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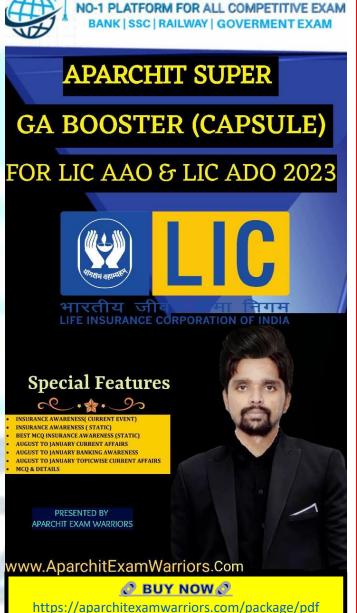
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Aparchit Super Current Affairs Best 350+ MCQ With Facts March 2023 Set 01 By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal sir

Q. Shivamogga Airport was recently inaugurated in which state?

- A) Odisha B) Assam
- C) Karnataka D) Tamil Nadu

Answer : C

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 27 February 2023 launched the newly built Shivamogga airport along with various development projects worth over Rs 3,600 crore in Shivamogga, Karnataka.
- ✓ The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone for two rail projects, the Shivamogga-Shikaripura-Ranebennur New Railway Line and the Koteganguru Railway Coaching Depot and several road development projects worth over Rs 215 crore.
- ✓ The Prime Minister also inaugurated multi-village schemes worth over Rs 950 crore under the Jal Jeevan Mission and 44 smart city projects worth over Rs 895 crore in Shivamogga city.
- ✓ Shivamogga Airport:
- ✓ Shivamogga Airport has been developed at a cost of about Rs 450 crore.
- ✓ There were only 74 airports in the whole country till the year 2014, while today the number of airports has doubled (148) after the inauguration of Shivamogga Airport.
- ✓ It is suitable for A-320 type aircraft. This airport is spread over 758 acres of land.

AIRPORT IN NEWS 2022-23

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 27 February 2023 launched the newly built Shivamogga airport along with various development projects worth over Rs 3,600 crore in Shivamogga, Karnataka.
- Bangalore's Kempegoda International Airport and Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport both ranked second and seventh in Cirium's list of the world's best-performing airports for 2022.
- > Mopa International Airport Goa named after former CM Manohar Parrikar.
- Jaipur International Airport Limited has received the Aerodrome licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- Union Cabinet has given its approval for the naming of the new Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar, the State Capital of Arunachal Pradesh as "Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar".

- Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi is the 10th busiest airport in the world in terms of seat capacity and frequency of domestic and international flights as of October 2022.
- The busiest airport in the world as of October 2022 is Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.
- Jeypore airport in Odisha gets Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) approval for commercial flight.
- Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport airport makes 100% switch to green energy.
- Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) has been awarded the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) award 2022 by the Airport Council International (ACI).
- PM Modi has announced that the Chandigarh airport will be renamed after Shaheed Bhagat Singh.
- Hyderabad International Airport to Roll Out DigiYatra Platform for Paperless Travel From August 18.
- > Arunachal Pradesh 3rd Airport Named 'Donyi Polo Airport.
- > PM Modi to inaugurate newly-built Deoghar airport in Jharkhand.
- > Airports Council International (ACI) World released the annual World Airport Traffic Dataset
- > Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), United States busiest airports in the world.
- Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in New Delhi 13th busiest airport in world. {Indian Busiest airport}.
- Delhi Airport or Indira Gandhi International Airport becomes India's first to run entirely on hydro and solar energy.

Q. Which city is the host of the W20 Inception Meeting under India's G-20 Presidency?

- A) Chennai
- B) Kochi
- C) Aurangabad
- D) Bhubaneswar

Answer : C

- The Women-20 (W20) Inception meeting was held at Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar (Aurangabad), Maharashtra to discuss the improvement in the status and condition of women across the world during India's G20 Presidency from February 27-28, 2023.
- ✓ Which was inaugurated by Union Minister of Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs Smriti Zubin Irani.
- The main theme of the W20 meeting is 'The pursuit of gender equality, equity and dignity for womenled development'.
- The main objective of the meeting is to promote gender equality and economic empowerment of women.
- ✓ The five priority areas of the W20 under India's G20 Presidency are:
- ✓ Enhancing participation of women in entrepreneurship sector
- ✓ grassroots women leadership
- ✓ bridging the gender digital divide
- ✓ education and skill development and women as change makers and
- ✓ Taking climate resilience action for girls.
- <u>Three meeting of Women-20:</u>
- ✓ A total of three meetings of the W20 Inception are being held in India during the G20 Presidency.
- ✓ The first meeting was held from February 27-28, 2023 at Aurangabad, Maharashtra.
- ✓ The second meeting will be held in Jaipur, Rajasthan on 13-14 April and
- The third meeting will be held on June 15-16 at Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu on the sidelines of the W20 summit.
- ✓ Women-20 Conference:
- Under Women-20, G20 aims to promote gender equality and economic empowerment of women in the world.
- \checkmark It was established in 2015 during the presidency of Turkey.
- The President of the W20 is Dr. Sandhya Purecha, President of the Sangeet Natak Akademi during India's G20 Presidency

AURANGABAD IN NEWS 2022-23

- Women-20 (W20) Inception meeting was held at Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar (Aurangabad), Maharashtra.
- The Ajanta Ellora International Festival 2023 was held from 25th February to 27th February in Aurangabad, Maharashtra.
- > Union Government Approved Renaming of Aurangabad & Osmanabad in Maharashtra.
- Aurangabad: First smart city in India to receive data from Google's Environmental Insights Explorer (EIE).
- Maharashtra Tourism Ministry has decided to rename the Daulatabad fort to Devgiri which is located near Aurangabad.
- > The Ellora caves, locally known as 'Verul Leni' is located on the Aurangabad, Maharashtra

Q. The second Semicon India Future Design Roadshow was recently launched in which city?

A) Mumbai

B) Chennai

C) Hyderabad

D) Bengaluru

Answer : D

- ✓ The second Semicon India Future Design Roadshow was launched recently in Bengaluru.
- ✓ This road-show is being organized with the aim of attracting investments in India's semi-conductor design ecosystem.
- ✓ The inaugural edition of this event was held in 2022 in Gujarat's Karnavati University.
- ✓ During inauguration, the launch of India Semiconductor Research Centre (ISRC), a private industry-led research centre was also announced.

BENGALURU IN NEWS 2022-23

- > The second Semicon India Future Design Roadshow was launched recently in Bengaluru.
- > Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 14th edition of its flagship aero show in Bengaluru.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the India Energy Week (IEW) 2023 in Bengaluru.
- The biennial air show and aviation expo, Aero India 2023, is scheduled for February 13–17. Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru.

- The first G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies (FCBD) meeting is scheduled to be held during 13-15 December 2022 in Bengaluru.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi to inaugurate the silver jubilee edition of the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS 22) virtually.
- > Animal Quarantine Certification Services Inaugurated in Bengaluru.
- > HDFC Securities Opens Women-Only Digital Centre in Bengaluru
- Union Minister for Road, Transport, and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate 'Manthan' in Bengaluru.
- The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) will be launched the One Health pilot in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- > India's first 3D-printed post office is slated to come up in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- India's First Digital Water Bank, 'AQVERIUM' has been launched in Bengaluru, Karnataka

Q.	MRSAM weapon system has been developed by which organisation?		
	A) HAL	B) BEL	
	C) DRDO	D) ISRO	
Ans	wer:C		

- ✓ The first Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) Regiment is being raised to enhance the Indian Army's air defence and capacity development along the Northern Borders.
- This regiment is equipped with the MRSAM weapon system, which has been indigenously developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ✓ Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
- It is a premier defence research and development agency under the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- ✓ It aims to make India self-reliant in critical defence technology and systems.
- ✓ It was established in 1958.
- ✓ Headquarters New Delhi
- ✓ Chairman Sameer V Kamath

Q. 'Baba Saheb Ambedkar Yatra Tour' is a part of which initiative?

- A) PRASAD
- C) VIKAS

- **B) PARAKH**
- D) Dekho Apna Desh

Answer : D

- The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has announced a tour package named 'Baba Saheb Ambedkar Yatra'.
- ✓ This tour package covers some significant sites associated with the life of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar including Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, Nagpur, Sanchi, Varanasi, Gaya, Rajgir, and Nalanda.
- ✓ The tour is part of the 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative to promote domestic tourism

Q.	Elephant Conservation Network (ECN) has been recently formed in which state?	
	A) Odisha	B) Kerala
	C) Maharashtra	D) Assam
Ans	wer:D	

Assam-based non-profit organization Aaranyak has formed a network of local communities called the Elephant Conservation Network (ECN).

- ✓ The network has been formed to tackle the issue of human-elephant conflict (HEC) in Assam.
- Seven ECNs have been formed, involving village youths who have been educated about elephant ecology and behavior, and effective mitigation measures.

ASSAM IN NEWS 2022-23

- Assam-based non-profit organization Aaranyak has formed a network of local communities called the Elephant Conservation Network (ECN).
- > North East's 1st compressed biogas plant in Assam.
- > Assam to Celebrate Mongeet Festival of Music, Culture, and Food.
- REC Limited, a Maharatna Company under the Ministry of Power, Govt. of India organized 'Bijli Utsav' in Anandapur Gaon of Baksa district and adjoining villages in Assam.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the second version of 'Orunodoi', the flagship scheme.

- > Tapan Saikia will receive the Asom Baibhav, the highest civilian honour that the Assam government.
- > Trees Beyond Forests initiative launched in Assam.
- Assam Grants Industry Status to Its Tourism Sector
- > Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Swanirbhar Naari' scheme
- > Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Vidya Rath School on Wheels' project
- Gamosa, Tandur Redgram, and Ladakh apricots get GI tags from Assam.
- Assam CM Nominated Charaideo Maidam to Seek UNESCO World Heritage Tag.
- > First Unani Medicine Regional Center of Northeast Inaugurated in Silchar, Assam

Q. Gyalsung Infra Project, to which India provided a grant of Rs 2 billion, is associated with which country?

A) Bhutan	B) Bangladesh
C) Sri Lanka	D) Nepal

Answer : A

- ✓ India has provided a grant of Rs 2 Billion to Bhutan for the Gyalsung Infra Project.
- ✓ The project aims to empower the youth of Bhutan and build a strong foundation for the country's future.
- ✓ The first tranche of the grant of Rs 1 Billion was presented recently by the Indian Ambassador to Bhutan.
- ✓ The grant is in addition to India's commitment to provide planning assistance of Rs.50 Billion to Bhutan.
- ✓ BHUTAN
- Capital : Thimphu
- ✓ Currency : Ngultrum
- Prime Minister : Lotay Tshering
- Q. Which platform has been chosen by NCERT to set up the regulatory platform PARAKH?
 - A) CETB) ETSC) BTSD) DTT
 - C) BTS

Answer : B

✓ PARAKH, India's first national assessment regulator, aims to standardize assessment for over 60 boards in the country.

- ✓ ETS (Educational Testing Service), which conducts key tests like TOEFL and GRE, has been chosen by the National Council for Education Research (NCERT) to set up the regulatory platform PARAKH.
- ✓ PARAKH will establish norms, standards, and guidelines for student assessment and evaluation.
- Recently the National Council of Education Research and Training has notified India's first National Assessment Regulator "PARKH" with the aim of setting up assessment guidelines for all boards.

Q. Financial Action Task Force (FATF) suspended the membership of which country recently?

- A) Ukraine B) Russia
- C) Afghanistan D) Turkey

Answer : B

- ✓ Global anti-money laundering watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) suspended Russia's membership on February 24 over the Ukraine war.
- ✓ The FATF has suspended Russia's membership for its "illegal, unprovoked and unjustified" full-scale military invasion of Ukraine.
- Russia's actions "run unacceptably" against the FATF's core principles, which aim to protect, safeguard and promote the integrity of the global financial system.
- ✓ The FATF is also concerned about information on arms trade between Russia and UN-sanctioned jurisdictions, and Russia's malicious cyber activities.
- ✓ Russia is accountable for its obligation to implement FATF standards.
- ✓ South Africa, Nigeria on dirty-money grey list
- South Africa and Nigeria have been placed on FATF's gray list, indicating deficiencies in the handling of financial flows to the nations.
- It is a move that tarnishes the international reputation of such countries and could raise costs for banks and asset managers.
- ✓ Morocco and Cambodia have been removed from the list after reforming their controls
- Financial Action Task Force (FATF)
- \checkmark It was formed in the year 1989 at the meeting of G-7 countries held in Paris.
- It works to generate the necessary political will to bring about legislative and regulatory reforms in the world on issues like money laundering, terror funding.

- Headquarters Located in the headquarters of the Organisation for the Development of Economic Cooperation (OECD) in Paris.
- Member Countries 39 member countries including India and 2 regional organisations (European Commission and Gulf Cooperation Council).
- ✓ India became a member of FATF in the year 2010.
- ✓ Its sessions are held three times a year.
- ✓ Financial Action Task Force (FATF) President Raja Kumar
- ✓ List of FATF
- ✓ <u>Gray List</u> Countries that are considered safe havens for supporting terror funding and money laundering are placed on the FATF gray list.
- <u>Black List -</u> Countries identified as non-cooperative countries or regions are included in the black list.
 These countries support terrorist funding and money laundering activities.

