

Weekly One Liners 06th to 12th June 2022

RBI announces results of 1st Global Hackathon “HARBINGER 2021”

The Reserve Bank of India had launched its first global hackathon – “HARBINGER 2021 – Innovation for Transformation” with the theme ‘Smarter Digital Payments’ which was communicated. The hackathon received encouraging response with 363 proposals submitted by teams from within India and from 22 other countries including the USA, UK, Sweden, Singapore, Philippines, and Israel. The Hackathon ran in three phases with shortlisting of proposals in the first phase, solution development in the second phase followed by the final evaluation in the third phase.

The third phase of final evaluation was held on May 26-27, 2022 in Bengaluru wherein 24 finalist teams presented their solutions for the problem statements to the jury of external experts who evaluated and selected the winners and runners-up based on parameters like innovation, technology, demonstration, user experience, security, ease of implementation.

The results of the Hackathon are as follows:

S. No	Problem Statement	Results
1	Innovative, easy-touse, non-mobile digital payment solutions for converting small-ticket cash transactions to digital mode.	Tone Tag (Brand of Naffa Innovations Pvt. Ltd.) (INDIA)
2	Alternate authentication mechanism for digital payments	napID Cybersec Pvt. Ltd.(INDIA)
3	Context based retail payments to remove the physical act of payment	Tone Tag (Brand of Naffa Innovations Pvt. Ltd.) (INDIA)
4	Social Media Analysis and Monitoring tool for detection of digital payment fraud and disruption	TrustCheckr (INDIA)

Additional Info:

These innovative products are expected to bring additional benefits in the payments ecosystem viz. inclusion of the underprivileged through non-mobile payment solutions and prevention of digital payment frauds through smart-secure alternate authentication methods as well as timely analysis of social media posts.

RBI Monetary Policy: RBI raises repo rate by 50 bps to 4.90%

The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) led by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das voted unanimously to raise repo rate by 50 basis points to 4.90 percent. The Monetary Policy Committee has raised the repo rate in order to tackle elevated inflation. Standing Deposit Facility and Marginal Standing Facility rates also raised by 50 basis points. Standing Deposit Facility rate now 4.65 percent, and Marginal Standing Facility rate now 5.15 percent.

Consequently, the various rates are as under:

- Policy Repo Rate: 4.90%
- Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 4.65%
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 5.15%
- Bank Rate: 5.15%
- Fixed Reverse Repo Rate: 3.35%
- CRR: 4.50%
- SLR: 18.00%

All members of the Monetary Policy Committee:

- Dr. Shashanka Bhide,
- Dr. Ashima Goyal,
- Prof. Jayanth R. Varma,
- Dr. Rajiv Ranjan,
- Dr. Michael Debabrata Patra and
- Shri Shaktikanta Das

Key points:

- E-mandate on cards for recurring payments, limit upped from Rs 5,000 to Rs 15,000.
- RBI allows linking of credit cards to UPI platform.
- Limits on individual home loans given by urban and rural co-operative banks are being revised upwards more than 100 percent taking into account the rise in housing prices over the last decade.
- Rural co-operative banks can now extend finance to commercial real estate, or loans for residential housing projects, within the limit of 5% of their total assets.
- Urban cooperative banks will now begin doorstep banking services to customers.
- India’s exports have performed exceptionally well. As on June 3, 2022, India’s forex reserves stood at \$601.1 bn.

RBI revises inflation projection:

- RBI revises inflation projection for **FY23 to 6.7 % from 5.7% earlier**
- For April-June 2022 revised to 7.5% from 6.3%
- For July-September 2022 revised to 7.4% from 5.8%
- For October-December 2022 revised to 6.2% from 5.4%
- For January-March 2023 revised to 5.8% from 5.1%

Real GDP forecast:

- **Real GDP forecast for FY23 retained at 7.2%**
- Q1 (April-June) 2022 GDP growth forecast at 16.2%
- Q2 (July-September) 2022 GDP growth forecast at 6.2%
- Q3 (October-December) 2022 GDP growth forecast at 4.1%
- Q4 (January-March '23) GDP growth forecast at 4.0%

IIFA awards 2022: Announced Check the complete list of winners

The International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) held in **Abu Dhabi**. This year the IIFA 2022 Awards was hosted by **Salman Khan, Maniesh Paul and Riteish Deshmukh**. Sidharth Malhotra's Shershaah dominated the awards this year, with the film winning in as many as five categories. Sardar Udham, Mimi and Ludo won in two categories each.

List of the winners of IIFA 2022:

- **Best Actor (Male):** Vicky Kaushal (Sardar Udham)
- **Best Actor (Female):** Kriti Sanon (Mimi)
- **Best Director:** Vishnuvaradhan (Shershaah)
- **Best Film:** Shershaah
- **Best Playback Singer Female:** Asees Kaur for 'Raataan Lambiyan', (Shershaah)
- **Best Playback Singer Male:** Jubin Nautiyal for song 'Raataan Lambiyan', (Shershaah)
- **Best Lyrics:** Kausar Munir for 'Lehra Do', 83
- **Best Music Direction:** A R Rahman for Atrangi Re and Jasleen Royal, Javed-Mohsin, Vikram Montrose, B Praak, Jaani for Shershaah
- **Best Male Debut:** Ahan Shetty (Tadap)
- **Best Female Debut:** Sharvari Wagh (Bunty Aur Babli 2)
- **Best Story Adapted:** Kabir Khan, Sanjay Puran Singh Chauhan for 83
- **Best Original Story:** Ludo by Anurag Basu
- **Best Supporting Actor Female:** Sai Tamhankar (Mimi)
- **Best Supporting Actor Male:** Pankaj Tripathi (Ludo)

QS World University Rankings 2023 released

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), London-based global higher education has released the **19th** edition of the world's most consulted international university ranking. **The QS World University Rankings 2023** ranks the top 900 universities based on 8 key ranking indicators. This is the largest ever ranking with 1,418 institutions across one hundred locations up from 1300 in the previous year.

