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- ✍ We will organize Full Static Gk Quiz by Aparchit SSC Paid Booster (Capsule)
- ✍ Full GA /GS Cover by Discussion A single Question Discuss with its Related Facts
- ✍ We Given 50+ Selection in SSC CGL 2022.
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## INDIA'S NEW VERSION CURRENT AFFAIRS

Dear Aspirants,

Current affairs are important for all the candidates preparing for one or the other government exams. Day by day the weightage of Current Affairs is increasing in the General Awareness section for all exams especially UPSC CSE, State PCS, All Banking exams, SSC CGL, CHSL, MTS, CPO, GD, All Defence exams & RRB NTPC, Group D

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<b>SET – 01</b>	<b>PAGE NO 13 TO 77</b>
<b>SET – 02</b>	<b>PAGE NO 78 TO 165</b>
<b>SET – 03</b>	<b>PAGE NO 166 TO 260</b>
<b>SET – 04</b>	<b>PAGE NO 261 TO 352</b>



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## Aparchit June 1st Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

Q. 'Kheer Bhawani Mela' is a festival celebrated in which Indian state/UT?

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Every year on the day of Jyestha Ashtami, Kashmiri Pandits visit Mata Ragneya Devi Temple, also known as Kheer Bhavani Temple, for darshan.
- ✓ This year the mela was celebrated with great enthusiasm not only by the Kashmiri Pandits but also by the local people of the Kashmir Valley on 28th May.
- ✓ The Kheer Bhavani fair held on Jyestha Ashtami in Kashmir holds a sacred place in the spiritual realm of Kashmiri Pandits.
- ✓ More than 25 thousand devotees participated in the fair.
- ✓ The Kheer Bhawani Mela started on 26th May and concluded on 28th May i.e. Jyestha Ashtami.
- ✓ Kheer Bhavani is considered to be the deity of Kashmiri Pandits, who have a lot of recognition there.
- ✓ Over the years, the Kheer Bhawani Mela has become a symbol of communal harmony and brotherhood in Kashmir

### MELA IN NEWS 2023

- Kheer Bhavani Mela : Jammu and Kashmir
- SARAS Aajeevika Mela : Jammu and Kashmir
- Matua Mela : West Bengal
- Shrimp Mela : Punjab
- Maghi Mela : Punjab
- 36th Surajkund International Crafts Mela : Faridabad, Haryana
- Divya Kala Mela : Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Gangasagar Mela : West Bengal
- Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela : New Delhi







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**Q. Which state government launched a new scheme, Mo Ghara (My Home) – a credit-linked housing scheme for rural poor in the state?**

A) Assam

B) Odisha

C) Chhattisgarh

D) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Odisha government launched the 'Mo Ghara' (My Home) housing scheme.
- ✓ The scheme provides credit-linked financial assistance to economically and socially weaker families and the scheme is fully funded from the state budget.
- ✓ Applications for the loan will open from June 15, 2023 and the scheme covers families who were earlier excluded from the housing schemes.
- ✓ Beneficiaries can avail housing loans up to Rs.3 lakh.
- ✓ The state government waives off registration fee, stamp duty and processing fee for bank loan approval.
- ✓ The 'Mo Ghara' housing scheme is in addition to the Biju Pakka Ghar Yojana (BPGY) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin.

### ODISHA IN NEWS 2022-23

- Odisha becomes the first state to notify a committee for conservation of seeds preserved by tribal farmers.
- Odisha government launched the 'Mo Ghara' (My Home) housing scheme.
- PM Modi launches railway projects worth over 8,000 crore rupees in Odisha.
- Odisha government has expanded the jurisdiction of Special Development Councils (SDCs) from nine to 23 districts to improve the lives of 84 lakh tribal people.
- Odisha has its 88th foundation day on 1st April 2023.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- Odisha won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission, a 5T initiative of the state.
- Aska police station of Odisha's Ganjam district became the country's number one police station.
- Gangapur police station in Odisha's Ganjam district has been awarded the second best police station award.





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- Gold Deposits Found at Different Location in Three Districts of Odisha , including Deogarh, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanj.
- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced that the Odisha government aims to make Odisha slum-free by the end of 2023.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated an ‘International Craft Summit’ in Jajpur
- Odisha govt launched Anemia eradication programme ‘AMLAN’.
- Odisha government observed 10th November as ‘Millet Day’ in the state.
- Odisha government to provide free 5 Kg rice per month for one year under the State Food Security Scheme.
- Odisha Government has started working on the Sukapaika River revival plan following a direction from the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a 24×7 piped drinking water project — ‘Drink from Tap’ — in 19 cities of the state.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has announced a winter assistance of Rs 146 crore to the needy to protect themselves from the coming winter.
- Odisha Govt announces Rs 200 crores relief for drought hit distressed farmers.
- Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the Rs 300 crore Angul-Balram rail line connecting Odisha's Talcher Coalfield.
- Dhanu Yatra’ festival, considered to be the world’s largest open-air theatre, began on 27th December in the Western Odisha town of Bargarh.

**Q. Which state government has launched the ‘Artificial Intelligence for Youth’ initiatives in the state?**

A) Kerala

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Odisha

D) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched the ‘Odisha for Artificial Intelligence’ and ‘Artificial Intelligence for Youth’ initiatives in the state capital.
- ✓ The State Government has roped in international technology company for the initiative. In the first phase, the initiative will be implemented in Bhubaneswar, Puri and Cuttack.









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- ✓ Kumar will replace Soma Sankara Prasad, who is due to superannuate on May 31. It may be recalled that Centre had in December 2021 appointed Prasad as MD & CEO of UCO Bank.
- ✓ Ashwani Kumar will lead the public sector bank for period of three years from June 1
- ✓ About UCO Bank
- ✓ UCO Bank was established in 1943, as United Commercial Bank.
- ✓ Slogan of the bank is “Honours Your Trust“
- ✓ The bank also has two overseas branches in Singapore and Hong Kong.

### NEWLY MD & CEO IN NEWS 2023

- Ashwani Kumar is new MD & CEO of UCO Bank.
- Karnataka Bank Appoints Srikrishnan Harihara Sarma as MD & CEO.
- Rajneesh Karnatak Named As New MD and Chairman Of Bank Of India.
- Debadatta Chand named as new Managing Director of Bank of Baroda.
- Sekhar Rao appointed as interim MD and CEO of Karnataka Bank.
- Manmeet K Nanda appointed as MD & CEO of Invest India.
- Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been elevated as Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.
- Tata Power approves re-appointment of Praveer Sinha as CEO and MD.
- Mahindra Finance Appointed Raul Rebello as MD and CEO-Designate.
- Tech Mahindra named former Infosys President Mohit Joshi as MD and CEO.
- K Satyanarayana Raju named as new MD and CEO of Canara Bank.
- Ashwani Kumar name as MD and CEO of UCO Bank.
- Pankaj Gupta named as MD and CEO of Pramerica Life Insurance.
- Arnab Banerjee named as MD & CEO of CEAT tyre.
- Pranav Haridasan to be new MD and CEO of Axis Securities.
- B Gopkumar named as Axis Mutual Fund’s MD and CEO.
- Anup Bagchi, MD & CEO, ICICI Prudential Life.
- K Krithivasan Appointed CEO Designate of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).
- Surinder Chawla appointed as MD & CEO of Paytm Payments Bank.
- Rohit Jawa has been appointed as the new CEO and MD of Hindustan Unilever Ltd.





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**Q. Which Card launched country's first mobile-based expense management card?**

- A) IndusInd Card                      B) Karbon Card  
C) LIC Card                              D) Citibank Card

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Karbon Card has launched a mobile-based expense management card for businesses and individuals wherein it offers its users uncapped cashback of upto 1%.
- ✓ In comparison to other prepaid instruments like UPI and debit cards, which do not offer any cashback, Card ++ differentiates itself by providing interesting cashback offers, incentivizing people for their spending. The unique feature adds value to the card, making it an option for users

### INDIA'S FIRST IN NEWS 2023

- India's first International Multi Modal Logistics park in Joghopa, Assam.
- India's First Undersea Tunnel in Mumbai Set to Open by November 2023.
- According to the Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation, India's first underwater metro service, the East-West Metro Corridor project is expected to be completed by December 2023.
- Tech startup firm IG Drones has developed India's first 5G-enabled drone capable of vertical take-off and landing. This drone has been named Skyhawk.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari unveiled the country's first drone-air traffic management system "Sky UTM".
- India's First Centre of Excellence in Online Gaming to be set up in Shillong, Meghalaya.
- Luminous Power Technologies announced its plan to build the country's first green energy-based solar panel manufacturing factory in Uttarakhand.
- India's First AC Double Decker Electric Bus Introduced in Mumbai.
- NCERT Launched India's First National Assessment Regulator "PARAKH".
- PARAKH stands for The Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development.
- Uttar Pradesh on track to be first Indian state with 100% EVs in govt depts.
- Shivangi Singh being the first woman pilot to fly the Rafale fighter aircraft, is a trailblazer in the Indian Air Force.



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- India's first "Water Metro" services will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 25, 2023 in Kochi, Kerala.
- Mana village on India-China border in UK's Chamoli district declared as 'India's first village' by BRO.
- Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone for India's first Digital Science Park coming up at the Technocity campus in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- PM Modi laid the foundation stone of the India's first urban transport ropeway on March 24, 2023, in Varanasi.
- City Union Bank (CUB) launched India's first Voice Biometric Authentication banking app for its mobile banking app which uses it to improve security.
- India's first semi high-speed regional rail services in NCR named 'RAPIDX'.
- India's first 3D-printed post office is being built in Bengaluru.
- NSE Indices Ltd, a subsidiary of National Stock Exchange (NSE), has launched India's first-ever Real Estate Investment Trusts (Reits) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) Index.
- India's first National Centre of Excellence in Green Port & Shipping (NCoEGPS) in Gurugram, Haryana.
- IPL India's first unicorn with a \$1.1 billion valuation.
- Northern India's first nuclear plant to come up in Haryana's Gorakhpur.
- MobiKwik becomes India's first app to Support Credit Cards on UPI.
- India's 1st National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre to be built in Delhi.

**Q. Which Group has signed an MoU with the Gujarat government to set up a first-ever lithium-ion cell manufacturing gigafactory in Gujarat?**

A) Adani Group

B) Mahindra Group

C) Aditya Birla Group

D) Tata Group

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Tata Group signed an agreement with the Gujarat state government to set up a giga-factory for manufacturing lithium-ion cells, with an estimated initial investment of around 130 billion rupees (\$1.6 billion).





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✓ A giga-factory of this kind will be operational in Gujarat for the production of the first-ever lithium-ion cells in India. This plant will have an estimated initial investment of around Rs.13,000 crore and will have a production capacity of 20 GWh

**Q. Who has been appointed as the first woman Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organisation?**

A) Soumya Swaminathan

B) Kristalina Georgieva

C) Petteri Taalas

D) Celeste Saulo

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- ✓ Saulo won a landslide victory at the Congress of the United Nations Climate and Weather Agency in Geneva.
- ✓ She will take over from the outgoing secretary-general Petteri Taalas of Finland on January 1.
- ✓ Saulo has served as director of Argentina's National Meteorological Service since 2014.
- ✓ World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- ✓ It was established in 1873 by the International Meteorological Organization.
- ✓ Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ On March 23, 1950, the World Meteorological Organization became a specialised organisation of the United Nations.
- ✓ This organisation uses the latest information on meteorology, climatology, hydrology and related geophysical research to contribute to the safety and welfare of society.

### FIRST'S FEMALE IN NEWS 2023

- Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- Shalini Singh from Lucknow has become the first woman NCC cadet in India to complete a mountaineering course in the Himalayan region of Uttarakhand.
- Parminder Chopra becomes first woman Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation.



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- Amy Pope of the United States has been selected as the first female Director-General of the United Nations Migration Agency.
- Lieutenant Shivangi Singh is the first woman Rafale pilot to take part in Orion Exercise 2023.
- Wing Commander Deepika Mishra has become the first woman Air Force officer to receive the Gallantry Medal.
- New Zealand-born Kim Cotton has become the first female umpire to officiate in a Men's T20 International (T20I) cricket match involving two ICC full-member nations.
- Sheenu Jhawar becomes first woman president of TiE Rajasthan.
- American Space Agency, NASA has selected the first woman astronaut, Christina Koch for its Artemis II mission.
- Surekha Yadav, Asia's 1st woman loco pilot who now operates Vande Bharat, From Solapur to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal (CSMT) in Maharashtra.
- Shalija Dhami 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.
- Captain Shiva Chauhan becomes the first women officer to be operationally deployed in the highest battleground in Kumar Post on the Siachen glacier.
- The first woman officer to be posted on foreign assignment in the Border Roads Organization (BRO) - Captain Surabhi Jakhmola.
- Rae Bareilly's hockey stadium is named after hockey star Rani Rampal, first woman player from India to achieve this feat.
- Hekani Jakhalu became the first female MLA of Nagaland Assembly.
- Equatorial Guinea appoints Manuela Roka Botey as first female PM.
- Indian-origin Manpreet Monica Singh sworn in as 1st female Sikh judge of USA.
- Santhi Kumari Appointed as First Woman Chief Secretary of Telangana.
- Saudi Arabia's Rayna Barnawi first female astronaut is set to go into space this year .
- Dina Boluarte became Peru's first female president.
- FIFA has announced that Stephanie Frappart of France will be the first woman to referee a men's World Cup match.
- PT Usha Become First Women President of Indian Olympic Association.





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**Q. Which Country to host world's largest Conservation Conference in 2025?**

A) UAE

B) India

C) Bangladesh

D) United States

**Answer : A**

- ✓ UAE to Host World's Largest IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.
- ✓ The next International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress will be held from 9 to 15 October 2025 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
- ✓ The United Arab Emirates was selected as the host country based on a rigorous evaluation process of its candidature.
- ✓ The United Arab Emirates has a long-standing collaboration with IUCN, with seven IUCN Member organizations and the National Committee based there.
- ✓ The country is home to 50 scientific and policy experts who are members of IUCN Commissions.
- ✓ About IUCN World Conservation Congress
- ✓ The IUCN Congress is the world's largest conservation event, held every four years.
- ✓ The Congress brings together leaders from government, civil society, Indigenous peoples' organizations, business, and academia.
- ✓ Its purpose is to determine the world's most pressing environmental and development challenges and develop actions to address them.
- ✓ The Congress will focus on delivering the Global Biodiversity Framework adopted by over 190 countries in December.
- ✓ The Framework includes targets to enhance the conservation of ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity.

### UAE IN NEWS 2023

- UAE to Host World's Largest IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.
- Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, has been named the Environmental Airline of the Year 2023 for the second year in a row at the Airline Rating Awards.
- UAE India's second largest export destination and third largest source of imports.
- The first conference of I2U2 Business Forum, a joint initiative of India, Israel, the US and the United Arab Emirates, was held on 22 February 2023 in Abu Dhabi (UAE).



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- United Arab Emirates (UAE) will host the 13th World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial meeting in February 2024.
- UAE will host the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) in November 2023.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) signed an agreement to set up its first overseas office in Abu Dhabi Global Market.
- UAE and India launched the UAE India Business Council - UAE Chapter (UIBCUC) to strengthen economic ties and enhance bilateral trade and investment.
- EDGE, UAE's leading defence group signed a Memorandum of Understanding with India's aerospace firm Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) at the International Defence Exhibition and Conference (IDEX).
- India, France, UAE Establish Trilateral Cooperation Initiative, in fields including Energy, Defence & Economy.
- India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is shortly to be connected to comparable networks in Indonesia, Mauritius, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- RBI, Central Bank of UAE sign MoU to promote innovation in financial products and services.
- Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan appointed President of UAE.
- Emaar, a Dubai-based real estate developer, has become the first foreign company to invest in a mega-mall spread over one million square feet in Srinagar.
- Indian Air Force contingent of 110 Air Warriors reached Al Dahfra airbase of United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 25 February for participating in Exercise 'Desert Flag VIII'.
- President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, has appointed Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, his brother, as the Vice President of the country.
- Agricultural and Process Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) is participating in the 28th edition of Gulfood 2023 which will be held in UAE.
- The 'Study in India Pavilion' at the Global Education & Training Exhibition (GETEX) in Dubai, UAE.
- HDFC Bank and UAE-based financial services company Lulu Exchange, have partnered to strengthen cross-border payments between India and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region.
- About UAE



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- Official Language : Arabic
- Capital : Abu Dhabi
- Currency : Emirati Dirham
- President of UAE : Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan
- Prime Minister: Sheikh Mohammed ibn Rashid Al Maktoum

**Q. Who has launched the Unified Registration Portal for 'GOBARdhan'?**

- A) Ashwini Vaishnaw                      B) Amit Shah  
C) Narendra Singh Tomar                D) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat launched the Unified Registration Portal for GOBARdhan which will act as a one stop repository to assess investment and participation in Biogas/CBG sector at pan India level and more importantly streamline the process of setting up CBG/Biogas plants in India.
- ✓ Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBARdhan) is a vital umbrella initiative of Government of India, based on the whole of Government approach and aims to convert waste to wealth towards promoting circular economy.
- ✓ Government of India intends to build a robust ecosystem for setting up Biogas/Compressed Biogas (CBG)/Bio-Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) plants to drive sustainable economic growth and promote a circular economy.

**Q. Indian UPI Transactions Reach Record High of How many Trillions in May 2023?**

- A) Rs 12.7 Trillion                          B) Rs 14.3 Trillion  
C) Rs 15.6 Trillion                          D) Rs 16.9 Trillion

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Unified Payment Interface (UPI) transactions in May 2023 scaled a new high of Rs 14.3 trillion in terms of value and 9.41 billion in volume. It is a 2 per cent rise in value (Rs 14.07 trillion) and 6% in volume (8.89 billion) compared to April 2023.









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#### Answer : A

- ✓ Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated two National Highway projects in Vadodara, Gujarat worth Rs 48 crore.
- ✓ One of the projects focuses on the improvement of the Ahmedabad-Vadodara section of National Highway 48 near Dumad Chowkdi. Spanning approximately 3 kilometers, this project has been inaugurated at a cost of Rs 27.01 crore.
- ✓ The second project, costing Rs 17 crore, stretches about 1 kilometer near Dena Junction on National Highway 48 in Vadodara.

#### GUJARAT IN NEWS 2023

- Urban-20 City Sherpas' meet begins at Ahmedabad in Gujarat.
- India's largest power company NTPC Ltd has commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project at Kawas, Gujarat.
- BJP leader Bhupendra Patel took oath as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for a second straight term.
- Madhvendra Singh has been appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Gujarat Maritime Cluster by Gujarat Ports Infrastructure Company Limited.
- First G20 Tourism Working Group meeting at Dhordo in Kutch region of Gujarat.
- Former Gujarat governor and veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Om Prakash Kohli passed away.
- Gujarat Day is celebrated on May 1 every year. The state was established on May 1, 1960.
- Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has declared the last week of April as "Swagat Saptah" in commemoration of the completion of 20 years of the "State Wide Attention on Grievances by Application of Technology" (SWAGAT) initiative.
- Deakin University of Australia to set up campus in GIFT city.
- Two Australian Universities Wollongong and Deakin to set up Campuses in Gujarat's GIFT City.
- The Youth 20 India Summit will be held at the Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara in Gujarat.
- International Kite Festival 2023 begins in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- Vedanta-Foxconn JV choose Dholera SIR for India's first semiconductor facility



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**Q. Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme has recently successfully completed how many years?**

A) 2

B) 3

C) 4

D) 5

**Answer : B**

- ✓ PM SVANidhi Scheme Celebrates Successful Completion of 3 Years
- ✓ Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri complimented the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme on the occasion of its successful completion of 3 momentous years.
- ✓ The scheme was launched in June 2020.
- ✓ Objective – To empower street vendors by restoring self-employment, self-sustenance, and self-confidence.
- ✓ Over the years, PM SVANidhi has emerged as one of the most beneficial and rapidly growing micro-credit schemes in India, fostering financial inclusion, digital literacy, and offering dignity and stability to street vendors.
- ✓ The scheme offers working capital loans in three installments to street vendors and has successfully provided microcredit to over 3.6 million street vendors across the country.
- ✓ As of 30th June 2023, a sum of Rs. 4.85 million loan applications have been approved with over 4.64 million loans disbursed amounting to a cumulative sum of Rs. 5,795 crore.
- ✓ The Government of India has extended the PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme beyond March, 2022.
- ✓ The extension of the lending period will be till December 2024.
- ✓ Introduction of 3rd loan of upto ₹50,000 in addition to 1st & 2nd loans of ₹10,000 and ₹20,000 respectively.
- ✓ To extend 'SVANidhi Se Samridhi' component for all beneficiaries of PM SVANidhi scheme across the country.
- ✓ About PM Svanidhi Yojana
- ✓ PM Svanidhi Yojana was launched on June 1, 2020.
- ✓ This scheme was started with the aim of providing financial support to small shopkeepers and hawkers.
- ✓ Under the PM Svanidhi Yojana, people who sell goods on the street tracks or do other small jobs can take a loan of up to ₹ 10,000 from the bank.
- ✓ After repaying the loan taken in the first instance, the beneficiary can get a loan of up to ₹ 20,000 in the second time and up to ₹ 50,000 in the third time.





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#### FAMOUS BOOKS AND AUTHORS IN NEWS 2023

- The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life Ruskin Bond
- Ringside Vijay Darda
- Guts Amidst Bloodbath: The Anshuman Gaekwad Narrative Aditya Bhushan
- "The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces" :Feroze Varun Gandhi.
- Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise" : Amitabh Kant .
- Milk and Honey : Rupi Kaur .
- Collective Spirit, Concrete Action : Shashi Shekhar Vempati.
- "Reflections" : Narayanan Vaghul.
- Jaidip Mukerjea : Autobiography titled "Crosscourt".
- 'Sachin@50'- Celebrating A Maestro : Boria Majumdar.
- "The Great Bank Robbery: NPAs, Scams and the Future of Regulation" : Pattabhi Ram & Sabyasachee Dash.
- "Gandhi: Siyasat aur Sampradaiykta" : Piyush Babele.
- "Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire" : Nandini Das.
- "War & Women" : Dr MA Hasan.
- 'Why can't Elephants be Red?' : Vani Tripathi Tikoo.
- Phoolange : Lekhnath Chhetri.
- Pyre : Perumal Murugan.
- Ghulam Nabi Azad's Autobiography 'Azaad' .
- "A Matter of the Heart: Education in India" : Anurag Behar.
- Snakes in the Ganga: Breaking India 2.0 : Shri Rajiv Malhotra and Vijaya Viswanathan.
- "Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform" : Rachna Biswat Rawat.
- Ambedkar a Life : Shashi Tharoor.
- "The World: A Family History of Humanity," : Simon Sebag Montefiore.
- "Revolutionaries In India's Freedom Struggle:" : Sanjeev Sanyal.
- "India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn" : Ashwin Fernandes.
- "The Light We Carry Overcoming In Uncertain
- Times" : Michelle Obama.









