

14th April 2023

INTERNATIONAL

1) NYC Mayor Eric Adams

- Kathleen Corradi has been appointed by NYC Mayor Eric Adams to tackle the city's severe rodent issue. She has been designated as the city's inaugural "rat czar" and given the responsibility of minimizing the rat population and creating a cleaner and more hospitable environment for residents.
- In addition, the Adams administration is dedicating \$3.5 million to the Harlem Rat Mitigation Zone, a new initiative to expedite rat control measures throughout Harlem.

2) Philippines and the United States

- The Philippines and the United States have launched their largest-ever joint military exercises, called Balikatan, involving nearly 18,000 troops to counter China's growing assertiveness in the region.
- The annual drills, which include a live-fire exercise in the South China Sea, are being held for the first time under President Ferdinand Marcos, who seeks to strengthen ties with the US.
- The maneuvers include military helicopters landing on the Philippine island of Luzon and the retaking of an island by amphibious forces.



NATIONAL

1) R21/Matrix-M

- Ghana has made history by becoming the first country to approve a highly effective malaria vaccine developed by scientists at the University of Oxford in the UK.
- The vaccine, called R21/Matrix-M, has exceeded the World Health Organization's target of 75% efficacy, making it a significant milestone in the fight against malaria.
- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an estimated 619,000 people died from malaria in 2021, with the vast majority of the deaths being children in sub-Saharan Africa.











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2) NSE Indices Limited

- NSE Indices Limited introduced the Nifty REITs & InvITs Index, the first of its kind in India, designed to monitor the performance of publicly listed and traded Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) at the National Stock Exchange, whether listed or unlisted but authorized to trade.

3) India's employment rate has shown a marginal improvement in the March quarter

- India's employment rate has shown a marginal improvement in the March quarter, with an increase of 0.3% from the previous quarter, according to the latest data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
- In March 2023, India's employment rate rose to 36.9%, up from 36.6% in December 2022, while the number of unemployed individuals decreased by nearly two million, underscoring the fact that many people were able to obtain jobs.

4) Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi

- Next week, India will host the Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi, where leaders and scholars from the Buddhist community around the world will gather to discuss contemporary global issues through a Buddhist perspective.
- The summit aims to find solutions to problems such as climate change, poverty, and conflict, among others, by exploring the Buddhist teachings and practices.
- The upcoming two-day Global Buddhist Summit to be hosted by India has the theme 'Responses to Contemporary Challenges from Philosophy to Praxis'.



5) 'Stay Safe with WhatsApp'

- WhatsApp has initiated a safety campaign called 'Stay Safe with WhatsApp' aimed at educating users about the product features that can assist them in maintaining their online safety and improving their messaging experience.















- The company stated that the campaign, which will last for three months, will emphasize on straightforward methods to activate WhatsApp's safety features that can provide users with various layers of protection as they spend more time online in their day-to-day lives.

STATE NEWS

1) Kolkata Metro

- Kolkata Metro has achieved a significant milestone as it became the first metro rail in India to complete an under-river journey.
- The metro rakes passed through an underwater tunnel beneath the Hooghly river, with the general manager, P Uday Kumar Reddy, traveling from Mahakaran to Howrah Maidan station in rake No. MR-612 at 11:55 am.
- Senior officers, including the Additional General Manager and MD of Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation Limited (KMRCL), H N Jaiswal, also accompanied him during the historic journey.
- After reaching the Howrah station, Reddy performed a puja, and rake No MR- 613 was also taken to the Howrah Maidan station. Flowers were sprinkled and coconuts were broken to celebrate this achievement.



APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS

1) Ratnakar Patnaik

- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has announced the appointment of Ratnakar Patnaik as the new Chief Investment Officer, replacing PR Mishra, who stepped down from the role on April 10.
- Additionally, PC Paikray has been named the new Chief Risk Officer, taking over from Tablesh Pandey on the same date.
- Patnaik, who has 32 years of experience in the industry, began his career at LIC as a Direct Recruit Officer in September 1990. This information was disclosed in a filing by the insurer.

SPORTS

1) ICC Player of the Month awards

- The ICC has revealed the winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for March 2023, with Shakib Al Hasan from Bangladesh being named as the ICC Men's Player of the Month, while Henriette Ishimwe from Rwanda was selected as the ICC Women's Player of the Month.













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- This is Shakib's second time winning the Player of the Month award, with his first win being in July 2021.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1) "The Banker to Every Indian"

- State Bank of India (SBI) headquartered in Mumbai (Maharashtra) announced the launch of its coffee table book titled "The Banker to Every Indian" which celebrates 75 years of Indian independence and the 200-year history of SBI, which was established in 1955.
- The coffee table book details the Bank's history ever since independence.

2) "The Great Bank Robbery: NPAs, Scams and the Future of Regulation"

- Pattabhi Ram & Sabyasachee Dash has co-authored a new book titled "The Great Bank Robbery: NPAs, Scams and the Future of Regulation" which discusses 11 scams that have rocked India since its Independence(1947). The book is published by Rupa Publications India Pvt Ltd.



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) 'Business Leader of the Decade Award'

- At the 13th Managing India Awards ceremony hosted by the All India Management Association (AIMA), Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman of Aditya Birla Group, was presented with the 'Business Leader of the Decade Award' for his contributions to the Indian industry in the last ten years.
- Birla was recognized for his leadership in consolidating and streamlining the operations of the diversified group.
- The 'AIMA-JRD Tata Corporate Leadership' award was given to T V Narendran, Chairman of Tata Steel, while ABB India, a leading engineering services company, won the 'MNC in India of the Year' award. The ceremony held in New Delhi also honored several other leaders and institutions in the industry.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) World Chagas Disease Day

- Every year on April 14th, World Chagas Disease Day is observed to raise awareness about a life-threatening illness that can cause severe heart and digestive problems.













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- The disease, also known as American trypanosomiasis, silent disease, or silenced disease, is caused by the Trypanosoma cruzi parasite, which is transmitted to humans by the triatomine bug, commonly known as the kissing bug.
- The disease primarily affects individuals living in rural areas with poor hygiene conditions, particularly those who are impoverished. It is more common in regions like Central America, Mexico, and South America.
- The theme for 2023 is Time to integrate Chagas disease into primary health care, so that universal care and surveillance start at the most decentralized level of the health system.

2) Baisakhi 2023:

- Baisakhi is the most significant festival celebrated by the Sikh community. The festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm and splendour. Families and friends come together on this day and prepare special dishes to mark the beginning of the harvest season.
- People also visit Gurudwaras to offer prayers. Langars are organised by Sikhs at various places to serve food to everyone.
- Kada prasad, a sweet dish made of wheat halwa, is traditionally served on this day to symbolise the start of a new and sweet beginning.

3) 132nd birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar

- India is commemorating the 132nd birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar on April 14, 2023, as Ambedkar Jayanti.
- This day has been declared a public holiday by the central government, underscoring the importance of Ambedkar's contributions to Indian society.
- The occasion is an opportunity to remember and celebrate Ambedkar's life and legacy, and to renew our commitment to the principles of social justice and equality that he championed throughout his career.













