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# Daily News Analysis

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**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

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**DR.G.S.GIRIDHAR SIR**





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **Appointments Committee Approves Key Appointments in Ministries; Apurva Chandra as Health Secretary, Sanjay Jaju to Head Information and Broadcasting**

- The Appointment Committee of the Union Cabinet has approved the appointment of several senior officers to the new post under different Ministries.
- Apurva Chandra has been appointed as the Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare.
- Sanjay Jaju will be the new Information and Broadcasting secretary.
- Raj Kumar Goyal has been appointed as the Secretary, Department of Border Management in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- While, Niten Chandra has been appointed as the secretary, Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare in the Ministry of Defence.
- K. Moses Chalai will be the Secretary of the Inter State Council Secretariat in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- The Appointments Committee has approved the appointment of Anil Malik as Officer on Special Duty, Ministry of Women and Child Development in the rank and pay of Secretary to the Government of India.
- ACC has also approved the appointment of Sumita Dawra as Officer on Special Duty, Ministry of Labour and Employment in the rank and pay of Secretary to the Government of India.
- ACC has further approved the appointment of Vijay Kumar as the Chairman, Inland Waterways Authority of India, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways in the rank and pay of Secretary to the Government of India by temporarily upgrading the post.
- Ashish Kumar Bhutani has been appointed as the Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation.

