

Weekly One Liners 13th to 19th of May 2024

Indian Literary Masterpieces Inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register

In a **proud moment** for India, three of its literary treasures – the **Ramcharitmanas**, **Panchatantra**, and **Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** – have been inscribed on **UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register**. This prestigious recognition celebrates India's **rich literary heritage** and **cultural legacy**, affirming the timeless wisdom and artistic expressions that have shaped the nation's identity.

Preserving Timeless Wisdom for Future Generations

The **inclusion** of these masterpieces in the Register signifies a crucial step in **global cultural preservation efforts**. It ensures that the profound teachings and narratives embodied within these works continue to **inspire and enlighten** generations to come, transcending boundaries of time and place.

Honoring the Creative Genius of Literary Legends

The **Ramcharitmanas**, authored by the renowned **Goswami Tulsidas**, the **Panchatantra** by **Pt. Vishnu Sharma**, and the **Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** by **Acharya Anandvardhan**, have profoundly influenced Indian literature and culture. These literary gems have left an **indelible mark** on readers and artists alike, shaping the nation's **moral fabric** and **artistic expressions**.

IGNCA's Pivotal Role in Securing Global Recognition

The **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)** played a pivotal role in securing this historic achievement during the **10th meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP)**. Professor **Ramesh Chandra Gaur**, representing IGNCA, successfully presented and defended the nominations, highlighting their cultural significance and garnering support from representatives and observers.

A Milestone in Cultural Preservation and Promotion

This milestone not only celebrates India's literary gems but also underscores IGNCA's unwavering dedication to **preserving and promoting** the nation's cultural heritage on a global stage. It reaffirms the organization's commitment to advancing India's literary legacy and contributing to the collective efforts of cultural preservation worldwide.

With the **Ramcharitmanas**, **Panchatantra**, and **Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** now inscribed on the prestigious Register, India's literary treasures have secured their rightful place among the world's most significant cultural assets, ensuring their enduring impact for generations to come.

2024 MOWCAP Regional Register for Asia-Pacific

Serial Number	Inscribed Item	Country
1	Funafuti: The Edgeworth David 1897 Expedition Documents	Australia and Tuvalu
2	Sultana's Dream- by Rokeya S. Hossain	Bangladesh
3	Archives Relating to the Chengdu Traditional Teahouses	China
4	Huizhou Genealogy Archives	China
5	Printing Blocks Housed at the Derge Printing House	China
6	The Illustrated Manuscripts of Rāmacaritamānasa of Tulasidāsa	India
7	The Manuscript of the Sahṛdayāloka-Locana: Seminal Text of Indian Poetics	India
8	The 15th Century Manuscript of the Pañcatantra Fables	India
9	Indarung I, The First Cement Plant in Southeast Asia (1910-1972)	Indonesia
10	Indonesian Sugar Research Institute's Archives 1887-1986: The Role of ISRI's Research Activities to the World Sugar Industry	Indonesia
11	The Tambo Tuanku Imam Bonjol Manuscript	Indonesia
12	Al-Tarikh Salasilah Negeri Kedah: Genealogical History of Kedah State	Malaysia
13	The Royal Correspondence of Baginda Omar (Surat Persendirian Baginda Omar)	Malaysia
14	Family Chart of Hereditary Lords of the Khalkha Mongols, the House of Genghis Khan	Mongolia
15	Mongolia's First Postage Stamps 'Eldev Ochir'	Mongolia
16	Doctrina Christiana en Lengua Española y Tagala (Christian Doctrine in Spanish and Tagalog), Manila, 1593	Philippines
17	Hinilawod Epic Chant Recordings	Philippines
18	Images of Khorezm Oasis by Khudaibergan Devanov (1879-1937)	Uzbekistan
19	Turkestan Album" 1871-1872	Uzbekistan
20	Bas-reliefs on the Nine Bronze Urns in Huế Imperial Palace	Vietnam

