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Aparchit Super Current Affairs Best 350+ MCQ With Facts March 2023 Set 02 By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal sir

Q. Who is the first woman officer in the Indian Air Force (IAF) to be appointed as the leader of a frontline combat unit?

- A) Avani Chaturvedi B) Mohana Singh
C) Bhawana Kanth D) Shaliza Dhani

Answer : D

- ✓ Shalija Dhani becomes first woman officer to command a fighter unit in IAF.
- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) has announced on 8 March 2023 that Group Captain Shalija Dhani will take over the command of the Missile Squadron in the Western Sector. Ms. Dhani has become the first Indian woman officer to achieve this.
- ✓ Dhani was commissioned as a helicopter pilot in the year 2003.
- ✓ She is currently posted in the Operations Branch of Forward Command Headquarters.
- ✓ Dhani is the second deployment after Captain Shiva Chauhan of the Fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army.
- ✓ Shiva Chauhan is currently the first woman officer to be operationally posted in Siachen.
- ✓ In another achievement, Major Abhilasha Barak has become the first woman officer to join the Army Aviation Corps as a combat aviator after completing her training
- ✓ Indian Air Force (IAF)
- ✓ Headquarters : New Delhi
- ✓ It is the fourth largest air force in the world.
- ✓ Motto: Touching the sky with glory (taken from the eleventh chapter of the Bhagavad Gita).
- ✓ Chief of the Air Staff: Air Chief Marshal VR Chowdhary.

FIRST INDIAN FIGHTER WOMEN'S IN NEWS

- Shalija Dhani becomes first woman officer to command a fighter unit in Indian Air Force (IAF) .
- Colonel Geeta Rana became the first woman officer to command a field workshop.
- Mawya Sudan Creates History by becoming first female fighter pilot from Jammu and Kashmir
- Aashritha V Olety from Karnataka India's First Woman Flight Test Engineer
- Ayesha Aziz from J&K becomes India's Youngest Female Pilot, the 25 years



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- Bhawana Kanth from Bihar to become the first Woman Fighter Pilot to take part in Republic Day Parade
- Shalija Dhami from Punjab First Female Flight Commander
- Hina Jaiswal from Chandigarh First Woman Flight Engineer of Indian Air Force.
- Bhawana Kanth from Bihar First Woman To Qualify To Go To Day Missions
- Avani Chaturvedi from Madhya Pradesh First Indian Woman Who Flew a Fighter aircraft Solo
- Mohana Singh from Rajasthan First Woman Fighter Pilot to Undertake Missions by day on Hawk
- Anjali Singh from Bihar India's First Female Military diplomat
- Shivangi from Bihar First Woman Pilot of Indian Navy

Q. In India, the Jan Aushadhi Diwas is observed on March 07 every year to raise awareness about the usages of generic medicines. The year 2023 marks which year of the annual celebration?

- A) 5th
- B) 8th
- C) 6th
- D) 4th

Answer : A

- ✓ Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers will organize the Janaushadhi Diwas from 1st March to 7th March 2023
- ✓ On 7th March 2023 the 5th Jan Aushadhi Diwas will be celebrated.
- ✓ Theme of 5th Janaushadhi Diwas: "Jan Aushadhi Sasti Bhi – Achhi Bhi"
- ✓ Objective of Janaushadhi Week and Day: To create awareness about the usages of generic medicines and benefits of Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana.
- ✓ **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.



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- ✓ 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.
- ✓ The Government has set a target to increase the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) to 10,500 by the end of March 2025

Q.3. What is the theme of the Janaushadhi Diwas 2023?

- A) Jan Aushadhi-Jan Upyogi B) Achi Dawa, Sasti Dawa
C) Seva Bhi – Rozgar bhi D) Jan Aushadhi Sasti Bhi – Achhi Bhi

Answer : D

Q. Which Ministry has awarded the 'Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman 2023'?

- A) Ministry of Home affairs B) Ministry of Labour and Employment
C) Ministry of Jal Shakti D) Ministry of Education

Answer : C

- ✓ The "Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman 2023", organized by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to honour the women champions of rural water and sanitation sector, was graced by the President Droupadi Murmu.
- ✓ The President launched the Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain 2023 campaign in New Delhi
- ✓ **About Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman**
- ✓ The Swachh Sujal Shakti Samman is to highlight and acknowledge the leadership and contribution of women at the grassroots level in the journey of creating a 'Swachh Sujal Bharat'.
- ✓ Women who have made significant contributions in ODF Plus Model Villages, Har Ghar Jal Villages, Water Conservation etc. under the National Flagship Mission were felicitated.
- ✓ This year's event was organized by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti to honor women champions of the rural water and sanitation sector.
- ✓ **About Catch the Rain campaign**
- ✓ It is a mass movement campaign that encourages all stakeholders to build Rain Water Harvesting Structures (RWHS).
- ✓ Tag Line: Catch the rain where it falls, when it falls.
- ✓ The campaign is implemented by the National Water Mission (NWM) under Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- ✓ The campaign is run across the country in both rural and urban areas
- ✓ Gajendra Singh Shekhawat : Minister of Jal Shakti



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✓ Constituency : Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Q. World Obesity Atlas 2023 found highest increases in obesity rates in countries of which region?

A) North America

B) Europe

C) Africa and Asia

D) Africa and South America

Answer : C

- ✓ The World Obesity Federation has released a report "World Obesity Atlas 2023".
- ✓ This report predicted a significant increase in obesity rates among children and adults in Africa, with a rise of 14% from 5% in child obesity rates and 31% from 18% in adult women by 2035.
- ✓ The report also warned that over half the world's population could be overweight or obese by 2035. The highest increases in obesity rates were found in low- and lower-middle-income countries in Africa and Asia
- ✓ According to a 2035 report by the World Obesity Federation (World Obesity Federation) on World Obesity Day, the world's population may be victims of earlier.
- ✓ By 2035, 1 out of every 4 may be a victim of disturbance. About 51 percent of people may be overweight compared to their age

Q. Megha-Tropiques-1 (MT1) satellite was jointly developed by India and which country?

A) Russia

B) Israel

C) France

D) United States

Answer : C

- ✓ The Indian Space Agency ISRO is conducting a controlled re-entry of a decommissioned Indo-French satellite, Megha-Tropiques-1 (MT1), jointly developed to study tropical weather and climate.
- ✓ The satellite was launched in 2011 and exceeded its intended operational lifespan until 2021.
- ✓ ISRO is using its remaining onboard fuel to precisely maneuver the satellite for a controlled atmospheric re-entry, predicted to splash down in the Pacific Ocean.
- ✓ The orbital lifetime of MT1, weighing about 1000 kg, would have been more than 100 years in its 20 deg inclined operational orbit of 867 km altitude.
- ✓ An uninhabited area in the Pacific Ocean between 5°S to 14°S latitude and 119°W to 100°W longitude was identified as the targeted re-entry zone for MT1.



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Q. Salhoutuonuo Kruse made history by becoming the first woman Cabinet minister of which state?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ Nagaland's first woman Minister Salhoutuonuo Kruse assumes office on Women's Day eve. Salhoutuonuo Kruse made history by becoming Nagaland's first woman minister.
- ✓ The berth in the Nagaland cabinet led by Neiphiu Rio came five days after she and Hekani Jakhalu were elected as the first women MLAs of the State.
- ✓ Both represent the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP).

Q. Which organization has introduced the 'Global Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Infrastructure'?

- A) Global Environment Facility (GEF)
B) World Meteorological Organisation (WMO)
B) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
D) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Answer : B

- ✓ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has introduced the Global Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Infrastructure.
- ✓ It aims to provide standardized and real-time tracking of greenhouse gases. The new platform integrates space-based and surface-based observing systems to improve the measurement of planet-warming pollution and inform policy decisions
- ✓ World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- ✓ Founded : 1950
- ✓ Headquarteres : Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ President : Gerhard Adrian
- ✓ Secretary-General : Petteri Taalas



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Q. Yaoshang Festival is celebrated in which state?

A) Odisha

B) Manipur

C) Assam

D) Meghalaya

Answer : B

- ✓ Yaosang is one of the key festivals in Manipur. It is celebrated over five days during the full moon day of the Lamda month (February-March).
- ✓ The festival is part of the indigenous traditions of the Meitei people.
- ✓ The celebrations include a wide range of activities such as the Thabal Chongba, a traditional Manipuri dance, sports competitions like Mukna Kangjei (a combination of hockey and wrestling), and Pana Sankirtana, a form of traditional music
- ✓ List of Festivals of Manipur
- ✓ Imoinu Eratpa festival
- ✓ Sangai Festival
- ✓ Amur Falcon Festival
- ✓ Lai Haraoba Festival
- ✓ Manipur Sangai Festival
- ✓ Lui Ngai Ni Festival
- ✓ Ningol Chakouba Festival
- ✓ Kachai Lemon Festival
- ✓ Shirui Lily Festival

Q. Which State government to constitute Pattaya Mission to resolve issues related to land records?

A) Kerala

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Telangana

Answer : A

- ✓ The state government of Kerala is planning to establish a Pattaya Mission by the end of April to tackle land record issues in the state.
- ✓ Under the leadership of MLAs in each district, the mission will work towards providing title deeds for all individuals.



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- ✓ The proposed Pattaya Mission will expedite the distribution of title deeds

Q. S-400 Triumpf missile system is developed by which country?

- A) Russia
- B) Israel
- C) France
- D) United States

Answer : A

- ✓ The S-400 Triumpf is a surface-to-air missile system that was developed in Russia in the 1990s as an upgrade to the S-300 family.
- ✓ The system was first put into service on April 2007.
- ✓ The S-400 Triumpf has advanced features such as a long-range, high-altitude interception capability, and the ability to track multiple targets simultaneously

Q. The Draft Central Electricity Authority Regulations was issued recently to protect which species?

- A) Asian Elephant
- B) Asiatic Lion
- C) One-horned Rhinos
- D) Great Indian Bustard

Answer : D

- ✓ The Great Indian Bustard is one of the heaviest flying birds in the world, and is native to Indian subcontinent.
- ✓ The species is critically endangered due to habitat loss, hunting, and other human activities.
- ✓ The Draft Central Electricity Authority (Construction of Electric Lines in Great Indian Bustard Area) Regulations, 2023 was issued to bring all electric lines of 33 kV and below passing via the Great Indian Bustard Area underground while those above 33 kV will be overhead lines with bird flight diverts

Q. BrahMos Missile has been developed by a partnership between Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya and which organisation of India?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The BrahMos missile is a type of supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarines, ships, airplanes, or land.



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✓ It is currently the fastest supersonic missile in the world and was developed by a partnership between India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya, forming BrahMos Aerospace.

✓ Recently, Indian Navy successfully test fired the ship-launched version of the BrahMos missile.

Q. Which institution has designed the 'Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS)'?

A) HAL

B) DRDO

C) BEL

D) ISRO

Answer : B

✓ The Indian Army has proposed the acquisition of an indigenous Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) to fill critical capability gaps in high altitude regions

✓ The ATAGS has been designed by the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) to replace the current 155 mm artillery system in service, the Bofors towed guns.

Q. Which country has claimed to have discovered around 8.5 million metric tons of lithium ore?

A) Australia

B) Iran

C) Israel

D) UAE

Answer : B

✓ Iran has claimed to have discovered a lithium deposit in the western province of Hamedan.

✓ It is found to contain around 8.5 million metric tons of lithium ore.

✓ Lithium is a soft, silver-white metal belonging to the alkali metal group of elements. It is highly reactive and flammable, and it is stored in mineral oil or other liquids to prevent it from reacting with moisture or air. It is commonly used in rechargeable batteries for electronic devices and EVs

Q. Which organization has released the report titled 'More than a billion reasons: The urgent need to build universal social protection'?

A) World Bank and ILO

B) UNICEF and ILO

C) UNESCO and ILO

D) World Bank and UNICEF

Answer : B

✓ A report titled "More than a billion reasons: The urgent need to build universal social protection" was released recently by the International Labour Organization and UNICEF.



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- ✓ It revealed that only 26.4% of children between the ages of 0 and 15 are protected by social welfare programs.
- ✓ The report also found that 1.77 billion children aged 0 to 18 years do not have access to child or family cash benefits.