Q. As per IMF, which country has the potential to contribute 15 per cent of the global growth in 2023?

B) Japan

D) Singapore

- A) India
- C) China

Answer : A

- ✓ As per the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, India has the potential to contribute 15 per cent of the global growth in 2023.
- ✓ On the sidelines of the G20 meeting in Bengaluru, the IMF chief also said that India should completely focus on structural reforms, and make more opportunities for women.
- ✓ For FY 2023-24, IMF had projected 6.1 per cent GDP growth for India.
- ✓ International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- ✓ Founded : 1945
- ✓ Headquarters: Washington, D.C.
- ✓ Managing Director : Kristalina Georgieva (Bulgaria)
- ✓ 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. Dharoi wetland, where a bird survey was conducted recently, is located in which state?

A) Goa

B) Kerala

C) Gujarat

D) Madhya Pradesh

Answer : C

- ✓ The second edition of the two-day Bird Survey Dharoi 2023 was recently conducted at the Dharoi wetland in Gujarat.
- ✓ The wetland spreads over 107 square kilometres in north Gujarat.
- Dharoi reservoir was created by damming Sabarmati and Harnoi rivers in 1978 as a major irrigation scheme.
- ✓ The maiden Dharoi Bird Survey, 2022, recorded 193 species out of the 616 found in Gujarat.
- Q. The Centre has approved the Quality Control Order (QCO) for mandatory certification of which product recently?

A) Jute	B) Cotton
C) Paper	D) Millets
swor: B	

Answer : B

- ✓ The Centre has approved the Quality Control Order (QCO) for mandatory certification of cotton bales.
- The compulsory requirement of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification for cotton bales sold in India is expected to check imports of substandard cotton and ensure domestic cotton meets certain minimum quality parameters, as per the Textiles Ministry.

Q. Which state is set to get India's first Marina?

A) Goa

B) Maharashtra

C) Kerala

D) Karnataka

Answer : D

- ✓ Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has confirmed that Karnataka is set to get India's first Marina which will be constructed in the Udupi district.
- ✓ This project has been initiated to promote coastal tourism in the state.
- ✓ He was speaking at a function 'Seven Wonders of Karnataka' hosted under the Department of Tourism.
- Q. Which country is the host of the international multilateral air exercise 'Exercise Desert Flag VIII'?
 - A) JapanB) VietnamC) SingaporeD) UAE

Answer : D

- An Indian Air Force contingent of 110 Air Warriors reached AI Dahfra airbase of United Arab Emirates on 25 February for participating in Exercise 'Desert Flag VIII.
- Tejas, the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) made in India, will make its first appearance at a multinational exercise in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- ✓ The IAF would be participating with five LCA Tejas and two C-17 Globemaster III aircraft
- <u>About Exercise Desert Flag</u>
- ✓ It is a multilateral air exercise in which air forces from the United Arab Emirates, France, Kuwait, Australia, United Kingdom, Bahrain, Morocco, Spain, Republic of Korea and the United States will also participate.
- ✓ This exercise will run from 27 February to 17 March.
- ✓ <u>TEJAS fighter aircraft</u>
- ✓ It is an 'Indigenous Light Combat Aircraft'.
- ✓ It has been jointly developed by 'Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA)' and 'Hindustan Aeronautics Limited' (HAL).
- ✓ It is the smallest-lightweight single-engine 'Multirole Tactical Fighter Aircraft'.

- ✓ It has been designed with an aim to reduce India's dependence on Russia's MiG-21 fighter jets and move towards self-reliance in the field of national security.
- ✓ It is designed to carry a range of air-to-air, air-to-surface weapons.
- ✓ It is capable of refueling in the sky during the journey and has a maximum payload capacity of 4000 kg.
- ✓ It can achieve a maximum speed of Mach 1.8 and has a range of 3,000 km.

Q. Which country's Prime Minister is the Chief Guest of 8th Edition of the Raisina Dialogue?

A) Australia

B) France

C) Italy

D) Egypt

Answer : C

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the eighth edition of the Raisina Dialogue on Geopolitics and Geostrategy in New Delhi on 2 March.
- The Raisina Dialogue has been organised jointly by the Ministry of External Affairs of India and the Observer Research Foundation (ORF, established in 1990). This dialogue will be organised from 2 to 4 March 2023.
- ✓ The theme of the eighth edition of the Raisina Dialogue is "Provocation, Uncertainty, Turbulence: Lighthouse in the Tempest."
- Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni has been invited as the chief guest in the inaugural session of the three-day event.

✓ <u>Raisina Dialogue:</u>

- ✓ It was started in the year 2016.
- ✓ Its main objective is to explore possibilities and opportunities for Asian integration as well as better integration of Asia with the rest of the world.
- ✓ The headquarters of the Ministry of External Affairs of India is located in Raisina Hill (South Block), New Delhi, hence it is known as Raisina Dialogue.
- ✓ ITALY
- ✓ Capital : Rome
- ✓ Currency : Euro
- President : Sergio Mattarella
 PM : Giorgia Meloni

- Q. The 'Innovative Extension Approaches for Revitalising Agriculture' has been launched in which state/UT?
 - A) Andhra Pradesh

B) Jammu and Kashmir

C) Ladakh

D) Madhya Pradesh

Answer : B

- The Government has approved a five-year project on 'Innovative Extension Approaches for Revitalising Agriculture in Jammu and Kashmir'.
- \checkmark This aims to give a huge push to sustainable agriculture in the Union Territory.
- ✓ The project, worth 463 crore rupees, is aimed at empowering farmers and educated youth through technology driven and inclusive agri-extension services.

Q. When is Zero Discrimination Day observed every year?

A) March 01	B) February 28
C) March 02	D) February 27

Answer : A

- On Zero Discrimination Day, 1 March, we celebrate the right of everyone to live a full and productive life and live it with dignity.
- Zero Discrimination Day highlights how people can become informed about and promote inclusion, compassion, peace and, above all, a movement for change. Zero Discrimination Day is helping to create a global movement of solidarity to end all forms of discrimination.
- ✓ On Zero Discrimination Day this year, under the theme "Save lives: Decriminalise",...

Q. Who has been appointed as the Science Chief by the US Space Agency NASA?

A) Ellen Stofan

B) James L Green

- **C) Jennifer Wiseman**
- D) Nicola Fox

Answer : D

- ✓ NASA appoints top solar scientist Nicola Fox as the agency's Science Chief. She has been the former top scientist of the Parker Solar Probe mission to study the Sun.
- ✓ Fox will now be leading NASA's Science Directorate, which runs an annual budget of about \$7 billion.
- ✓ She replaced Swiss-American scientist Thomas Zurbuchen, who has been in charge since 2016.

NASA IN NEWS 2022-23

- > NASA appoints top solar scientist Nicola Fox as the agency's Science Chief.
- > NASA to launch 'Mars mission' on Blue Origin's New Glenn.
- > ISRO-NASA 'NISAR' satellite to be launched from India in September.
- > NASA's "all-electric" plane X-57 is soon set to take off, the US space agency..
- United States space agency NASA has said the country plans to test a spacecraft engine powered with nuclear fission by 2027.
- > NASA will retire International Space Station in 2031.
- > SpaceX Awarded shared NASA contract worth up to \$100 million.
- > NASA and IBM Partners to Build AI Foundation Models to Advance Climate Science.
- After 30 years in orbit mission, NASA–JAXA Geotail spacecraft have signed off, after the failure of the spacecraft's remaining data recorder. Since its launch on July 24, 1992, Geotail orbited Earth.
- > SpaceX launched NASA's Crew-6 mission to orbit en route to the International Space Station.
- NASA's Dragonfly rotorcraft is scheduled to reach the Selk Crater region on Saturn's moon Titan in the year 2034.
- > NASA's SpaceX Crew-5 Launches to International Space Station.
- NASA's Artemis 1 moon rocket, formerly known as Exploration Mission-1, returned to the launch pad, to take a step closer to a historic lunar mission.
- > Artemis 3, which is scheduled to make a moon landing with a crew by 2025.
- > Artemis 1, the first of several missions is intended to successfully land astronauts on the moon.
- > NASA launches CAPSTONE mission to the moon.
- > NASA is set to launch a mission called "DAVINCI Mission".
- > The mission will fly by Venus and explore its harsh atmosphere in 2029.
- > NASA's climate research scientist Cynthia Rosenzweig won World Food Prize 2022.
- NASA launches next-generation GOES-T satellite to track hazardous weather in western United States.
- > NASA Plans to Retire International Space Station in 2031.
- > NASA launches \$1 Million Deep Space Food Challenge jointly with Canadian Space Agency.

- > Jahnavi Dangeti becomes first Indian to complete prestigious Nasa programme.
- > NASA successfully completes deployment of James Webb Space Telescope (JWST).
- > NASA's James Webb telescope reaches final stable position, parked 15,00,000 km from Earth.
- > Indian origin Anil Menon is SpaceX's first flight surgeon.
- > NASA's Parker Solar Probe enters the Sun's upper atmosphere.
- > NASA launches world's first Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) Mission.
- > NASA launches Lucy Mission to study the Jupiter Trojan asteroids.
- > Nasa is sending two new missions to Venus, which will take place between 2028 and 2030.
- > NASA plans to send Rover 'VIPER' on Moon in 2023 to search for water, other resources.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Founded : 1958
- Headquarters : Washington, D.C
- Motto : For the Benefit of All
- > 14th Administrator : Bill Nelson

Q. Which institution has launched India's first municipal bond index?

- A) RBI
- **B) SEBI**
- C) BSE
- D) NSE

Answer : D

- National Stock Exchange (NSE) launched India's first municipal bond index, the India Municipal Bond Index (IBMX).
- The Nifty India Municipal Bond Index was launched at a SEBI workshop on Municipal Debt Securities at Bengaluru.
- ✓ It tracks the performance of municipal bonds issued by Indian municipal corporations across maturities and having investment grade credit rating.

NSE IN NEWS 2022-23

- > NSE gets the final SEBI approval to launch Social Stock Exchange.
- According to the Forward Industry Association (FIA), the National Stock Exchange (NSE) has emerged as the world's largest derivatives exchange in 2022 in terms of the number of traded contracts.
- NSE Indices the subsidiary company of National Stock Exchange (NSE) has launched Nifty India Digital Index.
- There are 23 stock exchanges in India. Among them, two are national-level stock exchanges namely Bombay Stock exchange (BSE) and National Stock Exchange (NSE). The rest 21 are Regional Stock Exchanges (RSEs).
- National Stock Exchange of India (NSE).
- NSE was established in the year 1992 as the first dematerialized electronic exchange in the country.
- > The National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) is the largest financial market in India.
- > Nifty 50 is the flagship index of the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE).
- > NIFTY 50 index was launched by NSE in the year 1996.
- > Headquarters Mumbai, Maharashtra
- > Managing Director & CEO Ashish Kumar Chauhan
- Q. Which is the first platform to launch 'UPI LITE payments'?
 - A) Paytm Payments Bank
- B) Airtel Payments Bank
- C) India Post Payments Bank
- D) Jio Payments Bank

Answer : A

- ✓ Paytm Payments Bank has become the first platform to launch UPI LITE payments, to enable quick and seamless transactions of up to Rs 200 without having to enter a PIN to make a payment.
- ✓ UPI LITE is enabled by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and it aids users to carry out multiple small-value UPI transactions without using a PIN.
- ✓ The interface facilitates inter-bank peer-to-peer (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions. It is used on mobile devices to instantly transfer funds between two bank accounts.

PAYTM PAYMENTS BANK IN NEWS 2022-23

- > Paytm Payments Bank becomes 1st to launch UPI LITE feature.
- > Paytm bank gets RBI nod for Surinder Chawla as new CEO.
- > Paytm Payments Bank receives RBI observations on IT report.
- > Paytm Bank Gets RBI nod to Operate as Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit.
- Paytm Payments Bank has been given the scheduled bank status by the Reserve Bank of India. The bank has been included in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- Paytm Payments Bank
- Founded : 2015
- > Founder : Vijay Shekhar Sharma
- Headquarters : Noida
- Interim CEO : Deependra Singh Rathore
- Vijay Shekhar Sharma holds 51 per cent in the entity with One97 Communications holding 49 per cent.
- Payment Banks in India were set up on the recommendation of the Nachiket Mor Committee on Comprehensive Financial Services for Small Businesses and Low Income Households.
- ➤ The minimum capital requirement is ₹100 crore.
- > Bharti Airtel set up India's first payments bank, Airtel Payments Bank in 2017.
- India currently has 6 Payment Banks namely, Airtel Payment Bank, India Post Payment Bank, Fino, Paytm Payment Bank, NSDL Payment Bank and Jio Payment Bank.

Q. Who has been awarded the 2023 Marconi Prize?

- A) Ranjan Gogoi
- C) Raghuram Rajan
- **B) Amitabh Bhachhan**
- D) Hari Balakrishnan

- Answer : D
- Computer scientist Hari Balakrishnan has been awarded the 2023 Marconi Prize. Dr. Balakrishnan is a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
- ✓ The award is given in recognition of the broad impact on society of his fundamental discoveries in wired and wireless networking, mobile sensing and distributed systems.

<u>About Hari Balakrishnan</u>

- Hari Balakrishnan is the Fujitsu Professor of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
- ✓ He is also the Founder, Chief Technology Officer, and Chairman of Cambridge Mobile Telematics (CMT).