National Affairs

- According to data from the **Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI)**, an economic think tank, **China** has emerged as India's **largest trading partner** in the fiscal year 2023-24, surpassing the **United States**. The **two-way commerce** between India and China stood at a staggering **\$118.4 billion**, slightly edging out the **\$118.3 billion** traded with the US. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The grand commencement of **IndiaSkills 2024** took place at **Yashobhoomi, Dwarka, New Delhi** on 15 May 2024. Over the span of four days, this esteemed competition will assess the proficiency of students across 61 diverse categories, providing a platform for showcasing talent at both national and international levels. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Inauguration of the Bharat Pavilion, formerly known as the **India Pavilion**, marked a significant moment at the **77th Cannes Film Festival**. The renaming reflects India's commitment to traditional storytelling while seeking global collaborations. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India has signed a 10-year agreement to develop and operate Iran's strategic Chabahar Port to strengthen trade ties with Central Asia and Afghanistan, bypassing Pakistan. However, this deal faces potential US sanctions, complicating New Delhi's strategic objectives. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In April, India's merchandise exports saw a **modest 1% increase, reaching \$34.99 billion**, driven by robust growth in sectors like electronics, chemicals, petroleum products, and pharmaceuticals, despite global economic uncertainties. However, the trade deficit widened to a five-month high of \$19.1 billion, with imports rising by 10.25% to \$54.09 billion. Notably, imports of gold and crude oil surged, contributing to the deficit. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

States in the News

- Meghalaya has made history by appointing **Idashisha Nongrang** as the state's first woman **Director General of Police (DGP)**. Nongrang, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, will succeed **Lajja Ram Bishnoi**, who is set to retire on May 19, 2024. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a remarkable achievement, **P Shyaamnikhil** from Tamil Nadu has etched his name in the annals of Indian chess history by becoming the country's **85th Grandmaster (GM)**. The **31-year-old chess prodigy**, who embarked on his journey at the tender age of eight, finally secured the coveted **third and final GM norm** at the prestigious **2024 Dubai Police Masters Chess Tournament**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

International Affairs

- The **European Union** has passed its **first-ever legislation** aimed at combating violence against women. The law mandates all EU member states to criminalize practices such as female genital mutilation, forced marriage, and online harassment. Despite unanimous agreement on the necessity of the legislation, disagreements arose regarding a common definition of rape. Despite this, the law marks a significant step forward in protecting women's rights across the EU. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Japanese men's hockey team etched its name in the history books by clinching its **maiden Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy** title. The match against **Pakistan** ended in a 2-2 deadlock after regulation time, leading to a penalty shootout. Japan emerged victorious, defeating Pakistan 4-1 in the nerve-wracking shootout at the **Azlan Shah Stadium in Ipoh, Malaysia**, on 11 May 2024. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Russia** has claimed to have discovered massive oil and gas reserves in the **British Antarctic Territory**, a region currently protected under the 1959 Antarctic Treaty. According to evidence submitted to the Commons Environment Audit Committee, the reserves uncovered by Russian research ships contain around **511 billion barrels worth of oil**, a staggering amount equivalent to approximately **10 times the North Sea's output over the last 50 years**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a strategic move aimed at positioning **Dubai** as a global gaming hub and bolstering its digital economy, **His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**, the **Crown Prince of Dubai**, has unveiled the **'Dubai Gaming Visa'** as part of the **Dubai Program for Gaming 2033**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