Q. Who inaugurate the 3rd Session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) in New Delhi?

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| A) Amit Shah | B) Narendra Modi |
| C) Droupadi Murmu | D) Arvind Kejriwal |

Answer : B

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the third session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) in New Delhi.
- ✓ The main theme of the 3rd session of this Platform is “Building Local Resilience in a Changing Climate”.
- ✓ The theme of the session is in line with the 10-point agenda announced by the Prime Minister for building local capacities, especially in the context of the rapidly changing disaster risk landscape in the wake of climate change.
- ✓ During the event, the Prime Minister presented awards to the winners of the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar.
- ✓ The winners of the 2023 award are Odisha State Disaster Management Authority and Lunglei Fire Station of Mizoram
- ✓ About NPDRR
- ✓ NPDRR is a multi-stakeholder forum constituted by the Government to facilitate dialogue and share experiences, ideas, action oriented research and explore opportunities in the area of disaster risk reduction

Q. Which Country PM Anthony Albanese arrived in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on a state visit to India on March 8, 2023?

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| A) France | B) Germany |
| C) Belgium | D) Australia |

Answer : D



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- ✓ Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese arrived in Ahmedabad on 8 March on a four-day (8-11 March) visit to India to participate in the India-Australia Annual Summit
- ✓ After reaching Ahmedabad, the Prime Minister of Australia visited the Sabarmati Ashram and paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi. He also participated in a cultural program at the Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar, followed by a program at an Australian university in Albany Ahmedabad.
- ✓ Albanese will visit Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Delhi respectively during his visit. This is the first visit to India by an Australian Prime Minister since 2017.
- ✓ On the first day of his visit, the Prime Minister of Australia participated in the Holi program at the Raj Bhavan beside the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese watched part of the 4th Memorial Cricket Test match of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.
- ✓ On March 9 itself, the Australian Prime Minister went to Mumbai, where he was given a guard of honour at INS Vikrant.
- ✓ FTAs of India:
- ✓ India has signed 13 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with its trading partners, including 3 agreements:
- ✓ India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA).
- ✓ India-UAE Comprehensive Partnership Agreement (CEPA).
- ✓ India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (IndAus ECTA).
- ✓ India's imports from Australia are estimated at US\$17 billion, while its exports to Australia are estimated at US\$10.5 billion in 2022

Q.3. Who has been sworn in as the new chief minister of Tripura for the second consecutive term?

- A) N. Biren Singh B) Manik Saha
C) Biplab Kumar Deb D) Pema Khandu

Answer : B

- ✓ **Manik Saha became the Chief Minister of Tripura for the second time in a row**
- ✓ Manik Sahas taken oath as the Chief Minister of Tripura for the second consecutivetime on 8 March 2023 at Swami Vivekananda Maidan in Agartala, the capital of Tripura. Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr. Saha.



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- ✓ It is worth mentioning that BJP has become the single largest party in Tripura assembly elections by getting 32 seats out of total 60 seats. Tipra Motha Party came second by winning 13 seats. The Communist Party of India (Marxist) got 11 seats, while the Congress got three.

Q. Who has been confirmed as the first South Asian District Judge for the Southern District of New York?

A) Chandra Nair

B) Balaji Prabhakar

C) Arun Subramaniam

D) Devavrat Shah

Answer : C

- ✓ Indian-American Arun Subramaniam has been confirmed as the first South Asian District Judge for the Southern District of New York.
- ✓ Senate Majority Leader Senator Chuck Schumer confirmed the nomination of Mr. Subramaniam by a vote of 58-37.
- ✓ South District New York notably has one of the largest South Asian-American populations in the country.
- ✓ Arun Subramaniam currently serves as Chairperson of Susman Godfrey's 2022 Pro Bono Committee and is also a longtime Director of the Columbia Law Review.

Q. Who has taken oath as the Chief Minister of Nagaland?

A) Yanthungo Patton

B) Neiphui Rio

C) T. R. Zeliang

D) Zoramthanga

Answer : B

- ✓ Neiphui Rio was sworn in as Chief Minister for the fifth time on 7 March 2023 by Governor La Ganesan in Nagaland.
- ✓ Taditui Rangkau Zelayang and Yanthungo Patton (BJP) took oath as Deputy Chief Ministers of Meghalaya in Shillong.
- ✓ The assembly elections were held on a total of 60 seats in Nagaland. In which NDPP-BJP got 37 seats, in which NDPP got 25 seats and BJP got 12 seats. After this, the coalition government of NDPP and BJP has been formed.
- ✓ NCP has won 7 seats, NPP 5, LJP (Ram Vilas), Naga People's Front (NPF) and RPI (Athawale) 2 each and JD(U) one seat. While 4 independent members have also won.
- ✓ Article 164 of the Constitution provides that the Chief Minister will be appointed by the Governor.



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- ✓ The leader of the party with a majority in the assembly elections is appointed as the Chief Minister of the state

Q. In which district of Jammu and Kashmir has the army hoisted the tallest 'Iconic National Flag'?

- A) Rajouri
- B) Kishtwar
- C) Udhampur
- D) Doda

Answer : D

- ✓ In Jammu and Kashmir, Army installed the tallest 'Iconic National Flag' in the hilly Doda district.
- ✓ The tricolour which has been installed on a 100 feet-high pole, the highest Tricolour in the Doda district, was unfurled by GOC Delta Force, Maj Gen Ajay Kumar along with Commander 9 sector RR Brig

Q. Who was unanimously elected as the Speaker of the 11th Legislative Assembly of Meghalaya?

- A) Conrad K. Sangma
- B) Thomas A. Sangma
- C) Prestone Tynsong
- D) Alexander Laloo Hek

Answer : B

- ✓ Thomas A. Sangma was sworn in as the Speaker of the 11th Meghalaya Legislative Assembly
- ✓ Sangma took the Oath to Office and Secrecy at the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly's Hall, which was attended by several dignitaries and MLAs.

Q. Which country has decided to recruit women in the army for the first time in 25 years?

- A) Columbia
- B) Azerbaijan
- C) Armenia
- D) Georgia

Answer : A

- ✓ Colombia has opened military services to women for the first time in 25 years. In February last month, a contingent of 1,296 women has been recruited into the Colombian army.
- ✓ Colombia has long compulsory military service for males aged 18 to 24. This year, the authorities have allowed women in the same age group to voluntarily join the army.
- ✓ Colombia is a South American country whose capital is Bogota and its currency is the Colombian Peso..



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Q. Which government launches plantation drive on International Women's Day 2023?

- A) Uttarakhand
B) Jammu and Kashmir
C) Himachal Pradesh
D) Uttar Pradesh

Answer : B

- ✓ Jammu and Kashmir government celebrated International Women's Day in a unique way. It organised a plantation programme.
- ✓ Theme : Under the theme "Ped Lagao Beti Ke Naam".

Q. Odisha's CM, Naveen Patnaik has unveiled the iconic Dakota aircraft of legendary leader Biju Patnaik for public viewing at Which Airport?

- A) Sambalpur Airport
B) Utkela Airport
C) Veer Surendra Sai Airport
D) Bhubaneswar Airport

Answer : D

- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister "Naveen Patnaik" unveiled former Chief Minister "Biju Patnaik's" renovated Douglas DC-3 'Dakota' aircraft for public viewing at the Bhubaneswar airport marking the former chief minister's 107th birth anniversary.

Q. Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the National Workshop on Bamboo Sector Development in which city?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the National Workshop on Bamboo Sector Development in New Delhi.
- ✓ The event is being organized with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Invest India and Kerala State Bamboo Mission.
- ✓ It aims to identify areas for improvement and explore expert suggestions to transform the bamboo industry.
- ✓ The event is being supported by the Ministry of Agriculture as the continuation of efforts to sketch a bamboo economy for benefiting millions of people across the country including farmers, traditional artisans, craft-skilled youth, designers, entrepreneurs and investors



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Q. The first meeting of the India-Central Asia Joint Working Group on Afghanistan was held in which city?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The first meeting of the India-Central Asia Joint Working Group on Afghanistan was held in New Delhi.
- ✓ The meeting was attended by the Special Envoys and Senior Officials of India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, & Uzbekistan.
- ✓ During the meeting, discussions were held on the current situation in Afghanistan, including the political, security, and humanitarian situation.
- ✓ While emphasizing the respect for sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity and non-interference in its internal affairs, all the participants have reiterated their support for a peaceful, secure and stable Afghanistan.

Q. The 8th edition of Vedshiv Business Media's Indian Pharma Fair (IFF) 2023 will be organized in which state?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The eighth edition of Vedshiv Business Media's Indian Pharma Fair (IFF) 2023 will be organized in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh from March 17 to 18 March 2023.
- ✓ The fair will present the most up-to-date trends and technology in the pharmaceutical, drug, and formulation industries.
- ✓ It will address industry problems, such as rising packaging and freight costs, and strive to find answers to those issues.
- ✓ This exhibition will focus on expanding the pharmaceutical industry in India, mostly through Third Party Manufacturing, PCD/ Franchise.



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Q. What was the theme of 3rd International Conference organized by Election Commission of India (ECI)?

- A) Save Democracy
- B) Inclusive Elections and Elections Integrity
- C) Fair Election and Elections Integrity
- D) Save Democracy, Save Nation

Answer : B

- ✓ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has organized the 3rd International Conference on the theme 'Inclusive Elections and Elections Integrity'.
- ✓ ECI is leading the Cohort on Elections Integrity which was established as a follow up to the 'Summit for Democracy' held virtually in December, 2021.
- ✓ The first international conference of the Cohort was organized on 31 Oct – 01 Nov 2022 at New Delhi.
- ✓ The 2nd Conference on the theme 'Use of Technology and Elections Integrity' was hosted by ECI at New Delhi on 23-24 January 2023.

Q. Which Small Finance Bank has partnered with Max Life Insurance to offer life insurance offerings to customers

- A) Capital Small Finance Bank
- B) AU Small Finance Bank
- C) Fincare Small Finance Bank
- D) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank

Answer : D

- ✓ Max Life Insurance and Ujjivan Small Finance Bank have partnered to offer life insurance offerings to Ujjivan SFB's customers.
- ✓ Through this partnership, both will offer a range of savings, protection, retirement, and group life insurance plans to Ujjivan SFB customers.
- ✓ Max Life Insurance Company Limited is a joint venture between Max Financial Services Limited and Axis Bank Limited
- ✓ Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- ✓ Founded : 1 February 2017
- ✓ Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka



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- ✓ MD & CEO: Ittira Davis
- ✓ Tagline: "We believe in your belief"

Q. Satish Kaushik passed away recently. Who was he?

- A) Actor
- B) Writer
- C) Politician
- D) Social Worker

Answer : A

- ✓ Famous actor and filmmaker Satish Kaushik, 66, passed away
- ✓ Kaushik, who made his directorial debut with 'Roop Ki Rani Choron Ka Raja', has directed films like 'Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain', 'Hamara Dil Aapke Paas Hai', 'Badhaai Ho Badhaai', 'Tere Naam' and 'Mujhe Kuch Kehna Hai'.
- ✓ Kaushik was an alumnus of the National School of Drama (NSD) and the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII).
- ✓ Kaushik, who hails from Haryana's Mahendragarh district, was appointed chairman of the Haryana Film Promotion Board by the Khattar government a few years ago.
- ✓ Born in Haryana and brought up in Karol Bagh, Delhi, Kaushik always wanted to be an actor.
- ✓ Kaushik wrote the dialogues for the 1983 film Jaane Bhi Do Yaaro and also wrote the story for Kaagaz (2021), starring Pankaj Tripathi.
- ✓ Upcoming movies of Kaushik:
- ✓ 'Kisi Ka Bhai Kisi Ki Jaan' and 'Emergency' are included in his upcoming films.
- ✓ Mr. Kaushik will also be seen in the web series 'Popcorn' on the over-the-top (OTT) platform Disney Plus Hotstar

Q. India has scored 74.4 out of 100 in the recently released index on the life cycle of a working woman titled "Women, Business and the Law 2023 report". Which organization has released this index?

- A) Economist Intelligence Unit
- B) United Nations
- C) Transparency International
- D) World Bank

Answer : D

- ✓ India has secured a score of 74.4 out of 100 in a World Bank index on the life cycle of a working woman.



