

## Top Current Affairs of the Week (06 – 13 June 2021)

### Thomas Vijayan won 2021 Nature TTL Photography Awards

- **Thomas Vijayan** of Kerala has won **2021 Nature TTL Photography Awards** for his photo of an Orangutan clinging to a tree.
- The photograph is titled as '**The World is Going Upside Down**'
- He has been adjudged as the overall winner of the competition from over 8,000 entries
- **Nature TTL:**
  - It is world's leading online nature photography resource.
  - It carries grand prize of **1,500 pounds (Rs.1.5 lakh)**.
- **Thomas Easterbrook (UK)** was crowned **Young Nature TTL Photographer of the Year 2021**


## Telegram Groups

NDA & Other Exams: <https://t.me/joinchat/TX7hKUXmUvKsOL5IFHsbRA>

CDS & Defence Exams: <https://t.me/joinchat/TX7hKVbSbpp5PDJuRccltw>

Air Force X & Y: <https://t.me/GradeupAirforce>

### Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari appointed Vice Chief of Air Staff

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- Ace fighter pilot Air Marshal **Vivek Ram Chaudhari** has been appointed as the **next Vice Chief of the Air Staff** by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)
  - He will succeed incumbent Air Marshal **HS Arora** who will superannuate on June 30, 2021.
  - He presently commands Western Air Command, which is also known as the sword arm of the force, as it handles the sensitive borders with both Pakistan and China in sensitive areas.
  - Air Chief Marshal: **Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria**.

### PM Modi launches E-100 Ethanol Dispensing Stations in Pune

- PM Narendra Modi has virtually launched **Pilot Project of E 100 ethanol dispensing stations** at three locations in Pune, for the production and distribution of ethanol.
- Govt has reset the target to achieve **20% ethanol blending in petrol by 2025**, which was earlier set by 2030.
- Govt has released **E-20 notification**, directing Oil Companies to sell ethanol blended petrol with ethanol up to 20% from April 1, 2023; and BIS Specifications for higher ethanol blends E12 & E15

### India launches 'Mission Innovation 2.0' initiative

- India along with 23 nations have collectively launched **Mission Innovation 2.0**, alongside the Paris Agreement at the 2015 COP21 conference
- This new initiative was launched at **Innovating to Net Zero Summit**, hosted by Chile
- **Purpose:** To make clean energy affordable, attractive and accessible throughout this decade; To accelerate action towards the Paris Agreement, and Net zero pathways.
- It will be supported by new global Innovation Platform to strengthen confidence.

## Govt approves release of PGI 2019-20 for States and UT

- Union Education Minister, **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** has approved **release of Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2019-20 for States and Union Territories of India**
- The Index has 70 parameters to catalyse transformational change to ensure that the school education system is robust at every level.
- **Punjab, Chandigarh, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands** and **Kerala** occupy the highest grade (Grade A++) for 2019-20
- It was first published in **2019** with reference year 2017-18

## Report on ethanol blending in India 2020 to 2025 released

- PM Modi has released '**Report of the Expert Committee on Road Map for ethanol blending in India 2020-2025**' on World Environment Day event
- The theme of the report is '**promotion of biofuels for better environment**'
- Report has been prepared by **NITI Aayog** in collaboration with **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**.
- Key recommendations have been made in this report to increase and augment the production capacity and utilization of ethanol blended petrol.

## CBSE ties-up with Microsoft to introduce Coding as new subject

- **Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)** has partnered with **Microsoft** to introduce **Coding as a new subject for students of Class 6 to 8** and **Data Science as new subject for Class 8 to 12** in the academic session 2021-2022.
- Both these new subjects are being launched in line with **National Education Policy (NEP) 2020**.
- **Coding and Data Science curriculum** will focus on building critical thinking, computational skills, problem-solving skills, creativity among students.

## NCSM ties-up with London Science Museum for 'Hunt for the Vaccine'

- **National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)** has tied-up with **Science Museum Group**, London for an international travelling exhibition '**Hunt for the Vaccine**'.
- This exhibition will depicts the story of the global effort to find new ways to develop vaccines and look at vaccinations more broadly with a historical and contemporary view.
- NCSM:
  - It is an autonomous organization under the **Ministry of Culture**
  - HQs: **Kolkata**.
  - It was established in **1978**.

