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## 9 & 10 July 2023 Daily Current Affairs

### Important Days

#### 10 July 2023 - Global Energy Independence Day

- ❖ Global Energy Independence Day is observed on July 10 all over the world annually.
- ❖ **Theme** "Empowering Communities, Transforming The World."
- ❖ The first Global Energy Independence Day was celebrated in 2012 to raise awareness of the value of renewable energy sources and lessen reliance on fossil fuels.
- ❖ In 2006, Michael D. Antonovich proclaimed July 10th as Global Energy Independence Day.



### Persons in the news

#### Reserve Bank of India appointed P Vasudevan as the new executive director.

- ❖ He will look after the three departments including the currency management. His appointment has become effective from 3 July.
- ❖ Before this appointment, he was the Chief General Manager-in-charge of the Department of Payment and Settlement Systems.
- ❖ He has earlier served in banks and non-banking financial companies, payment and settlement systems.
- ❖ He is a Certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Bankers (CAIIB) and an alumnus of the Wharton School.



#### Major Bakhtawar Singh Brar passed away at the age of 109 in the US.

- ❖ Major Bakhtawar Singh Brar, one of the oldest surviving veterans of the Indian Army, died at the age of 109.
- ❖ He was born on November 19, 1913, in a village in Faridkot district.
- ❖ He served in the Faridkot State Forces and was commissioned into the 6 Kumaon Regiment in 1945.
- ❖ In 1942, He was awarded "Mention-in-Despatches" by the British for leading his company against the Pathans in Waziristan.
- ❖ In 1959, he led a contingent of 6 Kumaon at "the Republic Day Parade".
- ❖ He also participated in World War II on "the Burma Front".





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## Appointment of "Sheo Kumar Singh" as Acting Chairman of National Green Tribunal (NGT).

### Sheo Kumar Singh-I

- ❖ Sheo Kumar Singh-I joined the judiciary in 1984
- ❖ He was appointed by the Supreme Court as the Inspector of Rama Jana Bhoomi in Ayodhya to monitor the excavation work carried out by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) expert team.
- ❖ He served as a Judge of the Industrial Tribunal in Uttar Pradesh and as Chairman of the Supervisory Board in the State constituted by the NGT.



### National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- ❖ The National Green Tribunal Act (2010) was established for the purpose of arbitrating environmental cases.
- ❖ Functions: The Tribunal is responsible for providing effective and timely redressal in situations including environmental protection, conservation of forests and other natural resources and enforcement of any environmental legal right.

### National Green Tribunal (NGT)

- ❖ Executive Chairman - Sheo Kumar Singh-I
- ❖ Year of Establishment – 2010
- ❖ Headquarters - New Delhi

## Observing the 317th day of Seeganpalku's visit to Tharangambadi

- ❖ Seeganpalku came to Tharangambadi on 9th July to spread Christianity in India.
- ❖ He learned Tamil and published the first Tamil Bible (New Testament) in India. Later, he printed innumerable books like Tirukkural, Folkappiyam, Purananuru, Athisoodi from Olaichuvadi on paper and published them as books.
- ❖ He built the first church in Asia, the New Jerusalem Temple, in Tharangambadi in 1718. He died in 1719.



## Reports and Indices

### Ministry of Education released Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2.0 for 2021-22.

- ❖ The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education has created Performance Grading Index for states and UTs.
- ❖ For a comprehensive analysis, this index assesses the performance of the school education system at the state/UT level.
- ❖ The Performance Grading Index for states/UTs was first released for the year 2017-18.



- ❖ The new Performance Grading Index is more focused on qualitative assessment, digital initiatives and teacher education.
- ❖ It comprises 1,000 points across 73 indicators grouped into two categories- Outcomes and Governance management.
- ❖ These categories are further divided into six domains.
- ❖ The PGI 2.0 classified states/UTs into ten grades. The highest grade is 'Daksh' (Score of more than 940 points). The lowest grade is Akanshi-3 which is for score up to 460.
- ❖ The indicators of the Performance Grading Index 2.0 have been aligned with the policy initiatives and strategies introduced after the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 for proper tracking of the progress.