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Selection Ka Saathi

- China's industrial output grew by **6.7% year-on-year in April**, a significant **increase from the 4.5% growth recorded in March**. This robust growth, as reported by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on Friday, exceeded analysts' expectations of a 5.5% rise, indicating a strengthening recovery in the manufacturing sector. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Nepalese Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal, also known as Prachanda**, is set to seek his fourth vote of confidence on Monday amidst turmoil in parliament. The Janata Samajbadi Party Nepal has withdrawn its support within 18 months of Dahal taking office, prompting this latest confidence vote. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Hundreds of residents **near Mount Ibu**, an active volcano on **Halmahera island in eastern Indonesia**, have been evacuated following a significant increase in volcanic activity. Authorities raised the alert status to the highest level after two consecutive days of massive eruptions, prompting precautionary measures to ensure the safety of local communities. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India and the UAE recently concluded a significant meeting focused on the **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC)**. The meeting, held under the Intergovernmental Framework Agreement, aimed at enhancing cooperation for the development and operationalization of the corridor. This initiative is set to provide alternative supply routes, generating efficiencies and reducing costs. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- In a significant move to bolster research and conservation efforts concerning sharks and rays in the **Arabian Sea, India and Oman are set to embark** on a joint initiative. This collaboration aims to enhance understanding, promote conservation, and facilitate capacity building in elasmobranch research, with a particular focus on the Arabian Sea region. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **India and Iran** have inked a significant **10-year bilateral contract** aimed at enhancing the operations of the **Chabahar Port**. This move underscores India's strategic interests in bolstering trade links with Central Asia and parts of Europe, leveraging the port's strategic location on Iran's southwestern coast. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant step towards empowering women in emerging technology sectors, the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** has signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd to conduct **two Pilot Projects under the Drone Didi Yojana**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- India and the UK have reaffirmed their commitment to concluding a mutually beneficial **Free Trade Agreement (FTA)** during the annual UK-India Strategic Dialogue in London. This marks a significant step as the two nations have already conducted 13 rounds of talks, with the **14th round commencing in January 2024**. The discussions also reviewed progress on the 2030 Roadmap, established in 2021 to enhance cooperation in various sectors. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Hinduja Group's IndusInd International Holdings (IIHL)** has obtained approval from the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** for the acquisition of Reliance Capital. This acquisition encompasses Reliance Capital's insurance subsidiaries, including Reliance General Insurance and Reliance Nippon Life Insurance. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Factory output in India saw a notable rise, **registering a growth of 4.9% in March**, a significant leap from the 1.9% recorded in the same period the previous year. However, this figure fell slightly short of **February 2024's 5.7%**. For the fiscal year 2023-24, the factory output grew by 5.8%, a marginal increase from the previous year. The uptick was particularly evident in manufacturing and construction goods output. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Infosys, a global leader in digital services and consulting, has been awarded the **ISO 42001:2023 certification by TÜV India**, for its **Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)**. This certification highlights Infosys' commitment to implementing responsible AI practices and adhering to regulatory standards. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India's retail inflation has eased marginally to **touch an 11-month low of 4.83 per cent on an annual basis in April**, according to government data released on **Monday**. This slight dip from the previous month's **figure of 4.85 per cent aligns** closely with the projections of a **Reuters poll of 44 economists**, who estimated the number to **come down to 4.80 per cent**. Importantly, this figure falls within the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) tolerance band of 2-6 per cent. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant stride towards sustainable energy practices, the **Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP)**, a key unit of the **Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)** situated in **Chhattisgarh**, is set to inaugurate the state's premier floating solar project. This venture marks a pivotal moment in Chhattisgarh's journey towards renewable energy and underscores BSP's commitment to reducing its carbon footprint while promoting eco-friendly initiatives. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- In the **financial year ending March 2024**, the cumulative profit of public sector banks (PSBs) **surged, reaching over ₹1.4 lakh crore**, marking a significant 35% increase from the previous year's earnings of ₹1.04 lakh crore. State Bank of India (SBI) emerged as a major contributor, accounting for over 40% of the total earnings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In the fiscal year 2023-24, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) saw a significant increase in its gold reserves, adding **27.46 metric tonnes** and reaching a **total of 822.10 metric tonnes** by the end of **March 2024**. This brought the share of gold in the total foreign exchange reserves to about 8.15%, up from 7.81% in the previous year. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a groundbreaking move, **Hero MotoCorp, India's leading two-wheeler manufacturer**, has become the first in its sector to integrate with the **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**. By leveraging ONDC's platform, Hero MotoCorp aims to enhance accessibility and convenience for its customers, offering a seamless digital experience for purchasing two-wheeler parts, accessories, and merchandise. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted approval to **Quant Mutual Fund (MF)** to increase its stake in **RBL Bank to 9.98% by May 12, 2025**. This approval, subject to conditions and provisions under the **Banking Regulation Act, 1949**, was disclosed in a regulatory filing. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In April, wholesale inflation in **India soared to a 13-month high of 1.26%**, up from 0.53% in March. This surge was primarily fueled by rising prices of food articles, particularly vegetables, and a year-on-year increase of 1.4% in fuel and power costs after months of deflation. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Moody's Ratings predicts a 6.6% expansion** for the Indian economy in the fiscal year ending **March 2025 (FY25)**. This growth trajectory is anticipated to fuel strong credit demand, particularly benefiting the **Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)**, despite challenges posed by rising funding costs. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **HDFC Bank has rolled out Pixel Play**, the nation's inaugural virtual credit card partnered with Visa. Offering two distinct variants, **Pixel Play and Pixel Go**, this innovative card empowers users to craft personalized cards tailored to their lifestyle preferences and chosen merchants, all through the bank's PayZapp mobile app. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a move aimed at granting additional time to **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** of India to meet regulatory requirements, the **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)** has extended LIC's deadline to achieve a minimum **10% public shareholding**. LIC, a state-owned insurance giant, now has until May 16, 2027, to fulfill this obligation. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant move, **PhonePe has joined forces with LankaPay** to introduce **UPI payments in Sri Lanka**. This collaboration allows PhonePe users to seamlessly utilize UPI for transactions across LankaPay QR merchants, providing them with familiarity and security while traveling. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The United Nations has revised **India's economic growth forecast for 2024**, projecting a robust expansion driven by strong public investment and resilient private consumption. India's economy is now expected to grow by **6.9% in 2024, up from the 6.2% forecast in January**, with a 6.6% growth rate projected for 2025. This optimistic outlook highlights India's role in bolstering South Asia's overall economic performance. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **India's internet economy** is poised for significant growth, with industry experts predicting it will reach **\$1 trillion by 2030**. This surge is primarily driven by the e-commerce sector, which is expected to grow at an annual rate of 25%, from \$60 billion in FY2023 to \$325 billion, making it the third largest globally. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In an effort to combat tax evasion in the **pan masala and tobacco sectors**, the **GST portal** has introduced **new forms and procedures for manufacturers** to register their machinery and report monthly inputs and outputs. This initiative follows recommendations from the GST Council and aims to enhance compliance and reduce illicit trade. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO)** forecasts India's merchandise exports to reach **\$500-510 billion in FY25**, rebounding from a 3% contraction in the previous fiscal year. Services exports are estimated to contribute \$390-400 billion, culminating in total exports of approximately \$890-910 billion. Noteworthy sectors driving this growth include engineering, advertising services, and the expansion of global capability centers. ([Click to Read the Article](#))