Key points:

- The ranking was topped by the United States(US)'s **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** followed by the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom(UK) and Stanford University(US).
- **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru**, Karnataka, ranked 155 gaining 31 places since 2022 ranking and emerged as the fastest rising South Asian university among the top 200 universities.
- 41 Indian varsities have been found place in the rankings. Among QS World University Rankings top 200 varsities, The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru (155th) topped among Indian universities, followed by IIT Bombay (172nd) and IIT Delhi (174th).

QS World University Rankings 2023: Globally

Rank	University	Overall Score
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Cambridge, United States	100
2	University of Cambridge Cambridge, United Kingdom	98.8
3	Stanford University Stanford, United States	98.5

QS World University Rankings 2023: List of top universities in India:

National rank	Name of university	Global rank/bracket
1	IISc Bangalore	155
2	IIT Bombay	172
3	IIT Delhi	174
4	IIT Madras	250
5	IIT Kanpur	264
6	IIT Kharagpur	270
7	IIT Roorkee	369
8	IIT Guwahati	384
9	IIT Indore	396
10	University of Delhi	521-30

French Open Tennis Grand Slam 2022

The **2022 French Open** was a **Grand Slam tennis tournament** played on outdoor clay courts. It was held at the **Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France**, from 22 May to 5 June 2022, comprising singles, doubles and mixed doubles play. **Iga Świątek** won the women's singles event, capturing her second French Open crown, and **Rafael Nadal** won the men's singles event, capturing his record-extending 14th French Open title.

In Grand Slam there are 5 categories

- Men's Singles
- Women's singles
- Men's Doubles
- Women's doubles
- Mixed doubles

List of Winners French Open 2022:

Title	Winner	Runner up
Men's Singles	Rafael Nadal (Spain)	Casper Ruud (Norwegian)
Women's Singles	Iga Świątek (Poland)	Coco Gauff (US)
Men's doubles	Marcelo Arévalo (El Salvador), Jean-Julien Rojer (Netherlands)	Ivan Dodig (Croatian), Austin Krajicek (US)
Women's doubles	Caroline Garcia (French), Kristina Mladenovic (French)	Jessica Pegula (US), Coco Gauff (US)
Mixed doubles	Ena Shibahara (JAPAN), Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands)	Joran Vliegen (Belgium), Ulrikke Eikeri (Norway)

National Affairs

- **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)**, Chairman **Dr GR Chintala** has launched "**My Pad My Right programme**", in **Leh**. The programme launched by **Nabard's NabFoundation** with machinery and materials of a cost of Seven and half Lakh rupees.
- President **Ram Nath Kovind** has paid tributes to **Sant Kabir** and inaugurated **Sant Kabir Academy and Research Centre** and **Swadesh Darshan Yojana** at Kabir Chaura Dham, Maghar, Uttar Pradesh.
- At Raxaul in Bihar, the union minister for health and family welfare and Chemicals and Fertilizers Mr. Mansukh Mandaviya, inaugurated the **National Food Laboratory of FSSAI**. Under the bilateral agreement between **Indo-Nepal**, this laboratory was established to reduce the time of testing of food samples imported from Nepal to Raxaul.

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched a special series of coins that are also 'visually impaired friendly'. The coins of **Re 1, Rs 2, 5, 10 and 20 denominations** will have the **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) design**. They are not commemorative coins and will be part of circulation. These new series of coins will remind people of the goal of amrit kal and motivate people to work towards the development of the country.
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister, **Amit Shah** has inaugurated the newly built **National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI) in New Delhi**. This institute is to promote and preserve the tribal heritage and culture and the nerve centre of tribal research issues and matters in academic, executive and legislative fields. It is being established at a cost of **10 crore rupees**.
- **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** said that the era of incremental change is over and urged higher educational institutions to focus on exponential development in order to develop future-ready workers. India has demonstrated its technical capability in many programmes such as **UPI, Direct Benefit Transfer, and Aadhar**, and that we must build on this strength and create a future-ready workforce to accept the changes resulting from **Industrial Revolution 4.0**.
- **The 'Ayurveda Aahar' logo** was launched by Health Minister **Mansukh Mandaviya**, on the occasion of **World Food Safety Day**. As per FSSAI, the design of Ayurveda Aahar logo is such that it contains initial letters of words **Ayurveda and Aahar in English and Devanagari**. In this logo, Hindi letter Aa, and English letter 'A' have been merged in a way that they appear to be single form.
- Michigan, USA-based IT Services & IT Consulting company **Information Data Systems (IDS)** has unveiled the **Bharat Blockchain Network (BBN)** (Academic Blockchain Consortium) & Polyversity (Educational Metaverse). Union Minister **Dharmendra Pradhan**, Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India (GoI) launched the initiatives in the presence of officials from the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) at an event held at the AICTE Auditorium in New Delhi.
- The **Indian National Center for Space Promotion and Authorization (IN-SPACE)** was established in Ahmedabad by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi**. **Amit Shah**, the Union Home Minister, was also present at the ceremony. After inaugurating the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) in Ahmedabad, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** reviewed its headquarters.

