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Aparchit Super Current Affairs Best 350+ MCQ With Facts February 2023 Set 03
By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal sir

Q. Which bank has launched a pilot project, 'OfflinePay', to test offline digital payments for merchants and customers enabling payment transactions even when there is no mobile network?

A) ICICI Bank

B) HDFC Bank

C) Yes Bank

D) Axis Bank

Answer : B

- ✓ HDFC Bank launched a pilot project for offline digital payments
- ✓ Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Bank has launched a pilot project, 'OfflinePay', to test offline digital payments for merchants and customers enabling payment transactions even when there is no mobile network.
- ✓ HDFC has launched the first-of-its-kind digital payment solution, in partnership with Sweden-based Crunchfish Digital Cash AB.
- ✓ Crunchfish Digital Cash AB is a subsidiary of Crunchfish AB, for merchants and customers under the RBI's Regulatory Sandbox Program.

HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2022-23

- HDFC Bank tie-up with NIIT for training program for relationship management roles.
- HDFC Bank collaborates with Microsoft as part of its digital transformation.
- RBI has allowed India's largest private sector bank HDFC Bank and the public sector bank Canara Bank to open a special "Vostro account" for trade in rupees with Russia.
- India's first Electronic Bank Guarantee issued by HDFC Bank.
- Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank to be a service center for Defence ministry SPARSH pension system.
- HDFC Bank has unveiled its state-of-the-art 'Bank on Wheel' van in Gujarat.
- HDFC Bank, Precision selected by RBI for retail payments test phase.
- HDFC Bank opened new SMS banking facility for its customers.
- HDFC Bank introduced "Vigil Aunty" to promote secure banking practices.



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- HDFC Bank and Tata Neu, the “super app” of the Tata Group, announced their collaboration to introduce co-branded credit cards.
- HDFC leads credit card market while SBI tops chart in debit card market.
- HDFC Bank inks an agreement with TReDs platform M1xchange.
- HDFC Bank inaugurated an all-women branch in Kozhikode, north Kerala.
- According to Times of India report, HDFC Bank will be among the world’s top 10 most valuable banks .
- Defence ministry gives approval to HDFC, ICICI, and Axis to offer finances for international purchases.
- HDFC BANK
- Founded : 1994
- Founder : Hasmukhbhai Parekh
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline : We understand your world

Q. In which state is Saman's bird sanctuary recently discovered?

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Madhya Pradesh

D) Andhra Pradesh

Answer : A

- ✓ Asian Waterbird Census conducted in the "Saman Bird sanctuary" revealed that there has been a decline in the number of migratory bird species from North Asia and Central Asia.
- ✓ * The Saman Bird Sanctuary in the Mainpuri district of Uttar Pradesh is a seasonal oxbow lake on the Ganges floodplain.
- ✓ * It is designated as Ramasar wetland in 2019.
- ✓ The Sanctuary regularly provides refuge to over 50,000 waterbirds.
- ✓ * Spread in an area of 500 hectare, the Saman Bird Sanctuary is a unique sanctuary located in the Mainpuri district includes several smaller wetlands - ideal habitat for water birds.



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- ✓ * It's one among 467 IBA Sites in the country (Important Bird & Biodiversity Area) designated by the Birdlife International having rich birdlife diversity and also is an important wintering site for many migrants.
- ✓ A decrease in the number and species of migratory birds was recorded during the recent Asian Waterbird Census (AWC), 2023, carried out at the newly designated Ramsar site - Saman Bird Sanctuary in Mainpuri.

Q. With reference to the Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana, consider the following statements :

1. To empower youth by providing them entry level skill training in Railway Training Institutes

2. Under this scheme there is a provision of guaranteed employment to the youths.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 Only

B) 2 Only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : A

- ✓ To empower youth by providing them entry level skill training in Railway Training Institutes, "Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana" (RKVY) has been notified on Indian Railways.
- ✓ Banaras Loco Works, Varanasi has been nominated as the nodal PU for coordinating / organizing the skill development program under RKVY.
- ✓ The training has commenced in September, 2021 on pan- India basis. So far, 23,181 candidates have been enrolled under RKVY and 15,665 candidates have completed their training successfully.
- ✓ Under this scheme, the training is imparted in fourteen (14) industry relevant technical trades such as Electrician, Welder, Machinist, Fitter etc.

Q. Apatani tribe lives in which state?

A) Kerala

B) Jharkhand

C) Uttarakhand

D) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer : D

- ✓ The Apatanis, one of the major ethnic groups of the eastern Himalayas, practise a distinctive form of agriculture where rice and fish are grown together.



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- ✓ * These farmers have been practising integrated rice-fish farming in their mountain terraces of Arunachal Pradesh since the 1960s.
- ✓ * The potential areas of rice-fish culture in the Apatani plateau are Napping, Yachuli, Ziro-II, Palin and Koloriang.
- ✓ * Apatanis principally use three rice varieties : Emeo, Pyape and Mypia.
- ✓ The total area of the Apatani Plateau is 10,135 square kilometres, where rice-fish culture is undertaken approximately in 592.0 hectares (ha) of irrigated rice lands out of 715.7 ha.
- ✓ * Apatani Plateau is a land of diverse cultures.
- ✓ * The major festivals of Apatanis are the Myoko, Dree, Yapung and Murung.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 :

- 1. It will also cover new-age courses for Industry 4.0, like coding, Artificial Intelligence, robotics, etc.,.**
- 2. It will emphasize on-job training, industry partnership, and alignment of courses with the needs of the industry.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only B) 2 only
C) Both 1 and 2 D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : A

- ✓ The Central Government listed 7 priorities – called ‘Saptarishi’ in Budget 2023- inclusive development, Last mile delivery, Infrastructure, Green growth, Youth power, Unleashing potential, and Financial inclusion.
- ✓ Key Initiatives under Youth Power :
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 :
- ✓ It will be launched to skill lakhs of youth within the next three years.
- ✓ The scheme will emphasize on-job training, industry partnership, and alignment of courses with the needs of the industry.
- ✓ The scheme will also cover new-age courses for Industry 4.0, like coding, Artificial Intelligence, robotics, mechatronics, IOT, 3D printing, drones, and soft skills.
- ✓ What is Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana?



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- ✓ It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) implemented by the National Skill Development Corporation.
- ✓ Objective : To enable a large number of Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training that will help them in securing a better livelihood.
- ✓ Under the scheme, individuals with prior learning experience or skills will also be assessed and certified under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Q. Which state has launched the Rs. 3000 per monthly stipend scheme for junior lawyers?

- A) Gujarat B) Bihar
C) Kerala D) Tamil Nadu

Answer : C

- ✓ The monthly stipend scheme mandating payment of Rs. 3000 per month for junior lawyers in "Kerala" was inaugurated by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan
- ✓ * The scheme promises a monthly stipend of Rs. 3,000 for junior lawyers in the State.
- ✓ * Lawyers below 30 years of age with less than three year of practice and an annual income less than Rs. 1 lakh are eligible for the stipend.

Q. The Government has approved Namami Gange Mission-II Approved with Budgetary Outlay of How Many crores till 2026?

- A) ₹22,500 cr B) ₹25,500 cr
C) ₹27,500 cr D) ₹29,500 cr

Answer : A

- ✓ Government of India has further approved Namami Gange Mission-II with a budgetary outlay of Rs.22,500 crore till 2026 interalia including projects for existing liabilities (Rs.11,225 Cr) and new projects/interventions (Rs.11,275 crore).
- ✓ Namami Gange Programme was launched in June 2014 for a period up to 31st March, 2021 to rejuvenate River Ganga and its tributaries with a budgetary outlay of Rs.20,000 crore.
- ✓ A total of Rs.14,084.72 crore has been released by the Government of India to the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), from Financial Year (FY) 2014-15 till 31st January 2023, out of which Rs.13,607.18 crore have been released by NMCG to State Governments, State Missions for Clean Ganga and other agencies for implementation of projects related to Ganga rejuvenation.



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- ✓ There is no State-wise allocation under the Namami Gange Programme. However, the amount released by NMCG to various agencies for implementation of projects, compiled State-wise, from 2014-15 up till 31 January 2023, is as under

State	Amt. (Rs. in crore)
Uttarakhand	1,149.01
Uttar Pradesh	4,347.24
Bihar	3,526.43
Jharkhand	250.05
West Bengal	1,369.12
Madhya Pradesh	9.89
Delhi	1,253.86
Haryana	89.61
Rajasthan	71.25
Himachal Pradesh	3.75

Q. How many Boeing planes will Air India buy for \$34 billion?

- A) 200 B) 220
C) 235 D) 250

Answer : B

- ✓ United States President Joe Biden hailed Air India's decision to purchase over 220 aircraft from Boeing and called it a "historic agreement between Tata-owned airlines and Boeing.
- ✓ This purchase will support over one million American jobs across 44 states, and many will not require a four-year college degree.



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- ✓ This announcement also reflects the strength of US-India economic partnership, Joe Biden said in an official statement released by The White House.
- ✓ According to reports, Air India will purchase as many as 220 planes from Boeing for USD 34 billion, with an option to buy 70 more aircraft that could take the total transaction value to USD 45.9 billion

Q. Which Country President presents Global Best M-GOV Awards on IIT Indore students?

- A) Egypt
- B) Ethiopia
- C) Tunisia
- D) Israel

Answer : A

- ✓ Students from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore, India, won AED 1 million by winning the gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai.
- ✓ Niyati Totala and Neel Kalpeshkumar Parikh of The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore, were awarded the prestigious medal by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi.
- ✓ These students were the creators of the 'Blockbill' app. Blockbill is a blockchain-based receipt generation app that generates digital receipts for all of its users' transactions.
- ✓ Thermal papers which are ubiquitous and found in most retail locations cannot be recycled because of the chemicals that are used to create it. Blockbill is conceptualised to solve this issue.
- ✓ The "M-Gov Award" and the "GovTech Award" are annual awards organized by the UAE government as part of the World Government Summit.

Q. Which Ministry has formed a committee to draft revised Guidelines for the operationalization of Roll-on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) and Roll-on-Passenger (Ro-Pax) ferry service?