**Q.** Who has been appointed as the Secretary of Department of Health and Family Welfare? **Sanjay Jaju**





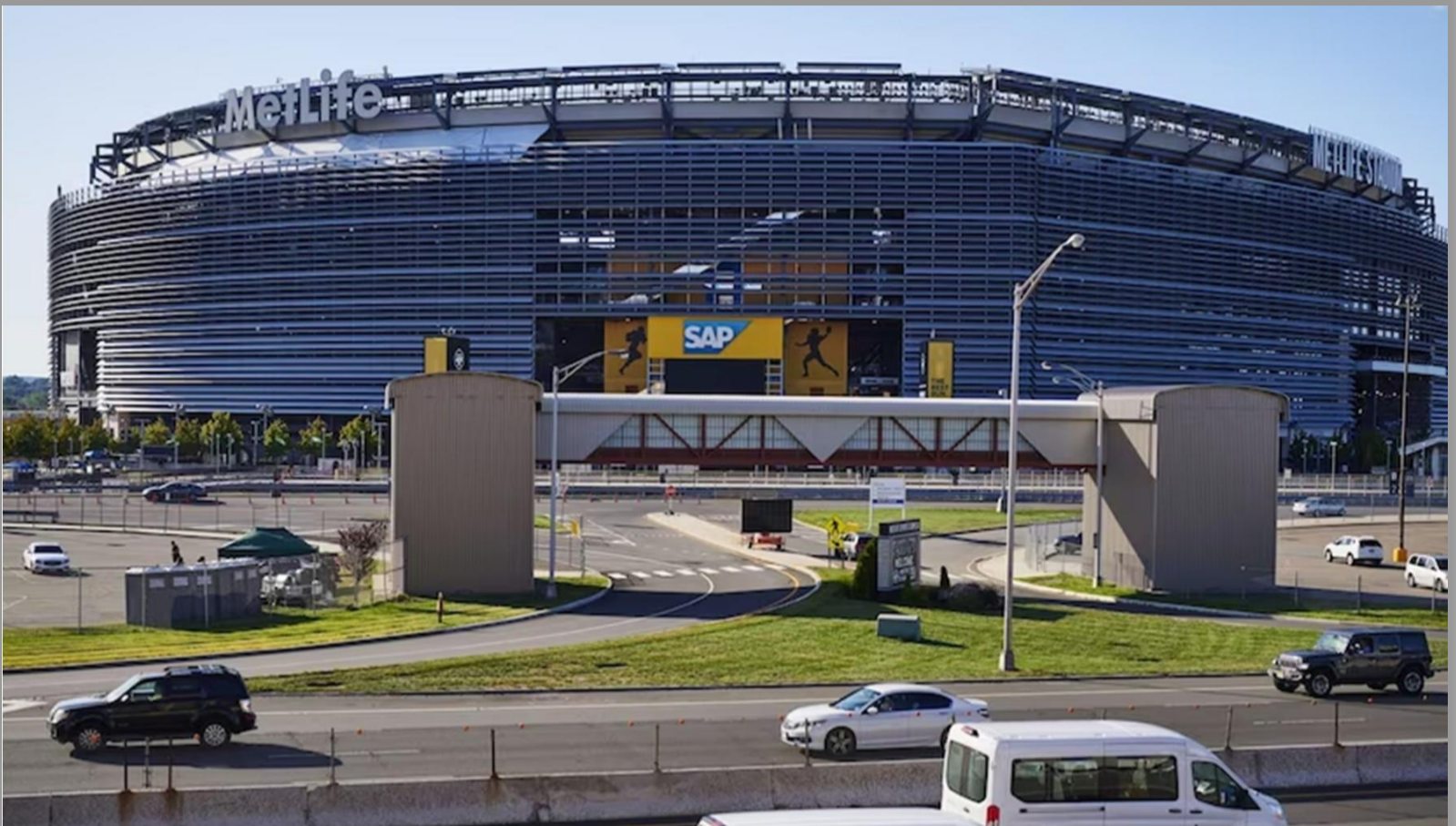
Tuesday, 06 February 2024

## Indian musicians Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir Hussain's fusion band Shakti bags Grammy award

- Prominent Indian musicians Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir Hussain's fusion band Shakti bagged the prestigious Grammy award.
- They clinched the award in Best Global Music Album category for their latest album This Moment.
- The album This Moment was released in June last year. The album consisted of eight songs by John McLaughlin, Zakir Khan, Shankar Mahadevan, V Selvaganesh and Ganesh Rajagopalan.
- Meanwhile, Zakir Hussain also bagged the Grammy in Best Global Music Performance category for his contribution to Pashto alongside Bela Fleck and Edgar Meyer, featuring Rakesh Chaurasia.
- Moreover, Veteran Indian classical flute artist Rakesh Chaurasia managed to win dual Grammy for his collaborative album As We Speak in the Best Contemporary Instrumental and Best Global Music Performance categories.
- The 66th Annual Grammy Awards 2024 are being held at Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles.
- Taylor Swift won album of the year for *Midnights*, making her the first person to win that category four times.
- “What Was I Made For?” from *Barbie*, written by Billie Eilish O’Connell and Finneas O’Connell, was named song of the year.
- Victoria Monét was named best new artist.

**Q.** Recently, Indian musicians Shankar Mahadevan and Zakir Hussain's fusion band Shakti bagged the prestigious Grammy award for which Album? This Moment





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **New York to host FIFA World Cup 2026**