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) repurchased government bonds worth only **Rs 2,069 crore out of the notified Rs 60,000 crore**. Banks resisted selling at lower prices, resulting in limited acceptance. The bonds, purchased during the pandemic at higher rates, posed a challenge for the RBI, prompting smaller buyback amounts. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In anticipation of increased demand in the automotive sector, **Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd** has unveiled an ambitious plan to **invest ₹26,000 crore** in its automotive business over the **next three years**. This significant investment will span **from FY25 to FY27** and is aimed at developing new vehicles and enhancing production capacity. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- India's foreign exchange reserves saw an increase of \$2.56 billion, reaching a total of \$644.15 billion for the week ended May 10, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This follows a previous increase of \$3.668 billion after three consecutive weeks of decline. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In response to rising credit demand and falling liquidity, State Bank of India (SBI) has increased short-term retail fixed deposit rates by **25-75 basis points (bps)**, marking its **first interest rate hike since December**. This move, likely to be emulated by other banks, reflects a strategic adjustment to offer better returns for depositors. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian government has announced plans for public sector companies like **Coal India, NMDC, and ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL)** to actively seek critical mineral assets overseas. This strategic move aims to secure vital mineral resources essential for various industries, including clean energy technologies and electric vehicles. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- Tata Sons chairman **N Chandrasekaran** is set to assume the role of chairman at **Tata Electronics**, a significant move that underscores the Tata group's commitment to its **\$14 billion** investment in the semiconductor business. Chandrasekaran will succeed **Banmali Agrawala**, who has held the position for several years and has recently taken on an advisory role within the group. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) has successfully conducted its 15th **RGB elections** for its Board of Directors, marking a remarkable milestone in cooperative governance. The elections, held on **May 9, 2024**, at IFFCO's corporate office in New Delhi, saw the emergence of **Dileep Sanghani** as the **Chairman** and **Balvir Singh** as the **Vice Chairman** of IFFCO. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- **Wipro**, a leading IT major, has announced the appointment of **Vinay Firake** as the **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of its **Asia Pacific, India, Middle East, and Africa (APMEA) strategic market unit (SMU)**, effective immediately. Firake will report directly to **Srini Pallia**, Wipro's CEO and Managing Director, and will also join the company's executive board. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **NASA** has given a new role to **David Salvagnini** as the agency's **Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer**. This is an addition to his current job as **Chief Data Officer**. The appointment shows NASA's commitment to using AI technology responsibly. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Senior advocate Kapil Sibal** has been elected as the **president of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA)** in a recent election held on Thursday in New Delhi. This marks his fourth term serving as the president of the prestigious lawyers' body, succeeding senior advocate Adish C. Aggarwala. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a significant development, **senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officers A Y V Krishna and N Venu Gopal** have been appointed as **additional directors in the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**. Their appointments underscore the government's commitment to bolstering the investigative capabilities of the premier investigative agency. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Defence News

