaraman	Appointed as the Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)
B Neeraja Prabhakar	Appointed as the chairperson of the Oil Palm Research Advisory Committee for the ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (IIOPR)
B R Sharma	Appointed as the J&K State Election Commissioner
Harsh Chouhan	Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
Dr Thani Al Zeyoudi (UAE Minister)	Chair of WTO's 13th Ministerial Conference
Jim Skea (United Kingdom)	Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
Ruchira Kamboj	Chairman of the 62nd Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD62)
Nisha Biswal	Deputy CEO of the United States International Development Finance Corporation.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Day	Date	Theme
GST Day (6th edition)	July 1	Theme: **'Celebrating Simplification and Economic Growth'**
National Chartered Accountant Day (75th Edition)	July 1	
National Doctor's Day	July 1	Theme: **"Celebrating Resilience and Healing Hands"**
World Sports Journalist Day	July 2	–
International Plastic Bag Free Day	July 3	–
World Zoonoses Day	July 6	Theme: **"One World, One Health: Prevent Zoonoses!"**
National Fish Farmer's Day	July 10	–
World Population Day	July 11	Theme: **"Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities"**
International Malala Day	July 12	–
Education Development Day	July 15	Birth anniversary of **K.Kamarajar**
International Day of Justice	July 17	Theme: **"Overcoming Barriers and Unleashing Opportunities for Social Justice"**

Nelson Mandela International Day	July 18	Theme: **"The Legacy Lives on Through You: Climate, Food, and Solidarity**"
World Chess Day	July 20	–
World Brain Day	July 22	Theme: **"Brain Health and Disability: Leave No One Behind"**
National Flag Adoption Day	July 22	–
National Mango Day	July 24	–
Income Tax Day (164th)	July 24	–
International Day for conservation of Mangrove Ecosystem	July 26	–
Kargil Vijay Diwas	July 26	–
World Hepatitis Day	July 28	Theme: **One life, one liver**
World Nature Conservation Day	July 28	Theme: **"Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet"**
International Tiger Day	July 29	–

DEFENCE IN NEWS

Exercise	Parties involved	Exercise type
'Exercise Tarang Shakti'		Indian Air Force
7th edition of the SALVEX (Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal) exercise	India - US	Navy
JIMEX	Japan-India	Navy
NOMADIC ELEPHANT-23	*India - Mongolia*	Military

1. **Operation Broader Sword** is an operation launched by **India** and **US targeting illicit pharmaceuticals, devices, or precursor chemicals** shipped using the international mail system.

2. **INS Sunayna** (Indian naval ship) visited **Seychelles** as part of the multinational maritime security exercise known as **Op Southern Readiness 2023**

3. **Indian Army** has launched Tri-Services '**Nari Sashaktikaran Women Motorcycle**' from **New Delhi** to **Dras** to commemorate 24th Kargil Vijay Diwas.

4. India gifted the corvette **INS Kirpan** to **Vietnam** to enhance that country's naval capabilities

INDICES

Report	Released by	Note
Panchayat Development Index	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	Pilot project was carried out in 4 districts of *Maharashtra*
Electronics exports in FY23	Ministry of Commerce & Industry	*Tamil Nadu* has topped
Energy Transition Index 2023	World Economic Forum	*India – 67th*
Global Peace Index 2023 (17th edition)	Institute for Economics and Peace (HQ – Sydney)	*India* -126th spot
Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000-2022	WHO and UNICEF	-
Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D)	Ministry of Education	It comprises total weight age *of 600 points* across *83 indicators*
Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation (5th edition)	UNESCAP	-
World Investment Report 2023	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.	*India* and *ASEAN* were the most resilient destinations, with *FDI* increases of *10%* and *5%,* respectively
National Multidimensional Poverty Index (2nd Edition)	*NITI Aayog*	India's population living in multidimensional poverty decreased to *14.96%* in 2019-21.