## NTPC Ltd. joins UN's CEO Water Mandate for Water Conservation

- **NTPC Ltd**, under Ministry of Power has become a signatory to **UN Global Compact's CEO Water Mandate**, that focus on efficient water management.
- **CEO Water Mandate**: It is an initiative by UN Global Compact to assist companies in the development, implementation, and disclosure of comprehensive water strategies and policies, as part of long term Sustainable Development Goals.
- It also provides a platform for companies to partner.

- NTPC MD: **Gurdeep Singh**.

## DBT-NII receives trademark for India's First Indigenous Tumour Antigen

- **National Institute of Immunology (NII)**, DBT has received **ASPAGNIITM Trademark** for India's **First Indigenous Tumour Antigen SPAG9**, discovered by **Anil Suri** in 1998
- Anil Suri is heading Cancer Research Program at NII, DBT
- **ASPAGNIITM** is being used in dendritic cell (DC) based immunotherapy in cervical, ovarian cancer and will also be used in breast cancer.
- **Immunotherapy** is a new approach that exploits the body's inner capability to put up a fight against cancer

## Govt eases pension norms for families of deceased staff

- Govt has relaxed the **norms for disbursing pension to families of deceased employees** considering their urgent need of funds for their livelihood during COVID-19
- All the ministries have been told to disburse the provisional family pension immediately after receiving the claim with a death certificate under **Rule 80-A of the Central Civil Service (Pension) Rules, 1972**.
- This rule provided for payment of provisional family pension and also provisional death gratuity.

## India and UK launch new workstream to promote industrial energy efficiency

- **India and UK** has launched new workstream to promote industrial energy efficiency under **Clean Energy Ministerial's (CEM)-Industrial Deep Decarbonization Initiative (IDDI)** at 12th Chief Energy Ministerial (CEM)
- 12th CEM will start from **May 31 to 6 June 2021**
- **CEM-IDDI** is a global coalition of public and private organisations for low carbon industrial materials
- It is coordinated by **UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**
- Additional members: **Germany and Canada**.

## World Oceans Day: 8 June

- **World Oceans Day (WOD)** is observed every year on **8 June** to celebrate the role of the oceans in our everyday life and inspiring action to protect the ocean and marine resources
- Theme 2021: **'The Ocean: Life & Livelihoods'**
- WOD was originally proposed in 1992 by **International Centre for Ocean Development** and **Ocean Institute of Canada** at Earth Summit, Brazil
- It was officially recognized by UN in **2008**.
- **UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development: 2021 to 2030**

## Abdulla Shahid elected as President of United Nation General Assembly

- Maldives Foreign Minister **Abdullah Shahid** has been elected as the **President of 76th United Nation General Assembly (UNGA)**.

- He received **143 votes out of 191 ballots cast**, while his opponent Afghanistan's former Foreign minister **Zalmai Rassoul** got 48 votes.
- Maldives will occupy the office of UNGA's President for the first time.
- He will succeed **Volkan Bozkir**.
- UNGA is the main deliberative, policy-making, and representative organ of the UN.
- UN HQs: **New York**

## UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration to be observed from 2021 to 2030

- **United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration** has been officially launched to run from **2021 to 2030**
- UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration will be co-led by **UN Environment Programme (UNEP)** and **UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**
- It was proclaimed by UN General Assembly in a 2019 resolution.
- Aim: Protection and revival of ecosystems all around the world
- **Multi-Partner Trust Fund** has also been launched and Germany is the first country to provide funding to this fund.

## Sergio Perez wins 2021 Azerbaijan Grand Prix

- Red Bull's racer **Sergio Perez** (Mexico) has won **Formula 1 Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2021**, that was held on 6 June 2021 at the Baku City Circuit in Azerbaijan
- **Sebastian Vettel (Aston Martin – Germany)** held the 2nd position, followed by **Pierre Gasly Scuderia (AlphaTauri -France)**
- It was the **6th round of 2021 Formula One World Championship**.
- Lewis Hamilton made a severe error at the resultant restart and Max Verstappen retired due to a high-speed tyre blowout.

## Interpol launches 'I-Familia' database to identify missing persons

- **International Police Organisation (Interpol)** has launched new global database named **'I-Familia'**
- It will identify missing persons or unidentified human remains around the world through DNA of relatives
- It is an **international organization facilitating international police cooperation** against cross-border terrorism, trafficking, and other crime
- INTERPOL has **194-member countries**
- It is not a unit or part of united nation system
- HQs: **Lyon, France**
- Interpol was founded in **1923**.

