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1. 12th International Day of Yoga Celebrated Worldwide

The 12th International Day of Yoga was celebrated enthusiastically across India and around the world on June 21 (Sunday).

(i) Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated that the International Day of Yoga has now become the world's largest social celebration. Yoga unites people across nations and cultures. June 21, known as the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere, has now evolved into one of the world's largest community celebration days. He conveyed his greetings to people across the globe on this occasion.

2. Ammonia Gas Leak in Tiruvallur District Claims Two Lives

Two women workers from northern Indian states died and 62 workers were hospitalized after an ammonia gas leak at a private fish-feed export factory near Uthukottai in Tiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu. More than 25 people remain in critical condition, raising fears that the death toll could increase.

(i) Around 230 workers from Odisha, Jharkhand, and Assam were employed at the factory in Kannigaiper village. About 100 workers were on duty on Sunday, while more than 100 others were staying in dormitories within the factory premises. An ammonia storage tank was reportedly not properly sealed, leading to a gas leak and subsequent fire.

(ii) More than 65 workers, including 60 women, suffered symptoms such as bleeding from the ears and skin blisters.

3. Heavy Rainfall in Meghalaya

Several parts of Meghalaya recorded heavy rainfall.

(i) The Mawsynram area in the East Khasi Hills district received 530 mm of rainfall within 24 hours. Meteorologists noted that this amount is equivalent to nearly six months of rainfall in cities such as Jodhpur and Bikaner.

4. Security Tightened for Kheer Bhawani Festival and Amarnath Yatra

Extensive security arrangements have been made in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of the famous Kheer Bhawani Temple festival and the upcoming Amarnath Yatra.

(i) The Kheer Bhawani Temple, an important pilgrimage site for Kashmiri Pandits, is located in the Tulmulla area of Ganderbal district. The annual festival is scheduled to take place on Monday. Due to the expected arrival of large numbers of devotees, comprehensive security measures have been implemented.

(ii) Every year, pilgrims undertake the Amarnath Yatra to worship the naturally formed ice Shiva Lingam inside the Amarnath Cave, situated at an altitude of 3,880 meters in the Himalayas. The pilgrimage is conducted through two routes:

- Pahalgam in Anantnag district
- Baltal in Ganderbal district

The 2026 Amarnath Yatra is scheduled to begin on July 3 and continue for 57 days.

5. India–European Union Free Trade Agreement Expected in December

Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal announced that the India–European Union Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is expected to be signed in December 2026.

(i) India and the European Union finalized the broad trade agreement on January 27, 2026.

(ii) Together, India and the European Union account for nearly 25% of global GDP and about one-third of global trade. The EU comprises 27 countries, including France, Germany, and Italy.

(iii) The agreement will enable Indian products to be exported to all 27 EU member countries without tariffs. At the same time, prices of imported European products, including luxury cars, are expected to decline significantly.

(iv) Speaking to reporters in Mumbai, Piyush Goyal stated that the agreement would be signed in December and its provisions would likely come into effect during February–March 2027. The agreement will facilitate duty-free access for Indian exports to European markets.

(v) U.S. Delegation Visiting India

- A U.S. delegation led by Jamieson Greer, the U.S. Trade Representative, is scheduled to visit India on June 22 for discussions on the proposed India–U.S. bilateral trade agreement.
- During the recent G7 Summit held in Canada, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Donald Trump discussed ways to accelerate negotiations.
- Earlier this month, trade talks were held in New Delhi between Indian officials led by Darpan Jain and U.S. officials led by Brendan Lynch. The upcoming discussions are expected to advance the next phase of negotiations.

6. Yoga Day Celebrations Across India and Abroad

The 12th International Day of Yoga was celebrated across India on June 21 under the theme:

“Yoga for Healthy Ageing.”

(i) Thousands of people around the world participated in Yoga Day events. Indian embassies and missions abroad organized various programs highlighting the importance of yoga for maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

7. Prime Minister Dedicates Three Advanced Naval Ships to the Nation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated three indigenously built naval vessels to the nation.

(i) The ships were constructed by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers in Kolkata:

- INS Akrosh
- INS Dunagiri
- INS Sanshodhak

The vessels were designed by the Indian Navy’s Warship Design Bureau, and approximately 75% of their components are indigenous.

(ii) The commissioning ceremony was held at the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in Kolkata, where Prime

Minister Modi formally dedicated the ships to the nation.

(iii) Key features of the ships:

- INS Dunagiri possesses stealth capabilities, enabling it to evade enemy radar detection. It is equipped with supersonic BrahMos Missile systems and air-defense missiles.
- INS Akrosh is an anti-submarine warfare vessel capable of detecting and neutralizing enemy submarines.
- INS Sanshodhak is a survey ship and is regarded as one of the world's largest survey vessels. It can accurately map coastal and underwater terrain, supporting maritime navigation and defense operations.