- In a strategic move to bolster its surveillance capabilities along the Pakistan border, the Indian Army is set to induct advanced drones, including the **Drishti-10 (Hermes-900)**. Scheduled for an induction ceremony in **Hyderabad on May 18**, these drones mark a significant addition to the Army's existing fleet, aligning with the **'Make in India'** initiative in Defence. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian Air Force recently conducted a test in Agra for the **BHISHM** portable hospital, a crucial component of **"Project BHISHM"** aimed at providing rapid and comprehensive medical assistance during emergencies. These portable cubes, part of a broader initiative, can cater to up to 200 casualties, emphasizing swift response and extensive care. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Defence Secretary **Giridhar Aramane** unveiled a commemorative Rs 250 coin during the celebration of the 250th anniversary of **Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL)** in New Delhi on May 14, 2024. The event, hosted by MDL, commemorated its evolution from a dry dock in 1774 to a premier naval shipyard under the Ministry of Defence. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- **Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**, a globally renowned leader in public health and infectious diseases, has been named among the 10 exceptional individuals to receive an honorary degree from Canada's prestigious **McGill University** during the Spring 2024 Convocation ceremonies. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a prestigious ceremony held in New Delhi, **Cmdr Hemant Khatri**, the Chairman and Managing Director (C&MD) of **Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)**, was bestowed with the esteemed '**PSU Samarpan Award**' by Gov Connect. The award recognizes Khatri's outstanding leadership and his pivotal role in driving the transformation of the shipyard, inspiring countless individuals within the industry. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a prestigious ceremony held at the Sahara Star Hotel in Mumbai on May 12th, **Chandrakant Satija**, the renowned educationist and Founder/CEO of **Chandra Admission Consultants**, was honored with the **Global Excellence Award 2024**. The award, presented by the famous Bollywood actress **Shilpa Shetty Kundra**, recognized Satija as the **Most Trusted Admissions Consultant in the Vidarbha Region**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a momentous occasion, the **eminent author Ruskin Bond** has been bestowed with the **Sahitya Akademi Fellowship**, the highest honour conferred by India's premier literary organization, the Sahitya Akademi. Due to Bond's **ill health**, the prestigious award was presented to him at his **Mussoorie home** by Sahitya Akademi President Madhav Kaushik and Secretary K. Sreenivasarao, in the presence of his son. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- The **22nd Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** conducted by the **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** revealed that the unemployment rate among individuals aged 15 years and above in urban areas of India decreased to **6.7% in the January-March 2024 period**. The survey offers insights into various labor force indicators, including unemployment rate, worker population ratio (WPR), and labor force participation rate (LFPR) based on the Current Weekly Status (CWS) approach. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **Center for World University Rankings (CWUR)** released its **2024 report**, revealing a mixed bag for Indian higher education institutions. While the **Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad improved its rank**, many others, including the prestigious Indian Institute of Science, experienced a decline. The report indicates that despite