States in the News

- **Tamil Nadu** Chief Minister **MK Stalin** flagged off the luxury cruise liner “**Empress**” from **Chennai port**. The eleven-storey tourist vessel can accommodate up to two thousand passengers and about 800 crew members.
- Rajasthan Chief Minister(CM) **Ashok Gehlot** has announced that the state government is set to introduce the **Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award** to the State’s sportspersons. He made the announcement while addressing the inauguration and player award ceremony at **Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur, Rajasthan**.
- Chief Minister **P.S. Goyal**, during the World Environment Day celebrations, declared **Blue Duke** as the **State Butterfly of Sikkim**. The announcement was made at **Saramsa Garden near Ranipool** during the event organized by the Forest department. Blue Duke, a native butterfly species of Sikkim, edged past another contender Krishna Peacock to be announced as the State Butterfly of Sikkim.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister **Jagan Mohan Reddy** launched the ‘**14400**’ app. This app has been developed by **Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB)**. This app is customized for the people to register corruption-related complaints against the officials in the state. This app also aims to ensure fool-proof evidence to present before the court. A complaint can be filed through a **toll-free number 14400**.
- **The Tamil Nadu government** recently launched **Naan Mudhalvan (I am the first)**. Under this programme, Tamil Nadu government has now launched **Nalaya Thiran (Tomorrow’s ability)**. In this programme, **50,000 college students** will train with the knowledge in computer science, electronics and IT domains, skilling them on problem solving using technologies. The Tamil Nadu government has created the Nalaya Thiran program to help the industry get skilled students.
- The chief minister (CM) of Goa, **Pramod Sawant** has launched a ‘**Beach Vigil App**’, a collaboration between **Information Technology (IT) sector and tourism sector** that aims to benefit tourists and the institutions working in the beach tourism sector in a holistic management of beaches.
- **Sital Sasthi** is a sacred Hindu festival is being celebrated in **Odisha**. This week-long special festival highlights the marriage of **Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati**. According to the Hindu calendar, Sital Sasthi is observed on the sixth day of the Jyestha month during the Shukla Paksha.
- **The Baikho festival** is celebrated in the state of **Assam**, which is called as gateway to northeast India. It is celebrated by **Rabha tribes of India**. The Baikho festival is celebrated annually. It is celebrated to bring in auspicious harvest season and to fill it with abundant crops and good health.

- **M.K. Stalin**, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, unveiled the logo and mascot for the **44th Chess Olympiad**, which will take place in **Mamallapuram** next month. Between July 28 and August 10, approximately 2,000 players from over 180 countries will compete in the international event. **Mr. Stalin** also unveiled a countdown clock for the Olympiad at the Greater Chennai Corporation’s headquarters, Ripon Buildings.
- **The Himachal Pradesh government** gave nod to a drone policy as it seeks to enable the use of drones and similar technology for different public services in the hill state. The ‘**Himachal Pradesh Drone Policy 2022**’ was approved by the chief minister **Jai Ram Thakur**. The policy envisions creating a holistic drone ecosystem built upon the foundation of **Governance and Reforms Using Drones (GARUD)**.
- **Andhra Pradesh** Chief Minister, **YS Jagan Mohan Reddy** has launched **YSR Yantra Seva Scheme** and flagged off the distribution of tractors and combine harvesters at Chuttugunta Centre in Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. Chief Minister YS Jagan Reddy flagged off the state-level mega distribution of tractors and combine harvesters under YSR Yantra Seva Pathakam in Guntur.

International Affairs

- **U.S.-led naval exercise in the Baltic Sea**, more than 7,000 sailors, airmen, and marines from 16 nations, including two aspiring NATO members, Finland and Sweden, began a nearly two-week. **BALTOPS**, an annual naval exercise that began in 1972, is not performed in response to any specific danger. The top US military officer stated in Sweden, the host of the BALTOPS 22 exercise, that it was especially vital for NATO to express support to the governments in Helsinki and Stockholm, ahead of the naval practice, which comprised 45 vessels and 75 aircraft.

- **Albania's parliament** has elected a top military official, General Major **Bajram Begaj** as its new president after no candidates were nominated in three rounds of voting. The outgoing President **Ilir Meta** signed the decree on Begaj's dismissal as Chief of General Staff of the AAF.
- **United Nations** has planned to provide humanitarian assistance of around **\$48 million** over a four-month period to **Sri Lanka**. New Delhi's financial assistance worth over **\$3 billion** since January to provide essential items, including food, fuel, cooking gas and medicines. Sri Lanka needs \$6 billion to keep the country afloat for the next six months, adding that \$5 billion is required to ensure day-to-day living and another \$1 billion to strengthen the Sri Lankan rupee.
- The **China Manned Space Agency** announced that three astronauts have been dispatched on a six-month mission to complete work on the country's permanent orbiting space station. The **Shenzhou-14** crew will stay aboard the **Tiangong** station for six months, overseeing the integration of two laboratory modules into the main Tianhe living room, which was launched in April 2021.
- **New York state legislature** is a world first, to pass the **law for Digital Electronics**. The "**right to repair**" bill enacted by the requiring digital electronics makers to make parts, tools, information, and software available to customers and independent repair businesses. After government pressure to safeguard customers' rights to repair and refurbish their purchased products, the "**Fair Repair Act**" was enacted.
- Members of the **European Parliament** have voted to ban the sale of **new petrol and diesel cars by 2035**. The move aims to step up the fight against climate change through the faster development of electric vehicles. The voting was held on an amendment that would have allowed some auto emissions from new vehicles after 2035, which was rejected by Members of Parliament.
- **China** has released a **new geological map of the moon**, which it says is the most detailed to date, registering even finer details of the **lunar surface** than mapped by the US in 2020. The new map, which has details of craters and structures not charted before, will assist in further research of the moon.
- **Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Switzerland** Elected to Serve as NonPermanent Members on **United Nations Security Council**.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Airtel Payments Bank** has partnered with **Muthoot Finance** to offer gold loans through **Airtel Thanks app**. There will be no-processing charge on the loan. Muthoot Finance will provide up to 75 per cent of the pledged gold value as a loan. The loan facility will also be available at the 5 lakh banking points for Airtel Payments Bank.
- **India and Canada** have signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen bilateral collaboration on **climate change, environmental preservation, and conservation**. On the sidelines of the Stockholm+50 summit, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and his Canadian colleague Steven Guilbeault signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

