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### **1. Novak Djokovic wins 24th Grand Slam title at US Open 2023 ( Sept. 11, 2023 )**

Novak Djokovic achieved a historic feat in tennis by winning his 24th Grand Slam title at the 2023 US Open.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- **Serbian tennis star Djokovic** defeated **Russia's Daniil Medvedev** by 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 in the men's singles final at the **Arthur Ashe Stadium**.
- With this win, **36-year-old Novak Djokovic is now tied with Margaret Court** for the **most Grand Slam tennis titles in history, with 24 titles to her name**.
- Djokovic's achievement also marked him as the oldest singles champion in the pro era of the US Open, adding to his status as the oldest French Open singles champion.

#### **Women's Doubles Final**

- In the women's doubles event, the 16th-seeded pair of **Erin Routliff of New Zealand and Gabriela Dabrowski of Canada won the title**.
- They defeated the 12th-seeded pair of Germany's Laura Siegemund and Russia's Vera Zvonareva with a score of 7-6, 6-3.

#### **Women's Singles Final**

- In the women's singles final, **American teenage tennis sensation Coco Gauff secured her first women's singles title**.
- She achieved this feat by defeating Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus with the score of 2-6, 6-3, 6-2.

### **2. Goa Governor launches the Mashaal (torch) for the 37th National Games ( Sept. 9, 2023 )**

Goa Governor **P.S. Sreedharan Pillai** launches the **Mashaal for the 37th National Games**.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- The launch took place at the **Durbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Donapaula**, in collaboration with the **Sports Authority of Goa** and the **Department of Sports and Youth Affairs**.

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#### **Torch relay to ignite enthusiasm and unity**

- Dr. Pramod Sawant announced **Goa's readiness to host the National Games**.

- The 'Mashal' will travel through Goa and other states for four days, especially in rural areas to encourage enthusiasm and participation.
- Sports Minister Govind Gode encouraged all Goans to participate and support the success of the Games.

### **National sports anthem with Amitabh Bachchan**

- Governor Pillai presented the National Games anthem, sung by legendary actor Amitabh Bachchan.
- The anthem featured the traditional Goan instrument, the Ghumat, and featured a collaboration between Goan singers and other talented artists.

### **Important Points**

- Joint CEO of National Sports Organizing Committee - **Dr. Geeta S. Nagvenkar**
- Sports Minister - **Govind Gode**
- Minister of State for Tourism - **Shripad Naik**
- Chief Minister of Goa - **Dr. Pramod Sawant**

### **3. Durand Cup 2023: Mohun Bagan won the championship, and East Bengal finished second ( Sept. 8, 2023 )**

Mohun Bagan registered a 1-0 win over East Bengal in the Durand Cup 2023 final held at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- The win is a historic moment for Mohun Bagan, as they lifted the Durand Cup trophy for the first time in 23 years, claiming the **132nd edition** of the prestigious tournament.
- **Mohun Bagan SG** achieved a remarkable feat by becoming the first team in the history of the Durand Cup to win a total of **17 titles**.
- **East Bengal**, the runners-up in this match, is the second most successful team in the Durand Cup, having won **16 titles** in their rich history.
- While Mohun Bagan had previously reached the Durand Cup final in 2004, 2009 and 2019, this win was particularly special as they had not secured the championship title in previous appearances.

### **Durand Cup:-**

- The Durand Football Tournament, also known as the Durand Cup, is an annual domestic football competition in India.
- It was **first organized in Shimla in 1888** and is currently **sponsored by Indian Oil and Coal India Limited**.

- The tournament is hosted jointly by the **Durand Football Tournament Society (DFTS)** and the **All India Football Federation (AIFF)**.
- The competition holds the distinction of being the oldest existing club football tournament in Asia.
- It ranks as the **fifth oldest national football competition globally**.

#### **4. India finished third with 14 medals at the ISSF World Championships 2023 ( Sept. 6, 2023 )**

India produced a remarkable performance at the ISSF World Championships 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan from August 14 to September 1, finishing third with a total of 14 medals including 6 gold medals and 8 bronze medals.

