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 **Tuesday, 25 June 2024**

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Tuesday, 25 June 2024

S&P retains India FY25 GDP growth estimate at 6.8%

- S&P Global Ratings retained India's GDP growth forecast for the current financial year at 6.8 per cent and said high interest rates and lower fiscal spur would temper demand.
- In its economic outlook for Asia Pacific, S&P Global Ratings said India's economic growth continues to surprise on the upside with the economy growing 8.2 per cent in fiscal year 2023-24.
- For the fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27, S&P projected growth rates of 6.9 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively.
- S&P's estimates for FY'25 is lower than that of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which earlier this month projected the Indian economy to expand at 7.2 per cent in the current fiscal, on the back of improving rural demand and moderating inflation.
- While another rating agency Fitch estimates India's growth at 7.2 per cent in FY'25, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) estimates India's GDP to grow at 7 per cent.
- Moody's Ratings and Deloitte India estimates India's GDP to grow at 6.6 per cent in 2024-25 fiscal, while Morgan Stanley projects growth rate of 6.8 per cent.

Q. According to S&P's Global economic outlook, the India's GDP growth forecast for the current financial year stood at: **6.7%**



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

Sony Pictures Networks India appoints Gaurav Banerjee as new MD and CEO

- Sony Pictures Networks India appointed former Disney executive Gaurav Banerjee as its Managing Director and CEO, effective on or before August 26.
- Banerjee will succeed NP Singh, who will move into the role of Non-Executive Chairman after a 25-year tenure.
- Banerjee previously held the positions of Head of Content for Hindi Entertainment & Disney+ Hotstar and Business Head for Star Bharat, Hindi & English Movies, Kids & Infotainment, and Regional (East).
- Banerjee's appointment follows Singh's decision to move on, which was announced last month.
- Note: The Japanese parent of SPNI, had pushed for Singh to lead the merged entity proposed to be formed after amalgamation with India's Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd (ZEEL) before calling off the USD 10 billion deal in January this year.

Sony Pictures Networks India

- Company type: Subsidiary
- Founded: 18 September 1995
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Parent: Sony Pictures Television

Q. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of Sony Pictures Networks India? **Gaurav Banerjee**



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

GRSE bags export order for four commercial vessels

- Defence PSU Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) signed an agreement with German firm Carsten Rehder Schiffsmakler and Reederei GmbH & Co for the construction and delivery of four multi-purpose vessels of 7,500 DWT each, with an option of building another four ships in the near future.
- As part of the order worth \$54 million, Garden Reach Shipbuilders will be designing, building, and delivering the vessels after completion within a time period of 33 months.
- The vessels will be 120 metres long and 17 metres wide with a maximum draft of 6.75 metres.
- Each of them can carry 7,500 metric tonnes of cargo.
- The vessels will have a single cargo hold each to accommodate bulk, general and project cargoes.
- Containers will be carried on hatch covers.
- The ships have been specifically designed to carry multiple large windmill blades on deck.
- The shipyard is also currently working on six patrol boats and a TSH dredger for the Government of Bangladesh.
- In 2023, GRSE delivered the MV Ma Lisha, a passenger-cum Annexure-I cargo ocean-going ferry to the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

Q. Recently the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE) signed an MoU with which country for the construction and delivery of four multi-purpose vessels?

Germany



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

New Telecom Act: Centre can take control of telecom networks during emergency

- The Centre introduced the new Telecommunications Act, 2023 that will usher in the new era of connectivity from June 26, replacing century-old colonial laws.
- The Section 20 of the 'Telecommunications Act 2023' stated that the central government or a state government will be able to take control of any telecommunications services or networks in times of emergency after the implementation of the Act.
- Any telecom player who wants to establish or operate telecommunication networks, provide services or possess radio equipment will have to be authorised by the government.
- The Telecommunications Act, 2023 seeks to repeal existing legislative frameworks like Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Indian Wireless Telegraph Act, 1933 owing to huge technical advancements in the telecom sector and technologies.
- The Act also provides measures for protection of users from unsolicited commercial communication and creates a grievance redressal mechanism.
- It also provides that telecommunication infrastructure shall be distinct from the property it is installed on.

Q. Under which section of the newly introduced Telecommunications Act, 2023, the central government or a state government will be able to take control of any telecommunications services or networks in times of emergency? **Section 20**



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

ISRO aces final test of Reusable Launch Vehicle tech for Landing Experiment

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced success in the final test of the Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) Landing EXperiment (LEX).
- This is the third consecutive success in the series of LEX (03) technology demonstrating “the autonomous landing capability” and was conducted at the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR) in Chitradurga, Karnataka.
- As part of the experiment, the winged vehicle, named ‘Pushpak’, was released from an Indian Air Force Chinook Helicopter at an altitude of 4.5 km.
- Armed with advanced autonomous capabilities, “Pushpak executed a precise horizontal landing under challenging conditions.
- The RLV-LEX mission, which uses multisensor fusion including sensors like an inertial sensor, radar altimeter, flush air data system, pseudo lite system, and NavIC, “simulated the approach and landing interface and high-speed landing conditions for a vehicle returning from space”.

