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Current Affairs Today — June 2, 2026

2 June 2026 ·

POLITY**SECURITY & DEFENCE****ENVIRONMENT****ECONOMY****GS2****GS3**

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✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources

A landmark day — five new SC judges sworn in by CJI Surya Kant, RudraM-II air-to-surface missile successfully tested, and the Lakshadweep 'Potato Patch' coral colony documented as potentially one of the world's largest. Shorter notes below on FIDE rankings, green packaging, PMAY-G, and more.

SC STRENGTH HITS 37 — FIVE NEW JUDGES SWORN IN

*The **SC (Number of Judges) Amendment Ordinance, 2026** raised the SC's sanctioned strength from 34 to **38** (incl. CJI); **five new judges** sworn in on June 2; working strength now **37**.*

Key Points

- **Justice V S Mohana** = 2nd woman on SC bench; 2nd woman elevated directly from Bar (1st: Justice Indu Malhotra, 2018). *(Full article in edition.)*

RUDRAM-II MISSILE — SUCCESSFUL TEST

*DRDO + IAF tested **RudraM-II anti-radiation missile** (Mach 5.5, ~300 km) from Su-30MKI over Bay of Bengal.*

Key Points

- ARM = homes on enemy radar emissions; key for **SEAD** operations. *(Full article in edition.)*

LAKSHADWEEP 'POTATO PATCH' CORAL

***Pavona clavus** mega-colony (4,250 sq m, 58.47% alive) documented near Kadmat Island.*

Key Points

- Potentially 700-1,800 years old; possibly world's largest single living coral colony. *(Full article in edition.)*

INDIA TO LAUNCH PPI + REVAMPED WPI (JUNE 15)

DPIIT to launch India's **first Producer Price Index + WPI** with new **2022-23 base** on June 15.

Key Points

- Services PPI for first time. WPI had been using 2011-12 base. *(Full article in edition.)*

ARJUN ERIGAISI ENTERS FIDE TOP 10

Indian Grandmaster **Arjun Erigaisi** reached **World No. 8** in the **June 2026 FIDE ratings** with an **ELO** of **2761**.

Background

- FIDE** (Fédération Internationale des Échecs) — world chess governing body; founded **1924**; HQ **Lausanne, Switzerland**.
- India currently has **World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen** (Norwegian) at the summit; **D. Gukesh** won the **World Chess Championship 2024** (youngest ever, at 18). Erigaisi's rise makes India one of the strongest chess nations.
- ELO rating** — a system created by **Arpad Elo** to measure relative skill; higher rating = stronger player; used by FIDE for standard chess.
- India's **chess revolution**: Viswanathan Anand (5-time World Champion); Gukesh (World Champion 2024); multiple Indian GMs in global top 20.

★ FACTS CORNER

FIDE: founded 1924; HQ Lausanne. Arjun Erigaisi: No. 8 (FIDE June 2026); ELO 2761.

Youngest World Champion: D. Gukesh (2024, age 18).

World No. 1: Magnus Carlsen (Norway).

MOTHER DAIRY LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST NATURALLY DEGRADABLE MILK POUCH

Mother Dairy launched India's **first naturally degradable milk packaging pouch**, with **Delhi-NCR** rollout beginning **June 5, 2026**.

Background

- Conventional **LDPE (Low-Density Polyethylene)** milk pouches take centuries to degrade; this new pouch is **biologically degradable** under natural conditions (no industrial composting required).
- Mother Dairy** is a subsidiary of the **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)**; it is one of India's largest dairy companies and a major milk supplier to Delhi-NCR.
- Aligned with India's **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** obligations under **Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2022** and the broader push under **Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)** mission.

★ FACTS CORNER

Mother Dairy = subsidiary of NDDB. Degradable pouch: Delhi-NCR rollout June 5, 2026.

NDDB: headquarters Anand, Gujarat; promoted White Revolution (Operation Flood).