✓ About the Marconi Prize

- ✓ The Marconi Prize is the flagship award of the Marconi Society.
- ✓ The award is given annually to innovators who have made a significant contribution to enhancing digital inclusion through the advancement of information and communication technology.
- ✓ The award is recommended by an independent selection committee of Marconi Prize recipients and approved by the Marconi Society Board.
- Q. Which of the following universities will be the first foreign university to establish a campus in India?

A) University of Cambridge

- B) Stanford University
- C) Harvard University D) D
 - D) Deakin University

Answer : D

- ✓ The first foreign university to establish a campus in India will be Deakin University of Australia.
- ✓ The autonomous campus will be built in Gujarat International Financial Tec-City (GIFT) City. While visiting Ahmedabad, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Norman Albanese is anticipated to make the official announcement.
- According to the QS World University Rankings, Deakin University is ranked 266 overall. It is one of the top 50 new universities worldwide.
- ✓ At least two Australian institutions are considering opening campuses in India.

Q. Singapore Airlines owns 25.1% of the Air India group after investing how so many funds?

- A) \$213 mn B) \$225 mn
- C) \$267 mn D) \$280 mn

Answer : C

✓ Singapore Airlines receives 25.1% stake in Air India group.

- ✓ Singapore Airlines will give Air India an additional SGD 360 million (USD 267 million). With its acquisition by Tata and merger with Vistara Airlines, it will give SIA a 25.1% interest in the firm.
- ✓ Through this deal, SIA will strengthen its relationship with Tata and gain an instant strategic position in a company that is four to five times bigger than Vistara in terms of size.
- ✓ Vistara Brand To Be Discontinued With Air India Merger.
- ✓ Tata Group owns a 51 per cent stake and Singapore Airlines the rest in Vistara.
- ✓ This will make the carrier the country's largest international carrier and second-largest domestic carrier.
- ✓ The deal is expected to be completed by March 2024.

Q. During April-December of this fiscal year, foreign direct investment (FDI) into India declined by 15% to USD 36.75 billion. Which of the aforementioned countries was the largest investor?

A) Mauritius

B) Singapore

C) United States

D) New Zealand

Answer : B

- ✓ FDI equity inflows decline 15% to \$36.75 bn in Apr-Dec FY23
- ✓ During April-December 2022-23, Singapore emerged as the top investor with USD 13 billion FDI. It was followed by Mauritius (USD 4.7 billion), the US (about USD 5 billion), the UAE (USD 3.1 billion), the Netherlands (USD 2.15 billion), Japan (USD 1.4 billion), and Cyprus (USD 1.15 billion).
- ✓ The computer software and hardware sector attracted the highest inflows of USD 8 billion during the nine-month period of this fiscal
- Q. Which sportsperson has won the gold medal in the men's shot put event of the AFI National Throws Competition?
 - A) Inderjeet Singh

- B) Omprakash Singh
- C) Tejinderpal Singh Toor
- D) Tek Chand

Answer : C

- ✓ Former Asian Games Champion Tejinderpal Singh Toor has won his second AFI National Throws Championship.
- ✓ He won the gold in the men's shot put event by increasing one centimetre in the same record.
- ✓ He threw his best throw 19.95 meters away.
- \checkmark Toor is the gold medalist of the 2018 Asian Games.

✓ In the Women's Discus Throw Event, Kalavati Basappa of Karnataka won gold with a throw of 44.83 metres whereas, in the Men's Discus throw event, Manjeet of Haryana won gold with a throw of 51.24 metres.

Q. Central Government approves the purchase of how many HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft?

A) 50	B) 60
C) 70	D) 80

Answer : C

- ✓ Union Cabinet has approved the procurement of 70 HTT-40 basic trainer aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the Indian Air Force at a cost of Rs 6,828.36 crore.
- ✓ These aircraft are to be supplied by HAL over a period of next six years.
- The HTT-40 is a turbo prop aircraft and is designed to provide good low speed handling qualities and improved training effectiveness

Q. In which city is the 'Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela' being organized?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Patna
- C) Chandigarh
- D) Jaipur

Answer : A

- The Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela, organised every year by theIndian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), will be organised inDelhi from 2 to 4 March 2023.
- Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela will be inaugurated by Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.Narendra Singh Tomar is the chief guest in this event.
- The theme of the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela is "Nutrition, Food and Environmental Protection with Shree Anna"
- The main attractions of the fair this year are- technical sessions on important and contemporary issues in agriculture, development of Shree Anna based value chain under International Shree Anna Varsh, smart farming / protected farming model, climate friendly and sustainable agriculture, agricultural marketing and export.

Q. Who has been honoured with the 'Player of the Year Award' by the Asian Chess Federation?

- A) Parimarjan Negi
- B) D Gukesh
- C) Krishnan Sasikiran D) Vidit Gujrathi

Answer : B

- ✓ Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh has been honoured with the Player of the Year award by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF).
- ✓ Grandmaster D Gukesh won the gold medal with a score of 9/11 at the 44th Chess Olympiad in Mahabalipuram last year.
- ✓ In March last year, Gukesh became only the sixth Indian to break the 2700 Elo-rating mark and the youngest grandmaster from the country to be rated above 2700.
- ✓ All India Chess Federation bagged the 'Most Active Federation' award during the ACF Annual Summit

Q. Axis Bank has acquired the Indian Consumer Business of which Bank?

- A) Citi Bank B) Federal Bank
- C) Union Bank Of India
- D) Bandhan Bank

Answer : A

- ✓ Axis Bank has completed the acquisition of the consumer business of Citibank. India's third largest private sector bank has acquired the consumer businesses of Citibank in India. The deal is part of a global business strategy by Citigroup to expand its operations in 13 countries, including India by the year 2021.
- ✓ This was followed by the announcement of the decision to wind up retail banking operations.
- ✓ For this Axis Bank will pay up to Rs 12,325 crores to Citibank

Q. Who won the Women's Singles Title in National Badminton Championship?

- A) Aakarshi Kashyap
- B) Anupama Upadhyay

C) P V Sindhu

D) Sayali Gokhale

Answer : B

- Former world junior number one player Anupama Upadhyay has won the Women's Singles Title at the National Badminton Championship at the Balewadi Stadium.
- ✓ The 18-year-old Anupama defeated Aakarshi Kashyap in the women's singles final match.

- The same men's singles title was won by Mithun Manjunath by defeating Priyanshu Rajawat in the final match. Gayatri Gopichand and Trisha Jolly won the women's doubles title.
- ✓ Also, Hemanagendra Babu and Kanika Kanwal won the mixed doubles title.
- Q. Which country has been honoured with the Government Leadership Award 2023 by the GSM Association?

A) India

B) Singapore

C) China

D) Canada

Answer : A

- ✓ India receives GSMA Government Leadership Awards 2023.
- India was declared the winner at a ceremony organised by the Mobile World Congress on February 27, 2023, in Barcelona.
- ✓ Global System for Mobile Communications- The Global System for Mobile Association (GSMA) has presented the Government Leadership Award 2023to India for implementing best practices in telecom policy and regulation.
- ✓ According to the Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Railways, Ashwini Vaishnav, more than 85 per cent mobile tower clearances are now instantaneous.
- ✓ With nearly 1 lakh locations in 387 districts, India's 5G roll-out is one of the fastest in the world.
- ✓ The Global Mobile Communications Systems Association (GSMA), which represents over 750 mobile operators and 400 companies in the telecom ecosystem, recognizes one country every year.
- Along with this several initiatives were taken like license reforms, creation of PM Gati Shakti Sanchar Portal, streamlining of Right of Way (ROW), spectrum reforms, satellite reforms etc

Q. Who has taken over as the new Principal Director General of PIB?

A) Rajesh Malhotra

B) Alok Sinha

C) Nripendra Mishra

D) Satyendra Prakash

Answer : A

- ✓ Rajesh Malhotra appointed as new Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau.
- The Central Government has appointed Rajesh Malhotra, a senior officer of the 'Indian Information Service', as the Principal Director General of the 'Press Information Bureau'.

 Along with the appointment of Rajesh Malhotra, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) has appointed Priya Kumar as Director General of Doordarshan News.

Q. Who has launched the VAIBHAV Fellowship scheme for the Indian Diaspora abroad?

A) Rajnath Singh

- B) Manoj Sinha
- C) Jitendra Singh
- D) Devendra Singh Rana

- Answer : C
- ✓ Union MoS (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched the VAIBHAV Fellowship scheme for the Indian Diaspora abroad.
- ✓ Aim : To improve the research ecosystem of India's Higher Educational Institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world

Q. Which country along with India has agreed to work in the areas of deep tech start-ups?

A) Estonia	B) Belarus
C) Lithuania	D) Poland

Answer : C

- India and Lithuania agreed to work in the areas of deep tech startups as well as forge lasting ties in manufacturing of semiconductor chips.
- A high-level Lithuanian delegation led by Economy and Innovation Vice Minister Karolis Aemaitis called on Union Science & Technology Minister Jitendra Singh and discussed ways and means to revive the 2010 agreement in the area of science and technology.

Q. Who has signed two MoUs with HTMi, and Lamrin Tech Skill University?

- A) Ministry of Education
- B) Ministry of Labour and Employment (MLE)
- C) National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
- D) National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)

Answer : C

 National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and with due support from Ministry of Tourism signed an MoU with

Switzerland based Hotel and Tourism Management Institute (HTMi) to jointly provide certificate, diploma, advance diploma and certification courses in hospitality trades to the aspiring students.

- ✓ A tri-party MoU was signed by NSDC, HTMi and Lamrin Tech Skill University (LTSU).
- ✓ The first MoU signed between National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and HTMi outlined the broad contours of this partnership and the second was a tripartite MoU between NSDC, HTMi and Lamrin Tech Skill University(LTSU).

Q. First Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) meeting of the G20 is being organized in Which City?

A) Mumbai

B) Gurugram

C) Chennai

D) Hyderabad

Answer : B

- ✓ The First Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting (ACWG) of G-20, is set to take place in Gurugram, Haryana from 1st to 3rd March, 2023.
- During the three-day event at Gurugram, over 90 delegates from 20 members countries, 10 Invitee countries and 9 International Organizations will engage in detailed deliberations on strengthening International Anti-corruption mechanisms.
- ✓ G 20 ACWG meetings have one Chair (Presidency country) and one co-chair country. The co-chair for the G20 ACWG 2023 is Italy.

Q. Which edition of the Civil Accounts Day was celebrated in India on March 01, 2023?

A) 47th	B) 44th
C) 45th	D) 46th

Answer : A

- The Civil Accounts Day was celebrated on 1st March to mark the 47th foundation day of Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) in new Delhi.
- The Civil Accounts Day has been organised every year by the Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS), since its inception in 1976.
- ICAS is one of the Civil Services of India. It comes under the Department of Expenditure, Union Ministry of Finance

Q. Who has become the first woman legislator elected to the Nagaland Legislative Assembly?

- A) Azheto Zhimomi
- C) Hekani Jakhalu

- B) Kahuli Sema
- nalu D) Sano Wamujo

Answer : C

- ✓ Hakani Jakhalu of the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) became the first female MLA to be elected to the Nagaland Legislative Assembly.
- ✓ No female MLA was elected in a total of 13 state assembly seats in the state till date.
- ✓ Jakhu won the Dimapur III seat by defeating Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) leader Azheto Jhimomi by 1,536 votes.
- Another NDPP female candidate, Salhunuonu Cruce defeated her independent rival by just seven votes in the Western Angami constituency. Both became the first female MLA from Nagaland
- ✓ About Hekani Jakhalu
- She studied in Lady Shri Ram College for Women and Law Faculty of Delhi University and has done LLM from the University of San Francisco.
- ✓ He later worked in a law firm in Delhi.
- ✓ In 2005, she returned to Nagaland to start an NGO called Youthnet, with "Youth Empowerment".
- ✓ In 2019, she won the Nari Shakti Puruskar from the Ministry of Child and Women Development.
- ✓ Nagaland State
- Nagaland was formally recognized as a separate state on December 1, 1963, with Kohima declared as its capital.
- It is bounded by Arunachal Pradesh in the northeast, Manipur in the south and Assam in the west and northwest and Myanmar (Burma) in the east.
- ✓ Mithun (Gyal) is the state animal of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Blyth's Tragopan is the state bird of Nagaland.
- ✓ The Konyaks are the largest tribe, followed by the Aos, Tangkhul, Semas and Angami.

FIRST'S FEMALE IN NEWS 2022-23

- > Hekani Jakhalu became the first female MLA of Nagaland Assembly.
- > Equatorial Guinea appoints Manuela Roka Botey as first female PM.
- Indian-origin Manpreet Monica Singh sworn in as 1st female Sikh judge of USA.

