



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

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Dec 2022 – Important Sports Current Affairs

Man of the Match Award Winners for the FIFA World Cup 2022:

- The **FIFA World Cup Man of the Match** award has been given out following each game since **2002**.
- The **Golden Ball and Golden Boot** are just **two** of the additional honours granted at the **FIFA World Cup**.
- The main distinction between these honours and the **FIFA World Cup Man of the Match** award is that the former is granted after the tournament, while the latter is presented following each World Cup game.

Most Man of the Match Awards in a World Cup:

<i>World Cup Match</i>	<i>Man of the match</i>	<i>Number of wins</i>
South Korea/Japan World Cup 2002	Rivaldo	3 wins
Germany World Cup 2006	Andra Pirlo	3 wins
South Africa World Cup 2010	Wesley Snijder	4 wins
Brazil World Cup 2014	Lionel Messi	4 wins
Russia World Cup 2018	Antonie Griezmann	3 wins

NADA India will hold the first-ever Inclusion Conclave to focus on athletes with impairments:

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- The **National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA India)** is hosting an **Inclusion Conclave for the first time to put a greater emphasis on anti-doping processes** and education for athletes with impairments.
- In addition to **WADA Asia-Oceania Regional Office Manager Kenny Lee** and **UN Resident Coordinator Shombi Sharp**, **Secretary Department of Sports Smt. Sujata Chaturvedi** will also speak at the summit.
- Following the conclave, there will be a two-hour inclusive anti-doping education workshop for athletes with disabilities with a focus on the Therapeutic Use Exemption, the Doping Control Process, Anti-Doping Rule Violations, as well as the rights and obligations of athletes with disabilities and support personnel.
- For athletes with impairments, **NADA India has already created extensive UDL (Universal Design of Learning)** courses on anti-doping education and awareness. UDL is a multi-modal framework that uses sign language visual representation, subtitles that have been translated, and content audio to enhance and optimize teaching and learning for all people.
- Previously solely available in print, certain content is now also available in Braille and audio forms.
- Additionally, **NADA India has improved the DCO kit for athletes** with impairments and conducted sensitization training for **Dope Control Officers (DCO)** who collect samples from them.

About National Anti-Doping Agency

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founded: 24 November 2005
- DG: Ritu Sain

India will host the third edition of the T20 World Cup for Blind Cricket:

- **India will host the third T20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for the Blind from December 5–17, 2022.**
- **Australia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and India** will all compete in the 2022 World Cup.

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- The competition will feature about 150 players from all over the world, and there will be a total of 24 matches spread among nine Indian cities.
- The tournament is being held to coincide with World Disability Day events around. the **World Cup's opening ceremony on December 5 at Gurugram's Tau Devi Lal Indoor Stadium.**
- **Yuvraj Singh, a former Indian batter, is the competition's brand ambassador.**
- Since 2012, the World Cup has been run by the **Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) in collaboration with the disability organization Samarthanam Trust.**
- The Samarthanam Trust has arranged more than 30,000 visually impaired matches since its establishment.

Saurashtra defeated Maharashtra in the Vijay Hazare Trophy final by five wickets:

- At the **Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, Saurashtra defeated Maharashtra** by five wickets to win **the Vijay Hazare Trophy.**
- As captain **Ruturaj Gaikwad reached a century**, hitting 108 off 131 balls after a sluggish start, they contained Maharashtra at 248/9 in 50 overs.
- Bowler Chirag Jani of Saurashtra claimed a hat-trick in the game.
- At the moment, Sheldon Jackson is the man.
- With a 249-run goal to reach, Saurashtra got off to a cautious start until the openers struck a 125-run partnership. As wickets shattered all around him, batter Sheldon Jackson clutched one end.
- In 46.3 overs and with five wickets still over, he helped Saurashtra chase down the goal with a match-winning 133 off 136 balls.
- It was the second title victory for Saurashtra in history.

Winners List:

- Player of the match in the final: Sheldon Jackson
- Player of the tournament: Ruturaj Gaikwad
- Most Runs: N Jagadeesan
- Highest Score: N Jagadeesan (TN)
- Most Fours: N Jagadeesan



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- Most Sixes: Rituraj Gaikwad
- Most Wickets: Vasuki Koushik (Karnataka)

Rudranksh Patil, a shooter, wins the ISSF President's Cup in Egypt:

- The **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) President's Cup** was won by Indian shooter **Rudranksh Patil** in **Cairo, Egypt**.
- In the **10-meter rifle play-off**, he outscored Italy's Danilo Sollazzo 16-8.
- Participants in this competition, which began on November 28, come from 42 different countries and **43 ISSF Member Federations across all continents**.
- **Rudranksh Patil, 18, won gold in the men's 10 m air rifle event at the ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Championships 2022 in Cairo, Egypt**, which came to an end in October.
- He is now only the **sixth Indian shooting world champion, joining gold medalists Abhinav Bindra, Tejaswini Sawant, Manavjit Singh Sandu, Om Prakash Mitherval, and Ankur Mittal**.
- **India won five medals in the ISSF President's Cup in 2021**: gold, silver, and bronze. Among the medal winners were Olympians Manu Bhaker, Rahi Sarnobat, Saurabh Chaudhary, and Abhishek Verma.

Indian captain Rohit Sharma has become the country's sixth-highest ODI run scorer:

- **Indian captain Rohit Sharma** has surpassed former **batsman Mohammed Azharuddin** to become his country's **sixth-highest ODI run-scorer**.
- This feat was done by the batter during **India's maiden One-Day International (ODI) against Bangladesh in Dhaka**.
- His ODI record now stands at 234 matches and 9,403 runs in 227 innings at an average of 48.46.
- In his ODI career, he has 29 tons and 45 fifties, with the top individual score of 264, which is also the highest score ever in ODIs.
- **Azharuddin, who dropped to seventh place**, had scored 9,378 runs in 334 matches in 308 innings for an average of 36.92, including seven tons, 58 fifties, and a top score of 153.
- Other Indian ODI run scorers include **Sachin Tendulkar (18,426), Virat Kohli (12,353), Saurav Ganguly (11,221), Rahul Dravid (10,768), and MS Dhoni (10,599)**.

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S.No	Player	Matches	Innings	Runs
01	Sachin Tendulkar (IND)	463	452	18426
02	Kumar Sangakkara (SL)	404	380	14234
03	Ricky Ponting (AUS)	375	365	13704
04	Sanath Jayasuriya (SL)	445	433	13430
05	Mahela Jayawardene (SL)	448	418	12650
06	Virat Kohli (IND)	263	254	12353
07	Inzamam-Ul-Haq (PAK)	378	350	11739
08	Jacques Kallis (SA)	328	314	11579
09	Sourav Ganguly (IND)	311	300	11363
10	Rahul Dravid (IND)	344	318	10889



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Cristiano Ronaldo has agreed to terms with Saudi club Al-Nassr on a contract worth 200 million euros:

- **Cristiano Ronaldo has joined Saudi Arabian club Al-Nassr on a two-and-a-half-year contract worth 200 million euros each season.**
- The story was published by renowned Spanish source **Marca** before the Portugal captain's **FIFA World Cup 2022 Round of 16 matches against Switzerland**, which is slated for at **Qatar's Lusail Stadium**.
- Earlier, **Ronaldo's agent, Jorge Mendes, had met with several clubs, including European powerhouses** such as Bayern Munich, Chelsea, and Atletico Madrid, but no one expressed serious interest in the 37-year-old forward.
- **Al Nassr Football Club is a Riyadh-based Saudi Arabian football club.**
- The club, founded in 1955, plays its home games at Mrsool Park.
- Yellow and blue are their primary colors.
- Al Nassr is one of the most successful clubs in Saudi Arabia, with 27 championships at the highest level of all tournaments.
- The team has won nine Premier League titles, six King's Cups, three Crown Prince's Cups, three Federation Cups, and two Saudi Super Cups at the domestic level.
- At the international level, they have won two GCC Champions Leagues and achieved the historic feat of winning both the Asian Cup Winners' Cup and the Asian Super Cup in 1998.

FIFA World Cup 2022 trophy will be unveiled by Deepika Padukone:

- According to speculations, **Deepika Padukone will showcase the FIFA World Cup trophy in Qatar** later this month.
- The trophy will be **unveiled on December 18**, the day before the **World Cup final**.
- **Deepika will be the first actress to be honored in this manner in the world's most-watched sporting event.**
- Deepika Padukone is set to unveil the **World Cup trophy at the Lusail Iconic Stadium on December 18.**
- Deepika Padukone is an Indian cinema actress who primarily appears in Hindi films.

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- She is one of India's highest-paid actresses, with three Filmfare Awards to her name.
- She appears on lists of the country's most popular individuals; **Time named her one of the world's 100 most important people in 2018 and awarded her the TIME100 Impact Award in 2022.**
- **Padukone is the creator of the Live Love Laugh Foundation**, which raises mental health awareness in India.
- She speaks out on subjects such as feminism and depression, and she also performs in stage shows, writes columns for a newspaper, designs her line of women's apparel, and is a notable celebrity ambassador for businesses and goods.

Sukant Kadam, world No. 3, wins gold at the Peru Para Badminton International:

- **Sukant Kadam, world No. 3, smashed his way to gold** at the recently ended Peru Para-Badminton International, defeating Singapore's Chee Hiong Ang.
- India received **14 medals in total (6 gold, 1 silver, and 7 bronze).**
- Sukant dominated the finals from the start.
- He **defeated Chee Hiong Ang** in straight sets, 21-14 and 21-15.
- The game lasted 32 minutes.
- The ace shuttler didn't miss a beat in the final.
- **Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan and Mandeep Kaur** won the **SH6 and SL3 singles titles in the women's division.**
- Mandeep defeated Ukraine's Oksana Kozyna 21-11, 21-11, while Nithya defeated Peru's Giuliana Poveda Flores 21-6, 21-13.
- Indian men's doubles pair Nehal and Breno Johann (SL3-SL4) and women's doubles pair Parul Parmar and Vaishali Nilesh Patel (SL3-SU5) both won gold medals.
- The Indian pairing of Nehal and Breno defeated Peru's Renzo Diquez Bances Morales and Pedro Pablo De Vinatea 21-16 21-13, while Parul and Vaishali defeated Peru's Kelly Edith Ari Escalante and Mandeep 21-17 21-19.

Saikhom Mirabai Chanu wins silver in the World Weightlifting Championships in Colombia.

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- **Mirabai Chanu**, an Olympic silver medalist, **earned silver** in the 2022 **World Weightlifting Championships in Colombia**.
- She defeated China's Olympic champion, **Hou Zhihua**. **Jiang Huihua of China won gold with a combined weight of 206 kg**.
- Mirabai hoisted a total of 200 kg, whereas Zhihua only lifted 198 kg.
- Mirabai's second World Championships medal, having previously won gold in 2017 with a lift of 194 kg.
- **Mirabai Chanu**, participating in her first international meet since winning the Commonwealth Games 2022 in August, struggled with her left wrist in clean and jerk.
- The Indian weightlifter failed her first effort, lifted 111kg on her second attempt, and matched eventual **gold medalist Jiang Huihua's 113kg on her third attempt to place third**.
- **Mirabai of Manipur had previously won gold at the World Weightlifting Championships in 2017**.
- She won a gold medal at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

Stephanie Frappart will be the first woman referee at the FIFA World Cup in 2022:

- **Stephanie Frappart of France** will be the **first woman to referee a men's World Cup match, according to FIFA**.
- She will officiate the **Group E match between Germany and Costa Rica on December 2, 2022**.
- Frappart is one of three female referees chosen from a field of 36 for the tournament in Qatar, joining Rwandan official **Salima Mukansanga** and Japanese official **Yoshimi Yamashita**.
- Three other female officials have been assigned as assistant referees during the World Cup.
- Refereeing her men's World Cup match is the next stage in **the 38-year-old Frappart's fast journey to the top level in Europe**.
- In 2019, she became the first female referee in France's Ligue 1, the same year she presided over the women's World Cup final in her native nation.
- Frappart also refereed the 2019 Uefa Super Cup final between Liverpool and Chelsea before moving on to the 2020 Champions League and the French Cup final last season.

1000 Khelo India Centers Are Scheduled to Open Across the Nation By August 15:

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- **Mr. Anurag Thakur**, the minister of youth affairs and sports, stated that **1,000 Khelo India centers will be operational nationwide by August 15th, 2023.**
- He continued by saying that 733 of these 1,000 centers have already received approval.
- Mr. Thakur claimed that India has performed better than in the past at both the Olympics and the Paralympics in Tokyo.
- He claimed that **India had also done well at the Deaf Olympics.**
- The Minister mentioned Khelo India and the efforts made by the government to alter public perceptions of sports.
- He claimed that the **Khelo India games have provided amateur athletes a stage on which to perform in front of the entire country.**
- According to the minister, **the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports' budget has climbed from Rs 1,219 crore in 2014 to Rs 3,062 crore for the upcoming fiscal year 2022–23**, or nearly three times as much.
- Thakur highlighted some of India's greatest sporting victories that have occurred since the 2014 election of the Modi administration.

McLaughlin-Levrone and Mondo Duplantis were named the 2022 World Athletes of the Year:

- The **World Athlete of the Year** honors went to Swedish pole vaulter Mondo Duplantis and American world champion hurdler Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone.
- **McLaughlin-Levrone** twice broke the women's 400-meter hurdles world mark, and Duplantis accomplished three new world records this year.
- Duplantis, a **Swede of American descent**, won the prize for the second time in three years **in 2022** after setting three world records, winning the men's world indoor title in March and taking home the **world outdoor gold in July.**
- **Adriana Vilago of Serbia and Erriyon Knighton of America** were chosen winners of the **World Athletics' Rising Star of the Year** award.
- Vilago placed in the top three of 15 javelin tournaments in 2022.
- She earned gold at the Mediterranean Games and the World U20 Championships in addition to silver at the Munich multisport European Championships.



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Amar Singh Devanda from Air Warrior Corp places sixth in Taiwan's 24-hour ultramarathon

- The **Chinese Taipei Association's 24-hour ultramarathon** saw Air Warrior Cpl Amar Singh Devandar finish in sixth place after running 204.47 kilometers.
- In 510 laps (400 meters each), he completed the stadium in 24 hours.
- At **Soochow University in Taiwan**, the Chinese Taipei Association of Ultrarunners organized the **24-Hour Ultramarathon for the year 2022**.
- India was represented at the competition by **Cpl Amar Singh Devanda**. **31 runners in total, 21 men and 10 women**, from 5 different countries, took part in the race.
- During the Asia-Oceania 24 Hrs Championship 2022 in Bengaluru, Cpl Amar set a new national record by traveling 257.618 kilometers on July 3, 2022.
- He was the captain of the **Indian squad that won the championship**.

FIFA World Cup 2022 trophy will be unveiled by Deepika Padukone:

- The **FIFA World Cup trophy** will reportedly be unveiled by Deepika Padukone in Qatar later this month.
- On **December 18, before the World Cup final**, the trophy will be unveiled.
- At the most watched sporting event in the world, **Deepika will be the first actor to receive such a distinction**.
- The World Cup trophy is scheduled to be unveiled at the **Lusail Iconic Stadium** by Deepika Padukone on December 18.
- Indian actress **Deepika Padukone performs in Hindi-language movies**.
- She is one of India's highest-paid actresses and has won three Filmfare Awards.
- She is listed among the country's most well-known public figures; **Time named her one of the world's 100 most important people in 2018 and gave her the TIME100 Impact Award in 2022**.
- The Live Love Laugh Foundation, which raises awareness of mental health in India, was founded by Padukone.

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- She is outspoken on topics like feminism and depression, performs on stage, has written newspaper articles, created her line of women's clothes, and is a well-known celebrity ambassador for goods and brands.

Sidra Ameen and Jos Buttler have been announced as the ICC Player of the Month honorees for November 2022:

- **Jos Buttler, the captain of England that won the T20 World Cup**, received the **ICC men's Player of the Month award** for the first time for his outstanding performance in November.
- **Sidra Ameen of Pakistan won the women's Player of the Month title** for the nation for the second time in a row as a result of her outstanding performance in the ODI series victory against Ireland.
- The **ICC Player of the Month award went to Buttler**, one of the most potent batters in white-ball cricket, **who defeated Adil Rashid and Shaheen Shah Afridi** for his outstanding performance in the crucial semifinal match against India and helped England win the T20 World Cup for the first time since 2010.
- The opening batsman for England scored 73 runs off of 47 balls against New Zealand and then 80 runs off of 49, stitched an unbroken 170-run partnership with Alex Hales during England's victory over India in the semifinal, and then scored a crucial 26 against Pakistan in the World T20 final to lead his team to victory.
- **Sidra Ameen won the ICC Women's Player of the Month award** for her impressive performance against Ireland in the ODI series, amassing 277 runs in three home matches while defeating Gaby Lewis of Ireland and Natthakan Chantam of Thailand.
- She was the second cricketer from Pakistan to receive this award after Mohammad Rizwan (September).

About ICC

- Founded: 15 June 1909
- Chairman: Greg Barclay
- CEO: Geoff Allardice



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- Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Ishan Kishan becomes the fourth Indian to score a double century in ODI:

- **Ishan Kishan becomes the fourth Indian** to score a **double century in one-day international cricket.**
- He has also **become the ninth batter to score a double century** in one-day international cricket.
- Ishan Kishan made 210 runs in just 131 balls with 24 boundaries and 10 sixes in an ODI match against Bangladesh in Chittagong.
- He has also become **the youngest and the fastest cricketer to score an ODI double-century.**
- **Rohit Sharma has scored three double-centuries.**
- **Virender Sehwag and Sachin Tendulkar** have also scored double centuries in the ODIs.