- A) Ministry of Power
- B) Ministry of Tourism
- C) Ministry of Home Affairs
- D) Ministry of Shipping

Answer : D

- ✓ The Shipping Ministry has formed a committee to draft revised Guidelines for operationalization of Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) and Roll on-Passenger (Ro-Pax) ferry service.
- ✓ This committee, headed by the Chairman, Deendayal Port Authority, would also draft the Model Concession Agreement for Ro-Ro or Ro-Pax Terminal Operator and Model License Agreement for Operation of the ferry services in the country.



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- ✓ This move is in line with efforts to promote coastal shipping through the Public Private Partnership (PPP) route spelled out in the union budget 2023-24.

Q. India's first National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre to be built in which city?

- A) Mumbai B) New Delhi
C) Chennai D) Hyderabad

Answer : B

- ✓ India's 1st National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre to be built in Delhi
- ✓ A leading infrastructure company in India, GA Infra Pvt Ltd has been awarded the contract for designing and constructing the country's first National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre.
- ✓ Near a projected cost of Rs 460 million, the centre will be built under a public-private partnership (PPP) model and would be located at the Vishwavidyalaya Metro Station in Delhi.
- ✓ The building is intended to serve as a hub for information and innovation for the Indian Metro train networks. It will give all parties involved a platform for dialogue and collaboration.

Q. Recently, the Union government has identified how many pilgrim centers for development under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme in Karnataka?

- A) 4 B) 3
C) 5 D) 6

Answer : A

- ✓ The Union government has identified four pilgrim centers for development under the Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD) Scheme in Karnataka.
- ✓ Chamundeshwari temple in Mysuru, Sri Madhwa Vana in Udupi district, Papnash temple in Bidar district, and Sri Renuka Yallamma Temple in Saundatti in Belagavi district have been selected under the scheme.
- ✓ The heritage sites of Hampi and Mysuru have already been selected under Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
- ✓ Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)
- ✓ The Government of India launched the PRASAD scheme in the year 2014-2015 under the Ministry of Tourism. This scheme focuses on developing and identifying pilgrimage sites across India for enriching



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the religious tourism experience. Under this scheme the Central government provides assistance to the state government.

Q. PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated which edition of Aero India show in Bengaluru, Karnataka?

- A) 12th
- B) 14th
- C) 18th
- D) 17th

Answer : B

- ✓ PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 14th edition of the Aero India show in Bengaluru (Karnataka).
- ✓ Aero India 2023 is being organized by the Indian Department of Defense Production from February 13 to 17 at the Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ✓ Theme 2023 – The Runway to a Billion Opportunities
- ✓ The main objective of the event is to promote indigenous production and exports of aerial platforms and attract foreign investment.
- ✓ 98 countries are participating in the event and MoUs worth Rs 75,000 crore are expected to be signed during the event.
- ✓ LCA Tejas Mark 1 is the main attraction of these products.

Q. Which financial company has launched a special G20-theme QR Code to celebrate India's G20 presidency and the country's leadership in mobile payments?

- A) PhonePe
- B) GooglePay
- C) BHIM
- D) Paytm

Answer : D

- ✓ Paytm has launched a special G20-theme QR Code to celebrate India's G20 presidency and the country's leadership in mobile payments.
- ✓ It was launched by Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw during the 'Digital Payments Utsav' 2023.
- ✓ Under the 'Digital Payments Utsav', Paytm is organizing a special drive wherein a branded vehicle will cover various localities across Delhi that have a heavy public presence.
- ✓ Paytm has played an important role in the mobile payments revolution in India, as the pioneer of QR code payments.



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- ✓ The special commemorative QR Code features logos of MeitY's 'DigiDhan Mission', along with those of the G20 2023 and the 75th year of India's independence

Q. Who has won the Akbar Kakkattil Award instituted by a trust in memory of the short story writer and novelist from Kozhikode?

- A) Subhash Chandran B) Sabeena Rafi
C) Annie Thayyil D) C. N. Ahmad Moulavi

Answer : A

- ✓ Writer Subhash Chandran's novel Samudrashila has been chosen for the Akbar Kakkattil Award instituted by a trust in the memory of the short story writer and novelist from Kozhikode.
- ✓ The novel was selected by a three-member jury from among the literary works published in the last five years.
- ✓ The award consisting of Rs 50,000 and a sculpture will be presented to Subhash Chandran by writer M. Mukundan at an event on 17 February.
- ✓ Akbar Kakkattil was an Indian short-story writer and novelist from Kerala state and has received the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award twice.

Q. Who has been awarded the Felix Houphouet-Boigny UNESCO Peace Prize in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast?

- A) Joe Biden B) Angela Merkel
C) Volodymyr Zelensky D) Vladimir Putin

Answer : B

- ✓ Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the Felix Houphouet-Boigny UNESCO Peace Prize in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast.
- ✓ Merkel is a German former politician and scientist who served as Chancellor of Germany from 2005 to 2021.
- ✓ Her selfless choice in 2015 to accept more than 1.2 million refugees, particularly those from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Eritrea, moved every jury member.
- ✓ She implemented a "open-door" refugee policy in Germany by allowing more than 1.2 million migrants to enter in Germany between 2015-2016.



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UNESCO IN NEWS 2022-23.

- Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the Felix Houphouet-Boigny UNESCO Peace Prize in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast.
- Visva-Bharati University is expected to get the status of the world's first "Living Heritage University" from UNESCO.
- UNESCO listed Ukraine's Odesa a World Heritage Site in Danger.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Centre has nominated the maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo to seek a UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.
- The historic maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo were chosen out of 52 sites for the UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.
- Three new cultural sites in India, including the iconic Sun Temple at Modhera, historic Vadnagar town in Gujarat, and rock-cut relief sculptures of Unakoti in Tripura, have been added to the tentative list of UNESCO world heritage sites....
- Franca Ma-ih Sulem Yong gets UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Prize for 2022.
- Glaciers at many UNESCO World Heritage sites including Yellowstone and Kilimanjaro National Park will likely vanish by 2050.
- Kilimanjaro National Park and Mount Kenya & Yellowstone and Yosemite national parks in the United States.
- Warangal in Telangana, Thrissur and Nilambur from Kerala 3 Indian cities join UNESCO network of learning cities.
- Former German chancellor Angela Merkel wins Unesco Peace Prize 2022 for "her efforts to welcome refugees".
- Royal Enfield tie-up with UNESCO to promote cultural heritage of India.
- India nominates Garba (Dance Form Gujarat) to be inscribed on UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list.
- UNESCO recognized the use of information and communication technology (ICT), under a comprehensive initiative called PM eVIDYA by the department of school education, Ministry of Education.



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- Khuvshul Lake National Park of Mongolia has been added to the World Network of Biosphere Reserve of UNESCO.
- Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET) wins UNESCO's King Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa Prize for the year 2021.
- Brazil landscape garden Sitio Burle Marx receives UNESCO World Heritage status.
- India chosen to join 2003 Convention on UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee.
- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, has contributed an amount of USD 72,124 towards UNESCO Fund for Elimination of Doping in Sport in 2022.
- Guadalajara, Mexico was named World Book Capital for the year 2022.
- Meghalaya's living root bridges included on tentative list of UNESCO's World's Heritage Sites.
- UNESCO recognises Kolkata's Durga Puja as Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- Centre nominates Hoysala Temples in Karnataka for World Heritage List in 2022-2023.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- Formation : 16 November 1945
- Headquarters : Paris, France
- Director-General : Audrey Azoulay (France)
- Member countries : 193
- Total UNESCO sites in India : 40.

Q. The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport Undertaking (BEST) has inaugurated the country's first electric air-conditioned (AC) double-decker bus in which city?

A) Pune

B) Nagpur

C) Mumbai

D) Hyderabad

Answer : C

- ✓ India's first electric AC double-decker bus inaugurated in Mumbai
- ✓ The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport Undertaking (BEST) has inaugurated the country's first electric air-conditioned (AC) double-decker bus in Mumbai.
- ✓ The seating capacity of the Electric Double Decker Bus is 73. It is equipped with CCTV cameras and automatic doors and can be charged in 80 minutes.
- ✓ The tickets will be priced as before — a minimum fare of Rs 6 will be charged for a distance of 5 km.



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- ✓ Currently, the transport undertaking has 45 electric AC buses of various sizes, and this year 100 more wet-lease buses will be added to its fleet in phases

Q. Which bank has launched its own private cloud platform, 'MAHABANK NAKSHATRA', to strengthen its digital infrastructure?

- A) Bank of Maharashtra B) Kotak Mahindra Bank
C) Indian Overseas Bank D) Punjab National Bank

Answer : A

- ✓ Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has launched its own private cloud platform, 'MAHABANK NAKSHATRA', to strengthen its digital infrastructure at the 88th Business Commencement Day.
- ✓ It facilitates High-Performance Cloud Capabilities for Digital Infrastructure and hosting applications of the Bank.
- ✓ Bank also launched a portal called Suvidha, an automated DCSS (Decease Claim Settlement System) to simplify the deceased claim settlement process and keep customer ease into consideration

Q. Who has become the costliest player in the ongoing player auction for the Women's Premier League (WPL) 2023?

- A) Deepti Sharma B) Smriti Mandhana
C) Harmanpreet Kaur D) Harleen Deol

Answer : B

- ✓ India's star opener Smriti Mandhana has become the costliest player in the ongoing player auction for the Women's Premier League (WPL).
- ✓ Mandhana joined Royal Challengers Bangalore for Rs 3.4 crore after winning the highest bid in the ongoing Women's Premier League 2023 auction in Mumbai.
- ✓ Australia's Ashley Gardner was at number two in the list of expensive players. He was bought by Gujarat Giants for Rs 3.20 crore.
- ✓ While Natalie Sciver is at number three. She was bought by Mumbai Indians for 3.20 crores.
- ✓ India's all-rounder Deepti Sharma is at number four. Deepti is included in UP Warriors for 2.60 crores.
- ✓ Jemima Rodrigues was at number five. He was included in their team by Delhi Capitals for 2.20 crores.