- > Santhi Kumari Appointed as First Woman Chief Secretary of Telangana.
- > Dina Boluarte became Peru's first female president.
- > FIFA has announced that Stephanie Frappart of France will be the first woman to
- > referee a men's' World Cup match.
- > PT Usha Become First Women President of Indian Olympic Association.
- > Lance Naik Manju became the Indian Army's first woman skydive.
- > Natasa Pirc Musar has been elected as the first female President of Slovenia.
- > Giorgia Meloni looks set to become Italy's first woman prime minister.
- Nallathamby Kalaiselvi has become the first woman director general of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- > Draupadi Murmu may become India's First Tribal and Second Female President.
- > Priyanka Mohite becomes first Indian woman to climb five peaks above 8,000 metres.
- > Gita Gopinath becomes 1st woman to feature on IMF's 'wall of former chief economists'.
- > Lisa Sthalekar becomes first female president of Federation of International
- Cricketers' Association (FICA).
- > Abhilasha Barak becomes the Indian Army's first woman combat aviator.
- > Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit named as first woman Vice Chancellor of JNU.
- > Mithali Raj becomes first woman cricketer to appear at six Cricket World Cups.
- > Justice Ayesha Malik to be Pakistan's first woman Supreme Court judge.
- > Xiomara Castro sworn in as first female President of Honduras
- > Dhriti Banerjee appointed first woman director of Zoological Survey of India.
- > Mawya Sudan becomes IAF's 1st woman fighter pilot from J&K.
- > Costa Rica's Rebeca Grynspan first female secretary-general of UNCTAD.
- > Claire Polosak set to become first female match official in men's Test match.
- > Nigeria's Okonjo-Iweala set to become first female Chief of World Trade Organization (WTO).

Q. Who has recently become India's 81st Chess Grandmaster?

A) Vignesh N R

B) Sayantan Das

C) Pranesh M

D) Rahul Srivastava

Answer : B

✓ Sayantan Das has become India's 81st Chess Grandmaster as well as the 11th player from West Bengal who has crossed the 2500 mark in live ratings.

CHESS GRANDMASTER IN NEWS 2022 -23

- Sayantan Das from West Bengal has become India's 81st Chess Grandmaster.
- > Vignesh NR became the 80th Grandmaster of the country.
- Dutch player Anish Giri, five times the runner-up in Wijk aan Zee, has won Tata Steel Masters 2023.
- > 16-year-old from Tamilnadu, M Pranesh became India's 79th chess grandmaster .
- > Kolkata-based chess player, Koustav Chatterjee became India's 78th Grandmaster.
- > Aditya Mittal Becomes India's 77th Chess Grandmaster.
- > Magnus Carlsen (From Norway) wins Meltwater Champions Chess Tour 2022.
- R Praggnanandhaa and P V Nandhidhaa won the titles in the Open and women's sections respectively in the Asian Continental Chess championship held in New Delhi.
- > D Gukesh becomes youngest to beat World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen.
- > Pranav Anand from Bengaluru, Karnataka became India's 76th Chess GrandMaster.
- > Alireza Firouzja wins Sinquefield Cup & The Grand Chess Tour.
- > Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi wins 28th Abu Dhabi Masters.
- > 4th edition of the Tata Steel Chess India tournament will be held in Kolkata.
- Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa has defeated world champion, Magnus Carlsen, in the FTX Crypto Cup in Miami, an international chess Championship.
- > 2026 Chess Olympiad to be hosted by Uzbekistan.
- > Chess prodigy V Pranav (from Tamil Nadu) becomes India's 75th Grandmaster.
- > Indian chess legend Viswanathan Anand becomes FIDE deputy president.
- Aravindh Chithambaram has emerged winner in the 41st Villa De Benasque International Chess Open in Spain.
- > India's GrandMaster D. Gukesh (From Chennai) wins Gijon Chess Masters.
- > 44th Chess Olympiad: All India Chess Federation (AICF) and Tamil Nadu government sign MoU.
- > Viswanathan Anand (Tamil Nadu) became India's first grandmaster in 1988.

- > S Vijaylakshmi is India's first woman grandmaster in chess.
- > Abhimanyu Mishra has become the youngest-ever chess Grandmaster in the world

Q. Who has been appointed as the new coach of the Indian Men's Hockey team?

- A) Craig Fulton
- C) Graham Reid

- B) Dilip Tirkey
- **D) Mario Lemieux**

Answer : A

- Hockey India has appointed Craig Fulton of South Africa as the new head coach of the Indian men's hockey team.
- Craig Fulton will replace Graham Reid who resigned in January 2023 following India's poor performance in the World Cup.
- Craig Fulton represented South Africa at the Atlanta 1996 and Athens 2004 Olympics and earned 195 international caps in a career spanning more than a decade.
- ✓ Fulton managed the Irish men's hockey team between 2014 and 2018 and helped them qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympics.
- ✓ He also won the FIH Coach of the Year in 2015 while with the Irish team.
- ✓ Fulton has nearly 25 years of coaching experience and has earned 195 caps for South Africa over a span of 10 years.
- ✓ He also played in the Atlanta and Athens Olympics.
- Q. Who has been elected as the new President of Vietnam?
 - A) Vo Van Thuong B) Nguyen Xuan Phuc

C) Pham Minh Chinh D) Vuong Dinh Hue

Answer : A

- ✓ Vo Van Thuong elected as new President of Vietnam
- Vo Van Thuong, a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV), was elected as the country's new President by the National Assembly of Vietnam.
- ✓ Thuong's election came after the sudden resignation of the previous president, Nguyen Xuan Phuc.
- ✓ Thuong is the youngest member of the party's Politburo, the country's top decision-making body.
- ✓ About Vietnam

- It lies in South East Asia and it is a member of Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN)
- ✓ Capital: Hanoi
- ✓ Currency: Dong
- President : Vo Van Thuong
- Who has been elected as the new chairman of the Central Electricity Regulatory Q. **Commission (CERC)?**
 - A) Ajay Singh

- **B)** Rajiv Kumar
- C) Jishnu Baruah
- D) Umesh Awasthi

Answer : C

- ✓ Jishanu Barua has been appointed as the new chairman of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).
- ✓ Union Minister for Power R K Singh administered the oath of office and secrecy to Jishnu Barua in New Delhi on 3 March.
- ✓ Barua has been the Chief Secretary of Assam from October 2020 to August 2022.
- ✓ Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC)
- ✓ It has been established by the Government of India under the provisions of the Electricity Regulatory Commission Act, 1998.
- It is a regulator of the power sector in India.
- ✓ The commission consists of a chairperson and four other members, including the chairperson of the Central Electricity Authority.
- ✓ Its main functions are -regulating the tariffs of power generation of companies owned by the government, regulating tariffs of other power generation companies, regulating electricity inter -state transmission and determining tariffs for such transmission of electricity, Etc
- Dibang Multipurpose Project, India's largest-ever hydropower project, is being set up in Q. which state?
 - A) Odisha
 - C) Uttarakhand

- **B)** Assam
- **D)** Arunachal Pradesh

Answer : D

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 ever hydropower project. ✓ It is being set up close to 0 Valley District. ✓ This project will be develop cost of 319 billion INR. Q. The 'Atomic Minerals 	t, which was approved by the Central Government recently, is India's largest- China's border on the Dibang River, in Arunachal Pradesh's Lower Dibang bed by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) with an estimated Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD)' has found the serves in which state?
A) Madhya Pradesh	B) Odisha
C) Bihar	D) Karnataka
Answer : D	
 (AMD) found the presence ✓ The Central Government h in the Union Territory of Ja 	onducted by the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research of lithium reserves in Madya district of Karnataka. as started taking steps to initiate commercial exploration for the rare mineral mmu and Kashmir. of India's Department of Atomic Energy
	igned 'Windsor Framework' with which of the following Organization?
A) ISA	B) EU
C) G-20	D) G-7
Answer : B	
remove the border between ✓ The 'Windsor Framework' 	d a deal regarding post-Brexit trade rules for Northern Ireland, with a view to n Britain and Northern Ireland running through the Irish Sea. is set to replace the Northern Ireland Protocol, which had created political een the UK and the EU after Brexit.
Q. Which of the following approved by DGCA?	organisation manufactures the '228-201 LW aircraft' which has been
A) BHEL	B) HAL
C) ISRO	D) DRDO
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Answer : B

- ✓ The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has been granted approval by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for a new variant of the Hindustan 228-201 LW aircraft.
- ✓ The recent DGCA approval will enable commercial pilots to fly the aircraft with a reduced qualification requirement, increasing the availability of pilots for the aircraft

Q. Which of the following organization has recently tested the 'CE-20 Cryogenic Engine'?

- A) DRDO B) ISRO
- C) BEL D) HAL

Answer : B

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully completed the flight acceptance hot test for the CE-20 cryogenic engine.
- ✓ The engine will power the LVM3 launch vehicle's Cryogenic Upper Stage for the upcoming Chandrayaan-3 mission, which is slated to be launched in the later part of 2023.
- ✓ The test was carried out at the ISRO Propulsion Complex in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- ✓ Founded : 15 August 1969
- ✓ HQ : Bengalore, Karnataka
- ✓ Founder / 1st Chairman : Vikram Sarabhai
- ✓ 10th Chairman : S Somanath
- ✓ Aryabhata India's first satellites Launched on 19 April 1975.
- ✓ GSAT-1 India's first commercial satellite.
- ✓ SLV-3 was India's first experimental satellite launch vehicle.
- ✓ Ariane Passenger PayLoad Experiment, (APPLE) first communication satellite in India 19 June 1981.
- ✓ Udupi Ramachandra Rao : satellite Man of India
- Q. Which organization has released the 'Methane Global Tracker Report'?

A) UNEP	B) IEA
0) 111 5000	

C) UNFCCC D) WEF

Answer : B

✓ The Methane Global Tracker report is the annual report released by the International Energy Agency.

- ✓ According to the latest report, fossil fuel companies released 120 million metric tonnes of methane into the atmosphere last year.
- ✓ The report found that no effort has been taken by the fossil fuel companies to bring down the emissions.
- The International Energy Agency is an autonomous intergovernmental organization based in Paris, \checkmark established in 1974.

Q. Bird's eye chilli' is the geographical identification (GI) tagged product of which state?

A) Tamil Nadu

B) Karnataka

C) Rajasthan

D) Mizoram

Answer : D

- ✓ Mizoram would export 'Bird's eye chilli' of the state to the United States for the first time.
- ✓ 7.5 metric tons of organic bird's eye chilli would be sent to the US after the budget session of the assembly.
- ✓ The state government has obtained geographical identification (GI) tag for bird's eye chilli or 'Mizo chilli'

A 1,300-year-old Buddhist stupa has been recently unearthed in which state? Q.

A) Bihar

B) Uttar Pradesh

C) Odisha

D) Jharkhand

Answer : C

- ✓ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has found a 1,300-year-old Buddhist stupa in Odisha's Jajpur.
- ✓ State-run Odisha Mining Corporation was excavating Khondalite stones for their usage in the ambitious project to transform Puri into a world heritage city.
- \checkmark Another smaller stupa has been completely destroyed due to mining at the site.

Q. World Wildlife Day is an annual event, marked on_

A) March 01

B) March 04

C) March 03

- D) March 02

Answer : C

- ✓ World Wildlife Day is observed annually on 3 March.
- ✓ The theme for 2023 is "Partnerships for wildlife conservation".

- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 20 December 2013, in its 68th session, observed 3 March as World Wildlife Day to protect wildlife and raise awareness of endangered species of flora around the world.
- ✓ World Wildlife Day was celebrated for the first time on 3 March 2014.
- ✓ The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) was adopted on this day in 1973.
- ✓ CITES plays an important role in ensuring that international trade does not threaten the survival of species.
- ✓ The Wild Elephant Preservation Act was passed in the year 1872 to prevent the extinction of wild animals.
- Q. What is the theme of World Wildlife Day 2023?
 - A) Youth Effort for Wildlife Conservation
 - **B)** Partnership for Wildlife Conservation
 - **C)** Partnership for Green Wildlife
 - **D) Wildlife Conservation for Earth**

Answer : B

- World's first' bamboo crash barrier has been installed on which highway? Q.
 - A) Gujarat

C) Maharashtra

B) Haryana

D) Rajasthan

- Answer : C
- ✓ World's first' bamboo crash barrier installed on Maharashtra highway
- ✓ Union minister Nitin Gadkari on 4 March said a 200-meter-long bamboo crash barrier has been installed on a highway connecting Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts in Maharashtra, which he termed as the "world's first" such exercise.
- ✓ Calling it a "remarkable achievement" for the country and its bamboo sector, he said this crash barrier offers a perfect alternative to steel and addresses environmental concerns.
- ✓ As part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, India has developed the world's bamboo crash barrier which has been installed on the Vani-Warora Highway, Vidarbha, Maharashtra.

WORLD'S FIRST IN NEWS 2022-23

- > World's first' bamboo crash barrier installed on Maharashtra highway.
- > The world's first museum of palm leaf manuscripts established in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- Visva-Bharati University is expected to get the status of the world's first "Living Heritage University" from UNESCO by April-May 2023.
- > World's first vaccine for honeybees approved for use by United States.
- European Space Agency announced the name of the first "parastronaut" on 23 November in a major step towards allowing people with physical disabilities to work and live in space.
- > World's first Vedic Clock at the 300-year-old Jiwaji Observatory in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the "world's first CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) terminal at Bhavnagar in Gujarat.
- Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) has announced on 29 November that the iNCOVACC vaccine has become the world's first intra-nasal vaccine to receive primary series and heterologous booster approval.
- > New Zealand passes world's first tobacco law to ban smoking.
- World's first space tourist, Dennis Tito, has signed up with the Elon Musk Company SpaceX, to fly around the Moon aboard the Starship rocket.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released wild Cheetahs in Kuno National Park and launched the world's first Cheetah Rehabilitation Project.
- > World's first fleet of hydrogen-powered passenger trains was launched by Germany
- Goldsikka with technology support from Hyderabad-based startup, Opencube Technologies has launched its first Gold ATM at Begumpet and described it India's first Gold ATM and world's first Real Time Gold ATM.

