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1. Lisa Sthalekar appointed Federation of International Cricketers' Association president (June 23, 2022)

Former Australian women's cricketer Lisa Sthalekar has been appointed as the President of the Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA), becoming the first woman to become the President of FICA.

- The decision to appoint Indian-origin Lisa was taken at a meeting of the Executive Committee of FICA in Neon, Switzerland.
- Lisa Sthalekar will replace former England cricketer Vikram Solanki.
- Former South African batsman Barry Richards, former West Indies all-rounder Jimmy Adams have also held this position.

Lisa Sthalekar's Career

- Sthalekar played 8 Tests, 125 ODIs and 54 T20Is for Australia between 2001 and 2013.
- Lisa has scored 416 runs in Tests, 2728 in ODIs and 769 runs in T20 matches while in bowling she has taken 23 wickets in Tests, 146 in ODIs and 60 wickets in T20Is.
- Lisa became the first female cricketer to score 1000 runs and take 100 wickets in ODI cricket.
- Last year, he was inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame.

About Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA)

- The Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA) is an organisation that coordinates the activities of all the national players' associations that represent professional cricketers.
- Founded -1998
- FICA members- Australia, Bangladesh, England , New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies

2. Ruchira Kamboj appointed Permanent Representative to UN (June 22, 2022)

Senior diplomat Ruchira Kamboj has been appointed as India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York.

- Ruchira Kamboj is a 1987 batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS).
- Presently, Ruchira Kamboj was serving as India's envoy to Bhutan.
- Kamboj is the first woman ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bhutan.
- She will succeed TS Tirumurti as the Indian Ambassador to the United Nations.

Prior to this she has served as High Commissioner of India to South Africa and

Ambassador/Permanent Representative of India to UNESCO.

About the United Nations

- The United Nations was established on 24 October 1945 with the signing of the United Nations Charter by 50 countries.
- The winning countries of World War II together established the United Nations with the aim of interfering in international conflicts.
- At present there are 193 nations in the United Nations, almost all the internationally recognized nations of the world are included in it.
- The structure of this institution includes the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Secretariat and the International Court of Justice.
- The newest member country is South Sudan which was made a member on 11 July 2011.
- The United Nations has recognized six languages as "official languages" (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish), but only two of these are considered operating languages.
- India was one of the first members of the United Nations to sign the United Nations Declaration on January 01, 1942 in Washington.
- Headquarters New York, United States
- Secretary General Antonio Guterres

3. Somalia's president appointed Hamza Abdi Barre as prime minister (June 18, 2022)

Somalia's President Hassan Sheikh Mohamed has appointed Hamza Abdi Barre, former chairman of the Jubaland State Election Commission, as prime minister.

- Hamza Abdi Barre, 48, of the semi-autonomous state of Jubaland, replaced Mohamed Hussein Roble.
- Recently Hassan Sheikh Mohamed was elected the new President of Somalia.

About Somalia

- Somalia is a country located on the eastern edge of Africa.
- It is bordered by Djibouti to the northwest, Kenya to the southwest, the Gulf of Aden to the north, the Indian Ocean to the east, and Ethiopia to the west.
- Somalia is a semi-arid country with about 1.64% of the arable land.
- Capital- Mogadishu
- Currency Somali shilling

4. Ranjana Prakash Desai appointed as President of Press Council of India (June 18, 2022)

Former Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai has been nominated as Chairperson of the Press Council of India (PCI) on 17 June.

- She will replace Justice (retd) CK Prasad who had vacated the post in November 2021.
- Since then the office of the PCI President has been lying vacant.
- Justice Desai has served as the chairman of the Delimitation Commission constituted for lammu and Kashmir.
- She has worked as a public prosecutor for the state of Maharashtra and as a judge on the Bombay High Court.
- She was the Chairperson of the Indian Appellate Tribunal for Electricity after retiring from the Supreme Court.
- About Press Council of India (PCI)
- It was established under the PCI Act, 1978.
- Its **objective** is to maintain the freedom of the press as well as to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India.
- The PCI consists of a chairman and 28 other members.
- The chairman is elected by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and a member elected by the PCI.
- The PCI does not have the power to review the functioning of electronic media such as radio, television and internet media.