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Q. According to the DGCA, India's aviation safety oversight ranking has jumped to _ position from 112th place in the country's score under the ICAO's coordinated validation mission

- A) 70
- B) 55
- C) 68
- D) 47

Answer : B

- ✓ According to the DGCA, India's aviation safety oversight ranking has jumped to 55th position from 112th place in the country's score under the ICAO's coordinated validation mission.
- ✓ Under the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) Continuous Monitoring Approach, an ICAO Coordinated Validation Mission was conducted in India in November 2022.
- ✓ The Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) is based on eight critical elements (CE) of a safety oversight system, which are measured by a set of protocol questions (PQs)

Q. Which edition of the ASEAN Digital Ministers meeting approved the India-ASEAN Digital Work Plan 2023 in New Delhi?

- A) 2nd
- B) 4th
- C) 3rd
- D) 6th

Answer : C

- ✓ The third edition of the ASEAN Digital Ministers meeting approved the India-ASEAN Digital Work Plan 2023 in New Delhi.
- ✓ Theme – Synergy Towards a Sustainable Digital Future
- ✓ Objective – To strengthen India-ASEAN relations in the field of Information and Communication Technologies.
- ✓ India is eager to collaborate with member states of ASEAN to advance Information and Communication Technologies in the region, aiming toward shared prosperity.
- ✓ The work plan includes capacity building and knowledge sharing in emerging areas in the field of Information and Communication Technologies such as AI in Cyber Security.

Q. Who has inaugurated the first phase of the 1,400 kilometres long Delhi-Mumbai expressway in Rajasthan's Dausa?

- A) Draupadi Murmu
- B) Amit Shah
- C) Narendra Modi
- D) Piyush Goyal



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Answer : C

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the first phase of the 1,400 kilometres long Delhi-Mumbai expressway in Rajasthan's Dausa.
- ✓ The 246-kilometre Delhi-Dausa-Lalsot stretch of the expressway will cut down the travel time from Delhi to Jaipur from five hours to around three and a half hours.
- ✓ It is also expected to boost economic opportunities in the entire region.
- ✓ The first leg of India's longest expressway opened to the public right ahead of a hectic election year. The grand expressway promises to bring down travel time from the national capital to its financial hub, Mumbai, by half, to just 12 hours
- ✓ Eight-lane-wide and nearly 1,400 kms long, it is being built at a staggering cost of over one lakh crore rupees. It is expandable to accommodate 12 lanes.

Q. In the Fifth Khelo India Youth Games 2022, Maharashtra secured the top position in the medal tally with 161 medals. How many gold medals won by Maharashtra in the 5th Khelo India Youth Games?

- A) 56 B) 60
C) 73 D) 49

Answer : A

- ✓ In the Fifth Khelo India Youth Games 2022, Maharashtra secured the top position in the medal tally with 161 medals including 56 gold, 55 silver, and 50 bronze medals.
- ✓ Haryana grabbed the second position by winning 128 medals including 41 gold, 32 silver and 55 bronze medals.
- ✓ Host Madhya Pradesh remained at third place with 96 medals including 39 gold, 30 silver and 27 bronze medals.
- ✓ Rajasthan and Delhi have been in the fourth and fifth position respectively.
- ✓ In the fifth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games in Madhya Pradesh, around 6 thousand athletes from 36 States and Union Territories competed in 27 different sports disciplines.
- ✓ Khelo India Youth Games
- ✓ The Games were hosted in Madhya Pradesh from 31 January 2023 to 11 February 2023.
- ✓ For the first time water sports namely Kayaking Canoeing, Canoe Salam and Fencing were part of this edition of Khelo India Games.



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- ✓ It was organized in eight different cities of the state.
- ✓ These eight host cities are Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Ujjain, Maheshwar, Mandla and Balaghat.
- ✓ The 4th Khelo India Youth Games was held at Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula (Haryana) from June 4 to 13, 2022, while some matches were also played in Chandigarh.

Q. Who has won Formula E in Hyderabad?

- A) Charles Leclerc B) Jean-Eric Vergne
C) Lewis Hamilton D) Max Verstappen

Answer : B

- ✓ Jean-Eric Vergne of DS Penske has won an action-packed Formula E in Hyderabad, that marked a successful return of a high-profile motorsport event in India, defeating Nick Cassidy.
- ✓ This marked a successful return of a high-profile motorsport event in India.
- ✓ This is Eric Vergne's first win of the season.
- ✓ Antonio Felix Da Costa of Porsche secured the final third spot on the podium.
- ✓ Hyderabad ePrix is the single-seater, electrically powered Formula E race, and will be the first Formula E race to be held in the country.

Q. India's first "Frozen-Lake Marathon" at a height of 13,862 feet will be held in which state/UTs?

- A) Puducherry B) Ladakh
C) Jammu and Kashmir D) Kerala

Answer : B

- ✓ India's first "Frozen-Lake Marathon" at Ladakh's Pangong Tso at a height of 13,862 feet will be held on 20 February 2023.
- ✓ The Indian army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police have been roped in to implement a "proper action plan" for the event.
- ✓ The 21-kilometer marathon will be started from Lukung and ended at Maan village.
- ✓ The event will be participated by 75 selected athletes from India and abroad.
- ✓ The marathon is being called the "Last Run" to highlight the issue of climate change



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Q. The first Agriculture Representatives Meeting (ADM) of the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) under the G20 chairmanship of India has been held in which city?

- A) Guwahati
- B) Lucknow
- C) Indore
- D) Hyderabad

Answer : C

- ✓ The first Agriculture Representatives Meeting (ADM) of the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) under the G20 chairmanship of India was held in Indore.
- ✓ Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia launched it.
- ✓ The presentations were made on the Issue Note for AWG, covering the four key themes of food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture with a climate-smart approach, inclusive agricultural value chains and food systems, and digitalization for agricultural transformation.
- ✓ G20 member states and guest countries also held bilateral meetings focusing on the G20 agriculture agenda

Q. Students which of the following IITs have won an award of AED (Emirates Dirham) 1 million along with a gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai?

- A) IIT Madras
- B) IIT Bombay
- C) IIT Kanpur
- D) IIT Indore

Answer : D

- ✓ Students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore have won an award of AED (Emirates Dirham) 1 million along with a gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai.
- ✓ Niyati Totala and Neil Kalpeshkumar Parikh who are students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore were awarded this prestigious medal by the President of Egypt, Abdel Fattah El-Sisi.
- ✓ These students are the makers of the 'Blockbill' app. BlockBill is a blockchain-based receipt generation app that generates digital receipts for all its users' transactions.
- ✓ Silver Award – 'Don't Waste' team (Uzbekistan)
- ✓ Bronze Award – 'Farmit' team (Serbia)



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Q. Who has inaugurated the national Aadi Mahotsav at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi?

- A) Amit Shah B) Rajnath Singh
C) Draupadi Murmu D) Narendra Modi

Answer : D

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the national Aadi Mahotsav at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi
- ✓ The festival is scheduled between 16 to 27 February 2023 and it will celebrate the tribal spirit including its culture, crafts, cuisine, commerce and traditional art.
- ✓ Around 1000 tribal artisans will participate in the Mahotsav. In line with the International Year of Millets celebration, a special focus in the Mahotsav will be on showcasing Shree Anna grown by the tribals.

Q. Union Health Ministry has organised a cyclathon 'Cycle for Health'. It took place at which place?

- A) Mumbai B) Chennai
C) New Delhi D) Ahmedabad

Answer : C

- ✓ The Union Health Ministry has organised a cyclathon 'Cycle for Health', at Lady Hardinge Medical College in New Delhi.
- ✓ The main objective of organising this rally is to promote physical and mental health and to provide information about environment-friendly transport to the citizens.
- ✓ It was organized as part of the ongoing 'Swastha Mann, Swastha Ghar' year-long campaign launched in November 2022 which aims to promote and enhance awareness surrounding healthy living.
- ✓ Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya also participated in the event.

Q. Which state Police have received the Prestigious President's Colour Award?

- A) Haryana B) Uttar Pradesh
C) Maharashtra D) Madhya Pradesh

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah has presented the President's Colour award to Haryana Police in recognition of its exceptional service.



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- ✓ Shah presents the President's Colour on behalf of President Droupadi Murmu.
- ✓ The President's Colour is a special flag given to a military, paramilitary or police unit as a mark of recognition for its services.
- ✓ A replica of the flag presented to the unit can be worn as an insignia by all officers and ranks of the force on their uniform.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Police was the first state police force to receive the award from then-Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in 1952.

Q. Which team has won the FIFA Club World Cup 2022 title?

- A) Liverpool
- B) Al Hilal
- C) FC Barcelona
- D) Real Madrid

Answer : D

- ✓ Real Madrid has won the Club World Cup 2023 for a record-extending fifth time in the final held in the Abdellah stadium, Rabat, Morocco.
- ✓ Real Madrid has defeated Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal by 5-3.
- ✓ It won the tournament in 2014, 2016, 2017 and 2018.
- ✓ Madrid also won three Intercontinental Cups in 1960, 1998 and 2002; a match between European and South American champions, which merged with the Club World Cup in 2005.