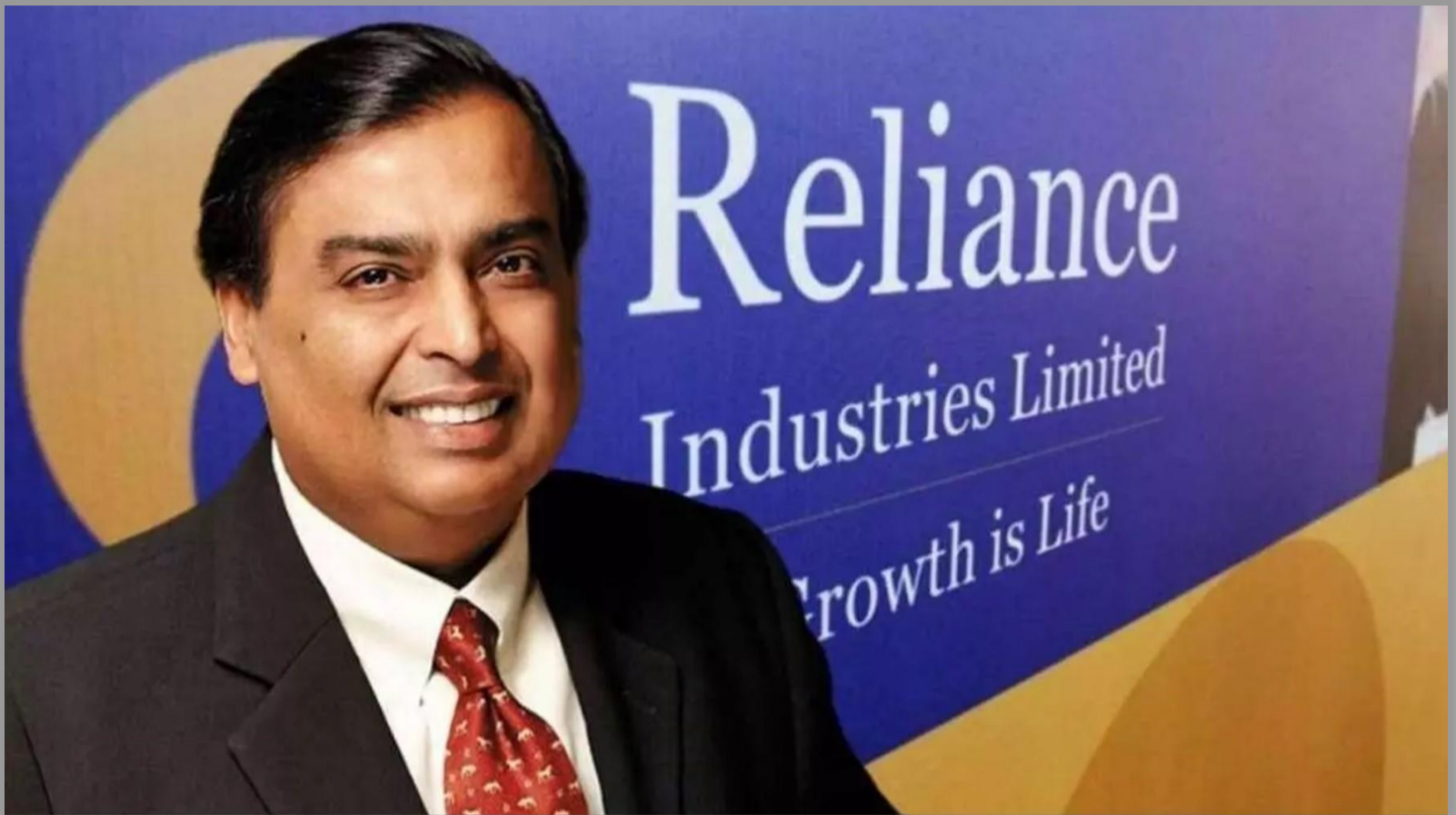
- The New York will host the FIFA World Cup final in 2026 after beating out contenders in Dallas and Los Angeles for the honor of holding the world's most-viewed sporting event.
- The decisive game will take place across the Hudson River at New Jersey's MetLife Stadium, FIFA.
- The stadium is home to the National Football League's New York Giants and New York Jets, and has a capacity of 82,500.
- The final will make New York the center of the sporting world in July 2026, when the match is scheduled to be played.
- The US is co-hosting the 2026 World Cup with Canada and Mexico, and the tournament will begin June 11 with a match at Mexico City's Estadio Azteca.
- The next day, Canada will hold its first game, with Toronto's BMO Field as the venue, while the US team debuts at SoFi Stadium near Los Angeles.