Q. Which bank announced completion of \$1 billion Syndicated social loan facility?

- A) Indian Overseas Bank B) State Bank of India
- C) Punjab National Bank D) Bank of Baroda

Answer : B

✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the completion of a \$1 billion Syndicated Social Loan Facility.

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- This syndicated transaction is significant for SBI and the Indian ESG financing market since it is the largest ESG loan by a commercial bank in the Asia Pacific and the second-largest social loan globally.
- ✓ Additionally, this is the bank's inaugural social loan and the first syndicated loan in the past five years.
- The \$1 billion facility was arranged through MLABs, MUFG Bank, and Taipei Fubon Commercial Bank Co. Ltd. MUFG and Taipei Fubon Commercial Bank are Joint Social Loan Coordinators while MUFG is the Lead Social Loan Coordinator for this transaction

SBI IN NEWS 2022 -23

- > SBI announces completion of \$1 billion Syndicated Social Loan Facility.
- Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) signed a memorandum (MoU) of understanding with State Bank of India to help farmers in getting low interest rate loans.
- According to the Indian Banks' Association (IBA)'s report titled "EASE Reforms Index for the first quarter of FY23" the State Bank of India(SBI) was adjudged as the Best Bank in adopting reforms prescribed for Public Sector Banks(PSB).
- SBI on 5 December 2022 announced that its personal banking advances excluding high value home loans have crossed the Rs 5 lakh-crore mark as on 30 November 2022.
- State Bank of India (SBI), India's largest lender, approved raising Rs 10,000 crore through infrastructure bonds during the financial year 2023 (FY23) including a greenshoe option of Rs 5,000 crore.
- State Bank of India has signed a 150 million euro (Rs 1,240 crore) loan agreement with the German development bank KfW for funding solar projects.
- Union Ministry of Finance has nominated Vivek Joshi as a Director to the Board of State Bank of India (SBI).
- State Bank of India (SBI) surpassed Rs 6 trillion in Assets Under Management (AUM) under the Home Loan segment.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has bought the entire 13.82 per cent stakes held by Small Industrial Bank of India (SIDBI), Bank of Maharashtra and Union Bank of India in the SBI Global Factors Ltd (SBIGFL).
- SBI has reduced the interest rate on savings accounts by a marginal 5 basis points to 2.70 per cent effective from 15 October 2022. 100 basis points is equal to 1%.

- State Bank of India (SBI) chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara announced their Next-Gen Contact Centre service.
- SBI launches 'Gram Seva Program' across six states of India (Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal).
- > SBI hit market capitalization of Rs 5 trillion, share prices reach record high.
- State Bank of India (SBI) will manage the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Bangladesh for two more years.
- > HDFC leads credit card market while SBI tops chart in debit card market.
- State Bank of India (SBI) to Raise Rs. 11,000 Crore in Basel III Bonds in fiscal year 2022–23 (FY23).
- State Bank of India (SBI)'s 'WECARE' Senior Citizens' Fixed Deposit (FD) scheme has extended upto 31st March 2023.
- State Bank of India (SBI) launched India's first state-of-the-art start-up dedicated branch in Koramangala in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- > SBI has launched its first branch dedicated to start-ups in Koramangala, Bengaluru.
- > State Bank of India launched "Utsav fixed deposit scheme".
- > RBI authorises HR subsidiary of SBI to manage cost effectively.
- > SBI's first-quarter net profit fell by 7% to Rs. 6,068 billion.
- > HDFC leads credit card market while SBI tops chart in debit card market.
- State Bank of India (SBI) will manage the Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC) in Bangladesh for two more years.
- > SBI will soon provide its customers with WhatsApp-based banking.
- > State Bank of India, is celebrating its 67th year on 1st July 2022.
- > RBI approves SBI's establishment of operations support subsidiary.
- Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) signs MoUs with SBI, BOB, PNB, and SIDBI for Uttar Pradesh.
- > Electric two-wheeler manufacturer Ather Energy partners SBI for customer retail finance.
- > Alok Kumar Choudhary appointed State Bank of India MD for 2 years.
- > STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI)
- Founded : 1 July 1955

- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Dinesh Kumar Khara
- Managing Director (4) : Alok Kumar Choudhary, Swaminathan Janakiraman, Challa Sreenivasulu Setty and Ashwini Kumar Tewari
- > Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI
- The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.
- > Tagline of State Bank of India
 - (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else
 - (2) With you all the way
 - (3) A bank of the common man
 - (4) The banker to every Indian
 - (5) The Nation banks on us

Q. Where is the international Yoga festival 2023 celebrated?

A) Dehradun

B) Haridwar

C) Chamoli

D) Rishikesh

Answer : D

- ✓ International Yoga Festival 2023 on the banks of the Ganges in Rishikesh.
- The International Yoga Festival 2023, organised by the Uttarakhand Tourism Development Council on March 1, 2023, was formally inaugurated by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on the banks of the Ganges in Rishikesh.
- On March 1, 2023, a grand ceremony was organised for the International Yoga Festival at Yoga Ghat near GMVN Ganga Resort located at Muni Ki Reti. In which the famous Yogacharya of the country guided the Yoga seekers.
- Renowned Yogacharya Padmashree Sivananda and Padmabhushan Rajinikanth were also present on the occasion.
- Sages and sages acquired many methods of yoga on the banks of the Ganges and presented yoga for the welfare of mankind.
- \checkmark In the coming days this year, two G-20 conferences are to be held in Rishikesh.



✓ <u>Uttarakhand:</u>

- ✓ Capital : Dehradun in winter, Gairsain inehradun i summer.
- ✓ Governor : Lieutenant General Gurmeet Singh
- Chief Minister : Pushkar Singh Dhami

After Singapore, with which country India has extended Unified Payments Interface (UPI)? Q.

A) UAE

B) Mauritius

C) Indonesia

D) All of the above

Answer : D

- ✓ UPI likely to extend to UAE, Mauritius, Indonesia
- ✓ India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is shortly to be connected to comparable networks in Indonesia, Mauritius, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). This occurs a week after Singapore's PayNow launched cross-border connection for real-time digital payments
- ✓ The service would be made available to Singapore users through DBS-Singapore and Liquid Group, according to the Central Bank of India (RBI) (a non-bank financial institution).
- ✓ Singapore is the first country with which a cross-border Person-to-Person (P2P) payment facility has been launched.
- ✓ About UPI
- ✓ Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a single platform that integrates various banking services and facilities under one umbrella.
- ✓ It is developed by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- ✓ The names of the top UPI apps currently are PhonePe, Paytm, Google Pay, Amazon Pay and BHIM.
- ✓ NPCI launched UPI in 2016 with 21 member banks.
- Who is elected as the new President of Nigeria? Q.
 - A) Suleiman Adamu Kazaure
- **B)** Pauline Tallen
- C) Abubakar Malami
- D) Bola Tinbhu

Answer : D

- ✓ Bola Tinubu elected as the new President of Nigeria.
- Nigerian electoral officials announced on 1 March 2023 that the ruling party's candidate in the presidential election, Bola Tinubu, has been elected as the country's new president.

- Bola Tinubu has been associated with the 'All Progressive Congress Party' from which he has been winning elections.
- ✓ NIGERIA
- ✓ Capital : Abuja
- ✓ Currency : Nigerian naira
- ✓ Prime Minister : Bola Tinubu
- ✓ President : Muhammadu Buhari
- Q. IRCTC partnered with which bank to launch India's most rewarding Co-branded travel credit card?
 - A) Yes Bank
 - C) HDFC Bank

- B) Axis Bank
- D) ICICI Bank

Answer : C

- ✓ Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC), the public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Railways, and HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector bank today announced a partnership to launch one of India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit cards.
- Known as the IRCTC HDFC Bank Credit Card, the newly launched co-branded card is in a single variant and is available exclusively on NPCI's Rupay network.
- ✓ It will provide exclusive benefits and maximum savings on bookings of train tickets booked through the IRCTC's ticketing website and through IRCTC Rail Connect app.
- Q. Who has been appointed as the Director General of the Border Guarding force Sashtra Seema Bal ?
 - A) Amit Syngle

B) Ashok Vemuri

C) Rashmi Shukla

D) Bharat Puri

Answer : C

- Senior IPS officer Rashmi Shukla has been appointed as the Director General of the border-guarding force Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).
- Shukla, a 1988-batch Indian Police Service officer of the Maharashtra cadre, is currently the Additional DG of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Shukla's appointment as the Director General, SSB, till June 30, 2024.

✓ NEW UPDATED LIST OF CHIEF AND DIRECTOR GENERAL

- Sujoy Lal Thaosen : Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- Anish Dayal Singh : Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- Lieutenant General Anil Chauhan : Chief of Defence Staff (CDS)
- Rashmi Shukla : Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)
- Sujoy Lal Thaosen : Border Security Force (BSF)
- Pradeep Chandran Nair : Assam Rifles
- Vivek Ram Chaudhari : Air Force Chief
- General Manoj Pande : Army Chief
- R Hari Kumar : Navy Chief
- Sheel Vardhan Singh : Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)
- Virender Singh Pathania : Indian Coast Guard (ICG)
- M A Ganapathy : National Security Guard (NSG)
- Gurbirpal Singh : National Cadet Corps (NCC)

Q. Who has been chosen as the Business Standard Banker of the Year 2022?

- A) Atanu Chakraborty B) Sashidhar Jagdishan
- C) Sumant Kathpalia
- D) Sandeep Bakhshi

Answer : B

- ✓ Sashidhar Jagdishan, managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of HDFC Bank, has been chosen as the Business Standard Banker of the Year 2022, as the lender continued its strong performance under his leadership while successfully navigating through technology-related challenges.
- An eminent five-member jury, chaired by former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) deputy governor S S Mundra, picked the CEO of the largest private sector bank of the country as the winner.
- Q. Who broke the national record in the Men's Long Jump in the 2nd AFI national jumps competition?
 - A) Jeswin Aldrin

- B) Rishabh Rishishwar
- C) Muhammad Anis Yahiya
- D) Ravindra Singh

Answer : A

- ✓ Jesvin Aldrin created a new national record by winning the gold medal in the men's long jump event at the Indian Open Jump Competition 2023 held in Bellary, Karnataka.
- ✓ Jesvin Aldrin, competing at the Inspire Institute of Sports (IIS), broke the national record of 8.36m set by Murali Sreesankar in April last year at the Federation Cup 2022, with a jump of 8.42m.
- ✓ Jaswin Aldrin has also qualified for the Asian Games.
- ✓ At the Asian Indoor Championships 2023, Jesvin Aldrin set a new national indoor record with a long jump of 7.97m.
- ✓ Long Jump Medal Winners of Indian Open Jump Competition 2023

✓ Men's Winner:

- 1. Jesvin Aldrin (8.42m) Gold Medal
- 2. Muhammad Anis Yahiya (7.85m) Silver medal
- 3. Rishabh Rishishwar (7.77m) Bronze medal
- ✓ Women's Winner:
 - 1. Shrutilakshmi (6.11 m) Gold Medal
 - 2. Manisha Meral (5.96m) Silver Medal
 - 3. R Punita (5.85m) Bronze medal

Q. Who has been banned by National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) for 4 year?

- A) Muhammad Anis Yahiya
- B) Aishwarya Babu
- C) Rishabh Rishishwar
- D) Manisha Meral

Answer : B

- ✓ NADA bans Indian athletes Aishwarya Babu, MV Jilana for doping.
- India's triple jumper Aishwarya Babu and sprinter MV Jilna have been banned by India's National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) and Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) respectively after they tested positive for banned drugs by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).
- Aishwarya won a gold medal in the triple jump during the National Inter-State Championships in June 2022, with a leap of 14.14 m establishing a new national record.
- Aishwarya has been suspended for four yearsby the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)after she tested positive for a banned substance, anabolic steroids.

- ✓ Aishwarya's sample tested positive for a steroid included in the banned list of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), due to which she was ruled out of the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022.
- ✓ World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)
- The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) was established in 1999 as an international independent agency composed and funded by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and governments of the world.
- ✓ Its main aim is to fight against the unauthorized use of performance enhancing drugs (Dope) by the athletes in sports.
- ✓ WADA's primary role is to develop, harmonize and coordinate anti-doping rules and policies across all sports and countries.
- ✓ WADA is an international organization. It delegates work in individual countries to Regional and National Anti-Doping Organizations.
- ✓ Headquarters: Lausanne,Switzerland
- Q. Who among the following has launched 'Catch the Rain-2023' campaign?
 - A) Droupadi Murmu

B) Rajnath Singh

C) Nitin Gadkari

D) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer : A

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu will launch the 'Catch the Rain-2023' on March 4, 2023 as part of efforts to turn conservation of water into a mass campaign in the run-up to the monsoon season.
- ✓ The theme of this year's campaign will be 'Source Sustainability for Drinking Water'.
- ✓ "During Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain-2023. The significant role that water plays in the empowerment of women has been acknowledged with the theme 'Jal Shakti se Nari Shakti'
- The President will also confer 18 Awards under Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen, Jal Jeevan Mission and National Water Mission under various categories and release a compendium of case stories titled 'Swachh Sujal Shakti Ki Abhivyakti

Q. Reserve Bank of India on imposed a cap of how much on withdrawals by individual customers from Tamil Nadu-based Musiri Urban Co-operative Bank?