India Energy Security Scenarios (IESS) 2047	NITI Aayog	For managing Climate Change and exploring Net Zero Pathways

SUMMITS

Summit Name	Hosted in	Purpose of Summit
Startup20 Shikhar summit	**Gurugram** (Startup20 Engagement Group)	-
International Conference on Green Hydrogen	New Delhi	It aims to establish a **Green Hydrogen ecosystem**
UNSC'S first-ever meeting on the threats of Artificial Intelligence (AI)	**United Kingdom**	-
AI for Good Global Summit	**Geneva**	It aimed at accelerating the world's achievement of the **2030 targets** of the SDG
ASEAN Countries Conference on Traditional Medicines	**India**	-
Global Food Regulators Summit 2023	**New Delhi**	Aligns with G20 summit.
11th meeting of the Executive Board of the Association of World Election Bodies	**Cartagena**, Colombia	Attended by Chief Election Commissioner Shri **Rajiv Kumar**

5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit	Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh)	By Ministry of Civil Aviation
BRICS Urbanisation Forum's meeting	Durban (South Africa)	Theme: **"Advancing urban resilience for sustainable cities and towns for future generations"**
14th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM14) and 8th Mission Innovation (MI8)	Goa	Theme: **"Advancing Clean Energy Together"**
3rd edition Summit on 'Global Chemicals & Petrochemicals Manufacturing Hubs in India'	New Delhi	-
2nd Edition of Global Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Conclave	Dubai	-

PORTAL IN NEWS

Portal	Purpose	Launched by
eSARAS (e-commerce mobile app)	For strengthening **marketing support** for products made by **women of Self-Help Groups**	Ministry of Rural Development
Coop-Bazaar	Minister for Cooperation of Tamil Nadu	

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Book Name	Author Name	Note
Through The Broken Glass: An Autobiography	T N. Seshan	The former **Chief Election Commissioner** of India
Dr APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die	Dr. Nazema Maraikayar & Dr. Y.S. Rajan	Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** has released in **Rameshwaram**
Periyaru Anai Uruvagiya Varalaru	A.Vennila	Called on by Honourable CM of Tamil Nadu.

SPORTS IN NEWS

1. Australia's **Victoria** state has announced to **not host the Commonwealth games 2026** due to rising expenditures.

2. Ministry of Sports accords recognition to **Handball Association of India** (HAI) as the official body to run the game in the country.

3. **Aditya Samant** became India's **83rd chess Grandmaster**

4. Indian triple-jumper **Selva Prabhu Thirumaran** became the 1st Indian ever to be named "**Best Asian Under-20 Male Athlete of the Year**" by Asian Athletics Association (AAA).

EVENT/CUPS	SPORTS	CATEGORY	WON BY
Lausanne Diamond League 2023	Athlete	Gold	**Neeraj Chopra**
Austrian Grand Prix 2023 (Formula One)	–	–	**Max Verstappen (Dutch-Belgian)**
Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023 at Busan, South Korea	Kabaddi	–	**India** beats **Iran**
Asian Squash Mixed Doubles Championships in Huangzhou, China.	Squash	Gold	*Dipika Pallikal Karthik* and *Harinderpal Singh Sandhu*
132ⁿᵈ edition of Durand Cup,	Football	–	–
FIH Men's Hockey Pro League 2022-23 (4ᵗʰ edition)	Hockey	–	**Netherlands** beats **Belgium**
17ᵗʰ edition of World Archery Youth Championships, Ireland	–	–	**India won 11 medals**
British Grand Prix (F1 race)	–		**Max Verstappen**
ISSF Shotgun World Cup in *Lonato*	–	*Bronze*	**Prithviraj Tondaiman** (He is the **only Indian** to ever get a medal at this event)

Asian Surfing Championship in Maldives	–	*Bronze*	**Indian Surf Team**
V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM chess tournament 2023 in Hungary	–	–	*R Praggnanandhaa*
World Archery Para Championships in **Czech Republic**	–	–	**Sarita and Rakesh Kumar**

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