5. Anand Mahindra, Venu Srinivasan nominated to join RBI board (June 15, 2022)

The central government has nominated three industrialists – Anand Gopal Mahindra, Venu Srinivasan, and Pankaj Ramanbhai Patel and an educationist (Ravindra H. Dholakia) as part-time non-official directors on the central board of the Reserve Bank of India.

- Anand Gopal Mahindra is chairman of Mahindra Group.
- Venu Srinivasan is chairman of TVS Motor Company Ltd.
- Pankaj Ramanbhai Patel is chairman of Zydus Lifesciences.
- Ravindra H. Dholakia is a retired professor of IIM, Ahmedabad. He is a former member of the Monetary Policy Committee.
- The appointment of new part-time non-official directors is for a period of four years with effect from June 14 or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

- After the above appointments, the Central Board of RBI now has 15 members, in which
- five official members and 10 non-official members.
- The tenure of non-official part-time directors is four years.

Central board of the Reserve Bank of India

- The central government appoints the Board in accordance with the RBI Act, 1934.
- The total strength of the board is 21, consisting of governors and a maximum of four deputy governors.
- The Board is required to meet at least six times a year and at least once in every quarter.
- The board usually meets at least once in Delhi when the finance minister addresses the entire board after presenting the budget for the coming year.
- Apart from Delhi and Mumbai, the board usually meets in various state capitals.
- The governor takes the advice of the board, but ultimately his decision is unanimous.
- Deputy governors and government nominees may attend any or all meetings of the Central Board, but are not entitled to vote.

About Reserve Bank of India

- Established on April 1, 1935 as per the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- The central office of the Reserve Bank was initially established in Calcutta but was permanently shifted to Mumbai in 1937.
- In the Central Office the Governor sits and policies are formulated.
- The affairs of the Reserve Bank are handled by a central board of directors.

6. Bajram Begaj has elected as the new President of Albania (June 8, 2022)

Bajram Begaj, who held the post of Chief of General Staff of the Albanian Armed Forces (AAF), has been elected as the new President of Albania country.

- He is the 8th President of Albania and the third President by military rank.
- Bajram Begaz will be sworn in as the new President on 25 July 2022 to replace the incumbent President 'Ilir Meta', who will remain in office till 22 July 2022.

About Albania

- The Republic of Albania is a country located in northeastern Europe.
- Albania is a member of the United Nations, NATO, the European Organisation for Security and Cooperation, the European Council, the World Trade Organisation, the Organisation of Islamic Conference, etc.
- The national and ethnic symbol of the Albanian people is "eagle".

- In 1967, Albania became the first atheist country in the world.
- The capital of the country is "Tirana".

7. Alok Kumar Choudhary appointed as new Managing Director of SBI (June 8, 2022)

Alok Kumar Choudhary has been appointed as the new MD (Retail Business and Operations) of the country's largest bank State Bank of India.

- Prior to this appointment, Chaudhary was working as Deputy Managing Director (Finance) in the bank.
- Chaudhary started his job in the bank in 1987 as a Probationary Officer.
- Alok Choudhary replaces Ashwini Bhatia, MD, who retired from the bank on May 31.
- He was also the Deputy Managing Director (DMD) Human Resources and Corporate Development Officer in the bank and Chaudhary also served as the Chief General Manager, Delhi Circle of the bank for three years.
- Besides Chowdhary, three other managing directors in State Bank of India are CS Shetty, Swaminathan J and Ashwini Kumar Tiwari.