## Haryana Govt launches Pran Vayu Devta Pension Scheme

- **Haryana Govt** has launched unique and first of its kind initiative **'Pran Vayu Devta Pension Scheme' (PVDPS)**
- PVDPS initiative will honour all those trees which are of the age of 75 years and above and have served humanity throughout their life by producing oxygen & shade, reducing pollution and so on.
- **Oxy Van (Oxygen Forest):** Oxy Van are identified pieces of land, on which as many as 3 crore trees would be planted on land ranging from 5 acres to 100 acres.

## India slips two spots to rank 117 on 17 SDGs adopted as 2030 agenda

- **India's rank** has slipped by 2 places to **117** with SDG score of 61.9 out of 100 on the **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** as per **State of India's Environment Report 2021**
- SDGs was adopted as a part of 2030 agenda by all United Nations member states in 2015
- The report also revealed that India's rank was 115 in 2020 and dropped by two places due to challenges like hunger, food security, gender equality, etc
- India ranks below **Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh**

## World Bank approves \$ 500 million program to boost MSME sector in India

- **Board of Executive Directors of World Bank** has approved **\$500 million program** to support India in its nationwide initiative of revitalising the **MSME sector**, which has been heavily impacted by COVID-19 crisis
- The support has been extended by World Bank through its **Raising and Accelerating Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Performance (RAMP) Program**.
- This is the second phase of support by World Bank to India in this sector through RAMP program.

## Report on Bio-medical Waste released

- **Centre for Science and Environment** has released report that shows 2,03,000 kg of COVID-19 biomedical waste was produced daily in May 2021 and it was roughly 33% of India's non-COVID biomedical waste.
- As per **Bio-medical Waste Management Rules, 2016**, Bio-medical waste is required to be segregated in 4 colour coded waste categories, and the same is treated and disposed as per the methods prescribed under Schedule I of the Rules.

## CRISIL projects India's GDP Growth for FY22 to 9.5%

- Domestic credit ratings agency **CRISIL** has revised **GDP growth estimate for India to 9.5% in FY22 (2021-22)**, from the earlier estimate of 11%.
- As per CRISIL, economy had contracted by 7.3% in FY21.
- The downward revision is basically due to the hit to private consumption and investments following the second wave of COVID-19.
- CEO of CRISIL: **Ashu Suyash**.
- CRISIL's Headquarters: **Mumbai**.

## Anup Chandra Pandey appointed as Election Commissioner

- **Anup Chandra Pandey (retired IAS officer of 1984 batch, UP cadre)** has been appointed as the **Election Commissioner of India** by the Union Government
- He has been appointed to fill the place left vacant by Sunil Arora
- Election Commission consists of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and 2 Election Commissioners
- Presently, **Sushil Chandra is CEC** and **Rajiv Kumar is the other Election Commissioner**
- They will now oversee the elections in **UP, Punjab, Goa, Manipur** and **Uttarakhand**

## India elected to UN Economic and Social Council for 2022-24 term

- **India** has been elected as the member of **54-member United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** for 3-year terms from **2022 to 2024**
- It has been selected by **UN General Assembly** in **Asia-Pacific States** category, along with **Afghanistan, Kazakhstan** and **Oman**
- **ECOSOC**
  - It is **one of the six main organs of UN**
  - It serves as the central platform for discussing international economic, social and environmental issues and formulating policy recommendations
  - HQs: **New York, Geneva**

## Sanjeev Sahai selected as new Chairman of PNGRB

- Former power secretary **Sanjeev Nandan Sahai (1986 batch IAS officer)** has been named as the **new Chairman of oil regulator Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)**.
- He retired as **Secretary in Ministry of Power** on January 31, 2021.
- His appointment is subject to approval by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).
- He succeeded **Dinesh K Sarraf**, who completed his three-year term in December 4, 2020.
- PNGRB is a **statutory body in India** under **PNGRB Act, 2006**.