Books and Authors

- **India's leading sports and Management institute, the International Institute of Sports & Management (IISM)** in Mumbai, Maharashtra, launched India's first-ever book on Sports Marketing titled "**Business of Sports: The Winning Formula for Success**" authored by noted Sports author **Vinit Karnik**.
- Union Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Minister, **Dharmendra Pradhan** along with Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Sports **Anurag Thakur** released books '**Loktantra ke Swar**' and '**The Republican Ethic**, having selected speeches of the President of India Ram Nath Kovind. This is the fourth volume of the series featuring the fourth year of the presidency of Ram Nath Kovind. The compilation includes speeches on a wide range of subjects. E-books were also released on the occasion.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Stashfin** is a neo banking platform which introduces **#LiveBoundless** – a credit line card **especially for women**. This card aims at giving women greater financial freedom. It also offers cashback rewards, welcome credits, Free ATM Withdrawals and deals.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**, in light of the growing involvement of **non-banking financial companies (NBFCs)** in the financial system, has issued a set of standards for provisioning for standard assets by large NBFCs. The RBI published a framework for NBFC scale-based regulation in October of last year. NBFCs have a four-layer regulatory structure based on their size, activity, and perceived riskiness.

- The **Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF)** scheme had deployed more than 4.11 lakh **PoS, mobile PoS**, and other physical devices across the country as of April 30, 2022, according to the **RBI**. The scheme also had deployed 1,14,05,116 digital devices, including interoperable QR code-based payments such as **UPI QR** and **Bharat QR**.
- The **digital payment markets in India are expected to increase triple from the current three trillion dollars to ten trillion dollars in the coming four years, which is by 2026**. This was confirmed by the report issued by **PhonePe** after the collaboration with **Boston Consulting Group (BCG)**, the report was titled 'Digital Payments in India: A \$10 trillion opportunity. The **report highlights the growth of India's digital payments in the last five years**.
- According to **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** data, India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves increased by USD 3.854 billion to USD 601.363 billion, owing to a substantial growth in the country's foreign currency assets.
- **The World Bank** has slashed its growth forecast for India for the current financial year to **7.5 percent**, a hefty **1.2 percentage points down from its previous forecast of 8.7 percent**.
- **The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** has forecast India's GDP growth at **6.9 per cent for FY23**. This is 120 basis points lower than the **8.1 per cent** projection made in December. The lowest by a major bank or institution, saying the country had been adversely affected by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- The **Crypto Rupee Index** has been launched by **CoinSwitch (CRE8)**. According to the crypto exchange, it is India's first benchmark index for measuring the performance of the Indian Rupee-based crypto sector. **CRE8** monitors the performance of eight crypto assets that account for more than 85% of the entire market capitalization of crypto assets traded in Indian Rupee.
- **Fitch Ratings** upgraded **India's** outlook from **Negative** to **Stable**, noting diminishing downside risks to medium-term growth as a result of the country's strong economic recovery and the easing of financial sector problems. However, due to the impact of inflation on development momentum, the global rating firm has decreased its **GDP** growth prediction for 2022-23 from **8.5 percent** expected in March to **7.8 percent**.
- From FY19 through FY22, **Enhanced Access and Service Excellence-EASE** evolved over four year editions, catalysing improvements in a variety of areas in Public Sector Banks. The **EASNext** program's EASE 5.0 'Common reforms agenda' was designed for Public Sector Banks and was introduced by Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs **Nirmala Sitharaman** through video conference in New Delhi.
- Former Indian cricket team captain, **MS Dhoni** has invested an undisclosed sum in Chennai-based **Garuda Aerospace**, India's leading **drone-as-a-service (Daas) provider**. He will also be the face and **brand ambassador of the company**.
- **Bajaj Finance Limited**, the lending arm of **Bajaj Finserv Limited**, a global financial services conglomerate, has launched **Har Time EMI On Time**, a digital campaign to raise awareness about the importance and advantages of good financial habits for a secure financial future.
- **Suryoday Small Finance Bank**, one of India's premier small finance banks, has established a cooperation with **Mobisafar** to provide banking services across India through all of **Mobisafar's franchises** and Business Correspondent network. The cooperation aims to increase financial inclusion by providing vital banking services to underbanked customers digitally, even in the most distant corners of the country.
- **Whatsapp** launched **SMBSaathi Utsav initiative** which aims to support small businesses by helping them to adopt digital mediums like **Whatsapp Business App**. Utsav has started the initiative with a pilot in **Jaipur's Johri Bazaar and Bapu Bazaar** where over 500 small businesses are being trained. The initiative was launched in the collaboration with Josh Talks. The **SMBSaathi Utsav is the second phase of the SMBSaathi campaign**.
- **The Reserve Bank of India** has cancelled the licence of "**The Mudhol Co-operative Bank Limited, Bagalkot (Karnataka)**", thus restricting it from repayment of deposits and acceptance of fresh funds. The bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said while announcing the cancellation of licence.
- **ICICI Bank** has announced that it has partnered with digital EMI/pay-later platform **ZestMoney**, to expand its '**Cardless EMI**' facility for purchases on retail and e-commerce platforms. The partnership enhances affordability of customers of the Bank who can use pre-approved cardless credit to instantly buy products/ services using ZestMoney and take care of the cost into Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs).
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Appointments/Resignations