### **FIFA:**

- Founded: 21 May 1904
- Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland
- President: Gianni Infantino
- Secretary General: Fatma Samoura

**Q.** Which country is co-hosting the 2026 FIFA World Cup with Canada and Mexico? **US**





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **Mukesh Ambani top placed Indian, No.2 globally in Brand Guardianship Index**

- Billionaire Mukesh Ambani has been ranked first among all Indians and second globally in the Brand Guardianship Index 2024 compiled by Brand Finance.
- The chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries Ltd overtakes the likes of Microsoft's Satya Nadella, and Google's Sundar Pichai to be ranked No.2 globally only behind Tencent's Huateng Ma.
- According to the publication, the Brand Guardianship Index is a global recognition of CEOs, who are building business value in a sustainable manner, by balancing the needs of all stakeholders - employees, investors, and the wider society.
- Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran is ranked at No.5, up from No.8 in the 2023 ranking. He is followed by Anish Shah of Mahindra & Mahindra at No.6 and Infosys' Salil Parekh at No.16.
- In the 2023 ranking as well Ambani was placed at No.2 position globally.
- This year he was ranked No.1 in Brand Guardianship Index 2024 among the 'Diversified' conglomerates.
- Ambani was ranked ahead of global majors like Satya Nadella of Microsoft, Google's Sundar Pichai, Apple's Tim Cook and Tesla's Elon Musk.
- Jio had topped India's strong brands in Brand Finance's 2023 rankings as well.

**Q.** What position has billionaire Mukesh Ambani been given globally in the Brand Guardianship Index 2024 compiled by Brand Finance?

**Second**





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **HDFC Bank appoints BoA, Barclays for likely dollar bond issue**

- HDFC Bank, India's largest private-sector lender, has appointed banks for a likely dollar bond sale.
- The bank is looking to issue three-year sustainability dollar bonds and five-year conventional notes.
- It has appointed Barclays, Bank of America, J.P.Morgan, MUFG and Standard Chartered as joint bookrunners and lead managers to arrange fixed-income investor update calls in Asia and Europe.
- HDFC Bank's Regulation-S notes will be rated Baa3 by Moody's and BBB- by S&P.
- HDFC Bank last tapped the dollar bond market in February 2023 when it had raised \$750 million via three-year dollar-denominated bonds at a coupon of 5.686%.
- Indian renewable energy firm Greenko Energy Holdings has mandated banks for a dollar green bond sale by its wholly-owned subsidiary, Greenko Mauritius, and is currently exploring the market for a shorter-tenor issue.

**Q.** Which bank has recently appointed Barclays, Bank of America, J.P.Morgan, MUFG and Standard Chartered for possible dollar bond issuance? **HDFC Bank**





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **REC wins Best Green Bond - Corporate Award**

- REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has been bestowed with the prestigious Best Green Bond - Corporate Award at The Asset Triple A Awards for Sustainable Finance 2024.
- REC has received the award for issuance of \$750 million USD Green Bonds in April 2023 which was also the first USD Green Bond issuance from India post India's assumption of G20 Presidency and the largest ever Senior Green Bond Tranche by a South or South-East Asian issuer.
- The bond issue was priced at a minimum new issue premium of 7.5 bps, which was tighter than the most recent high-rated issuances from the region.
- The issue was well received by the investors and demonstrates REC's significant contribution to financing projects aimed at mitigating climate change and promoting environmental sustainability.
- The Asset Triple A Awards are a pre-eminent recognition for those organizations that have excelled in their respective industry. With over two decades of experience conducting awards programmes, The Asset Triple A Awards reflect unparalleled industry understanding to be able to distinguish best-in-class organizations.