About SBI

- The history of the State Bank of India begins in the first decade of the 18th century, when the Bank of Calcutta, later renamed the Bank of Bengal, was established on June 2, 1806.
- The Bank of Bengal was one of the three Presidency banks, the other two being the Bank of Bombay (established on 15 April 1840) and the Bank of Madras (established on 1 July 1843).
- On January 27, 1921, the Presidency Banks were merged and the reorganised banking entity was known as 'Imperial Bank of India'.
- After independence, as per the provisions of the State Bank of India Act 1955, the Reserve Bank of India acquired the control of 'Imperial Bank of India'.
- On July 1, 1955, the name of 'Imperial Bank of India' was changed to 'State Bank of India'.
- Headquarters Mumbai
- Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara

8. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Sant Kabir Academy and Research Centre at Maghar (June 6, 2022)

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the Sant Kabir Academy and Research Centre Swadesh Darshan Yojana at Maghar, Uttar Pradesh on June 5.

Kabir and the Bhakti movement

The Bhakti movement began in the 7th century in South India to spread across north
• India in the 14th and the 15th centuries.

- The movement included popular poet-saints, who sang devotional songs in local languages, with several preachings for the abolition of the varna system and for Hindu-Muslim unity.
- They emphasised a deep emotional attachment with God.
- Within the Bhakti movement there was a school Nirguna tradition and Sant Kabir was a prominent member of it.
- In this tradition, God was understood as a universal and formless being.
- Kabir was a 'low caste' weaver, Raidas was a leather worker and Dadu was a cotton carder.
- His campaign against conservatism and rejection of caste made him extremely popular among the masses and his ideology of egalitarianism spread across India.

· His early life

- He was born in Varanasi and lived between the years 1398 and 1448, or until the year 1518 according to popular belief.
- According to other belief, Kabir was born to a Brahmin widow, who placed him in a basket and set him afloat on a pond, after which he was rescued and adopted by a Muslim couple.
- He is also believed to be a disciple of the famous guru Ramananda, a 14th century Vaishnava poet-saint.
- His verses are found in the Guru Granth Sahib, the scripture of Sikhism.
- His work was collected by the fifth Sikh Guru, Guru Arjan Dev.
- Kabir's works were written in Hindi language, which was easy to understand.
- Kabir Granthawali, Anurag Sagar, Bijak and Sakhi are his main texts.

9. Santoor maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori passes away (June 3, 2022)

Noted santoor player Padmashree Pandit Bhajan Sopori passed away on June 2 at a hospital in Gurugram. He was 74 years old and had been ill for some time.

- He was undergoing treatment for stage IV of colon cancer.
- The disease had spread to the liver and bones.
- He was undergoing treatment at Fortis Memorial Research Institute (fMRI), Gurugram from February 2022.

About Pandit Bhajan Sopori

• He was born in the year 1948 in Srinagar.

- He was given the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1992 for his contribution to classical music.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in the year 2004.
- Bhajan Sopori had inherited the education of playing the santoor. His grandfather SC Sopori and father Pandit SN Sopori were also santoor players.
- He was also proficient in singing with santoor.
- He did his post graduation in English literature with music. After this he also studied Western Classical Music from the University of Washington.
- He composed **three ragas**. These include Raga **Laleshwari**, **Raga Patwanti** and **Raga Nirmal Ranjani**.
- He belongs to the **Sufiana Gharana**.
- He made an album Nat Yoga on Santoor. He is also the founder of the Sopori Academy for Music and Performing Arts.
- He is the only classical musician in India who has composed music for more than four thousand songs in almost every language of the country including Sanskrit, Arabic.

10. IPS Sujoy Lal Thaosen Takes Charge as New SSB DG (June 2, 2022)

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, appointed Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Sujay Lal Thosen as the new Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

- Thosen is a 1988 batch Madhya Pradesh cadre officer.
- Prior to this appointment, Thosen was serving as the Special Director General of the Border Security Force.
- Thosen has taken over as the 21st Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal.
- He has been appointed in place of ITBP Director General Sanjay Arora.
- About Sashastra Seema Bal
- Sashastra Seema Bal was established on 20 December 1963 after the Sino-Indian War.
- The Sashastra Seema Bal guards the country's borders with Nepal (1,751 km) and Bhutan (699 km).
- On 13 April 2014, the Union Home Ministry for the first time approved the induction of young women into the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) as Combat Officers.
- Headquarters- New Delhi