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- ✓ The report named World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2023 is based on eight indicators and a score of 100 on the Index means that women are on an equal standing with men on each indicator.
- ✓ These 8 indicators are: Mobility; Workplace; Pay; Marriage; Parenthood; Entrepreneurship; Assets and Pension.
- ✓ The index measured a total of 190 economies and only 14 scored a perfect 100.
- ✓ They are Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Luxemburg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

WORLD BANK IN NEWS 2022-23

- World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- Indian Origin Ajay Banga to be next World Bank President.
- World Bank chief David Malpass has announced his resignation nearly a year early.
- India will be the first country in the world to receive \$100 billion from remittances during 2022, the World Bank.
- World Bank forecast Pakistan's economic growth to slow further to two percent during the current year; according to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report.
- World Bank Predicts India's Economic Growth to Slow to 6.9% in FY23.
- International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector investment arm of the World Bank, has introduced a new, \$6 billion funding facility to boost the private sector's.
- World Bank to loan \$150 million to Punjab government for major reforms.
- A Gender Toolkit based on "Enabling gender-responsive urban mobility and public spaces" was launched in a session conducted by the World Bank and the Chennai Urban Metropolitan Transport Authority.
- World Bank towards emergency COVID-19 response in India to USD 2 billion.
- A USD 1 billion support was announced last month towards immediate support to India's health sector.
- Auguste Tano Kouame of Côte d'Ivoire appointed as Country Director for India by World Bank.
- World Bank clears US\$1 billion loan for PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission.
- World Bank approved USD 245 million loan to modernize India's railway logistics infra.



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- Sri Lanka receives \$160 mln in bridge financing from World Bank.
- World Bank approved USD 250 million loan for India's road safety programme.
- World Bank has approved additional financing of USD 250 million for Outcomes for Accelerated Learning.
- World Bank has approved a Rs 1,000 crore project to take rainfed farming to new heights in the hilly regions of Uttarakhand.
- Global Economic Prospects report released, the World Bank
- World Bank announces up to \$30 bn to address food security crisis.
- World bank sanctioned USD 350 million for SRESTHA-G project of Gujarat.
- World Bank approved \$47 million program for India's Mission Karmayogi program.
- World Bank provided USD 600 million in financial assistance to Sri Lanka to make payments for essential imports.
- World bank Report States Extreme Poverty in India Decline by 12.3% between 2011-2019.
- World Bank cuts global economy growth forecast to 3.2% for 2022.
- Gujarat Govt to receive Rs 7,500 Cr Loan from World Bank, AIIB.
- Junaid Ahmad World Bank's India Director, appointed as vice president of operations.
- India and World Bank inks US\$125 million loan to support access to Social Protection Services in West Bengal.
- WORLD BANK
- Founded : 1944
- Headquarters : Washington Dc
- MD&CFO : Anshula Kant
- Chief Economist : Carman Reinhart
- Executive Director : Rajesh Khullar
- Member Countries :189
- World Bank Group : 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID).
- All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.
- World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).



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➤ India is a member of IBRD, IFC, IDA and MIGA. The country is not a member of the ICSID

Q. What is the name of the mascot for the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League in 2023?

- A) Shakti
B) Nari
C) Kusum
D) Vinita

Answer : A

- ✓ BCCI unveil 'Shakti' – the mascot of Women's Premier League 2023.
- ✓ The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has unveiled the mascot of the Women's Premier League 2023.
- ✓ The roaring mascot is named 'Shakti.'
- ✓ It was unveiled by BCCI Secretary, Jay Shah via Twitter post.
- ✓ The inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League 2023 will begin on March 04, 2023 at the DY Patil Stadium.
- ✓ There are five teams namely Delhi Capitals, Gujarat Giants, Mumbai Indians, Royal Challengers Bangalore and UP Warriorz.
- ✓ The Final match will be played at the Brabourne Stadium on March 26, 2023.

Q.3. Government of India has recently set up a 'Startup Bridge' with which country during the 8th Raisina Dialogue meet in New Delhi?

- A) Canada
B) Singapore
C) Netherlands
D) Italy

Answer : D

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the establishment of a 'Startup Bridge' between India and Italy, during a press meeting with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni at Hyderabad House in New Delhi.
- ✓ India and Italy are celebrating the 75th anniversary of their bilateral relations in 2023.
- ✓ To mark this occasion, the India-Italy partnership will the status of Strategic Partnership.



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Q. Who has been appointed as the head of the 6-member committee formed by Supreme Court to probe Hindenburg Research – Adani report matter?

- A) OP Bhat
B) Justice D.Y. Chandrachud
C) Justice AM Sapre
D) Nandan Nilakeni

Answer : C

- ✓ The Supreme Court has formed a six-member expert committee to examine Hindenburg Research firm's report on the Adani Group and probe the stock price crash in Adani stocks.
- ✓ The order to set up the committee was passed by a three-judge Bench of Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Justices P.S. Narasimha and J.B. Pardiwala.
- ✓ The committee will be headed by former Supreme Court judge, AM Sapre.
- ✓ Other members of the panel are OP Bhat, JP Devdhar, KV Kamath, Nandan Nilakeni and Adv. Somasekhar Sundaresan.
- ✓ The US firm Hindenburg Research has in its report alleged fraud and stock manipulation by the Gautam Adani-led group.
- ✓ This has led to a massive slide in Adani Group's stock prices.

Q. What is the issue price set for the tranche 4 of Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23?

- A) Rs 5,486 per gram
B) Rs 5,201 per gram
C) Rs 5,323 per gram
D) Rs 5,611 per gram

Answer : D

- ✓ The subscription for the Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2022-23 – Series IV will be opened from March 06 – March 10, 2023
- ✓ Issue Price : Rs 5,611 per gram
- ✓ Issue Price for applying online: Rs 5,561 (discount of Rs 50)
- ✓ Interest Rate: 2.5%
- ✓ Tenor : 8 years with exit option after 5th year (to be exercised on the next interest payment dates).
- ✓ Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme (SGB) was launched by Government of India in 2015.
- ✓ SGBs are government securities denominated in grams of gold.
- ✓ They are substitutes for holding physical gold.
- ✓ Investors have to pay the issue price in cash and the bonds will be redeemed in cash on maturity.



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- ✓ Who issues SGB?: The Bond is issued by Reserve Bank on behalf of Government of India.
- ✓ Eligibility : Indian resident individuals, HUFs, Trusts, Universities and Charitable Institutions.
- ✓ Denomination: multiples of gram(s) of gold with a basic unit of 1 gram.
- ✓ Minimum Limit: 1 gram of gold
- ✓ Maximum limit: 4 KG for individual, 4 Kg for HUF and 20 Kg for trusts

Q. Mauganj is the newly set up district of Madhya Pradesh. What is the total number of districts in the state with the introduction of this new one?

- A) 59th B) 61st
C) 47th D) 53rd

Answer : D

- ✓ Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced the formation of a new district in the state.
- ✓ Mauganj, a tehsil of Rewa district, has been declared as the 53rd district of Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ This new district will be developed by joining four tehsils of Rewa district.
- ✓ The four tehsils are Mauganj, Hanumana, Nai Garhi, and Deotalab.

NEWLY DISTRICT IN NEWS 2022-23.

- Mauganj, a tehsil of Rewa, becomes Madhya Pradesh's 53rd district.
- Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur and Sakti as the 32nd and 33rd districts of the State (2nd week of September 2022).
- Sakti is carved out from Janjgir-Champa, Manendragarh-Chirmiri-Bharatpur has been demarcated from the Koriya district.
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has inaugurated three new districts in the state. (1st week of September 2022)
- The new districts -- Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki, Sarangarh-Bilaigarh, and Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai.
- West Bengal to form 7 new districts, making a total of 30 districts (Earlier 27 District)
- Andhrapradesh Proposed to Re-organize the current 13 districts to 26 new districts.



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- Nagaland creates 3 new districts Niuland, Tseminyu, Chumukedima (Total 15 District)
- Meghalaya Cabinet approves creation of new district named Eastern West Khasi Hills District (total 12 District).
- Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel announces 4 new districts (Mohla Manpur, Sarangarh-Bilaigarh, Shakti, Manendragarh) : total 32 district .
- Punjab CM Declares Malerkotla as 23rd District (carved out of the Sangrur district)

Q. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has set up the Advanced Electronics Materials Laboratory in which city?

- A) Pune
B) Thrissur
C) Bengaluru
D) Guwahati

Answer : B

- ✓ The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has set up the Advanced Electronics Materials Laboratory at the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET), in Thrissur, Kerala.
- ✓ Advanced Materials are critical in the development of electronic components and devices, which are important to meet the requirements of the society
- ✓ The laboratory was inaugurated by the Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Shri Alkesh Kumar Sharma IAS on March 03, 2023.

Q. How many astronauts were launched by SpaceX in the Crew-6 mission to the International Space Station (ISS) recently?

- A) 4
B) 5
C) 7
D) 6

Answer : A

- ✓ SpaceX successfully launched the four astronauts of the Crew-6 mission to the International Space Station (ISS) on March 03, 2023.
- ✓ These astronauts were Stephen Bowen and Woody Hoburg from NASA, Sultan Alneyadi from UAE (United Arab Emirates), and Roscosmos cosmonaut Andrey Fedyaev.



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- ✓ They were launched to the ISS on the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft, named Endeavour, from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Q. India has signed a Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications with which country?

- A) Australia
B) South Africa
C) Norway
D) Sri Lanka

Answer : A

- ✓ India and Australia have signed a Framework Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications on March 02, 2023 in New Delhi.
- ✓ This framework will help to ease the mobility of students and professionals between the two countries.
- ✓ The agreement was signed following a bilateral meeting between Education Minister of India, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and the Australian Education Minister Mr. Jason Clare.

Q. “Kosmos-1” is an AI-based multimodal large language model (MLLM), launched by which organisation?

- A) Apple
B) IBM
C) Microsoft
D) Alphabet

Answer : C

- ✓ Researchers from Microsoft have unveiled “Kosmos-1”, a multimodal large language model (MLLM), having state of the art features like responding to language prompts, image captioning, visual question answering, and more.
- ✓ Kosmos-1 model can analyze images for content, solve visual puzzles, perform visual text recognition, pass visual IQ tests, and understand natural language instructions.
- ✓ It integrates different modes of input such as text, audio, images, and video.
- ✓ This is a key step to building artificial general intelligence (AGI) that can perform general tasks at the level of a human.



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Q. Government has recently launched “Jal Shakti Abhiyan – Catch the Rain 2023” campaign. What is the theme of this campaign?

- A) conserve water. Save a million lives
- B) the whole world depends on you. Save water
- C) think before you let it drip
- D) source sustainability for drinking water

Answer : D

- ✓ The President of India Droupadi Murmu launched the “Jal Shakti Abhiyan – Catch the Rain 2023” campaign in New Delhi on March 04, 2023.
- ✓ The theme of the campaign in 2023 is “source sustainability for drinking water.”
- ✓ The basic objective of this campaign is to turn conservation of water into a mass campaign in the run-up to the monsoon season.

Q. The 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference has been organised in which city?

- A) Bhopal
- B) New Delhi
- C) Gandhinagar
- D) Lucknow

Answer : A

- ✓ The President of India, Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference on March 03, 2023 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ The 3-day conference is organised by the India Foundation in collaboration with the Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies.
- ✓ The theme of the conference is ‘Eastern Humanism for the New Era’.
- ✓ The programme aims to bring together religious, political and thought leaders from Dharma-Dhamma traditions to show new path to humanity.

Q. Which organisation has sanctioned USD 1 billion for India to support and enhance the country’s healthcare infrastructure?

- A) Asian Development Bank
- B) International Finance Corporation
- C) World Bank
- D) IMF

Answer : C



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- ✓ The World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- ✓ The combined USD 1 billion (about ₹8,200 crore) financing will support India's flagship Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) to improve the public healthcare infrastructure across the country

Q. Supreme Court has ruled formation of high-power committee consisting of the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and the Chief Justice of India for the selection of CEC and EC. Till now who was responsible for the appointment of these officers?

- A) CJI
- B) President
- C) Prime Minister
- D) High level committee

Answer : B

- ✓ A five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has ruled that the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs) will now be made by a high-power committee consisting of the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and the Chief Justice of India.
- ✓ Till now the President of India made the appointment on the advice of the Union Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister.
- ✓ The five-judge Constitution Bench was headed by Justice K M Joseph.
- ✓ Other members included Justices Ajay Rastogi, Aniruddha Bose, Hrishikesh Roy and C T Ravikumar.

