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## 04 July 2023 Daily Current Affairs

### Important Days

#### 2 July 2023 - World Sports Journalists Day

- ❖ World Sports Journalists Day is observed annually on 2 July to recognize and honor the hard work of sports journalists around the world.
- ❖ The day commemorates the founding of the International Sports Press Association (AIPS) in Paris, France in 1924.
- ❖ July 2, 2023 marks the 99th anniversary of the International Association of Sports Press (AIPS).



#### Background

- ❖ World Sports Journalists' Day was established in 1994 by the International Association of Sports Journalists - (AIPS) to mark the 70th anniversary of its foundation and celebrate the achievements of members of the sports media.
- ❖ World Sports Journalists Day was first observed on July 2, 1994.

#### International Plastic Bag Free Day 2023 - July 3

- ❖ "International No Plastic Bag Day" is observed annually on 3rd July worldwide to raise awareness about the harmful effects of single-use plastic bags on the environment.
- ❖ The day reminds individuals and communities worldwide to reduce their reliance on plastic bags and seek sustainable alternatives.



#### Background

- ❖ The first International No Plastic Bag Day was observed on 3 July 2023, launched by Rezero, a member of Zero Waste Europe (ZWE).
- ❖ The first edition took place in Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain, and then in 2009 Zero Waste Europe (ZWE) decided to launch it on a European scale.
- ❖ The European Union (EU), in 2015, enacted specific directives to reduce dependence on single-use plastic bags.

#### Zero Waste Europe

- ❖ Managing Director - Joan Mark Simon
- ❖ Headquarters - Brussels, Belgium



## People in the news

### Veteran photographer Jayaram passes away

- ❖ Internationally renowned Kanui photographer Jayaram (74) passed away in Coimbatore.
- ❖ Jayaram hails from RS Puram, Coimbatore. An internationally renowned Kanui photographer. He has been selected as one of the top five photographers in the world in the art of macro photography.
- ❖ Royal Photographic Society of Britain, International Federation of Photography, UNESCO have honored him with awards for his nature and microbiological photographs.
- ❖ He has expertise in the fields of nature, forest conservation, wildlife, botany, entomology, taxonomy, etc., and has taken classes related to these in famous universities around the world.
- ❖ In honor of his wildlife photography, the World Wildlife Organization has named his newly discovered spider and frog after him. A documentary film on him titled 'Buchi Idhod Paar Andam' was well received.



## Defence News

### India and France conduct joint maritime exercise in Visakhapatnam

- ❖ Demonstrating their strong naval partnership, the Indian Navy and the French Navy jointly conducted the Joint Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) in the Bay of Bengal off the Visakhapatnam coast of Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Indian Navy ships INS Rana (guided missile destroyer) and INS Sumeda (indigenously built offshore patrol vessel) along with French Navy's La Fayette class frigate FS Sarcouf participated in the exercise.
- ❖ The exercise not only improved the naval capabilities of the two forces but also emphasized their shared commitment to maintain a secure and stable maritime environment in the Bay of Bengal region.



## Sports

### Formula 1 car racing

- ❖ Dutchman and Red Bull driver Max Verstappen won the Austrian Grand Prix, the 9th race of the current season of Formula 1 car racing.
- ❖ Monaco's Charles Leclerc (Ferrari) and Mexico's Sergio Perez (Red Bull) took the next two places respectively. From 9 races so far this season, Verstappen leads with 7 wins. Also, record 42nd overall victory in F1 race to record most victories
- ❖ He is 5th in the list of performers.



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- ❖ On the other hand, Red Bull has registered 10 consecutive wins in a season for the first time.
- ❖ British Grand Prix, the 10th race of the F1 race, will be held in England on 9th.

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## 2023 Championship (Driver Standings – As of 2023 Austrian Grand Prix )

Position	Driver	Team	points
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	229
2	Sergio Perez	Red Bull	148
3	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	129

## Awards and Honours

### 'Murali Nath Lahari' Award to Dr. Padma Subramaniam

- ❖ In memory of Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna on the 93rd birthday of Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna Rushna. The National Award for the Best Artist will be presented on 6th July by the Foundation and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.
- ❖ The Murali Nath Lahari Award for 2023 and a cash prize of Rs.1 lakh will be presented to Bharata dancer Dr. Padma Subramaniam.
- ❖ Coimbatore Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan President PK Krishnaraj Vanavarayar will present the award and cash.



## Environment & biodiversity

### Efforts to reduce global warming: New research in the US to modify sunlight

- ❖ Since it is the sun's rays that accelerate global warming, a team is reportedly investigating ways to stop them.
- ❖ Mechanisms such as redirecting a portion of solar radiation back into space, brightening ocean clouds to reflect solar radiation, and cirrus cloud studies are being investigated.
- ❖ This research focuses more on improving an understanding of the impacts of 'Solar Radiation Modification' than the technologies themselves.





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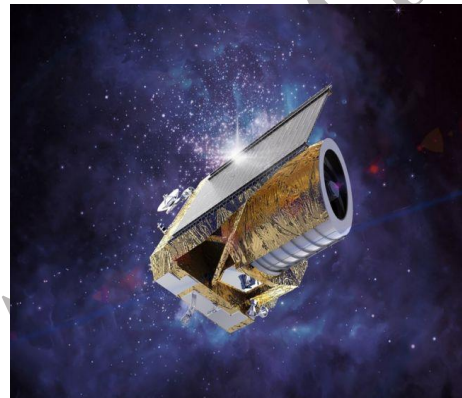
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- ❖ Much of this will lead to better decisions about fundamental climate processes and the impacts of "Human Greenhouse Gas Emissions" and the potential risks and benefits of solar radiation modification methods as part of climate policy.
- ❖ This will give us the opportunity to significantly cool our planet Earth for a few years. This is what the report said.