## Raimona Reserve Forest declared as Sixth National Park of Assam

- Assam CM **Himanta Biswa Sarma** has declared **Raimona Reserve Forest in Assam as the National Park**
- It will now be the 6th National Park in Assam
- **Raimona National Park:**
  - It is in **Kokrajhar district under Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR)**, spread over 422 sqkm.
  - It also shares its boundary with Phipsoo Wildlife Sanctuary and Jigme Singye Wangchuk National Park in Bhutan
- **Other five national parks of Assam:** Kaziranga, Manas, Nameri, Dibru-Saikhowa and Orang National Park.

## Indian Navy to receive MH-60 'Romeo' Multi-role Helicopters from US

- **Indian Navy** is set to receive **three MH-60 Romeo helicopters from USA** in July 2022
- India and US had signed **Rs 15,157 crore (\$2.13 billion)** deal to buy **24 MH-60 Romeo helicopters** from Lockheed Martin in Feb 2020
- Currently, the first batch of Indian pilots are in US for training on these helicopters.
- **MH-60 Romeos** are equipped with multi-mode radars and night-vision devices, Hellfire missiles, torpedoes and precision-guided weaponry.

## Govt issues guidelines for e-Content development for disabled Children

- **Union Govt** has issued guidelines for the development of **e-Content for Children with disabilities** based on four principles of **robust, perceivable, operable, and understandable**.
- These guidelines will initiate creation of high-quality content for digital education to children with special needs.
- **Dept of School Education and Literacy** under **Ministry of Education** had constituted experts committee for recommending guidelines for developing e-content for disabled children.

## World Accreditation Day: 9th June

- **World Accreditation Day (WAD)** is observed every year on **9 June** to promote the role of accreditation in trade & economy.
- Theme for WAD 2021: **Accreditation: Supporting the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.
- WAD is a global initiative, jointly established by the **International Accreditation Forum (IAF)** and the **International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)**, to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation.

## NITI Aayog recommends privatisation of Central Bank & Indian Overseas Bank

- **NITI Aayog** has recommended **privatization of Central Bank of India and Indian Overseas Bank** in the current fiscal (2021-22), as part of the disinvestment process announced in Union Budget 2021-22.
- Under the privatisation initiative, NITI Aayog was entrusted to suggest names of PSUs in strategic sectors to be merged, privatised, or made subsidiaries of other PSUs
- **Dept of Investment and Public Asset Management** and **Dept of Financial Services** will now examine this proposal

## Oman preferred over India to host inaugural FIH Hockey World Cup

- **Executive Board of FIH** has decided that **Oman** will be hosting the **Inaugural FIH Hockey World Cup in January 2024**
- Capital city of Oman, **Muscat** has been picked as the host city for the inaugural Hockey5s World Cups (Men and Women) by International Hockey Federation (FIH).
- FIH Hockey World Cup will take place in January 2024.
- 16 teams per gender (3 per continent + Oman as hosts) will take part in the first edition of Hockey World Cup.

## IISc, Bengaluru ranked Best Indian University in Times University Rankings

- Three Indian Universities have made it to the top **100 list of Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Rankings 2021**.
- Apart from it, 63 Indian universities found place in 2021 list, however, none of them could make to top 10.
- **IISc, Bengaluru** has been ranked **37th for the seventh year in a row**.
- The other two universities in top 100: **IIT, Ropar (55)** and **IIT, Indore (78)**
- India is ranked 3rd in representation of universities
- Japan was ranked first, followed by China



## RBI imposes penalty on Bank of India & PNB for Violation of Norms

- RBI has imposed **monetary penalty on Bank of India and Punjab National Bank (PNB)** for contravention of norms related to Frauds Classification and Reporting
- Penalty imposed on Bank of India is of Rs 4 crore and Rs 2 crore on Punjab National Bank.
- They have been fined for non-compliance with RBI directions, breach of stipulated transaction limits; delay in transfer of unclaimed balances to DEA Fund; delay in reporting a fraud to RBI, sale of a fraudulent asset.

## CESL signs MoU with Ladakh to make Ladakh carbon neutral

- **Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL)** has signed MoU with **Ladakh** to make it a clean and green UT.
- Under the MoU, various clean energy and energy efficiency programmes will be implemented like solar mini and micro grid solutions, energy efficient lighting, energy storage-based solutions, efficient cooking stoves and electric mobility solutions in the UT.
- CESL will build the EV ecosystem for the UT.
- Ladakh's Lieutenant Governor: **R K Mathur**.