- The government has appointed **A Manimekhalai** as **managing director** of **Union Bank of India**. Canara Bank executive director Manimekhalai replaced **Rajkiran Rai G**, who retired on May 31 after a five-year stint. With her assuming the charge, Manimekhalai becomes the first woman managing director of Union Bank of India.
- The government has appointed **Swarup Kumar Saha** as head of **Punjab & Sind Bank**. Saha, who is the executive director of Punjab National Bank (PNB), replaced **S Krishnan**, who also superannuated on May 31.
- **The International Aluminium Institute (IAI)**, the only body representing the global primary aluminium industry, has announced the appointment of **Satish Pai** as its new Chair.
- **Alok Kumar Choudhary** has taken charge as the new **Managing Director (MD) of State Bank of India (SBI)**. His appointment comes in the wake of the superannuation of **Ashwani Bhatia** as Managing Director on May 31, 2022. Choudhary was previously Deputy Managing Director (Finance) at the bank. As the new MD, he will be handling retail business and operations.
- **Ramkrishna Mukkavilli** becomes the first Indian to be recognized by **United Nations Global Compact as Global SDG Pioneer**.
- **International Monetary Fund**, Managing Director **Kristalina Georgieva** has announced the appointment of Indian national **Krishna Srinivasan** as director of the **Asia and Pacific Department (APD)** from June 22.
- Music Maestro, **AR Rahman** has been appointed as ambassador of **The Season of Culture**, which marks the **75th anniversary of India's independence**. It was officially launched, by Britain's Deputy High Commissioner to India Jan Thomson and Director (India) of the British Council Barbara Wickham.

- **Mayank Kumar Agrawal**, director general of Doordarshan and Doordarshan News, has been assigned additional responsibility as Prasar Bharati's chief executive officer. Agrawal succeeds **Shashi Shekhar Vempati**, who served as CEO of the state broadcaster for five years.
- **N J Ojha** has been appointed as ombudsman for a two-year term under the **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme**. Ojha has the power to investigate allegations by MGNREGA staff, consider them, award awards within 30 days of receipt of the complaint.
- UN Secretary-General **Antonio Guterres** has appointed senior Indian diplomat **Amandeep Singh Gill** as his envoy on technology to coordinate programmes for **international digital cooperation**. The UN describing him as a "**thought leader on digital technology**" who has a solid understanding of how to leverage the digital transformation responsibly and inclusively for progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.

Defence News

- **India-Bangladesh bilateral defence cooperation**, a joint military training exercise **Ex SAMPRITI-X** is being conducted at Jashore Military Station in Bangladesh from 05 June to 16 June 2022. The aim of the exercise is to strengthen interoperability between the two armies and to understand each other's tactical drills and operational techniques.
- **India** has successfully executed a nuclear-capable **Agni-4 ballistic missile** from **APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha**. The missile has the range of around **4,000 kilometres**. Earlier, India successfully test-fired an extended range version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from a Sukhoi fighter jet.
- **Indian Army** participates in a multinational exercise "**Ex Khaan Quest 2022**" where 16 other countries also took part in **Mongolia**. President of Mongolia, Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh inaugurated the Exercise as the host. Indian Army is represented by a contingent from the LADAKH SCOUTS.
- **The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC)**, chaired by **Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh**, the procurement of military equipment and platform was approved. The equipment and platforms are worth Rs 76,390 crores from domestic industries. This decision was taken to emphasize the governmental program Aatmanirbhar Bharat Campaign, which implies India will depend less on foreign supplies and decrease spending on international trading.

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** authorized an increase in financing for MSMEs and startups under the Ministry of Defence's Technology Development Fund (TDF) plan. The initiative, which encourages the development of indigenous components, products, systems, and technologies, will now have a maximum project value of **Rs 50 crore, up from Rs 10 crore** previously.

Awards and Recognitions

- The Dutch documentary film "**Turn Your Body to the Sun**", which tells the incredible story of a Soviet Prisoner of War, has won the prestigious **Golden Conch award** for the **Best Documentary Film at MIFF 2022**.
- **Indian Railways** is observing **World Environment Day on 5th June, 2022** in an appropriate and befitting manner keeping in line with the theme of this year's World Environment Day. In a gala ceremony, on 1st June 2022, in Berlin, Indian Railways have been awarded by the **UIC International Sustainable Railway Awards (ISRA)** in the category of "**Best use of Zero-Carbon Technology**" for feeding Solar Energy directly to 25 KV AC Traction System.
- **The World Health Organisation** has awarded the **Resource Centre for Tobacco Control (e-RCTC)** of the Department of Community Medicine and School of Public Health at the **Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh** with the Regional Director Special Recognition Award. The Resource Centre for Tobacco Control provides information related to tobacco control in India, including circulars and orders, policies and legislations, multidisciplinary publications.