About ICC:

- Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Founded: 15 June 1909
- Chairman: Greg Barclay

Divya TS won gold in the women's air pistol National Shooting Championship 2022:

- **Divya T.S of Karnataka won her maiden women's 10m air pistol** national title in the **65th National Shooting Championship Competitions in Pistol events in Bhopal.**
- In the gold medal match, she defeated Sanskriti Bana of Uttar Pradesh 16-14, and **Rhythm Sangwan of Haryana took the bronze.**
- Divya, 27, won the second stage with 254.2 points, beating out a slew of great shooters including **Rhythm Sangwan, Esha Singh, and Manu Bhaker. Manu Bhaker, an Olympian, won the junior women's air pistol after defeating Esha Singh (Telangana).**
- In the **Youth division, Rhythm Sangwan won the gold medal.**

Women: 10m air pistol

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1. Divya TS
2. Sanskriti Bana
3. Rhythm Sangwan
4. Esha Singh

25m center fire pistol: Men

1. Vijay Kumar
2. Anish Bhanwala
3. Gurpreet Singh

The Hyderabad Strikers have won the Tennis Premier League 2022:

- **Hyderabad Strikers have won the 4th Tennis Premier League (TPL) 2022.**
- The fourth TPL final was placed in Pune, Maharashtra.
- **Hyderabad Strikers defeated Mumbai Leon Army (41-32) to win the event for the second year in a row.**
- The **title was won by Hyderabad's S. Balaji and Nikki Poonacha, who defeated Mumbai's R. Ramanathan and J. Nedunchezhiyan 14-6.** Mumbai Leon Army won the TPL Plus, the Tennis Premier League's grassroots league that provides a platform for young tennis athletes to learn from foreign and Indian stars.
- The winning team received ten lakh rupees, while the runner-up received five lakh rupees.
- **Conny Perrin was named "player of the match"** in the final, while Sriram Balaji and Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan received the honour in the semifinals.

England's Joe Root joins the ranks of those who have 10000+ test runs and 50+ wickets:

- **Former England captain Joe Root became the third cricketer in history to achieve 10,000 runs and take 50 Test wickets.**
- He accomplished this during the **current second Test against Pakistan in Multan.**
- Root accomplished the milestone in the 70th over of Pakistan's second innings at the **Multan Cricket Stadium**, when he bowled Faheem Ashraf.



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- Faheem attempted to push at the off-thrown-up spinner's ball.
- The ball spun very little to take the batter's edge and presented Zak Crawley with a routine catch at slips.
- In the longest format, Root joins South African star Jacques Kallis and former Australian captain Steve Waugh in reaching 10,000 runs and taking 50 wickets.
- Root has 10629 Test runs and 50 Test wickets to his name.
- Waugh has scored 10927 runs and taken 92 wickets, whereas Kallis has scored 13289 runs and taken 292 wickets.

Chahat Arora Breaks National Record in 100m Breaststroke at FINA World Swimming Championships 2022:

- In Swimming, **Indian swimmer Chahat Arora achieved a national record in the women's 100-meter breaststroke at the FINA World Swimming Championships 2022 in Melbourne, Australia.**
- **The 16th edition of the FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) 2022 will finish on December 18.**
- FINA stands for the International Swimming Federation.
- **Chahat Arora finished the 100-meter breaststroke competition in 1 minute, 13.13 seconds.**
- **Ruta Meilutyte of Lithuania won the overall heats in 1 minute, 3.81 seconds, 9.32 seconds faster than Chahat Arora.**
- **Lara Van Niekerk, 19, of South Africa, finished second in 1 minute 3.93 seconds.**
- **Lilly King of the United States finished third in 1 minute and 3.94 seconds.**
- Chahat will compete in the women's 50m breaststroke.
- **Siva Sridhar will take part in the 100m individual medley.**

About FINA:

- FINA is the international federation recognized by the International Olympic Committee for administering international competitions in water sports.

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- It is one of several international federations which administer a given sport or discipline for both the IOC and the international community.
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- Founded: 19 July 1908, London, United Kingdom
- President: Husain Al-Musallam

Rehan Ahmed makes his Test Cricket debut, becoming the youngest player for England:

- **Rehan Ahmed makes his Test debut for England** in the **final match between Pakistan and England**.
- When the match begins, **Rehan Ahmed will be 18 years and 126 days old**.
- Brian Close, who was 18 years and 149 days old at the time, was the youngest player in England during the 1949 New Zealand vs. England match.
- **Ben Stokes confirmed Rehan Ahmed's debut** in the final match between England and Pakistan.
- Rehan Ahmed surpasses Brian Close as the youngest England Test cricketer to make his debut.
- Stokes also confirmed two changes from the second test, which England won by 26 runs in Multan.
- Rehan Ahmed will take over for spinner Will Jacks, while wicketkeeper Ben Foakes will replace James Anderson.
- England is visiting Pakistan for the first time since 2005.
- Rehan Ahmed has played three first-class games and is a wrist spinner who is a high point for England, according to Ben Stokes.

Tata Steel has been an official partner of the FIH Men's World Cup 2023:

- **Tata Steel Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hockey India** to become an **Official Partner of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar - Rourkela**.
- The FIH Men's World Cup is the highest level of men's hockey competition.

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- The **15th edition of the prestigious event will take place from January 13 to January 29, 2023, in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela.**
- Tata Steel has aided in the development of India's national sport by providing top-tier high-performance residential hockey training facilities, foreign coaches, nutritionists, and mental and physical trainers.
- This adventure began with the **Naval Tata Hockey Academy**, which was established in 2017 as a cutting-edge institution to help burgeoning field hockey talent at the grassroots level in Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
- Currently, there are 65+ grassroots program centres with 3000+ cadets **administered by Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives in the interiors of three Jharkhand districts.**
- In addition, the **Tata Steel Foundation operates 9 centres** in the interiors of other districts in the state, with 300+ cadets.

Neeraj Chopra becomes the most written-about athlete in 2022, according to World Athletics:

- According to World Athletics, **India's Tokyo Olympics gold medallist javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra** was the most written-about track and field athlete in 2022, edging out **Jamaican legend Usain Bolt.**
- The data compiled by media monitoring company Unicepta was mentioned by World Athletics, the global governing body for athletics.
- **Neeraj Chopra**, the men's javelin champion at the Tokyo Olympics, led the way with 812 articles, followed by the Jamaican women's sprint trio of Olympic champion **Elaine Thompson-Herah (751 articles)**, **100m world champion Shelley-Ann Fraser-Pryce (698 articles)**, and **200m world champion Shericka Jackson (679 articles).**
- Usain Bolt, the world record holder in the 100m and 200m men's sprint, comes in fourth in the list with 574 references.
- For years, the Jamaican, who is now retired, led the annual list of most written-about athletes.

The Indian women's hockey team won the FIH Nations Cup 2022:

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- The **Indian women's Hockey team led by Captain Savita Punia beat Spain** 1-0 in the final to win the inaugural FIH Nations Cup staged at Valencia, Spain.
- **Gurjit Kaur of India** scored the game-winning goal.
- **The first FIH Nations Cup was contested in Valencia, Spain, from December 11 to 17, 2022.**
- **India and Spain competed in the FIH women's hockey Pro League 2021-22 season as substitute teams after Australia and New Zealand withdrew due to COVID-19 concerns.**
- The outcome also means that the Janneke Schopman-coached squad has been promoted to the FIH Pro League 2023-24.
- Hockey India has set a monetary award of Rs 2 lakh for each member of the squad and Rs 1 lakh for each support staff member.
- India finished the tournament undefeated, having won all five matches.
- The Indian squad defeated **Chile (3-1), Japan (2-1), and South Africa (2-0)** in the group round before defeating Ireland 2-1 in a penalty shootout in the semifinal.

Argentina defeats France in the tournament's final match on penalties:

- FIFA World Cup 2022: **Messi's Argentina** won the ultimate prize in men's football in the Lusail Stadium in Lusail, Qatar, defeating France 4-2 on penalties (3-3 after extra time) to win their third World Cup championship from six final appearances in history.
- It had two victories under Diego Maradona in 1978 and 1986.
- Lionel Messi nearly won in 2014, but La Albiceleste fell to Germany in the championship game 0-1 instead.
- The sole connection to Messi's Qatari campaign in 2014 was his Golden Ball victory as Tournament Player of the Year.
- He became the **first player to take home two Golden Balls at the World Cup.**
- The 22nd World Cup just concluded, and it will be another 4 years before the next one.
- Additionally, the 2026 World Cup will be split among Mexico, Canada, and the United States.

The 2022 FIFA World Cup

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The top 4 team rankings for the 2022 FIFA World Cup are Argentina (winner), France (second), Croatia (third), and Morocco (4th)
- Kylian Mbappe (France) received the Golden Boot Award (8 Goals)
- Lionel Messi of Argentina received the Golden Ball; (7 goals and registering 3 assists)
- Emiliano Martinez received a golden glove (Argentina)
- Enzo Fernandez received the FIFA Young Player Award.
- FIFA Award for Fair Play: England
- Lionel Messi won the Silver Boot Award.
- Olivier Giroud receives the bronze boot (France)
- Kylian Mbappe received the Silver Ball.
- Luka Modric receives the bronze ball (Croatia)

Karim Benzema of France has declared his retirement from international football:

- **Karim Benzema, a football player for France, has declared his retirement from international competition.**
- Despite having scored 37 goals in 97 games for France, Benzema's tenure with the team hasn't exactly been smooth since his debut 15 years ago.
- In March 2007, **Benzema scored in his first game as a substitute for France against Austria.**
- He was selected for **France's Euro 2008 team**, however, his performance was criticized **after the team was eliminated early.**
- Despite regularly competing in the qualification process, **Benzema was not included in France's World Cup roster for 2010.**
- He was once again a **member of the France squad for Euro 2020.**

Rafael Nadal and Iga Swiatek have been crowned ITF World Champions 2022:

- **Rafael Nadal of Spain has been awarded the Men's International Tennis Federation (ITF) World Champion 2022 for the fifth time** following a successful 2022 season.
- He previously won the men's ITF World Championship in 2008, 2010, 2017, and 2019.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Iga Witek of Poland** has been named Women's ITF World Champion 2022 for her achievements in 2022, which included **two Grand Slam titles and eight titles**.
- The winners will be recognized at the annual ITF World Champions Awards ceremony, **which will take place on July 8, 2023**, at the **Victoria & Albert Museum in London, United Kingdom (UK)**.
- Typically, **the event is hosted in Paris, France**.
- Barbora Krejčíková and Katerina Siniakova have won the ITF Women's Doubles World Championship for the second year in a row and for the third time overall, having previously won the championship in 2018 and 2021.
- For the first time, **Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury have been crowned ITF Men's Doubles World Champions**.
- Shingo Kunieda of Japan and Diede de Groot of the Netherlands were honored in the men's and women's wheelchair categories, respectively.
- At the junior level, Gilles Arnaud Bailly of Belgium was rewarded for a season of solid performances, while Roland Garros girls' singles champion Lucie Havlickova of the Czech Republic was crowned ITF Girls World Champion.

About International Tennis Federation (ITF)

- President- David Haggerty
- Headquarters- London, United Kingdom (UK)
- Establishment- 1913

Rehan Ahmed of England becomes the country's youngest five-fer on Test debut:

- **Rehan Ahmed, England's leg-spinner, became the youngest men's Test cricketer to capture a five-wicket haul** on debut during the **third match versus Pakistan now underway at the National Bank Cricket Arena**.
- **Rehan captured three wickets in six overs on his way to 5-48 in the second innings** after making his Test debut at the age of 18 years and 126 days, playing a significant role in bowling out Pakistan for 216 in 74.5 overs on day three of the match.
- Rehan's superb performance enabled England set a 167-run target to win the series 3-0.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Rehan eclipsed the mark set by now-Australian captain Pat Cummins**, who was 18 years and 193 days old when he took 6-79 against South Africa in 2011.
- Rehan was introduced into Pakistan's bowling attack after 41 overs of the second innings and had an instant impact by breaking the partnership between Babar Azam and Saud Shakeel, which had put the hosts in control.

India defeated Bangladesh by 120 runs in the Blind T20 World Cup of 2022:

- The **national blind cricket team of India has won the T20 World Cup** for the Blind three times in a row.
- By a dominant score of 120 runs, **India defeated Bangladesh at Bengaluru's M Chinnaswamy Stadium.**
- Ajay Kumar Reddy, the captain of India, chose to bat after winning the toss, and his team finally set Bangladesh a difficult target of 277 runs.
- Only 157 runs for three were scored in response by the Bangladeshi team.
- **Sunil Ramesh received the championship's Man of the Match award.**
- Additionally, he received the Man of the Series honours for the B3 category.
- India, the winning and unbeaten team in the competition, received Rs. 3 lakhs in prize money, while Bangladesh came in second and received Rs. 1.5 lakh.
- In the B2 division, **Ajay was named Man of the Series.**
- In the B1 category, **Mohammed Mahmud Rashid of Bangladesh was named Man of the Series.**
 - ✓ Sunil Ramesh was named Final's Man of the Match (IND)
 - ✓ Sunil Ramesh was named the B3 division's Man of the Match (IND)
 - ✓ Ajay Kumar Reddy was named the B2 Category's Man of the Match (IND)
 - ✓ Mohammed Mahmud Rashid was named the B1 division's player of the match (BAN).

Goa will host India's first World Table Tennis (WTT) Series event:

- **Goa will host India's first World Table Tennis (WTT) series event from February 27 to March 5.**



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **top-tier WTT Star Contender Goa 2023** will be held in the **Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium on the Goa University Campus**.
- The competition will be hosted by **Stupa Analytics**, an indigenous sports analytics organization, **with significant assistance from the Goa government**.
- The **World Table Tennis Series (WTT Series)** is the **official professional table tennis series of events**, featuring the world's greatest players competing in various category tournaments throughout the year, with the four Grand Smashes being the ultimate prize to win.
- The **six Star Contender events include 48 men and women in their singles main draws**, with the top 30 world rankings allowed to compete, four of whom must be in the world's top 20.
- A 16-team doubles main draw and an eight-team mixed doubles main draw are also available at Star Contender events.
- Eight qualifiers in singles and four in doubles compete against the best, while host countries receive enough wild-card spots in both singles and doubles.

Morocco has been chosen by FIFA to host the Club World Cup in February 2023:

- The hosting rights for the **2025 Club World Cup**, which will include **32 teams**, were granted to **Morocco by FIFA in February 2023**.
- The most **recent competition was held in the UAE in February 2022**, and **Chelsea, an English football team, took first place**.
- From February 1 through 11, the usual seven-team competition will feature **Real Madrid, the European champion, Flamengo, the South American champion, and Seattle Sounders, the first American team to win the CONCACAF Champions League**.
- The competition will continue in its current format, with the top team from the host country competing against the winners of the six continental federations.
- One of the final **seven-team editions for continental champions will take place in 2025** when an enlarged, month-long competition will begin.
- The **Club World Cup was first staged in Morocco in 2013 and then again in 2014**.
- The most recent tournament, which **Chelsea won**, was held in the **United Arab Emirates in February**.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

Sam Curran sets new records at the IPL Auction and becomes the most expensive cricketer:

- **Sam Curran** shatters all records and is now the most expensive cricket player ever acquired by an IPL franchise (IPL).
- **Sam Curran**, a 24-year-old English cricketer, was purchased by Punjab Kings for \$18.5 crores on the opening day of the IPL auction.
- Kerala is the location of the **IPL auctions for the 2023 season**.
- **Sam Curran has surpassed Ishan Kishan**, who was purchased by the Mumbai Indians for \$15.25 crore.
- The same Curran, according to Punjab Kings Director Ness Wadia, is one of the top all-around players in the world and will help our team remain balanced.
- In addition to **Sam Curran**, **Chennai Super Kings paid 16.25 crore for Ben Stokes**, and **Mumbai Indians paid 17.50 crore for Cameron Green**.
- Joshua Little and Shivam Mavi were purchased by Gujarat Titans for 4.4 and 6 crores respectively.
- Will Jacks was purchased by Royal Challengers Bangalore for 3.2 crores.
- For 1.8 crores, Sunrises Hyderabad purchased Mayank Dagar.
- The IPL auctions took place on December 23, 2023.

Geto Sora wins Junior International Badminton Championship title in Malaysia:

- **Budding badminton sensation Geto Sora** once again made Arunachal proud by winning the **Top Arena Junior International Badminton Championship title in the below 9 years category, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**.
- He won the championship title after **beating Malaysia's second seed Jaryl Teh in straight sets 21-5, 21-16**.
- This is Sora's second international badminton title in two months.
- In November, **the 7-year-old Sora** won the multinational **BTY-Yonex-Singha Championship**, which was **held at the Banthongyord Badminton School in Bangkok, Thailand**.

Anurag Thakur inaugurates Sports Science Centre in Karnataka's Udupi:

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Information and Broadcasting **Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurated Sports Science Centre in Udupi.**
- He also **assured the establishment of an FM Station at Brahmavara.**
- Every help will be provided to **Karnataka Government to promote games Anurag Thakur assured.**
- It is not only the effort of the government even parents have equal responsibility to encourage their children to become sports persons.
- Responding to the demand to start an FM station honourable minister said that he will assure that the demand for FM Station will be fulfilled as soon as possible that too in the next four months, in the same financial year.
- Also regarding the establishment of a Science Research Center across the State, Honorable Minister assured that the Central Govt. will support it in all respects.
- Karnataka minister for youth empowerment said these types of Sports and science centres should be started in Northern Karnataka.
- Udupi MLA Raghupathi Bhat Udupi DC Koorma Rao and others were present.