## Chandra Shekhar Ghosh re-appointed as MD & CEO of Bandhan Bank

- RBI has granted approval for the re-appointment of **Chandra Shekhar Ghosh** as the **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Bandhan Bank**
- His term will be of **3 years**, with effect from 10 July 2021.
- His re-appointment is subject to the approval of shareholders at the ensuing annual general meeting of the bank.
- Bandhan Bank operates as a commercial bank since 2001
- Headquarters: **Kolkata**

## LIC Chairman's tenure extended to March 2022

- The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)** has extended the term of **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) Chairman MR Kumar** till March 13, 2022.
- His currently notified term was to end on June 30 this year.
- Kumar was appointed as **LIC Chairman** on March 13, 2019.
- Kumar had joined LIC in 1983 as a direct recruit officer.
- Recently, in the disinvestment plan the Centre which owns 100% of LIC, is looking for dismantling for up to 10% stake via IPO.
- LIC Headquarter: **Mumbai**

## M K Jain re-appointed as RBI Deputy Governor for a period of two years

- The government has extended the tenure of deputy governor **Mahesh Kumar Jain** for two years.
- Jain was appointed as deputy governor for three years in June 2018.
- Before joining the **Reserve Bank of India**, he was managing director of **IDBI Bank**.



- The other three serving deputy governors are **Michael Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao, and T Rabi Sankar**.

## El Salvador declares bitcoin as legal tender

- **El Salvador** has become the world's first country to grant legal tender status to **bitcoin**.
- Bitcoin use as legal tender will become law in **90 days**.
- Its economy heavily relies on remittances and so those who are working abroad can send money back home in bitcoins too
- It will bring financial inclusion, investment, tourism, innovation, and economic development to the country.
- El Salvador Capital: **San Salvador**
- Currency: **United States Dollar**

## Indo-Thai CORPAT exercise begins in Andaman Sea

- The **31st edition** of **3day India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT)** started in the Andaman Sea.
- It is being conducted from 9 to 11 June 2021.
- **Naval Offshore Patrol Vessel, Indian Naval Ship (INS) Saryu**, is participating in India and **HTMS Krabi**, is participating from Thailand Navy in **CORPAT**.
- The CORPAT exercise is being conducted between the two navies bi-annually since 2005, along their **International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL)**.

## IISc Bangalore is the top Research University in QS World Ranking 2021

- **Global higher ed analysts Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)** released the 18th **QS World University Rankings 2022**.
- **IISc, Bengaluru** (186<sup>th</sup>), **IIT Bombay** (177<sup>th</sup>), and **IIT Delhi** (185<sup>th</sup>) are among the **top-200 universities**.
- IISc is the world's top research university as per the citations per faculty indicator.
- IISc has got a perfect score of 100 out of 100 for the citations per faculty (CPF) metric.
- The IIT, the Bombay, is India's top-ranked institution for the **4th consecutive year**.

## AP Launches Jagananna Thodu Scheme to help vendors, small traders

- AP launched interest-free loans under the **Jagananna Thodu scheme** to help small & petty vendors and artisans.
- **Under the scheme**, the state govt credited **Rs 370 crore** to **3.7 lakh small traders** as an interest-free loan.
- Although 9.05 lakh beneficiaries were identified from the scheme, in phase-1, only Rs 535 crore was disbursed by the banks to 5.35 lakh beneficiaries.
- Governor: **Biswabhusan Harichandan**
- Capital: **Visakhapatnam, Amaravati, Kurnool**

## All jobs in Ladakh reserved for Residents

- All jobs in the UT of **Ladakh** have been reserved for the residents of the region.

- The new recruitment rules are mentioned in **Clause 11** of the **Union Territory of Ladakh Employment (Subordinate) Service Recruitment Rules, 2021**.
- The move has met a long-pending demand of the people of Ladakh, after it was carved out as a UT on Aug 5, 2019.
- The order by the L-G was issued by exercising the powers conferred by S.O 282 (E) dated 21.01.2020.
- LG of Ladakh: **Radha Krishna Mathur**

## Govt hikes kharif MSP of kharif crops by an average 3.7 per cent

- The govt increased the **MSP of Kharif crops** for the **2021-21 crop** season by an average of **3.7%**
- The max hike reserved for pulses and oilseeds to encourage farmers to shift from paddy.
- The **MSP** of tur and urad has been increased by **Rs 300** per quintal in absolute terms to **Rs 6300**.
- While the MSP of groundnut seed has been increased by Rs 275 per quintal to Rs 5550.
- MSP of paddy has been raised by Rs 72 per quintal to Rs 1940.
- MSP Recommended by: **CACP**
- Announced by: **CCEA**