##### **An Overview of the News**

- Leading the medal count at the ISSF World Championships 2023 was China, which finished first with 28 medals, including 15 gold medals, 7 silver medals, and 6 bronze medals.
- Ukraine finished second in the medal tally with a total of 12 medals, including 6 gold medals, 4 silver medals, and 2 bronze medals.
- The ISSF World Championship 2023 holds vital importance as it serves as a qualifying event for athletes aiming to participate in the Paris 2024 Olympics.
- Four athletes from India successfully qualified for the Paris 2024 Olympics through their exceptional performances in the event.
- These athletes include Rajeshwari Kumari in women's trap, Sift Kaur Samra in women's 50m rifle 3 positions, Akhil Sheoran in men's 50m rifle 3 positions, and Mehuli Ghosh in women's 10m air rifle.

##### **About ISSF World Shooting Championships**

- The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) is responsible for overseeing the ISSF World Shooting Championships.
- The program of these championships, covering all ISSF shooting disciplines, consists of a competition held once in four years since 1954.
- President - **Luciano Rossi**
- Headquarters - **Munich, Germany**
- Established - **1907**

#### **5. Divya Deshmukh won the 2023 Tata Steel Chess India Women's Rapid Tournament ( Sept. 6, 2023 )**

Divya Deshmukh, a 17-year-old female chess grandmaster from Nagpur, Maharashtra, India, won the women's rapid category of the Tata Steel Chess India Tournament.

### **An Overview of the News**

- Divya won all three rounds of the tournament held at the **National Library, Kolkata** on **September 1, 2023**.
- She outperformed her competitors and stood first with a remarkable **score of 7 points**.
- The defending world champion, **Ju Wenjun of China finished second with 6.5 points**.
- **Russia's Polina Shuvalova finished third with 5.5 points**.

### **Divya Deshmukh creates history in chess by defeating Koneru Humpy in Tata Steel Chess India tournament**

- In the final round of the Tata Steel Chess India tournament, Divya Deshmukh pulled off a remarkable win against **second-seed Koneru Humpy**.
- Top seed and defending world champion, Ju Wenjun of China and defending champion, **Anna Ushenina** of Ukraine had a highly anticipated match which ended in a draw.
- This draw had a significant impact on the state of the tournament, especially Ju Wenjun's prospects.
- Due to the draw, Divya Deshmukh ended the tournament with a half-point lead over Ju Wenjun, securing her position as the undisputed champion.

### **6. Max Verstappen's historic 10th consecutive race win at the Italian Grand Prix 2023 ( Sept. 4, 2023 )**

Max Verstappen made history at the 2023 Italian Grand Prix, scoring his 10th consecutive Formula 1 victory and setting a remarkable new record.

### **An Overview of the News**

- Max Verstappen achieved a remarkable feat in one season in Formula One, surpassing Sebastian Vettel's previous record of nine consecutive wins a decade ago.
- The victory at Monza takes Verstappen's total race wins this year to 12 and increases Red Bull's chances of becoming the first F1 team to win every race in a season.
- Verstappen currently leads the drivers' championship by a remarkable 145 points, with his teammate Perez, who has also won this season, in second.
- 25-year-old Max Verstappen has won 47 races so far, making him fifth on the all-time list of Formula One race winners.

### **Italian Grand Prix 2023 Results:**

1. Max Verstappen (race winner)

2. Sergio Pérez - (2nd place)
3. Carlos Sainz - (3rd place)
4. Charles Leclerc - (4th place)
5. George Russell - (5th place, with a 5-second time penalty)
6. Lewis Hamilton - (6th place, with 5-second penalty)
7. Alexander Albon - (7th place)
8. Lando Norris - (8th place)
9. Fernando Alonso - (9th place)
10. Valtteri Bottas - (10th place)

## **7. Former Zimbabwe cricket captain Heath Streak passes away at the age of 49 ( Sept. 4, 2023 )**

Former Zimbabwe cricket captain Heath Streak passed away at the age of 49 due to colon and liver cancer on 3rd September 2023.