Cricket Australia renames Test Player of the Year award in honour of Shane Warne:

- In memory of the **late spin legend Shane Warne, Cricket Australia has renamed its top yearly award for finest performance in Test cricket.**
- The **Allan Border Medal**, given to the best performer of the year across all forms, will be the most prestigious award for men, **followed by the Shane Warne Men's Test Player of the Year award, which will be handed yearly at the Australian Cricket Awards.**
- When honours were given to the legendary **leg-spinner who passed away** on March 4, 2022, while on vacation at **the island of Ko Samui, the trophy was renamed, the first day of the annual Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground against South Africa.**
- As one of Australia's all-time greats, it is fitting we acknowledge Shane's extraordinary contribution to test cricket by naming this award in his honour in perpetuity.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The announcement comes just ahead of **Cricket Austria's awards, including the Allan Border Medal for men and Belinda Clark Women's award**, which will be presented on January 30, 2023.
- **Warne played 145 tests between 1992-2007** and his 708 wickets were the record until he was passed by Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan.
- The Australian Cricket Awards are held on an annual basis to celebrate the performances of Australian players across national and domestic cricket.

South Africa's Farhaan Behardien announces retirement:

- **South African batter Farhaan Behardien** announced **retirement, concluding an 18-year international cricketing career.**
- The **39-year-old** has represented the Proteas in 59 ODIs and has 1074 runs and 14 wickets under his belt.
- Behardien took to his official Twitter handle to announce his retirement.
- Behardien also has 38 T20I caps for South Africa and has amassed 518 runs at an average of 32.37.
- He also led the Proteas in the three-match T20I series against Sri Lanka in January 2017.
- His last international game came way back in 2018, in South Africa's 21-run win over Australia in a T20I at the Carrara stadium.
- The batter remained not out for three off two deliveries.

Aditya Mittal becomes India's 77th GM:

- **Sixteen-year-old Aditya Mittal** has become **India's 77th chess Grandmaster** during an ongoing **tournament in Spain.**
- The **Mumbai player, who had secured three GM norms, crossed the 2,500 ELO points** mark during the sixth round of the ongoing **Ellobregat Open tournament in Spain.**
 - He drew the game against **Spain's No.1 Francisco Vallejo Pons to achieve the feat.**
- To become a GM, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 ELO points.

About Mittal:

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Mittal earned his maiden GM norm at Serbia Masters 2021.
- Subsequently, he obtained his second GM norm at Ellobregat Open 2021.
- The teenager secured his third GM norm at Serbia Masters 2022.
- He is among the five players sharing the lead with five points at the ongoing Ellobregat Open.
- Mittal is also **the fifth Indian to achieve the GM title in 2022 after Bharath Subramaniam, Rahul Srivatshav, V Pranav V, and Pranav Anand.**

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Koneru Humpy wins India's first-ever silver medal at World Blitz Chess Championship in Almaty, Kazakhstan:

- Former world rapid champion **Koneru Humpy has won India's first-ever Silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan.**
- **Humpy defeated China's Zhongyi Tan to win Silver in the 17th and final rounds.**
- Fourth-seeded Humpy scored an impressive 12.5 points, just half a point behind the gold medal winner Bibisara Balabayeva of Kazakhstan.
- Humpy is the **second Indian to win a medal at World Blitz, after Viswanathan Anand.**
- Humpy has received compliments from Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur for taking home the silver medal at the World Blitz Chess Championships.

Cristiano Ronaldo joins Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr:

- **Portugal Football team captain Cristiano Ronaldo** has joined the **Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr on a contract until 2025.**
- The club in a tweet described the signing as history in the making.
- The club said it would inspire their league, nation, and future generations, boys and girls to be the best version of themselves.
- The 37-year-old Ronaldo said he is eager to experience a new football league in a different country.
- The **Portugal captain was free after leaving Manchester United** following a controversial interview in which he had criticized the club.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

Hockey Haryana Women's U-18 team wins Khelo India Youth Games 2022:

- **Hockey Haryana's women's team won the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Women's Under 18 Qualifiers** after **defeating Madhya Pradesh 2-0** in the final at Bhubaneswar.
- In the final match, **Pooja and Gurmail Kaur** scored a goal each for Haryana to end the contest in their favour.
- **Odisha stepped up to claim third place after beating Hockey Jharkhand 2-1** in the 3rd and 4th place encounter.
- Sanjna Horo scored for Jharkhand but Odisha came back with goals from Puja Sahoo and Sunelita Toppo to complete a thrilling comeback.
- **Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Jharkhand** have qualified for the Khelo India Youth Games to be held in Madhya Pradesh next year.

Hockey Madhya Pradesh clinches Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's U-18 title:

- In **Hockey, Madhya Pradesh defeated Odisha 6-5 to clinch the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's Under-18 Qualifiers** title in Bhubaneswar.
- In a thrilling final, Zameer Mohammad was the star of the final, scoring a hat-trick while Ali Ahmad, Mohammad Zaid Khan, and Captain Ankit Pal netted one goal each for Madhya Pradesh.
- On the other hand, Anmol Ekka, Paulus Lakra, Deepak Minz, Akash Soreng, and Anmol Ekka scored one goal each for Odisha.
- **Haryana claimed third place in the competition with a win against Jharkhand 2-0 in the 3rd and 4th place** clash.
- **Amandeep and Roshan** scored goals for Haryana.
- With this, **Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Haryana, and Jharkhand** have qualified for the Khelo India Youth Games to be held in Madhya Pradesh next year.

Koustav Chatterjee becomes India's 78th Grandmaster, 10th from West Bengal:

- **Nineteen-year-old Kolkata-based chess player Koustav Chatterjee** became India's **78th Grandmaster**.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Koustav is also the **tenth GM from West Bengal**.
- Koustav secured his final GM norm by drawing with GM Mitrabha Guha in the 10th round of the MPL National chess championship on the last day of 2022
- Koustav earned **his first GM norm in October 2021 at a Grandmasters' chess tournament in Bangladesh**.
- He got his second GM norm at the Asian championship in the first week of November 2022.
- He crossed the FIDE rating of 2500 in August.
- Koustav is in the joint-lead with GM Abhijeet Gupta at the National Senior Chess Championship with a score of 8/10 after 10 rounds

About FIDE:

- President: Arkady Dvorkovich
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- Founded: 20 July 1924, Paris, France
- Membership: 200 national associations

Magnus Carlsen wins all three-world chess championships:

- **Magnus Carlsen wins all three world chess championship titles** and he has won all three world chess championship titles **for the third time in his career**.
- He achieved this feat by winning both the **World Rapid and World Blitz chess titles in Almaty**.
- No other player has ever won the Rapid and Blitz titles in the same year.
- **Carlsen won the World Classical Championship** in November 2021 by **defeating grandmaster Ian Nepomniachtchi**.
- According to the International Chess Federation, his 2882 rating in 2014 is the highest in the history of chess.
- He has currently a 2859 rating in classic and a 2839 rating in rapid.
- Carlsen became the youngest person to be ranked number one in the world in 2010.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Gambit, move, Stalemate, Check, Grandmaster, and Castling are some important terms related to Chess.

About FIDE (International Chess Federation or World Chess Federation):

- President: Arkady Dvorkovich
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- Founded: 20 July 1924, Paris, France
- Membership: 200 national associations

Belinda Clark: Former Australia captain becomes first female cricketer to have statue:

- **Former Australia captain and World Cup winner Belinda Clark** has become the **first female cricketer to be honoured with a sculpture in the world.**
- **Cricket Australia unveiled a statue of Clark in the Sydney Cricket Ground precinct**, joining fellow **Australian greats in Richie Benaud, Steve Waugh, Stan McCabe, and Fred Spofforth.**
- Clark was the captain of Australia for 12 years and won two ICC Women's World Cup trophies, amassing 15 Test matches and scoring 919 runs at an average of 45.95.
- The **Australian is also a member of the ICC Hall of Fame** and also has the award for **Australian Female Cricketer of the Year** named after her.
- **Clark retired from the sport in 2005** having also captained the side in 101 ODIs, by the end of which she was her nation's top scorer in the format.
- The **52-year-old, who became the first person to score an ODI double century** with 229 against Denmark in 1997, has since been inducted into **the ICC Hall of Fame as well as serving as chief executive of Women's Cricket Australia.**

Pranesh becomes India's 79th chess Grandmaster:

- **Pranesh clinched the Rilton Cup title** here to become **India's 79th Chess Grandmaster.**
- The **Rilton Cup is the first tournament of the FIDE circuit.**
- The **16-year-old Pranesh** crossed the 2500-rating threshold and became a GM, having completed his three norms before the Rilton Cup.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- To become a GM, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points.
- The **Indian made a clean sweep of the field in Stockholm**, winning eight games and finishing a **full point ahead of IM Kaan Kucuksari (Sweden) and GM Nikita Meshkovs (Latvia) as the tournament concluded.**
- He **topped the standings with eight points.**
- The one who accumulates the most points by the end of the year **qualifies for the 2024 FIDE Candidates.**
- **Nineteen-year-old Koustav Chatterjee had recently become the country's 78th Grandmaster** during the National Senior Chess Championship.

International Hockey Federation signs JSW as global World Cup partner

- The **International Hockey Federation (FIH)** has signed a partnership with the **JSW Group for the upcoming FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela.**
- The group supports and promotes the **Olympics in India and has created an Olympic Training Institute in the Inspire Institute of Sport** as well as Olympic training centres across the country.
- The **15th edition of FIH's flagship event for men will be played from 13 January to 29 January in Odisha, India.**
- The year 2021 saw a comeback for sports sponsorships and media deals, as compared to 2020, following a lull after the pandemic.
- The year helped India achieve a billion-dollar scale with a 62% growth over 2020, found a report by GroupM ESP, the entertainment, esports, and sports division of GroupM India

Hyderabad to host first-ever Formula E World Championship race:

- The **first-ever ABB FIA Formula E World Championship race in India to be held in Hyderabad on February 11 kicked** off with the sale of tickets for the prestigious event getting underway.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Telangana Special Chief Secretary** (Municipal Administration) **Arvind Kumar** booked the first ticket at an event here.
- **Akbar Ebrahim, president Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India**, and other dignitaries were present.
- The government thought that hosting Formula E would put Hyderabad in the league with some of the top cities in the world and it is a matter of prestige that Hyderabad got to host the prestigious event.
- It would place **Hyderabad as a global destination for e-mobility**
- Hyderabad race on February 11 will be the fourth race of the season, season 9 of Formula E, the first three include Mexico City and Riyadh (second and third)
- **Private firm Ace Nxt Gen is the official promoter of the Formula E Race in India** in partnership with Formula E and the Telangana government.

Mascot, torch, and anthem of Khelo India Youth Games to be unveiled in Bhopal:

- In **Madhya Pradesh, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** will unveil the **mascot, torch, and anthem of Khelo India Youth Games-2022** in a colourful program at **Shaurya Smarak in Bhopal**.
- Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports **Nishith Pramanik will be the guest of honour**.
- **Madhya Pradesh's Sports and Youth Welfare Minister Smt. Yashodhara Raje Scindia** informed that in this program various facets of Khelo India will be explained through drone and laser shows.
- Madhya Pradesh is hosting the fifth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games.
- In this sports event, to be held from the 30th of January to the 11th of February, six thousand players will show their sports skills in eight different cities for 13 days.

Adelaide International: Novak Djokovic saves championship point to win the title after beating Sebastian Korda:

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Novak Djokovic defeated America's Sebastian Korda** in a nerve-wracking final to win the **Adelaide International men's singles title**.
- The **21-time Grand Slam winner won the match 6-7 (8-10), 7-6 (7-3), and 6-4 in three hours and nine minutes**.
- After losing the first set, Djokovic faced a championship point with the score-line reading 5-6 in favour of Korda.
- However, once the Serbian took the match in the tie-breaker, there was no stopping him.
- Djokovic also equalled Rafael Nadal's tally of **92 ATP singles titles in the Open Era**.
- Nadal and Djokovic are joint-fourth in the list after Jimmy Connors (109), Roger Federer (103), and Ivan Lendl (94).
- The former World No.1 also won his 34th match in a row on Australian soil since the beginning of 2019.
- The 35-year-old has also won 23 of his last 24 matches and has looked in decent form of late.
- **Djokovic is now set to return to the Australian Open**, which gets underway in just over a week.

Gareth Bale announces retirement from football career:

- **Wales and Los Angeles FC winger Gareth Bale had decided to end his playing career at the age of 33**, having reached exceptional milestones in both club and international football.
- Bale played a Wales record of 111 games for his country and was a **five-time Champions League winner with Real Madrid**.
- He helped the Welsh reach the **2016 and 2020 Euros before leading them to their first World Cup since 1958 at Qatar 2022**.
- Bale started his senior career at then-Championship side Southampton, which introduced the **17-year-old to professional football before he moved to Tottenham Hotspur two years later**.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- After six seasons and nearly 150 appearances in the Premier League, **Bale was signed by Real Madrid for a fee reported by British media as a world record of 100 million euros (\$107.45 million).**
- In 2013-14, his **first season in Spain, he helped Real Madrid to their 10th Champions League trophy**, awaited by the club for more than 10 years.
- Bale made 12 appearances and scored six goals in the triumphant campaign, including in the 4-1 final win over Atletico Madrid.

First European Championship:

- Bale became Wales' youngest player when he made his debut as a substitute at the age of 16 years and 315 days old against Trinidad & Tobago in May 2006.
- Having scored 41 goals, he remains their all-time top scorer.
- He captained Wales in their first European Championship in 2016, making the semi-finals, and helped them qualify again for Euro 2020, before reaching the 2022 World Cup for the first time since 1958.
- The 33-year-old, who in Qatar became Wales' most-capped player in their second group game against Iran, vowed to keep playing for the national team amid doubts over his future after they were knocked out with a 3-0 defeat by England.

South Africa all-rounder Dwaine Pretorius announces retirement from international cricket:

- **Cricket South Africa has announced that all-rounder Dwaine Pretorius** has called time on his international career.
- Pretorius has represented the Proteas across **all three formats in 30 T20Is, 27 ODIs, and three Tests since making his debut in 2016.**
- He was also part of **two World Cup squads for South Africa.**
- The 33-year-old said it was one of the toughest decisions of his career to step away from international cricket.
- He will be shifting his focus to T20 cricket and other shorter formats.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The 33-year-old thanked his coaches, teammates, and family for supporting him and had a special thank you for Faf du Plessis.

Anahat Singh clinches Girls U-15 squash title at British Junior Open tournament in Birmingham:

- **Indian squash prodigy Anahat Singh clinched the girl's Under-15 squash title at the most prestigious British Junior Open tournament in Birmingham.**
- The 14-year-old defeated **Sohaila Hazem of Egypt, 3-1 in the final.**
- Despite the first set being closely contested, she took the lead and won the tournament.
- The British Junior Open is held in January every year in the UK where all the best players from all over the world compete to win the coveted title.
- This year it was held after a Covid-induced gap of two years from the 4th to the 8th of January

Virat Kohli slams 73rd international 100, equals Sachin Tendulkar's record:

- **Virat Kohli returned to the Indian ODI side with yet another dazzling hundred against Sri Lanka in the first three-match ODI series.**
- It was **Kohli's 45th ODI ton and 73rd in international cricket.**
- With this century, Kohli reached another ODI milestone, **equaling Sachin Tendulkar's record of 20 ODI tons at home.**
- While Tendulkar reached the landmark in 164 matches, Kohli did it in 101 games.
- **Kohli also surpassed Sachin Tendulkar's record of most centuries against Sri Lanka in ODIs.**
- Tendulkar has eight to his credit while Kohli has gone to nine.
- Earlier, Kohli ended his ODI century drought during India's tour of Bangladesh.
- The number 3 batter remained century-less for 1214 days.
- The former India skipper had left batting legend Ricky Ponting behind when he last scored an ODI century.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Kohli is just five ODI centuries away from breaking Tendulkar's record for most hundreds in the format.
- Kohli has 45 ODI centuries, whereas Tendulkar has scored 49 ODI hundreds in his career.
- Kohli can break another record as he needs 180 more runs to enter the top 5 all-time run-getters in ODIs.
- Kohli is only behind Tendulkar, Sangakkara, Ponting, Jayasuriya, and Jayawardene in the elite list.

France captain Hugo Lloris announces retirement from international football:

- **France team captain Hugo Lloris announced** his decision to **retire from international football at the age of 36.**
- Lloris represented **France in four World Cups and three Euros and captained Les Blues to the World Cup trophy in 2018.**
- The Tottenham Hotspur showstopper led his team to the World Cup final in Qatar, where they were beaten by Argentina on penalties.
- The 36-year-old holds many records and is France's most-capped player with 145 appearances to his name.
- Lloris made his debut for Les Blues back in November 2008.
- He was handed the armband two years after his international debut and would go on to captain France in 121 matches.

Hockey India enters the metaverse ahead of home World Cup:

- **Hockey India has launched a new metaverse** product to **tie in with its hosting of the Men's World Cup in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela from January 13-29.**
- 'Hockeyverse', which Hockey India claims marks a first for a national sports federation, has been launched across the governing body's social media platforms and is designed to enhance the tournament experience for fans around the world.
- Before the **FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela, Hockey India launched the 'Hockeyverse'** on their social media platforms.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Hockey India has taken a giant leap into the future with this innovative initiative of launching the Hockeyverse which is a great way to get people, particularly youngsters, engaged and excited about hockey.
- This new metaverse platform is immersive and interactive and those who can't be here in Rourkela and Bhubaneswar to experience the best of world hockey can use this platform to connect with the event.

Ashleigh Gardner And Harry Brook Win ICC Players of The Month Award For December:

- **Australia allrounder Ashleigh Gardner and England's Harry Brook have won the ICC Player of the Month Awards for December** following their sparkling show at the international level.
- While **Gardner produced an excellent all-around show during a bilateral T20I series against India**, Brook continued his rise with an eye-catching show in the Pakistan Test series.
- Gardner scored 115 runs at an impressive strike rate of 166.66 and also took seven wickets during a 4-1 T20I series win over India.
- The allrounder saved her best for the fifth and final contest as she struck an unbeaten 66 before taking two wickets in a 54-run win.
- On the other hand, **Brook had a remarkable series in Pakistan as he peeled off three centuries in as many Tests** to help England complete a historic 3-0 clean sweep.
- The rising England star started the tour in Rawalpindi in emphatic fashion, hitting 19 fours and five sixes on his way to a blistering 153 in the first innings and then followed that with a quickfire 87.
- In Multan, he scored 108 and 111 in Karachi.