## Auckland has become the world's most liveable city

- **Auckland** placed at the top in **The Economist Intelligence Unit's Global Liveability Index** of 140 cities around the world.
- **Austria's Vienna**, number one in both **2018 and 2019**, dropped out of the top 10 after being heavily affected by Covid (now in 12th)
- New Zealand's capital **Wellington** was 4th on this year's list, tying with **Tokyo**.
- **Adelaide, Perth, and Brisbane** came in 3d, 6th, and 10th place respectively, while Melbourne tied with Switzerland's Geneva at number **eight**.

## IAMAI appoints AK Sikri as Chairman of OTT grievance redressal board

- Former Judge of SC **Arjan Kumar Sikri** appointed as chairman of the **Grievance Redressal Board (RRB)** of the recently formed **Digital Publisher Content Grievances Council (DPCGC)**.
- GRB will address content grievances pertaining to the Council members' video online streaming services.
- It will act as the **2nd-tier** within the 3-tier grievance redressal mechanism.
- The DPCGC currently has 14 publishers of online curated content as members.
- IAMAI Hq: **Mumbai**
- Chairman: **Amit Agarwal**

## All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2019-20 released

- Union Education Minister Shri **Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'** released the report of **All India Survey on Higher Education 2019-20**.
1. There has been a growth of **11.4%** in student enrolment in five years.
  2. The rise in female enrolment in higher education during the period is **18.2%**.
  3. The number of institutions of national importance has increased to 135 in 2020 from 75 in 2015.
  4. **AISHE report** is published by the **Ministry of Education** since **2010-11**.

## Asian Games Gold Medallist Boxer, Dingko Singh passes away

- **Asian Games** gold medal-winning former boxer **Dingko Singh (42)** passed away.
- The **Manipur-based** former boxer endured a long battle with cancer and even fought **COVID-19 last year**.
- Dingko won the **Asian Games gold in 1998** and was bestowed the **Arjuna award** the same year.
- In 2013, he was honoured with the **Padma Shri** for his contribution to the sport.
- Dingko, who was employed with **Navy**, had taken to coaching after hanging up his gloves.

## India's agriculture exports increase 17.34% in 2020-21

- India's export of Agri and allied products in **2020-21** grew by **17.34% to & 41.25 bn**.
- The largest markets for India's Agri prod are the **US, China, Bangladesh, UAE, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Nepal, Iran & Malaysia**.
- **Maharashtra, Kerala, Nagaland, TN, Assam, Punjab, and Karnataka** -- have finalized their specific action plan to implement the Agri export policy.
- As part of it, **46 unique** product-district clusters have been identified for export promotion.

## RBI Increases ATM Interchange Fee From Rs 15 To Rs 17

- The **Reserve Bank of India** raised the interchange fee on each financial transaction at **ATM from Rs 15 to Rs 17** for financial transactions and from **Rs 5 to Rs 6** for non-financial transactions.
- Banks will be able to raise ATM transaction charges from August 1, 2021.
- Customers are still eligible for **five free transactions** — inclusive of financial and non-financial transactions — every month from their own bank ATMs and **three** transactions from other bank ATMs.

## UNGA president-elect Abdulla Shahid appoints K. Nagaraj as Chef de Cabinet

- President-elect of the 76th session of the **UNGA**, **Abdulla Shahid** appointed **K Nagaraj Naidu** as his Chef de Cabinet.
- Naidu is **India's Deputy Permanent Representative** to the UN Ambassador.
- Comprising 193 members the GA is the main deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the UN
- India, currently serving the 2021-22 term as a non-permanent member of the powerful UN Security Council, will assume the Presidency of the **15-nation UN organ** in Aug.
- UN Hq: **New York**

## First edition of Arab-India Energy Forum held virtually

- The 1st edition of the 2-day **Arab-India Energy Forum (AIEF)** was held virtually.
- The event was held under the co-chairship of **India and Morocco**.
- The forum witnessed the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and best practices in the fields of **energy efficiency** programs, accelerated development of **new and renewable energy**, fostering **regional power-sharing arrangements**, enhanced oil recovery, tight gas extraction, and safe **nuclear power** generation, etc.