Q. What is the name of the ISRO's Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) Landing EXperiment (LEX) which was successfully tested in the recent launching?

Pushpak



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

Tennis: Tommy beats Musetti to lift Queen's trophy

- Tommy Paul clinched his third ATP Tour title and first on grass at the Queen's Club Championships, overcoming Lorenzo Musetti in the final.
- With his 27th tour-level win of the season, Paul ensured he will surpass Taylor Fritz and become American No. 1 for the first time in his career.
- The 27-year-old is set to rise to No. 12 in the ATP Rankings.
- The American clinched his first tour-level title in Stockholm in 2021 before he won this February in Dallas.
- His Queen's Club crown is his first at ATP 500 level.
- Moreover, Paul also received an Honorary membership at the Club.

Queen's Club Championships

- Founded: 1886
- Editions: 124 (2023)
- Location: London, United Kingdom
- Prize money: €2,195,175 (2023)

Q. Who has won the Queen's Club Championship title in Men's single category? **Tommy Paul**



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

Spanish GP: Verstappen pips Norris to top spot

- Max Verstappen has won the Spanish Grand Prix marking his seventh victory out of the ten races that have taken place during the 2024/25 season.
- It was Lando Norris who started the race at pole but lost the lead in the very first corner.
- Lando Norris fell to P3 just seconds later and fell behind the Red Bull.
- Verstappen went on to overtake the Mercedes in the third lap and secured a marginable lead that ultimately secured the second consecutive win for the three-time world champion.

Spanish Grand Prix

- Number of times held: 65
- First held: 1913
- Most wins (drivers): Michael Schumacher (6) & Lewis Hamilton (6)
- Most wins (constructors): Ferrari (12)

2024 winners

1. Max Verstappen (RB)
2. Lando Norris (MCL)
3. Lewis Hamilton (MER)

Q. Who has won the Spanish Grand Prix marking his seventh victory out of the ten races that have taken place during the 2024/25 season? **Max Verstappen**



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

Sreeja Akula becomes first Indian to win WTT Contender singles title

- Sreeja Akula became the first Indian paddler to win a WTT Contender singles title as she beat World No. 504 Ding Yijie of China in the final in Lagos, Nigeria.
- The India No 2 paddler, along with Archana Kamath, defeated compatriots Diya Chitale and Yashaswini Ghorpade to clinch the women's doubles crown as well.
- Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar became the first Indian male duo to triumph at this level as they defeated local favourites Azeez Solanke and Olajide Omotayo in the men's doubles final.
- Sreeja, Archana, Harmeet and Manav are part of the Indian table tennis squad for Paris Olympics, which will be led by Sharath Kamal and Manika Batra.
- Note: World Table Tennis, stylized as WTT, is an organization created by the ITTF in 2019 that runs commercialized table tennis tournaments.

Q. Who became the first Indian paddler to win a WTT Contender singles title by defeating china in the final in Lagos, Nigeria? **Sreeja Akula**



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

Bayern Munich's rehab and conditioning coach Thomas Wilhelmi passes away at 57

- FC Bayern Munich have announced the death of Thomas Wilhelmi, the German club's rehab and conditioning coach who has died at the age of 57 following a long illness.
- Wilhelmi worked for Bayern since 2007 and played a big part in the numerous successes of the last 17 years.
- Wilhelmi joined the club in 2007 from Bayer Leverkusen and worked under various coaches, including Jupp Heynckes, Louis van Gaal, Pep Guardiola, Ottmar Hitzfeld, Jürgen Klinsmann, Carlo Ancelotti, Hansi Flick, Niko Kovac, Julian Nagelsmann and Thomas Tuchel.
- During his time, FC Bayern won 13 Bundesliga titles, the Champions League and FIFA Club World Cup twice, seven DFB Cups, the UEFA Super Cup twice, and the German Supercup nine times.

Q. Rehab and conditioning coach Thomas Wilhelmi died. He was associated with which Germany based FC? **FC Bayern Munich**



Tuesday, 25 June 2024

Hockey Pro League: Flawless Dutch women secure second straight title with three matches to spare

- The Netherlands made a triumphant return with a comfortable win over Germany, securing the FIH Hockey Pro League title with three matches still to play.
- The first half was evenly contested and it was essentially two sharp plays from the Dutch that made all the difference.
- To celebrate the talented goal-scorers throughout the season the FIH has introduced the Top Scorer Armband, which is being worn by the leading goal-scorers in the men's and women's competitions in the current season, as a visual mark for the fans, and for the players to wear proudly, match after match.

Current Top Scorers:

- Women - Yibbi Jansen (NED) (17 goals)
- Men – Blake Govers (AUS) / Jip Janssen (NED) / Harmanpreet Singh (IND) (12 goals)

Q. Which team won the FIH Hockey Pro League title with three matches still to play in women's category? **Netherlands**



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