Virat Kohli becomes fifth highest run scorer in ODI:

- **Star Indian batter Virat Kohli** became the **fifth-highest run-scorer in the history of ODI cricket, overtaking Sri Lankan legend Mahela Jayawardene** to enter the **top five**.
- Virat added another record to his pile of accomplishments during **India's third and final ODI of the series against Sri Lanka in Kerala**.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- In the 35th over of India's batting, Kohli smashed a leg-cutter **bowled by Chamika Karunaratne between mid-off and covers for a four.**
- With this, he was able to become the fifth-highest run scorer in ODIs.
- Virat is currently racing towards his 46th ODI and 74th international cricket century.
- He has hit **his 65th ODI fifty.**
- At the time of becoming the fifth-highest run-scorer, Virat had 12,652 runs in 268 ODIs at an average of 57.78, with 45 tons and 65 half-centuries. His best score in the format is 183.
- He overtook Jayawardene, who has scored 12,650 runs in 448 matches, 418 innings at an average of 33.37.
- He has 19 centuries and 77 fifties in the format, with the best score of 144.
- The **highest run-scorer in ODI history is Indian legend, Sachin Tendulkar.**
- He has scored 18,426 runs at an average of 44.83.
- He has 49 centuries and 96 fifties in this format, with the best of 200*.
- **Following Tendulkar are, Sri Lankan great Kumar Sangakkara (14,234 runs in 404 matches), Australian great Ricky Ponting (13,704), Sri Lankan all-rounder Sanath Jayasuriya (13,430 in 445 matches), and Virat.**

11-year-old Kashmiri girl bags gold medal at National Sqay Championship:

- **Falak Mumtaz, an 11-year-old from Shopian in South Kashmir, won gold in the National Sqay Championship 2023.**
- **Falak Mumtaz won the gold medal in the National Sqay Championship last week in Jammu, overcoming all odds.**
- She didn't have access to education because she came from a poor home.
- But that didn't stop her from fulfilling her ambition.
- Her devotion to Sqay earned her a gold medal.
- Falak is a bright and determined sixth-grader at Aisha Ali Academy in Kulgam.
- Her long-term goal is to become an IAS officer and help the valley's people.

Yamaguchi, Axelsen win Malaysia Open singles crowns:

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Akane Yamaguchi and Viktor Axelsen** won the **Malaysia Open Super 1000 women's and men's singles titles** in Kuala Lumpur.
- **Yamaguchi won her maiden Super Series Premier title at the China Open** in 2017.
- Yamaguchi, after dropping the first game 12-21, bounced back to win the tightly fought second game 21-19 before sealing the contest 21-11 in the third.
- The men's singles final saw a repeat of last month's World Tour Finals.
- **Axelsen**, the reigning Olympic and world champion, **won the Malaysia Open title in straight games, beating Japanese youngster Kodai Naraoka** in 40 minutes.
- This was **Axelsen's ninth Super Series Premier title and third Malaysia Open crown.**
- **Chen Qingchen-Jia Yifan, the world no. 1 pairing in women's doubles**, blew away South Korea's Baek Hana-Lee Yulim 21-16, 21-10 in 52 minutes.
- In **mixed doubles, the world no. 1 pairing of Zheng Siwei-Huang Yaqiong**, carrying on their last season's dominating display, claimed the season's first Super Series Premier title.
- Zheng-Huang beat Yuta Watanabe-Arisa Higashino of Japan 21-19, 21-11 in 44 minutes.
- Last season, the Chinese pairing won an overwhelming nine Super Series titles on the World Tour.

Broadcaster Viacom18 bags Women's IPL five-year media rights for Rs 951 cr:

- **Reliance-backed Viacom18 has secured the Women's Indian Premier League (WIPL) media rights for five years (2023-27) at an auction.**
- **Viacom18 had committed ~951 crores for five years**, translating into a **per-match value of Rs 7.09 crore.**
- There will be a total of 134 matches in the five-team WIPL over five years, with 22 matches each in the first three years.
- The number could touch 34 matches each in the final two years.
- BCCI is anticipating growth in WIPL over the next few years, said executives at the cricketing body.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- While BCCI was eyeing Rs 1,100-1,250 crore from the sale of media rights for WIPL for five years, observed media experts, what has come in is 14-24 percent lower in terms of total bid value (Rs 951 crore).
- The Big Bash League in Australia has both a men's and women's edition.
- At last year's e-auction for the men's IPL for 2023-27, the total value of media rights was nearly 3x the previous cycle's value at Rs 48,390 crore, with the per-match value at Rs 118 crore.
- **Disney Star and Viacom18 had picked up the television and digital rights for Rs 23,575 crore and Rs 23,491 crore, respectively.**
- Viacom18 and Times Internet had picked up the **overseas rights for Rs 1,324 crore.**

Barcelona beats Real Madrid 3-1 to win Super Cup:

- **Barcelona won the Spanish Super Cup for the first time** since the competition was revamped and moved to Saudi Arabia **with a 3-1 victory over Real Madrid.**
- **Robert Lewandowski, Gavi, and Pedri scored a goal each at King Fahd Stadium in Riyadh to give Barcelona** its first Super Cup trophy since 2018 — and its 14th overall — and the first since the tournament began being played in a Final Four format in 2020 in a lucrative deal for the Spanish soccer federation.
- It was also **Barcelona's first title since former player Xavi** took over as the team's coach in 2021, and since **Lionel Messi left for Paris Saint-Germain.**
- Barcelona had not lifted a trophy since the 2021 Copa del Rey under former coach Ronald Koeman.
- That was Messi's 35th and final title with Barcelona before leaving amid the club's financial struggles.
- Madrid beat Barcelona 3-1 at home in the **first "El Clásico" of the season at the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium in the Spanish league in October.**
- The Super Cup used to be played between the Spanish league champion and the Copa del Rey winner.
- Now the runners-up in both competitions also participate.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Madrid played as the league champion and Barcelona was the league runner-up. Betis won the Copa title over Valencia last season.
- The current contract to play the Super Cup in Saudi Arabia runs through the 2024-25 season.

Khelo India National Women Kho Kho leagues set to take place in Punjab:

- The **Khelo India Senior Women National Kho Kho league is set to take place at Chandigarh University, Punjab.**
- The league is being organized by the **Kho Kho Federation of India and will be held over three phases** with full financial support from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- A total of 12 teams and close to 200 players are slated to participate.
- The Kho Kho women's league for junior and sub-junior age groups is scheduled from January 16 to 19 at the **Alberta Ekka Kho Kho stadium in Hotwar, Ranchi.**
- The Khelo India women's leagues, which are being held across multiple sports since 2021, is an initiative taken by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to develop the overall sports ecosystem of the country.

Rwanda's Geovanis Uwase suspended for illegal bowling action:

- **Geovanis Uwase, the Rwanda fast bowler, has been suspended from bowling in international cricket with immediate effect** after her action was **found illegal at Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup.**
- The decision was taken by the **Event Panel, which comprises members of the ICC Panel of Human Movement Specialists.**
- Uwase was reported by the match officials during Rwanda's match against Pakistan, with footage captured during their match against Zimbabwe on January 17 shared with the Event Panel for review.
- In two games in the tournament so far, Uwase has one wicket from six overs at an economy rate of 3.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- According to the ICC regulations, a bowling action is deemed illegal if a bowler's elbow extension exceeds 15 degrees, measured from the point at which the bowling arm reaches the horizontal until the point at which the ball is released.
- Any elbow hyperextension is discounted to determine an illegal bowling action.
- **Uwase's suspension will remain in place until Uwase undergoes a reassessment** that confirms her elbow extension is within the permissible limit.
- **Rwanda is currently second in their group** with one win and one loss from two games and is well-placed to qualify for Super Sixes.
- In their last match of the first round, they will face table-toppers England in Potchefstroom.

All-time great Hashim Amla ends long cricket career:

- **Hashim Amla, who ended a 22-year playing career**, will be regarded as one of **South Africa's all-time cricketing greats**.
- English county Surrey announced that **they had been informed by Amla, 39, that he would not be returning as a player this year** after helping the side to win the English county championship in 2022.
- Amla was a key member of one of South Africa's most powerful teams when they clinched the Test championship with a series win in England in 2012.
- **He retired from international cricket after the 2019 Cricket World Cup** and did not play in South African domestic cricket after the 2018/19 season.
- But he continued to be a prolific run-scorer for Surrey, scoring 1,712 runs at an average of 48.91 in his last two seasons.
- **Amla is currently a batting consultant with the MI Cape Town franchise** in the SA20 league.

Rohit breaks Dhoni's record of most ODI sixes in India:

- **Indian captain Rohit Sharma** gave the hosts another **solid start**, this time against **New Zealand in the 1st ODI at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium, Hyderabad**.
- The 35-year-old looked solid in his 38-ball 34 but failed to capitalize.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- In the process, **Rohit broke a long-standing record of MS Dhoni, the legendary Indian captain.**
- The **former now has the most ODI sixes in India.**

Rohit smashes his 124th ODI six in India

- In a career spanning over a decade, Dhoni took the greatest of bowlers to cleaners.
- He smashed 123 sixes in ODI cricket in India.
- Rohit, who broke Dhoni's record, now has the most ODI sixes in India.
- The former reached the landmark in the third over bowled by Henry Shipley.
- Rohit smacked an incredible six over extra cover on the final delivery.

Rohit surpasses Adam Gilchrist (ODI runs)

- In the third ODI against Sri Lanka, Rohit surpassed South African legend AB de Villiers (9,577) in terms of ODI runs.
- The former has now overtaken Australian legend Adam Gilchrist (9,619) in this regard.
- Rohit, who now owns 9,630, went past him in his 239th ODI appearance.
- He owns 29 centuries and 47 fifties in ODIs.
- The tally also includes three double tons.

Hockey World Cup: Netherlands breaks the record for most goals in a men's HWC match, beats Chile 14-0

- **Netherlands went past Australia's record of most goals scored by a team in a single FIH Men's Hockey World Cup match**
- In its final Pool C match, **three-time winner Netherlands scored its 13th goal in the 48th minute against Chile at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar** to go past Australia's 12-0 win over South Africa during the 2010 edition.
- The Dutch side eventually won the match 14-0.
- The 14th and final Netherlands goal came two minutes before the full-time hooter when captain Brinkman scored from a Penalty Corner to complete his hat-trick.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

Virat Kohli back in top-five in ODI rankings:

- **Former India skipper Virat Kohli**, who **scored two centuries and scored 283 runs in three matches against Sri Lanka**, jumped two places to break into the top five in the latest ICC ODI rankings.
- Kohli now has **750 points and has second-placed Rassie van der Dussen (766) and third-placed Quinton de Kock (759)** in his sights, while Pakistan skipper Babar Azam remains way out in front with 887 points.
- Kohli has the opportunity to close the gap further in the ongoing three-match ODI series against New Zealand.
- Kohli's team-mates **Shubman Gill, Mohammed Siraj, and Kuldeep Yadav have also moved up in rankings.**
- Gill, who hit his maiden ODI century in India to complement his fifty during the series, has moved up 10 spots to 26th.
- The young Indian opener scored 207 runs at an average of 69.
- Siraj, who emerged as the leading wicket-taker in India's 3-0 series win against Sri Lanka, climbed 15 spots to rise to third on the list for ODI bowlers with his nine scalps.
- The performance helped **Siraj improve to a career-best rating of 685 points and close in on pace-setters Trent Boult (730) and Josh Hazlewood (727).**
- Kuldeep Yadav was also rewarded for his five wickets from just two matches against Sri Lanka, with the left-arm spinner moving up seven spots to 21st in the latest rankings for bowlers.
- **Boxing legend MC Mary Kom will head a five-member Oversight Committee that will run**

Mary Kom-led Oversight Committee to run WFI

the **Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)** and also **probe into the allegations of 'sexual misconduct, financial irregularities and misgovernance'** leveled by India's top wrestlers, including **Olympic and World Championships medallists**, against the federation chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, other officials and some coaches at the national camp.



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- The **other members** of the **committee** are **London Olympics bronze medallist Yogeshwar Dutt, former badminton player Trupti Murgunde**, a member of SAI's Mission Olympic cell, and former **SAI administrators Radhica Sreeman, and Cdr Rajesh Rajagopalan**.
- Announcing the names of the committee members in Jabalpur, Sports Minister Anurag Thakur said the committee has been given one month to complete its probe and till that time WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh will stay away from the day-to-day functioning of the wrestling body.
- The committee will look into the serious allegations leveled against WFI.
- It will listen to both sides and complete its probe in one month and submit a report.
- Till the probe is completed, the Committee will also be in charge of the functioning of the WFI

BCCI rakes in Rs 4669.99 crore from sale of Women's Premier League

- **Women's cricket** has touched a new glass ceiling in India and It is the **latest goldmine that the Indian cricket Board has discovered**.
- Five companies, **with the Adani Group** leading the race, which made **the highest bid-Rs 1289 crore-for the Ahmedabad franchise, splurged as much as Rs 4669.99 crore** to buy the five teams for the women's IPL, which has been named as the Women's Premier League (WPL) by the BCCI.
- The astounding figure, achieved through a 'sealed bid' process, exceeded all expectations,
- The **four others with the biggest bids** were the Mumbai Indians (Rs 912.99 crore), Royal Challengers Bangalore (Rs 901 crore), Delhi Capitals (Rs 810 crore), and Capri Global (Rs 757 crore).
- Adani and Capri Global, which owns Sharjah Warriors in ILT20 in UAE, are the new team owners in the BCCI fold, while MI, RCB, and DC already have an IPL team.
- As was in the case of the IPL, the **BCCI will rake in the moolah from the five franchises over 10 years**.

Harmanpreet Named Captain of The ICC Women's ODI Team of The Year:



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Indian skipper Harmanpreet Kaur has been named the captain of the ICC Women's ODI Team of the year for 2022** which also includes her teammates, **opener Smriti Mandhana, and fast bowler Renuka Singh, the International Cricket Council.**
- Other players in the **ICC Women's T20I team of the year 2022** are - Alyssa Healy (Australia), Laura Wolvaardt (South Africa), Nat Sciver (England), Beth Mooney (Australia), Amelia Kerr (New Zealand), Sophie Ecclestone (England), Ayabonga Khaka (South Africa), Shabnim Ismail (South Africa).
- Mandhana added some consistency to her game during 2022 as she helped herself to a century and six half-centuries for the calendar year. She scored a magnificent 123 against the West Indies at the World Cup in New Zealand.
- The experienced all-rounder Harmanpreet remains one of the most consistent performers in world cricket.
- She hit two centuries and five half-centuries during the calendar year, with her unbeaten 143 against England in September.
- The 33-year-old also chipped in with five valuable wickets with her more than decent off-spin.
- Renuka secured her debut against New Zealand at the start of 2022, but couldn't break into the strong India XI during an unsuccessful 50-over World Cup campaign.

Suryakumar Yadav bags ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year 2022:

- **Swashbuckling India middle-order batsman Suryakumar Yadav**, who had an outstanding run in the shortest format in the year 2022, was **named the ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year by the sport's global governing body.**
- Surya had a phenomenal run last year where he broke a plethora of records in the T20Is.
- **He beat the likes of Sam Curran**, Pakistan wicketkeeper-batter **Mohammad Rizwan**, and Zimbabwe's batting all-rounder **Sikandar Raza** for the top honor.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Yadav was at his stupendous best during the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022** in Australia, recording three fifties in six innings and averaging nearly 60 during the tournament.
- Notably, **his strike rate was yet again right up there at 189.68.**
- Having already recorded a ton earlier in the year, Suryakumar continued his brilliant year after the multi-nation tournament, making his second hundred in T20Is in the year in the bilateral series in New Zealand.
- Yadav also became the top-ranked MRF Tyres ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings, achieving a career-high 890 rating points.

India crowned first-ever ICC Under-19 Women's T20 World champions:

- **India became the first-ever ICC Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup winners**, after a comprehensive, seven-wicket victory **over England in Potchefstroom.**
- It was another clinical display with the ball that held the key to India's march to victory, with Titas Sadhu setting the pace, with the spinners delivering another telling performance when it mattered.
- Supplementing the fine bowling was outstanding fielding.
- **The dismissal of England's captain, Grace Scrivens**, epitomised the sheer determination in the Indian ranks.
- The left-hander hit Archana towards long-off, where Gongadi Trisha sprinted in, and then leapt forward to take a wonderful, tumbling catch.
- **Shafali Verma and Co. scripted history** as the **Indian women's team defeated England in the final of the U-19 Women's T20 World Cup at the Senwes Park in Potchefstroom.**
- Fresh from getting the better of New Zealand in the semi-finals, Shafali-led Team India squared off against England, who had outclassed Australia to punch its ticket for **the inaugural Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup final in South Africa.**

Aryna Sabalenka Wins Australian Open For First Grand Slam Crown:



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- **Aryna Sabalenka tamed her nerves to blast her way to a maiden Grand Slam title at the Australian Open**, with a 4-6 6-3 6-4 win over Kazakh 22nd seed Elena Rybakina in a thrilling final featuring two power-hitters in the women's game.
- **Saba Lenka's 11th straight win of the year will propel the Belarusian fifth seed** back to her career-high ranking of number two behind Poland's Iga Swiatek, as she reaps the rewards of an improved playing mindset in the New Year.
- Rod Laver Arena exhaled.
- A flood of tears, a howling storm of emotion washed over the strapping Belarusian, who has been climbing the rankings and dancing around the winner's circle these past seasons.
- Thrice she came up just short, falling in the semifinals.
- she blasted through the gates to claim her first Grand Slam title – the Australian Open.
- Sabalenka, 25, playing her first Major final, pipped Elena Rybakina 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 to hold aloft the Daphne Akhurst Memorial Cup, presented to her by the legendary Billie Jean King.
- **Sabalenka was broken in the third game of the final** in which she threw in a double fault and then went wide on the backhand.