## Indian Bank partners with Fisdom to offer wealth management solutions

- **Indian Bank** has partnered with **Fisdom** to offer a suite of wealth management products and services to the bank's customers.
- It will focus on enabling **large-scale facilitation** and distribution of wealth products and services through **Indian Bank**.
- In 1st phase of the partnership, **Bank's customers** can access and invest in any mutual fund of choice and the **NPS** through the lender's **IndOASIS** mobile banking application.
- Indian Bank is the **7th-largest PSU bank** of India.

## DBS tops Forbes 'World's Best Banks' list in India for second year in a row

- **DBS** has been named by Forbes in their list of **World's Best Banks 2021**.
- DBS was ranked 1st out of 30 domestic and international banks in India for 2nd consecutive year.
- This is the **3rd edition** of the '**World's Best Banks**' list by **Forbes**.
- Recently, DBS Bank India was recognised as 'India's Best International Bank 2021' by Asiamoney.
- **DBS** was named '**Safest Bank in Asia**' for the 12th consecutive year by **New York-based** trade publication **Global Finance** in 2020.

## World Day Against Child Labour: 12th June

- **World Day Against Child Labour** is celebrated every year on **June 12**.
- It was officially recognized by **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** in 2002.
- This is a day to call all the governments to come together in order to get rid of this menace.
- This year, the theme is '**Act Now: End Child Labour**.'
- Owing to the global pandemic, there has been an unfortunate increase in child labour across the world.
- ILO Hq: **Geneva, Switzerland**
- ILO DG: **Guy Ryder**

## Ayush Ministry launches 'Namaste Yoga' Mobile App

- **Ayush Minister Kiren Rijiju** launched a mobile application '**Namaste Yoga**' for the **7th International Day of Yoga (IDY)** in a curtain-raiser event.
- The event was organized by the **Ministry of Ayush** in association with the **Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga**.
- The app has been designed as an information platform for the public.
- Its aim is to raise awareness about yoga and make it accessible to the larger community.
- IDY is observed on **21st June every year**.

## India became 4th Largest Forex Reserve holder

- **India's** forex reserves crossed **\$600** for the **first time**.
- As of June 4, 2021, the forex reserves stood at **\$605 bn**, almost tying with **Russia** as the 4th largest reserve holder in the world.
- While India's forex reserve was \$605.008 bn, Russia's was \$605.2 bn.
- It took just about a year for the reserves to rise **by \$100 billion**.
- India's Forex Reserves include- **Gold, Foreign Currency Assets, Special Drawing Rights**, and **Reserve position** with **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**.

## UNCTAD appoints Costa Rica's Grynspan as 1st Women Secretary General

- The **UN General Assembly** approved the appointment of **Rebecca Grynspan** as the **Secretary-General** of its trade and development body, **UNCTAD**.
- She is the **first woman and central American (Costa Rica)** to head the global body that deals with trade, investment, and development issues.
- Since 2014, **Ms. Grynspan** has been secretary-general of the Ibero-American General Secretariat.
- From 2010 to 2014, she was the deputy administrator of the **UNDP**.
- UNCTAD Hq: **Geneva, Switzerland**

## India Ranks 67th In Data Skills Finds Coursera's Global Skills Report 2021

- India ranked **67th in Coursera's Global Skills Report 2021**.
- It exhibited a lag in digital skills development.
- with **38% proficiency** in each global skill domain. Globally, India has ranked 55 in business, and **66 in both technology and data science**.
- On the Asian map, **India is at rank 16**, ahead of the Philippines and Thailand, but behind Singapore and Japan.
- The report indicated that Indians have 52% proficiency in machine learning and **54% in mathematical skills**.

## Dihing Patkai becomes 7th National Park of Assam

- The **Assam govt** has notified **Dihing Patkai** as the **7th National Park** of the state.
- Assam now has the **third most National Parks** after the 12 in **Madhya Pradesh** and nine in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.
- The five older National Parks in the State are **Kaziranga, Manas, Nameri, Orang, Dibru-Saikhowa and Raimona**.
- **Kaziranga** and **Manas** are **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**. They are also tiger reserves along with Nameri and Orang.
- CM: **Himanta Biswa Sarma**
- Governor: **Jagdish Mukhi**