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- ✓ The individual health warnings will first appear on king-size cigarettes by the end of July 2024, and by the end of April 2025, other varieties, regular-size cigarettes and little cigars with tipping paper, and tubes, will follow.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)?**

- A) Ajit Kumar Saxena                      B) Amarendu Prakash  
C) Rajesh Kumar                              D) Rajiv Dixit

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Amarendu Prakash has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL).
- ✓ He was earlier Director (In-Charge) of SAIL's Bokaro Steel Plant.
- ✓ Prakash is heading the Bokaro Steel Plant as Director-in-Charge from September 2020.
- ✓ Under Prakash's leadership, Bokaro Steel Plant achieved remarkable production records in FY22 and FY23.
- ✓ Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
- ✓ Founded : 19 January 1954
- ✓ Headquarters : New Delhi

**Q. Edgars Rinkevics was elected as the new president of which country?**

- A) Latvia                                      B) Kenya  
C) Ethiopia                                  D) Zimbabwe

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Edgars Rinkevics elected as new president of Latvia
- ✓ Edgars Rinkevics, Latvia's foreign minister since 2011, has been elected as the country's new president.
- ✓ The 100-seat Saeima legislature elected Edgars Rinkevics, the country's top diplomat since 2011, as president to serve for a four-year term.
- ✓ In 2014, he announced that he is "proudly" homosexual, will be the first openly gay president in the Baltic nations
- ✓ Latvia declared independence in 1918 but was later occupied by the Soviet Union in 1940.





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**Q. Who has become the first woman from Tamil Nadu to climb the world's highest peak, Mount Everest?**

- A) Premlata Agarwal                      B) Krushnaa Patil  
C) Malavath Purna                         D) Muthamizh Selvi

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu's Muthamizh Selvi climbs Mount Everest.
- ✓ A teacher from Chennai became the first woman from Tamil Nadu to climb Mount Everest. Muthamizh Selvi set out on the quest to scale the world's highest peak on April 2.
- ✓ Muthamizh Selvi, who teaches Japanese in Chennai.

## TAMIL NADU IN NEWS 2023

- Muthamizh Selvi, first Tamil Nadu woman to scale Mt Everest.
- Tamil Nadu government declared Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary as the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the state..
- Tamil Nadu becomes first state to launch its own Climate Change Mission.
- Tamil Nadu govt to launch five-year Tamil Nadu Millet Mission.
- In a first of its kind initiative in India, the Government of Tamil Nadu announced the 'Nilgiri Tahr Project' .

**Q. The third G20 Health Working Group meeting begins in which city?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The 3rd G20 Health Working Group meeting was formally opened in Hyderabad.
- ✓ Minister of State for Health Family Welfare Bharati Pravin Pawar behalf of Union Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, is taking forward the agenda of the G20 Health Track under India's Presidency.
- ✓ She emphasized leveraging the existing global health systems and regional health practices in a synergic manner to achieve universal health services accessible to all.



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- ✓ The 3-day meeting is focusing on priorities including Health Emergencies Prevention, Preparedness, and Response, Access, and Availability to Affordable Medical countermeasures, and Digital Health.
- ✓ Government is committed to providing all health and medical service by the year 2030.
- ✓ First G20 Health Working Group Meeting begins in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- ✓ The second Health Working Group meeting under the chairmanship of the Indian G20 began in Goa.
- ✓ DON'T CONFUSED

### INDIA'S G20 SUMMIT IN NEWS 2023

- The third meeting of the G20 Health Working Group (HWG) was held at Hyderabad .
- The three-day Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting under the G20 India Presidency concluded in Tehri, Uttarakhand.
- Second G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group meeting concluded in Rishikesh (Tehri), Uttarakhand.
- The second Trade and Investment Working Group meeting under the G20 India Presidency began in Bengaluru.
- Second G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meeting begins in Mumbai.
- The third meeting of the G-20, Tourism Working Group began on 22 May in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.
- second G20 Culture Group meeting, also known as the CWG meeting, took place on 14 May in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- Science 20 Engagement Group meeting on Universal Holistic Health began under India's G20 chairmanship in Lakshadweep, Bangaram Island.
- G20 Second Digital Economy Working Group meeting begins in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- Second Health Working Group meeting begins in Goa
- Second meeting of the G20 Development Working Group was held in Kumarakom, Kerala
- 2nd G20 Empower meeting of Ministry of Women and Child Development begins in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- 2nd G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting begins in Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- First meeting of the Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) was held in Guwahati, Assam.
- First G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meeting begins in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- First meeting of the G20 Trade and Investment Working Group began in Mumbai, Maharashtra.



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- Startup 20 Engagement Group under India's G-20 Presidency began a two-day meeting in Gangtok, Sikkim.
- Second Education Working Group meeting of G20 countries begin in Amritsar, Punjab.
- First meeting of G20 Education Working Group (G20 EWG) 2023 was held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The First G20 Culture Group (CWG) meet to be organised in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh
- First Agriculture Representatives Meeting (ADM) of the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) under the G20 chairmanship of India was held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- First Digital economy working group meeting of G20 to be held in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- G-20 EMPOWER Group of the Ministry of Women and Child Development began in Agra, Uttar Pradesh.
- First G20 Tourism Working Group meeting at Dhordo in Kutch region of Gujarat.
- First meeting of the G-20 Energy Transition Working Group under the chairmanship of India will be held in Bengaluru , Karnataka
- First G20 Employment Working Group meeting began in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- First meeting of the Youth 20 group as part of the G20 summit will be held in Guwahati, Assam.
- First G-20 Environment meeting under the G-20 India Presidency will be held at the Taj West End in Bengaluru , Karnataka.
- First meeting was the G-20 Sherpa meeting held in Udaipur in the first week of December 2022.
- First G-20 finance and central bank representatives meeting held in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- First meeting under the Finance track agenda of the G-20 meeting will take place in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists (MACS), is scheduled to take place in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- First meeting of the G20 Trade and Investment Working Group in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- First G-20 Meeting to Take Place in Puducherry on January 31.
- G-20 meeting of Anti Corruption Working Group begins in Gurugram, Haryana.
- A think-20 meeting of G20 organized in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- G20, the B20 Inception Meeting took place in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- G20 foreign minister meeting is scheduled to take place in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- First G20 Infrastructure Working Group meeting begins Pune.



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- Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, will host the inaugural G20 Health Working Group conference.
- Hyderabad will host the inaugural meeting of the G20 Startup20 Engagement Group.
- Chandigarh will host the inaugural meeting of the G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group.
- First meeting of the Development Working Group (DWG) under India's G20 Presidency is taking place in Mumbai.
- **INDIAN PRESIDENCY OF G 20**
- India officially assumed the Presidency of G20 on 1 December 2022 from Indonesia.
- The summit meeting of the Head of the States and the leaders of the G20 is scheduled to be held in September 2023 in New Delhi.
- The theme of India's G20 Presidency—"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" or "One Earth One Family One Future"—is drawn from the ancient Sanskrit text of the Maha Upanishad.
- India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant.
- **Group of Twenty (G-20)**
- The G-20 was founded back in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis.
- The Group of Twenty (G-20) comprises 19 countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkiye, the United Kingdom, and the United States) and the European Union.
- The G-20 members represent around 85 per cent of the global GDP, over 75 per cent of the global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population.
- India has been a member of the G20 since its inception in 1999.
- **LIST OF G20 SUMMIT**
- 1st G20 Summit 2008 – USA
- 16th G20 summit 2021 – Italy
- 17th G20 summit 2022 – Indonesia
- 18th G20 summit 2023 – India
- 19th G20 summit 2024 – Brazil
- 20th G20 Summit 2025 – South Africa



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**Q. State Bank of India has launched 'Project Kuber' in Which Circle?**

A) Hyderabad Circle

B) Bengaluru Circle

C) Vijayawada Circle

D) Chennai Circle

**Answer : B**

- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI), Bengaluru Circle, recently launched 'Project Kuber' to meet the banking needs of its customers.
- ✓ Project Kuber' aims to facilitate, and cater to various banking requirements of customers in Bengaluru Circle.
- ✓ Project Kuber' aims to facilitate, and cater to various banking requirements of customers in Bengaluru Circle.
- ✓ The project includes the establishment of four Transaction Banking Hubs and one Corporate Salary Package Hub.
- ✓ These hubs will focus on increasing SBI's market share in liability products.
- ✓ The hubs will serve as a one-stop destination for digital banking services such as Yono Business, e-Payments, Cash Management Products, and more.

### SBI IN NEWS 2023

- State Bank of India (SBI), Bengaluru Circle, recently launched 'Project Kuber' to meet the banking needs of its customers.
- State Bank of India (SBI), the country's biggest lender, has raised USD 750 million through bonds to fund offshore business growth.
- State Bank of India (SBI) launched a coffee table book titled "The Banker to Every Indian" and the book celebrates 75 years of Indian independence and 200 years of SBI's history.
- SBI to launch new current accounts and savings accounts in FY24 to attract deposits.
- The bank intends to launch two new variants of current accounts, one with a balance of ₹50,000 and another with a balance of ₹50 lakh. It also plans to introduce a new savings account called "Parivar" (family) account.
- State Bank of India (SBI) announced the completion of a \$1 billion syndicated social loan facility.
- The facility of \$1 billion was arranged through MLABs, MUFG bank and Taipei Fubon Commercial Bank Co.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with the NGO That's Eco Foundation to donate ₹48 lakh for the plantation of 32,000 tree saplings at Garden City University in Bengaluru.



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- State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 3,717 crore through its third Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance in the current financial year at coupon rate of 8.25 per cent..
- SBI reintroduces 400 days 'Amrit Kalash' retail term deposit scheme and provides an interest rate of 7.6% for senior citizens.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched its coffee table book named 'The Banker to Every Indian'.
- Commercial Indo Bank LLC (CIBL) is a joint venture in Russia between SBI (60 per cent) and Canara Bank (40 per cent).
- SBI announces completion of \$1 billion Syndicated Social Loan Facility.
- Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) signed a memorandum (MoU) of understanding with State Bank of India to help farmers in getting low interest rate loans.
- According to the Indian Banks' Association (IBA)'s report titled "EASE Reforms Index for the first quarter of FY23" the State Bank of India(SBI) was adjudged as the Best Bank in adopting reforms prescribed for Public Sector Banks(PSB).
- SBI on 5 December 2022 announced that its personal banking advances excluding high value home loans have crossed the Rs 5 lakh-crore mark as on 30 November 2022.
- State Bank of India (SBI), India's largest lender, approved raising Rs 10,000 crore through infrastructure bonds during the financial year 2023 (FY23) including a greenshoe option of Rs 5,000 crore.
- STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI )
- Founded : 1 July 1955
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Dinesh Kumar Khara
- Managing Director (4) : Alok Kumar Choudhary, Swaminathan Janakiraman, Challa Sreenivasulu Setty and Ashwini Kumar Tewari
- Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI
- The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.
- Tagline of State Bank of India
  - (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else
  - (2) With you all the way
  - (3) A bank of the common man



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(4) The banker to every Indian

(5) The Nation banks on us.

- It is one of the largest and oldest banks in India.

**Q. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) in which city?**

A) Patna

B) Ghaziabad

C) Visakhapatnam

D) Gurugram

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ He emphasized the need for Swasth Nagrik to create a Swastha Rashtra, leading to a Samruddha Rashtra, and urged citizens to adopt India's traditional food habits and way of life for wellness and preventive healthcare.
- ✓ The people who will train at the National Training Centre of FSSAI will play a significant role in creating healthy citizens in the country, as they will ensure quality standards for food are followed in the country.

### FSSAI IN NEWS 2023

- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- Varanasi Cantt Railway Station of the Indian Railways has been awarded the 5-Star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high quality nutritious food to the passengers.
- The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has awarded the food provided by the Bulandshahr prison of Uttar Pradesh a five-star rating and the tag 'Eat Right Campus'. Bulandshahr Jail is the second prison after Farrukhabad jail to get this tag from Uttar Pradesh..











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- ✓ Punjab University, Chandigarh regain champions crown as Guru Nanak Dev University fall short despite Fencing sweep on final day, after a gap of one edition of the Khelo India University Games..
- ✓ PUC finished with an overall tally of 69 medals including 26 gold, 17 silver and 26 bronze medals.
- ✓ GNDU amassed 24 gold, 27 silver and 17 bronze medals to finish second and in the top three for the very first time.

**Q. Who is the author of the book titled “The Power of One Thought: Master Your Mind”?**

- A) Zuni Chopra
- B) Durjoy Dutta
- C) BK Shivani
- D) Samhita Arni

**Answer : C**

- ✓ “The Power of One Thought: Master Your Mind” is a book by BK Shivani that aims to guide readers toward personal transformation.
- ✓ The book is published by HarperCollins India.
- ✓ Shivani was also honored with ‘Nari Shakti Puraskaar’ in 2017.
- ✓ Since 2017, she has been appointed as a Goodwill Ambassador by the World Psychiatric Association.
- ✓ HarperCollins India was awarded the Publisher of the Year Award three times, in 2015, 2016, and 2018.

**Q. According to CSE Report, Which state ranks top on overall environmental performance 2023?**

- A) Bihar
- B) Meghalaya
- C) Telangana
- D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ A non-profit Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) released its annual compendium, titled 'State of India's Environment 2023.
- ✓ It is based on four parameters i.e. environment, agriculture, public health, and infrastructure.
- ✓ In terms of overall environmental performance, the report has ranked Telangana at the top for its progress in increasing its forest cover and in municipal waste treatment.
- ✓ Gujarat, Goa and Maharashtra follow Telangana, in that order. The bottom rung is occupied by Rajasthan, Nagaland and Bihar.



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**Q. Who received 'Climate And Health' award at UITP Awards 2023, Barcelona?**

- A) CESC Limited
- B) Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST)
- C) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)
- D) Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (UHBVN)

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) Undertaking was honored with the prestigious 'Climate And Health' award at the UITP Awards 2023 function held in Barcelona
- ✓ Additionally, BEST was recognized as one of the top three finalists in the 'Public And Urban Transport Strategy' category.

**Q. Who inaugurated four road projects worth Rs 1450 crore in Assam?**

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Rajnath Singh
- C) Nitin Gadkari
- D) Himanta Biswa Sarma

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the 4-lane portion between Nagaon Bypass-Teliagaon and Teliagaon-Rangpara.
- ✓ He also laid the foundation stone of the 4-lane section between Mangaldai Bypass and Daboka-Parakhuwa in Assam.
- ✓ Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma was also present on this occasion.
- ✓ These 4 projects worth Rs 1450 crore will further strengthen the road infrastructure of the state

**Q. Which day of the year is celebrated as the World Environment Day (WED)?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ World Environment Day is an annual event celebrated on June 5th to raise global awareness about environmental issues and encourage positive actions to protect the planet.
- ✓ World Environment Day 2023 is hosted by Côte d'Ivoire and supported by the Netherlands.



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- ✓ Theme of World Environment Day 2023 is 'Solutions to plastic pollution'.
- ✓ The theme is chosen by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and serves as a guiding principle for activities and discussions worldwide.
- ✓ World Environment Day is observed by individuals, communities, organizations, and governments in over 100 countries.
- ✓ World Environment Day was first celebrated by the United Nations in 1972.
- ✓ Its celebration on a global scale began on 5 June 1974 in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, where an environmental conference was organised in the presence of 119 countries.

**Q. What is the theme of World Environment Day 2023?**

- A) Time For Nature                      B) Ecosystem Restoration  
C) Beat Plastic Pollution                D) Beating Plastic Pollution

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Theme 2023 – Beat Plastic Pollution
- ✓ The theme for this 50th edition of World Environment Day focuses on solutions to plastic pollution under the campaign #BeatPlasticPollution.

**Q. President Draupadi has been awarded the country's highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star. It is the highest civilian award in which country?**

- A) Fiji    B) Nigeria  
C) Suriname                                 D) Mauritius

**Answer : C**

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu conferred with highest civilian honour of Suriname.
- ✓ Suriname awarded President Draupadi Murmu its highest civilian honour, the Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star, on 5 June, making her the first Indian to receive the award.
- ✓ President Murmu was presented with the award by Chandrikaprasad Santokhi, President of the Republic of Suriname.
- ✓ He dedicated the award to successive generations of the Indian-Surinamese community, in recognition of the important role of the Indian diaspora in strengthening the fraternal ties between the two countries.



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- ✓ During her state visit to Serbia and Suriname, President Draupadi Murmu arrived in Paramaribo, Suriname on 4 June.
- ✓ In addition, India and Suriname signed four important Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) in the fields of health, agriculture and capacity building.
- ✓ **ABOUT SURINAME**
- ✓ Suriname is a country located on the northern coast of South America. It is one of the smallest countries in South America.
- ✓ President: Chandrikapersad Santokhi
- ✓ Capital: Paramaribo
- ✓ Currency: Suriname dollar.

### Highest civilian honour IN NEWS 2023

- Suriname awarded President Draupadi Murmu its highest civilian honour, the Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with the highest honor by Fiji and Papua New Guinea.
- PM Modi was awarded "The Companion of the Order of Fiji" .
- Papua New Guinea conferred its highest civilian honour, Grand Companion of the Order of Loghu (GCL).
- Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata has received the Order of Australia (AO), Australia's highest civilian honour.
- FedEx CEO Raj Subramaniam received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, India's highest civilian honour for persons of Indian origin and the diaspora.
- Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran was conferred with France's highest civilian honour- "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur".
- Philanthropist and art collector Kiran Nadar was recently conferred "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour) by French.
- MT Vasudevan Nair honoured with Kerala's highest civilian honour.



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**Q. Dennis Francis has been elected as the President of the 78th UN General Assembly (UNGA). He is from which country?**

A) Trinidad and Tobago

B) Suriname

C) Guatemala

D) Costa Rica

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Dennis Francis elected 78th UNGA president.
- ✓ Dennis Francis, a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago (TT), created history by becoming the first TT citizen to be elected as the President of the UN General Assembly (UNGA).
- ✓ He will serve as the 78th President of the UNGA.
- ✓ He will enforce the rules of procedure, such as opening and closing debates, regulating speaking times for representatives, suspending or adjourning debates, and setting the agenda for the assembly.
- ✓ **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**
- ✓ It is the United Nation's chief policy-making and representative organ and was created in 1945.
- ✓ It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations (UN).
- ✓ It serves as the main deliberative, policy making and representative organ of the United Nations.
- ✓ Its powers, structure, functions and procedures are set out in Chapter IV of the United Nations Charter.
- ✓ Its main functions are to prepare the budget of the United Nations, appoint non-permanent members to the Security Council, appoint the Secretary-General of the United Nations, receive reports from other parts of the United Nations system, and make recommendations through resolutions.

### INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENT IN NEWS 2023

- Dennis Francis of Trinidad and Tobago elected as the President of the 78th UN General Assembly (UNGA).
- Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- Amy Pope of the United States has been selected as the first female Director-General of the United Nations Migration Agency.
- Former NBCUniversal ad chief Linda Yaccarino named CEO of Twitter.
- Mark Nicholls has been elected as the next President of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC)..
- Ajay Banga appointed as new President of World Bank.



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- Vanessa Hudson has been named as the new CEO of Qantas Airways Ltd, becoming the first woman to hold the position in the airline's history..

**Q. Reserve Bank of India has recently imposed a penalty of ₹2.2 crore on which bank for violation of various regulatory norms?**

- A) Indian Overseas Bank                      B) Kotak Mahindra Bank  
C) South Indian Bank                         D) Karur Vysya Bank

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of ₹2.2 crore on Indian Overseas Bank for violation of various regulatory norms.
- ✓ The breach pertains to guidelines on disclosure of NPA (non-performing assets) divergence, interest rates on deposits, and advisory on 'Man in the Middle (MiTM) attacks in ATMs.
- ✓ RBI had conducted the Statutory Inspection for Supervisory Evaluation as per Indian Overseas Bank's financial position as on March 2021, wherein it found contravention of certain provisions.
- ✓ The public sector bank failed to make a minimum mandatory transfer of a sum equivalent to 25 percent of its disclosed profit for FY21 to its reserve fund.
- ✓ Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)
- ✓ Founded : 1937
- ✓ Founder : M. Chidambaram Chettyar
- ✓ Headquarters : Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- ✓ MD & CEO : Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- ✓ Tagline : Good People to Grow With

### RBI IMPOSED PENALTY IN NEWS 2023

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 2.20 crore on Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) for violating various rules and regulations.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.73 crore on the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (HSBC Bank) for violating the Credit Information Companies Rules, 2006.





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- RBI Imposes Rs 84.50 Lakh Penalty on Central Bank of India for Non-Compliance with Fraud Reporting Norms.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has levied penalties of Rs 44 lakhs on four cooperative banks for violating various norms.
- Baran Nagrik Sahkari Bank.
- Janata Sahakari Bank, Pune.
- Bombay Mercantile Co-operative Bank.
- Apex Co-operative Bank, Chennai.
- Reserve Bank of India imposed a Rs 5,000 cap on withdrawals by individual customers from Tamil Nadu-based Musiri Urban Co-operative Bank as part of several restrictions slapped on the lender due to its deteriorating financial condition.

**Q. How many countries have been elected to the United Nations Security Council for a two-year term?**

A) 4

B) 5

C) 6

D) 7

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Five new countries elected as non-permanent members of the UN Security Council.
- ✓ Algeria, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone and Slovenia were elected non-permanent members of the UN Security Council on 6 June for a two-year term.
- ✓ The newly elected members will take up their new responsibilities on January 1, 2024 and serve till December 31, 2025.
- ✓ Slovenia defeated Belarus by a vote of 153 to 38, while Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone and the Republic of Korea were elected unopposed.
- ✓ These new members will replace Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana and the United Arab Emirates at present when their two-year term ends on 31 December 2023.
- ✓ Election of non-permanent members.
- ✓ Voting is done by secret ballot and candidates have to get a two-thirds majority, or 128 votes.
- ✓ In all, 192 countries voted to fill five seats on the council allocated to the Africa and Asia-Pacific groups, and one each to Eastern Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean.



