Daily Current Affairs – 20 June 2026

Important Days

World Refugee Day 2026: Solidarity with Refugees

Key Highlight: Observed globally on **June 20, 2026**, **World Refugee Day** honors the courage and resilience of people forced to flee their home countries.

The **United Nations** designated this day to advocate for the rights and safety of refugees.

Theme for 2026: \"**Hope Away from Home**\", focusing on inclusion and long-term solutions.

According to **UNHCR**, the number of forcibly displaced people globally has crossed **120 million**.

Events were organized by **Global Impact NGOs** to promote the integration of refugees into host communities.

About UNHCR

Established: 1950

Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

Head: Filippo Grandi

Banking, Finance & Business

RBI Imposes ₹2.1 Crore Penalty on State Bank of India

Key Highlight: The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** imposed a monetary penalty of **₹2.1 Crore** on the **State Bank of India (SBI)** on **June 20, 2026**.

The penalty was issued for non-compliance with **Reporting of Fraud** and **Internal Audit** norms.

Action taken under powers vested in **RBI** by **Section 47A(1)(c)** of the **Banking Regulation Act, 1949**.

The inspection for **FY2025** revealed delays in reporting multiple high-value fraud accounts.

This action is based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and not on the validity of transactions.

HDFC Bank to Sell 10% Stake in HDB Financial Services

Key Highlight: HDFC Bank board has approved the sale of a **10% stake** in its subsidiary **HDB Financial Services** through an **IPO**.

The **Initial Public Offering (IPO)** is expected to value the NBFC at approximately **₹60,000 Crore**.

This move follows **RBI** mandate for \"upper layer\" **NBFCs** to list on stock exchanges.

Morgan Stanley and **Nomura** have been appointed as lead managers for the issue.

HDFC Bank currently holds a **94.6%** stake in HDB Financial Services.

National & State News

PM Modi Inaugurates 'Nalanda University' New Campus in Bihar

Key Highlight: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new campus of **Nalanda University** at **Rajgir, Bihar** on **June 20, 2026**.

The campus is designed as a **'Net Zero'** campus, spread across **455 acres**.

Delegates from **17 countries** participated in the inauguration ceremony.

The university aims to revive the ancient glory of **Nalanda**, which was a world-renowned center of learning.

The project is a joint initiative of **India** and **East Asia Summit (EAS)** countries.

Kerala Assembly Passes Resolution to Rename State as 'Keralam'

Key Highlight: The **Kerala Legislative Assembly** unanimously passed a resolution urging the **Central Government** to change the name of the state to **'Keralam'**.

Chief Minister **Pinarayi Vijayan** moved the resolution under **Article 3** of the **Constitution**.

The name 'Keralam' is the traditional **Malayalam** name for the state.

The resolution seeks an amendment to the **First Schedule** of the Indian Constitution.

This is the second time the assembly has passed such a resolution to ensure linguistic identity.

India’s First Integrated 'Aqua Park' to be Setup in Arunachal Pradesh

Key Highlight: The **Government of India** has approved the establishment of the country's first **Integrated Aqua Park** in **Subansiri** district, **Arunachal Pradesh**.

The project is sanctioned under the **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)**.

Estimated cost of the project is **₹50 Crore** with **90% central share**.

It will include a **fish hatchery**, **processing unit**, and **training center** for local farmers.

Chief Minister **Pema Khandu** hailed the project as a boost for the **Blue Economy** in the Northeast.

Awards & Honours

Vinod Ganatra Honored with Nelson Mandela Humanitarian Award

Key Highlight: Renowned filmmaker **Vinod Ganatra** was conferred with the **Nelson Mandela Humanitarian Award 2026** for his contribution to cinema.

The award was presented in **Geneva** for his work in promoting **child rights** through films.

Ganatra is the first Indian to receive the **Liv Ullmann Peace Prize** previously.

His film **'Harun-Arun'** won global acclaim at various international film festivals.

The award recognizes individuals who demonstrate **Nelson Mandela’s** legacy of peace and social justice.

Indian Environmentalist Sunita Narain Receives Global Green Award

Key Highlight: Sunita Narain, Director of **CSE**, received the **Global Green Award** in **Stockholm** for her advocacy on climate change.

The award honors her **30-year journey** in environmental policy and research.

The ceremony was part of the **Earth Summit 2026**.

She emphasized the need for **equity** in global climate negotiations.

The **Center for Science and Environment (CSE)** is a leading think-tank based in **New Delhi**.

Appointments & Resignations

Ajit Doval Re-appointed as National Security Advisor (NSA)

Key Highlight: Ajit Doval has been re-appointed as the **National Security Advisor (NSA)** of India for an unprecedented third term.

His appointment is co-terminus with the term of **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.

He has been granted the rank of **Cabinet Minister** in the Table of Precedence.

Doval is a **1968-batch IPS officer** and former chief of the **Intelligence Bureau (IB)**.

He has played a pivotal role in **security policy** and **strategic planning** since 2014.

Kapil Dev Appointed as President of Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI)

Key Highlight: Legendary cricketer **Kapil Dev** has been elected as the new **President** of the **Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI)**.