Q. Anupama Upadhyaya and Mithun Manjunath are associated with which sports?

- A) Badminton
- B) Boxing
- C) Tennis
- D) Cricket

Answer : A

- ✓ Anupama Upadhyaya and Mithun Manjunath have won the singles titles in their respective categories in the 84th senior national badminton championship, held at the Balewadi stadium in Pune.
- ✓ **Winners List**
- ✓ **Women's Single** – Anupama beat Aakarshi Kashyap 20-22, 21-17, 24-22.
- ✓ **Men's Single** – Mithun Manjunath beat Priyanshu Rajawat, 21-16, 21-11.
- ✓ **Women's doubles** – Gayatri Gopichand/Treesa Jolly beat Kavya GGupta/Deepshikha Singh 21-10, 21-9



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- ✓ Men's doubles – S Kushal Raj/S Prakash Raj beat Akshan Shetty/Deep Rambiya 8-21, 21-19, 21-8
- ✓ Mixed doubles – T Hemanagendra Babu/Kanika Kanwal beat Siddarth Elango/Khushi Gupta 21-17, 21-16

Q. Former Union Minister Satyabrata Mookherjee has passed away. He had also served as ___ of India

- A) Additional Solicitor General B) Chief Justice
C) Chief Election Commissioner D) Vice President

Answer : A

- ✓ Former Union Minister and the West Bengal BJP's ex-president Satyabrata Mookherjee has passed away following a prolonged illness. He was 90.
- ✓ He served as the Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers from September 2000 to June 2002 and Minister of State for Commerce and Industry from July 2002 to October 2003, in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.
- ✓ Mookherjee had also served as an Additional Solicitor General of India (ASG).

Q. Who has been elected as the third President of Nepal?

- A) Jhala Nath Khanal B) Ram Chandra Paudel
C) Gagan Thapa D) Prakash Man Singh

Answer : B

- ✓ Senior Nepali Congress leader Ram Chandra Paudel has been elected as the new President of Nepal.
- ✓ Ram Chandra Paudel got votes by 214 MPs of Parliament and 352 Members of Provincial Assemblies.
- ✓ The total number of electors for the presidential election in Nepal is 882, including 332 members of the parliament as well as 550 members of the provincial assemblies of the 7 provinces.
- ✓ He will succeed Bidya Devi Bhandari as the head of state of Nepal.
- ✓ He also served as the Deputy Prime Minister, Cabinet Minister and President of Nepal
- ✓ About Nepal
- ✓ The kingdom of Nepal was established by the Shah dynasty.
- ✓ It is a landlocked country in South Asia.
- ✓ Prime Minister : Pushpa Kamal Dahal
- ✓ Capital : Kathmandu



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✓ Currency : Nepalese Rupee.

NEWLY PRESIDENT IN NEWS 2022 – 23

- Ram Chandra Paudel : Nepal
- Vo Van Thuong : Vietnam
- Bola Tinubu : Nigeria
- Mohammad Shahabuddin : Bangladesh
- Nikos Christodoulides : Cyprus
- Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva : Brazil
- Kassym-Jomart Tokayev : Kazakhstan
- Natasa Pirc Musar : first female Presiden of Slovenia
- Alexander Van der Bellen : Austria
- Joao Lourenco : Angola
- William Ruto : Kenya
- Gustavo Petro : Colombia
- Bajram Begaj : Albania
- Ranil Wickremesinghe : Sri Lanka
- Ferdinand Marcos Jr. : Philippine
- Draupadi Murmu : 15th President of India
- Hassan Sheikh Mohamud : Somalia
- Emmanuel Macron : France
- Aleksandar Vučić : Serbia
- Serdar Berdymukhamedov: Turkmenistan
- Katalin Eva Novak : Hungary
- Gabriel Boric Font : Chile
- Yoon Suk-yeol : South Korea
- Frank-Walter Steinmeier : Germany
- Xiomara Castro : Honduras
- Daniel Ortega : Nicaragua
- Adama Barrow : Gambia



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- Shavkat Mirziyoyev : Uzbekistan
- Sandra Mason : Barbados
- Hakainde Hichilema : Zambia
- Ebrahim Raisi : Iran
- Ukhnaa Khurelsukh : Mongolia
- Isaac Herzog : Israel
- Guillermo Lasso : Ecuador

Q. Which country chaired the 19th BIMSTEC ministerial meeting?

- A) Bhutan
- B) India
- C) Thailand
- D) Bangladesh

Answer : C

- ✓ Minister of State for External Affairs and Education, Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh participated in the 19th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting hosted by Chair Thailand virtually from Bangkok on 9 March
- ✓ During the meeting, a number of documents including the Core BIMSTEC Working Mechanism, Regional BIMSTEC and Rules of Procedure for BIMSTEC External Relations were approved for submission to the 6th BIMSTEC Summit.
- ✓ The meeting also approved a draft agreement on the establishment of the BIMSTEC Center for Weather and Climate in India.
- ✓ Apart from this, BIMSTEC Bangkok Vision 2030 was also approved. This will be brought up at the 6th BIMSTEC Summit.
- ✓ About BIMSTEC
- ✓ BIMSTEC whose full form is 'Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation' is an international organization of seven South Asian and South East Asian countries.
- ✓ It was established in 1997 to advance mutual trade, connectivity and cultural, technological and economic development in the region.
- ✓ Out of its 7 member countries, 5 members – Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka are from South Asia and two countries – Myanmar and Thailand are from South-East Asia.



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- ✓ Initially, BIMSTEC included six areas - trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism and fisheries - for regional cooperation, which was later expanded to 14 areas, including agriculture.
- ✓ Secretariat: Dhaka, Bangladesh
- ✓ Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)
- ✓ Establishment :6 June 1997
- ✓ Headquarteres : Dhaka, Bangladesh
- ✓ Membership : 7 (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka &Thailand)
- ✓ Chairmanship : Sri Lanka
- ✓ Secretary General : Tenzin lekhpel (Bhutan)
- ✓ Trick to remember BIMSTEC Countries
- ✓ TRICK -: MBBS NIT
- ✓ M - Myanmar
- ✓ B - Bangladesh
- ✓ B - Bhutan
- ✓ S - SriLanka
- ✓ N - Nepal
- ✓ I - India
- ✓ T - Thailand

Q.3. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani has become the new Prime Minister of which country?

- A) Qatar
- B) Oman
- C) Bahrain
- D) United Arab Emirates

Answer : A

- ✓ Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani has appointed Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani as the country's new prime minister.

NEWLY PRIME MINISTER IN NEWS 2022 – 23

- Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani : Qatar
- Li Qiang : China
- Manuela Roka Botey as first female PM : Equatorial Guinea



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- Chris Hipkins : 41st PM of New Zealand
- Anwar Ibrahim : Malaysia
- Benjamin Netanyahu : Israel
- Rishi Sunak : 57th PM of United Kingdom (UK)
- Ulf Kristersson : Sweden
- Mohammed bin Salman : Saudi Arabia
- Ana Brnabic : Serbia
- James Marape : Papua New Guinea
- Dinesh Gunawardena : Sri Lanka
- Sheikh Mohammed Sabah Al Salem : Kuwait
- Hamza Abdi Barre : Somalia
- Anthony Albanese : Australia
- Emmanuel Macron : France
- Robert Golob : Slovenia
- Patrick Achi : Ivory Coast
- Shehbaz Sharif : Pakistan
- Viktor Orban : Hungary
- Robert Abela : Malta
- Antonio Costa : Portugal
- Mia Mottley : Barbados
- Alikhan Smailov : Kazakhstan
- Petr Fiala : Czech Republic
- Jonas Gahr Store : Norway
- Fumio Kishida : Japan
- QATAR
- Capital : Doha
- Currency : Riyal
- Prime Minister : Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani
- Qatar to host AFC Asian Cup 2023.
- Qatar to host 2030 Asian Games, 2034 edition in Saudi Arabia.



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➤ FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar.

Q. India has signed an MoU with which country on Semiconductor Supply Chain and Innovation Partnership?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ India, US signed MoU on semiconductor supply chain, innovation partnership
- ✓ India and the US on 10 February signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on semiconductor supply chain and innovation partnership during the Commercial Dialogue 2023 in New Delhi
- ✓ At the invitation of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo visited Delhi from March 7 to 10.
- ✓ During the visit, the India-US commercial dialogue was resumed on 10 March to discuss cooperation and open up new trade and investment opportunities between the two countries.
- ✓ The MoU aims to establish a collaborative mechanism between the two governments on semiconductor supply chain resilience and diversification in the wake of the Chips and Science Act of the US and the Semiconductor Mission of India.
- ✓ What are Semiconductor Chips?
- ✓ It is a material which has conductivity between conductor and insulator.
- ✓ Compounds of silicon or germanium or gallium, arsenide or cadmium selenide are used in this.
- ✓ Why are semiconductors or chips so important?
- ✓ It serves as the center and brain of all modern electronics and information and communication technology products.
- ✓ The chips are used as data-storing memory chips, or logic chips that run programs.
- ✓ Manufacturing of chips requires a lot of precision as well as investment.
- ✓ This requires special conditions where even small disturbances around or inside the manufacturing unit can hamper production.



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Q. In 2023, CISF observed its which edition of Raising Day celebrations?

- A) 50th
- B) 53rd
- C) 55th
- D) 54th

Answer : D

- ✓ The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Raising Day is observed every year on 10 March
- ✓ In the year 2023, the 54th Raising Day of CISF is celebrated.
- ✓ Its main objective is to strengthen national security and for this it is working continuously.
- ✓ It was established in 1969 by the Indian Parliament under the CISF Act 1968.
- ✓ CISF functions under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ✓ It was created by an Act of Parliament passed on 15 June 1983, as an armed force of India.
- ✓ The CISF is tasked with providing security to India's important government infrastructure projects and industrial buildings.
- ✓ Reservation for women was increased from 15 percent to 33 percent in CISF and CRPF.
- ✓ Director General: Sheel Vardhan Singh
- ✓ Headquarters: New Delhi

Q. Which state government has introduced 4th women's policy to give more opportunities to women by considering the issues of women from all groups?

- A) Gujarat
- B) Maharashtra
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Kerala

Answer : B

- ✓ Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadanvis has informed the Legislative Council that the state will introduce the fourth women's policy to give more opportunities to women by considering the issues of women from all groups.
- ✓ To introduce a rehabilitation scheme for those above 18 years old girls from the orphanage.
- ✓ To start a Hirkani Room (Kaksha) for breastfeeding mothers at the police station.
- ✓ Government also proposed to provide equal and dignified positions to women in all sectors.



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Q. The fourth Y20 consultation meeting has been organized in which city?

- A) Pune
B) Nagpur
C) Mumbai
D) Hyderabad

Answer : A

- ✓ The fourth Y20 consultation meeting has been organized in Pune, Maharashtra.
- ✓ It will be held at the Symbiosis International University (SIU), Lavale in collaboration with the Ministry of Sports.
- ✓ Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports and Information & Broadcasting, Anurag Singh Thakur will be the Chief Guest for the inauguration ceremony.
- ✓ The theme for the fourth Y20 Consultation is 'Peace building and Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War'.

Q. Which company has launched a digital campaign called 'DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality'?

- A) Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company
B) Franklin Templeton Investments
C) Morgan Stanley
D) SBI Mutual Fund

Answer : A

- ✓ To drive the culture of digital literacy among the women fraternity on this year's International Women's Day, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company has launched a digital campaign called 'DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality'.
- ✓ The campaign calls for digital inclusion of all with the hashtag, #IncludeAll.
- ✓ The digital campaign showcases Kotak group's women employees sharing their stories about supporting and empowering other women in their lives by imparting them knowledge of digital literacy.

Q. Which bank has partnered with Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd to offer home loans at competitive interest rates to customers from lower and middle-income groups?

- A) Axis Bank
B) Yes Bank
C) HDFC Bank
D) ICICI Bank

Answer : B



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- ✓ Yes Bank has partnered with Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd to offer home loans at competitive interest rates to customers from lower and middle-income groups.
- ✓ Under the partnership, the entities will provide products such as Home Loan for Salaried Employees, Loan for Plot Purchase and Construction, Home Improvement Loan, Loan Against Residential Commercial Property, Balance Transfers and Top Up, among others, to customers from lower and middle-income groups.

Q. Which bank has joined hands with FMCG giant ITC to offer lending products and services to farmers?

- A) HDFC Bank
- B) ICICI Bank
- C) Yes Bank
- D) Axis Bank

Answer : D

- ✓ The third largest private sector lender in India, Axis Bank has joined hands with FMCG giant ITC to offer lending products and services to farmers who are a part of ITC's agriculture eco-system.
- ✓ The partnership is expected to enable Axis Bank in reaching out to the unserved and under-served farmers based across rural regions.