A) Rs 5,000	B) Rs 2,000
C) Rs 1,000	D) Rs 3,000

Answer : A

- ✓ RBI puts restrictions on Musiri Urban Co-operative Bank
- The Reserve Bank of India on 3 March imposed a Rs 5,000 cap on withdrawals by individual customers from Tamil Nadu-based Musiri Urban Co-operative Bank as part of several restrictions slapped on the lender due to its deteriorating financial condition.
- The restrictions on the lender will remain in force for six months from the close of business on March 3 and are subject to review.
- ✓ With curbs in place, the cooperative bank, without approval of the RBI, cannot grant loans, make any investment, and disburse any payment. The lender cannot also dispose of any of its properties, among others.

Q. The Indian Air Force (IAF) along with whom participated in Exercise Shinyuu Maitri?

A) Singapore	B) Japan
C) United Kingdom	D) United States

Answer : B

- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) along with the Japan Air Self Defense Force (JASDF) participated in Exercise Shinyuu Maitri. It was mainly organised from 1st to 2nd March 2023.
- ✓ This air exercise was organised along with the Indo-Japanese joint military exercise Dharma Guardian.
- ✓ The Dharma Guardian air exercise was conducted from 13 February 2023 to 02 March 2023 at Komatsu, Japan.
- ✓ An Indian Air Force contingent with a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft participated in Exercise SHINYU Maitri 23.
- The first phase of the exercise involved discussion on transport operations and tactical manoeuvres, followed by the second phase of flying exercises by C-17 transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force and C-2 transport aircraft of the Air Self-Defense Force of Japan.
- The heavy lift transport aircraft fleet of the Indian Air Force is also participating in Exercise Desert Flag VIII in UAE and Exercise Cobra Warrior in UK.
- ✓ India- Japan : JIMEX (naval exercise), SHINYUU Maitri (air force exercise), and Dharma Guardian (military exercise).

Q. What is the rank of Mumbai in globally in price growth in luxury housing?

A) 40	B) 28
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C) 37

Answer : C

✓ Mumbai's rank has improved to 37th from 92nd in a global list of movement in prices of luxury homes as the city saw an appreciation of 6.4 per cent during 2022 calendar year, according to Knight Frank India.

D) 54

- ✓ In Bengaluru, the prices of prime property rose 3 per cent, helping the city improve its rank to 63rd in 2022 from 91st in 2021.
- ✓ "Delhi's prime property market saw value appreciating by 1.2 per cent which moved up the ranking to 77th from 93rd in 2021
- As per the report, the prime residential prices in Dubai accelerated 44.2 per cent in 2022. Aspen ranks 2nd with 27.6 per cent growth in prices, followed by Riyadh (25 per cent), Tokyo (22.8 per cent), Miami (21.6 per cent), Prague (16.3 per cent), Algarve (15.3 per cent), Bahamas (15 per cent), Athens 13 per cent and Porto (12.7 per cent).

Q. AM Ahmadi passed away recently. Who was he?

A) Chief justice

B) Social Worker

C) Politician

D) Writer

Answer : A

- ✓ Former Chief Justice of India Justice AM Ahmadi passed away.
- ✓ Ahmadi was appointed judge of the City Civil and Sessions Court, Ahmedabad in 1964.
- ✓ He was appointed as a judge of the High Court of Gujarat in 1976.
- ✓ Ahmadi took over as the Chief Justice of India in 1994.
- Some notable judgments Ahmadi was part of include Indra Sawhney v. Union of India and Ismail Farooqui v. Union of India.
- ✓ Justice Ahmadi served as the Chief Justice of India from 25 October 1994 until his retirement on 24 March 1997.
- ✓ Justice Ahmadi was also thethird Muslim to serve as CJI.
- ✓ Current Chief Justice (CJI) Dr. Justice Dhananjay Yashwant Chandrachud

Q. The National Safety Day is observed on which day of the year?

- A) March 02
- C) March 04

- B) March 03
- D) March 05

Answer : C

- ✓ National Safety Day is observed every year on 4th March with the objective of ensuring safety of people in all aspects and promoting a safe working environment.
- ✓ The theme of National Safety Day 2023 is "Our Aim Zero Harm".
- ✓ The objective of this subject is to bring down the business loss to zero.
- ✓ The day aims to promote a safe culture with shared values, beliefs and vision.
- ✓ The Government of India established the National Safety Council as a non-profit and self-financing body on 4 March 1966 by the Ministry of Labor and Employment.
- ✓ National Safety Day was started for the first time in 1972.

Q. Which Bank has recommended the reappointment of 'Sashidhar Jagdishan' as Managing Director (MD) and CEO for three years, with effect from 27 October 2023?

A) ICICI Bank

B) HDFC Bank

C) Axis Bank

D) Kotak Mahindra Bank

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Answer : B

- ✓ HDFC Bank announced that it's board of directors have recommended the re-appointment of "Sashidhar Jagdishan" as managing director and CEO for a period of three years with effect from 27 October,2023.
- ✓ HDFC Bank will be 100% owned by public shareholders and existing shareholders of HDFC will own 41% of the former.
- ✓ HDFC Bank Ltd reported 18.5% year-on-year (YoY) rise in net profit for the quarter ended December 2022 to ₹12,259 crore. This is against net profit of ₹10,342.20 crore in the year ago period..

HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2022-23

- ▶ HDFC Bank recommends re-appointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan MD, CEO for 3 yrs.
- > HDFC Bank's Sashidhar Jagdishan is 'BS Banker of the Year 2022'.
- > HDFC Bank, IRCTC launch India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit card.

- HDFC Bank, Lulu Exchange ink deal to enhance cross-border payments between India-Gulf region.
- > HDFC Bank collaborates with Microsoft as part of its digital transformation.
- Reserve Bank of India said SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank remain domestic systemically important banks (D-SIBs).
- > India's first Electronic Bank Guarantee issued by HDFC Bank.
- > 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.
- 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, a private sector bank, has signed a relationship with 100X.VC, a leading early-stage venture capital firm.
- HDFC has announced a collaboration with global information technology services and consulting firm, Accenture, to digitally transform its lending business.
- > HDFC Bank and Retailio launched co-branded credit cards for chemists, pharmacies
- > HDFC Bank launched industry first digital 30-minute new car loan 'Xpress Car Loans'.
- For Rs 184 crore, HDFC will sell a 10% interest in HDFC Capital to Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA).
- > HDFC Bank adjudged as Best Performing Bank in SHG Linkage by DAY-NRLM.
- > HDFC Bank to launch "SmartHub Vyapar programme" & 'AutoFirst' app.
- > HDFC Bank finances Asia's largest waste to energy plant in Indore- Gobar-Dhan plant.

- > Tata Group choose SBI, BoB and HDFC Bank to finance Air India's old debt.
- > HDFC Bank named as Best Private Bank in India at the Global Private Banking Awards 2021.
- > HDFC Bank wins the coveted CII award for 'Most Innovative Best Practice'.
- > RBI Retains SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs).
- > HDFC Bank tie-up with India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) to offer banking services in rural areas.
- > HDFC launches 'green and sustainable' deposits programme for retail clients..
- International Finance Corporation (IFC) lends \$250 million to HDFC Ltd to boost green housing finance.
- > HDFC Bank launches 'Dukandar Overdraft Scheme'.
- > HDFC Bank launches 'Salaam Dil Sey' initiative.
- HDFC BANK
- Founded : 1994
- > Founder : Hasmukhbhai Parekh
- > HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- > MD & CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan
- > Tagline : We understand your world

Q. Which company has second-strongest telecom brand in world 2023?

A) Reliance Jio

B) Bharti Airtel

C) Vodafone Group

D) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

Answer : A

- ✓ Reliance Jio has climbed up to number two rank up from fifth place last year in a list of the top 10 strongest telecom brands in the world. In this post we will explore the Top 150 most valuable and strongest telecoms operator brands according to Brand Finance 2023 rankings
- ✓ Swisscom increased brand value by 5 percent to \$6.3 billion and is the strongest telecoms brand with a Brand Strength Index (BSI) score of 92.
- \checkmark It is the third strongest brand globally and earns an elite AAA+ brand rating. It
- ✓ Reliance Jio India's largest network.

- ✓ With over 400 million subscribers, Reliance Jio is the largest mobile operator in India and the third largest in the world.
- ✓ Jio formally launched its 4G services on 5 September 2016.
- Chairman Akash Ambani
- Headquarters Mumbai
- Q. Who has commissioned India's first air-cooled condenser at the North Karanpura supercritical thermal plant in Jharkhand?

B) SJVN

D) NTPC

- A) NHPC
- C) GAIL

Answer : D

- ✓ National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), the country's largest integrated energy utility, has started commercial operation of 1st Unit of 660 MW at North Karanpura (3*660 MW), in Jharkhand.
- ✓ NTPC has commissioned India's first Air cooled condenser installed Super Critical plant to demonstrate its Commitment towards water conservation through reduce, reuse and recycle.
- ✓ This project has been envisaged with Air Cooled Condenser (ACC) which has almost 1/3rd water footprint as compared to a conventional Water Cooled Condenser (WCC).

Q. Who informed that the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has decided that all the pension portals will be integrated in a single portal?

A) Manoj Sinha

B) Jitendra Singh

C) Piyush Goyal

D) Mansukh L. Mandaviya

Answer : B

- ✓ Dr Jitendra Singh informed that the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare has decided that all the pension portals like Pension Disbursing Bank portals, ANUBHAV, CPENGRAMS, CGHS etc. will be integrated in a single portal in the form of the newly created "Integrated Pensioners' Portal" (https://ipension.nic.in) to ensure "Ease of Living for the elder citizens".
- ✓ * Addressing the Bankers Awareness Workshop in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, Dr Jitendra Singh said, in tune with Vision of Prime Minister for an "Integrated Approach to bring Ease of Living".
- The Minister also pointed out that the task of Integration of Pension Seva Portal of SBI and Canara Bank with Bhavishya portal have been completed.

Q. Who has inked the first 'High Seas Treaty' in a bid to protect the ocean bodies of the world?

A) NATO

B) World Trade Organization (WTO)

C) World Health Organization (WHO) D) United Nations (UN)

Answer : D

- ✓ The United Nations (UN) inked the first 'High Seas Treaty' in a bid to protect the ocean bodies of the world that lie outside the national boundaries and form almost two-thirds of the world's oceans.
- ✓ The previous negotiations failed to conclude due to disagreements on funding and fishing rights. The last international agreement on ocean protection was signed 40 years ago in 1982 the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- ✓ The UN High Seas Treaty now brings 30 percent of the world's oceans into the protected domain, puts more money into marine conservation and sets new rules for mining at sea.
- ✓ UNITED NATIONS (UN)
- ✓ Founded : 24 October 1945
- ✓ Headquarteres : New York, US
- ✓ Official languages : Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian & Spanish
- ✓ Membership : 193 member states & 2 observer states
- ✓ 1st Secretary General : Trygve Halvdan Lie (Norway)
- ✓ 7th Secretary General : Kofi Annan (Ghana)
- ✓ 8th Secretary General : Ban Ki-moon (South Korea)
- ✓ 9th Secretary-General : António Guterres (Portugal)
- ✓ Deputy Secretary-General : Amina J. Mohammed (Nigeria)
- ✓ United Nations Day is celebrated on October 24 every year.
- Q. According to National Statistical Office (NSO), the estimated annual per capita (net national income) at current prices for 2022-23 is ____.
 - A) Rs 1,72,000
 - C) Rs 1,87,000

B) Rs 1,79,000D) Rs 1,94,000

Answer : A

- ✓ According to National Statistical Office (NSO), the estimated annual per capita (net national income) at current prices for 2022-23 is Rs 1,72,000, showing a growth of around 99 per cent from Rs 86,647 in 2014-15.
- ✓ However, after adjusting for inflation (constant prices), the per capita income has risen by approximately 35 per cent from Rs 72,805 in 2014-15 to Rs 98,118 in 2022-23.
- "You are looking at GDP in current prices, but if you account for inflation, the increase is much less,"
 Development economist Jayati Ghosh was quoted as saying
- Q. Which Bank will lend up to \$1 billion to India to strengthen its health infrastructure?
 - A) Reserve Bank of India B) World Bank
 - C) New Development Bank D) Asian Development Bank

Answer : B

- ✓ World Bank will lend up to \$1 billion to India to strengthen its health infrastructure.
- ✓ The lending will be divided into two complementary loans of \$500 million each.
- ✓ The bank will support India's flagship Pradhan Mantri-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) which was launched in October 2021.
- The loans will prioritize health service delivery in Seven States Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya,
 Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.
- Q. Pramerica Life Insurance Limited has recently appointed whom as its new Managing Director?
 - A) Ajay Mathur
 - B) Yogesh Sachan
 - C) Pankaj Awasthi
 - D) Pankaj Gupta

Answer : D

- ✓ Pramerica Life Insurance Limited has appointed Pankaj Gupta as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of the Pramerica Life Insurance. Gupta will succeed Kalpana Sampat.
- Pramerica Life Insurance Limited is a joint venture between DIL, a wholly owned subsidiary of Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Limited and Prudential International Insurance Holdings, Ltd. (PIIH), a fully owned subsidiary of Prudential Financial, Inc. (PFI).