advancements in research output, this success isn't translating equally to higher education excellence. Furthermore, Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) witnessed varied performances, with IIT Bombay notably climbing in rankings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- The **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)**, a digital infrastructure initiative **launched in 2021**, has witnessed remarkable growth, with transactions **crossing 70 lakh in April this year**. Led by the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)**, ONDC aims to democratize digital commerce and create a level playing field for businesses of all sizes. Let's explore the key highlights and significance of ONDC through subheadings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Sports News

- **Anandana**, The Coca-Cola India Foundation, has forged its maiden alliance with Hockey India for the **National Women's Hockey League 2024**. This collaboration aims to elevate women's hockey by providing essential resources and support to players, aligning with Coca-Cola India's commitment to sports and gender equality through its **#SheTheDifference** campaign. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Neeraj Chopra**, the reigning Olympic and world champion in javelin throw, started his 2024 season on a strong note, securing a **second-place finish** at the **Doha Diamond League 2024**. Chopra's impressive throw of **88.36m** on his final attempt fell just **2cm short** of Czechia's **Jakub Vadlejch**, the reigning Diamond League champion and Tokyo 2020 silver medalist. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a display of sheer dominance, **World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen** pulled off an incredible comeback to claim victory at the 2024 Superbet Rapid & Blitz Poland. Despite starting the day trailing by 2.5 points behind **GM Wei Yi**, Carlsen embarked on a remarkable 10-game winning streak, ultimately overtaking his rival and securing the championship title. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a showcase of electrifying motorcycle racing, **Jorge Martin** of Pramac Ducati emerged victorious in the nail-biting 2024 French MotoGP. The Spaniard fended off fierce challenges from **Marc Marquez** and **Francesco Bagnaia** to claim the top spot on the podium, extending his lead in the championship standings. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a historic move, the **United Nations General Assembly** has unanimously proclaimed **May 25** as the **World Football Day**, marking a significant milestone in the global celebration of the world's most popular sport. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- In a remarkable achievement, **P Shyaamnikhil** from Tamil Nadu has etched his name in the annals of Indian chess history by becoming the country's **85th Grandmaster (GM)**. The **31-year-old chess prodigy**, who embarked on his journey at the tender age of eight, finally secured the coveted **third and final GM norm** at the prestigious **2024 Dubai Police Masters Chess Tournament**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Sunil Chhetri**, India's **most decorated footballer**, has announced his retirement from **international football**. The **FIFA World Cup Qualifier** game against **Kuwait** in **Kolkata** on **June 6** will be his last appearance for the national team. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Science and Technology News