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- ✓ **About United Nations Security Council (UNSC)**
- ✓ It was established in 1945 by the United Nations Charter.
- ✓ It is one of the six major organs of the United Nations.
- ✓ The other 5 organs of the United Nations are - the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the Trusteeship Council, the Economic and Social Council, the International Court of Justice and the Secretariat.
- ✓ It has five permanent members - China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, collectively known as the P5.
- ✓ Any one of them can veto a resolution.
- ✓ Headquarters - New York

**Q. Which state government has announced the launch of 'Mukhyamantri Seekho Aur Kamao' scheme?**

- A) Madhya Pradesh                      B) Uttar Pradesh  
C) Assam                                      D) Bihar

**Answer : A**

- ✓ MP Govt to launch CM Learn and Earn scheme.
- ✓ In Madhya Pradesh, the Chief Minister's Learn and Earn scheme is set to be launched with the aim of providing employable skills to the youth.
- ✓ Chief Minister's Learn and Earn scheme in Madhya Pradesh focuses on providing training, financial support, and employment opportunities to the youth.
- ✓ By identifying numerous work areas and involving various industries, the scheme aims to equip the young workforce with the necessary skills to enhance their employability and contribute to the state's development.
- ✓ Participants in the scheme will receive a monthly allowance ranging from Rs 8,000 to 10,000.

### MADHYA PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Madhya Pradesh cabinet approves 'Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana' for unemployed youth.
- Gond paintings from Madhya Pradesh have bagged the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, a recognition that protects and acknowledges the work of tribal artists.
- Madhya Pradesh government launched Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights Scheme.



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- Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village located in Bhopal district has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- Madhya Pradesh Government on 5 March launched Ladli Bahna scheme under which each woman will be given one thousand rupees per month..
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced on March 4 to make Tehsil Mauganj of Rewa district the 53rd district of the state.

**Q. Which has become the first state in the country to start its own internet service?**

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Karnataka
- C) Himachal Pradesh
- D) Kerala

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Kerala has become the first state in the country to launch its own internet service.
- ✓ The Pinarayi Vijayan-led Kerala government officially launched the Kerala Fiber Optical Network (KFON).
- ✓ Kerala is the first state to declare the right to internet as a fundamental right.
- ✓ The main objective of KFON is to bridge the digital divide and ensure high-speed broadband internet access to all households and government offices in Kerala.
- ✓ KFON uses fibre optic technology to provide fast and reliable internet connection.
- ✓ The Government of Kerala aims to bridge the digital divide and promote digital inclusion through the implementation of KFON.
- ✓ The initiative aims to create a robust digital infrastructure that fosters innovation, economic growth and social development.
- ✓ By providing high-speed internet connectivity, KFON strives to ensure a level playing field for all citizens in accessing digital services.
- ✓ **Kerala Fiber Optical Network (KFON)**
- ✓ It is an optical fibre cable network spanning 30,000 km with 375 Points-of-Presence (PoPs) across Kerala.
- ✓ The KFON infrastructure is shared with cable operators and all service providers.
- ✓ KFON services will be provided through local ISPs, Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Cable TV providers.



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#### KERALA IN NEWS 2023

- Kerala has become the first state in the country to launch its own internet service.
- Kerala has become the first and only state in the country to have its own internet services.
- According to data shared by the GI Registry, Kerala received the highest number of Geographical Indication (GI) tags for products among all states in India in the fiscal year 23 (FY23).
- Kerala has adopted a water budget, the first of its kind in the country, to deal with the problem of water scarcity in summer.
- Dharmadam, Kerala becomes first complete library constituency in India.
- Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan launches 'One Panchayat, One Playground' project.
- India's first Graphene Innovation center to be set up in Kerala.
- Recently, a group of researchers discovered a butterfly subspecies from the fringes of Akkulam and Vembanad lakes in Kerala.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25th April flagged off Kerala's first Vande Bharat Express between Thiruvananthapuram and Kasargod at Thiruvananthapuram Central Station.
- Kerala declared first State to enable digital banking service.
- M T Vasudevan Nair was awarded the "Kerala Jyoti", the highest civilian honour in Kerala.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched the 2nd G20 Empower meeting in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala under the theme "Women Empowerment: Win-win for Equality and Economy".
- Kerala to become first State to use robotics tech extensively for manhole cleaning.
- National Green Tribunal (NGT) in New Delhi has imposed a fine of Rs 10 crore on the Kerala government for failing to protect the Vembanad and Ashtamudi lakes, listed as Ramsar sites.

**Q. Who has been launched a Financial Inclusion Dashboard 'ANTARDRIHSTI'?**

A) Urjit Patel

B) Shaktikanta Das

C) Nirmala Sitharaman

D) Droupadi Murmu

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das launched a financial inclusion dashboard named 'Antardrishti'.



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- ✓ The dashboard will provide necessary insights to assess and monitor the progress of financial inclusion by capturing relevant parameters.
- ✓ The progress of financial inclusion will be assessed against set parameters through an Antardrishti dashboard. Along with this, it will also help in monitoring.
- ✓ With the help of the dashboard, the areas of lack of financial services on a large scale in the country can be detected and then work will be done on the basis of this.
- ✓ Currently, the Antardrishti Dashboard will be used internally by RBI.
- ✓ Multi stakeholder approach will be adopted for the Antardrishti Dashboard to enhance financial inclusion in future.
- ✓ **Financial Inclusion Index**
- ✓ The Financial Inclusion Index was launched in 2021 to measure financial inclusion.
- ✓ In this, financial inclusion is measured on the basis of access, utility and quality.
- ✓ This index also includes information related to banking, investment, insurance and postal services etc. of an area.
- ✓ This index ranges from 0 to 100.
- ✓ 0 indicates complete financial exclusion, while 100 indicates complete financial inclusion.
- ✓ Reserve Bank of India was set up under the Reserve Bank of India act 1934. It started functioning from 1 April 1935.
- ✓ It was nationalized in 1949 and now the government of India is the owner of RBI.
- ✓ It has the power to regulate Banks under the Banking Regulation Act 1949.
- ✓ It has the power to regulate the Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) under the RBI act 1934.
- ✓ RBI is also the regulator of the digital payment system under the Payment and settlement act 2007.

**Q. Who launched two schemes 'Amrit Dharohar' and 'MISHTI' to revive the country's wetlands and mangroves?**

A) Narendra Modi

B) Amit Shah

C) Draupadi Murmu

D) Rajnath Singh

**Answer : A**

- ✓ PM Modi launches Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI schemes for wetland, mangrove conservation.



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- ✓ On the occasion of World Environment Day (5 June), PM Narendra Modi launched two schemes--Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes)--aimed at reviving the country's wetlands and mangroves..
- ✓ PM said in the last nine years, the number of wetlands and Ramsar sites in India has increased almost three times as compared to earlier
- ✓ India currently has 75 Ramsar sites which are wetlands of international importance and have been designated under the norms of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.
- ✓ India also has about 3% of South Asia's mangrove population.
- ✓ Apart from Sundarbans in West Bengal, Andaman region, Kutch and Jamnagar regions in Gujarat have substantial mangrove cover.
- ✓ **Amrit Dharohar Yojana**
- ✓ The scheme was first announced by the Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2023-24 Union budget.
- ✓ The scheme will be implemented over the next three years to encourage optimum use of wetlands and enhance biodiversity, carbon stock, ecotourism opportunities and income generation for local communities.
- ✓ It will emphasise on the importance of lakes and their conservation.
- ✓ Amrit Dharohar aims to achieve sustainable ecosystem development over the next three years with the help of local communities.
- ✓ **MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes).**
- ✓ The scheme was first announced by the Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the 2023-24 Union budget.
- ✓ This will facilitate mangrove plantation on salt lands along the sea coast of India.
- ✓ The scheme will operate through “convergence between MGNREGS, Campa Fund and other sources”.
- ✓ It aims at intensive afforestation of coastal mangrove forests.
- ✓ There are such forests on both the east and west coasts of India, with the Sundarbans in Bengal being one of the largest mangrove forests.
- ✓ Initially the mangrove cover will be restored in nine states across the country.
- ✓ The scheme envisages the development of mangroves covering nearly 540 sq km, spreading across 11 states and two union territories over five years, starting from FY2023-24.
- ✓ The Centre will cover 80% of the project cost, while state governments will contribute the remaining 20%.



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**Q. Chairman of 'Central Board of Film Certification' launched new mobile app Who is the chairman of CBFC?**

- A) Javed Bashir  
B) Prasoon Joshi  
C) Mukesh Khanna  
D) Gajendra Chauhan

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Central Board of Film Certification, a statute under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, have launched its revamped website ([cbfcindia.gov.in](http://cbfcindia.gov.in)) and the new Mobile App (e-Cine App) recently.
- ✓ This is one of the most important milestones for CBFC in its process of Phase II advanced Digitization since 2017, to bring more transparency and efficiency in the working.

**Q. Who has released NHAI's first 'Sustainability Report for FY2021-22'?**

- A) Nitin Gadkari  
B) Amit Shah  
C) Draupadi Murmu  
D) Narendra Modi

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Highlighting its commitment towards Environment sustainability, NHAI's first 'Sustainability Report for FY 2021-22' covers NHAI's governance structure, stakeholders, environment and social responsibility initiatives.
- ✓ The report was recently released by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways.
- ✓ The Sustainability Report underlines the effectiveness of various efforts made by NHAI for environment and energy conservation. From FY 2019-20 till 2021-22 direct emission reduced by 18.44% and 9.49% due to less fuel consumption. NHAI continues to work towards reducing indirect emissions as well, by transiting towards clean and green energy sources.
- ✓ Green House Gas (GHG) Emissions from energy consumption, operations, transport and travel measured in Metric Tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent /km constructed saw a decline of 9.7% in FY 2020-21 and 2% in FY 2021-22

**Q. Who was recently conferred with New Zealand's second highest honour?**

- A) Joe Biden  
B) Jacinda Ardern  
C) Piyush Goyal  
D) Nirmala Sitharaman

**Answer : B**



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- ✓ Former Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern received one of New Zealand's highest honours for her service leading the country through a mass shooting and coronavirus pandemic.
- ✓ Ardern received the Dame Grand Companionship, New Zealand's second-highest honour, as part of the King Charles Birthday Honours.
- ✓ New Zealand
- ✓ Capital: Wellington
- ✓ Currency : dollar
- ✓ Prime Minister : Chris Hipkins

**Q. India's first international cruise ship - MV Empress has been flagged off for which country?**

- A) Maldives
- B) Thailand
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Bangladesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off India's first international cruise vessel - MV Empress, from Chennai to Sri Lanka.
- ✓ This is the launch of the International Cruise Tourism Terminal at Chennai built at a cost of Rs 17.21 crore, ushering in a new era of cruise tourism and maritime trade in the country.
- ✓ On the occasion of Environment Day, Sonowal along with the port officials also planted 2,500 saplings at the port.
- ✓ The launch of the first cruise service between Chennai and Sri Lanka has opened a new chapter in the cruise tourism sector in the country.
- ✓ This is the result of an MoU signed during the Incredible India International Cruise Summit in 2022 between Chennai Port and M/s Waterways Leisure Tourism Pvt Ltd to start domestic and international cruise services.
- ✓ International Cruise Vessel, MV Empress
- ✓ It is a renowned and luxurious cruise ship that operates globally.
- ✓ It offers passengers a unique and unforgettable experience on the open seas, combining comfort, entertainment, and leisure.





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#### SRI LANKA IN NEWS 2023

- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off India's first international cruise vessel - MV Empress, from Chennai to Sri Lanka.
- Bharti Airtel has announced its plan to merge its Sri Lanka operations with Dialog Axiata, the largest telecom provider in Sri Lanka.
- The 10th annual SLINEX-2023 bilateral maritime exercise between India and Sri Lanka has commenced in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka assent to Adani Green's \$442 Million Wind Power Project.
- India will support Sri Lanka's debt restructuring plan as the island nation looks to trim its huge public expenditure to win approval for a crucial bailout from the International Monetary Fund.
- India has supplied 50 buses to Sri Lanka on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of independence.
- Indian High Commission signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka to establish a Hindi Chair.
- India & Sri Lanka inaugurate exhibition 'Geoffrey Bawa' in New Delhi.
- Reliance Retail Ventures Limited announced a strategic partnership with Sri Lanka-headquartered Maliban Biscuit Manufactories Limited.
- SRI LANKA
- Capital : Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte (legislative)
- Colombo (executive and judicial)
- Currency : Rupee
- President : Ranil Wickremesinghe
- Prime Minister : Dinesh Gunawardena
- Mitra Shakti Military Exercise : India and Sri Lanka
- Slinex Navel Exercise : India and Sri Lanka
- Parliament : parliamentua (225 seats)
- National day : 4 February 1948



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**Q. Who has been appointed as new Chairperson of The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited (THGPPL)?**

A) Arun Kumar Singh

B) Roshni Nadar

C) Leena Tewari

D) Nirmala Lakshman

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Nirmala Laxman has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited (THGPPL) for a period of three years..
- ✓ He succeeds Malini Parthasarathy, who stepped down after completing her three-year term at the board meeting on June 5, 2023.
- ✓ Nirmala Laxman During her time as joint editor of The Hindu, she was instrumental in re-launching and setting up new features sections, including 'The Hindu Literary Review', 'Young World' and 'The Hindu in School'. played an important role.
- ✓ Nirmala Laxman is the founder and curator of Lit for Life, a literary festival organized by The Hindu.
- ✓ **The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited (THGPPL):**
- ✓ It is a media company.
- ✓ It is the publisher of The Hindu, a national daily newspaper, as well as other publications including Frontline, Sportstar and Hindu BusinessLine.
- ✓ THGPPL operates the digital assets including the website and mobile app of The Hindu.
- ✓ The company was founded in 1878 by G. Subramania Iyer as The Hindu Religious and Public Trust, which focused on religious and educational material.
- ✓ In 1905, the Trust acquired The Hindu newspaper, shifting the company's focus to journalism.
- ✓ Headquarters - Chennai, India

**Q. Who was the CEO of alcohol maker Diageo, who has passed away?**

A) Jensen Huang

B) Ivan Menezes

C) Andy Jassy

D) Debra Crew

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Ivan Menezes, CEO of the world's largest spirits company Diageo, has passed away.
- ✓ Ivan Menezes was born in Pune, India in July 1959, the son of Ivan Menezes, the chairman of the Indian Railway Board.



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- ✓ Menezes joined Diageo in 1997, following the merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan.

**Q. Which Indian-origin scientist has been awarded the 'Spinoza Award', the highest honor in Dutch science?**

- A) Soumya Swaminathan                      B) Abhilasha Singh  
C) Surekha Gupta                              D) Joyita Gupta

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Indian-origin scientist Joyita Gupta has been awarded the Spinoza Prize, the highest honor in Dutch science.
- ✓ This award is sometimes also called the 'Dutch Nobel Prize'.
- ✓ The University of Amsterdam said in a statement that he has been honored for his outstanding, pioneering and inspiring scientific work.
- ✓ Gupta will get 1.5 million euros to spend on activities related to scientific research.

**Q. Which district in Maharashtra is the development of India's first carbon-neutral village taking place?**

- A) Nashik    B) Aurangabad  
C) Nagpur    D) Thane

**Answer : D**

- ✓ India's first carbon neutral village to be developed in Bhiwandi taluka of Thane district.
- ✓ Union Minister of State, Kapil Patil, recently announced the development of India's first carbon-neutral village in Bhiwandi Taluka, located in Thane district.
- ✓ The government is actively working towards developing a carbon-neutral village in Bhiwandi Taluka, Thane district.
- ✓ This initiative aims to minimize carbon emissions and promote sustainable practices for a cleaner and greener environment.
- ✓ Along with the carbon-neutral village, 121 tribal villages are being developed as model villages.
- ✓ These model villages serve as examples for sustainable development, showcasing effective infrastructure, amenities, and improved living conditions.
- ✓ In the Bhiwandi Lok Sabha Constituency, around 1,75,000 farmers are benefiting from the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana



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**Q. The Union government has set up a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the violence in Manipur. The commission will be headed by \_\_\_\_.**

- A) Ajai Lamba
- B) Bijoya Chakravarty
- C) P. Karunakaran
- D) Sumitra Mahajan

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Three-member panel constituted to probe Manipur violence.
- ✓ The Centre has established a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the recent series of violence in Manipur, led by former Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court, Ajai Lamba.
- ✓ The headquarters of the commission will be located in Imphal, Manipur.
- ✓ The central government has appointed the Commission of Inquiry under the provisions of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.
- ✓ **What will examine the commission?**
- ✓ The commission's mandate, according to a notification from the Union Home Ministry, is to inquire into the causes and spread of the violence and riots targeting different communities in Manipur that occurred on May 3 and thereafter.
- ✓ The commission will examine the sequence of events leading to the violence, gather all relevant facts, and determine if there were any lapses or dereliction of duty on the part of responsible authorities or individuals.
- ✓ **Violence in Manipur**
- ✓ The violence in Manipur, which began on May 3, resulted in numerous fatalities, injuries, and property damage.
- ✓ The government of Manipur recommended the establishment of a judicial inquiry commission to investigate the causes and factors associated with the crisis.
- ✓ Manipur has experienced sporadic violence since the outbreak of ethnic clashes on May 3.
- ✓ The clashes were triggered by a 'Tribal Solidarity March' organized in the hill districts to protest the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.
- ✓ Prior tensions had arisen over the eviction of Kuki villagers from reserve forest land, leading to smaller agitations.



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**Q. What is the objective of 'Kavach' Technology announced for Indian Railways?**

A) Anti- Collision

B) AutoML

C) Vertex AI

D) CAMTECH

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Odisha triple-train accident, which resulted in 290 deaths and 1,175 injuries, brought into focus the Kavach initiative that aims to make the Indian Railways safer..
- ✓ The Kavach system has not yet started on the Odisha route.
- ✓ Railways confirmed that no 'Kavach' system has been installed in the trains to prevent them from colliding with each other.
- ✓ The government is being severely criticized for neglecting railway safety..
- ✓ **Coverage of Kavach**
- ✓ To prevent incidents of accidents, the government announced in 2022 that it would launch a new avatar of Kavach on a trial basis, initially covering a distance of 2,000 kilometers and then expanding the coverage further.
- ✓ Only 1,455 km of railway routes under South Central Railway have been brought under Kavach by January 2023.
- ✓ The government plans to expand it from 4,000 to 5,000 km in FY24.
- ✓ For reference, Indian Railways has a total route coverage of around 1.03 lakh km.
- ✓ A little over 1% of the route of the Indian Railways is protected by Kavach as of now
- ✓ **What is Kavach?**
- ✓ Kavach is an indigenous Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system.
- ✓ It was developed by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO), an Indian Railways department, way back in 2002.
- ✓ The Kavach system is designed to prevent collisions of trains – a leading cause of railway accidents in India.
- ✓ It is a set of electronic devices and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) devices installed in locomotives, in the signalling system as well as the tracks.
- ✓ They communicate with each other using ultra high radio frequency to control the brakes of the trains and also alert the drivers.
- ✓ While there have been 58 railway accidents in the last 10 years, the Odisha accident is the deadliest.



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- ✓ This protection system is aimed at avoiding accidents arising out of driver-related or technical errors, as well as aid drivers (loco pilots) in running the trains safely even in inclement weather conditions.
- ✓ It activates the train braking system automatically if the driver fails to control the train as per the speed restrictions..
- ✓ Kavach is an indigenously developed anti-collision device (ACD) network.

**Q. Suez Canal joins Mediterranean Sea with which among the following seas?**

- A) Caribbean Sea                                      B) Black Sea  
C) Red Sea    D) Sargasso Sea

**Answer : C**

- ✓ On 4 June, an oil tanker broke down in the Suez Canal, a major global waterway, disrupting traffic and temporarily halting the transit of other ships.
- ✓ As a result of the breakdown, eight other vessels in the convoy were affected by the disruption.
- ✓ The Seavigour was part of the north convoy, which moves from the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea.
- ✓ The Suez Canal Authority deployed three tugboats to tow the stranded tanker away from the single-lane area.
- ✓ Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway in Egypt. It links the Mediterranean with the Red Sea through Isthmus of Suez.
- ✓ The Suez Canal is one of the busiest trade routes in the world. About 12 percent of the world's total trade passes through this canal daily.

**Q. Ace Turtle Omni Pvt Ltd, a retail company, has roped in which Indian cricketer as the brand ambassador for its Wrangler brand?**

- A) Smriti Mandhana                                      B) Harmanpreet Kaur  
C) Shafali Verma    D) Deepti Sharma

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Wrangler signs Smriti Mandhana as brand ambassador
- ✓ Ace Turtle Omni Pvt Ltd., a retail company, has selected Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana as the brand ambassador for its Wrangler brand. Ace Turtle is the licensee of Wrangler in India



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**Q. Which state government has launched 'Elder Line' 14567 service to give shelter to elderly homeless?**

A) Madhya Pradesh

B) Uttar Pradesh

C) Chhattisgarh

D) Bihar

**Answer : B**

- ✓ UP govt launches 'Elder Line' service to give shelter to elderly homeless.
- ✓ The 'Elder Line' 14567 service was recently launched by the Uttar Pradesh Social Welfare Department.
- ✓ The initiative is the brainchild of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Social Welfare Asem Arun, who earlier headed the emergency helpline 112.
- ✓ **Objective of the initiative**
- ✓ The objective of the helpline is to rescue destitute old persons and provide them shelter in old age homes.
- ✓ 'Elder Line' 14567 service has been activated, actively responding to distress related to older persons.
- ✓ **Reporting destitute elderly**
- ✓ Citizens can report about destitute elderly persons on roadsides, bus stations, railway stations, or similar places.
- ✓ The team of the Social Welfare Department immediately responds to the reports and ensures that the elderly person is shifted safely to the old age home with dignity.
- ✓ **Availability of Old Age Homes**
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh currently has 75 old age homes, one in each district.
- ✓ These homes accommodate both male and female residents, providing them with necessary amenities and care.
- ✓ **Facilities and Services**
- ✓ Inmates of the old age homes receive free food, healthcare facilities, and entertainment options.
- ✓ Health check-ups are conducted every 15 days by doctors from the Chief Medical Officer's office.
- ✓ Each old age home is equipped with an ambulance to address emergency medical needs.
- ✓ **Enriching Lives**
- ✓ Old age homes organize outings and recreational activities for the residents.
- ✓ Trips to places like Akshardham temple in Delhi are arranged, providing a refreshing experience for the elderly.
- ✓ Such initiatives enhance their quality of life and create opportunities for enjoyment.