Summit and Conference

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has launched the '**Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE) Movement**', a global initiative, and asserted that its vision is to live a lifestyle that is in tune with our planet and does not harm it. The launch initiated '**LiFE Global Call for Papers**' inviting ideas and suggestions from academics, universities and research institutions etc to influence and persuade individuals, communities and organisations across the world to adopt an environment-conscious lifestyle.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** said that India is the land of **Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi**, who exemplified what it means to live for others. While electronically addressing the **Rotary International World Convention**, the Prime Minister made the comment. The Rotarians have been described as a true mix of people "'Every Rotary gathering of this scale is like a mini-global assembly."

- The Secretariat of the **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** in **Dhaka** celebrated the **25th Anniversary** of the regional organisation on **BIMSTEC Day**. The evolution of BIMSTEC over the last 25 years from the signing of the Bangkok Declaration on June 6 in 1996, and highlighted milestones such as the establishment of the Secretariat in Dhaka in 2014 and the signature of the BIMSTEC Charter during the Fifth Summit in Colombo on March 30, 2022.

Ranks and Reports

- **Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings 2022** was released by the **Times Higher Education (THE)**. The **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore** continued to be the best institute of the country. It ranked at **42nd place**. India was the third most-represented country, behind Japan and mainland China with 71 institutions. 17 Indian universities topped the list under top 200. (Click Here)
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman and Managing Director, **Mukesh Ambani** has regained the position of India as well as **Asia's richest man**, replacing **Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani**. Tesla CEO Elon Musk remains the world's richest person with a net fortune of \$227 billion.
- **TCS** has maintained its tenth place among the top worldwide **BPM (business process management)** suppliers in 2021, according to Everest Group. The ranking is based on a combination of revenue (TCS has more than \$3 billion in revenue) and revenue growth (14-16 percent over 2020). **ADP, Teleperformance, Accenture, Concentrix, and Sitel Group** were the top five BPM companies in terms of sales. The top five fastest-growing corporations year over year were **Tech Mahindra, Telus International, Majorel, Teleperformance, and Comdata**.
- In the 2022 **Environment Performance Index (EPI)**, an analysis by **Yale and Columbia University** researchers that gives a data-driven evaluation of the situation of sustainability around the world, **India** came in last out of 180 countries. Climate change, environmental public health, and biodiversity are among the 40 performance factors used by the EPI to rank 180 nations.
- **On the occasion of World Food Safety Day**, Union Health Minister **Mansukh Mandaviya** released the **4th State Food Safety Index**. The **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** compiled the report to assess states' performance across five food safety categories. (Click Here)

- Recently, **Forbes Real Time Billionaires List** was declared. It featured the list of the richest person around the world. The chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries Ltd, Mukesh Ambani and the chairperson of Adani Group, Gautam Adani are also in the list of top 10 richest persons in the world. In the “Bloomberg Billionaires Index”, Mukesh Ambani is in eighth spot, and Gautam Adani is in ninth position. **Elon Musk** topped both the lists.
- According to the **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**, India jumped one position to **7th** among the top recipients of **foreign direct investment (FDI)** in the last calendar year (2021) despite FDI inflows into the country declining. While the **United States** (\$367 billion) remained the top recipient of FDI, **China** (\$181 billion) and **Hong Kong** (\$141 billion) also retained second and third position, respectively. Among the top 10 host economies for FDI, only India saw a decline in its FDI inflows.

Sports News

- **Sakshi Malik**, Rio Olympics Bronze medallist won her **first international gold medal** at the **Bolat Turlykhanov Cup** in almost five years. She showed a very impressive performance this year in Bolat Turlykhanov Cup.
- **The Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia launched the National Air Sport policy 2022 (NASP 2022)**. The vision of NASP 2022 is to make **India one of the top sports nations by 2023**. The policy ensures to provide safe, affordable, accessible, enjoyable, and sustainable air sports in India.
- **India beat Poland 6-4** in final to clinch the inaugural **FIH Hockey 5s championship** in **Lausanne in Switzerland**.
- Indian women’s cricket team captain, **Mithali Raj** (39 years old), hailing from Jodhpur, Rajasthan, announced her **retirement from all forms of International cricket**. Previously in September 2019, she retired from twenty 20 International (T20Is) but continued to play One Day Internationals(ODIs) and Test cricket.
- Indian cricket star **Virat Kohli** has crossed the **200 million followers mark** on the social media site **Instagram**. With this, he became the first Indian to have 200 million followers on Instagram. Kohli is also the third most followed sportsperson on Instagram. Portugal football star **Cristiano Ronaldo** tops the chart with 451 million followers, ahead of Argentina football captain and FC Barcelona legend **Lionel Messi** with 334 million followers.

- **Avani Lekhara**, the **Tokyo Paralympics winner**, won gold in the **Para Shooting World Cup** in **Chateauroux, France**, with a world record score of 250.6 in the women’s 10m air rifle standing SH1.

Schemes and Commitment News

- **SEBI**, the market regulator, has revamped its mutual fund advisory committee. According to the latest update with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), the 25-member advisory council will be chaired by **Usha Thorat**, a former Deputy Governor of the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. Previously, the panel consisted of 24 people.
- **Har Ghar Dastak 2.0 is relaunched by the government of India** to facilitate the vaccination process in all the states of India and the union territories from **1st June to 31st July 2022**. The states and union territories are advised to take the campaign seriously this time to make people aware and make India fully vaccinated. The campaign’s main aim is to immunize people by taking the vaccine and enjoying the benefits.