Djokovic riding high in pursuit of 22nd Slam title and top ranking:

- **Novak Djokovic has won all nine of his previous Australian Open finals** so confidence is sky-high as he bids to **equal Rafael Nadal's Grand Slam record and return to world number one**.
- That makes the Serb heavy favourite but in **Stefanos Tsitsipas his invincibility will face a major test when they meet in the Melbourne Park title match**.
- While **Djokovic is into a record 33rd Grand Slam final** and bidding to **equal Nadal's 22 major crowns**, the Greek third seed will play only his second.
- Adding spice to the showdown, the winner will become world number one, dethroning Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz.

Copa America 2024: USA to host 16-team tournament



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **United States will host the 2024 Copa America**, which will feature 10 teams from **South America and six from North and Central America and the Caribbean**.
- **It will be the second time the Copa America has been hosted outside of South America**.
- Ecuador was originally scheduled to host the tournament but its government said in November it would be unable to.
- The **2021 tournament took place in Brazil and was won by Argentina**.
- The Copa America typically includes the 10 Conmebol teams but this time will expand to include a **further six from North and Central America and the Caribbean**, who must qualify through the **2023-24 Concacaf Nations League**.
- That means the US, who were knocked out by the Netherlands in the round of 16 in Qatar, are not guaranteed a place at the tournament despite hosting it.
- The US, who held the tournament in 2016 for a special centenary edition, are also the joint hosts for the **2026 World Cup with Mexico**.

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Hockey World Cup: Germany lifts title, Netherlands finishes 3rd

- **Germany beat Belgium 5-4** in the penalty shootout to win the **FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, India**.
- The scores were level at the end of regulation time at 3-3 with Florent Van Aubel (10'), Tanguy Cosyns (11') and Tom Boon (59') getting on the scoresheet for Belgium. Player of the match Niklas Wellen (29'), Gonzalo Peillat (41') and Mats Grambusch (48') netted for Germany.
- **Jean-Paul Danneberg** proved to be the hero for **Germany as the goalkeeper made three saves in the penalty shootout**.
- Belgian goalkeeper Vincent Vanasch made two saves to keep his team in contention but Germany kept their composure to clinch the title in the sudden death.
- Courtesy of the win, **Germany became the fourth team to have won three or more hockey World Cup titles**.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Pakistan, the most successful team at the hockey World Cup, has won the title four times.
- The **Netherlands and Australia are the other two teams to have won three titles each.**
- Germany looked more likely to open the scoring with two penalty corners in the first five minutes of regulation time. Belgium, with one of the most seasoned squads in the tournament, used their experience to cut the angles and quickly cleared the ball.
- In the penalty shootout, Belgium did their best to erase Germany's two-goal advantage but the latter held their nerves to win the World Cup 5-4 in the sudden death.
- **Earlier in the day, the Netherlands beat Australia 3-1 to claim the bronze medal.**
- It was the first time since 1998 that Australia failed to finish on the podium at the FIH World Cup.

Australian Open: Sania Mirza ends her Grand Slam

- **India's tennis ace Sania Mirza signed off her career with six Grand Slam titles after failing to win the Australian Open mixed doubles trophy** with compatriot Rohan Bopanna at the Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne.
- **Bopanna and Sania lost 6-7(2) 2-6 to the Brazilian pair of Luisa Stefani and Rafael Mataos** in the title clash.
- Coming into her final Major tournament, Sania had six Grand Slam titles - three women's doubles and as many mixed doubles - in her cabinet.
- The 42-year-old Bopanna has one French Open mixed doubles title to his credit.

Jonatan Christie and An Se Young win Indonesia Masters titles

- **Jonatan Christie claimed his first title** in 10 months at the **2023 Indonesia Masters**
- In an all-Indonesian final, he **defeated Chico Aura Dwi Wardoyo 21-15, 21-13** in 44 minutes for his maiden **BWF Badminton Tour title** on home soil **inside Jakarta's Gelora Bung Karno Sports Palace.**
- **Christie's last BWF Tour title came at the Swiss Open** in March 2022.
- The fourth seed led 11-9 at the break and won a spectacular 51-shot rally to go 17-15 ahead.
- And Christie reeled off the next four points in succession to take the opening game.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Dwi Wardoyo went into a 7-5 lead in game two, but his opponent regained control to take an 11-8 advantage into the interval.
- The 25-year-old had **won Asian Games gold in this arena, beating Chou Tien-chen in the final.**
- **An Se Young of the Republic of Korea defeated Carolina Marin** 18-21, 21-18, 21-13 to claim her second singles title of the season.
- After trailing at the start, Rio 2016 Olympic champion Marin managed to take an 11-10 lead into the first break.
- The 20-year-old from Gwangju went on the attack, but the Spanish left-hander showed solid defence to extend her lead and take the opening game.
- It was the second consecutive title triumph for the 2022 world bronze medallist who defeated world champion Yamaguchi Akane to take the India Open title last weekend.
- An has now won 14 of her 15 matches this season with her only defeat coming against Yamaguchi in the Malaysia Open final.

Usman Khawaja bags inaugural Shane Warne Men's Test Player of the Year

- **Australia's Usman Khawaja bagged the inaugural Shane Warne Men's Test Player of the Year award** following brilliant performances in the last 12 months.
- The **left-hander has been Australia's leading run scorer** in Tests since making a comeback in January 2022.
- Khawaja amassed 1020 runs at an average of 78.46.
- He capped off the voting period with an unbeaten 195 during the rain-affected New Year's Test against South Africa at t
- he SCG – his third consecutive Test century at the venue.
- Khawaja was also part of the ICC Test Team of the Year alongside teammates Nathan Lyon, Pat Cummins and Marnus Labuschagne announced last week.
- The left-hander was drafted in the playing XI against England in SCG following Travis Head's positive COVID-19 tests and grabbed the opportunity with both hands.

India to host Club Volleyball World Championship for two years

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **Volleyball World and the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB)** have announced **India as the host for the men's Club World Championship for two years.**
- The champions of the **RuPay Prime Volleyball league will compete in the Club World Championship in 2023 and 2024** against some of the top teams from countries like **Italy, Brazil and Iran.**
- The Club World Championship is scheduled from December 6 to 10 this year, and the host city would be announced later in the season.
- The volleyball league this season would be **held from February 4 to March 5.**
- The league will be **staged in Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Kochi**, featuring 31 games in all.
- **Sony Sports Network will telecast** the matches.

About FIVB:

- Founded: April 1947, Paris, France
- President: Ary Graça
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

Aaron Finch announces retirement from international cricket

- **Aaron Finch has announced his retirement** from **international T20Is.**
- It has ended his 12-year-long international cricket career.
- Earlier, he had announced retirement from the 50-over format in September last year.
- He said that it's important for the new captain and opener to give sufficient time for the 2024 T20 World Cup.
- He made his international cricket debut in a T20I against England in 2011.
- He played 103 T20 matches for Australia and scored 3120 runs at an average of 34.28 and a strike rate of 142.5.
- He led Australia in 76 men's T20Is, as well as in 55 ODIs.
- His highest score was 172 against Zimbabwe in 2018.
- Recently, **Indian Cricketer Joginder Sharma has also announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.**

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

TOPS Weightlifting Development athlete Akanksha becomes champion

- For **Maharashtra weightlifter Akanksha Vyavhare**, the TOPS weightlifting athlete, who dreams of becoming like **Olympic medallist Mirabai Chanu**, it was a tough and painful **Gold at the Khelo India Youth Games**.
- Akanksha undoubtedly emerged as **the champion in the 45kg category** but she had to overcome a tough fight from **Silver medallist Asmita Dhone**.
- The 14-year-old Akanksha lifted a total of 147 kg just four kilograms more than Asmita (143).
- Akanksha lifted 67 kgs in snatch and 80 kgs in clean and jerk.
- In terms of total weight, Akanksha set the youth national record while Silver medallist Asmita lifted 61 kgs in snatch and 82 kgs in clean and jerk, and Anjali Patel of Uttar Pradesh with a total of 142 kg (snatch 63 kg, clean and jerk 79 kg) walked away with the Bronze medal.

Indian pacer Joginder Sharma from Haryana has announced their retirement

- **Indian pacer Joginder Sharma from Haryana has announced their retirement** from all **formats of cricket**.
- The cricketer is known for his exceptional bowling in the T20 World Cup 2007 Final, where India defeated Pakistan to grab the prestigious trophy.
- Joginder Sharma played his first international match in an ODI against Bangladesh in Chattogram in 2004.

Anurag Thakur launched the mascot of the third edition of the Khelo India Winter Games

- The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports **Anurag Thakur launched the mascot, theme song, and jersey of the third edition of the Khelo India Winter Games**.
- The **games will take place in Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir**.
- The winter games will be played across 9 sports events.
- The Khelo India Winter Games started in 2020.
- Around 1,500 athletes from across the country will participate in the games.
- It is supported by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- It is organized by the J&K Sports Council as well as the Winter Games association of the J&K.
- Jammu and Kashmir have come on top in both editions of the games so far.
- This year's mascot is the Snow Leopard which depicts the vibrant heritage of the Himalayas.

Sports Minister unveils mascot, theme song, jersey for 3rd edition of Khelo India Winter Games:

- In Jammu and Kashmir, the Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur along with the **Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha and other dignitaries launched the Mascot, Theme Song and Jersey for the 3rd edition of Khelo India Winter Games at Raj Bhawan, Jammu.**
- The beginning of the biggest sporting extravaganza at the world-famous Ski resorts of Gulmarg in the Baramulla district of Kashmir division from the 10th of this month.
- The **3rd edition of Khelo India Winter Games is scheduled to be held from the 10th to the 14th of this month** and is supported by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and is being organised by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council as well as the Winter Games Association of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Around one thousand 500 athletes from across the country will take part in the games.
- The main attractions during the mega event are a snowshoe race, ice skating, ice hockey, skiing, nordic ski, snowboarding, ski mountaineering and ice stock among others during the 5-day mega event.
- Nine sports events will feature in the Winter Games.
- The **1st edition of the Khelo India Winter Games took place in 2020 and hosts Jammu and Kashmir topped both editions of the games** so far.

Penske's Vergne wins drama-filled inaugural Hyderabad E-Prix:

- Two-time champion **Jean-Eric Vergne from DS Penske team held his nerves to win his maiden race at the inaugural Formula E race Hyderabad E-Prix** at the street circuit on the banks of Hussain Sagar Lake at the NTR Marg.
- The race was action-packed, with minor crashes, wheel-to-wheel action that sent the motorsport fans in the city into delirium.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **French driver Vergne**, took advantage after TCS Jaguar's Mitch Evans, who took the pole in the morning session and was running third at the time, crashed along with three other cars when his teammate Sam Bird rammed into him on the first turn in the 12th lap.

Joginder Sharma Announces Retirement From All Forms Of Cricket:

- **Fast bowler Joginder Sharma**, who registered his name in the minds of cricket fans after bowling India to victory in the inaugural Mens T20 World Cup in 2007, **has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.**
- Sharma had represented India in four ODIs and as many T20Is from 2004 to 2007, picking five wickets across both formats.
- In the **Indian Premier League (IPL)**, he represented **Chennai Super Kings** in the first four seasons, picking 12 wickets in 16 matches.
- But he is most remembered for his last-over heroics in the T20 World Cup final against Pakistan in Johannesburg.
- Tasked to bowl the final over by captain M.S. Dhoni in the match, Joginder had to defend six runs off four balls with one wicket remaining.

Oval to host ICC World Test Championship 2021-23 final

- The **International Cricket Council** announced that the **ICC World Test Championship 2021-23 final will take place at The Oval**, London from June 7 to 11.
- The reserve day is scheduled on June 12.
- **New Zealand had won the inaugural edition, defeating India** by eight wickets in the 2021 final in Southampton.
- **Australia leads the nine-team** points table for the ongoing cycle with a healthy points percentage of 75.56, **followed by India at 58.93.**

About ICC:

- Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Motto: Cricket for good.
- Founded: 15 June 1909
- Chairman: Greg Barclay
- General Manager: Wasim Khan

Real Madrid win 2022 FIFA Club World Cup by beating Al Hilal

- **Real Madrid won the Club World Cup by defeating Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal** by 5-3 in the final in Rabat, Morocco.
- **Madrid last won the club world cup in 2018** while it won the Club World Cup also in 2014, 2016 and 2017.
- Vinicius Junior and Fede Valverde scored two-two goals each while Karim Benzema scored one goal.
- Madrid also won three Intercontinental Cups in 1960, 1998 and 2002.
- The **2023 FIFA Club World Cup has been hosted by Morocco.**
- **Chelsea was the winner of the 2021 FIFA Club** World Cup.
- Real Madrid is a Spanish professional football club based in Madrid.

Singapore replaces Kazan as host of 2025 World Aquatics Championships

- **Singapore has been awarded the hosting rights for the 2025 World Aquatics Championships, replacing Russian city Kazan** which is hoping to secure the event in 2029.
- **Kazan was named as host of the 2025 edition in 2019**, but the event that features swimming, water polo, diving, artistic swimming, open water swimming and high diving competitions **has now been moved to Singapore.**
- The decision comes after Kazan lost the rights to stage last year's World Swimming (25m) Championships, with Melbourne in Australia taking the city's place, due to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- However, Tatarstan's Minister of Sport Vladimir Leonov insisted that discussions were underway with World Aquatics over Kazan staging the World Aquatics Championships in 2029 - 14 years after it last played host.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **World Championship in Kazan has not been cancelled, it has been postponed to 2029.**
- Singapore will become the first Southeast Asian nation to host the World Aquatics Championships, with World Aquatics President Husain Al-Musallam saying the event is in "good hands".

About World Aquatics

- World Aquatics, formerly known as FINA, is the international federation recognised by the International Olympic Committee for administering international competitions in water sports.
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- Founded: 19 July 1908.

Khelo India Winter Games concludes in Gulmarg

- The **third edition of Khelo India Winter Games concluded in Gulmarg** with a grand function attended by over 2,000 participants, including players, tourists and officials of different departments.
- **J&K topped the medal tally, bagging 26 gold medals, 25 silver and 25 bronze medals**, followed by **Maharashtra that got 13 gold, eight silver and six bronze medals.**
- The **third position was achieved by Himachal Pradesh which won 10 gold, 14 silver and 7 bronze medals** while the Army scored 10 gold, 10 silver and 9 bronze medals.
- Nisith Pramanik, Union Minister of State, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, was the chief guest for the concluding ceremony.

32-year-old Jeje Lalpekhua announces his retirement

- **32-year-old Jeje Lalpekhua** has announced his **retirement.**
- Jeje represented seven clubs across 13 years and scored 23 goals from 56 games for the National Team.
- He is a 2-time Indian Super League winner with Chennaiyin FC, lifting the cup in 2015-16 and 2017-18 and winning the 2015 Emerging Player of the League.
- He is the **third-highest Indian goalscorer in the ISL.**



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- In a Blue Tiger shirt, he won the SAFF Championship in 2011 and 2015, and the Intercontinental Cup twice, once in 2017 and then in 2018.

About SAFF

- South Asian Football Federation, founded in 1997, is an association of the football-playing nations in South Asia which is the regional subsidiary of the larger Asian Football Confederation.
- The members of the association are Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.
- Headquarters: Dhaka, Bangladesh
- President: Kazi Salahuddin
- Founded: 1997
- Membership: 7 member associations

Ranji Trophy: Saurashtra beat Bengal by 9 wickets to bag the second title

- **Saurashtra defeated Bengal by nine wickets** in the final at **the Eden Gardens in Kolkata.**
- Saurashtra fast bowler **Jaydev Unadkat was declared player of the match.**
- **Saurashtra has won the Ranji Trophy title for the second time.**
- Three years back also Saurashtra won their first title by defeating Bengal.
- In 2022, Madhya Pradesh won its first Ranji Trophy by defeating Mumbai.
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) annually organizes the Ranji Trophy, a domestic first-class cricket match between the country's state and regional cricket associations.
- The premier domestic tournament is named after the first cricketer to represent India, Ranjit Singh ji, also referred to as "Ranji."
- It was first played in 1934–1935 with 15 teams divided into four zones in a knockout system, and it has since grown to a 32-team league and knockout competition.
- Mumbai won the first-ever edition and also won the most Ranji Trophies.

Indian team settle for Bronze at Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championship in Dubai



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Indian team led by **P.V. Sindhu** won the bronze medal at **Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championship**.
- **Indian Team** faced a 2-3 defeat against **China** in the semifinals.
- **Prannoy and Sindhu** lost their respective singles contest.
- Men's doubles pair **Dhruv Kapila and Chirag Shetty** won their contest.
- Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand also won their match in Women's Doubles.
- Ishaan Bhatnagar and Tanisha Crasto faced defeat in the Mixed Doubles event.
- **China wins the Gold medal while the Silver medal was won by the South Korean team.**
- The third edition of the Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championship was held from 14-19 February 2023.