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#### ✓ **Benefits and Allowances.**

- ✓ The state government has increased the breakfast allowance for elderly individuals in old age homes from Rs 75 to Rs 114 per day.
- ✓ Inmates also receive an annual amount of Rs 2,500 for new clothes, Rs 200 per month for additional medicines, and Rs 150 for entertainment purposes.
- ✓ Pension Scheme Integration.
- ✓ The social welfare department plans to link the over 6,000 elderly individuals residing in old age homes to the 'Rashtriya Vridhavastha Pension' scheme.
- ✓ This integration aims to provide additional financial support to the elderly, offering them some extra pocket money.

#### Q. **Who is the current US Defence secretary?**

- A) Antony Blinken                      B) Lloyd Austin  
C) Merrick Garland                    D) Janet Yellen

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, held discussions with US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin in New Delhi on 5th June.
- ✓ The meeting focused on strengthening defence cooperation in various areas, including aligning strategic interests and enhancing security cooperation.
- ✓ During the talks, Minister Singh emphasized the significance of the India-US partnership in ensuring a free, open, and rules-based Indo-Pacific region.
- ✓ He expressed India's commitment to closely collaborate with the United States across different domains, aiming for capacity building and further strengthening strategic partnership.
- ✓ India and the US cooperate in the fields of science, technology and innovation

#### Q. **'Mission Vatsalya', which was seen in the news, is a scheme implemented by which Union Ministry?**

- A) Ministry of Rural Development      B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
C) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports   D) Ministry of Women and Child Development

#### Answer : D

- ✓ NIPCCD organized a Refresher Training Programme on Mission Vatsalya.





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- ✓ NIPCCD organized a Refresher Training Programme on Mission Vatsalya from 29- 31 May, 2023 at NIPCCD Regional Centre, Mohali. 33 participants attended the training Programme.
- ✓ The programme involved discussions on the following themes:
  - ✓ Improve functioning of statutory bodies
  - ✓ Strengthen service delivery services
  - ✓ Upscale Institutional care/ services Encourage non-intuitional community based care
  - ✓ Training and Capacity building of duty holders.
- ✓ **About Mission Vatsalya**
- ✓ It promotes family-based non-institutional care of children in difficult situations based on the 'principle of institutionalization of children' as a last resort.
- ✓ Before the year 2009, three schemes were implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development for children in need of protection -
  1. Juvenile justice programs for children as well as children in need of care and protection
  2. Integrated Program for Street Children
  3. Child Home Assistance Scheme.
- ✓ In theyear 2010, these three schemes were merged into a single scheme which is known as Integrated Child Protection Scheme.
- ✓ In the year 2017 its name was changed to "Child Protection Services Scheme" and in the year 2021-22 it was also changed to Mission Vatsalya.
- ✓ It aims to ensure a healthy and happy childhood for every child in the country.
- ✓ **National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD).**
- ✓ It is an autonomous organisation and its Headquarter is in New Delhi.
- ✓ It functions under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- ✓ Its objective is to take a comprehensive view of child development and develop and promote programmes in pursuance of the National Policy for Children.

**Q. Which of the following entity has recently came out with draft guidelines for 'Bima Vahaks (BV)'?**

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| A) SEBI  | B) SIDBI  |
| C) IRDAI | D) NABARD |

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ **IRDAI issues draft Bima Vahaks guidelines.**
- ✓ IRDAI recently came out with draft guidelines for 'Bima Vahaks (BV)'.
- ✓ It seeks to establish a dedicated distribution channel at the level of Gram Panchayats.
- ✓ The guidelines propose Corporate Bima Vahaks and Individual Bima Vahaks for the distribution channel.
- ✓ Corporate Bima Vahak would be legal persons registered in accordance with the respective laws and engaged by an insurer. Individual Bima Vahak could be any individual appointed by an insurer or appointed by a Corporate Bima Vahak.
- ✓ The BVs, both corporate and individual, would be authorised to undertake activities like the collection of proposal information, and KYC documents and coordinate claims-related services.
- ✓ As per the draft, every insurer will have to provide alternative mode for payment of premium by prospects or policyholders.
- ✓ **Objective of the guidelines.**
- ✓ This initiative aims to improve accessibility and availability of insurance in every nook and corner of the country.
- ✓ **Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI).**
- ✓ IRDAI is the regulatory body responsible for overseeing and regulating the insurance industry in India.
- ✓ It was set up to promote and regulate the insurance sector in India.
- ✓ It was established on April 1, 2000, under the provisions of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.
- ✓ The primary role of the IRDAI is to regulate and promote the insurance industry in India

**Q. Which of the following country has hosted the meeting of BRICS Foreign Ministers?**

- A) Brazil
- B) Russia
- C) South Africa
- D) India

**Answer : C**

- ✓ BRICS countries kicked off its foreign ministers meeting on 1st June in Cape Town, the legislative capital of South Africa.
- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar participated in the meeting of foreign ministers of BRICS countries.
- ✓ South Africa, which currently holds the chair of the bloc, hosted the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Cape Town on 1-2 June.



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- ✓ The foreign ministers' meeting will finalise the agenda for the 15th BRICS summit scheduled to be held in South Africa in August.
- ✓ It is believed that 19 countries are in line to join BRICS.
- ✓ **Joint Agreement**
- ✓ The BRICS foreign ministers agreed BRICS cooperation should be strengthened to promote unity among developing countries.
- ✓ Advance the global governance system reform.
- ✓ Accelerate the realization of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.
- ✓ Contribute to world peace and development.
- ✓ **About BRICS**
- ✓ The full form of BRICS is Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
- ✓ Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill coined the term BRIC (without South Africa) in 2001.
- ✓ He claimed that by 2050, the four BRIC economies would dominate the global economy by 2050.
- ✓ South Africa was included in the list in 2010.
- ✓ The presidency of the Forum is rotated annually among the members.
- ✓ BRICS accounts for about 40% of the world's population.
- ✓ It accounts for 30% of the world's GDP (Gross Domestic Product).
- ✓ In the year 2014, during the 6th BRICS Summit in Fortaleza, Brazil, the BRICS leaders signed an agreement to establish a New Development Bank (NDB).

**Q. Which state has become the first state to notify a committee for conservation of seeds preserved by tribal farmers?**

A) Odisha

B) Assam

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Chhattisgarh

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Odisha becomes the first state to notify a committee for conservation of seeds preserved by tribal farmers.
- ✓ The Odisha government has established a committee called the Landrace Varietal Release Committee (LVRC) to release traditional millet varieties in accordance with standard operating protocols (SoP) for seed systems.



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- ✓ Odisha is the first state in India to develop a protocol for releasing indigenous millet varieties conserved by tribal farmers for centuries.
- ✓ Landraces refer to ecotypes that have been cultivated for a long time in their original habitats.
- ✓ It is crucial to preserve these landraces before they become extinct.
- ✓ The initiative aims to preserve traditional landraces, promote agrobiodiversity, and empower custodian farmers in Odisha while supporting sustainable agricultural practices.
- ✓ **Landrace Varietal Release Committee (LVRC)**
- ✓ The objective of the committee is to recognize the efforts of custodian farmers, particularly tribals, in conserving traditional millet landraces..
- ✓ **Participatory varietal trials (PVTs)**
- ✓ Participatory varietal trials (PVTs) conducted under the Odisha Millets Mission (OMM) have shown that certain millet landraces perform better than released varieties under different agricultural practices.
- ✓ **Standard Operating Protocol (SoP)**
- ✓ The working group, in consultation with experts from various institutions, developed a standard operating protocol (SoP) for seed systems for landraces.

**Q. Which Airways has been named the Environmental Airline of the Year 2023?**

- A) Alaska Airlines                                      B) Etihad Airways  
C) Qatar Airways                                        D) British Airways

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Etihad Airways named Environmental Airline of the Year 2023.
- ✓ Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, has been named the Environmental Airline of the Year 2023 for the second year in a row at the Airline Rating Awards.
- ✓ The prestigious award acknowledges the airline's commitment to sustainable aviation through innovation and collaboration.
- ✓ Etihad is ranked third in the 'Top 10 Airlines' category, which evaluates comfort, innovation, value and safety in economy, business and first class.
- ✓ Etihad's sustainability strategy focuses on emissions reduction, industry alignment, collaboration with the UAE ecosystem and proactive transparency.



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- ✓ Key initiatives of the airline include the Greenliner program using Boeing 787 Dreamliners and the deployment of Sustainable50 A350-1000 aircraft.
- ✓ Antonaldo Neves, Group CEO, Etihad Aviation Group

**Q. When is the World Food Safety Day celebrated?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ World Food Safety Day - 7 June.
- ✓ World Food Safety Day is observed annually on 7 June to highlight the importance of maintaining food standards and protecting consumers from foodborne illnesses.
- ✓ The theme of World Food Safety Day 2023 is "Food Standards Save Lives".
- ✓ The theme emphasises the important role of food safety standards in ensuring the well-being of individuals.
- ✓ World Food Safety Day encourages cooperation among nations and raises awareness of the importance of food safety standards in protecting public health



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## Aparchit June 2nd Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

**Q. What is the name of the world's first multi-sensor Earth observation satellite, GalaxEye Space?**

- A) Drishti  
B) Vidhi  
C) Prakashan  
D) Kalyan

**Answer : A**

- ✓ GalaxEye Space to launch world's 1st Multi-Sensor Earth Observation Satellite 'Drishti'.
- ✓ 'An IIT (Indian Institute of Technology )-Madras (Tamil Nadu) incubated space-tech startup, GalaxEye Space, is developing the world's first multi-sensor earth observation satellite namely 'Drishti' incorporating a visible spectrum camera that allows synchronized imaging, capable of capturing multiple images simultaneously.
- ✓ The startup is going to launch this, its first satellite, in 2024.
- ✓ It will be India's first and the world's highest resolution multi-sensor imaging satellite.
- ✓ GalaxEye is focused on deploying a satellite constellation featuring a unique sensor based on data fusion to provide the most comprehensive dataset of imagery from space.

**Q. Which bank has introduced a new credit card named 'Millennia Credit card' which offers cashback over e-commerce platforms and multiple benefits?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ HDFC Bank Introduces Millennia Credit Card.
- ✓ HDFC Bank introduced a new credit card named 'Millennia Credit card' which offers cashback over e-commerce platforms and multiple benefits.
- ✓ Millennia credit card is applicable to both self-employed and salaried Indian national.
- ✓ Age: The minimum age limit is 21 and maximum age is 40.
- ✓ Income: For Salaried persons the Gross Monthly Income has to be more than Rs 35,000 and for Self Employed the income has to be Rs 6.0 Lakhs per annum.
- ✓ The card comes with contactless technology allowing customers to 'tap and pay' via POS machine.



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#### HDFC BANK IN NEWS 2023.

- HDFC Bank introduced a new credit card named 'Millennia Credit card' which offers cashback over e-commerce platforms and multiple benefits.
- SEBI has granted approval for a change in control of HDFC Asset Management Company (HDFC AMC) due to the amalgamation of HDFC Ltd and HDFC Bank Ltd.
- As part of the amalgamation, existing shareholders of HDFC Ltd will hold a 41% stake in HDFC Bank.
- HDFC Bank has launched a retail banking initiative called 'Vishesh' aimed at customers in semi-urban and rural areas.
- HDFC Bank partners Manipal Global to build up a talent pipeline.
- SEBI has granted approval for a change in control of HDFC Asset Management Company (HDFC AMC) due to the amalgamation of HDFC Ltd and HDFC Bank Ltd.
- HDFC Bank has signed a "Master Inter Bank Credit Agreement" with Export-Import Bank of Korea for a USD 300 million line of credit.
- HDFC Bank recommends re-appointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan MD, CEO for 3 yrs.
- HDFC Bank's Sashidhar Jagdishan is 'BS Banker of the Year 2022'.
- HDFC Bank, IRCTC launch India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit card.
- HDFC Bank, Lulu Exchange ink deal to enhance cross-border payments between India-Gulf region.
- HDFC Bank collaborates with Microsoft as part of its digital transformation.
- Reserve Bank of India said SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank remain domestic systemically important banks (D-SIBs).
- India's first Electronic Bank Guarantee issued by HDFC Bank.
- HDFC BANK
- Founded : 1994
- Founder : Hasmukhbhai Parekh
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline : We understand your world



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**Q. The Central government sanctioned Rs 12,911 crore for the Polavaram project in which state?**

- A) Andhra Pradesh                      B) Telangana  
C) Kerala                                  D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The central Government sanctioned Rs 12,911 crore for the Polavaram project in Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ The Central government sanctioned Rs 12,911 crore to Andhra Pradesh (AP) for completing the first phase of the Polavaram Project, which includes an additional Rs 2,000 crore for the construction of the diaphragm wall, which was washed away due to the Godavari floods.
- ✓ The Polavaram Irrigation Project is on the river Godavari near Ramayyapeta village of Polavaram Mandal in Eluru district, where Godavari emerges out of the last range of the Eastern Ghats and enters the plains in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ This project also includes a hydroelectric power plant with generation capacity of 960 MW power (12 x 80 MW).
- ✓ This project interlinks Godavari and Krishna rivers by diverting 80 TMC of water to the Krishna river basin.

**Q. Which state government signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for the construction of Civil Enclaves at Darbhanga Airport and Purnea Airport?**

- A) Chhattisgarh                      B) Bihar  
C) Jharkhand                          D) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Bihar & AAI signs MOUs to construct new Civil Enclaves at Darbhanga & Purnea Airport.
- ✓ The Government of Bihar signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) for the construction of Civil Enclaves at Darbhanga Airport and Purnea Airport in Bihar.
- ✓ Under this MoU, the Bihar government will provide undisputed land at free of cost to AAI for both the airports.
- ✓ The construction will take place on 76.65 acres of land for New Civil Enclave and installation of CAT-II approach lights in Darbhanga and 52.18 acres of land for Civil Enclave in Purnea.
- ✓ The construction of the new Civil Enclaves will bolster the infrastructure and also pave the way for the commencement of air services at Purnea Airport





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**Q. The 6th edition of the annual naval exercise 'Ektha' was held between India and which country?**

- A) Egypt  
B) UAE  
C) Maldives  
D) Sri Lanka

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Sixth edition of India-Maldives Exercise 'Ekatha' begin in Maldives.
- ✓ The 6th edition of the annual Naval Exercise 'Ekatha' between India and Maldives was scheduled to be conducted from 4th June to 3rd July in Maldives, 2023 to enhance interoperability in diving and special operations.

### MALDIVES IN NEWS 2023

- Sixth edition of India-Maldives Exercise 'Ekatha' begin in Maldives.
- Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh handed over two made-in-India platforms, namely, Fast Patrol Vessel and a Landing Craft Assault ship, to the Maldives National Defence Forces (MNDF).
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will hand over a fast patrol vessel and a landing craft to the Maldives as India's "gift" .
- India Extended USD 40 Million for Bolstering Sports Infrastructure in Maldives.
- India and Maldives held the 4th Defense Cooperation Dialogue (DCD) in Male on March 19, 2023.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to embark on a three-day official visit to Maldives on 30th April.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed a Currency Swap Agreement with the Maldives Monetary Authority under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework.
- The corpus of the SAARC Currency Swap Facility of the RBI is USD 2 Billion.
- About Maldives
- It is also called Maldives Islands, an independent island country in the north-central Indian Ocean.
- Basis of economy - fisheries, tourism
- Industries - handicraft or cottage including the making of coir (coconut-husk fibre) and coir products, fish canning, and boatbuilding.
- Capital - Male
- President - Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- Currency - Rufiyaa



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**Q. Which missile was successfully tested by India from Odisha coast?**

- A) Agni prime
- B) Agni 5
- C) Agni 4
- D) Bramhos

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Agni Prime' ballistic missile successfully flight-tested by DRDO.
- ✓ New Generation Ballistic Missile 'Agni Prime' was successfully flight-tested by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha on June 7, 2023.
- ✓ DRDO's successful test flight of 'Agni Prime' missile marks a significant achievement.
- ✓ **About 'Agni Prime' Missile**
- ✓ The missile is a two-stage canisterised missile.
- ✓ It is the latest and sixth variant of the Agni series missiles, developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Program (IGMDP).
- ✓ The missile is equipped with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles, enabling it to deliver warheads to separate locations. It has a range of 1,000 - 2,000 km.
- ✓ The missile has a diameter of 1.2 m and a height of 10.5 m.
- ✓ It has a payload capacity of up to 1.5 tonnes for carrying warheads.
- ✓ The missile is capable of performing high maneuvers while homing in on its targets.
- ✓ After a series of user-associated launches, these missiles will be officially inducted into the armed forces.

**Q. At which airport in the country can passengers use 'DigiYatra' without downloading the app?**

- A) Indira Gandhi International Airport
- B) Veer Savarkar International Airport
- C) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport
- D) Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has launched a new facility called 'DigiYatra' which enables passengers to avail of its services without downloading a mobile application.
- ✓ This facility has just been started at Terminal-3 of the airport. Passengers can access the facility by scanning their boarding pass and their face and presenting an identity proof to the security personnel near the registration desk.

### AIRPORT IN NEWS 2023

- Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has launched a new facility called 'DigiYatra' which enables passengers to avail of its services without downloading a mobile application.
- Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport is the first in India to offer a free reading lounge to the passengers, with a huge collection of literature.
- Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi ranked 9th busiest airports globally in 2022, as per Airports Council International (ACI). United States-based Atlanta airport has retained its position as the world's busiest airport.
- According to the Airport Council International (ACI), Delhi International Airport has been ranked among the cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 27 February 2023 launched the newly built Shivamogga airport along with various development projects worth over Rs 3,600 crore in Shivamogga, Karnataka.
- Bangalore's Kempegoda International Airport and Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport both ranked second and seventh in Cirium's list of the world's best-performing airports for 2022.
- Mopa International Airport Goa named after former CM Manohar Parrikar.
- Jaipur International Airport Limited has received the Aerodrome licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- Union Cabinet has given its approval for the naming of the new Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar, the State Capital of Arunachal Pradesh as "Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar".

**Q. Which state government has launched the Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme at a cost of Rs 1,000 crore?**

A) Gujarat

B) Punjab

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Madhy Pradesh



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#### Answer : C

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh government launches Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme.
- ✓ In a bid to make Uttar Pradesh a leading state in the field of milk development and milk production, the state government has launched the Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme on 6th June at a cost of Rs 1,000 crore.
- ✓ The mission is implemented to facilitate milk producers to sell their milk at reasonable prices in villages through dairy cooperatives.
- ✓ Under this mission, it is proposed to form a Dairy farmer producer organisation (Dairy FPO) in order to facilitate sale of milk in producers' villages itself.
- ✓ There is a plan to set up five dairy FPOs in five districts of the state as a pilot project in the financial year 2023-24, in which women will also play a major role.
- ✓ Besides the opening of office of the Nand Baba Milk Mission at Gomtinagar, a 'Dairy Development Portal' and logo of Nand Baba Mission has also been unveiled by Cabinet Minister, Livestock and Dairy Development Department, Dharampal Singh
- ✓ **Indian Dairy Sector**
- ✓ India ranks first in milk production and contributes 24% to global milk production.
- ✓ The top 5 milk producing states are: Uttar Pradesh (14.9%), Rajasthan (14.6%), Madhya Pradesh (8.6%), Gujarat (7.6%) and Andhra Pradesh (7.0%).
- ✓ Dairy is the single largest agricultural item contributing 5% to the national economy, which has been 6.4% in the last 5 years.
- ✓ About 8 crore people are directly or indirectly employed in the dairy industry.
- ✓ India is the world's largest milk producer, accounting for 23 percent of global production. It is followed by the United States, China, Pakistan and Brazil.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh is the largest milk producing state in India and accounts for more than 17% of the total milk production in India.
- ✓ The purity of milk is measured by lactometer.
- ✓ National Milk Research Institute is located at Karnal (Haryana).
- ✓ The pH value of fresh milk is 6. When milk changes into curd, its pH value becomes less than 6.
- ✓ Lactobacillus bacteria help in curdling of milk.



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**Q. The Himachal Pradesh government has signed an agreement with which company for promoting green hydrogen production?**

A) Oil India Limited

B) Bharat Petroleum

C) Hindustan Petroleum

D) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Himachal Pradesh government has signed an agreement with Oil India Limited for promoting green hydrogen production.
- ✓ State Government has imposed ban on single-use plastic in Himachal Pradesh since 2009 and now it was working to find suitable alternatives to plastic.
- ✓ The government is committed to environmental protection and has made various provisions in the budget to improve the state's climate.

### HIMACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu informed that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) will set up an ethanol plant at Jeetpur Baheri in Una district at a cost of Rs 500 crore.
- European Commission (EC) has awarded protected geographical indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of India's Himachal Pradesh.
- Himachal Pradesh (HP) has become the first Indian state to develop a DNA database for unidentified bodies.
- Himachal Pradesh launched Sanjeevani Project to uplift the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- Himachal Pradesh targets to be first 'green energy state' by 2025.
- Himachal Cabinet approves monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women of Spiti Valley.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up of Rs 101 crore CM's Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh for the destitute in the state.
- Himachal Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone of 'Himachal Niketan' which will provide accommodation facilities to the students and residents of Himachal Pradesh visiting New Delhi.



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- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its 53rd Statehood Day with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023

**Q. Which Ministry has launched a National Mission titled "Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)"?**

- A) Ministry of Power                      B) Ministry of Home Affairs  
C) Ministry of Heavy Industries        D) Ministry of Defence

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Ministry of Power and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy have jointly launched a National Mission to quickly identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously, at scale, for deployment within and outside India.
- ✓ The National Mission, titled "Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR)".
- ✓ Aim : To facilitate indigenous research, development and demonstration of the latest and emerging technologies in the power sector.
- ✓ Planned for an initial period of five years from 2023-24 to 2027-28, the Mission will follow the technology life cycle approach of Idea to Product.