## Summits and Conferences

### Overview of virtual 23rd Shanghai Cooperation Organization's Council of Heads of State Summit 2023; Chaired by India for 1st time

- ❖ On July 4, 2023, the Prime Minister (PM) of India Narendra Modi chaired the 23rd Shanghai Cooperation Organization's Council of Heads of State (SCO-CHS) Summit which was held in a virtual format. This is the first time India chaired the Shanghai Cooperation Organization's Council of Heads of State Summit.
- ❖ **Theme 'Towards a SECURE Shanghai Cooperation Organization'.**
- ❖ It envisages developing common principles and approaches to form a unified list of terrorist, separatist and extremist organizations whose activities are prohibited on the territories of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Member States.
- ❖ The PM Narendra Modi presented the AI (artificial intelligence) and Natural Language Processing (NLP)-based language platform '**Bhashini**' at Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit which can transcend language barriers by translating in-real time.
- ❖ During the summit, **Iran** became the new permanent member (9th) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization.
- ❖ Now, the member nations of Shanghai Cooperation Organization increased to **9** viz. **China, Russia, India, Iran, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.**

### A Memorandum of understanding was signed between India and Panama on Electoral Cooperation.

- ❖ On 7 July 2023, the Election Commission of India and Electoral Tribunal (ET) of Panama signed an MoU in Panama City to establish the institutional framework for their ongoing cooperation in the field of election management and administration.
- ❖ Through the "International Cooperation Programme", Election Commission of India is expanding its links and cooperation with foreign Election Management Bodies.
- ❖ Earlier, Election Commission of India signed Memorandum of understandings with Mexico, Brazil and Chile. This is the fourth MoU signed in the Latin Americas region.





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The Election Commission of India and the Electoral Tribunal of Panama are members of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB).

## Awards and honors

### "International Astronomical Union" (IAU)- named 4 minor planets after Indians.

- ❖ "International Astronomical Union" (IAU) through its "Small Working Group on Nomenclature" (WGSBN)", minor planets have been named after 4 Indians, namely "India's leading meteorologist Ashwin Shekhar from Kerala, Indian astrophysicist Ashok Kumar Verma, Indian astronomer and Rudu Parekh, planetary geologist Kumar Venkataramani from Gujarat".
- ❖ The honor was conferred at the "Asteroids, Comets, Meteors (ACM) Conference 2023" held in Arizona (USA) from June 18-23, 2023.
- ❖ "Ashwin Shekhar" was India's first professional meteorologist in modern times.



### minor planets

- ❖ Minor planets orbit the sun in the solar system. These include asteroids, Pluto, and other icy worlds beyond Neptune.

## Sports

### "Max Verstappen" Claims Victory at "British Grand Prix 2023"

- ❖ 2023 is the 74th season of the F1 world championship.
- ❖ "Max Verstappen" reeled off his sixth straight wins British Grand Prix with "Lando Norris" for McLaren in second.
- ❖ "Verstappen's, first-ever British Grand Prix", win drew Red Bull level with McLaren's record run of 11 consecutive race victories in 1988.

#### Previous race's winners list:

Race	Winner
Canadian Grand Prix	Max Verstappen
Spanish Grand Prix 2023	Max Verstappen
Monaco Grand Prix 2023	Max Verstappen
Bahrain Grand Prix 2023	Max Verstappen
Saudi Arabia Grand Prix 2023	Sergio Pérez
Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2023	Sergio Pérez



## Indian player Lakshya Sen won the Canada Open Badminton Men's Singles title.

- ❖ Lakshya Sen of India won the men's singles title of Canada Open 2023 Badminton by defeating China's Li Shi Feng in Calgary, Canada.
- ❖ Lakshya Sen, ranked 19th in the world,
- ❖ It was the "first Badminton World Federation" (BWF) world tour title for "Commonwealth Games champion" Lakshya Sen after almost a year.



## Priyansh and Aditi won gold medals and became champions.

- ❖ India's Priyansh and Aditi Swamy won gold medals in their category at the World Junior Archery Championship in Ireland.
- ❖ Priyansh won the men's under-21 individual compound final and finished first. Similarly, Aditi Swamy clinched the title in the under-18 women's individual compound final.
- ❖ India's Avneet Kaur vs Britain's Hallie Boulton clashed in the bronze medal round in the same category. Boulton won 10-9 in a shoot-off to decide the winner, with both tied on 138 points at the end.
- ❖ In this competition, India has won 9 medals namely 5 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze.



## 3 Indians including India's Avani Legara won gold medals at the World Para Shooting Championships in Croatia.

- ❖ Avani topped the women's "10m Air Rifle Sten Ding SH1 Category" final with 248.3 points. Slovakia's Veronika and Ukraine's Irina bagged silver and bronze respectively.
- ❖ Similarly, India's Unalkar won gold in the "R1-10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 for Men" category. Hungary's Saba Resic and Slovakia's Rados Lau took the next two spots respectively.
- ❖ India also bagged 3 medals in the "25m Pistol Mixed SH1" category. Rahul Jack Khar bagged gold with 27 points, Ameer Ahmed Bhat bagged silver with 21 points and Nihal Singh bagged bronze with 18 points.



## Science and Technology

### "Voyager Space" to explore Opportunities in Space Technology

- ❖ Voyager Space, a global leader in space exploration, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), a Central Public Sector



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Enterprise (CPSE), under Department of Space (DOS) and the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).