Q. Who is the President of the World Bank, who announced his resignation before the end of his five-year term?

- A) Ben S. Bernanke
- B) David Malpass
- C) Jim Yong Kim
- D) Kenneth Rogoff

Answer : B

- ✓ The President of the World Bank, David Malpass announced his retirement before his completion period of tenure. He took over the Presidential post of the World Bank in 2019.
- ✓ Earlier he served as Under Secretary of the Treasury for International Affairs in the US Administration.
- ✓ The World Bank is an international financial institution that provides capital to low- and middle-income countries.
- ✓ Its main aim is to provide loans and grants for the purpose of taking projects forward.
- ✓ Its headquarters are in Washington, located in DC



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WORLD BANK IN NEWS 2022-23

- World Bank chief David Malpass has announced his resignation nearly a year early.
- India will be the first country in the world to receive \$100 billion from remittances during 2022, the World Bank.
- World Bank forecast Pakistan's economic growth to slow further to two percent during the current year; according to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report.
- World Bank Predicts India's Economic Growth to Slow to 6.9% in FY23.
- International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector investment arm of the World Bank, has introduced a new, \$6 billion funding facility to boost the private sector's.
- World Bank to loan \$150 million to Punjab government for major reforms.
- A Gender Toolkit based on "Enabling gender-responsive urban mobility and public spaces" was launched in a session conducted by the World Bank and the Chennai Urban Metropolitan Transport Authority.
- World Bank towards emergency COVID-19 response in India to USD 2 billion.
- A USD 1 billion support was announced last month towards immediate support to India's health sector.
- Auguste Tano Kouame of Côte d'Ivoire appointed as Country Director for India by World Bank.
- World Bank clears US\$1 billion loan for PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission.
- World Bank approved USD 245 million loan to modernize India's railway logistics infra.
- Sri Lanka receives \$160 mln in bridge financing from World Bank.
- World Bank approved USD 250 million loan for India's road safety programme.
- World Bank has approved additional financing of USD 250 million for Outcomes for Accelerated Learning.
- World Bank has approved a Rs 1,000 crore project to take rainfed farming to new heights in the hilly regions of Uttarakhand.
- Global Economic Prospects report released, the World Bank
- World Bank announces up to \$30 bn to address food security crisis.
- World bank sanctioned USD 350 million for SRESTHA-G project of Gujarat.
- World Bank approved \$47 million program for India's Mission Karmayogi program.



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- World Bank provided USD 600 million in financial assistance to Sri Lanka to make payments for essential imports.
- World bank Report States Extreme Poverty in India Decline by 12.3% between 2011-2019.
- World Bank cuts global economy growth forecast to 3.2% for 2022.
- Gujarat Govt to receive Rs 7,500 Cr Loan from World Bank, AIB.
- Junaid Ahmad World Bank's India Director, appointed as vice president of operations.
- India and World Bank inks US\$125 million loan to support access to Social Protection Services in West Bengal.
- WORLD BANK
 - Founded : 1944
 - Headquarters : Washington Dc
 - MD&CFO : Anshula Kant
 - Chief Economist : Carman Reinhart
 - Executive Director : Rajesh Khullar
 - Member Countries :189
 - World Bank Group : 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID).
 - All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.
 - World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
 - India is a member of IBRD, IFC, IDA and MIGA. The country is not a member of the ICSID

Q. Which company become the first company in India to launch and enable UPI transactions for foreign nationals visiting India?

- A) CoinTab
- B) EbixCash
- C) MobiKwik
- D) Ultracash

Answer : B

- ✓ EbixCash Limited, a subsidiary of US-based Ebix Inc, has become the first company in India to launch and enable Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions for foreign nationals visiting India.



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- ✓ The RBI proposed permitting inbound travellers access to UPI for merchant payments (P2M) while they are in the country.
- ✓ EbixCash World Money is the foreign exchange division of EbixCash and has a network of over 81 retail branches, 250 franchisee partners and duty-free shops, 27 bank clients, 1,200 corporate clients and 5-star hotels.

Q. How many crores have been earmarked for the centrally sponsored "Vibrant Village Programme" for the Financial Years 2022-23 to 2025-26?

- A) Rs. 4800 Crore B) Rs. 5000 Crore
C) Rs. 5300 Crore D) Rs. 6100 Crore

Answer : A

- ✓ The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved Centrally Sponsored Scheme- "Vibrant Villages Programme" (VVP) for the Financial Years 2022-23 to 2025-26 with financial allocation of Rs. 4800 Crore.
- ✓ This will help encourage people to stay in their native places in border areas.
- ✓ This will stop migration from villages and improve border security.
- ✓ Funds will be provided under the scheme for development of essential infrastructure and creation of livelihood opportunities in 19 districts and 46 border blocks, 4 states and 1 union territory along the northern land border of the country.
- ✓ In the first phase, 663 villages will be included in the programme.
- ✓ The District Administration will prepare a Vibrant Village Action Plan with the help of Gram Panchayats.
- ✓ 100 percent saturation of Central and State schemes will be ensured.
- ✓ **About Vibrant Villages Programme**
- ✓ This program was announced in the budget speech 2022.
- ✓ It aims to improve infrastructure in villages along India's border with China.
- ✓ Under the programme, states such as Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh will improve infrastructure and build residential and tourism hubs.
- ✓ The focus areas of the programme are livelihood, road connectivity, housing, rural infrastructure, renewable energy, television and broadband connections.



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Q. Anurag Singh Thakur has informed that the Union Cabinet has approved the construction of "Shinku La Tunnel" in which State/UT?

- A) Chandigarh B) Delhi
C) Ladakh D) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer : C

- ✓ The Union Cabinet on 15 February approved the construction of the 4.1-km Shinkun La tunnel on the Nimu-Padam-Darcha road link to provide all-weather connectivity to the border areas of Ladakh.
- ✓ The Cabinet Committee on Security approved the construction of the tunnel which will provide all-weather connectivity to the Ladakh region with the rest of the country.
- ✓ The tunnel will be completed by December 2025 at a cost of Rs 1,681 crore.
- ✓ Another Zojila tunnel is also under construction which is on Srinagar-Kargil-Leh National Highway.
- ✓ **About Shinku La Tunnel**
- ✓ The Shinku-La tunnel will be constructed over the Shinku La Pass at a height of 16,580 feet.
- ✓ Shinku La is a mountain pass on the border of Ladakh and Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ It connects the Zaskar valley of Leh-Ladakh to Lahaul in Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ It is situated to the north of Rohtang Pass.
- ✓ The length of the tunnel will be 4.1 km.
- ✓ It will be built by the Border Roads Organization (BRO) under Project Yojkar.
- ✓ The Shinku La tunnel will provide all-weather road connectivity to Ladakh and will be the shortest route to the border areas of the union territory.

Q. In which state did PM Modi virtually inaugurate 'Jal Jan Abhiyan'?

- A) Uttar Pradesh B) Bihar
C) Rajasthan D) Himachal Pradesh

Answer : C

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the Jal Jan Abhiyan in Abu Road in Sirohi district of Rajasthan on 16 February.
- ✓ The PM has started Jal Jan Abhiyan at Shantivan of Brahmakumari Sanstha.
- ✓ The main objective of this campaign is to plant trees along with water harvesting and motivate people for water conservation.



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- ✓ This campaign has been started by the Brahma Kumaris organisation and the Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- ✓ Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and film actor Nana Patekar were present on the occasion.
- ✓ The Jal-Jan campaign is being launched at a time when water scarcity is being seen as a future crisis all over the world.
- ✓ The 21st century world is realising the gravity of the limited water resources on earth and water security is a big question because of India's huge population.
- ✓ "In Amrit Kaal, India is looking towards water as the future. If there is water then there will be tomorrow".

Q. Who was sworn in as the Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court?

- A) Justice KM Joseph B) Justice Sindhu Sharma
C) Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi D) Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh

Answer : D

- ✓ Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh took oath as 36th Chief Justice (CJ) of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh.
- ✓ Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha administered the oath of office to the Chief Justice at a ceremony held in Jammu.
- ✓ The oath ceremony comes three days after the President of India appointed Justice Singh as the Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh

Q. Who inaugurated the IFFCO Nano Urea Liquid Plants at Aonla and Phulpur in Uttar Pradesh?

- A) Mansukh Mandaviya B) Nitin Gadkari
C) Hardeep Singh Puri D) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Chemicals and Fertilizers, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the IFFCO Nano Urea Liquid Plants at Aonla and Phulpur in Uttar Pradesh on 14 February
- ✓ Nano Urea will ensure the progress of the farmers in times to come, increasing their income.
- ✓ In this way it will change the future of Indian farmers.
- ✓ Nano Urea is the best green technology and provides a solution to pollution.
- ✓ It protects the soil and also increases the production and hence best for the farmers.
- ✓ Nano DAP has been approved by the expert committee of the government and it will soon replace DAP.



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- ✓ Nano-DAP will greatly benefit farmers and will be available at half the cost of DAP.
- ✓ **What is Liquid Nano Urea (LNU)?**
- ✓ Nano urea is a liquid form of nitrogen providing plant nutrient as a conventional alternative to urea.
- ✓ It has been developed in place of conventional urea and has the potential to reduce the requirement of conventional urea by at least 50 percent.
- ✓ One 500 ml bottle contains 40,000 mg/l nitrogen, which can provide nitrogen nutrients equivalent to one bag/sack of normal urea.
- ✓ The effectiveness of Nano Urea Liquid is more than 80%.
- ✓ Its use has been found to increase the yield by about 8%.
- ✓ Its aim is to reduce farmers' dependence on packaged urea.

Q. Which company has unveiled its solar-powered drone "SURAJ", designed specifically for surveillance operations, at Aero India 2023?

- A) Airosspace R&D Pvt Ltd
- B) Brahmàstra Aerospace
- C) Rambo Drone Technology Services And Solution
- D) Garuda Aerospace

Answer : D

- ✓ Drone startup Garuda Aerospace unveiled its Solar-powered drone "SURAJ", designed specifically for surveillance operations, at Aero India 2023 here.
- ✓ Principal Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister and former DRDO Chief Dr. Satheesh Reddy unveiled it.
- ✓ According to the company, SURAJ is an ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance) high-altitude drone designed specifically for surveillance operations, providing "real-time information to the high command and protecting jawans on the ground."
- ✓ Recently, Garuda Aerospace had raised USD 22 Million, the "largest ever" Series A funding in the drone sector.
- ✓ About "SURAJ" Drone : The drone will carry a versatile payload of high-resolution zoom cameras with thermal imagery and foliage-penetrating lidar sensors with a maximum capacity of 10 kg.



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Q. Which City overtakes Delhi as most polluted city in India?