**Q. Wipro Limited has partnered with which company to launch the Wipro Industry Innovation Experience for Financial Services?**

- A) Apple  
B) Google  
C) Meta  
D) Microsoft

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Wipro announced the launch of the Wipro Industry Innovation Experience for Financial Services, featuring a new suite of banking and financial services solutions built on Microsoft Cloud.
- ✓ The Innovation Experience will bring together Microsoft Cloud capabilities with Wipro FullStride Cloud, as well as leverage Wipro's and Capco's deep domain expertise in financial services



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**Q. Which of the following will launch “One Student One Tree Campaign 2023”?**

- A) National Council of Educational Research and Training ( NCERT)
- B) National Testing Agency (NTA)
- C) University Grants Commission (UGC)
- D) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)

**Answer : D**

- ✓ All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) will launch “One Student One Tree Campaign 2023” and that UGC too has taken initiatives for creating awareness about Mission LiFE.
- ✓ The celebration of World Environment Day across the country envisages involvement of youth in spreading the message of LiFE, along with sensitizing school going children and others about LiFE.
- ✓ The mantra of Mission Life is ‘Lifestyle For Environment’ to make the fight against climate change democratic, in which everyone can contribute within their capacity.

**Q. Which country has introduced a digital birth certificate for someone who was born in country for free?**

- A) Israel
- B) Germany
- C) Norway
- D) Switch

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Israel Government has introduced a digital birth certificate for someone who was born in Israel for free.
- ✓ The service allows parents to receive the birth certificate immediately as a digital file via email or mobile device app

**Q. Which bank has launched a new service called Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW), which allows customers to withdraw cash using UPI (Unified Payments Interface) from the bank’s ATMs?**

- A) Bank of Baroda
- B) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- C) Canara Bank
- D) Indian Overseas Bank

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Bank of Baroda has launched a new service called Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW), which allows customers to withdraw cash using UPI (Unified Payments Interface) from the bank’s ATMs.



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- ✓ This makes Bank of Baroda the first public sector bank to introduce this service. With this, customers can avail two transactions a day per account with a withdrawal limit of Rs 5,000 per transaction.
- ✓ The first public sector bank to launch this service, Bank of Baroda customers as well as customers of other participating issuer banks that use BHIM UPI, bob World UPI or any other UPI application enabled for ICCW on their mobile phone can withdraw cash from a Bank of Baroda ATM without using their debit card.
- ✓ Bank of Baroda (BOB)
- ✓ Founded : 1908
- ✓ Founder : Sayajirao Gaekwad III
- ✓ Headquarters : Vadodara, Gujarat
- ✓ MD & CEO : Debadatta Chand
- ✓ Tagline : India's International Bank

**Q. Who has become the first woman officer to command a Communication Zone Mechanical Transport Battalion in the Indian Army Service Corps?**

- A) Shuchita Shekhar                      B) Rekha Srivastava  
C) Anupama Tripathi                      D) Sonam Singh

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Colonel Shuchita Shekhar has become the first woman officer to command a Communication Zone Mechanical Transport Battalion in the Indian Army Service Corps.
- ✓ She is responsible for the maintenance of the Supply Chain of the fully operational Northern Command.
- ✓ This is a significant milestone in the history of the Indian Army and a great step towards gender equality.

**Q. Which state government has launched buses with air purifiers to reduce the pollution level?**

- A) Uttar Pradesh                      B) Bihar  
C) Rajasthan                      D) West Bengal

**Answer : D**

- ✓ West Bengal government has launched buses with air purifiers to reduce the pollution level in Kolkata city. West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) has launched it with Bus Roof Mounted Air Purification System (BRMAPS).





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- ✓ This is the first of its kind system in India named as 'Sudha Vayu'. 20 such buses have been launched.
- ✓ This is a part of a pilot project in collaboration with scientists from IIT Delhi

**Q. In which country BIMSTEC Energy Center will be established?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ For BIMSTEC energy cooperation, BIMSTEC Energy Center will be set up in India by the end of this year. This center will act as the secretariat of BIMSTEC energy cooperation.
- ✓ BIMSTEC Secretary General Tenzin Lekfel announced this in Dhaka. BIMSTEC is an international organization of seven South Asian and South East Asian countries.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Headquarters : 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



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- ✓ B - Bangladesh
- ✓ B - Bhutan
- ✓ S - SriLanka
- ✓ N - Nepal
- ✓ I - India
- ✓ T - Thailand

**Q. According to the report titled "Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress 2023", approximately how many people around the world are still using polluting fuels and techniques for cooking?**

- A) 2.9 billion                      B) 3.1 billion  
C) 2.3 billion                      D) 1.8 billion

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Tracking SDG7: 2.3 people use polluting fuel & 675 million have no electricity.
- ✓ According to the report titled "Tracking SDG7: The Energy Progress 2023" released on 6th June 2023, around 2.3 billion people across the globe are still using polluting fuels and technologies for cooking and around 675 million people did not have access to electricity in 2021.
- ✓ The report states that the world is not on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 for energy by 2030.
- ✓ The report highlighted that despite the progress across various indicators of SDG 7 agenda, the current rates of progress is insufficient to achieve the 2030 targets.

**Q. JP Morgan has Partners with how many Indian banks to launch a pilot program designed to test a blockchain-based platform for settlement of interbank US dollar transactions?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ JPMorgan Partners with 6 Indian banks to trial blockchain-based USD settlement.
- ✓ JPMorgan Chase & Co, the largest bank by assets under management in the United States (US), has joined forces with six leading Indian banks to launch a pilot program designed to test a blockchain-based platform for the settlement of interbank US Dollar transactions.



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- ✓ The 6 Indian banks to be joining in the pilot program to test the new blockchain-based platforms include HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Yes Bank and IndusInd Bank and JPMorgan's own banking subsidiary at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).
- ✓ i. Under the pilot, the six Indian banks will open on-chain Nostro accounts with JPMorgan's branch in Gift City.
- ✓ Nostro Account – A nostro account, derived from the Latin word for “ours,” is an account held by a bank in a foreign currency at another bank. These accounts are commonly utilized to facilitate foreign exchange and trade transactions.
- ✓ A vostro account is an account held by a foreign bank in the local currency at another bank. Vostro accounts, derived from the Latin word for “yours”.

**Q. Which entity has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HDFC Bank Limited to offer Financial Solutions to MSMEs?**

- A) SEBI
- B) IRDAI
- C) SIDBI
- D) NABARD

**Answer : C**

- ✓ SIDBI signs pact with HDFC Bank to offer Financial Solutions to MSMEs .
- ✓ The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HDFC Bank Limited under which both entities will work together to provide complete financial product and services to the customers under MSMEs (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) in a seamless manner.
- ✓ This arrangement will enable MSMEs to avail financial products and services of both the banks, and bring more MSMEs in financial ecosystems.
- ✓ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- ✓ Founded : 2 April 1990
- ✓ Headquarteres : Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- ✓ Chairman & MD : Siva S Ramann



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**Q. Which organisation released the Global Economic Prospects Report ?**

- A) IMF  
B) ADB  
C) AIIB  
D) World Bank

**Answer : D**

- ✓ World Bank (WB) in its Global Economic Prospects Report-June 2023 has lowered India's growth outlook to 6.3% for 2023, a 0.3 percentage point downward revision from 6.6% in January 2023.
- ✓ However, India will remain the fastest-growing economy (in terms of both aggregate and per capita GDP) of the largest EMDEs (Emerging Market and Developing Economies).
- ✓ For 2024, WB expects GDP growth rate at 6.4%. While for 2025 forecast, the growth rate is expected at 6.5%.
- ✓ Global growth is projected to decelerate from 3.1% in 2022 to 2.1% in 2023. It will be 2.4% in 2024 and 3% in 2025.

**Q. NHPC Limited and Torrent Power Limited signed a MoU with which state government for pumped hydro projects?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ NHPC Limited (erstwhile National Hydroelectric Power Corporation) and Torrent Power Limited signed a Memoranda of Understanding(MoUs) with the Government of Maharashtra for the development of pumped hydro storage projects.
- ✓ NHPC Limited signed MoU with Department of Energy, Govt of Maharashtra for the development of 4 pumped Storage Projects aggregating to 7350 MW(megawatt), namely Kalu – 1150 MW, Savitri – 2250 MW, Jalond – 2400 MW and Kengadi -1550 MW and other Renewable Energy Source Projects in Maharashtra.
- ✓ These projects will attract an investment of about Rs 44,000 crore.
- ✓ These will generate indirect and direct employment for 7,000 people in Maharashtra.
- ✓ Torrent Power signed a MoU with Maharashtra for 3 pumped storage hydro schemes of 5,700 MW capacity in Maharashtra at an investment of Rs 27000 crore.
- ✓ The projects will be executed over a period of 5 years.



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- ✓ These projects will be implemented in Karjat 3000 MW in Raigarh District, Maval – 1200 MW and Junnar – 1500 MW in Pune District of Maharashtra

**Q. Which day is observed as the World Oceans Day as recognised by UN?**

- A) June 6                                      B) June 5  
C) June 7                                      D) June 8

**Answer : D**

- ✓ World Oceans Day is marked annually on the 8 June to celebrate the role of the oceans in our everyday life and inspiring action to protect the ocean and sustainably use marine resources.
- ✓ The theme of World Oceans Day for the year 2023 is "Planet Ocean: The Tides Are Changing".
- ✓ World Oceans Day was officially recognised by the United Nations in 2008.
- ✓ The concept was originally proposed in 1992 by Canada's International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD) and the Ocean Institute of Canada (OIC) at the Earth Summit – UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**Q. Tata Elxsi has partnered with the ISRO to design and develop Crew Module Recovery Models (CMRM) for recovery team training of which Mission?**

- A) Chandrayaan-3                                      B) Aditya-L1  
C) Gaganyaan                                      D) Shukrayaan-1

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Tata Elxsi partners with ISRO to build Crew Module Recovery Models for Gaganyaan Mission
- ✓ Tata Elxsi, a leading global design and technology company has partnered with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to design and develop Crew Module Recovery Models (CMRM) for recovery team training of the Gaganyaan Mission.
- ✓ The project marked Tata Elxsi's entry into mechanical design for space.
- ✓ This is the first time ISRO has outsourced the mechanical design and development work to an external partner for a critical system.
- ✓ Currently, two Recovery-Models CMRM and Ground Support Fixture (GSF) have been delivered to Naval training teams at Kochi (Kerala) and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) to train the recovery teams.



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- ✓ ISRO's Gaganyaan Mission aims to demonstrate Human Spaceflight capability by launching a three-member crew onto an orbit of 400 km for a three-day mission and bringing them back to Earth safely by landing in Indian sea waters

### ISRO IN NEWS 2023

- Tata Elxsi partners with ISRO to build Crew Module Recovery Models for Gaganyaan Mission.
- ISRO has announced a new online training programme for post-graduate and final-year undergraduate students of physical sciences and technology. The programme is called Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START) .
- ISRO will launch Singapore's TeLEOS-2 satellite using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from the Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota.
- ISRO has successfully conducted the Reusable Launch Vehicle Autonomous Landing Mission (RLV LEX) at the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR), Chitradurga, Karnataka.
- ISRO has successfully launched India's largest Launch Vehicle Mark-III (LVM3) rocket/OneWeb India-2 Mission with 36 satellites onboard from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ISRO successfully launched a Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle -C52(PSLV-C52) on 14 February 2022 from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
- The PSLV-C52 rocket carried three satellites EOS-04 ,INSPIR Esat-1and INS-2TD).
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will launch OneWeb India-2 mission from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- Under a commercial agreement with NewSpace India Ltd, will launch 72 satellites of UK-based Network Access Associates Ltd and place them in low Earth orbit.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) recently successfully carried out a controlled descent of its 12-year-old low earth orbit satellite Megha Tropiques-1 (MT-1) into the Pacific Ocean.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has recently released images of Earth captured by the EOS-06 satellite.
- Earth Observation satellite (EOS-6) is the third-generation satellite in the Oceansat series.
- Indian Space Research Organization has launched its smallest rocket SSLV-D2 into space from Satish Dhawan Space Center (Sriharikota).



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- ISRO's SSLV-D2 flew into space carrying three satellites with it.
- These include ISRO's satellite EOS-07, Chennai-based space startup Spacekidz's satellite Azad SAT-2 and American company Antaris's satellite JANUS -1.
- All these three satellites will be placed in circular orbit 450 km apart.
- An Earth-observation satellite jointly developed by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and ISRO will be sent to India in late February 2023 for a possible launch in September.
- India's first ever private Vikram-S (Suborbital) rocket was launched on 18 November from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- Vikram-S, designed by Skyroot Aerospace.
- ISRO has successfully launched its heaviest rocket LVM3-M2, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota spaceport, Andhra Pradesh on 23 October 2022. The mission, which was named LVM3-M2/OneWeb India-1, carried 36 broadband communication satellites of OneWeb Company.
- ISRO will launch 36 satellites of OneWeb, the UK's global communications network, on October 23, 2022.
- The name of the rocket is LVM3, it was earlier called GSLV Mk III.
- ISRO 'Shukrayaan I' mission to planet Venus reportedly shifted to 2031.
- ISRO is doing to boost the use of 'NAVigation with the Indian Constellation' (NavIC), India's version of GPS.
- ISRO has unveiled spectacular images of the Earth taken by its Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-06), also known as Oceansat-3.
- CE-20 cryogenic engine, which will power the nation's rocket for the third moon mission, Chandrayaan-3, had a flight acceptance hot test that was successfully completed, according to the ISRO.
- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- Founded : 15 August 1969
- HQ : Bangalore, Karnataka
- Founder / 1st Chairman : Vikram Sarabhai
- 10th Chairman : S Somanath
- Aryabhata India's first satellites Launched on 19 April 1975.
- GSAT-1 India's first commercial satellite.



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- SLV-3 was India's first experimental satellite launch vehicle.
- Ariane Passenger PayLoad Experiment, (APPLE) first communication satellite in India 19 June 1981.
- Udupi Ramachandra Rao : satellite Man of India

**Q. Indian Navy and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) undertook the first 'combat' test-firing of the Varunastra heavyweight torpedo. What is the operational range of Varunastra?**

- A) 50 km                                      B) 70 km  
C) 60 km                                      D) 40 km

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Indian Navy undertakes first combat firing of Varunastra torpedo.
- ✓ The Indian Navy and the country's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) undertook the first 'combat' test-firing of the Varunastra heavyweight torpedo on 5 June.
- ✓ It will enhance the anti-submarine warfare capabilities of the indigenous Navy and give it a formidable force.
- ✓ The torpedo was fired from a submarine and successfully hit the target at a distance of 40 km.
- ✓ The test was conducted in the Arabian Sea in the presence of senior officials from the Indian Navy and the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- ✓ **About Varunastra torpedo**
- ✓ It has been designed and developed by the Naval Science and Technological Laboratory at Visakhapatnam under the Defense Research and Development Organisation.
- ✓ Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) is responsible for the production of the Varunastra missile system.
- ✓ This would become the mainstay of anti-submarine torpedoes for all Navy warships.
- ✓ It will replace the old torpedoes on all naval ships that can fire heavy-weight torpedoes.
- ✓ **Features of the Varunastra**
- ✓ It is seven to eight meters long, weighs 1,500 kg and has a diameter of 533 mm.
- ✓ When fired it can travel at 40 knots, or 74 kmph.
- ✓ The operational range is 40 km and it can carry a warhead weighing 250 kg.
- ✓ Varunastra was inducted by Indian Navy in 2016.





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- ✓ It can be fired from all Anti-submarine warfare (ASW) ships capable of firing heavy-weight torpedoes in an intense countermeasures environment.
- ✓ **Benefits of the Varunastra Torpedo**
- ✓ It is a powerful and sophisticated weapon that will significantly enhance the Navy's ability to detect, track, and engage enemy submarines.
- ✓ It is the first indigenously developed heavyweight torpedo that is capable of meeting the Navy's operational requirements

**Q. Which country is the world's second largest producer of crude steel?**

- A) United States                      B) China  
C) India                                      D) Japan

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India emerges as the world's second largest producer of crude steel.
- ✓ According to the Union Minister of Steel and Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, India has moved from the fourth largest producer of crude steel to the second largest producer
- ✓ From 2014-15 to 2022-23, India sees a 42% increase in crude steel production, from 88.98 MT to 126.26 MT.
- ✓ China remains the largest exporter of crude steel globally and India has emerged as the second largest producer.
- ✓ India is a net exporter of steel, exporting 6.72 MT of finished steel in 2022-23, while importing 6.02 MT.
- ✓ In the financial year 2022-23, India is expected to produce 122.28 MT of finished steel, showing a growth of 49% as compared to 81.86 MT in 2014-15.
- ✓ Steel CPSEs (SAIL, NMDC, MOIL, KIOCL, MSTC, and MECON) mobilised ₹90,273.88 crore of their own resources for CAPEX from 2014-15 to 2022-23.
- ✓ Steel CPSEs paid a dividend of ₹21,204.18 crore to the Government of India during the same period.

**Q. Which country is the largest producer of crude steel in the world?**

- A) Japan                                      B) China  
C) Russia                                      D) United States

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Top 10 steel producing countries in the world by March 2023



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1. China: 95.7 million metric tons (MT)
2. India: 11.4 MT
3. Japan: 7.5 MT
4. United States: 6.7 MT
5. Russia: 6.6 MT
6. South Korea: 5.8 MT
7. Türkiye: 3.3 MT
8. Germany: 2.7 MT
9. Brazil: 2.7 MT
10. Iran: 2.2 MT

**Q. According to ICRA report on Indian banking sector, bond issuance by banks in FY2024 to decline from a record high of Rs 1.1 lakh crore in FY23 to how many crore rupees?**

- A) Rs 90,000 crore                      B) Rs 70,000 crore  
C) Rs 80,000 crore                      D) Rs 60,000 crore

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Bond issuances by banks to fall below Rs 90,000cr in FY24: ICRA Report.
- ✓ According to the ICRA report on Indian Banking Sector, Bond issuances by banks are projected to decrease to Rs 90,000 crore in FY24 from a record high of Rs 1.1 lakh crore in FY23.
- ✓ This is attributed to improved liquidity conditions and increased inflows from foreign investors.
- ✓ Banks issue bonds as a means to secure funding and strengthen their capital base.
- ✓ Reason behind the expected decrease in bond issuances:
- ✓ Stronger foreign institutional investor (FII)/foreign portfolio investment (FPI) inflows, derecognition of the Rs 2,000 note, and a potential dividend from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are anticipated to alleviate liquidity conditions temporarily.
- ✓ Regarding Tier-I or Additional Tier I (ATI) bonds, issuances are projected to be lower than the levels observed between FY2022 and FY2023, estimated at Rs 30,000-33,400 crore due to lower scheduled call options .
- ✓ Public sector banks (PSBs) will remain larger issuers of tier-I bonds in the current financial year.



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- ✓ ATI bonds are unsecured bonds with no pre-determined maturity date, and are issued to raise long-term capital.
- ✓ There will be a slight increase in outstanding Tier-I bonds, which are expected to reach Rs 1.3 lakh crore by March 2024 compared to Rs 1.2 lakh crore as of March 2023.
- ✓ As for Tier-II bonds, a moderation is expected after the peak observed in FY23, which amounted to Rs 49,600 crore. However, some banks may still opt to raise infrastructure bonds.
- ✓ According to the latest RBI's money market operation data, liquidity surplus has risen from around Rs 56,000 crore to Rs 2.11 lakh crore

**Q. Which company has retained its first position as India's most valuable brand in 2023 with \$26,381 million?**

- A) LIC  
B) TATA Group  
C) Infosys  
D) Reliance Industries

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Tata Group retains 1st Position as India's Most Valuable Brand: INDIA 100 2023 Brand Finance Reporti.
- ✓ The brand valuation firm Brand Finance released its INDIA 100 2023: The annual report on the most valuable and strongest Indian brands- June 2023 report in which the Tata Group has retained its 1st position as India's most valuable brand at \$26,381 Million in 2023.
- ✓ It has shown a growth at 10.3% as compared to 2022.
- ✓ This is the first time that an Indian brand has breached the brand value mark of \$25 billion.
- ✓ Tata is followed by the Infosys at \$13 billion and LIC at \$9.8 billion at 2nd and 3rd position respectively.
- ✓ Both also retained their position as 2022.
- ✓ Mahindra Group is fastest growing brand amongst the top ten as it performed exceptionally well in FY23 with record profits crossing Rs 10,000 crore for the first time on revenues of Rs 1,21,269 crore.
- ✓ Taj is India's strongest brand for the second consecutive year with Brand Strength Index (BSI) score of 89.4 out of 100 and a corresponding elite AAA brand strength rating.

### TATA GROUP IN NEWS 2023

- Tata Group retains 1st Position as India's Most Valuable Brand.
- Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata has received the Order of Australia (AO), Australia's highest civilian honour.



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- Tata Power approves reappointment of Praveer Sinha as CEO and MD.
- K Krithivasan appointed CEO Designate of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) after the current CEO and MD Rajesh Gopinathan stepped down.
- Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran claimed on 13 February that the Tata group is set to record the highest growth in its history and that its compounded annual growth is expected to be around 20% in 2022-23.
- The Government of India has appointed Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran as the chairman of the B20 to lead the business agenda during India's G20 presidency.
- Tata Group replaces Vivo as the title sponsor of IPL 2022-23 editions.
- Tata Group bags Women's Premier League title sponsorship rights till 2027.

**Q. Who has won the prestigious UNESCO Michel Batisse Award 2023 for biosphere reserve management?**

**A) Jagdish Sudhakar Bakan**

**B) Chandi Prasad Bhatt**

**C) Sumaira Abdulali**

**D) Jadav Payeng**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Jagdish Bakan, Ramanathapuram DFO, wins UNESCO's 2023 Michel Batisse Award .
- ✓ Jagdish Sudhakar Bakan, wildlife warden and District Forest Officer (DFO) of Ramanathapuram district, Tamil Nadu (TN) has been selected for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s 2023 Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management.
- ✓ He is the first Indian to win Michel Batisse Award.
- ✓ About Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management:
- ✓ The award was established in 2005 and is given once every two years during the Man and the Biosphere Reserves (MAB) Programme Council, in memory of Dr.Michel Batisse, a French Scientist.
- ✓ The award carries a cash prize of USD 12000.
- ✓ **About Jagdish Sudhakar Bakan:**
- ✓ JagdishSudhakarBakan, 2017 batch Indian Forest Service (IFS) officer hails from Parbhani district, Maharashtra.
- ✓ He is currently the Director of Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve, Tamil Nadu.