He succeeds **H.R. Srinivasan**, whose tenure ended in **June 2026**.
Kapil Dev is an avid golfer and has represented India in **senior amateur championships**.
The **PGTI** is the controlling body for professional golf in **India**.
His appointment is expected to bring more **sponsors** and **visibility** to the sport.

Defence News

India-USA Joint Exercise 'Exercise Nomadic Elephant' Commences

Key Highlight: The **20th edition** of the joint military exercise '**Nomadic Elephant**' between **India** and the **USA** started at **Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh**.
The exercise focuses on **counter-terrorism** operations in mountainous terrain.
The **Indian Army** contingent is represented by the **Gorkha Rifles**.
The **US Army** contingent includes personnel from the **Special Forces** units.
It aims to enhance **interoperability** and **bilateral defense cooperation**.

GRSE Launches 'INS Sanshodhak', the Fourth Survey Vessel

Key Highlight: Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) launched '**INS Sanshodhak**', the fourth and last ship of the **Survey Vessels (Large)** project.
The launch ceremony took place at **Kattupalli, Chennai**.
The ship is designed for full-scale **coastal and deep-water hydrographic surveys**.
The **SVL** ships have **over 80% indigenous content** by cost.
It will replace the existing **Sandhayak Class** survey ships of the **Indian Navy**.

Science & Technology

ISRO Successfully Conducts Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) 'Pushpak' Test

Key Highlight: ISRO successfully completed the third autonomous landing mission of the **Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) LEX-03** named '**Pushpak**'.
The test was conducted at the **Aeronautical Test Range (ATR)** in **Chitradurga, Karnataka**.
The vehicle was dropped from an **IAF Chinook helicopter** at an altitude of **4.5 km**.
It demonstrated **autonomous landing** under challenging cross-wind conditions.
This success brings India closer to developing low-cost **access to space**.

Google Cloud Launches 'AI-Ready' Program for Indian Startups

Key Highlight: Google Cloud announced a new initiative called '**AI-Ready**' to support **10,000 Indian startups** in **2026**.
The program provides **$500,000** in cloud credits for **AI-first** startups.
It includes access to **Vertex AI** and **Gemini** models for development.
Google has partnered with **MeitY Startup Hub** for the rollout.
The goal is to accelerate **Generative AI** adoption across Indian industries.

Rankings & Index

India Ranks 60th in World Competitiveness Index 2026

Key Highlight: India has been ranked **60th** in the **World Competitiveness Index 2026**, published by the **International Institute for Management Development (IMD)**.
India slipped two spots from **58th** in **2025** due to infrastructure gaps.
Singapore topped the list, followed by **Switzerland** and **Denmark**.
India showed improvement in **government efficiency** but lagged in **business efficiency**.
The index evaluates **67 global economies** based on 164 criteria.

Mumbai Named Most Expensive City in India for Expats

Key Highlight: According to **Mercer's 2026 Cost of Living Survey**, **Mumbai** continues to be the **most expensive city** in India for international workers.

New Delhi and **Bengaluru** ranked second and third respectively in India.
Globally, **Hong Kong** remains the most expensive city for expats.
The survey factors in the cost of **200+ items** including housing, transport, and food.
High **rental costs** in Mumbai were the primary reason for its top rank.

Sports

Neeraj Chopra Wins Gold at Paavo Nurmi Games 2026

Key Highlight: Olympic champion **Neeraj Chopra** clinched the **Gold Medal** in the men's javelin throw at the **Paavo Nurmi Games** in **Turku, Finland**.
He recorded a best throw of **89.58 meters** to secure the top spot.
Toni Keranen of Finland won the **Silver**, while **Oliver Helander** took **Bronze**.
This was Neeraj's **third competitive event** of the 2026 season.
The win serves as a major boost ahead of the **Diamond League** finals.

India to Host Women's T20 World Cup 2026

Key Highlight: The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** confirmed that **India** will host the **Women's T20 World Cup** in **September-October 2026**.
A total of **12 teams** will participate in the tournament, up from 10.
The **BCCI** has shortlisted **five venues** including Mumbai and Bengaluru.
Australia is the defending champion of the tournament.
This will be the **first time** India hosts the event since **2016**.

International News

G7 Summit 2026 Concludes in Italy with focus on AI Governance

Key Highlight: The **52nd G7 Summit** concluded in **Apulia, Italy**, with leaders agreeing on a framework for **AI Governance**.
Leaders from **USA, UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy,** and **Japan** attended.
The **'Apulia Consensus'** aims to ensure **ethical AI development**.
Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** attended as an **Outreach Guest**.
Discussions also focused on **Global South** debt relief and **climate financing**.

Obituaries

Legendary Actor Donald Sutherland Passes Away at 88

Key Highlight: Veteran **Hollywood** actor **Donald Sutherland** passed away on **June 20, 2026**, at the age of 88.
He was known for iconic roles in **'The Hunger Games'** and **'MASH'**.
Sutherland received an **Honorary Oscar** in 2017 for his career contributions.
He was the father of actor **Kiefer Sutherland**.
His career spanned over **60 years** with more than 140 film credits.