### **An Overview of the News**

- Heath Streak is known for his skills as a fast bowler.
- Zimbabwe's all-time leading wicket-taker in Test cricket with 216 wickets at an average of 28.14.
- Scored 1,990 runs in Test matches at an average of 22.35.
- In ODIs, Streak took 239 wickets at 29.82 and scored 2,943 runs at 28.29.
- Represented Zimbabwe in 65 Tests and 189 ODIs from 1993 to 2005.
- Streak established the **Heath Streak Academy in 2014 to support cricket development in Zimbabwe.**

### **About Zimbabwe**

- It is officially known as the Republic of Zimbabwe, located in Southern Africa.
- It is a landlocked country, situated between the Zambezi and Limpopo rivers.
- Zimbabwe is bordered by South Africa to the south, Botswana to the southwest, Zambia to the north, and Mozambique to the east.
- Capital and largest city - **Harare**
- President - **Emmerson Mnangagwa**
- Vice-President - **Constantino Chiwenga**

## **8. India beat Pakistan in the final to win the Men's Hockey 5s Asia Cup 2023 ( Sept. 3, 2023 )**

India's men's hockey team won the Men's Hockey 5s Asia Cup 2023 in Salalah, Oman by defeating Pakistan in the final.

### **An Overview of the News**

- India also qualified for the FIH Men's Hockey 5s World Cup Oman 2024 with this win.
- India's win against Pakistan in the final was India's first win in the Hockey 5s format after the previous three encounters.
- India came back from 2-4 down, which was followed by a penalty shootout, where they emerged victorious.
- Maninder Singh scored an important goal for India in the shootout.
- In the semi-finals, India defeated Malaysia by a score of 10-4 and Pakistan reached the final after defeating Oman by a score of 7-3.
- Hockey India announced a reward of Rs 2 lakh to each player and Rs 1 lakh to the support staff for their outstanding performance.

### **Hockey5s World Cup:-**

- The 2024 Hockey 5s World Cup marks the inaugural edition of the FIH Hockey 5s World Cup, a global competition for men's and women's national hockey 5s teams every four years.
- The tournament, scheduled for **January 2024**, will be held in the city of **Muscat in Oman**.

### **International Hockey Federation (FIH):-**

- It is the worldwide governing body for field hockey and indoor field hockey.
- Its headquarters is in **Lausanne, Switzerland**.
- Major international field hockey tournaments, including the prestigious Hockey World Cup, fall under the jurisdiction of the FIH.
- Formation - **7 January 1924**
- Established - **Paris, France**

### **Important points:-**

- Hockey India President - **Dilip Tirkey**
- Youth Affairs and Sports Minister - **Anurag Singh Thakur**

**9. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports approves participation of athletes in upcoming Asian Games ( Aug. 29, 2023 )**

634 athletes in various sports disciplines were cleared by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to participate in the Asian Games.

**An Overview of the News**

- A total of 634 athletes from 38 different sports disciplines have been approved to represent India at the Games.
- Notable athletes like Neeraj Chopra, Praggnanand Ramesh Babu, Lovlina Borgohain, Nikhat Zareen, Lakshya Sen, and Mirabai Chanu Saikhom have successfully met the prescribed selection criteria.
- The selection process took into account the recommendations made by the Indian Olympic Association, which initially suggested 850 athletes.
- During the last edition of the Asian Games in 2018, India was represented by a contingent of 572 athletes.
- In the 2018 edition, India's performance was remarkable, bagging a total of 70 medals including an impressive tally of 16 gold medals.

**10. Max Verstappen Clinches Third Consecutive Victory at Dutch Grand Prix 2023 ( Aug. 28, 2023 )**

On August 27, 2023, Max Verstappen took his third consecutive win at the Dutch Grand Prix at Circuit Zandvoort in the Netherlands.

**An Overview of the News**

- Max Verstappen's victory equaled Sebastian Vettel's **record of nine consecutive F1 victories**.
- **Fernando Alonso** secured a podium position by coming in **second**.
- Sergio Pérez, driving for Red Bull, initially finished third, but a five-second penalty resulted in **Pierre Gasly taking third place on the podium**.

**About Dutch Grand Prix**

- Also known as the "**Grote Prijs van Nederland**", is an annual event of the **Formula One World Championship**.
- It takes place at the **Circuit Zandvoort in North Holland, Netherlands**.
- The race was held continuously from **1950 to 1985** and then returned in 2021 after a gap of 35 years.
- **Starting in 1952**, it became a regular part of the Formula One World Championship calendar.

- In **1962 and 1976**, the race was designated as the **European Grand Prix**, an honor given to one European race each year.