About BWF:

- Founded: 5 July 1934
- President: Poul-Erik Høyer Larsen
- Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tilottama Sen wins bronze medal in Women's 10m Air Rifle at ISSF World Cup at Cairo in Egypt:

- **Indian teen Tilottama Sen** has won bronze medal in the women's 10m Air Rifle at **ISSF World Cup at Cairo in Egypt**.
- The **14-year-old Sen** won **second bronze for India**, fifth overall after ending the top eight ranking round with a score of 262.
- She missed out on the gold medal match by the narrowest possible margin of 0.1.
- **Great Britain's Seonaid McIntosh** won **gold** and Switzerland's Olympic Champion Nina Christen came second to win silver.
- The third day of the event was yet another profitable day for India with Rudrankksh Patil earlier winning gold in the men's Air Rifle.
- India is placed comfortably on top of the medal tally with three golds, with Hungary, Britain and Slovakia winning the other three awarded.
- Four more finals are scheduled in the next couple of days.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

About ISSF:

- The International Shooting Sport Federation is the governing body of the Olympic shooting events in rifle, pistol and shotgun disciplines, and of several non-Olympic shooting sport events.
- Headquarters: Munich, Germany
- President: Vladimir Lisin
- Founded: 1907

Vignesh and Visakh NR become India's first brothers to become Grandmasters

- India's chess player **Vignesh NR has become India's 80th Grandmaster** after he defeated **Germany's IM Ilja Schneider** and won the **24th NordWest Cup 2023** at **Bad Zwischenahn** in **Germany**.
- The Chennai boy reached the milestone after crossing 2500 in the live ratings.
- Vignesh's elder brother **Visakh NR had become India's 59th GM in 2019**.
- Thus, **Visakh and Vignesh become India's first brothers who are Grandmasters**.
- The Southern Railway employee immediately had to leave for his next tournament **8th Noisiel Open 2023** in France.
- Vignesh earned his first GM-norm at Qatar Masters in 2015 at the age of 17 years.
- A little over one and a half years later, **he scored his second GM-norm at 24th Abu Dhabi Masters in 2017**.
- He secured his final GM-norm at 1st Gujarat GM Open 2018.
- A fourth **GM-norm was scored at Asian Continental 2019 at Xingtai, China**.

About FIDE:

- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- President: Arkady Dvorkovich
- Founded: 20 July 1924, Paris, France

All-India Taekwondo Championship marking 50 years India Korea relations begins in Delhi

- All-India **Taekwondo Championship begins in New Delhi**.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Sports Secretary **Sujata Chaturvedi inaugurated** the three-day A II-India Taekwondo Championship in New Delhi.
- All-India Taekwondo Championship is being organized **to mark the 50th year of diplomatic ties between South Korea and India.**
- The Sports Authority of **India is co-hosting the event with Korean Cultural Centre India** and Korea National Sports University.
- It is being held at **Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.**
- The event has been divided into two parts- **Poomsae and Sparring.**
- Taekwondo players registered in 79 regional centers and regional training centers of Sports Authority of India are participating in this Championship.

About South Korea:

- Capital: Seoul
- Currency: South Korean won

After IPL, Tata bags title rights for WPL

- **Tata Group bagged the title rights for the inaugural Women's Premier League beginning in Mumbai** on March 4.
- Tata has secured the rights for five years.
- The Indian multinational conglomerate had last year replaced Vivo as the title sponsor for the Indian Premier League.
- The first edition will be **played in Mumbai across two venues — Brabourne Stadium and DY Patil Stadium.**
- The sale of media rights had fetched the **BCCI Rs 951 crore and the five teams were sold for Rs 4700 crore.**
- At Rs 3.40 crore, Indian opener Smriti Mandhana was the most expensive buy at the auction held earlier this month.

About TATA Group

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Founder: Jamsetji Tata
- Founded: 1868, Mumbai
- Chairman: Natarajan Chandrasekaran

Cameron Norrie beats world No 2 Carlos Alcaraz to claim Rio Open

- **World number 2 Carlos Alcaraz won the Argentina Open** in a spectacular performance, **defeating Cameron Norrie in the final.**
- The 19-year-old Spain's Carlos has won his seventh ATP Tour title.
- **Alcaraz is the first Spanish player** since Rafael Nadal in 2015 to **win the title in Buenos Aires.**
- In 2022, he also became the youngest US Open champion since Pete Sampras in 1990.
- Simone Bolelli and Fabio Fognini won the doubles tennis title at the 2023 Argentina Open, defeating Nicolás Barrientos and Ariel Behar in the final.

Deepti Sharma becomes first Indian to take 100 T20I wickets

- **Deepti Sharma has become the first Indian bowler** to complete **100 wickets in T20Is.**
- The 25-year-old reached the landmark in the **ICC Women's T20 World Cup match against West Indies.**
- The all-rounder has scalped 100 wickets in 89 T20Is.
- She surpassed Poonam Yadav, who has taken 98 wickets in 72 games.
- Overall, **Anisa Mohammad of WI-W is at the top** of the bowling charts with 125 dismissals in 117 games.
- No India men's player has completed 100 wickets in the shortest format of the game.
- Yuzvendra Chahal has 91 scalps in 75 matches.
- Meanwhile, Deepti was bought by UP Warriorz for INR 2.6 crore ahead of the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL).

Mar 2023 – Important Sports Current Affairs

ACF confers Grandmaster D Gukesh with the Player of the Year award

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh has been honored with the Player-of-the-Year award by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF)** for clinching the gold medal with a record-breaking score of 9/11 in the **44th Chess Olympiad at Mahabalipuram last year.**
- In March last year, Gukesh became only the sixth Indian to break the 2700 Elo-rating mark, and the youngest Grandmaster from the country to be rated above 2700.
- The **All India Chess Federation (AICF)** bagged the **‘Most Active Federation’ award conferred during the ACF annual summit.**
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin has been conferred with the Man-of-the-Year award for his effort in the successful hosting of the FIDE Chess Olympiad in August last year within a short notice of four months.
- The Indian women’s team, comprising **Koneru Humpy, D Harika, R Vaishali, Tania Sachdev, and Bhakti Kulkarni, was adjudged the ‘Best Women’s team of the Year’** for its bronze-winning effort, while Grandmaster R B Ramesh bagged the men’s Coach-of-the-Year award and Grandmaster Abhijit Kunte won the Women’s Coach-of-the-Year awards.

About AFC

- President: Salman bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa
- Headquarters: Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Founded: 8 May 1954, Manila, Philippines

Hockey India appoints South African Craig Fulton as new Chief Coach of Indian men's hockey team

- **Men’s National Hockey Team of India designates South Africa’s Craig Fulton as the new Chief Coach.**
- The team previously failed to lend the World Cup at home.
- **Craig Fulton has replaced the Australian Hockey Player Graham John Reid** who bid farewell after the country’s disappointing show in the World Cup.
- Under the guidance of John Reid, the Indian team was led to a historic bronze medal-winning show at the Tokyo Olympics.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- In the past, Fulton has shown exemplary results while considering his previous stints as a coach.
- His fame began with a stint leading the Irish Men's Team between 2014 to 2018 when the team qualified for the Rio Olympics in the year 2016.
- That was the very first Olympic qualification of the Irish team in hundred years.
- The **historic feat also won him the FIH "Coach of the Year" award in 2015.**

Sayantan Das becomes India's 81st Grandmaster

- **Sayantan Das became India's 81st Chess Grandmaster** as well as the 11th player from West Bengal to bag the honour after he crossed the 2500-mark in live ratings and **won the Cannes Open** with a score of 7.5 out of 9.
- The 26-year-old had achieved his final GM norm in 2017 but had to wait 6 years to cross the 2500-mark in order to become a grandmaster.

About FIDE:

- The International Chess Federation or World Chess Federation, commonly referred to by its French acronym FIDE, is an international organization based in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- President: Arkady Dvorkovich.

Karnataka beats Meghalaya to clinch Santosh Trophy football

- **Karnataka defeated Meghalaya** by 3-2 to win **the Santosh Trophy football after 54 years.**
- **Karnataka won the Santosh Trophy National Football Championship.**
- It defeated Meghalaya by 3-2 in a final at the **King Fahd International Stadium** in the Saudi Arabia capital, Riyadh.
- Karnataka last played the senior national championships final 47 years back (1975-76).
- M Sunil Kumar, Bekey Oram and Robin Yadav scored goals for Karnataka.
- Earlier, Services defeated Punjab in the play-off match held before the final and won third place.
- The semifinals and finals of the Santosh Trophy were played outside the subcontinent for the **first time after the All India Football Federation (AIFF) signed an MoU with the Saudi Arabia Football Federation.**

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

About Santosh Trophy

- Santosh Trophy is a state-level national football competition.
- It is played by government institutions and state associations under the All India Football Federation (AIFF).
- The 2022–23 Santosh Trophy is the 76th edition of the Santosh Trophy.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen wins Bahrain Grand Prix

- **Defending champion Max Verstappen and Red Bull flexed their muscles** at the start of the 2023 season, as the Dutchman **won the season-opening race in Sakhir Bahrain Grand Prix** by over 10 seconds over his teammate Sergio Perez.
- It was the first time he had won in Bahrain and also the first time he had triumphed in a Formula One opener.
- **Seven times world champion Lewis Hamilton was fifth for Mercedes with Canadian Lance Stroll giving Aston Martin a bumper points haul with sixth.**

Mirabai Chanu wins BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year for a second time

- **Mirabai Chanu has won the BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year (ISWOTY) award** for the second consecutive time.
- She is the first person to win this award twice.
- For this year's award, **PV Sindhu, Sakshi Malik, Vinesh Phogat and Nikhat Zareen were the other shortlisted contenders.**
- Table tennis player **Bhavina Patel received the BBC Para Sportswoman of the Year award.**
- This category of the award has been introduced first time.
- **Boxer Nitu Ghanghas has been selected as the 'BBC Emerging Player of the Year'.**
- **'BBC Lifetime Achievement Award' was conferred to Pritam Siwach, former Indian women's hockey team captain.**
- The women's lawn bowls team of Lovely Choubey, **Rupa Rani Tirkey, Pinki and Nayanmoni Saikia received the 'BBC Changemaker of the Year Award'.**
- The BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year Award was launched in 2019.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- It honours sportswomen in India who have made a significant contribution.

Irani Cup: Rest of India beat Madhya Pradesh to win title

- The **'Rest of India' team defeats Madhya Pradesh to lift the prestigious Irani Cup title.**
- In the final match, the Rest of India defeated Madhya Pradesh by 238 runs.
- Chasing the target of 437 runs for victory, the entire Madhya Pradesh team was reduced to 198 runs in 58.4 overs.
- Irani Cup is a major domestic-level cricket competition in India.
- This final match was played at Captain Roop Singh Stadium in Gwalior.
- The **2022–23 edition was the 59th edition of the Irani Cup.**
- It is the first-class cricket competition in India.

Youth Affairs, Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launches Yuva Utsava - India@2047 from Ropar in Punjab

- Sports Minister **Anurag Thakur launched Yuva Utsava - India@2047 from Ropar in Punjab.**
- In the first phase, Yuva Utsava is being held in 150 districts across **India to promote youth power till 31st March 2023.**
- Schools and colleges of the districts are conducting programmes in the first phase.
- **Yuva Utsava - India@2047 is being conducted by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan** in all districts across India.
- It will be held on three levels.
- It will begin with a one-day district-level programme.
- The winners of the District Level will take part at the State level Yuva Utsav.
- State level Yuva Utsav is a 2-day program scheduled to be held during August to September 2023 at State Capitals.
- The winners of all the State level programs shall take part at the National Level Yuva Utsav.
- **National Level Yuva Utsav is scheduled to be held in 3rd/4th week of October, 2023 at Delhi.**
- Youth of 15 to 29 years are eligible to take part in the programs at District, State and National Levels.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Across the three levels, many participants will compete and traditional artists will showcase the rich cultural heritage of the India.
- **The theme for the Yuva Utsav will be Panch Pran.**

IOC Session to be held in Mumbai

- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** announced that the **140th IOC Session would be held in Mumbai from October 15 to 17.**
- According to a press release, an IOC Executive Board meeting will be held on October 12 and 13, prior to the IOC Session, **while the Opening Ceremony of the IOC Session is scheduled for October 14.**
- The decision to hold the **140th IOC Session in India was taken by its members during the 139th meeting in Beijing** in February.
- India won the bid to host the event after 75 members voted for it and one against it.
- The IOC Session will return to India 40 years after the 86th edition, which took place in New Delhi in 1983.

About IOC:

- The International Olympic Committee is a non-governmental sports organisation based in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- It is constituted in the form of an association under the Swiss Civil Code.
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- President: Thomas Bach
- Founded: 23 June 1894, Paris, France
- Founders: Pierre de Coubertin, Demetrios Vikelas

Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur to inaugurate IBA Women's World Boxing Championships in New Delhi

- **IBA Women's World Boxing Championships** started at **Indira Gandhi Sports Complex** in New Delhi.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **Boxing Federation of India (BFI)** is hosting the prestigious tournament from March 15 to 26.
- The championship is being **held in India for the third time after 2006 and 2018**, the most for any country in the championship's history.
- International Boxing Association (IBA) President Umar Kremlev said that India has become the capital of women's boxing and now together we are witnessing a historic moment.
- Normally, 250 to 260 boxers participate in such championships but this year it is a big championship.
- In 2023, more than 350 boxers from 74 different countries will participate in 13th edition of the tournament.
- The **current world champion in the 50kg category, Nikhat Zareen, and 2020 Tokyo bronze medalist Lovlina Borgohain (75kg), are both on the Indian team of 12 boxers participating in the tournament.**
- The BFI has announced a prize pool of Rs 20 crore.
- Gold medalists will receive prizes of Rs 10 crore, while silver and bronze medalists will receive prizes of Rs 5 crore.
- The previous championship, which was the 12th edition of the championship, was held in Istanbul, Turkey from 8 to 20 May 2022.

Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurates Khelo India Dus Ka Dum Tournament

- The Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry is organizing the **Khelo India Dus Ka Dum tournament from the 10th to the 31st March.**
- Around 15000 women athletes from 50 countries are participating in the tournament.
- This **tournament will have 10 sports.**
- The main objective of the tournament is **to provide a platform to the women athletes who were unable to participate in national or state-level competitions.**
- Additionally, it aims to ensure that competitive sports reach remote geographic regions of India.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

Midfielder Hardik Singh and Savita Punia were conferred with the men's and women's Indian Hockey Player of the Year awards 2022

- **Midfielder Hardik Singh and goalkeeper Savita Punia** were conferred with the **men's and women's Indian Hockey Player of the Year awards 2022**.
- The 24-year-old Hardik beat illustrious senior players like Manpreet Singh and Harmanpreet Singh to win the coveted award for 2022, named after hockey legend Balbir Singh Sr, at the fifth Hockey India Annual Awards.
- **Hardik was the most impressive player for India in the FIH World Cup held in Odisha** in January before being ruled out of the tournament due to a hamstring injury.
- **Savita had led India to the FIH Women's Nation's Cup title** in December to book a berth in the women's Pro League.
- Gurbux Singh, who was a member of the 1964 Olympics gold-winning team, won the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contribution to the game.

ATK Mohun Bagan crowned ISL champions after penalty shootout win over Bengaluru FC

- **ATK Mohun Bagan** held their nerves in a tightly contested **Indian Super League final to beat Bengaluru FC 4-3 on penalties and lift their maiden title**.
- In a game that ended 2-2 in regulation time, ATKMB's Dimitri Petratos scored all three penalties he took on the night before Vishal Kaith's save from Bruno Ramires' in the shootout brought them one step closer.
- As the winners, **ATKMB took home a prize money of ₹6 crore, while runners-up Bengaluru FC received ₹2.5 crore**.
- Started as an eight-team tournament, the league expanded to 10 teams from 2017-18 season and later in 2019-20 season to an 11-team tournament following the addition of two of the biggest clubs in Indian football.
- Since the league's inaugural edition, **six clubs - ATK FC (3), Chennaiyin FC (2), Bengaluru FC (1), Mumbai City FC (1), Hyderabad FC (1) and ATK Mohun Bagan (1) - have been crowned as the Champions**.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Mumbai City FC Lallianzuala Chhangte was awarded the Indian Super League (ISL) golden ball award.
- Sivasakthi won the emerging player of the season award for his six goals and three assists in his breakthrough season.
- ATK Mohun Bagan shotstopper Vishal Kaith, who saved a penalty in the shootout win in the final, won the golden glove award.

Swimmer Sampanna Ramesh Shelar becomes fastest Indian in U21

- **Pune-based swimmer, Sampanna Ramesh Shelar has become the fastest Indian in under 21 group to swim across the Palk S trait from Talaimannar in Sri Lanka to Dhanuskodi in Tamil Nadu in 5 hours and 30 minutes.**
- The **previous record was 8 hours and 26 minutes.**
- His swim commenced at 6.00 am from Talaimannar and he reached Dhanushkodi at 11.26 am completing the distance of 29 Kms.
- He is a Bachelor of Physical Education student and trains under the guidance of Mr. Jitendra Khasnis.
- With this achievement, Mr. Shelar is planning to do solo swims across the English & Catalina Channels soon, to eventually complete swimming across the seven oceans popularly known as the Oceans Seven Challenge.

4th Asian Kho Kho Championship for Men and Women will begin in Assam

- The **4th Asian Kho Kho Championship for Men and Women will begin at Baksa district in Assam.**
- The event will conclude on the 23rd of this month.
- Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and officials of the Kho Kho Federation will take part in the inaugural program.
- The event is being **organised by the Kho Kho Federation of India** in association with the Assam Kho Kho Association and Bodoland Territorial Region government.
- The government of Assam also extended its support for the competition.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Altogether nine countries - **India, Bangladesh, South Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Bhutan, Iran, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia** are participating in the competition.
- Over 700 players and officials will participate in the four-day event.

Rohan Bopanna becomes oldest tennis player to win ATP Masters 1000 title

- **Rohan Bopanna becomes the oldest player to have won the Men's Doubles** title at the ATP 2023 Series.
- While another **Tennis player Carlos Alcaraz** was honoured with the **World's No. 1 Rank in the Men's Singles category**.
- Both these great players have been awarded in the ATP Tournament 2023 series by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP).
- He **collectively won the trophy with his tennis ally Matthew Ebden of Australia**.
- With their mutual efforts, they defeated the leading pair of Dutchman Wesley Koolhof and Briton Neal Skupski by 6-3, 2-6, 10-8 results in order to claim their Men's Doubles title together and this was the first of its kind in the current season.

ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship to begin at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh

- The **International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup Shooting Championship started in Bhopal** and will continue till March 27.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** formally inaugurated the event.
- The competitions will start at the Madhya Pradesh State Shooting Academy.
- The World Cup Shooting Tournament will feature about 325 shooters from 33 different nations and more than 75 technical officials.
- The **Government of Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with the Rifle Federation of India is organizing Championship**.
- This year, the **eighth World Cup is being hosted in India**, and it is the first international shooting competition to take place outside of New Delhi.
- In 2022, the **championships were held in Cairo, Egypt from 12-27 October 2022**.