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### UNESCO IN NEWS 2023

- Jagdish Bakan wins UNESCO's 2023 Michel Batisse Award .
- UNESCO World Heritage Centre has recommended Santiniketan, the cultural site in West Bengal, India, for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- According to a report published by UNESCO at the United Nations 2023 Water Conference in New York, 26 percent of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water.
- Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the Felix Houphouet-Boigny UNESCO Peace Prize in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast.
- Visva-Bharati University is expected to get the status of the world's first "Living Heritage University" from UNESCO.
- UNESCO listed Ukraine's Odesa a World Heritage Site in Danger.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Centre has nominated the maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo to seek a UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.
- The historic maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo were chosen out of 52 sites for the UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- Formation : 16 November 1945
- Headquarters : Paris, France
- Director-General : Audrey Azoulay (France)
- Member countries : 193
- Total UNESCO sites in india : 40.

**Q. Which country has begun conducting initial tests of autonomous flying taxi that could one day serve as public transportation?**

- A) Israel
- B) Australia
- C) Germany
- D) France

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Israel tests first autonomous flying taxi.



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- ✓ Israel has begun conducting initial tests of autonomous drones that could one day serve as public transportation.
- ✓ The drones are part of Israel's National Drone Initiative to ease traffic congestion.
- ✓ Israel hopes autonomous Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft will help to ease its worsening traffic problems.
- ✓ The aircraft being tested now will be able to bypass traffic jams and ease congestion by removing cars and trucks from the roads, in conjunction with air traffic management systems.
- ✓ The initiative is a partnership between govt entities and the country's Civil Aviation Authority.

### ISRAEL IN NEWS 2023

- Israel tests first autonomous flying taxi.
- Israel successfully launched a new spy satellite, named Ofek-13, into orbit. The satellite, Ofek-13, launched from the Palmachim Airbase in central Israel.
- Adani Group acquired the strategic Israeli port of Haifa for USD 1.2 billion.
- Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) to Manufacture Israel's LORA Ballistic Missile for Indian Tri-Services.
- Benjamin Netanyahu Sworn in as the Prime minister of Israel for a Record 6th Time, Israel's longest-serving Prime Minister.
- India and Israel have started a series of events to mark the 30 years of establishment of diplomatic relationship between the two countries.
- ISRAEL
- Capital : Jerusalem
- Currency : New Shekel
- President : Isaac Herzog
- Prime Minister : Benjamin Netanyahu
- Parliament : Knesset

**Q. Which state has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation?**

A) Goa

B) Gujarat

C) Tamil Nadu

D) Haryana



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#### Answer : D

- ✓ Haryana has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation.
- ✓ It is a part of the government's continuous efforts to transform every city in the state into a 'Clean City-Safe City'.
- ✓ The govt will take concrete measures for the beautification of cities including the repair of roads, parks, and parking facilities

#### HARYANA IN NEWS 2023

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal will inaugurate the integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under the Amrit Jal Kranti initiative.
- Haryana has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation.
- A tiger has been spotted in a camera trap at Kalesar National Park in Yamunanagar district of Haryana.
- Haryana becomes first state in India to have 100% electrified railway network.
- First nuclear power plant in North India would be built in Gorakhpur, Haryana,

**Q. How many crore revival package for BSNL has been approved by the government which includes allocation of 4G/5G spectrum?**

- A) Rs 89,047 crore                      B) Rs 93,059 crore  
C) Rs 96,430 crore                      D) Rs 99,500 crore

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi approved the following proposals.
- ✓ Approved the third revival package for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) with a total outlay of Rs 89,047.82 crore that includes allotment of 4G/5G spectrum through equity infusion.
- ✓ **Revival Package:**
- ✓ The total outlay of the revival package is Rs 89,047 crore.
- ✓ The package includes allocation of 4G and 5G spectrum for BSNL through equity infusion.



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- ✓ The authorised capital of BSNL will be increased from Rs 1,50,000 crore to Rs 2,10,000 crore.
- ✓ **Revival Package Objectives.**
- ✓ BSNL will emerge as a stable telecom service provider focused on providing connectivity to remote parts of India.
- ✓ The spectrum allocation will enable BSNL to provide pan India 4G and 5G services.
- ✓ BSNL will provide 4G coverage in rural and unserved villages under various connectivity projects.
- ✓ Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) services for high-speed internet will be offered by BSNL.
- ✓ BSNL will provide services and spectrum for the Captive Non-Public Network (CNPN).
- ✓ **Previous Revival Package.**
- ✓ The first revival package for BSNL and MTNL was approved in 2019, amounting to Rs 69,000 crore.
- ✓ The second revival package for BSNL and MTNL was approved in 2022 amounting to Rs 1.64 lakh crore.
- ✓ **About BSNL**
- ✓ BSNL was incorporated on 15 September 2000.
- ✓ It is a 100% Government of India owned public sector undertaking.
- ✓ It is a technology oriented integrated telecom service provider company.
- ✓ It provides wire line services, 2G, 3G, 4G and GSM mobile services including Value Added Services (VAS), Internet and Broadband services, Wi-Fi services, Data Center services etc.
- ✓ Headquarters -New Delhi, India

**Q. Which state topped the 5th State Food Safety Index among the large states?**

- A) Punjab                                      B) Kerala  
C) Telangana                                    D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Union Minister for Health, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has unveiled the 5th State Food Safety Index on the occasion of World Food Safety Day 2023.
- ✓ Among the larger states, Kerala secured the top ranking, followed by Punjab and Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Smaller states : Goa, Manipur and Sikkim
- ✓ UTs : J&K, Delhi and Chandigarh
- ✓ The index has evaluated the performance of states and UTs across six different aspects of food safety.
- ✓ He has also unveiled Rapid Food Testing Kit (RAFT) portal





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**Q. Bangladesh receives \_\_\_ World Bank Financing to Improve Climate Resilient Agriculture Growth and Road Safety.**

A) USD 765 Million

B) USD 801 Million

C) USD 858 Million

D) USD 920 Million

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Bangladesh and the World Bank signed two financing agreements totaling USD 858 million to enhance climate-resilient agricultural growth, food security, and improve road safety.
- ✓ The USD 500 million Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship, and Resilience (PARTNER) will help transform the agriculture sector by promoting crop diversification, food safety, and climate resilience across agri-food systems of Bangladesh, said a World Bank release.
- ✓ The USD 358 million Road Safety Project—which is the first dedicated road safety project in South Asia supported by the World Bank—will help the country improve road safety and reduce deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes in selected high-risk highways and district roads
- ✓ The Road-safety project will be implemented on two national highways—N4 (Gazipur-Elenga) and N6 (Natore to Nawabganj) of Bangladesh..

**Q. According to the Mercer's Cost of Living Survey 2023, which is the most expensive city for expats in India?**

A) Delhi

B) Mumbai

C) Chennai

D) Bengaluru

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Mumbai is the most expensive Indian city for expatriates and has been ranked at 147 in the Mercer's 2023 Cost of Living survey out of 227 cities across five continents.
- ✓ According to this survey, the second and third place among expensive Indian cities are held by New Delhi (169) and Chennai (184), respectively.
- ✓ The rankings of other cities listed are Bengaluru (189), Hyderabad (202), Kolkata (211), and Pune (213).
- ✓ Across the globe, Hong Kong, Singapore and Zurich are found to be the most expensive cities for expats. Copenhagen and four cities from Switzerland, including Zurich, are among the global top 10.
- ✓ Havana is the least expensive city due to currency devaluations last year along with the Pakistani cities of Islamabad and Karachi.



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**Q. Which companies are signed a three-year MoU to provide internet access for underserved communities in 12 states?**

- A) Google and AirJaldi Network      B) Starlink and AirJaldi Network  
C) Blue Orange and AirJaldi Network      D) Microsoft and AirJaldi Network

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Microsoft and AirJaldi Network, a leading innovator and implementer of technically and economically viable internet connectivity solutions for rural areas, signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- ✓ Aim : Titled 'Contentful Connectivity', the program aims to advance access to high-speed internet and meaningful connectivity as a fundamental right in collaboration with private, public, non-profit sectors and build solutions for broadband adoption and digital transformation, benefitting underserved communities in rural regions of India.

**Q. Which Indian-origin scientist has been awarded the 'Spinoza Award', the highest honor in Dutch science?**

- A) Surekha Gupta      B) Joyeeta Gupta  
C) Abhilasha Singh      D) Soumya Swaminathan

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian-origin scientist Joyeeta Gupta honoured with NWO Spinoza Prize 2023.
- ✓ Dutch Research Council (NWO) has named Indian-origin Scientist Joyeeta Gupta, Professor of Environment and Development in the global South at the University of Amsterdam, as the recipient of the 2023 NWO Spinoza Prize, the highest scientific awards in the Netherlands, for her scientific work promoting a fair and sustainable world.
- ✓ She was honoured for her remarkably broad and interdisciplinary research approach. Her research work primarily focuses on addressing the challenges posed by climate change through good governance.
- ✓ She is the 12th researcher from the University of Amsterdam to receive the Spinoza Prize.
- ✓ Prize includes a bronze statue of Spinoza and 1.5 million euros.
- ✓ Joyeeta Gupta is also working as a professor of Law and Policy in Water Resources and Environment at the International Institute for Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE) Delft Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands.



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✓ **About NWO Stevin Prize:**

- ✓ The Stevin Prize is an award and honour for researchers with international reputations who have achieved an exceptional success in the area of knowledge exchange and impact for society

**Q. Which bank has unveiled Réserve premium account for the super-rich?**

- A) Kotak Mahindra Bank                      B) Indian Overseas Bank  
C) Bank of Baroda                              D) Canara Bank

**Answer : A**

- ✓ A division of Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited, Kotak Private Banking has unveiled Kotak Réserve, a Savings Programme curated exclusively for UHNIs (Ultra High Net Worth Individuals) and HNIs (High Net Worth Individuals).
- ✓ This by-invite programme extends beyond banking services, offering a range of exclusive amenities to provide clients with an unparalleled luxury banking experience.
- ✓ The Kotak Réserve Savings Programme aims to deliver a premium banking experience by offering exclusive lifestyle benefits in areas such as travel, health and wellness, and entertainment.

**Q. Which of the following has partnered with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions to healthcare professionals?**

- A) Yes Securities                                  B) ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund  
C) UTI Mutual Fund                              D) Franklin Templeton Investments

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Yes Securities partners with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions
- ✓ Yes Securities has partnered with WatchYourHealth (a tech-driven healthcare platform) to provide investment solutions to healthcare professionals through the 'Wellth- Where Investments and Health Unite' program.
- ✓ The partnership is aimed at helping the healthcare community start their investment journey for successful wealth creation and achieving long-term financial goals.

**Q. ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) has signed an agreement with India's biggest warship yard, Mazagon Dock (MDL), to cooperate in building six advanced submarines for the Indian Navy. ThyssenKrupp Marine is the company of which country?**



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A) France

B) Germany

C) Belgium

D) United States

**Answer : B**

- ✓ German shipbuilder ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) has signed an agreement with India's biggest warship yard, Mazagon Dock (MDL), to cooperate in building six advanced submarines for the Indian Navy.
- ✓ These submarines will be powered by a new technology called air-independent propulsion (AIP). They will be built under a Rs 45,000-crore programme called Project 75-I.
- ✓ The Project 75-I is being pursued under the so-called "strategic partner" model of equipment acquisition.
- ✓ This requires the Ministry of defence (MoD) to identify Indian firms that have the capability and capacity to build and supply a particular weapons platform – such as a submarine, warship, fighter aircraft or tank

**Q. Gitanjali Aiyar passes away recently. Who was she?**

A) Actress

B) Scientist

C) Politician

D) News anchor

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Gitanjali Aiyar, one of India's first English female news presenters on national broadcaster Doordarshan, passed away.
- ✓ Graduated from Kolkata's Loreto College, Aiyar joined Doordarshan in 1971 and was awarded the best anchor four times.
- ✓ She also won the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for Outstanding Women in 1989.
- ✓ Besides presenting news programmes, Aiyar, a diploma holder from the National School of Drama (NSD), had also been a popular face in several print advertisements and even acted in Sridhar Kshirsagar's TV drama "Khandaan"
- ✓ A news presenter – also known as a newsreader, newscaster, anchorman or anchorwoman, news anchor or simply an anchor – is a person who presents news during a news program on TV, radio or the Internet

**Q. Which social media and Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched Amrit Generation Campaign to Empower Youths?**

A) Twitter

B) Instagram



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C) Meta

D) WhatsApp

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Meta (formerly known as Facebook) and Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) launched the Amrit Generation campaign to empower and engage the youth of India (age group of 16-18 years) to express their aspirations and dreams for the future. The campaign starts from 8th June 2023.
- ✓ The campaign was launched by Union Minister Smriti Irani, MWCD on 7th June 2023.
- ✓ The campaign invites youths to showcase their creativity and share their aspirations by creating Reels on Instagram and Facebook using the #Amrit Generation.
- ✓ 50 shortlisted entries will be invited to New Delhi (Delhi) to interact with senior policymakers and industry leaders and will also get an opportunity to visit the Meta office in Gurugram (Haryana).

**Q. According to the International Energy Agency's (IEA) Renewable Energy Market Update 2023, how many gigawatts of global renewable capacity is expected to be added?**

A) 120 GW

B) 380 GW

C) 107 GW

D) 210 GW

**Answer : C**

- ✓ IEA report: Global Renewable Capacity Additions to increase by 107 GW in 2023 .
- ✓ According to Renewable Energy Market Update – June 2023 of International Energy Agency (IEA), the Global renewable capacity additions are set to increase by 107 gigawatts (GW), the largest absolute increase ever, to more than 440 GW in 2023.
- ✓ The growth in renewable capacity is fueled by the expanding policy support, growing energy security concerns and improving competitiveness against fossil fuel alternatives.
- ✓ India's renewable capacity additions are expected to increase again in 2023 and 2024, owing to faster onshore wind, hydropower and distributed solar PV deployment.
- ✓ International Energy Agency (IEA)
- ✓ Founded : 1974
- ✓ Headquarters : Paris, France
- ✓ Executive Director : Fatih Birol
- ✓ Membership : 30



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**Q. Who has won the 2023 Royal Society of Literature(RSL) Christopher Bland Prize for his debut novel titled “The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho”?**

- A) Philip Ardagh
- B) Simon Armitage
- C) Richard Dawkins
- D) Paterson Joseph

**Answer : D**

- ✓ British Writer Paterson Joseph wins 2023 RSL Christopher Bland Prize.
- ✓ British actor and writer Paterson Joseph has won the 2023 Royal Society of Literature(RSL) Christopher Bland Prize for his debut novel titled “The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho”.
- ✓ The book is a historical fiction about Charles Ignatius Sancho, who was the first Black man to vote in England.
- ✓ The jury for RSL Christopher Bland Prize 2023: Lemn Sissay (chair), Meena Kandasamy and Simon Savidge.
- ✓ RSL Christopher Bland Prize is an annual award which honours a debut writer for their work of fiction or non-fiction, who is first published at the age of 50 or over.
- ✓ The award carries a cash prize of 10,000 Pound sterling.

**Q. Which of the following entity has approved the acquisition of an additional 4.04% shareholding of Acko Technology and Services Private Limited (Acko Tech) by GASACK?**

- A) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- B) Competition Commission of India (CCI)
- C) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- D) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

**Answer : B**

- ✓ CCI approves acquisition of 4.04% shareholding in Acko Tech by GASACK





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- ✓ Anganwadi services have been strengthened in the country and all Anganwadi centers have been linked through smart phone mobiles.
- ✓ So far 11 lakh smartphones have been distributed to Anganwadi workers.
- ✓ **Poshan Tracker**
- ✓ A system called Poshan Tracker has been set up and more than nine crore beneficiaries are taking advantage of it.
- ✓ **Maternity Benefit Scheme**
- ✓ Maternity Benefit Scheme- Under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, about 3 crore 32 lakh women in the country have received Rs 13,650 crore in their bank accounts through DBT.
- ✓ **Fast-track courts**
- ✓ The government has set up 1,023 fast-track courts in the country, of which 418 are exclusively POCSO courts.
- ✓ More than 780 district-wise anti-human trafficking units are functioning in the country.
- ✓ **Nirbhaya Fund**
- ✓ In the last nine years, the NDA government has taken forward projects worth Rs 12,000 crore, including the Nirbhaya Fund.
- ✓ **One Stop Centres Scheme.**
- ✓ One Stop Center is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) to address the problem of violence against women.
- ✓ It is a sub-scheme of the National Mission for Empowerment of Women scheme.
- ✓ One Stop Centers have been set up across the country to provide integrated support and assistance under one roof to women affected by violence in private and public spaces.  
The scheme is funded through Nirbhaya Fund.

**Q. 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign was launched by which bank?**

- A) Bank of Baroda
- B) Canara Bank
- C) Federal Bank
- D) Kotak Mahindra Bank

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Federal Bank launches 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign.
- ✓ The campaign 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' was launched by the Federal Bank in Chennai





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- ✓ The Adyar branch of Federal Bank has been converted into a living museum for the campaign.
- ✓ Vibrant paintings depicting the vibrant spirit of Adyar now adorn the walls of the branch.
- ✓ The campaign features a special exhibition showcasing 40 compelling stories of the individuals who made Adyar special.
- ✓ The campaign aims to capture the essence of Adyar and promote its rich culture and heritage.
- ✓ It fosters a sense of pride and belonging among local residents.
- ✓ The 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign is an innovative initiative by Federal Bank to honour and recognize the Adyar community.
- ✓ FEDERAL BANK
- ✓ Founded : 1931
- ✓ Headquarters : Aluva, Kerala
- ✓ MD & CEO: Shyam Srinivasan
- ✓ Tagline: Your Perfect Banking Partner

### CAMPAIGN IN NEWS 2023

- Federal Bank launches 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign.
- Union Minister Hardeep S Puri launched the campaign 'Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shahar' in New Delhi.
- RBI Launches '100 Days 100 Pays' Campaign to Settle Unclaimed Deposits.
- Union Minister Giriraj Singh launched the SAMARTH campaign to promote digital transactions at the Gram Panchayat level.
- A 100-day "Uttar Pradesh Global City" campaign has been launched by the 'Uttar Pradesh Government' ahead of the Global Investors Summit and G-20 Summit.
- UAE's Sharjah Police launched a traffic campaign called "Stay in Your Lane" to tackle road violations..
- Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2023-24 on 3rd May at NASC Complex New Delhi.
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Labour and Employment Bhupender Yadav participated in G20 Mega Beach Clean Up campaign at Juhu Beach in Mumbai.
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav on 4 February launched the 'Save Wetlands Campaign'.



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- Union Minister for Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh, who is also the vice president of CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research), on 17 December announced the launching of "One Week, One Lab" countrywide campaign from January 6, 2023.
- Meta Launches #DigitalSuraksha campaign in partnership with MeitY for the G20 campaign.
- Uttar Pradesh Government Launched 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' Campaign.
- Bandhan Bank launched the 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign along with the bank's brand ambassador Sourav Ganguly.
- WhatsApp launches 'Stay Safe' campaign to educate on online safety.
- The 'Catch the Rain 2023' campaign was introduced by President Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi.

**Q. Which organization is going to start its largest air force deployment exercise in Europe, which will be known as "Air Defender 23"?**

- A) ASEAN  
B) NATO  
C) SCO  
D) G20

**Answer : B**

- ✓ NATO plans German-led air force exercise, "Air Defender 23".
- ✓ NATO is set to commence its largest air force deployment exercise in Europe, known as "Air Defender 23," according to German and US officials.
- ✓ The exercise will span approximately 10 days, starting from 12th June, and will involve the participation of around 220 military aircraft from 25 NATO and partner countries.
- ✓ The exercise will be conducted across Germany, with some of the training taking place at Ramstein Air Base, one of NATO's largest air bases.
- ✓ **Air Defender 23**
- ✓ The exercise is purely defensive in nature.
- ✓ Its primary objective is to enhance the defense capabilities of participating nations and ensure preparedness to respond to potential security challenges.
- ✓ The exercise also intends to send a message to other countries including Russia.
- ✓ The demonstration of NATO's unity and collective defense posture serves as a reminder of the Alliance's commitment to address potential threats and maintain regional stability.



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- ✓ By conducting this exercise, NATO seeks to improve interoperability and strengthen the effectiveness of its air defense capabilities.

### NATO IN NEWS 2023

- NATO is set to commence its largest air force deployment exercise in Europe, known as "Air Defender 23," according to German and US officials.
- Finland has become the 31st member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
- "Locked Shields" cyber-defense exercise 2023 to be held by NATO in Tallinn (Estonia).
- NATO launches Arctic exercises, pledges protection of Finland.
- The founding members of NATO were the United States, Canada, and ten European countries, including Belgium, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, and the United Kingdom.
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- Formation : 4 April 1949
- Headquarters : Brussels, Belgium
- Secretary General : Jens Stoltenberg (Norway)
- Total Member : 31 (Finland)
- North Atlantic Treaty, also referred to as the Washington Treaty.

**Q. Who launched the Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM)-2023?**

A) NHPC

B) GAIL

C) Coal India

D) NTPC Kanti

**Answer : D**

- ✓ NTPC Kanti launches Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GeM)-2023.
- ✓ The program is a four-week residential workshop aimed at empowering 40 underprivileged rural girls from Kanti Block.
- ✓ This initiative is the first of its kind organised by NTPC Kanti.
- ✓ The primary objective of the GeM program is to provide academic training, skill development and overall personality enhancement to the participants.