A) Chennai

B) Kolkata

C) Mumbai

D) Ahmedabad

Answer : C

- ✓ Mumbai has overtaken Delhi to become the world's second-most polluted city in terms of the global Air Quality Index (AQI).
- ✓ According to Switzerland-based air quality monitoring tech company IqAir, Sarajevo in Bosnia has been ranked as the world's most polluted city for the period between January 29 and February 8, 2023.
- ✓ As per the AQI data on the IqAir website, Mumbai has an AQI of 163, which falls under the unhealthy category.
- ✓ Lahore is in the third position. Delhi is in the sixth spot with 155 US AQI, while Kolkata is in the 17th position with a US AQI of 135.
- ✓ As per past records of IqAir, Mumbai at the 10th position on the most polluted list on January 29.
- ✓ But on 13th February 2023, it surpassed Delhi to become the second most polluted city in the world for air quality.
- ✓ IQAir has joined hands with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Greenpeace to measure the air quality in India. Its studies are based on data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Q. With which country has the Uttar Pradesh government signed an MoU to promote economic cooperation?

A) Japan

B) Singapore

C) France

D) Malaysia

Answer : B

- ✓ For the first time, the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry has partnered with the Government of Uttar Pradesh for economic cooperation.
- ✓ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the two parties. This agreement is in addition to the signed deals at the UP Global Investors Summit.



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- ✓ The agreement also includes a Sustainable Industrial Park, upgradation and digitization of MSMEs, content development, training pedagogy (pedagogy training), training of trainers, certification as well as training of government officials.
- ✓ Singaporean companies and 58 delegates participated in the UP Global Investors Summit held in Lucknow from February 10 to February 12, 2023.
- ✓ Countries including Singapore, Japan, Netherlands and Denmark have also joined UP Global Investors Summit as partner countries

Q. Who has become the first Indian woman bowler to take 100 wickets in T20 International?

- A) Radha Yadav B) Rajeshwari Gayakwad
C) Ekta Bisht D) Deepti Sharma

Answer : D

- ✓ Indian women's team all-rounder Deepti Sharma created history as the highest wicket-taker in T20Is.
- ✓ She has now become India's first bowler. Before this, leg-spinner Poonam Yadav has taken 98 wickets from India.
- ✓ Talking about male cricket, India's Yuzvendra Chahal has set the record for taking the most wickets in the T20I matches.
- ✓ While Chahal has taken 91 wickets in T20Is.
- ✓ In the recent Women's Premier League, Deepti was bought by UP Warriors for Rs 2.60 crore at the auction event.

Q. Which company has recently launched India's first ChatGPT-powered AI Chatbot 'Lexi'?

- A) Axio B) Lentra
C) Velocity D) Razorpay

Answer : C

- ✓ ChatGPT-powered AI chatbot named Lexi has been launched in India by the Velocity company.
- ✓ The drone is considered the Indian version of the ChatGPT.
- ✓ Also, Velocity has integrated this new technology in artificial intelligence with its existing Analytics Tool integrated with Velocity Business Insights.



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- ✓ A chatbot is a computer program that uses Artificial intelligence and Natural Language Processing (NLP) to understand and answer the queries put by customers.

Q. Who has resigned from the post of the Chief Selector of the Indian Cricket Team?

- A) Roger Binny
- B) Madan Lal
- C) Chetan Sharma
- D) Subroto Banerjee

Answer : C

- ✓ Chetan Sharma resigned today i.e. February 17, 2023, from the post of Chief Selector of the Indian Cricket Team.
- ✓ Recently he was heavily censured due to the remarks that he gave during a TV Sting Operation.
- ✓ He was under pressure to resign after this controversial undercover session.
- ✓ No other person has been appointed as the new Chief Selector of BCCI so far.
- ✓ Indian cricketer Chetan Sharma was re-appointed as the chief selector in January.
- ✓ In December 2020, he was first elected as the chairman of the selection committee.
- ✓ Also, he played a total of 88 matches for India between 1984 and 1994, including 23 Test matches and 65 ODIs.

Q. Who has become the 13th player from India to play 100 Test matches in International Cricket?

- A) KL Rahul
- B) Rohit Sharma
- C) Jasprit Bumrah
- D) Cheteshwar Pujara

Answer : D

- ✓ Indian batsman Cheteshwar Pujara became the 13th player to play the 100th Test match for India. In the second match of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, he achieved this level.
- ✓ Then in October 2010, he made his debut against Australia debut in Bangalore Test.
- ✓ Moreover, he made his ODI debut on August 1, 2013, against Zimbabwe at Queens Sports Club.
- ✓ If Pujara scores a century in this Test match then he will become the first Indian batsman to score a century in his 100th Test



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Q. Which country has been made elected chair of the 62nd session of the UN Commission?

- A) Germany
- B) Canada
- C) Australia
- D) India

Answer : D

- ✓ India has been elected as the chair of the 62nd session of the United Nations Social Development Commission.
- ✓ This decision was taken in the 13th plenary meeting held in the 61st session of the Social Development Commission.
- ✓ Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations expressed gratitude on behalf of India.
- ✓ The 61st session of the Commission was chaired by Alya Ahmed bin Saif Al-Thani, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Qatar.
- ✓ The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the UN.

Q. Who has been appointed as the next Vice Chief of the Indian Army?

- A) Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar
- B) Lieutenant General B S Raju
- C) Lieutenant General Anindya Sengupta
- D) Lieutenant General NSR Subramani

Answer : A

- ✓ Lieutenant General MV Suchindra Kumar has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Army Staff.
- ✓ Also, Lieutenant General BS Raju will take over as the South Western Army Commander.
- ✓ The newly appointed Vice Chief of the Indian Army is an alumnus of the National Defense Academy, Khadakwasla.
- ✓ He was commissioned into the 1st Assam Regiment in June 1985. Lieutenant General Anindya Sengupta, the current commander of 14 Corps, has been selected as the new Chief of Staff, Northern Command, headquartered at Udhampur



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Q. With whom did AICTE collaborate to launch the national-level hackathon 'Kavach-2023'?

- A) IIT Delhi
- B) Bureau of Police Research and Development
- C) Central Bureau of Investigation
- D) UIDAI

Answer : B

- ✓ AICTE and BPRD Jointly Launch KAVACH-2023.
- ✓ A national levelhackathon KAVACH-2023 was launched on 16 February to identify innovative ideas and technological solutions to address India's 21st century cyber security and cybercrime challenges.
- ✓ KAVACH-2023 is a one-of-a-kind national hackathon jointly developed by AICTE, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre.
- ✓ It identifies innovative ideas and technological solutions to address 21st century cyber security and cybercrime challenges faced by law enforcement agencies and common citizens.
- ✓ KAVACH-2023 will be organised in two phases.
- ✓ In the first phase, topics related to Fake News/Social Media, Dark Web, Women Safety, Phishing Detection, Video Analytics/CCTV, Obscene Content Detection, Spam Alerts, and Malware Analysis/Digital Forensics will be covered.

Q. What is the name of the new AI chatbot introduced by UIDAI recently?

- A) 'Aadhar Sahyogi'
- B) 'Aadhar Mitra'
- C) 'Aadhar Sathi'
- D) 'Aadhar Madad'

Answer : B

- ✓ Aadhaar issuing body UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India) has launched 'Aadhaar Mitra' which is a new AI/ML-based chatbot.
- ✓ With the help of this AI-powered chatbot, one can check Aadhaar enrollment status, track Aadhaar PVC card status and get information about enrollment centres.
- ✓ Aadhaar Mitra will provide quick and automated responses.
- ✓ Currently, this service is available in Hindi and English languages



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Q. What is the estimated economic growth rate for India in 2023 as per the latest World Economic Outlook report of IMF?

- A) 6.4%
- B) 6.9%
- C) 6.6%
- D) 6.1%

Answer : D

- ✓ The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has released its latest World Economic Outlook report, according to which the economic growth of India is expected to decline from 6.8 percent in 2022 to 6.1 percent in 2023.
- ✓ However, in 2024 India's GDP is projected to rise to 6.8 percent.
- ✓ IMF's latest report also revealed that the global economic growth is projected to fall from an estimated 3.4 percent in 2022 to 2.9 percent in 2023.
- ✓ However in 2024, the global economic growth is estimated to rise to 3.1 percent.

IMF IN NEWS 2022-23.

- Former Chief Economic Adviser, KV Subramanian was appointed as the Executive Director for India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- IMF Signed Extended Fund Facility(EFF) With Pakistan.
- Gita Gopinath becomes 1st woman to feature on IMF's 'wall of former chief economists'.
- India's Krishna Srinivasan has been appointed as the director of the Asia and Pacific Department of the International Monetary Fund.
- IMF approved \$1.4 billion emergency support for Ukraine.
- IMF warns Ukraine's Economy to Shrink Up to 35% in 2022.
- Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas from France has been named as the next chief economist of the IMF.
- Gita Gopinath is set to become the first Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund.
- Andorra Joins IMF as its 190th Member.
- International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- Founded : 1945
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C.
- Managing Director : Kristalina Georgieva (Bulgaria)



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- First Deputy MD : Gita Gopinath
- Chief Economist : Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas (France)
- Executive Director for India at IMF : Krishnamurthy Subramaniam
- Member countries : 190 (Andorra)
- IMF Released Report
- Global Financial Stability Report
- World Economic Outlook.
- The value of Special Drawing Right (SDR) is determined by the basket of 5 currencies.
- The currencies are, US Dollar, Japanese Yen, British Pound, Chinese Yuan and Euro.
- Special Drawing Right is known as the Paper Gold. The value of the SDR is based on a basket of key international currencies reviewed by IMF every five years. SDR was introduced in the 1969 by the IMF to solve the problem of International liquidity

Q. The IMF World Economic Outlook report has declined the estimated global economic growth for 2023 to what percent?

- A) 2.9%
- B) 3.1%
- C) 2.4%
- D) 3.3%

Answer : A

- ✓ IMF's latest report revealed that the global economic growth is projected to fall from an estimated 3.4 percent in 2022 to 2.9 percent in 2023.

Q. PM Modi recently launched the Jal Jan Abhiyan for water conservation. The campaign is a joint programme of the Ministry of Jal Shakti with which organisation?

