

## Highlights of 22 June 2026 Current Affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated projects worth ₹47,000 crore in Odisha on the President's birthday.
- Iranian singer Parastoo Ahmadi has been sentenced to 74 lashes by the Iranian authorities for performing in an online concert without wearing a hijab.
- Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has returned Poland's highest state honour, the *Order of the White Eagle*, after Polish President Karol Nawrocki revoked the award amid a dispute over World War II history.
- The International Gita Seminar was held at the University of Tokyo, Japan.
- Sarvam AI has now become India's newest unicorn after raising \$234 million in its Series B funding round, led by HCLTech with participation from Bessemer Venture Partners.
- The Government of India has approved about ₹22 crore in financial assistance for nine startups under its new National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM). Alongside this, it has launched the Green Hydrogen Certification Portal of India (GHCI), a digital platform designed to streamline certification and regulatory compliance.
- Senior IPS officer Sundarraaj Pattilingam, a 2003-batch officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, has been appointed as Inspector General (IG) of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) by the Government of India.
- The Government of Madhya Pradesh, often referred to as the "**Tiger State of India.**," is set to introduce the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the upcoming monsoon session. The UCC falls under Part IV of the Directive Principles of State Policy, specifically Article 44 of the Constitution of India.
- Indian all-rounder Deepti Sharma has equalled Jhulan Goswami's legendary record of 355 wickets, becoming the joint-highest wicket-taker in women's international cricket after dismissing Dutch opener Phebe Molkenboer in the Women's T20 World Cup 2026 match against the Netherlands.
- Hitesh Joshi has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC).
- In a rare discovery in the wildlife history of the Eastern Himalayas, a herd of the elusive Mishmi Takin has been captured on video in North Sikkim for the first time in more than 20 years. This vulnerable species has long been considered difficult to spot in the state.
- The Indian Air Force is set to participate in one of the world's largest multinational air combat exercises, *Exercise Pitch Black 2026*, to be held in Australia from July 20 to August 7, 2026.
- Bengaluru has ranked second in Asia's AI-native startup clusters in the Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER) 2026, just behind Beijing, China.
- Sanjay Rao has now become the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bata India, succeeding Gunjan Shah, who has completed his five-year term.
- In a landmark judgment, the Supreme Court of India has declared the right to walk on safe footpaths as a Fundamental Right guaranteed under the Constitution of India.