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- ✓ The program focuses on inculcating curiosity among the participants and developing better communication and social skills.
- ✓ By empowering underprivileged rural girls, NTPC Kanti aims to contribute to their holistic development and provide them opportunities for a better future.
- ✓ The GeM-2023 program reflects NTPC Kanti's commitment to social welfare and dedication to support marginalised communities

### NTPC IN NEWS 2023

- NTPC Kanti launches Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GeM)-2023.
- NTPC Group's total installed capacity reaches 72,304 MW with first overseas capacity addition in Bangladesh.
- Country's largest power generation company NTPC Limited has been conferred with 'ATD Best Awards 2023' by Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA.
- NTPC and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) sign agreement for joint development of nuclear power plants.
- India's largest power company NTPC Ltd has commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project at Kawas, Gujarat.
- NTPC hosts an international seminar on 'Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage' (CCUS) at First Energy Transitions Working Group meeting in Bengaluru.
- NTPC Limited announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Energy Vault Holdings ("Energy Vault").
- NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NTPC REL) signs MoU with Government of Tripura for cooperation in renewable energy development.
- NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd has signed an MoU with the Indian Army for setting up Green Hydrogen Projects in its establishments on Build, Own and Operate (BOO) model.
- About NTPC
- The NTPC which was earlier known as National Thermal Power Corporation of India is owned by the Government of India. It was set up in 1975.
- The Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station in the Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh, with an installed capacity of 4,760MW, is currently the biggest thermal power plant in India.



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- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairman and Managing Director: Gurdeep Singh

**Q. Which countries are agreed to set a target for bilateral trade one billion euros?**

- A) India, Croatia                      B) India, Serbia  
C) India, Albania                      D) India, Bulgaria

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India & Serbia agree to set bilateral trade of 1 Billion Euros.
- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu and her Serbian counterpart Aleksandar Vucic on 8 June in Belgrade agreed to set a target for bilateral trade from the present 320 million euros to one billion euros by the end of the decade.
- ✓ President Draupadi Murmu is on a three-day state visit to Serbia from June 7 to 9.
- ✓ During the visit, President Draupadi Murmu highlighted that the relations between the two sides have a shared understanding of each other's core interests.
- ✓ **About Serbia**
- ✓ Serbia is a landlocked country in the west-central Balkans. For most of the 20th century, it was a part of Yugoslavia.
- ✓ Prime Minister: Ana Brnabic
- ✓ Capital: Belgrade
- ✓ President: Aleksandar Vučić
- ✓ Currency: Serbian dinar (RSD)

**Q. Where is the first India-France-UAE Maritime Exercise being organized?**

- A) Bay of Bengal                      B) Gulf of Oman  
C) Arabian Sea                      D) Gulf of Aden

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The first edition of the India, France and UAE maritime partnership exercise began in the Gulf of Oman.
- ✓ The exercise includes the participation of INS Tarkash and French Ship Surcouf, both equipped with integral helicopters, as well as French Rafale aircraft and UAE Navy Maritime Patrol Aircraft.



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- ✓ The exercise focused on a wide range of naval operations, including surface combat, tactical firing, missile engagement on surface targets, helicopter cross deck landing operations, advanced air defence exercises and boarding operations.
- ✓ OMAN
- ✓ Capital - Muscat
- ✓ Currency - Omani Rial
- ✓ Sultan - Haitham bin Tariq
- ✓ Crown Prince - Thiazin bin Haitham

**Q. Which country has named 'Biparjoy Cyclone' in the Arabian Sea?**

- A) India
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Pakistan
- D) Bangladesh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has recently issued an advisory for all the ports of Gujarat.
- ✓ In the advisory, it has been directed to issue a Distant Warning (DW 2) signal in case a deep pressure in the Arabian Sea intensifies into a cyclonic storm Biparjoy.
- ✓ How was Cyclone Biparjoy named?
- ✓ The cyclone was named "Biparjoy" by Bangladesh.
- ✓ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) follows an alphabetical order for naming tropical cyclones, with member countries submitting names.
- ✓ Bangladesh proposed the name "Biparjoy," which translates to "Disaster" in Bengali.
- ✓ The next cyclone after Biparjoy will be named 'Tej' based on India's suggestion.
- ✓ **Cyclones in the Arabian Sea.**
- ✓ The month of June is considered favorable for the formation of cyclones in the Arabian Sea.

### CYCLONE IN NEWS 2022-23

- Cyclone Biparjoy is a low-pressure area that is currently forming over the Southeast Arabian Sea.
- The cyclone was named "Biparjoy" by Bangladesh.
- IMD has issued warnings against Cyclone Mocha which is heading towards the Southeast Bay of Bengal.



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- Cyclone Freddy in Malawi, Mozambique and Madagascar.
- As Cyclone Gabrielle approaches the coast of the nation, residents of Auckland, the largest city in New Zealand.
- IMD Issue Warning of Formation of Cyclone Mandous Over Bay of Bengal and hit the east coast in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh.
- Recently a powerful "Bomb Cyclone" has hit the United States, affecting at least 200 million people.
- Cyclone Yaas Impact on Odisha and West Bengal.
- Cyclone Sitrang ploughed into heavily populated, low-lying parts of Bangladesh .
- Asani' turns into severe cyclonic storm, Odisha and West Bengal on alert.
- A red alert issued in the Philippines due to Super Typhoon Noru

**Q. In which country will the Miss World pageant 2023 be organized?**

- A) India
- B) USA
- C) China
- D) Germany

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Miss World pageant will be organized in India after a gap of 27 years.
- ✓ The last time this international pageant was organized in India in the year 1996.
- ✓ Julia Morley, CEO and Chairperson of Miss World Organization has given information about this.
- ✓ This will be the 71st edition of Miss World pageant.
- ✓ The current Miss India World Sini Shetty will represent India in this year's Miss World pageant.
- ✓ The current Miss World is Karolina Belwańska of Poland

### MISS WORLD / UNIVERSE IN NEWS 2022-23

- Rajasthan's Nandini Gupta crowned 2023 Femina Miss India.
- America's R'Bonnie Gabriel won the Miss Universe 2022 title at the 71st Miss Universe pageant.
- South Korea's Mina Sue Choi Crowned Miss Earth 2022.
- Divita Rai from Karnataka won the prestigious title of Miss Diva Universe 2022.



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- List of Miss World winners from India
  1. Reita Faria : 1966
  2. Aishwarya Rai : 1994
  3. Diana Hayden : 1997
  4. Yukta Mookhey : 1999
  5. Priyanka Chopra : 2000
  6. Manushi Chhillar : 2017.
- List of Miss Universe winners from India
  1. Sushmita Sen : 1994
  2. Lara Dutta : 2000
  3. Harnaaz Sandhu : 2021.
- Reita Faria is the first Indian to win the Miss World in 1966.
- Sushmita Sen first Indian to win the Miss Universe title in 1994.
- Nicole Faria became the first Indian to win the 'Miss Earth' in 2010

**Q. Which Indian-American has been appointed as the Vice Chairperson of the Finance Department of Harvard University?**

- A) Ritu Kalra                                      B) Neha Tandon  
C) Geeta Gopinath                                D) Anshula Kant

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Ritu Kalra, an Indian-American investment banking and financial management expert, has been named Vice President (VP) for finance and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Harvard University.
- ✓ She currently serves as assistant vice president of finance and treasury and special projects adviser in the university

**Q. With whom has the Indian Council of Agricultural Research signed an MoU to empower farmers?**

- A) Garuda Aerospace                                B) Amazon Farmer  
C) Indian Railways                                    D) ISRO

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian Council of Agricultural Research signs a MOU with Amazon Kisan to Empower Farmers.





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- ✓ Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) signed an MoU with Amazon Farmer.
- ✓ The MoU aims to create synergy between these two organizations to guide farmers on scientific cultivation of various crops for optimum yield and income.
- ✓ ICAR will provide technical support to farmers through Amazon's network.
- ✓ This collaboration will enable farmers to access valuable agricultural knowledge and resources, improve their livelihood and increase crop yield.
- ✓ By adopting these practices, farmers can improve their income and overall profitability.
- ✓ The objective of this MoU is to ensure access to high quality fresh produce for consumers across India.
- ✓ Through initiatives such as Amazon Fresh, consumers will have reliable access to fresh farm products.
- ✓ Expansion of cooperation on the basis of successful pilot project.
- ✓ A successful pilot project between ICAR-KVK (Krishi Vigyan Kendra) in Pune and Amazon has decided to expand the collaboration.
- ✓ The precision farming practices developed through extensive research will be disseminated for the benefit of a wider group of farmers.
- ✓ **Training & Marketing Support.**
- ✓ Amazon will provide training support to the farmers, helping them improve their understanding of modern farming practices.
- ✓ Additionally, Amazon will assist farmers in marketing their produce by creating a direct connection between farmers and consumers through its online platform.
- ✓ **About Indian Council of Agricultural Research.**
- ✓ It is an autonomous body formerly known as the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.
- ✓ Headquarters - New Delhi
- ✓ Established - 1929.
- ✓ The Union Minister of Agriculture serves as its president. Presently its president is Narendra Singh Tomar.
- ✓ ICAR is the largest network of agricultural research and education institutes in the world.
- ✓ **Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU).**
- ✓ RRU is an Institution of National Importance under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ✓ It is a pioneering national security and police University of India

**Q. Which govt announces free bus travel 'Shakti' scheme for women, starting from June 11, 2023?**



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A) Punjab

B) Kerala

C) Karnataka

D) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Karnataka government has advised the women to apply for Shakti smart cards to avail the free travel in state run buses, starting from June 11, 2023.
- ✓ The government has already issued a set of guidelines on the 'Shakti' scheme, which is one of the major poll promises by the Congress party in Karnataka. According to the transport department of Karnataka, women can apply for Shakti smart cards through sevasindhu.
- ✓ The Shakti scheme applies only on the ordinary state run bus services of Karnataka

### KARNATAKA IN NEWS 2023

- Karnataka government has advised the women to apply for Shakti smart cards to avail the free travel in state run buses.
- Siddaramaiah was sworn in as the 24th Chief Minister of Karnataka for his second term .
- The National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22 Karnataka, overall, is the most "innovative" State, followed by Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.
- According to the India Justice Report (IJR) 2022, which assesses the performance of states in terms of justice delivery, the state of Karnataka has achieved the top rank .
- World Bank has granted a loan of USD 363 million to the state of Karnataka in India, which will help to provide clean drinking water.
- Karnataka ended their 54-year wait to win the Santosh Trophy national football championship, beating Meghalaya .
- The Karnataka Government will build the country's first Marina or a boat basin offering dockage, at Byndoor in Udupi district to promote coastal tourism in Karnataka.
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying announced that the fourth phase of the Sagar Parikrama program began in Karnataka.
- Karnataka bags National Award For Fasal Bima Yojana, implementing the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme.



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- Karnataka Bank awarded 'Prathista Puraskar for achieving highest percentage in BHIM-UPI transactions.
- Mysuru and Hampi are the two popular destinations in Karnataka to be promoted as a part of the new Tourism policy 'The Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme, which focuses on revving up destination tourism.
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka.
- About Karnataka State
- Formation - 1 November 1956
- Capital- Bengaluru
- Chief minister : Siddaramaiah
- Governor- Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Legislative Assembly seats- 224
- Lok Sabha seats- 28
- Jog Falls (Garsoppa) located in Karnataka is the highest waterfall in India which is on Sharavathi River.
- Yakshagana is the main folk dance of Karnataka.

**Q. Which of the following has launched the "Addiction Free Amrit Kaal" campaign to promote a healthier & addiction-free India?**

- A) National Commission for Protection of Child**
- B) Central Bureau of Investigation**
- C) National Commission for Women**
- D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has launched the "Addiction Free Amrit Kaal" campaign to promote a healthier & addiction-free India.
- ✓ The campaign is organized by the NCPCR in partnership with Tobacco Free India, a citizens group.
- ✓ The campaign aims to protect children's rights to have a tobacco and drug-free environment through initiatives, and outreach activities.



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**Q. Who has recently started the seventh phase of the “Sagar Parikrama” initiative?**

- A) Narendra Modi                      B) Amit Shah  
C) Narendra Singh Tomar            D) Parshottam Rupala

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala has started the seventh phase of the “Sagar Parikrama” initiative.
- ✓ Sagar Parikrama Phase-VII shall cover the coastal areas of Kerala and UT Administration of Lakshadweep.
- ✓ The unique initiative aims to visit coastal areas across the entire country through a predetermined sea route, engaging with fishermen, fish farmers, and beneficiaries of government schemes to address their concerns and gather suggestions for the advancement of the fisheries sector.
- ✓ The journey of the first phase of “Sagar Parikrama” has started from Mandvi, Gujarat on 5th March 2022 and so far in the Six Phases of Sagar Parikrama, coastal areas of Gujarat, Daman & Diu, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar have been visited

**Q. Who has launched Aadhaar-based authentication for UPI transactions that will allow users to set up their UPI pin without a debit card?**

- A) PhonePe                                B) GooglePay  
C) Paytm                                    D) Airtel Payments Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Google Pay launches Aadhaar-based authentication for UPI activation
- ✓ Google has launched Aadhaar-based authentication for UPI transactions that will allow users to set up their Unified Payments Interface (UPI) pin without a debit card.
- ✓ Support for UPI using Aadhaar will work via National Payments Corporation (NPCI).
- ✓ Users looking to onboard UPI via Aadhaar will need to ensure their phone numbers registered with UIDAI and their bank are the same, and their bank account is linked with Aadhaar.
- ✓ The move is supported by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

**Q. Which of the following has introduced Account Aggregator (AA) services following the receipt of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) licence?**

- A) PhonePe                                B) Google Pay  
C) Paytm                                    D) Mobikwik



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#### Answer : A

- ✓ Fintech major PhonePe has introduced Account Aggregator (AA) services following the receipt of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) licence.
- ✓ The company launched it through its wholly-owned subsidiary PhonePe Technology Services.
- ✓ PhonePe received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to operate as an account aggregator in 2021.
- ✓ The account aggregator services will allow Indian consumers to consent to and share all their financial data such as bank statements, insurance policies and tax filings with regulated financial institutions.
- ✓ PhonePe Technology Services has also launched its product suite and application programming interface. The fintech company built an account aggregator micro-application within the PhonePe consumer application
- ✓ PhonePe
- ✓ Founded : 2015
- ✓ Headquarters : Bangalore, Karnataka
- ✓ Founder & CEO : Sameer Nigam
- ✓ Co-Founder & CTO : Rahul Chari
- ✓ It is owned by Flipkart, a subsidiary of Walmart.
- ✓ PhonePe app, based on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), went live in August 2016.

**Q. Who will inaugurate the integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under the Amrit Jal Kranti initiative?**

- A) Narendra Modi                      B) Piyush Goyal  
C) Nirmala Sitharaman              D) Manohar Lal

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal will inaugurate the integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under the Amrit Jal Kranti initiative.
- ✓ This plan, aimed at conserving water resources, represents a significant and proactive step in addressing water conservation in the state.

**Q. Who is the author of the new graphic novel titled "Ajay to Yogi Adityanath"?**

- A) Rahul Kumar Sharma              B) Shantanu Gupta



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C) Piyush Sinha

D) Rajesh Verma

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Author Shantanu Gupta launches his new graphic novel 'Ajay to Yogi Adityanath'.
- ✓ Author Shantanu Gupta launched a new graphic novel titled "Ajay to Yogi Adityanath" for young readers.
- ✓ Shantanu Gupta has earlier written two bestseller titles on Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- ✓ The graphic novel was launched in 51+ schools across Uttar Pradesh on 5th June, on the occasion of Yogi Adityanath's 51st birthday.

**Q. Which company has recently launched a new 'voice chat' feature to its AI-powered Bing Chat on the desktop?**

A) Google

B) IBM

C) Microsoft

D) Tesla

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Microsoft has launched a new 'voice chat' feature to its AI-powered Bing Chat on the desktop.
- ✓ It will help users to talk to the AI chatbot by clicking on the microphone icon in the Bing Chatbox.
- ✓ Currently, the voice chat feature supports five languages — English, Japanese, French, German, and Mandarin. The company said it will add more languages soon.
- ✓ Bing Chat supports text-to-speech answers, which will respond to your questions in its own voice.

### MICROSOFT IN NEWS 2023

- Microsoft has launched a new 'voice chat' feature to its AI-powered Bing Chat on the desktop.
- Microsoft and AirJaldi Partner to Expand Internet Connectivity in Rural India.
- Microsoft India has announced two new initiatives aimed at supporting small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) in their digital transformation journey.
- Microsoft has launched Jugalbandi, a generative AI-driven multilingual chatbot accessible via popular messaging platform, WhatsApp.
- European Union regulators gave the green light for Microsoft's \$69 billion acquisition of Activision Blizzard, one of the world's largest gaming firms.
- MakeMyTrip collaborates with Microsoft to introduce voice assisted booking in Indian languages.
- Microsoft introduces 'Bing Image Creator' powered by OpenAI's DALL-E.



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- Microsoft Invests \$10 Billion in ChatGPT Maker OpenAI.
- HDFC Bank collaborates with Microsoft as part of its digital transformation.
- Anant Maheshwari, the President of Microsoft India, has been appointed as the Chairperson of Nasscom for the period 2023-24, succeeding Krishnan Ramanujam.
- Microsoft inks licensing deal with cloud gaming provider Boosteroid.
- Google introduces AI chatbot 'Bard' to compete with Microsoft's ChatGPT.
- Elon Musk plans to launch "TruthGPT" AI platform to compete with Microsoft and Google.
- ISRO and Microsoft Signed MoU to Boost Indian Space Tech Ecosystem.
- Infosys Collaborates with Microsoft to Accelerate Industry Adoption of Cloud.
- Microsoft strikes a deal to make Xbox PC video games available on the Boosteroid cloud gaming platform.
- MICROSOFT
- Founded : 1975
- Founders : Bill Gates and Paul Allen
- Headquarters : Washington DC
- Chairman : Satya Nadella
- CEO : Satya Nadella
- President : Brad Smith

**Q. Who has inaugurated the first-ever National Training Conclave at the International Exhibition and Convention Centre at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi?**

- A) Nirmala Sitharaman**                      **B) Draupadi Murmu**  
**C) Narendra Modi**                              **D) Rajnath Singh**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first-ever National Training Conclave at the International Exhibition and Convention Centre at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi on 11 June.
- ✓ The Conclave is aimed to enhance capacity building in the civil services and is organised under the auspices of the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) - 'Mission Karmayogi.'
- ✓ The Conclave is being hosted by the Capacity Building Commission.



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- ✓ More than 1500 representatives from various training institutes, including Central Training Institutes, State Administrative Training Institutes, Regional and Zonal Training Institutes, and Research institutes are participating in the conclave.
- ✓ **About Mission Karmayogi Scheme**
- ✓ Mission Karmayogi Yojana was launched on 2nd September 2020.
- ✓ This scheme is operated under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The main objective of the Mission Karmayogi scheme is to develop the capabilities of government employees.
- ✓ Under the Mission Karmayogi scheme, a budget of Rs 510.86 crore has been set by the government for a period of 5 years for about 46 lakh central employees.
- ✓ For the successful operation of the scheme iGOT Karmayogi platform has also been formed through which online contact is made available.

**Q. Who has released the report highlighting the significant impacts of 'Har Ghar Jal' program on public health and economic savings?**

- A) World Health Organization                      B) World Intellectual Property Organization  
C) International Maritime Organization      D) World Meteorological Organization

**Answer : A**

- ✓ A recently released report by the World Health Organization (WHO) has highlighted the significant impacts of the 'Har Ghar Jal' program on public health and economic savings.
- ✓ Dr Richard Johnston and Dr Sophie Boisson of the WHO South East Asia presented the report titled 'Health impact of Jal Jeevan Mission'.
- ✓ **Highlight of the report**
- ✓ The report pointed out that nearly four lakh diarrheal deaths could be prevented by ensuring safely managed drinking water for all households in the country.
- ✓ Nearly 14 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) related to these diseases could be prevented.
- ✓ This achievement alone will result in estimated cost savings of up to US\$101 billion.
- ✓ This report focuses on diarrheal diseases as water-borne diseases are a major reason for this.
- ✓ The report shows that in 2018, 36 per cent of India's total population did not have access to improved drinking water sources in their premises.
- ✓ Direct use of unsafe drinking water has serious health and social consequences.





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- ✓ The analysis indicates that in 2019, unsafe drinking water, along with inadequate sanitation and hygiene, contributed to 1.4 million deaths and 74 million DALYs globally.
- ✓ **Har Ghar Jal' Program**
- ✓ Launched - By Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15, 2019
- ✓ Implementation - By the Jal Jeevan Mission under the Ministry of Jal Shakti
- ✓ Aims - To provide every rural household with affordable and regular access to an adequate supply of safe drinking water through taps.
- ✓ SDG 6.1 - Ensuring universal access to safe and affordable drinking water .
- ✓ Achievement - 5 states (Goa, Telangana, Haryana, Gujarat and Punjab) and 3 union territories (Puducherry, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli) have reported 100% tap water coverage.
- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ✓ Formation : 7 April 1948
- ✓ Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ First President : Andrija Štampar
- ✓ Director General : Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia)
- ✓ Deputy Director General : Soumya Swaminathan (Indian)
- ✓ Member Countries : 194.

**Q. To realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahakar se Samridhi, four important initiatives have been taken to strengthen how many Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) in the country?**

A) 1,514

B) 1,245

C) 1,976

D) 1,678

**Answer : A**

- ✓ To realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sahakar se Samridhi, four important initiatives have been taken to strengthen 1,514 Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) in the country.
- ✓ **Four initiative**
- ✓ **1. In order to expand their business, Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) can now open new branches.**
- ✓ UCBs can now open new branches up to 10% (maximum 5 branches) of the number of branches in the previous financial year without prior approval of RBI in their approved area of operation.



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- ✓ In order to avail this facility, UCBs have to get the policy approved by their board and comply with the Financially Sound and Well Managed (FSWM) Norms.
- ✓ **2. UCBs can also do One Time Settlement at par with Commercial Banks**
- ✓ RBI has notified a framework governing this aspect for all regulated entities including Urban Co-operative Banks.
- ✓ Now co-operative banks through board-approved policies may provide a process for technical write-off as well as settlement with borrowers.
- ✓ This has brought cooperative banks at par with other commercial banks now.
- ✓ **3. Revised timelines for PSL targets given to UCBs**
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India has decided to extend the timeline for UCBs to achieve Priority Sector Lending (PSL) targets by two years i.e. up to March 31, 2026
- ✓ **4. Designating a Nodal Officer in RBI**
- ✓ In order to meet the long pending demand of the cooperative sector for closer coordination and focused interaction, RBI has recently notified a nodal officer as well.
- ✓ **What are Urban Cooperative banks (UCB)?**
- ✓ It refers to primary cooperative banks located in urban and semi-urban areas.
- ✓ These are registered as cooperative societies under the provisions of, either the State Cooperative Societies Act of the State concerned under the provisions of the or the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 2002.
- ✓ It is regulated by the Registrar of Cooperatives and also by the RBI.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank regulates and supervises the banking functions of UCBs under the provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949

**Q. Which state government has recently launched a new scheme 'Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana' for women empowerment?**

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Bihar

D) Chhattisgarh

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Government of Madhya Pradesh launched Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana.
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana'.