About ISSF



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The International Shooting Sport Federation is the governing body of the Olympic shooting events in rifle, pistol and shotgun disciplines, and of several non-Olympic shooting sport events.
- Headquarters: Munich, Germany
- Founded: 1907
- President: Luciano Rossi
- Membership: 150 regions
- Secretary Genral: Willi Grill

4th Asian Kho Kho Championship concludes, Indian men, women emerge champions

- **India won titles in both the men's and women's** section of the **Asian Kho-Kho Championship in Tamulpur, Assam.**
- In the women's section, **India beat Nepal** by an innings and 33 points.
- In the men's section too, India won the title by defeating Nepal by an innings and six points.
- India has been remained unbeaten in both categories in the championship.
- A total of 16 teams (men and women) participated in the event.
- The participating countries were **Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nepal, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka and host India.**
- Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly Biswajit Daimary and Minister U G Brahma distributed the prizes to the winners.

Stadium Named After Hockey Star Rani Rampal, First Woman To Get This Honour

- **Rani Rampal** becomes **the first women's hockey player to have a stadium named after.**
- The **Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli** has renamed the hockey stadium as '**Rani's Girls Hockey Turf**'.
- Earlier this year, Rani Rampal made a comeback to the Indian team during the tour of South Africa.
- Rani Rampal is the former captain of the Indian women's hockey team.
- Under his leadership, the team reached the final of hockey tournament at the Tokyo Olympics.

Pankaj Advani Beats Brijesh Damani to Retain Asian Billiards Title

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Star Indian player Pankaj Advani defeated compatriot Brijesh Damani 5-1 in the final to retain his Asian Billiards title in the 100-up format at Qatar Billiards and Snooker Federation (QBSF) Academy.**
- **In the women's category, China's Bai Yulu won the title beating Panchaya Channoi of Thailand 3-0 in the final.**

About Pankaj Advani

- This is the eighth Asian Billiards title for Advani.
- Last year, Advani had won the same title in Doha.
- **Pankaj Advani had clinched his 25th gold medal** on the world stage at the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship in Kuala Lumpur.
- Advani has also won gold medals in English Billiards singles in the 2006 and 2010 Asian Games.
- He has been bestowed the Arjuna Award in 2004, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna in 2006, Padma Shri in 2009 and Padma Bhushan in 2018.

Sergio Perez wins the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix

- **Mexican racing driver Sergio Perez has won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix 2023 title.**

In the same Red Bull, his partner Max Verstappen secured the second position in the **India bag 4 gold in World Women's Boxing Championship**

- **India won four gold in World Women's Boxing Championship.**
- **Lovlina Borgohain defeated Caitlin Parker of Australia** in the final of the 75-kilogram category at the Indira Gandhi Sports Complex.
- This was **Lovlina's first gold medal at the World Championships.**
- She won the bronze at the 2018 and 2019 editions.
- Lovlina Borgohain won the fourth gold medal for India at the tournament.
- India's Nikhat Zareen earlier defeated Vietnam's Nguyen Thi Tam in the 50 kg light flyweight category.
- She became World Champion for the second successive time.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- She is only the 2nd Indian woman boxer after Mary Kom to win more than one world title.
- **Nikhath Zareen won the third gold medal** for India at the tournament.
- **India's Nitu Ghanghas (48kg) and Saweety Boora (81kg) won two gold medals** at the Championships.
- The 2023 IBA Women's World Boxing Championships were the 13th edition of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championships.
- The 2023 **IBA Women's World Boxing Championships was held in New Delhi from 15 to 26 March 2023.**
- IBA Women's World Boxing Championships are biennial boxing competitions organised by the International Boxing Association (IBA).

Indian pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty win Swiss Open Super 300 Badminton doubles title in Basel

- India's pair **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty wins their first title of the 2023 season in Basel.**
- They **defeated China's Ren Xiang Yu and Tan Qiang** by 21-19, 24-22 in the Swiss Open 2023.
- The world number sixth pair defeated the world number 21 pair.
- **K. Watanabe won the Men's single** title while the **women's single title winner is P. Chochuwong.**
- It is the first BWF (Badminton World Federation) doubles title for Rankireddy and Shetty, and the fifth World Tour title of their career.
- Last year, they won the India Open and French Open.
- Satwik and Chirag also won the 2022 Commonwealth Games gold.
- PV Sindhu (2022), Saina Nehwal (2011, 2012) and Kidambi Srikanth (2015) and HS Prannoy (2016) are among the winners of the Swiss Open.
- This tournament was held at St. Jakobshalle in Basel, Switzerland from 21 to 26 March.

Mumbai Indians has won the Women's Premier League 2023

- **Mumbai Indians has won the inaugural Women's Premier League 2023.**

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- They defeated **Delhi Capitals** by seven wickets at the **Brabourne Stadium in Mumbai**.
- Mumbai Indians needed 132 runs to win and they won the match by scoring 134 runs in 19 overs in three balls losing 3 wickets.
- Nate Sciver-Brunt was the highest scorer for Mumbai scoring 60 not out.
- **It is a women's Twenty20 cricket and owned and operated by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).**
- This was the first season played in March 2023, with five teams.
 - i. Player of the Match - Nat Sciver-Brunt
 - ii. Player of the Series and Purple Cap - Hayley Matthews
 - iii. Orange Cap - Meg Lanning
 - iv. Catch of the Season - Harmanpreet Kaur
 - v. Emerging Player of the Year award - Yastika Bhatia.
- race.
- Seven-times world champion Lewis Hamilton finished fifth and Ferrari's Carlos Sainz came in sixth place.

Apr 2023 – Important Sports Current Affairs

Ex-Germany, Arsenal midfielder Mesut Ozil announces retirement

- **Germany's World Cup-winning midfielder Mesut Ozil** announced his **retirement from football at the age of 34**.
- The **former Real Madrid and Arsenal player** was a key member of Germany's World Cup-winning side in Brazil in 2014.
- Ozil made 645 appearances for club and country, in which he scored 114 goals and had 222 assists.

'Ironman' Krishna Prakash becomes first person to swim from Gateway of India to Elephanta Caves



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **Krishna Prakash set another record by swimming from the Gateway of India** (located on Chhatrapati Shivaji Marg in South Mumbai) **to the famous Elephanta Caves** (located at the Elephanta Island in Mumbai Harbour).
- He swam the opposite direction of the famed swimming route from Elephanta Caves to the Gateway of India, **covering 16.20 kilometres in five hours and 26 minutes.**
- The swimming campaign was part of a social awareness campaign, 'Drowning Prevention Awareness'.
- The event was organized by the National Institute of Swimming and was **recognized by the World Open Water Swimming Association.**
- It was certified by the Maharashtra Swimming Association, which is affiliated to the Maharashtra Olympic Association.
- In 2017, Krishna Prakash completed the Ironman Triathlon, one of the most challenging sporting events in the world.
- It is a three-day event in which participants have to complete 3.8 km swim, 180.2 km cycle ride and 42.2 km run in 16-17 hours.
- This **achievement earned Prakash the title of 'Iron Man' and earned him a mention in the World Book of Records.**

Chennai to host Street Child Cricket World Cup in September

- The **city of Chennai has always welcomed the sport of cricket with open arms, and has played the perfect host to several national and international tournaments.**
- Come September, **Chennai will witness another cricket tournament, but one with a difference - the Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023.**
- Organised by Street Child United in partnership with Shree Dayaa Foundation, the tournament will take place at Amir Mahal, the official residence of the Nawab of Arcot from September 20 to 30.
- This is the **second edition** of the Street Child Cricket World Cup.

PV Sindhu loses to Gregoria Tunjung of Indonesia in final of Madrid Spain Masters



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **two-time Olympic medallist and former World Badminton Champion P.V. Sindhu** has **lost to Indonesia's Gregoria Mariska Tunjung** in the summit clash of the **Madrid Spain Masters**.
- Sindhu lost in straight sets 8-21, 8-21.
- In **Men's singles, Kenta Nishimoto has won the final**.
- The ace shuttler has defeated second seed Kanta Tsuneyama 15-21, 21-18, 21-19 in the all-Japanese men's singles final.

Royal Enfield partners with Indian Ice Hockey Women's Team

- **Royal Enfield has partnered with the Indian women's Ice Hockey team** to strengthen its Olympic ambitions.
- The partnership is an extension of the relationship of Royal Enfield with the Union Territory of Ladakh **to develop winter sports in the region**.
- Royal Enfield along with the Ice Hockey Association of India unveiled the new jersey for Team India.
- The Indian women's Ice Hockey team is participating in the 2023 **IIHF Ice Hockey Women's Asia and Oceania Championship from April 30 to May 7, 2023 in Thailand**.

About Royal Enfield:

- Founded: 1955
- Parent organization: Eicher Motors
- Headquarters: Chennai
- CEO: B. Govindarajan

About International Ice Hockey Federation

- Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland
- Founded: 15 May 1908
- President: Luc Tardif

Sony Sports Network extends its partnership with UEFA

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Sony Sports Network, has extended its collaboration with the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), the governing body of football in Europe.**
- This gives the broadcaster exclusive media rights for all the **UEFA National Team competitions scheduled between 2022-2028 and will showcase the UEFA EURO 2024 and 2028**, along with its European Qualifiers and Friendly Matches.
- As part of the six-year deal, the broadcaster will showcase over 1,300 football matches across its channels.
- The network will televise the 2024 and 2028 European Qualifiers and the upcoming two editions of the UEFA EURO.
- Sony Sports Network continues to be the official broadcaster for the UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, UEFA Europa Conference League, Bundesliga, Emirates FA Cup, and more.

About UEFA:

- Current champion: Real Madrid CF (14th title)
- Next date: Tue, 27 Jun, 2023 – Sat, 1 Jun, 2024
- Founded: 1955
- Founders: Gabriel Hanot, Jacques Ferran

Indian GM Gukesh wins title at World Chess Armageddon Asia & Oceania event

- **Teenaged Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh** stunned former **world rapid champion Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan** in the final to **win the World Chess Armageddon Asia & Oceania** event.
- Both Gukesh and Abdusattorov have earned a spot at the Armageddon's Grand Finale in September.
- An Armageddon game is a variant of blitz chess to determine a winner after a series of drawn game.
- A drawn game in the Armageddon is counted as a win for Black.

About FIDE



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The International Chess Federation or World Chess Federation, commonly referred to by its French acronym FIDE, is an international organization based in Switzerland that connects the various national chess federations and acts as the governing body of international chess competition
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- Founded: 20 July 1924, Paris, France
- President: Arkady Dvorkovich

Peru removed as host of this year's men's Under-17 World Cup

- **Peru was pulled out of hosting the men's Under-17 World Cup** after FIFA said the country is **not ready to hold the tournament later this year.**
- FIFA has not named a replacement host for the 24-team tournament, which will be played from 10 November to 2 December.
- The decision comes one week after **FIFA took the men's Under-20 World Cup from Indonesia because it did not want to host Israel at its tournament in May.**
- FIFA said it was showing that Peru was unable to meet the infrastructure needed to organize the tournament.
- In 2019, FIFA chose both Peru and Indonesia to host the respective 2021 editions of the tournament.
- **Argentina wants to organize the Under-20 World Cup.**
- This week, FIFA is expected to confirm a host nation.

About FIFA

- President: Gianni Infantino
- Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland
- Founded: 21 May 1904, Rue Saint-Honoré, Paris, France

About Peru

- Capital: Lima
- Currency: Sol



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

New Zealand's Kim Cotton becomes first woman on-field umpire in full-member men's T20Is

- **New Zealand's Kim Cotton** becomes **first woman on-field umpire in full-member men's international cricket**.
- Kim Cotton became the first-ever female umpire to stand in a **men`s international cricket match**.
- Kim Cotton achieved this feat in the second T20I match between New Zealand (NZ) and Sri Lanka (SL) at the University Oval in Dunedin.
- She is a New Zealand cricket umpire. She was born in Auckland.
- She was named as one of the 12 on-field umpires for the 2018 ICC Women's World Twenty20.
- **She was also named as one of the on-field umpires for the 2022 Women's Cricket World Cup in New Zealand.**
- She has umpired in 16 women's ODIs and 44 T20Is.
- **Claire Polosak is the first female umpire to stand in a men's international cricket in 2019 between Oman and Namibia.**

MS Dhoni, Yuvraj Singh among 5 India legends to receive Honorary Life Membership of MCC

- **Legendary Indian cricketers MS Dhoni, Yuvraj Singh, Mithali Raj, Suresh Raina and Jhulan Goswami** have received the **Honorary Life Membership of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)**.
- Over the years, MCC has awarded Honorary Life Membership to some of the greatest cricketers.
- MCC revealed the names of five Indian icons, who have been bestowed with the Honorary Life Membership of the Club.
- **Former Indian pacer Jhulan, who called time on her iconic international career at Lord's last year**, is featured in the star-studded list of Indian players recognised with Honorary Life Membership. Jhulan is the leading wicket-taker in Women's One Day Internationals (ODIs) history.
- **Starring in the honoured MCC list, former India skipper Dhoni, legendary all-rounder Yuvraj and ex-India batter Raina** have also received life membership of the club.

India rise five places to 101 in latest FIFA rankings

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Indian men's football team** jumped to the **101st position** in the latest ranking released by football's world governing body **FIFA**.
- **Argentina jumped to top spot** thanks to their win in the recent friendly games and the World Cup victory last year.
- While **France are the new number two in the list, Brazil have slipped to the third spot.**
- India earned 8.57 points courtesy their victories over Myanmar and Kyrgyzstan in the tri-nation tournament to leapfrog five places.
- **Earlier, India were ranked 106th.**
- India have currently a total of 1200.66 ranking points in their kitty.
- Among **46 Asian nations, India are placed at 19th.**
- Japan is top ranked among all the Asian nations.
- They are the 20th best team in the world, as per rankings.
- Notably, the last time India entered the top 100 list was way back in 1996.
- India were placed at 94th position in that year.
- Meanwhile, Indian women's football team is placed at 61th spot in the current FIFA Rankings.

Indian Women wrestlers bag seven medals to finish third at Asian Wrestling Championship

- A total of **seven medals have been won by Indian women wrestlers** at the **Asian Wrestling Championships** held in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- These **include two silver and five bronze medals.**
- With this, **India has secured the third position** in the women's team rankings.
- Antim Panghal has won silver in 53 kg weight category and Nisha Dahiya in 68 kg weight category.
- In the previous edition of this championship, India had won 5 medals and finished fourth.
- **Japan ranked first and China ranked second** position in the women's team rankings.
- The **36th edition of the Asian Wrestling Championships** was held in Astana, Kazakhstan from April 9 to 14, 2023.

Suryakumar Yadav named Wisden's leading T20I cricketer



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- The **Indian duo of Suryakumar Yadav and Harmanpreet Kaur** has added another feather to their outstanding crown after **bagging the Wisden Almanack's leading cricketer in the World awards.**
- **Suryakumar won the honour of Wisden Almanack's leading T20I cricketer** while **Harmanpreet Kaur became the first Indian woman to win the Cricketer of the Year award.**
- England captain **Ben Stokes** has been named **Wisden's leading cricketer in the world.**
- **Australia batter Beth Mooney was named the world's top women's cricketer** for the second time in three years, having led her country to World Cup triumphs in the 50-over and 20-over tournaments and winning gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- England batter Jonny Bairstow received the new Wisden Trophy for outstanding individual Test performance of the year after twin hundreds in a record-breaking win over India in July.

Chennai litmus test for Asian Games for India men's hockey team

- The **Men's Hockey Asian Champions Trophy** will **take place in Chennai** from August 3 to 12.
- India is hosting the event for the first time.
- It will be the seventh edition of the tournament.
- **Chennai last hosted an international hockey event in 2007.**
- **India, South Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan and China** will take part in the tournament.
- Tamil Nadu Sports Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin said that hosting the tournament will revive hockey in the region.

HSBC India ropes in Virat Kohli as their brand influencer

- **HSBC India** has roped in **Indian cricketer Virat Kohli as their Brand Influencer.**
- Virat Kohli will help to amplify HSBC's purpose of '**Opening up a world of opportunity**' as it strives to support the ambitions of an aspirational India going global.
- The company mentioned that as part of the association, a multi-media campaign featuring Virat Kohli will also be launched.
- **Hitendra Dave, CEO, HSBC India.**

May 2023 – Important Sports Current Affairs



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

Indian football: Odisha FC to face Gokulam Kerala for a spot in the 2023-24 AFC Cup

- **Odisha FC won their first title after beating Bengaluru FC in the final of the Super Cup at the EMS Corporation Stadium in Kozhikode.**
- While Brazilian Diego Mauricio struck both goals for the winners in the first half, Sunil Chhetri scored from a penalty in the 84th minute to set up a nervy finish for the Bhubaneswar side.
- While it was the first-ever final for Odisha, it was the third of the season for Bengaluru.
- For Simon Grayson's boys, it proved the second defeat in a final in as many months; they had lost the ISL final to ATK Mohun Bagan in a shootout.
- **Player of the Tournament:** Diego Mauricio (OFC)
- **Top Goalscorer of the Tournament:** Wilmar Jordan Gil (NEUFC) - 7 goals
- **Best Goalkeeper of the Tournament:** Amrinder Singh (OFC).

Odisha extends Indian Hockey team sponsorship till 2033

- **The Odisha government decided to further extend its sponsorship for both the Men and Women Indian Hockey Teams** (senior and junior) for another **ten years from 2023 to 2033.**
- The decision in this regard was taken at the Cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Naveen Patnaik.
- The cabinet on the day approved 15 different proposals submitted by various departments.
- **As Odisha has been the official sponsor of both the Men and Women National Hockey Teams** since 2018, this support is going to be a significant step towards the growth and development of Hockey in India
- **OMC has now committed to sponsor both the teams till January 31, 2033** and a **total amount of ₹434.12 crores** (excluding applicable taxes) will be released by OMC to Hockey India during this period.