Q. RBI has recently imposed a fine of Rs 3.06 crores on which company?

- A) Paytm
- C) BharatPe

B) Amazon Pay

D) Google Pay

- Answer : B
- Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs 3.06 crore on Amazon Pay (India) Private Limited for non-compliance of certain directions related to Prepaid Payment Instruments and Know Your Customer.
- ✓ The penalty has been imposed in exercise of powers vested in RBI under section 30 of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.
- ✓ It was found that Amazon Pay (India) was not complying with the directions issued by RBI on KYC requirements.
- Accordingly, notice was issued to the unit advising it to show cause why penalty should not be imposed for non-compliance of the directions.
- ✓ Amazon Pay (India) Pvt Ltd is the online payments service owned by US-based Amazon.

Q. Which Countries are signed an MoU on research, technology and innovation collaborations in New Delhi?

- A) India and Canada
- C) India and Mexico
- B) India and France
- D) India and Australia

Answer : C

- ✓ India and Mexico signed an MoU on research, technology and innovation collaborations in New Delhi.
- ✓ It will specifically focus on several key technology areas including Aerospace, Electronics, Earth and Ocean Sciences and Water, Mining, Minerals, Clean Energy, Biotech and Healthcare.
- Q. Which State Power Corporation Limited was awarded as the top performer among all Discoms across the country for energy conservation measures?
 - A) Gujarat

B) Punjab

C) Maharashtra

D) Uttar Pradesh

Answer : B

- Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) has been awarded as top performer among all Discoms's across the country for energy conservation measures under Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) program of the Union Ministry for Power.
- ✓ The award ceremony was held at New Delhi on 1st March 2023.
- ✓ A PSPCL spokesperson said that a total number of 80,686 'Energy saving certificates' (ESCerts) were issued to PSPCL during PAT cycle-II by the Ministry of Power.
- ✓ The value of each ESCert is around Rs 1,840 thus total value of Rs 14.84 crore and these can be traded at Power Exchanges. The 'Top performer award' and letter of appreciation was given to PSPCL by Union power minister RK Singh during National Function at Delhi.

Q. Who has launched the first phase of the Safe City project in Bengaluru, Karnataka?

A) Amit Shah

B) Narendra Modi

C) J. P. Nadda

D) Nitin Gadkari

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah launched Safe City Projects in Bengaluru, Karnataka on 3rd March 2023.
- ✓ Shri Amit Shah flagged off Mobile Command and Control Centre and new fleet of 112 vehicles in Bengaluru. Several dignitaries, including the Chief Minister of Karnataka Shri Basavaraj Bommai, were present on the occasion

Q. Gold Mines Found In Three Districts (Deogarh, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj) Of Which State?

- A) Bihar
- C) Odisha

B) Punjab

D) Karnataka

Answer : C

- Odisha Steel and Mines Minister Prafulla Kumar Malik has informed the state assembly that gold mines have been discovered at different places in three districts of the state.
- Surveys by Odisha's Directorate of Mines and Geological Survey of India (GSI) have confirmed gold deposits in three districts including Deogarh, Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj.
- ✓ These gold deposits have been found at four places in Keonjhar district, four places in Mayurbhanj district and one place in Deogarh district.

- ✓ It is noteworthy that after the confirmation of lithium reserves in Jammu and Kashmir last month, now the indication of gold reserves in Odisha is an important achievement for the country.
- ✓ Surveys were done in these areas of Odisha in the 1970s and 80s. The survey campaign was conducted by the Directorate of Mines and Geology and the GSI. At that time the report of this survey was not made public.
- Q. Which countries are signed a Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications?

A) India and France

B) India and Australia

C) India and Japan

D) India and New Zealand

Answer : B

- India and Australia signed a Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications that will help ease the mobility of students and professionals between the two countries.
- ✓ The agreement was signed following a bilateral meeting in New Delhi on 2nd Mar 2023 between India's Education Minister "Shri Dharmendra Pradhan" and the Australian Education Minister "Mr. Jason Clare".

Q. Which Company has signed a MoU with GAIL (India) Limited for supply of natural gas?

A) Nelco Ltd

- B) JSW Steel
- C) Vedanta Limited D) Tata Steel Mining Limited

Answer : D

- In order to reduce carbon footprint in its operations, Tata Steel Mining Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with GAIL (India) Limited for supply of natural gas to its Ferro Alloys Plant at Athgarh in Odisha's Cuttack district.
- According to the MoU, GAIL will supply the agreed quantity of natural gas through its pipeline from Gujarat to Athgarh...
- ✓ The project will lead to Green House Gas emission reduction by 968 tons
- Q. India hosted the Quad Foreign Ministers in Which City?
 - A) New Delhi B) Mumbai
 - C) Ahmedabad D) Bengaluru

Answer : A

- ✓ Quad Foreign Ministers will be hosted by India on 3rd March 2023 in New Delhi," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar chaired the meeting.
- The Foreign Ministers of Australia and Japan and the Secretary of State of the US participated in the meeting.
- ✓ It is an opportunity for the Ministers to continue their discussions held at their last meeting in New York in September 2022.
- ✓ QUAD : It is a strategic security dialogue between Australia, India, Japan, and the US...
- Nitin Gadkari Inaugurated 7 National Highway Projects worth Rs 2,444 crore in Which Q. State?

A) Gujarat	B) Madya Pradesh
C) Karnataka	D) Uttar Pradesh

Answer : B

- ✓ Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 7 National Highway projects worth Rs 2,444 crore, totaling 204 km in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.
- Who has been awarded the prestigious PEN/Nabokov Award for 2023 for achievement in Q. international literature at a function organized by PEN America in New York?
 - A) Dharamvir Bharati B) Vinod Kumar Shukla
 - C) Amish Tripathi

D) Suryakant Tripathi

Answer : B

- ✓ Chhattisgarh's senior writer and eminent Hindi litterateur Vinod Kumar Shukla was awarded the prestigious PEN/Nabokov Award for 2023 for achievement in international literature at a function organized by PEN America in New York.
- ✓ Shukla, a Hindi story writer, novelist and poet, is the first Indian-Asian origin writer to be conferred with this highest honour.
- ✓ He was born in 1937 in Rajnandgaon, Madhya Pradesh, presently Chhattisgarh.
- In this award, he was given an amount of 50 thousand dollars (about 41 lakh rupees).

- Vinod Kumar Shukla's major novels include 'Naukar ki Kameez', 'Khilega to Dekhenge', 'deewar me aek khidki rahti thil', 'haree ghaas kee chhappar vaalee jhopadee aur bauna pahaad', 'yaasi raasa ta, ek maun sthaan'.
- ✓ PEN/Nabokov Lifetime Achievement Award
- ✓ This honor is given to those litterateurs who make a mark in international literature, who look at traditions, modernity, present and history with a new perspective in their works.
- ✓ The award is presented biennially by PEN America to writers, primarily novelists.
- The award is funded by the Vladimir Nabokov Foundation, established by the American opera singer and translator Dmitri Nabokov

Q. According to the V-dem Democracy Report 2023, what is the rank of India in the Electoral Democracy Index?

A) 108	B) 133
C) 115	D) 144

Answer : A

- According to the V-dem Democracy report 2023, India ranks 108th in the Electoral Democracy Index.
 The country ranks way below countries such as Tanzania, Bolivia, Mexico, Singapore and Nigeria.
- ✓ India's ranking dipped from the 100th position in 2022 to 108th this year in the report's Electoral Democracy Index (EDI) while it was 97th in the Liberal Democracy Index (LDI).
- Denmark ranked first with the highest comprehensive score of 0.89 in the LDI, followed by Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, and Estonia.
- The government of Denmark respects free speech and the citizens hold full civil liberties, political rights, and voting in an environment of free and fair elections.
- ✓ The US ranked 23 in the LDI while Canada and the UK occupied 24th and 20th spots, respectively.
- ✓ The Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) report is based on the global dataset on democracy with over 31 million data points for 202 countries from 1789 to 2022. Here's a look at the top 10 democracies in the world.
- ✓ Pakistan slipped two steps lower at 106th in the LDI and 110th in the EDI.

- Q. According to the Airport Council International (ACI), which of the following Airport has been ranked among the cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific?
 - A) Cochin International Airport, Kochi
 - B) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
 - C) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi
 - D) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, Hyderabad

Answer : C

- According to the Airport Council International (ACI), Delhi International Airport has been ranked among the cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific.
- ✓ The airport service quality award is based on passenger surveys carried out to rate customer satisfaction on the day of travel.
- ✓ The surveys cover over 30 performance indicators across key elements of a passenger's airport experience such as ease of finding your way, check-in, shopping, and dining offerings.
- ✓ According to ACI, 144 awards have been won by 75 airports globally based on over 465,000 surveys collected in 2022.

AIRPORT IN NEWS 2022-23

- According to the Airport Council International (ACI), Delhi International Airport has been ranked among the cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 27 February 2023 launched the newly built Shivamogga airport along with various development projects worth over Rs 3,600 crore in Shivamogga, Karnataka.
- Bangalore's Kempegoda International Airport and Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport both ranked second and seventh in Cirium's list of the world's best-performing airports for 2022.
- > Mopa International Airport Goa named after former CM Manohar Parrikar.
- Jaipur International Airport Limited has received the Aerodrome licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- Union Cabinet has given its approval for the naming of the new Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar, the State Capital of Arunachal Pradesh as "Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar".
- Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi is the 10th busiest airport in the world in terms of seat capacity and frequency of domestic and international flights as of October 2022.

- The busiest airport in the world as of October 2022 is Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.
- Jeypore airport in Odisha gets Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) approval for commercial flight.
- Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport airport makes 100% switch to green energy.
- Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) has been awarded the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) award 2022 by the Airport Council International (ACI).
- PM Modi has announced that the Chandigarh airport will be renamed after Shaheed Bhagat Singh.
- Hyderabad International Airport to Roll Out DigiYatra Platform for Paperless Travel From August 18.
- > Arunachal Pradesh 3rd Airport Named 'Donyi Polo Airport.
- > PM Modi to inaugurate newly-built Deoghar airport in Jharkhand.
- > Airports Council International (ACI) World released the annual World Airport Traffic Dataset
- > Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), United States busiest airports in the world.
- Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in New Delhi 13th busiest airport in world. {Indian Busiest airport}.
- Delhi Airport or Indira Gandhi International Airport becomes India's first to run entirely on hydro and solar energy.

Q. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has released a unique cover of the Department of Posts,'Go Green, Go Organic' for which state?

A) Meghalaya

C) Sikkim

- B) Assam
- **D) Arunachal Pradesh**

- Answer : C
- ✓ Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and four Sikkim ministers has released a unique cover of the Department of Posts, 'Go Green, Go Organic' for Sikkim.
- ✓ Special cover on 'Go Green, Go Organic' released for World's first organic state Sikkim.

- The special cover is a testament to the state's achievements in organic farming and progress and a reminder of the importance of sustainable development for the entire country.
- The union minister thanked Department of Posts for this release and congratulated Sikkim State for its achievements of becoming the first state of the world to get recognized as an Organic state by the World Book of Records (London).

Q. Which state government has announced the launch of Mukhyamantri Ekal Mahila Swarozgar Yojana in the state at the end of Women Empowerment and Safety Week?

- A) Himachal Pradesh
- **B) Uttarakhand**
- C) Andhra Pradesh D) Telangana

Answer : B

- Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhami has announced the launch of Mukhyamantri Ekal Mahila Swarozgar Yojana in the state at the end of Women Empowerment and Safety Week.
- ✓ Women in remote villages of the state are giving impetus to the rural economy through self-help groups.
- Dhami also highlighted legislation passed by his government to grant 30 percent reservation in public services to women domiciled in Uttarakhand

Q. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the four-year Bachelor Science Degree in Electronic Systems in which institution?

A) IIT Bombay	B) IIT Kanpur
C) IIT Madras	D) IIT Guwahati

Answer : C

- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the four-year Bachelor Science Degree in Electronic Systems at IIT Madras.
- ✓ The new BS in Electronic Systems course will be delivered online.
- The key objective of the programme is to meet the significant and growing demand for skilled graduates in the electronics and embedded manufacturing sector in India
- Unlike other undergraduate courses offered by the institute, candidates can take admission to this one without appearing in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE).

- Q. Conrad K Sangma has taken oath as the chief minister of which state for the second consecutive term?
 - A) Manipur

B) Meghalaya

C) Tripura

D) Mizoram

Answer : B

- ✓ Konrad Sangma became the Chief Minister of Meghalaya for the second time.
- ✓ National People's Party (NPP) PresidentKonrad K Sangmawas sworn in as the Chief Minister of Meghalaya for the second consecutive term on 7 March 2023.
- ✓ Governor Fagu Chauhan also administered oath to 12 ministers along with Sangma.
- ✓ 8 MLAs from NPP, 2 from United Democratic Party (UDP), Hill State Peoples Democratic Party (HSPDP) and 1 each from BJP took oath as ministers.
- ✓ On 6 March, 58 newly elected members of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly were administered oath by Speaker Pro Tem Timothy D'Shira.
- Meghalaya has 60 assembly seats, but polling in the Sohyeong constituency was postponed following the death of UDP candidate HD R Lyngdoh. Shira, MLA from Resubelpara, was administered oath as the Speaker Pro-tem of the Assembly by Governor Fagu Chauhan.
- ✓ Chief Minister in Indian Constitution:
- ✓ Article 164 of the Constitution provides that the Chief Minister will be appointed by the Governor.
- The leader of the party with a majority in the assembly elections is appointed as the Chief Minister of the state.