- A) Isha Foundation
- B) Brahma Kumaris
- C) Patanjali Yogpeeth
- D) ISKCON

Answer : B

- ✓ The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched and addressed the 'Jal-Jan Abhiyan' via video message on February 16, 2023.
- ✓ Jal Jan Abhiyan is a joint nationwide campaign of Brahma Kumaris and the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti.



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- ✓ The Jal-Jan Abhiyan of Brahma Kumaris will give new strength to water security and conservation through public participation.
- ✓ The campaign will be held for eight months across the nation, targeting 10 crore people.

Q. The Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN is an annual joint military exercise of the Indian Army with which country's Army?

- A) Singapore B) Sri Lanka
C) Japan D) China

Answer : C

- ✓ The 4th edition of the "EX DHARMA GUARDIAN" will be conducted from 17 February to 02 March 2023, at Camp Imazu in Shiga province, Japan.
- ✓ Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN is an annual joint military exercise between India and Japan.
- ✓ It will further enhance the level of defence co-operation between Indian Army and Japanese Ground Self Defence Forces as well as further strengthen the bilateral relations between the two nations

Q. What is the total allocation for the centrally sponsored scheme 'Vibrant Villages Programme' to ensure development of villages along the northern border areas?

- A) Rs 4,400 crore B) Rs 5,200 crore
C) Rs 4,800 crore D) Rs 5,500 crore

Answer : C

- ✓ The Union Government has announced the launch of Rs 4,800 crore centrally sponsored scheme 'Vibrant Villages Programme' to ensure the comprehensive development of villages along the northern border areas.
- ✓ The funds under the scheme will be used for the development of essential infrastructure and creation of livelihood opportunities in 19 Districts and 46 Border blocks of 4 states and 1 UT along the northern land border of the country.
- ✓ The tenure of the scheme is four years till the financial year FY26.
- ✓ This 'Vibrant Villages Programme' will help in achieving inclusive growth and retaining the population in the border areas



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Q. Lakshman Prasad Acharya has been sworn in as the new Governor of which state recently?

- A) Nagaland
- B) Arunachal Pradesh
- C) Sikkim
- D) Meghalaya

Answer : C

- ✓ Senior BJP leader Lakshman Prasad Acharya took oath as the new governor of Sikkim on February 16, 2023.
- ✓ He is the 15th Governor of Sikkim.
- ✓ He was administered the oath of office by Sikkim High Court Chief Justice Biswanath Somadder.
- ✓ Acharya succeeds Ganga Prasad

Q. KAVACH-2023 is a national level hackathon to address cyber security and cybercrime challenges of the 21st century. This programme has been launched jointly by Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in association with which organisation?

- A) AICTE
- B) RBI
- C) Reliance
- D) IIT Delhi

Answer : A

- ✓ The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in coordination with Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D, MHA) and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C, MHA) has jointly launched 'KAVACH-2023', a national level hackathon, to further advance India's cyber-preparedness.
- ✓ This unique kind of national hackathon aims to identify innovative ideas and technological solutions for addressing the cyber security and cybercrime challenges of the 21st century faced by our Law Enforcement Agencies and common citizens.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court?

- A) Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh
- B) Justice Ashutosh Kumar
- C) Justice Ananta Manohar Badar
- D) Justice Sonia Gokani

Answer : D

- ✓ Justice Sonia Gokani has been sworn in as the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court on February 16, 2023.



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- ✓ She is the 28th Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court.
- ✓ Justice Gokani replaces Justice Aravind Kumar, who has been elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court.
- ✓ Justice Gokani replaces Justice Aravind Kumar, who has been elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court.
- ✓ Gokani is the first woman judge to be elevated as Chief Justice at the high court, just 10 days before her retirement, making her tenure the shortest.
- ✓ She will retire on February 25, 2023

Q. The Central Water Commission (CWC) has inked an agreement with which institution for the Development of International Centre of Excellence for Dams (ICED) under DRIP scheme?

- A) IIT Madras
- B) IIT Delhi
- C) IIT Hyderabad
- D) IIT Roorkee

Answer : D

- ✓ The Central Water Commission (CWC), under the Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for Development of International Centre of Excellence for Dams (ICED).
- ✓ This MoA has been signed under Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) Phase II and Phase III scheme and will remain valid for ten years or till the duration of the DRIP Phase-II and Phase-III Scheme, whichever is earlier, from the date of signing.
- ✓ ICED, Roorkee will be set up at a cost of Rs. 109 Crore. This cost will be borne by the Ministry of Jal Shakti as non-recurring grant in six tranches.
- ✓ ICED, Roorkee will provide the Indian and overseas dam owners with specialized technical support in investigations, modelling, research and innovations, and technical support services

Q. Veteran Indian sportstar Tulsidas Balaram has passed away. He was associated with which game?

- A) Football
- B) Cricket
- C) Boxing
- D) Hockey

Answer : A



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- ✓ Asian Games gold medallist and Olympian footballer Tulsidas Balaram, has passed away after a prolonged illness. He was 87.
- ✓ Balram was a member of the golden era of Indian football (1951-1962) and was last of the 'holy trinity' of Indian football – PK Banerjee, Chuni Goswami and Tulsidas Balaram.
- ✓ Balaram had played in two Olympics in 1956 and 1960.
- ✓ He was part of the Indian Football team that won the Asian Games gold in Jakarta in 1962, beating South Korea 2-1.

Q. Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN 2023 is which edition of the annual military drill?

- A) 4th
- B) 3rd
- C) 6th
- D) 5th

Answer : A

- ✓ The 4th edition of the "EX DHARMA GUARDIAN" will be conducted from 17 February to 02 March 2023, at Camp Imazu in Shiga province, Japan. Exercise DHARMA GUARDIAN is an annual joint military exercise between India and Japan.

Q. Which company has recently launched the 'Sapphire Rapids', a new processors for desktop workstation?

- A) IBM
- B) Intel
- C) AMD
- D) Nvidia

Answer : B

- ✓ Chip maker Intel has launched the new Xeon W-3400 and Xeon W-2400 processors for desktop workstation.
- ✓ These processors are code-named as Sapphire Rapids.
- ✓ They have been built for professional creators to provide massive performance for media and entertainment, engineering and data science professionals

Q. Ramesh Bais has recently been appointed as the new Governor of which state?

- A) Bihar
- B) Gujarat
- C) Sikkim
- D) Maharashtra

Answer : D



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- ✓ Ramesh Bais has been named as the new Governor of Maharashtra by the President Draupadi Murmu, as a part of the major Governor reshuffle.
- ✓ He is the 22nd Governor of Maharashtra.
- ✓ Before this, 75-years-aged Bais was the Governor of Jharkhand.
- ✓ He will rePlace outgoing Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari (80), who has opted for a life of retirement.

Q. Which country is hosting the 12th World Hindi Conference?

- A) Singapore
- B) Fiji
- C) Maldives
- D) Thailand

Answer : B

- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar recently unveiled a bust of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the India House in Suva, Fiji.
- ✓ It must be noted that S Jaishankar is in Fiji from February 15-17, 2023 to attend the 12th World Hindi Conference.
- ✓ The year 2023 marks 75 years of the establishment of India-Fiji diplomatic ties.
- ✓ India and Fiji has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and official passports.
- ✓ Fiji Prime Minister – Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka
- ✓ President of Fiji – Ratu Williame Katonivere

Q. The Joint Counter Terrorism Exercise TARKASH between India and United States was held in Chennai recently. The exercise was which edition of the event?

- A) 6th
- B) 9th
- C) 4th
- D) 3rd

Answer : A

- ✓ The Indo-US joint exercise named TARKASH was held in Chennai from January 16 till February 14, 2023.
- ✓ It was the 6th edition of the Joint Counter Terrorism Exercise TARKASH.
- ✓ TARKASH joint exercise was conducted between the National Security Guard (NSG) and US Special Operations Forces (SOF).



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- ✓ For the first time, this exercise included “Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) terror response” in its drill, since chemical and biological warfare are recognised as a growing threat to the world now.

Q. Which start-up has launched the solar-powered drone named as “SURAJ” at the Aero India 2023 show in Bengaluru?

- A) Skylark Drones
- B) Paras Aerospace
- C) Garuda Aerospace
- D) Vecros

Answer : C

- ✓ Drone startup Garuda Aerospace has launched a solar-powered drone named as “SURAJ” at Aero India 2023 show in Bengaluru.
- ✓ The drone was unveiled by Principal Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister and former DRDO Chief Dr. Satheesh Reddy.
- ✓ SURAJ is a high-altitude drone designed specifically for surveillance operations.
- ✓ It has ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance) capability and is equipped with Artificial Intelligence, machine learning and bionic chip for advanced real-time information to the high command and protecting jawans on the ground.
- ✓ The drone SURAJ has unique J-shaped wings equipped with solar-powered cells which serve as its primary fuel source.

Q. Lt General MV Suchindra Kumar has been chosen as the new Vice Chief of Army Staff. He will replace whom as the new VCoAS?

- A) Lt Gen Anindya Sengupta
- B) Lt Gen NSR Subramani
- C) Lt Gen AS Bhinder
- D) Lt Gen BS Raju

Answer : D

- ✓ Government has approved the appointment of Lt General MV Suchindra Kumar as the new Vice Chief of Army Staff.
- ✓ He will replace Lt Gen BS Raju, who has been appointed as Chief of Jaipur-headquartered South Western Army Command. He shall succeed Lt Gen AS Bhinder.
- ✓ Apart from this, Lt Gen NSR Subramani has been appointed as the Central Command chief in Lucknow.
- ✓ All these appointments will come into effect on March 01, 2023.



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Q. Which organisation has received authorisation from DGCA for its indigenously developed black boxes?

A) BEL

B) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)

C) ISRO

D) DRDO

Answer : B

- ✓ Bengaluru-headquartered Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has received the Indian Technical Standard Order (ITSO) authorisation from Directorate General of Civil Aviation for its indigenously developed Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) and Flight Data Recorder (FDR).
- ✓ ITSO is a minimum performance standard for specified materials, parts, processes, and appliances used on civil aircraft.
- ✓ CVR and FDR are popularly known as 'black boxes'.
- ✓ They record critical flight parameters and audio environment in a crash proof memory, which are later used for investigation of aircraft incident or accident.
- ✓ However, these black boxes are painted in orange colour to help in their recovery following an aircraft accident.