Satwik-Chirag pair wins gold medal at Badminton Asia Championships 2023



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty** achieved a historic milestone by becoming the **first Indian men's doubles pair to win a gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championships.**
- The **Indian duo beat the eighth-seeded Malaysian pair of Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi in the final in Dubai.**
- In 2022, the sixth seeded pair had also won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games and a bronze medal at the World Championships.
- In this tournament, the previous best performance was a bronze medal win in 1971 by an Indian men's doubles pair, Dipu Ghosh and Raman Ghosh.
- Overall, this is India's second gold medal in this event.
- In 1965, Dinesh Khanna had won the men's singles gold in Lucknow after beating Thailand's Sangob Rattanusorn.
- The Championship is a tournament organized by the governing body Badminton Asia to choose the best badminton players in Asia.
- In 1962, the tournament was started.
- The **2023 Championships was held from 25 to 30 April 2023 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.**
- The **2023 championships was the 40th edition** of the Badminton Asia Championships.

Argentina to host 2023 FIFA U20 World Cup

- **FIFA Council has announced Argentina** as the **official host of the upcoming FIFA U-20 World Cup 2023.**
- **Indonesia were the original tournament host** but **FIFA has removal them after a new bid submitted by the Argentinian Football Association (AFA).**
- The hosting agreement has been signed by the AFA, along with all other relevant documents on the part of the host and local authorities.
- The **FIFA U-20 World Cup will take place from 20 May to 11 June 2023 and will feature six groups of four teams.**
- Argentina is the most successful nation in the history of the FIFA U-20 World Cup. They have won the tournament six times with their most recent victory in 2007.
- They last hosted the tournament in 2001.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

About FIFA

- President: Gianni Infantino,
- Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland.
- Founded: 21 May 1904

Luca Brecel beats Mark Selby to become snooker world champion for the first time

- **Luca Brecel has won his first-ever world title after beating Mark Selby 18-15** in an enthralling **World Championship finale at the Crucible**.
- Brecel, 28, was made to wait for his crowning moment, with Selby staging a superb fightback after his opponent moved to within two frames of victory.
- Brecel, 28, is just the fourth non-British winner at the Crucible and the first overseas player to triumph since Neil Robertson in 2010.

About IBSF:

- The International Billiards & Snooker Federation is an organisation that governs non-professional snooker and English billiards around the world.
- The **organisation is headquartered in Doha, Qatar**.
- **Founded: 1971**

Azerbaijan Grand Prix: Perez beats Verstappen to win in Baku

- **Sergio Pérez took a remarkable victory at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix in Baku after defeating his teammate and championship Max Verstappen**.
- The Mexican driver took his **sixth career win**.
- **Perez is now just six points behind Verstappen**, with both drivers having won two races each after four rounds of the championship.
- Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc finished third, claiming his team's first podium appearance of the year.
- The Azerbaijan Grand Prix is a Formula One motor racing event.
- It was **organized at the Baku Formula One city circuit in Baku, Azerbaijan**.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

Yogi Adityanath unveils logo, mascot, torch and anthem of Khelo India University Games

- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the Logo, jersey, mascot, torch and anthem of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) 2022 in Lucknow.
- The 3rd edition of the Khelo India University Games will take place from May 23 to June 3, 2023.
- Inspired by the ideology of Kaushal, Neeti and Dhairya, the games are slated from May 25 to June 3 in various cities of Uttar Pradesh.
- The game's mascot Jitu the Barasingha, the exotic vibrant state animal who embodies "Garv se Gaurav" was then unveiled by the Chief Minister himself.
- The official logo of the Khelo India University Games 2022 Uttar Pradesh represents the rich heritage of Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state.
- The logo is a representation of the state's rich traditional and historical legacy which has been the foundation for its development in all aspects viz; education, infrastructure and sports.
- 'Shakti', the official torch of the Khelo India University Games, Uttar Pradesh is a symbol of not only its heritage and the spirit it embodies but also a living entity that is brimming with energy.
- The opening ceremony is scheduled for May 25 at the Babu Banarasi Das University in Lucknow.
- The KIUG 2022 Games will be held in Varanasi, Noida and Gorakhpur, besides the state capital of Lucknow.
- The Shooting competition will be organized in New Delhi at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range.
- For the First time, water sports such as Rowing will be a part of the Khelo India University Games.
- Two indigenous Sports Disciplines namely Mallakhamb and Yogasana, were part of the last edition of the Khelo India University Games held in Karnataka and will also be part of this edition.

National football federation declares P.K. Banerjee's birthday as 'AIFF Grassroots Day'

- The All India Football Federation has decided to observe 23 June as the 'AIFF Grassroots Day' in honour of Indian football icon Pradip Kumar Banerjee.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

About Pradip Kumar Banerjee

- Pradip Kumar Banerjee was the captain of the Indian Football team in 1960 in Rome Olympics.
- He is popularly known as P.K.
- Pradip Kumar Banerjee played a key role in India's historic gold medal in the 1962 Asian Games.
- Pradip Kumar Banerjee was part of FIFA first coaching course in Japan under the German coach Dettmar Cramer.
- He was a recipient of Padma Shri in 1990 and was named Indian Footballer of the 20th Century by IFFHS.
- He was honoured with the FIFA Order of Merit, the highest honour awarded by FIFA.
- He died on 20 March 2020 due to age-related issues in Kolkata.

About AIFF

- All India Football Federation (AIFF) is headquartered in New Delhi.
- Kalyan Chaubey is the current president of the All India Football Federation.

World Boxing Championships: Indian boxers won historic three medals.

- **Indian boxers Deepak Kumar, Mohammed Hussamuddin and Nishant Dev made the country proud by winning bronze medals at the IBA Men's World Boxing Championship 2023 held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.**
- With this, **India concluded the tournament with three medals and ranked joint fourth in the medals tally.**
- On 10 May, Indian boxers ensured three medals at the World Boxing Championships for the first time by reaching the semi-finals **in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.**
- India scripted history when Deepak Bhoria in 51kg, Mohammad Hussamuddin in 57kg, and Nishant Dev in 71kg won their respective quarterfinal bouts.
- This is the first time that Indian men's boxers will bring home three medals from a World Championship.
- In the first quarter-final, Deepak defeated Dyushebaev Nurzhigit of Kyrgyzstan.

Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- Two-time Commonwealth Games bronze medalist Hasamundin won a close contest against Bulgaria's J Diaz Ibanez.
- Nishant Dev defeated Jorge Cuellar of Cuba 5-0.
- On 12 May, all the three boxers will play their semi-final match.

About International Boxing Association

- President: Umar Kremlev
- Founded: 1946
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland

Yuzvendra Chahal becomes highest wicket-taker in IPL history

- Rajasthan Royals bowler **Yuzvendra Chahal** became the **leading wicket-taker in the Indian Premier League**.
- He has taken total of 184 wickets in the 143 matches of the Indian Premier League.
- **Dwayne Bravo** is in the **second spot** with 183 wickets in 161 matches.
- Rajasthan Royals' Yashasvi Jaiswal scored the fastest 50 in 13 balls in the Indian Premier League.
- Jaiswal smashed the fifty in merely 13 deliveries, smashing the joint-record previously held by KL Rahul and Pat Cummins (14 balls).

ISSF World Cup Baku 2023: India ends campaign with four medals

- **Indian pair won the gold medal in the 10m air pistol mixed team** event at the ongoing **International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup in Baku, Azerbaijan**.
- The Indian pair registered a 16-14 win over Serbian veterans Damir Micek and Zorana Arunovic in the final match.
- This was the **second ISSF World Cup gold for Sarabjot, who won the individual air pistol in Bhopal in March 2023**.
- **Divya has won the first senior medal** at the international level.
- **Nancy also won the silver medal** in the women's 10m air rifle event with a score of 253.3.
- **Rhythm Sangwan has won a bronze medal** in the women's 10m air pistol.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

About ISSF:

- President: Vladimir Lisin
- Headquarters: Munich, Germany
- Founded: 1907
- Membership: 150 regions

Hockey Haryana wins 13th India Sub Junior Women National Championship

- At the **13th Hockey India Sub Junior Women National Championship 2023**, the **Hockey Haryana team was declared the winner**.
- In the finals, **Hockey Jharkhand and Hockey Uttar Pradesh came in the second and third positions** at **Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium, Odisha**.
- The tournament continued for 11 days in which 28 teams participated and stellar performances were seen by the female players.

About FIH

- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- Founded: 7 January 1924, Paris, France
- CEO: Thierry Weil
- Membership: 140 national associations

McDonald's delivers FIFA sponsorship renewal to 2026

- **McDonald's**, the fast food chain, **has signed a new contract with FIFA to remain as a World Cup sponsor until the 2026 edition in the United States, Canada and Mexico**.
- The renewal gives **McDonald's the title of 'Official Restaurant' sponsor of this year's Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand and the men's edition three years later**.
- McDonald's and FIFA have a shared passion for bringing people together through the power of football.
- McDonald's is a proud supporter of football and has sponsored FIFA tournaments since 1994.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

About FIFA:

- The Fédération internationale de football association is the international governing body of association football, beach soccer, and futsal.
- President: Gianni Infantino,
- Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland,
- Founded: 21 May 1904.

Gatka martial art included in 37th National Games

- **Indian Olympic Association (IOA) approved** the inclusion of **Gatka in the 37th National Games-2023**.
- The traditional game Gatka and Lagori have been included as demonstration sports.
- The **37th national game is scheduled to be held in Goa in October 2023**.
- A total of 43 games will be organized at the national game in collaboration with the Government of Goa.
- For the first time, beach football, roll ball, golf, sepaktakraw, sqay martial arts, kalliyarapattu and pencak silat will be medal sports at the 37th National Games.

Chong Wei and Lin Dan elected to BWF Hall of Fame

- **China's Lin Dan and Malaysia's Lee Chong Wei** have been elected to the 2023 **Badminton World Federation** (BWF) Hall of Fame.
- Lee and Lin, who retired in 2019 and 2020 respectively after glorious careers, will be inducted at a **ceremony on May 26 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre in Malaysia**.
- Chong Wei and Lin Dan had dominated the men's singles for two decades until their retirements in 2019 and 2020 respectively.
- Chong Wei finished with 47 World Tour titles and was ranked world No. 1 for 349 weeks.
- Meanwhile, Lin Dan captured two Olympics gold medals and five world titles.

About Badminton World Federation

- Headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- President: Poul-Erik Høyer Larsen
- Formation: 1934
- Membership: 194 member associations

Napoli win first Italian Serie A title in 33 years

- **Napoli won their first Italian Serie A title in 33 years**, clinching the title with a 1-1 draw at Udinese.
- **The title is Napoli's third in Italy's top division** and their first since the legendary Argentine player Diego Maradona led them to championships in 1987 and 1990.
- **Napoli's home stadium was renamed in Maradona's honour** following his death in November 2020.

Neeraj Chopra clinches Doha Diamond League title

- **Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra started his Diamond League title** with a comfortable win in the season-opening leg in **Doha**.
- In September 2022, the 25-year-old **Chopra had won the 2022 Diamond League Final trophy in Switzerland**.
- Chopra hit his straps on his first attempt with a world-leading throw of 88.67m, the fourth-best effort of his career.
- Czech Republic's Vadlejch finished second and Grenada's Peters finished third.
- With this victory, Neeraj has also achieved the world lead.
- Doha Diamond League is an annual one-day track and field competition **held at the Suhaim bin Hamad Stadium in Doha, Qatar**.
- It is part of the Diamond League, which is the top level international circuit for the sport.

Tech Mahindra, FIDE join hands for franchisee-based chess competition

- After making its mark as a tech partner in three **FIFA World Cups**, a racing track event, the **Indian Premier League** and the **International Chess Federation (FIDE)** for the 44th Olympiad



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

in Chennai last year, IT services major Tech Mahindra is all set to come up with the world's first franchisee-based chess competition called **Global Chess League(GCL) in association with FIDE.**

- The **first edition of the league is all set to be held in Dubai between June 21 to July 2.**
- Both Tech Mahindra and FIDE have entered into a deal to conduct the league as a joint venture for five to eight years.
- The **league will be held in association with Dubai Sports Council, the league's Host Partner.**
- The first edition will feature six teams with six players each, including a minimum of two female players and one icon player per team.
- The top two teams will qualify for the final on July 2, 2023, and be crowned the World Champion Franchise Team.

About FIDE:

- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland, Arkady Dvorkovich, FIDE President, Viswanathan Anand Deputy President, FIDE.

V. Prraneeth becomes India's 82nd Grandmaster

- V.Prraneeth became **Telangana's sixth and India's 82nd Grandmaster** when he **outwitted GM Hans Niemann of US in the penultimate round of Baku Open 2023.**
- The win against the top seed helped Prraneeth to cross ELO 2500 in the live ratings, 2500.5 to be exact having already earned the third GM norm in the earlier tournament.
- The 15-year-old Prraneeth earned his first GM-norm at GM March 2022 where he also became an IM and his second GM-norm at Biel MTO in July 2022.
- Nine months later, he earned his final GM-norm at 2nd Chessable Sunway Formentera Open 2023.
- The first Indian Grandmaster was Viswanathan Anand, who held the title in 1988.
- **Syantana Das became India's 81st Grandmaster** after his victory at **the International Festival des Jeux in Cannes, France.**

Bindyarani Devi clinches silver medal in 55kg category at Asian Weightlifting Championships



Important Sports from Last 6 Months Current Affairs (Dec 2022 to May 2023)

- In Weightlifting, **India's Bindyarani Devi has clinched a silver medal in the women's 55kg category at the Asian Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Jinju, South Korea.**
- Sorokhaibam Bindyarani Devi registered a combined lift of 194 kg to finish second on the podium.
- **China's Chen Guan Ling won the gold medal** with a combined lift of 204 kg.
- Meanwhile in the **men's 61kg category Group B, Shubham Todkar lifted a combined weight of 263kg** to finish sixth among nine competitors.
- Commonwealth Games champion **Jeremy Lalrinnunga will be in action in 67kg category.**
- The 20-year-old has given an entry total weight of 300kg.
- The Asian Weightlifting Championships 2023 is the second in the series of qualifying events for **the Paris 2024 Olympic Games**

About IWF:

- President: Mohammed Jalood
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
- Founded: 1905

About South Korea:

- President: Yoon Suk Yeol Trending
- Capital: Seoul
- Prime minister: Han Duck-soo
- Currency: Won

Cristiano Ronaldo tops Forbes' 2023 highest-paid athletes list after Saudi move

- **Cristiano Ronaldo became the world's highest-paid athlete after he signed a contract worth more than 200 million euros (\$219.98 million) with Saudi Arabian side Al-Nassr.**
- After leaving Manchester United, Cristiano Ronaldo joined Saudi Football Club until 2025.
- His annual playing salary has increased by \$75 million.
- **Lionel Messi is in the second spot with \$130 million while Kylian Mbappe is in third spot with \$120 million.**

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- **LeBron James (\$119.5 million) and Canelo Alvarez (\$110 million) are in the fourth and fifth spots respectively.**
- According to the report, sports players are getting more money than ever because of Middle Eastern investment in golf and football.
- The world's ten highest-paid athletes collectively got \$1.11 billion before taxes and agents' fees.

Pakistan's Babar Azam becomes fastest player to reach 5000 runs in ODIs, breaks Hashim Amla's record

- **Pakistan skipper Babar Azam has become the fastest player to reach 5000 runs in the ODI format.**
- He crossed the 5000 run-mark in 97 innings.
- During the fourth match against New Zealand in Karachi, **Pakistan captain Babar Azam became the fastest batsman to complete 5,000 One Day International runs.**
- He **broke South Africa's Hashim Amla's record.**
- Azam took 97 innings in 99 One Day Internationals to reach the record, surpassing Amla's record of 101 innings in 104 matches.
- Azam has been the number one batsman in the International Cricket Council's ODI rankings for the last two years.
- In May 2015, Azam made his ODI debut against Zimbabwe in his hometown Lahore.

Khelo India University games to be declared open by PM Modi in Lucknow

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be the chief guest at the inaugural function of the Khelo India University games in Lucknow.**
- It is the **third edition of the Khelo India University games.**
- Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur and the Minister of State for Sports Nishith Pramanik will also take part in the event.
- The inaugural function will be organized in the **Babu Banarasi Das stadium.**
- On this occasion, many cultural programs will be also organized. More than 4,000 athletes in 21 sports discipline will participate in the event.



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- The **KIUG 2022 Games will be held in Varanasi, Noida, Lucknow and Gorakhpur.**
- The mascot of the University Games is **Jitu Barasingha.**
- '**Shakti**' is the official torch of Khelo India University Games, Uttar Pradesh.
- It is being organised by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in association with the Association of Indian Universities, the Indian Olympic Association and the National Sports Federation.
- Khelo India University Games is the largest university-level sports competition in India.
- The first edition of the Khelo India University Games was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2020.
- The main aim is to identify athletes in the age group of 18 to 25 years for the Olympics and the Asian Games.
- Jain University, Karnataka secured first sport in the 2022 edition of the Khelo India University Games.

Emilia Romagna Grand Prix cancelled due to 'adverse weather conditions'

- The **Emilia Romagna Grand Prix has been cancelled due to adverse weather in the region.**
- The race at Imola, due to be round six of the 2023 F1 season, will now not take place due to flooding in the area and the risk of further downpours over the coming days.
- The race in Imola was due to kick off F1's first triple-header of the season, with races to follow on consecutive weekends in Monaco and Spain in the sport's record 23-round campaign.
- Red Bull's Max Verstappen, who won last year's race at Imola, holds a 14-point lead at the top of the drivers' standings to teammate Sergio Perez after five races.
- The next race of the 2023 F1 season is now the Monaco Grand Prix, taking place over the weekend of 26-28 May.

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