Science and Technology News

- **Kiya.ai**, a digital solutions provider serving financial institutions and governments globally, announced the launch of India’s first-ever banking metaverse “**Kiyaverse**”. In the first phase, Kiyaverse will allow banks to extend their own metaverse for clients, partners, and employees, through services that will include Relationship Manager & Peer Avatars and Robo-advisors.
- **The transfer of ten in-orbit communication satellites** to public sector business **NSIL**, which is under the administrative jurisdiction of the Department of Space, has been authorized by the **Union Cabinet**. The cabinet also authorized expanding **NewSpace India Limited’s (NSIL)** permitted share capital from **Rs 1,000 crore to Rs 7,500 crore**. NSIL was required under the space sector reforms to conduct end-to-end commercial space operations and to operate as a full-fledged satellite operator.
- India will attain the unique distinction of launching the first **Human Space Mission ‘Gaganyaan’** as well as the first **Human Ocean Mission in 2023**, according to **Space and Earth Sciences Minister Dr Jitendra Singh**. Testing for both the Space and Ocean manned missions have evolved to an advanced stage, and that the remarkable accomplishment would be performed in the second half of 2023, while speaking at the **World Oceans Day festivities in New Delhi**.

- **NASA** is set to launch a mission called “**DAVINCI Mission**”. DAVINCI stands for “**Deep Atmosphere Venus Investigation of Noble gases, Chemistry and Imaging Mission**”. The mission will fly by Venus and explore its harsh atmosphere in **2029**. It will be the first mission to study Venus by means of both flybys and descent. Spacecraft is likely to explore layered Venusian atmosphere. It will reach Venusian surface by **June 2031**. The mission would capture data about Venus, that scientists are trying to measure since early 1980s.

Important Days

- The **UN Russian Language Day** is observed annually on **06 June**. It is one of the six official languages used by the United Nations throughout the Organization. The day was established by the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** in **2010**.
- **International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing** is organized every year on **5th June**. The day is the opportunity to draw attention to the threats posed by IUU fishing activities to the sustainable use of fisheries resources as well as to ongoing efforts to fight these activities.
- **World Food Safety Day** is celebrated globally on **June 7** every year as per the **World Health Organization (WHO)**. World Food Safety Day aims to transform food systems to deliver better health sustainably and prevent foodborne diseases. This year, the theme is ‘**Safer food, better health**’. WHO also launched a campaign to inspire global participation.
- **The World Oceans Day** is celebrated on **June 8** every year across the globe. The day is commemorated to remind people of the importance of the oceans and the major role they play in everyday life. “**Revitalization: collective action for the ocean**” is the theme for World Oceans Day 2022, a year framed by the UN Decade of Ocean Science and the celebration of the United Nations Ocean Conference, two years after being cancelled because of the pandemic.

- **World Accreditation Day (WAD)** is celebrated on **June 9** every year. WAD has been established by the joint efforts of the **International Accreditation Forum (IAF)** and the **International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)**. This year the theme for World Accreditation Day 2022 is “**Accreditation: Sustainability in Economic Growth and the Environment.**”
- **World Brain Tumour Day** is observed every year on **8 June** with an aim to create awareness about brain tumours. It is a mass or growth of abnormal cells in your brain. There are two types of brain tumors, **noncancerous (benign), and cancerous (malignant)**. In 2022, the theme of World Tumor Day is ‘**Together We Are Stronger**’.
- **12 June** marks the **World Day Against Child Labour** under the theme “**Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour.**” 2022 Theme: “**Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour**”.

Obituaries

- **Nobuyuki Idei**, who led Japan’s Sony from **1998** through 2005, steering its growth in the digital and entertainment businesses, has died. He was 84. During his seven years as CEO from 1998, Mr Idei made an immense contribution to Sony’s evolution as a global company. Tokyo-based Sony is among Japan’s stellar brands, having brought the world the Walkman portable music player.

Miscellaneous News

- The **Arignar Anna Zoological Park** is one such park that is worried about the increasing pollution near the park which is threatening the animals. **The officials of the Arignar Anna Zoological Park have introduced a new method to keep a check on the littering of plastic bottles and pollution inside the park.**
- **mRube**, the electronic trading platform promoted by **Rubber Board** will go live from June 8. The Ahmedabad-based **i-Sourcing Technologies** is the technology partner. mRube follows a simple one-time registration. KN Raghavan, Executive Director will launch the beta version of the electronic platform at a function in the presence of the Rubber Producer Society and other industry representatives.
- For wildlife observers and experts, **the fishing cat census in Chilika** has some hopeful news. In Chilika, the total number of feline species was discovered to be **176, with a range of 131-237 individuals**. This was the first time a population estimate of the fishing cat was undertaken outside of a protected area network anywhere in the globe. The **Chilika Development Authority (CDA)** collaborated with The Fishing Cat Project to undertake the estimating study (**TFCP**).