- NASA has unveiled its ambitious plan to construct the **first lunar railway system, known as FLOAT (Flexible Levitation on a Track)**, designed to revolutionize payload transport on the Moon. This innovative system aims to provide reliable, autonomous, and efficient transportation essential for the daily operations of a sustainable lunar base, aligning with NASA's Moon to Mars initiative and mission concepts like the **Robotic Lunar Surface Operations 2 (RLSO2)**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **NASA and the Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)** have decided to operate an instrument on the **X-ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission (XRISM)** satellite as-is for at least the next year and a half, despite encountering an issue affecting one of its instruments. This decision showcases the agencies' determination to push forward with this groundbreaking X-ray astronomy mission. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Highlighting the historical importance and modern relevance of millets, **Google Arts & Culture**, in collaboration with **India's Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**, presents an engaging digital exhibition titled **"Millets: Seeds of Change."** This exhibition delves into the journey of millets, showcasing their evolution from ancient staples to contemporary superfoods, and emphasizes their nutritional value, role in climate resilience, and potential to address global food security challenges. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- In a move that underscores its commitment to **artificial intelligence (AI)** and cloud computing, tech giant **Microsoft Corp.** has announced plans to invest a staggering **€4 billion** (approximately **\$4.3 billion**) in building **cloud and AI infrastructure** in **France**. This latest investment highlights the company's continued focus on advancing its AI capabilities and expanding its cloud services globally. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is gearing up for a landmark mission that aims to land a **rover and helicopter on Mars**. This historic endeavor, named **Mangalyaan-2**, seeks to place India alongside the US and China as a significant player in interplanetary exploration. The project was unveiled during a presentation at the Space Application Centre on National Technology Day. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Important Days News

- Every year on **12 May**, the world observes **International Nurses Day** to honor the birth anniversary of **Florence Nightingale**, the pioneer of modern nursing. This day serves as a tribute to the selfless dedication and vital contributions of nurses worldwide. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **International Day of Plant Health (IDPH)** is observed annually on **12 May** to raise awareness about the critical importance of protecting plant health. This global initiative aims to prevent hunger, reduce poverty, safeguard biodiversity, and promote economic development worldwide. This year, the **International Day of Plant Health** falls on **Sunday, 12 May 2024**, coinciding with **Mother's Day**, an event that recognizes the love, care, and sacrifices of mothers. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- Every year on **May 15th**, we celebrate the **International Day of Families**. It's a special day to recognize how **essential families** are in our society. The **United Nations** established this day in **1994** to help people understand why **families matter**, what **challenges** they might face, and to encourage people to **come together** in support. 2024 Theme: 'Families & Climate Change: International Year Of The Family + 30'. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **International Day of Living Together in Peace** is an annual observance held on **16 May** every year. Established by the **United Nations General Assembly**, this day aims to support global efforts in promoting **peace, unity, and solidarity** among nations and individuals. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The **International Day of Light** is observed annually on **May 16th**, commemorating the first successful operation of the **laser** by physicist and engineer **Theodore Maiman** in 1960. This year, it falls on **Thursday, May 16, 2024**, under the theme of **"Light in Our Lives,"** to let the light guide us the way forward. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day**, observed **annually on May 17**, celebrates the transformative impact of telecommunication and information technology on global connectivity and development. The **theme for World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2024** is **"Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development."** ([Click to Read the Article](#))

- **International Museum Day, celebrated annually on May 18th in the world** to raise public awareness of the invaluable role museums play in preserving artistic, cultural, and historical artifacts. The **theme for International Museum Day 2024** is **“Museums for Education and Research.”** ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Obituaries News

- The literary world mourns the loss of **Surjit Patar**, a renowned Punjabi poet, writer, and **Padma Shri** recipient, who passed away in Ludhiana, Punjab, at the age of 79. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The literary world mourns the loss of **Alice Munro**, the **Nobel Prize-winning author** renowned for her masterful crafting of **short stories**. Munro, who passed away on **May 13** at the age of 92, left an indelible mark with her **taut and acutely observed** narratives, which captured the essence of human nature with remarkable clarity. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- The Indian political landscape mourns the loss of a **pioneering figure**, Kamla Beniwal, who breathed her last on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at the age of 97. Beniwal, a **veteran Congress leader** and former governor of Gujarat, Tripura, and Mizoram, left an indelible mark on the nation’s political arena with her **unwavering commitment** and **decades-long service**. ([Click to Read the Article](#))
- **Malti Joshi**, a revered figure in the literary world and recipient of the prestigious **Padma Shri award**, passed away at the **age of 90 after a battle with cancer**. Her legacy as a prolific writer and storyteller leaves an indelible mark on Hindi and Marathi literature. ([Click to Read the Article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- Renowned **Nepali mountaineer Kami Rita Sherpa** has achieved a historic feat by conquering Mount Everest for the 29th time. At 54 years old, Kami reached the 8,849-meter summit at 7:25 am local time on Sunday, leading a group of climbers organized by Seven Summit Treks. ([Click to Read the Article](#))