Q. Who has become the first woman officer to command Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME) unit near China border?

- A) Surbhi Jakhmola
- B) Geeta Rana
- C) Shaliza Dhani
- D) Abhilasha Barak

Answer : B

- ✓ Colonel Geeta Rana became the first woman officer to command a field workshop.
- ✓ Colonel Geeta Rana of the Indian Army's Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers has become the first woman officer of the Indian Army to command a field workshop on the forward front in eastern Ladakh.
- ✓ Ms. Rana is currently a Colonel in the Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers (EME).
- ✓ The Indian Army has also approved women officers to take up the role of commanders.
- ✓ After this Colonel Geeta has become the first woman officer to achieve this achievement. Colonel Geeta will command the independent field workshop deployed along the China border.



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Q. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Axis Mutual Fund?

- A) B Gopkumar
B) Shanti Lal Jain
C) Sandeep Bakhshi
D) Dinesh Kumar Khara

Answer : A

- ✓ B Gopkumar has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Axis Mutual Fund.
- ✓ Gopkumar takes over from Chandresh Nigam who has stepped down as the CEO of the company.
- ✓ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) barred Axis Mutual Fund's former fund manager Viresh Joshi from the securities market in May 2022.

Q. NISAR was handed over to ISRO. NISAR is an earth observation satellite jointly developed by ISRO and which space agency?

- A) NASA
B) ROSCOSMOS
C) JAXA
D) SpaceX

Answer : A

- ✓ The US Air Force handed over NISAR, an earth observation satellite jointly developed by NASA and ISRO, to the Indian space agency.
- ✓ A US Air Force C-17 aircraft carrying the NASA-ISRO synthetic aperture radar (NISAR) has landed in Bengaluru.
- ✓ The satellite is an outcome of a collaboration between the American space agency NASA and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- ✓ The satellite is expected to be launched in 2024 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Andhra Pradesh, into a near-polar orbit.
- ✓ It will be the first radar of its kind in space to systematically map Earth, using two different radar frequencies (L-band and S-band) to measure changes in the planet's surface less than a centimetre across



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Q. Which State has become India's first state to launch the Resham Keet Bima scheme for sericulturists?

- A) Maharashtra
B) Karnataka
C) Uttarakhand
D) Uttar Pradesh

Answer : C

- ✓ Uttarakhand has become the india's first state to launch the 'Resham Keet Bima' scheme for protecting its sericulturists, state agriculture minister Ganesh Joshi.
- ✓ Under the pilot project, which started from Uttarakhand, in the first phase, 200 sericulturists from five blocks of four districts -- Dehradun, Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar and Nainital -- have been insured from the ill effects of climate change, scarcity of water and other hazards.

Q. India's digital payments market will more than triple to _ by 2026.

- A) \$10 trillion
B) \$12 trillion
C) \$15 trillion
D) \$18 trillion

Answer : A

- ✓ A recent report by PhonePe and Boston Consulting Group concluded that India's digital payments market will more than triple from USD 3 trillion to USD 10 trillion by 2026.

Q. Who has won the Pritzker Architecture Prize 2023?

- A) Shelley McNamara
B) Diebedo Francis Kere
C) Jean-Philippe Vassal
D) Sir David Chipperfield

Answer : D

- ✓ British architect Sir David Chipperfield has won the 2023 Pritzker Architecture Prize.
- ✓ He is a civic architect and urban planner with an extensive work plan of projects built across 3 continents.
- ✓ David Chipperfield is the 52nd winner of the award, established in 1979.
- ✓ Francis Kéré (Germany) was awarded the prize in 2022, and Anne Lacton (France) and Jean-Philippe Vasal (France) in 2021.
- ✓ The 45th Pritzker Prize ceremony honoring David Chipperfield will be held in Athens, Greece in May 2023.



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✓ **About Pritzker Architecture Prize**

- ✓ It is the highest international honor for architects.
- ✓ The prize was designed to honor architects for the work they built.
- ✓ The prize was established in 1979 by J. A. Pritzker is funded by the Pritzker family and sponsored by the Hyatt Foundation

Q. **The 18th meeting of Chief Justices of the Supreme Courts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States was held in which city?**

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

Answer : D

- ✓ 18th meeting of Chief Justices of the Supreme Courts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States was held in New Delhi.
- ✓ It was held under the Presidency of Chief Justice of India, D.Y. Chandrachud with an aim to foster effective judicial cooperation among the Member States.
- ✓ It was a 2-day session wherein all SCO member states had taken part
- ✓ The SCO was created in 2001 based on the "Shanghai five" formed after the signing by Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, China, Russia and Tajikistan.
- ✓ Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
- ✓ Founded : 2001
- ✓ HQ : Beijing, China
- ✓ Secretary General : Zhang Ming (China)
- ✓ Member Countries = 9 (Iran ,China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,Pakistan,Russia, Tajikistan & Uzbekistan)
- ✓ SCO Summit 2021 : Dushanbe,Tajikistan.
- ✓ SCO Summit 2022 : Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
- ✓ SCO Summit to be hosted by the Indian side in 2023.
- ✓ The founding members (5) of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) were China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,Tajikistan. India and Pakistan officially joined this organisation in 2017
- ✓ Trick to remember SCO Countries.
- ✓ TRICK :- PICK IN KURTA



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- ✓ P - Pakistan
- ✓ I - India
- ✓ C- China
- ✓ K - Kazakhstan
- ✓ IN - Iran
- ✓ K - Kyrgyzstan
- ✓ U - Uzbekistan
- ✓ R - Russia
- ✓ TA - Tajikistan

Q.3. Who has been appointed as the interim chairman of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) for three months with effect from March 14, 2023?

- A) Siddhartha Mohanty B) Naveen Tahilyani
C) Varun Dua D) Bhargav Dasgupta

Answer : A

- ✓ Siddhartha Mohanty, MD of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has been given a 3-month charge as chairman, from 14th March 2023.
- ✓ Moreover, the insurance juggernaut claims that MR Kumar, the current chairman of the LIC, has not received an extension.

LIC IN NEWS 2022-23

- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), India's largest insurer, has launched "Bima Ratna" .
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has introduced Dhan Sanchay.
- LIC Shares sluggish listing leads to Investors loss over Rs 50,000 crore.
- Sunil Agrawal has been appointed as the chief financial officer (CFO) of LIC.
- 20% FDI in LIC via automatic route approved by the government.
- LIC tie-up with Policybazaar for digital distribution of life insurance.
- As per a brand valuation report released by Brand Finance, LIC has been ranked at 10th in the list of insurance brands globally.
- Centre extends tenure of LIC Chairman M R Kumar by one year till March 2023.
- Govt set to allow 20% foreign direct investment (FDI) in LIC ahead of listing.



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- LIC has inaugurated “Digi Zone”, at Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai to sell policies online.
- LIC launches Dhan Rekha plan savings life insurance plan.
- IRDAI has stated that LIC, GIC Re and New India continue to be identified as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for 2021-22.
- LIC gets RBI approval to increase stake up in IndusInd Bank, 4.95% to 9.99%.
- RBI approves to increase LIC’s stake in Kotak Mahindra Bank to 9.99% from 4.96%
- LIC Launches Mobile App ‘PRAGATI’ for Development Officers.
- PRAGATI stands for “Performance Review Application, Growth And Trend Indicator”.
- LIC buys 3.9% stake in Bank of India via open market acquisition.
- Govt appoints 10 merchant bankers for managing IPO of LIC.
- LIC launches ANANDA mobile app for Agents/Intermediaries.
- Mini Ipe takes charge as Managing Director of LIC.
- Government extends superannuation age of LIC Chairman to up to 62 years.
- LIC has launched a centralized web-based workflow-based IT platform called “e-PGS”.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)
- Founded : 1956
- Headquarters : Mumbai
- Chairman : Siddhartha Mohanty
- Managing Director : 4 (Mini Ipe, BC Patnaik, & Raj Kumar)
- Life Insurance Corp (LIC), with the initial public offering that fetched ₹20,557 crore to the government, is India's biggest IPO till date.

Q. Who as MD and CEO of IndusInd Bank for two years from 24 March 2023?

A) V. Vaidyanathan

B) Sumant Kathpalia

C) Atanu Kumar Das

D) Chandra Shekhar Ghosh

Answer : B

- ✓ Private lender IndusInd Bank the Reserve bank of India had approved the re-appointment of Sumant Kathpalia as management director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of the bank.



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- ✓ IndusInd Bank said the central bank has approved the re-appointment of Sumant Kathpalia as MD and CEO for a period of two years from 24 March, 2023.
- ✓ INDUSLND BANK
- ✓ Founded : 1994
- ✓ Founder : S.P. Hinduja
- ✓ Headquarters : Pune, Maharashtra,
- ✓ MD & CEO : Sumant Kathpalia
- ✓ Tagline : We Make You Feel Richer

Q. Who launched the MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme at the NDMC Convention Centre, Delhi?

- A) Narayan Rane B) Uddhav Thackeray
C) Eknath Shinde D) Devendra Fadnavis

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Minister for MSME Narayan Rane launched the MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme.
- ✓ It aims to provide a roadmap to global competitiveness for the MSMEs of India.
- ✓ The scheme will not only strive to improve quality, productivity and performance, but also change the mindset of manufacturers and provide them the ability to become world class manufacturers.
- ✓ Under this scheme, MSMEs will implement LEAN manufacturing tools like 5S, Kaizen, Kanban, Visual Workplace, Poka Yoka etc. under the able guidance of trained and competent LEAN consultants to acquire LEAN levels like Basic, Intermediate and Advanced.
- ✓ Through this scheme, MSMEs can significantly reduce wastage, increase productivity, improve quality, expand their markets, operate in a safer manner and ultimately become competitive and profitable.
- ✓ To assist MSMEs, the government will contribute 90 per cent of the implementation cost and consultancy fee for providing initial support.
- ✓ There will be an additional contribution of 5 per cent for MSMEs which are owned by women/SC/ST and are part of SFURTI clusters located in North Eastern States.
- ✓ Nodal Agency of the scheme will be the National Productivity Council (NPC).
- ✓ **Initiatives related to MSME Sector**



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- ✓ The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act was notified in the year 2006 to address policy issues affecting MSMEs as well as the coverage and investment limits of the sector.
- ✓ Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program (PMEGP):- It is a credit linked subsidy scheme for setting up new micro enterprises and generating employment opportunities in rural and urban areas of the country. Commencement - 15 August 2008
- ✓ Scheme of Fund for the Upliftment of Traditional Industries (SFURTI):- Its objective is to organise artisans and traditional industries into clusters and thus provide financial assistance to make them competitive in the current market scenario
- ✓ Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises :- Under this scheme launched to facilitate easy flow of credit, guarantee cover is provided for collateral free loans given to MSMEs.
- ✓ Credit Linked Capital Subsidy and Technology Upgradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS) :- It aims at facilitating technology up-gradation to Micro and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) by providing 15% capital subsidy for purchase of plant and machinery
- ✓ CHAMPIONS Portal:- It aims to help Indian MSMEs to establish themselves as national and global champions by resolving their grievances and providing them encouragement, support

Q. The first Supreme Audit Institution 20 (SAI20) Senior Officers Meeting is being organized in Which city?

A) Shillong

B) Guwahati

C) Dibrugarh

D) Bengaluru

Answer : B

- ✓ The 1st Supreme Audit Institution 20 (SAI20) Senior Officers' Meeting (SOM) began on 13 March 2023 in Guwahati, Assam.
- ✓ The themes of this meeting are 'Blue Economy' and 'Responsible Artificial Intelligence'.
- ✓ SAI20 aims to bring together an ecosystem wherein SAs are active participants in governance, promoting transparency and accountability.
- ✓ The SAI-20 meeting will be chaired by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Girish Chandra Murmu and also attended by senior representatives of equivalent institutions from G-20 countries.
- ✓ Around 44 delegates from G-20 member countries, guest countries and other international organisations participated in the SAI-20 event.



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- ✓ Countries like Australia, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Oman, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and UAE participated individually.
- ✓ The SAI-20 meeting will conclude on March 15.