- ❖ The MoU aims to foster collaboration in spacecraft launch and deployment opportunities on-board NSIL's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).

## Key Points

- ❖ By leveraging NSIL's expertise in space technology and Voyager Space's domain knowledge, the partnership aims to drive innovation and advancement in the small satellite launch industry.

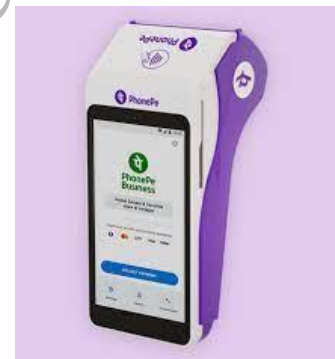
### NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) - ISRO's commercial arm

- ❖ Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) – Radhakrishnan Durairaj
- ❖ Headquarter – Bangalore, Karnataka
- ❖ Year of Establishment – 2019

## Economy & Banking

### PhonePe Launched One Stop POS Solution for its Merchants

- ❖ PhonePe launched its Point-of-sale (POS) device that enables merchants to accept payments through Debit Cards, Credit Cards and Unified Payments Interface(UPI).
- ❖ The device comes preloaded with the PhonePe POS App and supports transactions through "interoperable dynamic QR (Quick Response) codes".
- ❖ Reliable and security being its top features, it has PCI-PTS 6(Payment Card Industry- PIN Transaction Security) certification safeguarding both merchant and consumer data.



## State Current Affairs

### Haryana Government announced a monthly pension for widower and unmarried people.

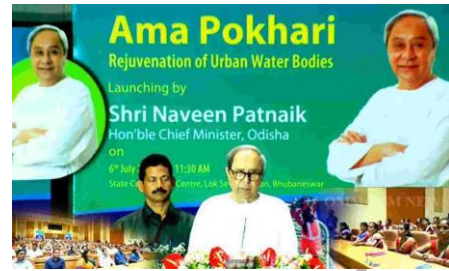
- ❖ A monthly pension of Rs 2,750 per month for low-income unmarried in the age group of 45-60 has been announced by the Haryana government.
- ❖ The unmarried people aged between 45 and 60 and have an annual income less than Rs 1.80 lakh are eligible for the pension.
- ❖ Widowers in the age group of 40-60 having an annual income less than Rs 3 lakh will also get Rs 2,750 pension every month.
- ❖ This initiative of the Haryana government will help unmarried and widowers in meeting their personal needs.
- ❖ The Haryana government is already providing a monthly pension to low-income people above 60 years.





## CM Naveen Patnaik launched 'Ama Pokhari' Yojana.

- ❖ This initiative has been launched to rejuvenate around 2,000 large water bodies in all 115 urban local bodies of the state.
- ❖ Rs 120 crore has been allocated to the implementation of the initiative.
- ❖ The project will be implemented using natural and organic methodology to improve the climate of surrounding areas.
- ❖ The renovation and maintenance of these water bodies will be done in collaboration with members of 'Mission Shakti'.
- ❖ The water bodies will also be developed for the recreation of citizens. It will also help in strengthening the ecological fabric of cities.
- ❖ This initiative will also help in improving the quality of life in urban areas.
- ❖ This initiative was implemented by Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, and Berhampur Municipal Corporation as a pilot project.
- ❖ The chief minister also felicitated 'Anand Malligavad'. He is known as the 'lake man' of India.



## Gujarat signed six MoUs with private industries for mangrove plantations under the MISHTI scheme

- ❖ Government of Gujarat has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with six industries for mangrove plantation of 3000 hectares under the MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Coastal Habitats and Sustainable Income) scheme.
- ❖ The purpose of these agreements is to increase mangrove plantation area along the coast of Gujarat.
- ❖ 6 MoUs were signed with Digvijay Cement Limited, Nayara Energy Limited, RSPL Limited, Tata Chemicals Society for Rural Development, Cairn Oil and Gas (Vedanta Limited) and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL).
- ❖ The MoU was signed during an event organized to launch the Hariyali Mahotsav, a movement to plant wetlands in Dwarka town of Devabhoomi Dwarka district, Gujarat.



### Gujarat

- ❖ Chief Minister - Bhupendra Rajinikanth Patel
- ❖ Governor – Acharya Devavrat
- ❖ Ramsar Sites in Gujarat (Total 4 Sites) – Gijadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary, Dhol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, Wadwana Wetland.



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## National News

### The third Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting, under India's G20 presidency, will begin in Kevadia today.

- ❖ More than 75 international delegates from various G20 countries are expected to participate in the three-day meeting at Kevadiya.
- ❖ The focus of the meeting is to build consensus among G 20 countries on adopting proposals put forward by the Indian Presidency on global trade and investment-related issues.

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