

News Digest

NATIONAL

Rising Number of IITs, IIMs, AIIMS in Recent Years are the Building Blocks of New India: PM

"Soft power of India is becoming a success story of the Indian youth", this was stated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in the valedictory address of centenary celebrations of Delhi University. Underlining the high Indian share in the global GDP of that time, he said, "India's rich education system is the carrier of India's prosperity".

The Prime Minister highlighted the deal on the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology or iCET with the USA during his recent visit and said that it will create new opportunities for the youth of India in various sectors ranging from AI to semi-conductors. The Prime Minister said, "Futuristic policies in last few years boosted global recognition for Indian universities."



National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 to Strengthen Research Eco-System



The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, on Jun 28 approved the introduction of the National Research Foundation (NRF) Bill, 2023 in the Parliament. The approved Bill will pave the way to establish NRF that will seed, grow and promote Research and Development (R&D) and foster a culture of research

and innovation throughout India's universities, colleges, research institutions, and R&D laboratories. NRF will forge collaborations among the industry, academia, and government departments and research institutions, and create an interface mechanism for participation and contribution of industries and State governments in addition to the scientific and line ministries.

IIT Bombay Ranks in the Top 150 in the QS World University Rankings

IIT Bombay has made it to the top 150 universities in the world in the 2023 rankings. IIT Bombay has the 149th position in this ranking. After this, the second Indian institute is IIT Delhi. He has been given the 197th rank. Union Minister Shri Rajiv Chandrasekhar said that 45 Indian universities have made it into this year's QS World University Rankings.

INTERNATIONAL

'Make in India' Initiative had Impressive Effect on Indian Economy: President Putin

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Make in India' initiative has a visible effect on the Indian economy. Mr Putin said this while speaking at an event in Moscow on June 29. The Russian President drew India's example to encourage domestic products and brands in Russia. Recently, Russian Ambassador Mr. Denis Alipov in New Delhi said that the special Russia-India strategic partnership has shown strength and is growing stronger as ever.

Philippines ratifies updated Air Services Agreement with India

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Foreign Secretary of the Philippines Mr. Enrique A. Manalo on June 29 co-chaired the 5th India-Philippines Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation in New Delhi. During the meeting, both the leaders discussed a number of issues including defence, maritime security, counter-terrorism and transnational crimes. Dr Jaishankar said, the discussion also took place on growing economic ties, including in trade and investments, development cooperation, health and pharma, tourism, agriculture and space cooperation.

India criticises delay in reforms at UN Security Council

As the UN General Assembly decided to roll over the Inter-Governmental Negotiations on Security Council reform to its next session, India has termed it as "yet another wasted opportunity". The UN General Assembly on June 30 adopted a draft oral decision to continue the intergovernmental negotiations on Security Council reform at the 78th session of the UN General Assembly that will commence in September. The rollover decision marked the end of the IGN for the current 77th session. India's Permanent Representative at the UN Ambassador Ms. Ruchira Kamboj underscored that the roll-over decision of the IGN simply cannot be reduced to a mindless technical exercise.

ECONOMY

Government Announces Unique Package for Farmers

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on June 28 approved bouquet of schemes to boost well being of farmers, rejuvenate soil productivity, and ensure food security & environmental sustainability. It also approves continuation of Urea Subsidy Scheme and committed Rs. 3,68,676.7 crore for urea subsidy for 3 years (2022-23 to 2024-25). The CCEA approved Rs. 1451 crore for Market Development Assistance Scheme to exemplify model of wealth from waste.

Aadhaar based Face Authentications Create Record



Aadhaar based face authentication transactions for service delivery has crossed an all time high of one crore six lakh in May this year. The Electronics and IT Ministry said, this is the second consecutive month to register more than one crore face authentication transactions. This facility was launched in October 2021. The face authentication solution, developed in-house by

the Unique Identification Authority of India, is now being used by 47 entities, including state government departments, Ministries in the central government and some banks.

MoD Signs a Contract with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd

The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract on June 30 for Medium Refit with Life Certification (MRLC) of Sub-Surface Killer (SSK) Class of Submarine "INS Shankush" with M/S Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), Mumbai at an overall cost of Rs. 2725 Cr. Shankush is a SSK Class of Submarine to be re-fitted at MDL, Mumbai. Delivery of Submarine post MRLC will be in 2026. After completion of MRLC, INS Shankush will be combat ready and will join the active fleet of the Indian Navy with upgraded combat capability. This project is an important step towards development of MDL as a Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul Hub for supporting the industrial ecosystem of India. The project would involve more than 30 MSMEs and would lead to employment generation of 1200 Mandays per day for the project duration. The project will be a proud flag bearer of Atmanirbhar Bharat in consonance with the Make-in-India initiative of Government of India.

SPORTS

Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023: India defeat Iran in final to win eighth title

India beat Iran 42-32 in the final of the Asian Kabaddi Championship 2023 at the Dong-Eui Institute of Technology Seokdang Cultural Center in Busan, Republic of Korea, on June 30. This was India's eighth title in nine editions. Indian captain Pawan Sehrawat led from the front with a super 10.



Durand Cup 'Trophy Tour' Flagged off by the Service Chiefs

General Manoj Pande, The Chief of the Army Staff, along with Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of Air Staff and Mr Kalyan Chaubey, President All India Football Federation (AIFF) flagged off the "Trophy Tour" of the 132nd edition of Durand Cup, India's oldest football tournament at a ceremony organised at Manekshaw Centre, Delhi Cantt on 30 June. The tournament is scheduled to commence at Kolkata from 03 August to 03 September 2023. Durand Cup is Asia's oldest and the world's third oldest football tournament, in which top Indian football clubs from across the country participate. Organised by the Indian Armed Forces, the Durand Cup has been the breeding ground for India's best footballing talent over the years. The 132nd edition of the tournament will witness participation of 24 teams including teams from Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh, the foreign teams are taking part in the tournament after a gap of 27 years.

India's Men's National Football Team Moves up in FIFA World Rankings



India's men's national football team has recently made a significant gain in the FIFA World Rankings released recently. The team surpassed Lebanon and New Zealand to achieve the rare feat. This advancement now keeps India as the 18th-ranked team in Asia and the Asian Football Confederation. This move will heavily

impact the upcoming 2026 World Cup qualifiers draw. Due to Lebanon's one-point decrease following their defeat to India in the Intercontinental Cup final, the two nations' positions in the AFC standings have switched.

(Source: AIR/PIB)