Q. PM Modi inaugurated Asia's biggest aero show "Aero India 2023", what is its theme?

- A) Trade Expo & Defense Expo Show
- B) The Runway of Atmanirbhar Bharat
- C) The Runway to Billion Opportunities
- D) Aero Show for Billion Opportunities

Answer : C

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 14th edition of Aero India show in Bengaluru.
- ✓ The 14th edition of Aero India 2023 is being organised by the Indian Department of Defense Production from February 13 to 17 at the Yelahanka Air Force Station in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ✓ The theme of the five-day event is 'The Runway to a Billion Opportunities
- ✓ 98 countries are participating in the event and MoUs worth Rs 75,000 crore are expected to be signed during the event.
- ✓ According to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the theme of Aero India 2023 is "The Runway to Billion Opportunities" (The Runway to a Billion Opportunities). Over 80 nations are participating in this Mega Aero India 2023.

Q. Who has dedicated the 10-lane and 118-km-long, Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway in Karnataka to the nation?

- A) Nitin Gadkari
- B) Rajnath Singh
- C) Nirmala Sitharaman
- D) Narendra Modi

Answer : D

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway in Karnataka on 12 March.
- ✓ Built at a cost of over Rs 8400 crore, the 10-lane Bengaluru Mysuru Expressway will boost connectivity and socio-economic development in Karnataka.
- ✓ The 118 km long Bengaluru-Mysore Expressway will reduce the travel time between Bengaluru and Mysuru from three hours to about 75 minutes.



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- ✓ India and Australia signed an audio-visual co-production agreement that seeks to offer filmmakers financial incentives amounting to up to 30 per cent of the expenditure incurred in the respective countries.
- ✓ The agreement was signed by Information and Broadcasting Secretary "Apurva Chandra" and Australian High Commissioner "Barry O'Farrell" during the ongoing visit of Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese to India.
- ✓ Australia is the 16th country with which India has a co-production agreement that would benefit mainly small filmmakers keen on shooting movies, web series, advertisements or carrying out post-production work or visual effects in that country.

Q. How many billion dollars are announced by World Bank in aid for earthquake-affected Turkey?

- A) 1.20 Billion B) 1.78 Billion
C) 2.00 Billion D) 2.34 Billion

Answer : B

- ✓ The World Bank has announced financial aid of 1.78 billion dollars to provide relief and recovery for earthquake-hit Turkey.
- ✓ The earthquake caused widespread damage in southeastern Turkey and its surrounding areas.
- ✓ Through contingent emergency response components (CERCs), 780 million dollars have been offered in immediate assistance. Under 'Operation Friend' India is also helping Turkey.

Q. The second edition of 'World Food India-2023' will be organized from 3-5 November 2023 at Which City?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The second edition of 'World Food India-2023' will be organised by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, from 3-5 November, 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- ✓ The Curtain Raiser Event to WFI-2023 was held 10th March 2023 in National Media Centre, New Delhi.



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Q. Directorate of Rural Sanitation launches Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Internship-2023 in Which State/UT?

- A) Odisha
B) Jharkhand
C) Chhattisgarh
D) Jammu and Kashmir

Answer : D

- ✓ In Jammu and Kashmir, the Directorate of Rural Sanitation has launched the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Internship-2023.
- ✓ Aim : At engaging the youth enrolled in colleges and universities, as well as research scholars, who are interested in working in rural areas for the implementation of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) and being a part of the "Jan Andolan".

Q. Who has been named as the new managing director and CEO of Hindustan Unilever?

- A) Noel R. Wallace
B) Rohit Jawa
C) Ulf Mark Schneider
D) Natarajan Chandrasekaran

Answer : B

- ✓ Rohit Jawa was appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the famous Fast- Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) Company Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) Company.
- ✓ Rohit Jawa will succeed Sanjiv Mehta, the current Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who will retire on March 30, 2023.
- ✓ Rohit Jawa will also take over as President of Unilever South Asia from the current Chief of Transformation based in London.
- ✓ **About Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL)**
- ✓ It is a part of England's company Unilever, Unilever registered to do business in India.
- ✓ 67% of the dividend of Hindustan Unilever Limited goes to England.
- ✓ Headquarters - London, England
- ✓ Head Office in India - Mumbai
- ✓ Established - 17 October 1933



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Q. Which Bank Signs MoU With Central Warehousing Corporation To Facilitate Finance To Farmers?

A) Bank of India

B) Punjab National Bank

C) Bank of Baroda

D) Indian Overseas Bank

Answer : B

- ✓ Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate financing undere-NWR (Electronic Negotiable Warehousing Receipt).
- ✓ The main objective of this partnership is to provide easy finance to farmers, processors and traders against the pledge of agricultural produce stored in Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) godowns.
- ✓ About Punjab National Bank (PNB)
- ✓ It is an Indian public sector bank based in New Delhi and it is the third largest public sector bank in India.
- ✓ PNB has a banking subsidiary in the UK as well as branches in Dubai, Kabul, Kowloon and Hong Kong.
- ✓ Established - May 1894
- ✓ Founder - Dayal Singh Majithia, Lala Lajpat Rai
- ✓ Tagline - "The Name You Can Bank Upon"
- ✓ MD & CEO - Atul Kumar Goel
- ✓ Punjab National Bank Merge – (Oriental Bank of Commerce & United Bank of India)
- ✓ About Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)
- ✓ It aims to provide reliable, cost-effective, value-added, integrated warehousing and logistics services in a socially responsible and environment-friendly manner

Q. Who has launched the 'Women Icons Leading Swachhata' (WINS) Awards 2023?

A) Kiren Rijju

B) Hardeep Singh Puri

C) S. Jaishankar

D) Dharmendra Pradhan

Answer : B

- ✓ Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri announced the 'Women Icons Leading Swachhata' (WINS) Awards 2023 on 7th March 2023, on the eve of International Women's Day.



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- ✓ The WINS Awards 2023 Aim : To recognize celebrate and disseminate inspiring and exemplary initiatives in urban sanitation and waste management by women led organizations and individual women

Q. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has announced to start “Bharat Nepal Ashtha Yatra” Train. The train has been launched under which initiative?

- A) Dekho Apna Desh B) Sashakt Bharat
C) Gourav Bharat D) Atmanirbhar Bharat

Answer : A

- ✓ Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) announced to run on 31 March 2023, “Bharat Nepal Ashtha Yatra” tour package.
- ✓ It will run under the Bharat Gaurav Tourists train which will showcase four important pilgrimage and heritage destination in the 10 days tour.
- ✓ The Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train launch is in line with the Government of India initiative “Dekho Apna Desh” to promote special interest circuits in domestic tourism.
- ✓ The train will depart from Jalandar but have boarding from Delhi Safdarjung. The departure date of the Bharat Nepal Ashtha Yatra is from 31 March 2023.
- ✓ The destinations that will be covered in this 10 days tour are: Ram Janmbhoomi temple, Hanuman Garhi, SaryuGhat, Nandigram in Ayodhya; Pashupatinath Temple, Darbar Squire, Swaymbhunath Stupa in Kathmandu; Tulsi Manas temple, SankatMochan temple, Kashi Vishwanath Corridor and temple, Ganga Aarti at VaranasGhat in Varanasi; and Ganga – Yamuna Sangam, Hanuman temple in Prayagraj.

Q. Union Minister for Road and Transport Nitin Gadkari unveiled the first methanol run buses in which city?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Union Minister for Road and Transport Nitin Gadkari unveiled Bengaluru’s first methanol-run buses.



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Q. Which of the following Mutual Fund Company has been rebranded as Bandhan Mutual Fund?

A) HDFC Mutual Fund

B) IDFC Mutual Fund

C) Axis Mutual Fund

D) Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund

Answer : B

- ✓ IDFC Mutual Fund has been rebranded itself as Bandhan Mutual Fund and its schemes will reflect the new name with effect from March 13, 2023.
- ✓ IDFC Mutual Fund has also unveiled a new logo as the company was acquired by Bandhan Financial Holdings-led consortium in April 2022
- ✓ The scheme of the fund house will be renamed to replace the word 'IDFC' with 'Bandhan'. Unitholders of IDFC MF would continue to benefit from the same high-quality investment approach.
- ✓ The company, which was earlier a part of the IDFC group, was acquired by a Bandhan Financial Holdings-led consortium in April 2022.
- ✓ The deal was approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in November 2022

Q. The International Day of Mathematics (IDM) is event held on___

A) 15 March

B) 13 March

C) 14 March

D) 12 March

Answer : C

- ✓ The International Day of Mathematics (IDM) is observed every year on 14th of March.
- ✓ The theme for 2023 IDM is "Mathematics for Everyone"
- ✓ The day was initiated by the International Mathematical Union (IMU) to celebrate the beauty and importance of mathematics and its essential role in everyone's life.
- ✓ The 40th General Conference of UNESCO approved the Proclamation of March 14 as the International Day of Mathematics, on November 26, 2019.

Q. What is the target of bilateral trade between India and Australia in the next five years?

A) \$100 billion

B) \$500 billion

C) \$400 billion

D) \$200 billion

Answer : A

- ✓ India and Australia target \$100 billion bilateral trade in next five years.



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- ✓ Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on 11 March, Australia and India will target \$100 billion trade in the next five years.
- ✓ Both the countries are currently dissatisfied with the \$30 billion trade.
- ✓ Both countries expressed their commitment to complete negotiations to expand the scope of the existing Free Trade Agreement by the end of this year.
- ✓ He was addressing the media in New Delhi on the India-Australia 18th Joint Ministerial Commission along with Australian Trade and Tourism Minister Don Farrell.
- ✓ On 29 December 2022 India and Australia implemented an economic cooperation and trade agreement (ECTA).
- ✓ They are now negotiating to expand its scope for a comprehensive economic cooperation agreement (CECA).
- ✓ Both sides are looking at firming up the ambitious CECA by 2023.
- ✓ India-Australia Trade Relations
- ✓ Australia is the 17th largest trading partner of India and India is Australia's 9th largest trading partner.
- ✓ India-Australia bilateral trade in goods and services is pegged at US\$ 27.5 billion in 2021.
- ✓ India's merchandise exports to Australia grew by 135% between 2019 and 2021.
- ✓ India's exports to Australia- Manufactured goods such as petroleum, medicaments, diamonds, jewellery, railway coaches and vehicles, milled rice and herbicides.
- ✓ India's imports to Australia - 82% of its imports from Australia are coal, gold, copper ore, aluminum oxide, liquified natural gas, manganese ore, aluminum waste, pigments, lentils, etc.

AUSTRALIA IN NEWS 2022-23

- India and Australia target \$100 billion bilateral trade in next five years.
- Australia and India have agreed to accelerate a broader economic partnership and to boost their defence ties, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said in New Delhi.
- Deakin University of Australia to set up campus in Gujarat International Financial Tec-City (GIFT) City.
- India and Australia sign a framework mechanism for mutual recognition of qualifications.
- India and Australia signed the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA).



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- Australia announced it will erase the British monarch from its banknotes, replacing the late Queen Elizabeth II's image on its \$5 note with a design honoring Indigenous culture.
- Australia's longest-serving captain in the shortest format of the game, veteran batter Aaron Finch called time on his international career.
- Now Punjabi is all set to be taught in public schools in Western Australia.
- The bilateral training exercise "AUSTRA HIND 22" between contingents of the Indian Army and the Australian Army begins at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.
- Anthony Albanese sworn in as Australia's new prime minister
- Novak Djokovic defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas in the final of men's singles match of the Australian Open 2023.
- In the Women's Singles category, Aryna Sabalenka defeated Elena Rybakina.
- ICC Women's T20 World Cup Final: Australia won the Women's T20 World Cup for the sixth time when they beat South Africa by 19 runs in the final at Newlands
- AUSTRALIA
- Capital : Canberra
- Currency : Dollar
- Prime Minister : Anthony Albanese

Q. Defense Ministry has signed a contract with which company for General Refit of INS Sindhukirti submarine at a total cost of Rs 934 crore?

- A) Cochin Shipyard B) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
C) Hindustan Shipyard Limited D) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers

Answer : C

- ✓ Centre signs Rs 934 crore deal with HSL to Refit INS Sindhukirti Submarine in Visakhapatnam.
- ✓ In a further boost to achieve 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', the Ministry of Defense on March 13, 2023 signed a contract for General Refit of Sindhukirti Submarine at Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Visakhapatnam at a total cost of Rs 934 crore .
- ✓ Sindhukirti is the third Kilo class Diesel Electric Submarine.