Q. Ladakh is hosting India's first frozen-lake marathon on February 20, 2023. Which lake has been chosen for this event?

A) Pangong Tso

B) Mirpal Tso

C) Tso Moriri

D) Tso Kar

Answer : A

- ✓ India's first frozen-lake marathon 'Last Run' to be held at Pangong Tso in Ladakh
- ✓ In India, the first-ever "frozen-lake marathon" will be held at Ladakh's Pangong Tso on February 20, 2023.
- ✓ The 21-kilometre marathon will be world's highest "frozen-lake marathon, at a height of 13,862 feet.
- ✓ The marathon is being called the "Last Run" to highlight the issue of climate change.
- ✓ 75 selected athletes from India and abroad are participating in the run.
- ✓ It is being organised by the Adventure Sports Foundation of Ladakh (ASFL) in collaboration with the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council-Leh, the Tourism Department and the Leh district administration.



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Q. Name the Chairman of the BCCI's National Selection Committee who has resigned from the post recently?

- A) Subroto Banerjee B) Salil Ankola
C) Shiv Sunder Das D) Chetan Sharma

Answer : D

- ✓ The Chairman of BCCI's national selection committee, Chetan Sharma, has resigned from his post on February 17, 2023, following a sting operation by a news channel, where he was allegedly seen revealing confidential information.
- ✓ He sent his resignation to BCCI Secretary Jay Shah.
- ✓ Sharma was reinstated as BCCI's chief selector in January 2023.
- ✓ The members of the selection panel now includes Shiv Sunder Das, Salil Ankola, Subroto Banerjee and S Sharath

Q. Which day has been designated by the United Nations as Global Tourism Resilience Day (GTRD)?

- A) 15 February B) 17 February
C) 18 February D) 16 February

Answer : B

- ✓ The first Global Tourism Resilience Day (GTRD) was observed on 17 February, 2023.
- ✓ GTRD aims to create greater consciousness about tourism resilience.
- ✓ The Global Tourism Resilience Day (GTRD) was designated by the United Nations on 06 February 2023, to underline the importance of tourism resilience.

Q. Name the NAVIC-based data link communication system solution launched by the Indian Air Force for its pilots to deal with bad weather and uninterrupted communication with the base station?

- A) Vayulink B) Raaglink
C) Pawanlink D) Vayumandal

Answer : A



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- ✓ The Indian Air Force has developed an innovative solution known as 'Vayulink' that would help pilots to deal with bad weather and also provide them jammer-proof uninterrupted communication with the base station.
- ✓ Vayulink is an ad-hoc data link communication system, which uses the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) that is also known as NAVIC, to send radio communication to the base station when the signals are low.
- ✓ When Vayulink is installed in an aircraft, it will give position of other aircrafts close by, encrypted traffic data over secured channel so that pilots are able to know where the ground forces are present.

Q. Who has been roped in as the new CEO of the Alphabet-owned Youtube, in replacement for outgoing CEO Susan Wojcicki?

A) Satyajeet Salgar

B) Dharamvir Yadav

C) Neal Mohan

D) Adam Smith

Answer : C

- ✓ Alphabet-owned YouTube Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Susan Wojcicki has announced her plan to step down after nine years at the helm of the world's largest online video platform.
- ✓ Wojcicki became CEO of YouTube in 2014.
- ✓ An Indian-American Neal Mohan, who is currently the chief product officer at YouTube, will replace the 54-year-old Wojcicki as the new CEO.





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Q. DMRC has unveiled India's first indigenously developed Automatic Train Supervision (ATS) system. With this, India has become 6th country to have its own ATS products. DMRC has launched i-ATS in collaboration with which company?

- A) Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) B) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)
C) Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL) D) Antrix Corporation Ltd (ACL)

Answer : A

- ✓ India becomes 6th country to have its own ATS products as it launches 1st indigenously developed ATS system for DMRC.
- ✓ On February 18, 2023, India achieved another milestone as the country launched its first-ever indigenously developed Train Control and Supervision System.
- ✓ The i-ATS (Indigenous-Automatic Train Supervision) system has been jointly developed by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).
- ✓ With the launch of i-ATS, India has become the sixth country in the world to have its own ATS products after France, Germany, Japan, Canada, and China.
- ✓ The ATS (Automatic Train Supervision), is a computer-based system which manages train operations.
- ✓ This i-ATS has currently been launched by the DMRC on its first corridor i.e. Red line (from Rithala to Shaheed Sthal).
- ✓ The system shall be installed for operations on other corridors and the upcoming independent corridors of the Phase – 4 Project as well.
- ✓ This project is in line with the government's 'Make in India' and 'AatmaNirbhar Bharat' initiatives for the Metro Rail Transit Systems

Q. The 12 Cheetah, which have been brought from South Africa under the cheetah reintroduction programme, have been released to which reserve?

- A) Satpura National Park B) Ranthambore National Park
C) Kuno National Park D) Jim Corbett National Park

Answer : C

- ✓ 12 cheetahs from South Africa released at Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ As a part of the Indian government's ambitious cheetah reintroduction programme, 12 cheetahs, brought from South Africa, were released at the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Sheopur district of Madhya Pradesh on February 18, 2023.



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- ✓ Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Union Minister for Environment and Forests Bhupender Yadav released these these fastest land animals into the quarantine enclosures.
- ✓ From these 12 cheetahs from South Africa, seven are males and five are females.
- ✓ This is the second set of big cats brought to Madhya Pradesh. The first group of 8 Cheetahs were brought from Namibia and were released into the KNP on September 17, 2022.
- ✓ As a consequence, the total count of cheetahs at the KNP has gone up to 20.

Q. Mosi-II is a maritime exercise between which of the following countries?

- A) Japan, Russia, China B) China, Bangladesh, South Africa
C) South Africa, Russia, Japan D) Russia, China, South Africa

Answer : D

- ✓ Russia, China and South Africa will conduct a maritime naval drills, named Mosi II, off South Africa's Indian Ocean coast.
- ✓ The 10 days of exercises will begin from February 24, and will coincide with the first anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.
- ✓ The exercise is a demonstration of the three countries' close ties amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine and China's tense relationship with the West.
- ✓ The Mosi-I naval drills between the three nations was held in Cape Town in 2019

Q. The first-ever Nuclear Plant of North India is being set up in which state?

- A) Haryana B) Gujarat
C) Uttar Pradesh D) Himachal Pradesh

Answer : A

- ✓ North India's first Nuclear Plant being set up in Haryana's Gorakhpur
- ✓ The first Nuclear Plant of North India is set to come up in Gorakhpur village in Fatehabad district of Haryana.
- ✓ This information has been given by Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space.
- ✓ The Gorakhpur Haryana Anu Vidyut Pariyojana's (GHAVP) will have two units of 700 MWe capacity.



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- ✓ The total allocated funds for the project is 20,594 Cr.

Q. What is the name of world's first demonstration satellite fully conceived, designed and manufactured using an Indian company's (Antaris) end-to-end cloud platform?

- A) OCEAN
- B) JANUS
- C) SROSS
- D) CARTO

Answer : B

- ✓ Indian Firm successfully launches world's first cloud-built demonstration satellite JANUS-1.
- ✓ JANUS-1 is the world's first demo satellite fully conceived, designed and manufactured using an Indian company's end-to-end cloud platform.
- ✓ JANUS-1 was successfully launched on the Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) new mini rocket SSLV-D2 and successfully reached its orbit on February 17, 2023.
- ✓ It was launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre of India under a commercial arrangement with New Space India Limited (NSIL).
- ✓ JANUS-1 is a software defined 6U technology demonstration satellite designed and built using the Antaris cloud software platform and SatOS software, as well as XDLinx's modular spacecraft bus.

Q. Name the newly appointed and 29th Governor of the state of Himachal Pradesh

- A) Hari Shankar Tiwari
- B) Brij Behari Prasad
- C) Shiv Pratap Shukla
- D) Anant Kumar Singh

Answer : C

- ✓ Former Union Minister of State for Finance, Shiv Pratap Shukla has been sworn in as the 29th Governor of Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Shukla was administered the oath of office and secrecy on February 18, 2023, by acting Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court Justice Sabina.
- ✓ He took oath in Sanskrit.

Q. The Aero India 2023 air show was which edition of the event?

- A) 15th
- B) 18th
- C) 12th
- D) 14th

Answer : D



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- ✓ The Aero India 2023 airshow concluded on February 17, 2023, at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka in Bengaluru.
- ✓ The event was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 13, 2023.
- ✓ It was the 14th edition of the Asia's largest aero show.
- ✓ Slogan of Aero India 2023 : "The Runway to a Billion Opportunities".
- ✓ According to the Ministry of Defence (MoD), it was the largest ever Aero India show, featuring participation from 98 countries, since the airshow started in Bengaluru.
- ✓ Around 809 defence companies participated in the event.
- ✓ As many as 266 partnerships, including 201 MoUs, 53 major announcements, nine product launches, and three Transfers of Technology (ToT), worth around Rs 80,000 crores were witnessed at the event.
- ✓ Some impressive products launch at the event included Vertically Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (BDL), SAL Seeker ATGM for BMP II (BDL), and Jishnu (BDL).
- ✓ The airshow featured a range of aircraft, including the LCA-Tejas, HTT-40, Dornier Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) and Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), Rafale, Sukhoi-30 Mki, B-1, DC-3, F-16, F-35, Dakota DC-3, Harvard Trainer, Surya Kiran aerobatics team and Sarang helicopter display team.
- ✓ Airbus and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru signed MoU to expand India's access to aerospace education and research

Q. The World Pangolin Day is observed on every ____ in the month of February

- A) Third Saturday of February B) 18th February
C) 20th February D) 19th February

Answer : A

- ✓ The World Pangolin Day is celebrated on the "Third Saturday of February" every year.
- ✓ In 2023, the annual World Pangolin Day is being celebrated on 18 February 2023.
- ✓ It marks the 12th edition of the event.
- ✓ The day aims to raise awareness about these unique mammals and speed up conservation efforts.
- ✓ Pangolins are one of the most heavily trafficked mammals in the illegal wildlife trade. Their numbers are rapidly declining in Asia and Africa



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Q. Which Indian firm has signed an MoU with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) for domestic manufacture and supply of Long Range Artillery Weapon System (LORA) for the Indian Tri-services?