✓ Meghalaya

- ✓ Capital Shillong
- Chief Minister Conrad Kongkal Sangma
- ✓ Governor Phagu Chauhan
- Q. Who has been appointed as the world's first 'Hand Ambassador' for Savlon India?
 - A) Virat Kohli

B) Rohit Sharma

- C) Sachin Tendulkar
- D) Suryakumar Yadav

Answer : C

- ✓ Savion Swasth India has announced Sachin Tendulkar as the World's First 'Hand Ambassador' to inspire billions to wash their hands.
- The campaign features a series of films featuring Sachin Tendulkar's Hand as their chief protagonist bringing the importance of hand hygiene to everyone's notice.
- ✓ Started in 2016, the Savlon Swasth India Mission program is run by ITC Limited

LATEST BRAND AMBASSADOR IN NEWS 2022-23

- > Sachin Tendulkar : World's first 'Hand Ambassador' for Savlon India
- Ranveer Singh : Pepsi
- Ayushmann Khurrana : UNICEF India child rights
- > Yastika Bhatia and Renuka Singh Thakur : Hyundai Motor India Ltd
- Vir Das : Plant-based meat brand UnCrave
- Harmanpreet Kaur : Puma
- > Nikhat Zareen : National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
- > Saurav Ganguly : Bandhan Bank 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign
- Anushka Sharma : Puma
- > Deepika Padukone : Pottery Barn
- > Virat Kohli : Smart watch Noise
- > Prasoon Joshi : Uttarakhand State
- Lionel Messi : Byjus
- > Janhvi Kapoor : Marico's Saffola Fittify
- > Deepa Malik : Ambassador of Nikshay Mitra (TB Campaign)
- Suryakumar Yadav : UrbanGabru
- > MS Dhoni : Navi Technologie
- > Neeraj Chopra : Friendship Ambassador of Switzerland Tourism.
- > Yuvraj Singh : T20 World Cup for the Blind
- Sourav Ganguly : Bandhan Bank
- Smriti Mandhana : Gulf Oil Lubricants
- Ram Charan : Hero MotoCorp
- Rohit Sharma & Ritika Sajdeh : Max Life Insurance

- > Vanessa Nakate : UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador
- > Shah Rukh Khan : UAE healthcare provider Burjeel Holdings
- Sunil Chhetri : Pintola
- > Anushka Sharma : L'Oréal Paris
- > Amitabh Bachchan : Dabur India
- Kiccha Sudeep : Punyakoti Dattu Yojana (Karnataka Govt)
- > Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty : Mastercard
- Sourav Ganguly : DreamSetGo
- > Rishabh Pant : Brand Ambassador of Uttarakhand
- > Vaani Kapoor : Noise X-Fit 2 smartwatch
- Shahid Kapoor : PokerBaazi
- Ravi Shastri : FanCode
- > Mahendra Singh Dhoni : Garuda Aerospace
- > A. R. Rahman : India/UK Together Season of Culture
- > Deepika Padukone : Louis Vuitton
- > Robin Uthappa :Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (Ka-BHI)
- > Amir Khan : PharmEasy, a consumer healthcare "super app,"
- Shubman Gill & Ruturaj Gaikwad : My11Circle
- Mary Kom : Lupin
- Vidya Balan : Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- > Shahrukh Khan : Thums Up
- Rishabh Pant : Dish TV India
- > Tanishka Kotia & Riddhika Kotia : 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme for the Gurugram, Haryana
- Shah Rukh Khan : Gaming app A23
- > Manoj Tiwari : Khadi and other handicrafts of Bihar
- > Pankaj Tripathi : Krishi Network
- > Akshay Kumar : Uttarakhand ahead of the 2022 Assembly Elections.
- Disha Patani : Bata India
- Amitabh Bachchan : MediBuddy
- Neeraj Chopra : GoodDot

- Vijay Shekhar Sharma : Universal Acceptance Steering Group
- RajKummar Rao : RenewBuy

Q. Who has won the title of Bahrain Grand Prix 2023?

- A) Lewis Hamilton B) Charles Leclerc
- C) Sebastian Vettel D) Max Verstappen

Answer : D

- ✓ Red Bull's driver, Max Verstappen has won the season-opening Bahrain Grand Prix 2023, held at Bahrain International Circuit.
- ✓ He defeated Red Bull's Sergio Perez, who placed second in the race

Q. Which day is celebrated as the International Women's Day (IWD) annually?

- A) 04 March
- B) 07 March
- C) 08 March
- D) 06 March

Answer : C

- International Women's Day is observed on 8 March every year to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women from all around the world.
- The day also focuses on a call to action for accelerating gender parity and setting agendas and goals in achieving these targets.
- ✓ The theme for this year's Women's Day, according to the United Nations is "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality
- ✓ It was in 1945 that the Charter of the United Nations became the first international agreement to affirm the principle of equality between women and men.
- During International Women's Year in 1975, the UN celebrated its first official International Women's Day

Q. What is the theme of the 2023 International Women's Day?

- A) Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow
- B) An equal world is an enabled world
- C) Think equal, build smart, innovate for change
- D) DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality

Answer : D

- Q. RBI is observing the Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW) 2023 from March 7 to 11, 2023. What is the theme of the celebrations?
 - A) Smarter Digital Payments B) Outreach and Availability of Digital Payments
 - C) Go Digital, Go Secure D) Digital Payment Apnao, Auron ko bhi Sikhao

Answer : D

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched the Mission 'Har Payment Digital' on the occasion of Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW) 2023.
- ✓ This is part of RBI's endeavour to make every person in India a user of digital payments. DPAW 2023 will be observed from the 6 to12 of March 2023.
- ✓ The campaign theme is "Digital Payment Apnao, Auron ko bhi Sikhao" (Adopt digital payments and Also teach others)
- ✓ Har Payment Digital" is aimed at reinforcing the ease and convenience of digital payments and facilitating the onboarding of new consumers into the digital fold.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank will also initiate a '75 Digital Villages' programme in observance of 75 years of Independence.
- ✓ Under this programme, Payment System Operators will adopt 75 villages across the country and convert them into digital payment enabled villages.
- Q. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has prohibited the sale of hallmarked gold jewellery or gold artefacts without the _ alphanumeric Hallmark Unique Identification Number (HUID) after March 31, 2023.
 - A) six-digit

B) seven-digit

C) Eight-digit

D) Nine-digit

Answer : A

- ✓ Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has prohibited sale of hallmarked gold jewellery or gold artefacts without the six-digit alphanumeric hallmark unique identification number (HUID) after March 31, 2023.
- ✓ To promote quality culture in micro-scale units, it has been decided that the BIS will provide 80 percent concession on the certification/minimum marking fee across various product certification schemes.
- ✓ Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) number is a six-digit alphanumeric code consisting of numbers and letters. The six-digit HUID number was introduced on July 1, 2021.
- ✓ HUID will be given to every piece of jewellery at the time of hallmarking and it is unique for every piece of jewellery.
- ✓ The jewellery is stamped with the unique number manually at the Assaying & Hallmarking Centre (AHC).
- ✓ It would ensure traceability and assure quality in gold jewellery.
- Q. Who has flagged off PM Jan Aushadhi Train to commemorate the Jan Aushadhi scheme?
 - A) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya B) Narendra Modi
 - C) Piyush Goyal D) Draupadi Murmu

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav flagged off the Jan Aushadhi train (Chhattisgarh Sampark Kranti Express) in New Delhi.
- ✓ The train is dedicated to the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
- ✓ The train has been wrapped with branding of Jan Aushadhi scheme to spread the awareness among public about generic medicines available at Jan Aushadhi centers.
- ✓ Medicines are available at affordable prices in more than nine thousand Jan Aushadhi Kendras in India.
- ✓ This train will travel through 184 stations covering more than four states in two months.
- ✓ Jan Aushadhi Kendras provide quality and affordable medicines.
- Indian Railways is also running a special campaign for promotion of affordable generic medicines to create awareness among the public.
- The Ministry of Railways has decided to open Jan Aushadhi Kendras at some major railway stations which will prove beneficial for the passengers.
- About Jan Aushadhi Scheme
- ✓ The Jan aushadhi scheme was launched in 2008 by the UPA government.
- ✓ This scheme was relaunched in the year 2015, by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi.

- ✓ This campaign was started across the country by selling generic medicines through "Jan Aushadhi Medical Stores".
- In 2015, the name of 'Jan Aushadhi Yojana' was changed to 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Yojana' (PMJAY), but it was changed to "Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Yojana" in November 2016.
- Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) scheme was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India with the objective of providing quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all.
- Q. Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal has inaugurated the 1st Session of Massmerize 2023 in which city?
 - A) New Delhi
- B) Hyderabad

D) Bengaluru

C) Chennai

Answer : A

- Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution Piyush Goyal has inaugurated the 1st Session of Massmerize 2023 in New Delhi.
- Massmerize is a dialogue forum between government and retail, Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG), and e-Commerce sectors to discuss regulatory issues, Macro-Economics, and consumer trends.
- ✓ The FMCG sector will truly be a driver of economic growth and moving forward, India will be an important consumer market.

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate which edition of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction on 10th March 2023 in New Delhi?

B) 3rd

D) 5th

- A) 2nd
- C) 4th

Answer : B

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 3rd session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction on 10th March 2023 in New Delhi.
- ✓ The theme of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 2023 is 'building local resilience in the face of climate change.'

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- Home Minister Amit Shah will chair the Ministerial session wherein extensive deliberations will be held with the Ministers of States and Union Territories.
- ✓ An exhibition will be set up at the venue showcasing the technologies developed by the Startups.
- The two-day Third Session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will be attended by over one thousand dignitaries

Q. The 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference has begun in which state?

A) Manipur

B) Goa

C) Rajasthan

D) Telangana

Answer : B

- ✓ The 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference was inaugurated in Panji, Goa by Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai.
- It was also attended by Union Minister for Law and Justice Kiren Rijiju and Chief Minister of Goa Dr.
 Pramod Sawant.
- ✓ The Conference provides an opportunity for Commonwealth collegues to debate current issues affecting the legal profession.
- ✓ Union Minister Kiren Rijiju emphasized the importance of the conference as a platform for open discussions on critical issues. He stated that the law must be comprehensible to the common man to achieve its desired result.
- Q. Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf al-Sabah has been re-appointed as the Prime Minister of which country?
 - A) QatarB) Saudi ArabiaC) UAED) Kuwait

Answer : D

- ✓ Crown prince, Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf al-Sabah has been re-appointed as the Prime Minister of Kuwait.
- This decision came more than a month after the government resigned due to increased tensions with the parliament.
- Crown Prince Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who also oversees the duties of the ruling emir has nominated Sheikh Ahmed.

 Although political parties are prohibited in Kuwait, the legislature has more power than similar bodies in other Gulf monarchies.

Q. Who has been appointed as the new Controller General of Accounts (CGA) of India?

- A) Deepak Das
- B) Soma Roy Burman
- C) Girraj Prasad Gupta D) Sanjiva Shankar Dubey

Answer : D

- ✓ Sanjiva Shankar Dubey took charge as the 28th Controller General of Accounts (CGA).
- ✓ He is a 1989-batch Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) officer.
- Prior to taking charge as the CGA, Shri Dubey was the Additional Controller General of Accounts, Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

✓ About CGA

- ✓ CGA is 'the Principal Advisor' on Accounting Matters to the Union Government.
- CGA is responsible for establishing and managing a technically sound Management Accounting System and preparation & submission of the accounts of the Union government.
- ✓ CGA is also responsible for exchequer control and conduct of internal audits for the central government.

Q. Which edition of the Joint Military Exercise FRINJEX-23 between Indian Army and French Army has been conducted at Pangode Military Station, Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala?

A) 1st	B) 2nd
C) 3rd	D) 4th

Answer : A

- ✓ The first Joint Military Exercise FRINJEX-23 between Indian Army and French Army has been conducted at Pangode Military Station, Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala
- The exercise is aimed at enhancing inter-operability, coordination and cooperation between both forces at the tactical level.
- ✓ The scope of the exercise involves the establishment and operationalization of a joint command post to secure an envisaged area for undertaking joint humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, establishing an Internally Displaced Population (IDP) camp and move of disaster relief material.

 Thiruvananthapuram-based Indian Army troops and French 6th Light Armoured Brigade are participating in the exercise

Q. Who won the Dubai Tennis Championships title 2023?

- A) Alexander Zverev B) Daniil Medvedev
- C) Rafael Nadal D) Novak Djokovic

Answer : B

- Russian tennis player, Daniil Medvedev has defeated his Russian compatriot Andrey Rublev by 6-2, 6 2 to win the Dubai Tennis Championships title 2023.
- ✓ With this performance, he moved to sixth in the ATP rankings, while Rublev dropped to number seven.
- ✓ After winning the trophies in Rotterdam and Doha in February 2023, he is the third player to win three titles in as many weeks since 2021, joining Casper Ruud (July 2021) and Felix Auger-Aliassime (October 2022).

Q. Who has released a book titled India's Struggle for Independence – Gandhian Era?

A) Abhijit Banerjee

B) V. Ramasubramanian

C) Kailash Satyarthi

D) Amartya Sen

Answer : B

- ✓ Supreme Court Judge Justice V. Ramasubramanian has released a book titled India's Struggle for Independence – Gandhian Era.
- ✓ The book is authored by P. Jyothimani, former Judge, of Madras High Court, and G. Balan, former professor of history, at Pachiayappa's College, Tamil Nadu
- ✓ The book covers aspects such as relevance of Mahatma Gandhi as on date and said the book has to reach the younger generation for simple and better living of people.



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