## Science & technology

### SpaceX Launches European Space Telescope "Euclid" To Explore 'Dark Universe'

- ❖ The SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launched a European Space Agency (ESA) telescope into orbit from Cape Canaveral, Florida, USA, to study the nature and properties of dark energy and dark matter.
- ❖ The telescope is designed to observe galaxies over a wide range of wavelengths.



#### Euclid Space Telescope

- ❖ It is named after the Greek mathematician Euclid of Alexandria.
- ❖ It plans to explore the origin and elements of the universe and the fundamental laws that govern it by operating for at least six years.
- ❖ The telescope will provide images at least four times sharper than ground-based images.

### Introduction of free Wi-Fi facility in Supreme Court

- ❖ Chief Justice DY Chandrachud introduced Wi-Fi facility in the Supreme Court complex and 5 court rooms.
- ❖ As an important step in the process of octification of the Supreme Court, Wi-Fi facility has been implemented in 5 court rooms including Bar Council, Waiting room, Press room and Chief Justice's court room located in the court premises.
- ❖ On a dedicated website for this service, users can enter their mobile number and get permission with a password received through SMS to start using the Wi-Fi facility, Supreme Court officials said.
- ❖ Also, an improved system has been installed in the courtrooms of the Supreme Court to allow judges to conduct hearings through video-conferencing.
- ❖ Video facilities have also been improved with a view to implementing green schemes in the Supreme Court premises through maximum use of technology.



## Economy and Banking

### Indian Bank and National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) jointly launch digital services under Project WAVE



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- ❖ Leading public sector lender Indian Bank has joined hands with National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to roll out various digital services as part of its ambitious digital transformation initiative Project WAVE (World of Advance Virtual Experience).
- ❖ It was launched in January 2022. These innovative services are set to revolutionize the banking experience by significantly reducing the time for issuance and delivery of bank guarantees.
- ❖ These have introduced Electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) service to replace the traditional paper-based processes.
- ❖ The move eliminates the need for physical stamp paper and customer signatures, replacing them with digital stamping and e-signature.



## Indian Bank

- ❖ Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director - Shanti Lal Jain
- ❖ Headquarters - Chennai
- ❖ Tagline - Your own bank
- ❖ Year of Establishment – 1907

## Puducherry zone of Tamil Nadu ranks 3rd in GST collection at the national level

- ❖ In the last financial year 2022-23, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry region have been ranked 3rd in the national level.
- ❖ GST Commissioner K. Balakishan Raju issued a press release in this regard:
- ❖ The 6th year of the introduction of GST (Goods and Services Tax) by the Central Government is now being celebrated. This is the biggest tax reform in our country. With this, the goal of better and simpler tax for every citizen has been fulfilled.
- ❖ This revenue has increased by 19 percent in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry region. With this, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry region has been ranked 3rd in the national level after Karnataka and Maharashtra.
- ❖ In the year 2022-23, Rs.288 crore GST tax has been collected by 3 audit commissions in Puducherry and Tamil Nadu.



## Tamilnadu current affairs

### Introduction of 'Biometric' Service in Prisoners Canteen

- ❖ Biometric service has been introduced in canteens operated for prisoners in central jails in Tamil Nadu. There are a total of 142 jails under the Tamil Nadu Prisons Department. Tamil Nadu jails are currently 83 percent overcrowded.





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- ❖ Inmates canteens (canteens) are functioning in central jails and women's separate jails keeping in mind the welfare of the inmates. Various items are sold in these hostels.
- ❖ Biometric Service: As a part of this now inmate canteen is fully computerized and biometric service has been started. Through this, the inmates will no longer be able to purchase items in the hostel with a smart card, Their fingerprint registration is sufficient. Smartcards are issued to the inmates for this purpose.

## World Tamil Research Conference

- ❖ The 11th World Tamil Research Conference jointly organized by the International Tamil Research Forum (IADR) and Chennai Institute of Asian Studies will be held in Chennai on July 7, 8, 9.
- ❖ History and culture of Tamils should be restored. This conference is also being held with the objectives of making the present generation aware of the new information found in Sangha literature and creating awareness among the youth about the Tamil language, literature, Tamil culture, culture and civilization.
- ❖ Tamil scholars from 20 countries including America, Singapore, Malaysia and Japan will participate in the conference.



## International news

### Today (July 3) SEO conference: PM Modi to preside via video

- ❖ The Shanghai Cooperation Organization conference will be held by Prime Minister Narendra Modi via video link on Tuesday.
- ❖ Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and others will participate in this conference, which is expected to focus on issues including regional security situation, trade and further strengthening of transport links between countries.
- ❖ In this conference chaired by India, Iran will be welcomed as a new permanent member of this organization.
- ❖ UN to participate in this video conference. Council, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Commonwealth of Nations
- ❖ Heads of 6 international and regional organizations namely CIS (CIS), Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), Conference on Dialogue and Confidence-Building Initiative in Asia (CICA) have also been invited.
- ❖ The Shanghai Cooperation Organization was formed by the presidents of Russia, China, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan at a conference held in Shanghai, China in 2001.
- ❖ India and Pakistan became permanent members in 2017. Currently, India is chairing this organization on a rotational basis.