- **Maruti Suzuki India** has installed a 20 MW solar carport at its **Manesar, Haryana**, site. The project is projected to provide the organisation with 28,000 MWh of electricity per year. According to the firm, the energy generated by this initiative will be similar to the energy required to create nearly 67,000 cars every year. This is Asia's largest solar carport, according to the business.
- Creating a history of sorts, **Shreyas G. Hosur**, became the first officer from the Indian Railways to complete the gruelling '**Ironman' Triathlon**, considered to be the toughest single-day sports event in the world. This event includes **3.8 km of swimming, 180 km of cycling and 42.2 km** of running. He completed the event in 13 hours and 26 minutes in **Hamburg, Germany**.
- Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** revealed that **NHAI** had set a new Guinness World Record by building 75 kilometres of bituminous concrete in a single lane on NH53 in 105 hours and 33 minutes. Gadkari commended **NHAI** and **Raj Path Infracon Pvt Ltd** engineers, contractors, consultants, and workers for the project's efficient execution, which contributed to the world record's successful completion.
- Agriculture Minister, **Narendra Singh Tomar** has launched the country's first homegrown COVID-19 vaccine "**Anocovax**" for animals, developed by Haryana-based **ICAR-National Research Centre on Equines (NRC)**. Anocovax is an inactivated SARS-CoV-2 Delta (COVID-19) vaccine for animals. The immunity induced by Anocovax neutralises both Delta and Omicron variants of SARS-CoV-2.

Static Takeaways

- NABARD Formation: July 12, 1982;
- NABARD Headquarters: Mumbai;
- NABARD Chairman: Govinda Rajulu Chintala.
- Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Thakur
- Chairman of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA): Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Tamil Nadu Capital: Chennai;
- Tamil Nadu Chief minister: K. Stalin;
- Tamil Nadu Governor: N. Ravi.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan: Ashok Gehlot; Governor: Kalraj Mishra.
- Sikkim Capital: Gangtok;
- Sikkim Governor: Ganga Prasad;
- Sikkim Chief minister: PS Golay.
- Andhra Pradesh Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan;
- Andhra Pradesh Chief minister: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy.
- Goa Governor: P.S. Sreedharan Pillai;
- Goa Wildlife Sanctuaries: Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary, Cotigao Wildlife

- Sanctuary, Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary;
- Goa Festivals: Goa Mango Festival.
- Odisha Capital: Bhubaneswar;
- Odisha Governor: Ganeshi Lal;
- Odisha Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik.
- Assam Capital: Dispur;
- Assam Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma;
- Assam Governor: Jagadish Mukhi.
- Himachal Pradesh Capital: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter);
- Himachal Pradesh Governor: Rajendra Arlekar;
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister: Jai Ram Thakur.
- Albania Capital: Tirana;
- Albania Currency: Albanian lek;
- Albania Prime Minister: Edi Rama.
- Sri Lanka Capital: Jayawardenepura Kotte;
- Sri Lanka Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee;
- Sri Lanka Prime Minister: Ranil Wickremesinghe;
- Sri Lanka President: Gotabaya Rajapaksa.
- European Parliament Headquarters: Strasbourg, France;
- European Parliament Founded: 19 March 1958.
- Airtel Payments Bank Founded: January 2017;
- Airtel Payments Bank Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Airtel Payments Bank Managing Director & CEO: Anubrata Biswas.
- Governor of Reserve Bank of India: Shri Shaktikanta Das.
- World Bank Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States;
- World Bank Formation: July 1944;
- World Bank President: David Malpass.
- Secretary, Department of Financial Services: Sanjay Malhotra
- Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman
- WhatsApp Founded: 2009;
- WhatsApp CEO: Will Cathcart;
- WhatsApp Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States;
- WhatsApp Acquisition date: 19 February 2014;
- WhatsApp Founders: Jan Koum, Brian Acton;
- WhatsApp Parent organization: Facebook.
- Union Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai;
- Union Bank of India Founded: 11 November 1919.
- Punjab & Sind Bank Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Punjab & Sind Bank Founded: 24 June 1908.
- State Bank of India Founded: 1 July 1955;
- State Bank of India Headquarters: Mumbai;
- State Bank of India Chairman: Dinesh Kumar Khara.
- IMF Formation: 27 December 1945;
- IMF Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States;
- IMF Member Countries: 190;
- IMF MD: Kristalina Georgieva.

- British Council Director: Barbara Wickham;
- British Council Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi.
- Information and Broadcasting Minister: Anurag Thakur
- Indian Army Founded: 1 April 1895;
- Indian Army Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Indian Army Chief of the Army Staff: Manoj Pande;
- Indian Army Motto: Service Before Self.
- Kiya.ai MD and CEO: Rajesh Mirjankar;
- Kiya.ai HQ: Mumbai.
- Food and Agriculture Organization Head: Qu Dongyu
- Food and Agriculture Organization Headquarters: Rome, Italy.
- Food and Agriculture Organization Established: 16 October 1945.
- International Accreditation Forum Founded: 28 January 1993;
- International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Founded: October 1977.
- Headquarters of International Labour Organization: Geneva, Switzerland;
- President of International Labour Organization: Guy Ryder;
- International Labour Organization Founded: 1919.
- All India Council for Technical Education Founded: November 1945;
- All India Council for Technical Education Headquarters: New Delhi;
- All India Council for Technical Education Chairperson: Anil Sahasrabudhe.
- DICGC Chairperson: Michael Patra;
- DICGC Headquarters: Mumbai;
- DICGC Founded: 15 July 1978.
- Andhra Pradesh Governor: Biswabhusan Harichandan;
- Andhra Pradesh Chief minister: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy.
- ZestMoney CEO & Co-Founder: Lizzie Chapman;
- ZestMoney Established: 2015;
- ZestMoney Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- China Capital: Beijing;
- China Currency: Renminbi;
- China President: Xi Jinping.