EPR under Plastic Waste Management Rules 2022.

CENTRE APPROVES ₹10,021 CRORE UNDER PMAY-G

The Centre approved **₹10,021 crore** under **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G)** for rural housing.

Background

- PMAY-G** — flagship rural housing scheme; target: “Housing for All” by providing **pucca houses** to homeless rural households; minimum size **25 sq m**.
- Ministry: **Ministry of Rural Development**.
- Beneficiary selection via **Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC)**.
- Funding: **60:40 centre-state** (plains); **90:10** for NE and hilly states; **100%** for UTs.
- Related: **PMAY-Urban** (for urban slums/poor; under **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**).

★ FACTS CORNER

PMAY-G: Ministry of Rural Development; 60:40 funding (plains); pucca house ≥25 sq m; beneficiaries via SECC.

Distinguish PMAY-G (rural, MoRD) from PMAY-U (urban, MoHUA).

ASSAM SPEAKER GRANTS LOP STATUS TO WAZED ALI CHOUDHURY

The Assam Legislative Assembly Speaker granted Leader of Opposition (LoP) status to Congress leader Wazed Ali Choudhury.

Background

- **LoP** in a state assembly receives the status and privileges of a **Cabinet Minister**; functions as the official voice of the opposition in the House.
- Under the **Tenth Schedule (Anti-Defection Law)**, the largest opposition party with adequate numbers is entitled to the LoP position.
- In Assam, the BJP-led coalition has dominated; the designation of an LoP matters for constitutional accountability (LoP is on multiple selection committees — Lokayukta, human rights commission, etc.).

★ FACTS CORNER

LoP = recognized opposition leader with Cabinet-rank status; on selection committees.

Anti-Defection Law: Tenth Schedule (added by 52nd Amendment, 1985).

MEESHO-BSE LAUNCH PROJECT SHIKHAR FOR SME LISTINGS

Meesho (India's social commerce platform) and the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) launched Project Shikhar to facilitate SME listings on the BSE SME platform.

Background

- **BSE SME platform** — a dedicated exchange for small and medium enterprises with lower listing requirements than the main board.
- **Project Shikhar** aims to identify, mentor, and prepare SME sellers on Meesho's platform for formal capital-market listing, bridging e-commerce and capital markets.
- Aligns with SEBI's push to deepen capital markets and formalise SME businesses.

★ FACTS CORNER

BSE SME platform: lower listing thresholds vs main board; SEBI-regulated.

Project Shikhar: Meesho + BSE; mentor SME sellers toward formal capital markets.

UPSC RELEVANCE (COMBINED)

PAPER	KEY THEMES
GS2	SC judges/ordinance; Collegium; Assam LoP; federalism
GS3	RudraM-II (defence); coral reef / marine biodiversity; PPI/WPI revision; PMAY-G; Mother Dairy EPR

FACTS CORNER — COMBINED SNAPSHOT

★ FACTS CORNER — KNOWLEDGEPEDIA

SC ordinance 2026: sanctioned strength 34→38; 5 judges sworn; working strength 37; Justice V S Mohana (2nd woman SC, 2nd direct Bar elevation).

RudraM-II: air-to-surface ARM; Mach 5.5; ~300 km; Su-30MKI; Bay of Bengal; DRDO.

Potato Patch coral: *Pavona clavus*; 4,250 sq m; Kadmat Island, Lakshadweep UT; 700-1,800 yrs old; 58.47% alive.

PPI launch: June 15, 2026; DPIIT; WPI base → 2022-23; first services PPI in India.

Arjun Erigaisi: FIDE No. 8; ELO 2761 (June 2026). FIDE: 1924, Lausanne.

Mother Dairy: India's first degradable milk pouch; NDDDB subsidiary; EPR/Plastic Waste Rules 2022.

PMAY-G: ₹10,021 cr approved; MoRD; 60:40 funding; SECC selection.

Sources: PIB, The Hindu, DRDO

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