- A) Lockheed Martin India Pvt Ltd
- B) Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL)
- C) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd.
- D) Boeing India Pvt Ltd

Answer : B

- ✓ BEL inks MoU with Israel Aerospace Industries to Manufacture LORA Ballistic Missile For Indian Tri-Services.
- ✓ Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) has signed an MoU with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) for domestic manufacture and supply of its Long Range Artillery Weapon System (LORA) for the Indian Tri-services.
- ✓ The state-of-the-art strategic weapon system LORA will be manufactured by BEL, as the prime contractor, based on the workshare arrangement with IAI.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of the Union Territory of Ladakh?

- A) Pema Khandu
- B) Biswabhusan Harichandan
- C) BD Mishra
- D) Nabam Tuki

Answer : C

- ✓ Brigadier BD Mishra (Retd.) has been sworn in as the new Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of the Union Territory of Ladakh.
- ✓ Brigadier B.D. Mishra (Retd) was administered the oath of office, by the Chief justice of the high court of J&K and Ladakh Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, on February 19, 2023.
- ✓ He replaces Radha Krishna Mathur, who served for three years from October 31, 2019, to February 11, 2023.
- ✓ Mishra is the second LG of Ladakh. Before this, he was the governor of Arunachal Pradesh.



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Q. Recently, the former NITI Aayog Vice Chief Rajiv Kumar had predicted that the Indian economy will grow at the rate of __ percent in the financial year 2023-2024

- A) 6.4% B) 6%
C) 6.9% D) 6.6%

Answer : B

- ✓ Ex-Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar predicts India's economy to grow at 6% in 2023-24
- ✓ The former Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar has projected Indian economy to clock 6 percent growth rate in next fiscal, FY24, (2023-24).
- ✓ Besides, India has a good opportunity to persevere with a high growth rate because of several reforms undertaken during the last eight years by the Narendra Modi government

Q. Which team has won the Ranji Trophy 2022-2023?

- A) Bengal B) Vidarbha
C) Madhya Pradesh D) Saurashtra

Answer : D

- ✓ Saurashtra beats Bengal by 9 wickets to lift 2022-23 Ranji Trophy
- ✓ Saurashtra defeated Bengal by 9 wickets to win the Ranji Trophy 2022-2023 final title on February 19, 2023 at Eden Gardens in Kolkata.
- ✓ This is the second time that Saurashtra has won Ranji Trophy title.
- ✓ Earlier Saurashtra won the title in 2019-20 season, defeating Bengal.
- ✓ Saurashtra Skipper Jaydev Unadkat was declared Man of the Match.

Q. In India the Soil Health Card Day is observed every year on 19 February to commemorate the launch of the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme. In 2023 which edition of SHC day is being observed?

- A) 8th B) 4th
C) 2nd D) 6th

Answer : A

- ✓ Every year India observes the Soil Health Card Day on 19 February to commemorate the launch of the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme, and create awareness about the benefits of the scheme. . 2023 marks



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the 8th year of the launch of the SHC Scheme. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Soil Health Card (SHC) Scheme on 19th February, 2015 at Suratgarh in Rajasthan

Q. India has defeated which country to win the Border-Gavaskar Trophy?

- A) South Africa
- B) Australia
- C) New Zealand
- D) England

Answer : B

- ✓ India defeat Australia to retain Border-Gavaskar Trophy
- ✓ Team India has retained the Border-Gavaskar Trophy by beating Australia for the second test game in a row of the ongoing four-match Border-Gavaskar Trophy by six wickets on February 19, 2023, at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in Delhi.
- ✓ India won the series opener by an innings and 132 runs, held in Nagpur.
- ✓ Following this, India won the second Test once again to take a 2-0 lead in the series.
- ✓ With this win, India has secured a place in the final of the World Test Championship as well as achieved top position in the ICC Test rankings.
- ✓ The third Test between India and Australia will begin on March 1 at the Holkar Stadium in Indore.
- ✓ The Border–Gavaskar Trophy is a Test cricket series played between India and Australia through the International Cricket Council's (ICC) future tours.

Q. Which Indian institution has inked an MoU with the Indian Bank through its Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC), to identify and extend financial support to innovative start-ups?

- A) IIT Delhi
- B) IIT Ropar
- C) IIT Kanpur
- D) IIT Hyderabad

Answer : C

- ✓ IIT Kanpur sign MoU with Indian Bank to support innovative startups
- ✓ IIT-Kanpur's technology business incubation centre, "Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC)", has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Bank, to identify innovative start-ups and extend financial support to them.
- ✓ The programme will be implemented under the 'Ind Spring Board (Finance for Startups)' scheme of the Indian Bank.



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- ✓ This collaboration will help to extend critical support to emerging Indian start-ups that will enable them to scale and accelerate their product development journey.

Q. Name the celebrity who has been roped in as the National Ambassador of Child Rights for UNICEF India?

- A) Akshay Kumar
- B) John Abraham
- C) Preity Zinta
- D) Ayushmann Khurrana

Answer : D

- ✓ Unicef India appoints Bollywood star Ayushmann Khurrana as its National Ambassador of Child Rights
- ✓ Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana, has been appointed as the National Ambassador of Child Rights for UNICEF India.
- ✓ As a National Ambassador, his duties will be to work with UNICEF to ensure the rights of every child- to survive, thrive, be protected- as well as promoting their voice and agency in decisions that concern them.

Q. Which edition of the Annual Defence Dialogue between India and Sri Lanka has been held in New Delhi?

- A) 3rd
- B) 6th
- C) 7th
- D) 4th

Answer : C

- ✓ The 7th Annual Defence Dialogue between India and Sri Lanka was held in New Delhi.
- ✓ The meeting was chaired by Defence Secretary, Giridhar Armane and his Sri Lankan counterpart General Kamal Gunaratne.
- ✓ This Annual Defence Dialogue is the highest institutionalised interactive mechanism between both the countries. Its significance in chartering the future course of the relations between the Armed Forces of India and Sri Lanka was highlighted by the importance given to the talks by both sides.

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 'Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava' cultural festival in which city?

- A) Chennai
- B) Bengaluru
- C) Hyderabad
- D) New Delhi

Answer : D



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- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated 'Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava' cultural festival at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi.
- ✓ Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava' cultural festival is being organized to celebrate Karnataka's culture, traditions and history.
- ✓ It is in line with the Prime Minister's vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.
- ✓ The festival, being held under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, will provide an opportunity to hundreds of artists to showcase Karnataka cultural heritage through dance, music, drama, and poetry etc.

Q. Seven-year-old Prince Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck has become the first digital citizen of which country?

- A) Bhutan
- B) Nepal
- C) Maldives
- D) Philippines

Answer : A

- ✓ Seven-year-old Prince Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck has become the country's first digital citizen.
- ✓ Prince Jigme is the mountainous country's first citizen to receive the National Digital Identity (NDI) mobile wallet.
- ✓ The launch of Bhutan's National Digital Identity based on the Self-Sovereign Identity model, is a major step forward in transforming the way services are delivered in both the public and private sectors.
- ✓ This flagship initiative of GovTech will provide secure and verifiable digital identities to citizens, laying a strong foundation for our digital future

Q. Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the four-day National Horticulture Fair in which city?

- A) Chennai
- B) New Delhi
- C) Hyderabad
- D) Bengaluru

Answer : D

- ✓ Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the four-day National Horticulture Fair in Bengaluru, Karnataka.



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- ✓ The fair is organized to showcase the latest technologies developed by the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru, under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), for the benefit of productive farmers.
- ✓ Horticulture production has increased 13 times from 25 million tonnes in 1950-51 to 331 million tonnes during 2020-21, which is more than the food grain production. Constituting 18% of the area, this sector contributes about 33% of the gross value to the agricultural GDP.
- ✓ The sector is being considered as a driver of economic growth and is gradually turning into an organized industry linked to seed trading, value addition and exports

Q. Which country has surpassed India as the sixth-largest equity market in the world for the first time since May 2022?

- A) Australia B) Japan
C) United Kingdom D) United States

Answer : C

- ✓ The United Kingdom has surpassed India as the sixth-largest equity market in the world for the first time since May 2022.
- ✓ According to Bloomberg, the combined market capitalization of primary listings in the UK, excluding 'exchanged-traded funds' ETFs and 'American depositary receipts' ADR reached about \$3.11 trillion in February 2023.
- ✓ The MSCI India Index has dropped 6.1% this year, while the group of companies owned by Gautam Adani — among Asia's richest men — has lost about \$142 billion in market capitalization since the Hindenburg report was published on Jan 24.
- ✓ Adani has repeatedly denied the claims and has also cut expenses and repaid debt as he seeks to calm traders concerned about the group's access to financing.

Q. Anusuiya Uikey was sworn in as the 16th Governor of which state?

- A) Meghalaya B) Manipur
C) Tripura D) Assam

Answer : B

- ✓ Anusuiya Uikey was sworn in as the 16th Governor of Manipur in Imphal.



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- ✓ Justice MV Muralidaran, Acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur administered the oath of office to Uikey at Darbar Hall in Raj Bhawan.
- ✓ Anusuiya Uikey was the governor of Chattisgarh from 29th July 2019 to 12th February 2023.
- ✓ She became a member of the Rajya Sabha from Madhya Pradesh in 2006

Q. Who has been honoured with the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for 2019?

- A) Yaduraya Wodeyar B) Prem Kumar Mallick
C) Trishika Kumari Devi D) Jayathmika Lakshmi

Answer : B

- ✓ Mallick has been honoured with the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for 2019.
- ✓ He received the award from President Droupadi Murmu for his contributions in the field of music (Hindustani Vocal) at a ceremony to be held at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- ✓ He is a professor in the department of music and performing arts at Allahabad University.



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