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- ✓ The project involves over 20 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and will generate employment of 1,000 man-days per day for the project duration.
- ✓ INS Sindhukirti Submarine
- ✓ It is a diesel-electric submarine.
- ✓ It was commissioned on June 7, 1990 and since then has been serving the nation in various capacities.
- ✓ It has a displacement of 1860 tonnes when submerged and is 67.5 metres in length.
- ✓ The submarine has a maximum speed of 20 knots (about 37 km per hour) when submerged and can dive to a depth of 300 metres.
- ✓ It is armed with six 533 mm torpedo tubes and can carry up to 18 torpedoes or missiles.
- ✓ About Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)
- ✓ The shipyard 'Hindustan Shipyard Limited' is located in Visakhapatnam.
- ✓ It is the country's first shipbuilding yard.
- ✓ Establishment - 21 June 1941
- ✓ Construction - Walchand Hirachand

Q.3. Which state has become India's first state to launch the Resham Keet Bima scheme for sericulturists?

A) Haryana

B) Rajasthan

C) Uttarakhand

D) Himachal Pradesh

Answer : C

- ✓ Uttarakhand has become India's first state to launch the Resham Keet Bima scheme for sericulturists.
- ✓ In the first phase of this pilot project, 200 sericulturists from five blocks of four districts – Dehradun, Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar, and Nainital – have been insured from the ill effects of climate change, scarcity of water, and other hazards.
- ✓ This scheme will be run under Saral Krishi Beema.

UTTARAKHAND IN NEWS 2022-23

- Uttarakhand has become India's first state to launch the Resham Keet Bima scheme for sericulturists.
- Uttarakhand tableau which showcased the state's wildlife and religious sites at the 74th Republic Day parade has won the top prize.



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- India's First Green Solar Panel Factory to Build by Luminous in Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand awarded for adventure tourism & all round development of tourism.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister launches Lakhpati Didi Yojana.
- The Uttarakhand High Court will be shifted from Nainital to Haldwani.
- Uttarakhand Plans Genetic Enhancement of Its Indigenous Badri Cow.
- Uttarakhand Government appoints Prasoon Joshi as its Brand Ambassador.
- Uttarakhand Gaurav Samman: NSA Ajit Doval and late CDS Gen Rawat to receive award.
- Uttarakhand CM Launched SBI Foundation and HESCO's Project for Chamoli.
- Uttarakhand Foundation Day is observed on November 9 every year.
- Uttarakhand Governor Approved 30% Women's Reservation Bill.
- PM Modi has inaugurated connectivity projects worth 3,400 crores in Mana village of Chamoli district of Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand recently received the first prize in two categories - the best adventure tourism destination and all-round development of tourism - from the Union tourism ministry.
- India's first commercial space observatory will be set up in the Garhwal division of Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has launched the "Mukhyamantri Udyaman Khiladi Unnayan Yojana" on the occasion of National Sports Day.
- Uttarakhand education department launched an e-governance portal "Samarth".
- India-US Armies to hold mega military exercise "Yudh Abhyas" from October 14 to 31, 2022, at Auli in Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand becomes first state in India to implement New Education Policy (NEP) at pre-primary level.
- Uttarakhand govt decides to develop one Sanskrit-speaking village in each district.
- World Bank has approved a project worth ₹1,000 crore for taking rain-fed farming to new heights in the hilly regions of Uttarakhand.
- Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami introduces e-FIR service and a police app for Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand to launch "Him Prahari" scheme for ex-servicemen & youngsters.
- Rishabh Pant appointed as the State Brand Ambassador of Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand becomes the 1st Indian state to roll out drone in healthcare.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approves new Defence Estates Circle for Uttarakhand.



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- Pushkar Singh Dhama takes oath as 11th CM of Uttarakhand.
- India's 1st liquid-mirror telescope in Uttarakhand will be Asia's largest.
- The telescope, built by astronomers from India, Belgium and Canada, is located at an altitude of 2,450 metres at the Devasthal Observatory campus of Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES) in Nainital district, Uttarakhand.

Q. Asia's first female locomotive pilot, ___ is now operating the Vande Bharat Express.

- A) Bhanu Lall
- B) Tinku Singh
- C) Surekha Yadav
- D) Deepika Rajan

Answer : C

- ✓ Surekha Yadav becomes Asia's first woman loco pilot to operate Vande Bharat Express.
- ✓ Asia's first woman loco pilot Surekha Yadav has become the first female to operate the newly-introduced semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express train.
- ✓ She piloted a semi-high speed train between Solapur station and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai on 13 March.
- ✓ The train left Solapur station on March 13 on schedule and reached CSMT five minutes before its scheduled arrival for a journey of over 450 km.
- ✓ Yadav set another record in Central Railway by becoming the first woman loco pilot of Vande Bharat Express.
- ✓ Surekha Yadav, a resident of Satara in the western Maharashtra region, became India's first woman train driver in 1988.
- ✓ She has won many awards at the state and national level for his achievements so far.
- ✓ Central Railway has introduced two Vande Bharat Express trains on CSMT-Solapur and CSMT-Sainagar Shirdi route which were flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 10, 2023.
- ✓ Mumtaz Kazi, who has the distinction of being Asia's first suburban motor woman, piloted the K99 local, a women's special train running between Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai and Kalyan



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Q. How many crore loans extended since inception of MUDRA Yojana?

- A) 38.58 Crore B) 42.58 Crore
C) 46.58 Crore D) 49.58 Crore

Answer : A

- ✓ According to the Mudra portal (as of 27.01.2023), more than 38.58 crore loans have been extended since the inception of the Scheme in April 2015.
- ✓ Out of this, over 26.35 crore loans have been extended to Women Entrepreneurs (68%).
- ✓ SC/ST/OBC category borrowers received 19.84 crore loans (51%).
- ✓ As per the Ministry of Labour survey, PMMY helped in generating 1.12 crore net additional employment in the country from 2015 to 2018.
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) – MUDRA Scheme
- ✓ Definition : Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) is a scheme to extend collateral free loans
- ✓ Maximum limit of loan is Rs 10 lakh
- ✓ Stands for Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd (MUDRA) Bank
- ✓ Founded : 8 April 2015
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai
- ✓ Chairman : S. Ramann
- ✓ It was converted as a wholly owned subsidiary of SIDBI and renamed as MUDRA (SIDBI) Bank
- ✓ MUDRA Portal : Borrowers can also now file online application for MUDRA loans on Mudramitra portal
- ✓ Mudra Yojana offers three type of product namely Shishu, Kishor and Tarun
- ✓ Shishu : covering loans upto 50,000/- (Single page application form for this product)
- ✓ Kishor : covering loans above 50,000/- and upto 5 lakh
- ✓ Tarun : covering loans above 5 lakh and upto 10 lakh

Q. The Indira Gandhi Tulip Garden, which is Asia's largest tulip garden, will open to the public on 19 March 2023. It is located in which place?

- A) Jammu and Kashmir B) Ladakh
C) Himachal Pradesh D) Uttarakhand

Answer : A



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- ✓ The Indira Gandhi Tulip Garden, which is Asia's largest tulip garden in Kashmir, will open to the public on March 19, 2023.
- ✓ The garden spread between Dal Lake and Zabarwan Hills.
- ✓ This garden is spread over 1050 kanals (52.5 hectares). It started with 50,000 tulips, then 3.50 lakh tulips and now we have 15 Lakh.
- ✓ Besides 1.5 million Tulips of various colours and hues, the garden, also known as Siraj Bagh, will have other spring flowers like hyacinths, daffodils, muscari and cyclamens on display.
- ✓ Formerly known as Siraj Bagh, the Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden was opened in 2008 by then chief minister of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state Ghulam Nabi Azad.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR IN NEWS 2022-23

- Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has unveiled Rs 1,18,500 crore budget for Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory for the next financial year.
- Jammu and Kashmir Government to Host its First SARAS Fair 2023.
- Lithium reserves for the first time found in J&K.
- J&K Becomes First Indian UT to Completely Shift to e-Governance Mode.
- Government Declared Jammu and Kashmir as 'Free Area' for PCICDA 2009
- Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the 33rd Police-Public Mela at Gulshan Ground, Jammu.
- India's First Glass Igloo Restaurant in Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir.
- In the rugged Doda area of Jammu & Kashmir, the Army erected the tallest "Iconic National Banner". The highest tricolour in the Doda district, which has been erected on a 100-foot pole.
- The India Today Tourism Survey has chosen Jammu & Kashmir Tourism for best adventure tourism award.
- Jammu and Kashmir has been awarded 1st prize in the category for Ayushman Bharat health account ID generation and 2nd prize in the category for Teleconsultation conducted during the celebration of Universal Health Coverage Day 2022.
- India's longest escape tunnel, which is 12.89 km long constructed on the 111 km under-construction Banihal-Katra railway line in Jammu and Kashmir



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- Jammu and Kashmir becomes the first Indian Union Territory to completely shift to e-governance mode
- Third Khelo India Winter Games begins in Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir

Q. India and which country has conducted Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) in the Arabian Sea?

A) United States

B) France

C) Japan

D) Singapore

Answer : B

- ✓ Indian Navy's indigenously built Guided Missile Frigate, INS Sahyadri participated in the Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with French Navy (FN) ships in the Arabian Sea from 10 - 11 March 2023.
- ✓ French Navy (FN) ships FS Dixmude, a Mistral class amphibious assault ship, and FS La Fayette, a La Fayette class frigate participated in the exercise.
- ✓ The exercise featured a wide spectrum of development at sea which included cross deck landings, boarding exercises and seamanship development.
- ✓ The smooth conduct of the exercise reaffirmed the high level of interoperability and cooperation between the two navies.
- ✓ INS Sahyadri is equipped with state-of-the-art weapons and sensors capable of detecting and neutralizing air, surface and sub-surface threats.
- ✓ The ship is a part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam, under the operational control of FOCinC (East).
- ✓ INS Sahyadri
- ✓ It is the Shivalik-class advanced, guided-missile frigate warship.
- ✓ It is built by the Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai.
- ✓ It was launched in 2005.
- ✓ It was commissioned along with INS Shivalik (F-47), INS Satpura (F-48) into the Indian Navy on July 21st, 2012.
- ✓ It is 468 feet in length and 55 feet in breadth.
- ✓ It has a displacement capacity of 6,800 tons.



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- ✓ It has a massive surface speed of 32 knots
- ✓ Defence Exercises between India and France:
- ✓ Varuna – Naval exercise
- ✓ Garuda – Air exercise
- ✓ Shakti – Army exercise

Q. Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Tourism Ministers' meeting will be held in which city in India?

- A) Varanasi
- B) Jaipur
- C) Patna
- D) Lucknow

Answer : A

- ✓ India is hosting the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) tourism ministers' meeting.
- ✓ According to this, SCO Tourism Ministers' meeting is being organized in Varanasi.
- ✓ Varanasi (Kashi) has been designated as the first cultural capital of SCO.
- ✓ Presently India is chairing the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.
- ✓ Before this, the second tourism expert working group meeting is being organized on March 14 and 15, 2023. SCO was established in 2001, its headquarter is located in Beijing, China.
- ✓ The eight member countries of SCO represent around 42% of the world population and 25% of the global GDP

Q. Who is organizing the third edition of the 'La Perouse' Exercise?

- A) India
- B) Singapore
- C) France
- D) United States

Answer : C

- ✓ The third edition of the multilateral exercise La Perouse is being organized from 13 to 14 March 2023 in the Indian Ocean region.
- ✓ This biennial exercise 'La Perouse' is organized by the French Navy.
- ✓ Royal Australian Navy, French Navy, Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force, Royal Navy and United States Navy and Indian Navy are participating in this exercise.
- ✓ From the Indian side, the indigenously built Guided Missile Frigate INS Sahyadri and Fleet Tanker INS Jyoti are participating in the exercise.



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Q. India has signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with which country for cooperation in the field of research?

- A) Sweden
B) Switzerland
C) Norway
D) Portugal

Answer : A

- ✓ The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of India and The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education (STINT) of Sweden have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC).
- ✓ Its objective is to promote research networking among research institutions.
- ✓ Both these institutes will facilitate the mobility of researchers through their regular funding programmes.
- ✓ Sweden is a Scandinavian nation, its capital is Stockholm.