Static Takeaways

- International Council of Nurses President: Pamela Cipriano;
- International Council of Nurses Established Year: 1899;
- International Council of Nurses Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland.
- United Nations Secretary-General: António Guterres.
- United Nations Established Year: October 24, 1945.
- United Nations Headquarters: New York City, USA.
- Wipro Founded : 29 December 1945
- Wipro Headquarters : Bangalore, Karnataka
- Wipro Executive Chairman : Rishad Premji
- UNESCO Headquarters: Paris, France;
- UNESCO Founded: 16 November 1945, London, United Kingdom;
- UNESCO Head: Audrey Azoulay; (Director-General).
- Press Council of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Press Council of India Founder: Parliament of India;
- Press Council of India Founded: 4 July 1966, India.
- Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is chairman of the council .
- All India Football Federation President: Kalyan Chaubey;
- All India Football Federation Founded: 23 June 1937;
- All India Football Federation HQ: Dwarka, New Delhi.
- Adobe CEO: Shantanu Narayen (1 Dec 2007–);
- Adobe Headquarters: San Jose, California, United States;
- Adobe Founders: Charles Geschke, John Warnock;
- Adobe Founded: December 1982, Mountain View, California, United States.
- Assam’s Industries & Commerce Minister: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- The Chairman and Managing Director of VA Tech Wabag: Rajiv Mittal
- Singapore’s Minister for Education: Mr Chan Chun Sing
- State Bank of India(SBI) Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- State Bank of India(SBI) Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- State Bank of India(SBI) Established in – 1955
- State Bank of India(SBI) Tagline – The Banker to Every Indian
- Managing Director & CEO of YES BANK: Mr. Prashant Kumar
- Chief executive officer (CEO) of Jio Financial Services: Hitesh Sethia
- Official currency of Thailand: Thai baht
- Khelo India Programme was launched in the year: 2018
- Chief Marketing and Communications Officer at Mastercard: Raja Rajamannar

- Chief Executive Officer of ICC: Geoff Allardice
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL): Shri Mihir Kanti Mishra
- Wrestling Federation of India President: Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh;
- Wrestling Federation of India Founded: 27 January 1967;
- Wrestling Federation of India Headquartered in New Delhi, India.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Minister of Assam for Environment and Forest: Chandra Mohan Patowary
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) was formed on: October 14, 2003.
- Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI): Ravneet Kaur.
- Chairman of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE): T G Sitharam
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Founded: 1 October 2003;
- Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Headquarters: Chōfu, Tokyo, Japan.
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Secretary-General: Zurab Pololikashvili;
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Headquarters: Madrid, Spain;
- United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) Establishment: 1975.
- Mozambique Capital: Maputo;
- Mozambique Official language: Portuguese;
- Mozambique Currency: Mozambican metical;
- Mozambique Government: Republic, Semi-presidential system, Unitary state, Constitutional republic;
- Mozambique Population: 3.21 crores (2021) World Bank;
- Mozambique President: Filipe Jacinto Nyusi;
- Prime Minister of Mozambique: Adriano Afonso Maleiane.
- SEBI Formed: April 12, 1988;
- SEBI Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- SEBI Chairperson: Madhabi Puri Buch.
- Survey of India (SoI) Surveyor General of India– Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana;
- Survey of India (SoI) Headquarters– Dehradun, Uttarakhand;
- Survey of India (SoI) Established in– 1767.