**Q.** Which leading NBFC has been awarded the prestigious Best Green Bond – Corporate award at The Asset Triple A Awards for Sustainable Finance 2024? **REC Limited**





# Thyrocare

Tests you can trust

**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **Thyrocare acquires Think Health Diagnostics**

- Diagnostic and preventive healthcare service provider Thyrocare announced the acquisition of a 100 per cent stake in Chennai-based Think Health Diagnostics for an undisclosed sum.
- The share purchase agreement marking Thyrocare's entry into the domain of ECG services at home.
- With this strategic acquisition, Thyrocare will expand its footprint in the pre-policy medical check-up segment for the insurance market.
- This allows them to offer insurance partners a one-stop solution for both blood tests and ECGs, deepening their presence in the annual health check-up and pre-policy check-up markets.
- The combined entity will leverage Think Health's operational presence in 10 cities - Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Mumbai, Pune, Surat, and Jaipur.
- The merger brings together Thyrocare's existing network of over 900 blood collection phlebotomists with Think Health's expertise in home healthcare technology and ECG services. This creates a combined network of over 100 phlebotomists trained to provide ECGs at home, offering enhanced service delivery and a convenient patient experience.

**Q.** Which diagnostic and preventive healthcare provider has announced the acquisition of 100 per cent stake in Chennai-based Think Health Diagnostics? **Thyrocare**





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **‘TG’ to replace ‘TS’ as Telangana abbreviation**

- The Telangana government decided to change the state’s abbreviation to ‘TG’ from the present ‘TS’.
- The decision was taken at the state Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.
- After the formation of Telangana in 2014, the then TRS government had opted for TS as the state abbreviation.
- Following the Cabinet decision, vehicle registration numbers will now have ‘TG’ as prefix.
- The state will also adopt a new state anthem - "Jaya Jaya Ho Telangana", it was decided in the key meeting ahead of the state's budget session.
- The new anthem was composed by Andre Sri, an award-winning Indian poet and lyricist.
- According to the decision, Telangana Talli, the symbolic mother goddess of the state, will also be launched in a new look.

### **Telangana:**

- Formation: June 2, 2014
- Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Chief minister: Anumula Revanth Reddy

**Q.** What is the new abbreviation of Telangana state? **TG**





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **Government introduced Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024 in Lok Sabha**

- The Government introduced the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024 in the Lok Sabha.
- The Bill is intended to prevent unfair means in the public examinations. Minister of State for Personnel Dr Jitendra Singh introduced the legislation.
- The objective of the Bill is to bring greater transparency, fairness and credibility to the public examination systems and to reassure the youth that their sincere and genuine efforts will be fairly rewarded and their future is safe.
- It is aimed at effectively and legally deterring persons, organised groups or institutions that indulge in various unfair means and adversely impact the public examination systems for monetary and wrongful gains. Candidate as defined in the Bill will not be liable for action within the purview of the Bill and will continue to be covered under the extant administrative provisions of the concerned public examination authority.
- The Bill will serve as a model draft for States to adopt at their discretion. This will aid States in preventing criminal elements from disrupting conduct of their State level public examinations.
- Besides, the Jammu and Kashmir Local Bodies Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was also introduced in the Lok Sabha. The Bill seeks to amend the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989, the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act, 2000 and the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000. Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai introduced the Bill in the Lower House.

**Q.** What is the name of the bill aimed at preventing unfair means in public examinations, recently introduced in the Lok Sabha? **Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024**





**Tuesday, 06 February 2024**

## **Uttarakhand High Court gets first woman Chief Justice as Ritu Bahri takes charge**

- Justice Ritu Bahri was sworn in as the first woman Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court.
- She became the second woman to hold such a position amongst the 25 high courts in the country.
- Last year, Sunita Aggarwal, a judge of the Allahabad High Court, was appointed Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court.
- The Uttarakhand Governor, Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh, administered the oath of office to Justice Bahri.
- Prior to her appointment as the Chief Justice of Uttarakhand, Justice Bahri served as a judge in the Punjab and Haryana High Court from 2010. She completed her schooling in Chandigarh and earned her law degree from Punjab University, beginning her legal practice in the Punjab and Haryana High Court. Justice Bahri specialised in civil, constitutional, taxation, labor, and service matters.

### **Uttarakhand:**

- Capital: Bhararisain, Dehradun (winter)
- Governor: Gurmit Singh
- Chief minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami

**Q.** Who has been named the first woman Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court? **Ritu Bahri**





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