Q. In which city is the G20 Flower Festival being organized?

- A) Lucknow
B) Mumbai
C) Guwahati
D) New Delhi

Answer : D

- ✓ The Flower Festival began at Delhi's Connaught Plaza with an aim to showcase the diversity of the G20 participants and invited nations.
- ✓ It was inaugurated by Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav.
- ✓ The main objective of the festival is to showcase the vibrancy and diversity of the G20 members and guest countries.
- ✓ To achieve this objective, the festival will showcase a variety of flowering plants in various colours and arrangements, highlighting the richness of the Indian subcontinent.
- ✓ Along with plants, paintings and photographs of flowers from G20 members and invited countries will be displayed.
- ✓ The festival provides a unique opportunity to appreciate the beauty and diversity of flora and cultural heritage of the participating countries.



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Q. Who has been appointed as the independent director of the Indian public sector undertaking Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam?

- A) Umesh Sinha B) Ajay Garg
C) Shashikant Jagannath Wani D) Dinesh Mohanty

Answer : C

- ✓ The Ministry of Power has appointed Shashikant Jagannath Wani as the independent director of the Indian public sector undertaking Suttlej Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN).
- ✓ He has been appointed for a period of three years or till further orders.
- ✓ Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam is an Indian public sector undertaking and it was established in 1988.
- ✓ It is involved in hydroelectric power generation and distribution.

Q. New York-based ___ Bank was shut by regulators in the US, becoming the second bank in the country after Silicon Valley Bank.

- A) Signature Bank B) Chase Bank
C) Silvergate Bank D) Santander Bank

Answer : A

- ✓ California-based Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), the 16th largest bank in the United States, was closed on 9 March by the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation
- ✓ It is the biggest banking failure since the 2008 financial crisis.
- ✓ It is considered the biggest financial crisis since the collapse of Washington Mutual and Lehman Brothers during the 2008 recession.
- ✓ The regulator appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. as the receiver.
- ✓ As of December 31, 2022, the Silicon Valley Bank had approximately \$209.0 billion in total assets and about \$175.4 billion in total deposits.
- ✓ Why did SVB have to be shut down?
- ✓ SVB announced the sale of securities worth \$21 billion from its portfolio.
- ✓ The company said that to strengthen its financial position, shares worth \$ 2.25 billion are being sold.
- ✓ The widespread slowdown in the startup industry led to high deposit withdrawals in the bank, resulting in the move.
- ✓ The increase in interest rates by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp also messed up SVB Bank's math.



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- ✓ Experts believe that the biggest reason for the closure of SVB was the simultaneous withdrawal of money from the bank by its investors.
- ✓ About Silicon Valley banks
- ✓ It was established in 1983, it was the 16th largest bank in America.
- ✓ It primarily invested in Silicon Valley based startups and provided banking related services.
- ✓ The firm had a deal with half of all venture-backed startups in the US in 2022.
- ✓ As of December 31, 2022, the bank had close to \$212 billion in assets with clients such as Shopify, Pinterest, VC firm Andreessen Horowitz, CrowdStrike and Teladoc Health.

Q. Ministry of Jal Shakti had constituted a Committee to identify How many Water Heritage Sites?

- A) 70
B) 75
C) 80
D) 85

Answer : B

- ✓ There is no provision under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 to declare a site as a "Water Heritage Site" under Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- ✓ The Ministry of Jal Shakti had constituted a Committee to identify 75 Water Heritage Structure (WHS) in reference to 75 years of India's Independence.

Q. Which metro becomes the first to accept digital currency for parking?

- A) Kolkata Metro
B) Kochi Metro
C) Bengaluru Metro
D) Mumbai Metro

Answer : B

- ✓ Kochi Metro becomes the first to accept digital currency for parking
- ✓ IDFC First Bank has partnered with Anantham Online, a technology startup focused in digital parking to enable acceptance of digital rupee at Kochi Metro's parking locations.
- ✓ This initiative comes as a pilot programme launched by the Reserve Bank of India.
- ✓ In an initiative to promote Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), Kochi Metro has started accepting digital currency in its parking facilities.
- ✓ With this, Kochi Metro is the first Metro in the country to accept CBDC.



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- ✓ The program was inaugurated at the parking facility in Thykoodam and system would be introduced in all other parking areas of the Metro soon
- ✓ The program was introduced in association with IDFC FIRST Bank partnered with Anantham Online, a technology startup.

Q. Which company has unveiled a new production line that would produce engines at its manufacturing facility in Hosur completely operated by women employees?

- A) Tata Motors Ltd B) Ashok Leyland
C) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd D) Hyundai Motor India Limited

Answer : B

- ✓ Ashok Leyland unveils all-women production line at Tamil Nadu plant
- ✓ Heavy commercial vehicle maker Ashok Leyland has unveiled a new production line that would produce engines at its manufacturing facility in Hosur completely operated by women employees.
- ✓ The initiative to introduce an all-women production line is to promote women empowerment and encourage them take up roles in the manufacturing industry.
- ✓ Ashok Leyland, the flagship company of Hinduja Group, has set up this new line with 80 women employees.
- ✓ This initiative is in line with our brand philosophy of 'Koi Manzil Door Nahin' as we aim to upskill and generate employment for these women.
- ✓ Ashok Leyland
- ✓ Founded : 1948
- ✓ Headquarters : Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
- ✓ MD & CEO : Shenu Agarwal
- ✓ It is owned by the Hinduja Group

Q. An international conference on "Shared Buddhist Heritage" will be held on 14-15 March in which city?

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

Answer : D



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- ✓ An international conference on "Shared Buddhist Heritage" will be held on March 14-15 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- ✓ The conference will focus on India's civilizational connection with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) nations 2023.
- ✓ It is the first of its kind event under India's leadership of SCO (for a period of one year - from September 17, 2022 to September 2023).
- ✓ It will bring Central Asian, East Asian, South Asian and Arab countries on a common platform to discuss the "Common Buddhist Heritage".
- ✓ Conference organiser
- ✓ The two-day event is being organized by the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of External Affairs and the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC-as a grantee body of the Ministry of Culture).
- ✓ Many Indian scholars of Buddhism will also participate in this program.
- ✓ Aim of the Conference
- ✓ To re-establish the trans-cultural link between Buddhist art, art styles, archaeological sites and antiquity of Central Asia in the collections of various museums in SCO countries.

Q. Who has been appointed as new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tech Mahindra?

A) Mohit Joshi

B) Rajeev Suri

C) Nikesh Arora

D) Ashok Vemuri

Answer : A

- ✓ Tech Mahindra names former Infosys President Mohit Joshi as MD and CEO.
- ✓ Tech Mahindra, India's sixth largest IT services player, on 11 March announced the appointment of Mohit Joshi as MD & CEO.
- ✓ He will take over when CP Gurnani retires on December 19, 2023.
- ✓ The Board of Directors has approved his appointment for a period of five years from December 20, 2023 to December 19, 2028.
- ✓ The aforesaid appointment will be subject to approval by the shareholders.
- ✓ Joshi is currently serving as the Infosys chairman.
- ✓ About Tech Mahindra



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- ✓ Tech Mahindra was established in 1986.
- ✓ It provides information technology (IT) services and solutions to the telecommunications sector across the globe.
- ✓ Tech Mahindra is part of the \$12.5 billion Mahindra Group in partnership with British Telecom plc (BT), one of the world's leading communications service providers.
- ✓ Chairperson - TN Manoharan

Q. Who has won the bronze medal at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup 2023 in Doha, Qatar?

- A) Jaspal Rana B) Prithviraj Tondiman
C) Gagan Narang D) Jitu Rai

Answer : B

- ✓ Prithviraj Tondiman of India won the bronze medal at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup 2023 on March 11, 2023 in Doha, Qatar
- ✓ Two-time world champion Oguzhan Tuzun of Turkey won gold with a score of 33/35, while Great Britain's Matthew John took silver with a score of 30/35.
- ✓ This was India's first medal at the ISSF World Cup, which is currently taking place.
- ✓ **About the ISSF**
- ✓ The International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) governs the Olympic shooting disciplines of rifle, pistol, and shotgun.
- ✓ Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, the ISSF barred Russian and Belarussian athletes and officials from participating in its events.
- ✓ Headquarters - Munich, Germany
- ✓ Chairman - Vladimir Lisin
- ✓ Founded - 1907
- ✓ General Secretary - Willie Grill

Q. Which country has received Gold and Silver Stars at the International 'Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2023'?

- A) Japan B) Singapore
C) Malaysia D) India

Answer : D



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- ✓ India's Ministry of Tourism has won the Golden and Silver Stars at The International 'Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2023' in the 'TV/Cinema Commercials International and Country International' Category at ITB, Berlin.

Q. Who addressed the post-budget webinar on PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman?

- A) Draupadi Murmu B) Narendra Modi
C) Nirmala Sitharaman D) Amit Shah

Answer : B

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the post-budget webinar on 'PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman (PM VIKAS)'
- ✓ According to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, this is part of the series of 12 post-budget webinars being organized by the Government of India for ideas and suggestions for effective implementation of the initiatives announced in the Union Budget.
- ✓ The Prime Minister said that through these schemes, the youth of the country are getting a lot of employment opportunities.
- ✓ There is a need for a more targeted approach in the field of skill development to get better results and the PM-Vishwakarma scheme is a result of that thinking.
- ✓ The objective of the PM-Vishwakarma scheme is not only to preserve the rich tradition of traditional artisans and craftsmen but also to develop them.
- ✓ Now the skill infrastructure system needs to be changed according to their needs.
- ✓ PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman Scheme
- ✓ This scheme has been announced for traditional artisans and craftsmen in the budget 2023-24.
- ✓ The objective of the scheme is to improve the quality and accessibility of artisans/craftsmen by integrating them with domestic and global value chains of their products/services.
- ✓ The scheme includes financial support as well as access to advanced skills, training, knowledge of modern digital technologies and efficient green technologies, brand promotion and social security.
- ✓ In this scheme, more attention has been given to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Women and Weaker Sections.
- ✓ Under the Vishwakarma community, more than 140 castes of the country come, which cover a large population of the country.



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Q. Which country hosted the 146th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)?

- A) Philippines B) Malaysia
C) Bahrain D) Japan

Answer : C

- ✓ The 146th Assembly of the IPU was held in Manama, Bahrain in March 2023.
- ✓ India's Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla arrived in Bahrain's capital Manama, leading an Indian Parliamentary delegation, to attend the Assembly.
- ✓ The Indian delegation will participate in the Asia Pacific Group meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.
- ✓ Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
- ✓ Founded : 1889
- ✓ Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ President : Saber Hossain Chowdhury
- ✓ Secretary General : Martin Chungong

Q. World Consumer Rights Day is observed globally on which day?

- A) March 12 B) March 13
C) March 14 D) March 15

Answer : D

- ✓ World Consumer Rights Day is an annual celebration that is celebrated on 15 March
- ✓ The day aims to raise awareness of consumer rights and needs globally.
- ✓ "Empowering Consumers Through Clean Energy Transitions" is the theme for World Consumer Rights Day 2023.
- ✓ This theme focuses on the importance of the clean energy transition in empowering consumers to make informed decisions about their energy consumption and its impact on the environment.
- ✓ President John F. Kennedy played an important role in the history of World Consumer Rights Day.
- ✓ He sent a special message to the US Congress on March 15, 1962, where he officially addressed the issue of consumer rights.
- ✓ Additional Secretary of Consumer Affairs Department - Mrs. Nidhi Khare



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NAME - PRIYADARSHINI
KALIYAMOORTHY
ROLL NO - 2120036944
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK
STATE - TAMILNADU



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NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY
ROLL NO - 2603003298
SELECTED IN - ARYAVART
GRAMIN BANK CLERK
STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



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NAME - ISHITA GARG
ROLL NO - 2283004123
STATE - PUNJAB
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



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NAME - NIPUN
ROLL NO - 1533002831
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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NAME - PRAVEEN
ROLL NO - 1801005776
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
KARNATAKA GRAMMENA
BANK
STATE - KARNATAKA



Name: Bathina Maneesha
Rollno: 2543024278
Selected in : RRB clerk
State : Telangana

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NAME - BATHINA MANEESHA
ROLL NO - 2543024278
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - TELAGANA



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NAME - NISHU SHARMA
ROLL NO - 1523008901
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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NAME - GURIYA KUMARI
ROLL NO - 1373006773
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN
BANK



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NAME - GURPREET KAUR
ROLL NO - 2283002821
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK
STATE - FROM PUNJAB



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GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE
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NAME - MANU VARGHESE
ROLL NO - 2110710970
BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN
BANK CLERK