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- ✓ The Ladli Bahna Yojana 2023 was officially inaugurated by CM Chouhan, who took the initiative to deposit the first instalment of Rs 1,000 in the accounts of eligible women beneficiaries.
- ✓ This scheme was launched in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh with the primary objective of empowering women and providing financial assistance to them.
- ✓ The chief minister outlined plans to increase the monthly support to Rs 1,200, Rs 1,500, Rs 1,700 and eventually Rs 2,000, thereby increasing the financial assistance provided to beneficiaries.
- ✓ **About Ladli Behna Scheme**
- ✓ It was started on March 15 by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.
- ✓ This scheme provides financial assistance to women in Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 12,000 per year ie Rs 1,000 per month is sent directly to the bank accounts of eligible women.
- ✓ The state government has allocated a budget of Rs 60,000 crore for the implementation of the scheme.
- ✓ The scheme is open to women belonging to various categories including general, OBC, SC, ST, abandoned, or widowed women.
- ✓ Eligible women will have to fulfill certain criteria including being economically weak and owning less than five acres of land.
- ✓ The scheme targets women with an annual income of less than Rs 2.5 lakh.
- ✓ The age of the woman should be between 23 to 60 years to be eligible for the scheme.

### STATE GOVT SCHEME IN NEWS 2023

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana'.
- Uttar Pradesh government launches Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme.
- In Madhya Pradesh, the Chief Minister's Learn and Earn scheme is set to be launched with the aim of providing employable skills to the youth.
- Maharashtra Government launched Namu Shetkari Mahasanman Yojana.
- Odisha government launched the 'Mo Ghara' (My Home) housing scheme.
- Madhya Pradesh cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan approved the 'Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana' for unemployed youth.



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- Madhya Pradesh Government has launched Ladli Bahna scheme under which each woman will be given one thousand rupees per month.

### MADHYA PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana'.
- Madhya Pradesh cabinet approves 'Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana' for unemployed youth.
- Gond paintings from Madhya Pradesh have bagged the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, a recognition that protects and acknowledges the work of tribal artists.
- Madhya Pradesh government launched Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights Scheme.
- Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village located in Bhopal district has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- Madhya Pradesh Government on 5 March launched Ladli Bahna scheme under which each woman will be given one thousand rupees per month..
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced on March 4 to make Tehsil Mauganj of Rewa district the 53rd district of the state.

**Q. Who has been launched 'SAGAR SAMRIDDHI', an online dredging monitoring system?**

- A) Giriraj Singh                      B) Sarbananda Sonowal  
C) Riniki Bhuyan Sarma              D) Himanta Biswa Sarma

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Sarbananda Sonowal launches 'Sagar Samriddhi' online dredging monitoring system.
- ✓ In a significant move to accelerate the 'Waste to Wealth' initiative of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the 'Sagar Samriddhi' online dredging monitoring system on 12 June.
- ✓ **About 'Sagar Samriddhi' online dredging monitoring system**
- ✓ This will help in making the seas and port clean. With this, real time information on dredging will be available.



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- ✓ This system has been developed by National Technology Centre for Ports, Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC) the technological arm of MoPSW.
- ✓ The new technology Draft and Loading Monitor (DLM) system is a significant improvement over the older system.
- ✓ The 'Sagar Samridhhi' monitoring system aims to bring synergy among various input reports, including the daily dredging report and pre and post dredging survey data.
- ✓ By integrating and processing these reports, the system can generate real-time dredging reports, providing valuable insights and information.
- ✓ **Capabilities of 'Sagar Samridhhi'.**
- ✓ Real time dredging progress report
- ✓ Daily and monthly progress Visualisation
- ✓ Dredger performance and downtime monitoring
- ✓ Easy location track data with snapshot of loading, unloading and idle time.
- ✓ **National Technology Centre for Ports, Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC).**
- ✓ NTCPWC was established under the Sagarmala program of MoPSW at IIT Madras with a total investment of Rs 77 crore.
- ✓ It was inaugurated on 24 April 2023 by Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.
- ✓ It aims to enable research and development for the maritime sector, while enabling solutions towards achieving the goal of building a strong maritime industry in the country.

### SARBANANDA SONOWAL IN NEWS 2023

- Sarbananda Sonowal lays Foundation Stone for the modernization and upgradation works of the Cochin Fishing Harbour was laid at Willingdon Island in Kochi.
- In a significant move to accelerate the 'Waste to Wealth' initiative of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the 'Sagar Samridhhi' online dredging monitoring system.
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off India's first international cruise vessel - MV Empress, from Chennai to Sri Lanka.
- Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal will receive the first Indian cargo ship at Sittwe Port in Myanmar .



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- The real-time performance monitoring dashboard of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), known as 'Sagar Manthan' was recently inaugurated by the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH, Sarbananda Sonowal.
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal and Deputy Prime Minister of Myanmar Admiral Tin Aung San jointly inaugurated Sittwe Port in Myanmar.
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the Discovery Campus of the National Technology Center for Ports, Waterways and Coasts at IITM, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, along with Tripura Chief Minister Dr. Manik Saha, inaugurated the School of Logistics, Waterways and Communication in Agartala.
- Real-time Performance Monitoring Dashboard of MoPSW called 'Sagar Manthan' was virtually launched by Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Ayush Shri Sarbananda Sonowal.
- Union Minister of AYUSH, Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated a two-day scientific convention on the theme 'Homoeopathy: People's Choice for Wellness' in New Delhi.
- Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the National Logistics Portal (marine) in New Delhi.
- Sarbananda Sonowal, the Union Minister for AYUSH, inaugurated the International Yoga Mahotsav at the Dibrugarh University Playground to mark the upcoming International Day of Yoga 2023, which is just 75 days away.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the non-executive chairman of credit bureau TransUnion CIBIL?**

- A) N. Prateep Kumar                      B) Ajay Kumar Naik  
C) V Anantharaman                        D) Rudra Mani Dubey

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Veteran banker V Anantharaman has been appointed non-executive chairman of credit bureau TransUnion CIBIL



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- ✓ Anantharaman has extensive experience in the banking industry and has held leadership positions in corporate and investment banking teams at renowned international firms such as Standard Chartered Bank, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and Bank of America.
- ✓ Anantharaman has also served as a senior advisor to the UK's development finance institution British International Investment (formerly CDC).
- ✓ **TransUnion CIBIL Limited**
- ✓ It is an Indian credit information company.
- ✓ It operates within India and is one of the four credit bureaus in the country.
- ✓ The company maintains credit files on approximately 600 million individuals and 32 million businesses.
- ✓ TransUnion CIBIL is a subsidiary of TransUnion, an American multinational conglomerate.
- ✓ The company provides loan related information to lenders, financial institutions and individuals seeking loan assistance.
- ✓ Establishment - 2000
- ✓ Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- ✓ Managing Director - Rajesh Kumar

**Q. Which Countries Forge 'Atlantic Declaration' to Boost Economic Ties?**

- A) US and UK                                      B) US and UAE  
C) UK and India                                    D) US and Australia

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Atlantic Declaration' between US and UK signed by Joe Biden and Rishi Sunak.
- ✓ Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK), Rishi Sunak and President of the United States (US), Joe Biden announced new economic partnership called 'Atlantic Declaration' at a joint press conference at the White House, Washington, D.C., US to strengthen economic ties between the two countries.
- ✓ The declaration aims to increase US-UK trade in areas such as defence, nuclear materials and the critical minerals used in electric-car batteries.

**Q. Which state government has decided to cancel all Traffic Chalan for private and commercial vehicle owners pending from 2017 to 2021 recently?**

- A) Chhattisgarh  
B) Bihar



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C) Madhya Pradesh

D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh government has decided to cancel all Traffic Chalan for private and commercial vehicle owners pending from 2017 to 2021.
- ✓ According to the government, the cancellation applies on challans issued between 1 January 2017, and 31 December 2021, regardless of the vehicle type.
- ✓ The cancellation includes cases that are currently pending in various courts.
- ✓ The government has issued instructions to all divisional transport offices to remove pending challans from the e-challan portal after receiving the court's list.

### UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to cancel all Traffic Chalan for private and commercial vehicle owners pending from 2017 to 2021.
- UP holds 2nd position in GI tagged products.
- After getting GI tag for three more One District One Product (ODOP) crafts, Uttar Pradesh has now come second in the country in terms of maximum number of items with Geographical Indication tag.
- The ODOP crafts which have got GI tag include Mainpuri Tarkashi, Mahoba Gaura Stone Craft and Sambhal Horn Craft.
- Tamil Nadu leads with 55 GI-tags, followed by UP and Karnataka with 48 and 46 GI products, respectively.
- The state government has given green signal to the project of setting Uttar Pradesh a state's first Pharma Park in Lalitpur district of Bundelkhand.
- Uttar Pradesh introduces "School Health Program" digital health cards for children.
- The online rural education initiative 'Pahal' was officially launched by Chief Secretary Durga Shankar Mishra at Government UP Sainik Inter College in Sarojini Nagar.
- Uttar Pradesh on track to be first Indian state with 100% EVs in govt depts.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the India's first urban transport ropeway on March 24, 2023, in Varanasi.





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- Uttar Pradesh government has launched the portal for the creation of 'Family ID – One Family One Identity'.
- Uttarakhand won the first prize for its tableau, followed by Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh in the second and third positions respectively.
- Uttar Pradesh came in third with its tableau commemorating Ayodhya's Deepotsav.
- Uttar Pradesh Government Launched 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' Campaign.
- Uttar Pradesh tops charts for mobile gaming destination in India.
- Taj Mahotsav Starts In Agra of Uttar Pradesh.
- UP first all-woman PAC battalions formed by Uttar Pradesh Govt.
- Uttar Pradesh tops in India, 8462 lakes developed under Mission Amrit Sarovar.
- Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurates north India's first data centre at Greater Noida.
- Uttar Pradesh bags top honours at PMAY-U Awards 2021.
- Agriculture Minister of India, Narendra Singh Tomar, has introduced a new platform called 'DigiClaim' on the national crop insurance portal.
- Kannuj will be developed into a tourist destination as per the decision taken by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- Centre has approved the setting up of the Terai Elephant Reserve (TER) at Dudhwa-Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh. The Terai Elephant Reserve is the 3rd Elephant Reserve in India.
- Uttar Pradesh cabinet has gave a green signal for the development of the first tiger reserve in the Bundelkhand region

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence):**

**1. It is the flagship initiative of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to achieve self-reliance and foster innovation in Defence and Aerospace sector.**

**2. Under iDEX, financial support is provided only to Start-ups and MSMEs.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

**A) 1 only**

**B) 2 only**



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C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Indian Army recently said it has sealed a deal with a Bengaluru-based company to procure the indigenously-developed "tactical LAN radio".
- ✓ **Why in News?**
- ✓ It is the second contract that the Army has firmed up under the framework of Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX).
- ✓ **About Tactical LAN Radio :**
- ✓ It is a state-of-the-art high-bandwidth backhaul wireless radio equipment for the provisioning of reliable and failsafe communication.
- ✓ The LAN radio solution offers an enhanced range of communication and embedded frequency hopping mechanism to preclude chances of interception.
- ✓ It provides long-range point-to-multipoint high-bandwidth communication.
- ✓ The system also incorporates enhanced safety features and can operate continuously for 48 hours on a single-set basis, without any breakdown.
- ✓ **What is iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence)?**
- ✓ It is the flagship initiative of the Ministry of Defence (MoD), launched in April 2018.
- ✓ Aim : To achieve self-reliance and foster innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace by engaging Industries including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, R&D institutes and academia.
- ✓ iDEX has partnered with leading incubators in the country to provide handholding, technical support and guidance to the winners of iDEX challenges.

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS):**

1. These are village-level cooperative credit societies that serve as the last link in a three-tier cooperative credit structure.
2. The main function of the PACS is to provide long-term purpose loans to its members.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

A) 1 only

B) 2 only



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C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Cooperation Ministry recently said that the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) can also be employed as drone entrepreneurs for spraying fertilisers and pesticides.
- ✓ **About Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) :**
- ✓ These are village-level cooperative credit societies that serve as the last link in a three-tier cooperative credit structure.
- ✓ These are headed by the State Cooperative Banks (SCB) at the state level.
- ✓ Credit from the SCBs is transferred to the district central cooperative banks, or DCCBs, that operate at the district level.
- ✓ These DCCBs work with PACS, which deals directly with farmers.
- ✓ Individual farmers are members of the PACS, and office-bearers are elected from within them. A village can have multiple PACS.
- ✓ The main function of the PACS is to provide short and medium-term purpose loans to its members.
- ✓ **Other functions include :**
- ✓ Supplying of agricultural inputs including seeds, fertilizers, insecticides, etc.
- ✓ Maintaining the supply of the light machinery for the agricultural purpose.
- ✓ Providing marketing facilities that could enhance the sale of their agricultural products.
- ✓ Promote savings habits among its members..

**Q. Which one of the following is the best description of 'Betelgeuse'?**

A) It is a synthetic fibre.

B) It is a supermassive blackhole.

C) It is a red supergiant star.

D) It is a newly discovered butterfly species

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Betelgeuse, a red supergiant star at a distance of 724 lightyears from the Earth is nearly 50 per cent brighter than usual, leading astronomers to suggest that the star may explode in a violent supernova within tens of years.
- ✓ **About Betelgeuse :**
- ✓ Betelgeuse is a red supergiant star that forms the left shoulder of the constellation of Orion.
- ✓ It is one of the brightest stars in the night sky and one of the largest stars ever discovered.



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- ✓ The star is approximately 650 light-years from Earth.
- ✓ It is one of the largest known stars, measuring more than 700 million miles (1.2 billion kilometers) in diameter, 764 times as large as the Sun.

**Q. Who signed the MoU for academic and research collaboration?**

- A) NDRI and ICSI                      B) CUH and NIPFP  
C) NKC and NRCE                      D) IICA and RRU

**Answer : D**

- ✓ **IICA and RRU sign MoU for academic and research collaboration.**
- ✓ A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) on 9 June.
- ✓ The objective of the MoU is to synergize the professional capabilities of IICA and RRU towards capacity building, education, research and consultancy in the areas of internal security, financial crime, law enforcement, corporate fraud and other subjects.
- ✓ The MoU also provides for exchange of knowledge and resources between IICA and RRU for conducting research, training and consultancy.
- ✓ **Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs**
- ✓ It was registered as a society on September 12, 2008 under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- ✓ It is an autonomous institute, working under the aegis of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to deliver opportunities for research, education, and advocacy.
- ✓ It is a think-tank, capacity building and service delivery institute.

**Q. Who has chaired the 6th Mission Steering Group meeting of the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) in New Delhi?**

- A) Amit Shah                              B) Rajnath Singh  
C) Piyush Goyal                            D) Nirmala Sitharaman

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The 6th Mission Steering Group meeting of the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) was chaired by Piyush Goyal in New Delhi.
- ✓ It aims to catalyze research and innovation in Technical Textiles in India.



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- ✓ Ministry of Textiles also approved 20 Research and Development projects worth over 61 crores rupees across key strategic areas of Geotech, Protech, Indutech, Sustainable Textiles, Sportech, Buildtech segments, and Carbon Fibre and Ultra High Molecular Weight Poly Ethylene during the MSG meeting.

**Q. Which of the following has approved the First Loss Default Guarantee (FLDG) framework, allowing fintech to partner with banks and non-Banking financial companies (NBFCs)?**

- A) RBI  
B) SEBI  
C) SIDBI  
D) IRDAI

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the First Loss Default Guarantee (FLDG) framework, allowing fintech to partner with banks and Non-Banking financial companies (NBFCs).
- ✓ The central bank has allowed a 5% default loss cover for bank-fintech deals.
- ✓ The RBI had earlier specified that banks and NBFCs must abide by securitization norms before entering into any guarantee arrangement.
- ✓ Subject to certain guidelines, the RBI has decided to permit arrangements between regulated entities and lending service providers or between two regulated entities involving default loss guarantee.
- ✓ The limits are aimed at reining in the risk of large slippages in tie-ups between lenders and fintech.

**Q. Which football club has become the most valuable football club in Europe after replacing Real Madrid?**

- A) Inter Milan  
B) Manchester City  
C) Liverpool  
D) Chelsea

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Manchester City has become the most valuable football club in Europe after replacing Real Madrid.
- ✓ City, who play Inter Milan in Champions League final in Istanbul, came out on top with a valuation of 4.073 billion euros (\$4.39 billion)
- ✓ Real Madrid's value was at 4.006 billion euros.
- ✓ Manchester City, who were taken over by the Abu Dhabi United Group in 2008, recorded revenue for last season of £613 million (\$769.5m), the second-highest revenue figure in English club history after Manchester United's annual revenues hit £627 million in 2019.





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- ✓ The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE) and Israel's Finance Ministry successfully completed the proof-of-concept phase for a digital Israeli Bond traded on a dedicated blockchain platform.
- ✓ The development positions Israel to release the world's first digital government bond.
- ✓ The blockchain used for this event was EVM-compatible, enabling potential integration with other blockchain solutions in the future.
- ✓ The Ministry of Finance issued and minted the first dummy digital governmental bond on a blockchain-based platform as an ERC-1155 Security Token using a dedicated decentralized app (dApp) developed leveraging web3 solutions specifically for this proof of concept.
- ✓ The blockchain used for this event was EVM-compatible, enabling potential integration with other blockchain solutions in the future.

### ISRAEL IN NEWS 2023

- Israel to release world's first digital government bond.
- Israel tests first autonomous flying taxi.
- Israel successfully launched a new spy satellite, named Ofek-13, into orbit. The satellite, Ofek-13, launched from the Palmachim Airbase in central Israel.
- Adani Group acquired the strategic Israeli port of Haifa for USD 1.2 billion.
- Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) to Manufacture Israel's LORA Ballistic Missile for Indian Tri-Services.
- Benjamin Netanyahu Sworn in as the Prime minister of Israel for a Record 6th Time, Israel's longest-serving Prime Minister.
- India and Israel have started a series of events to mark the 30 years of establishment of diplomatic relationship between the two countries.
- ISRAEL
  - Capital : Jerusalem
  - Currency : New Shekel
  - President : Isaac Herzog
  - Prime Minister : Benjamin Netanyahu
  - Parliament : Knesset

**Q. Who has been appointed as the CEO of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?**



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A) Amit Agarwal

B) Subodh Kumar Singh

C) Anurag Sinha

D) Ajay Mathur

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Amit Agarwal has been appointed as the new CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- ✓ At the same time, Subodh Kumar Singh has been appointed as the Director General of National Testing Agency (NTA)

**Q. Who has become the first team in the world to win all the ICC titles?**

A) India

B) England

C) Pakistan

D) Australia

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Australia beat India by 209 runs to win its maiden ICC World Test Championship title at the Kennington Oval in London on 11 June. Australia became the first team to win all ICC titles.
- ✓ With this, the Australian team has become the first team in the world to win all the ICC titles.
- ✓ The title of Player of the Match was given to Travis Head.
- ✓ Australia wins in ICC title matches
- ✓ 5 times ODI World Cup
- ✓ 2 times Champions Trophy
- ✓ T20 World Cup 1 time
- ✓ 1 time World Test Championship
- ✓ Prize money of World Test Championship
- ✓ Winners (Australia): \$1.6 million
- ✓ Runners Up (India): \$800,000

### AUSTRALIA IN NEWS 2023

- India and Australia sign agreements in the field of migration, mobility partnership and green hydrogen.
- India and Australia sign a framework mechanism for mutual recognition of qualifications.
- Australian High Commission in India Announces Government Grant for Project in Kargil.
- Ratan Tatahas received the Order of Australia (AO), Australia's highest civilian honour.





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- Australia will host the third in-person Quad summit in Sydney.
- An Indian-origin politician, Daniel Mookhey has been appointed as the Treasurer of the New South Wales in Australia.
- 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.
- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced that two Australian universities Wollongong and Deakin are set to establish campuses in Gujarat's '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).
- 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.
- 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



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**Q. Which team won the title of Women's Junior Hockey Asia Cup 2023?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Indian women's junior hockey team won its maiden Women's Junior Asia Cup title by defeating South Korea 2-1 in Kakamigahara, Japan.
- ✓ Annu and Neelam scored one goal each for India.
- ✓ Hockey India has announced a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh for each player.

**Q. Who has been elected as the chair-elect of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Board of Governors?**

- A) Camiel Eurlings  
B) Rakesh Gangwal  
C) Rahul Bhatia  
D) Pieter Elbers

**Answer : D**

- ✓ IndiGo CEO, Peter Albers has been elected as the Chairman-elect of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Board of Governors.
- ✓ He will take up his post from June 2024 and will replace Yvonne Manji Makolo.
- ✓ International Air Transport Association (IATA)
- ✓ Founded: 19 April 1945, Havana, Cuba
- ✓ It is a trade association of the world's airlines and has 300 member airlines, which account for 83% of total air traffic.
- ✓ It is headquartered in Montreal, Canada and works to promote the safe and sustainable development of the air transportation industry.
- ✓ It launched the "Fly Net Zero" initiative to achieve net zero carbon emissions from aviation by 2050.
- ✓ It is a non-profit organisation funded by its members and governed by a Board of Directors and a General Assembly.

**Q. Which government has launched a new scheme to reward (up to Rs. 2,500) for reporting illegal waste dumping on roads?**

- A) Karnataka  
B) Kerala



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C) Madhya Pradesh

D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Kerala government has now come up with a novel scheme to reward all those who report such acts and earn up to Rs 2,500 for each reporting.
- ✓ This is part of the 'Malinya Muktham Nava Keralam' campaign to make the state garbage-free.

### KERALA IN NEWS 2023

- Kerala has become the first state in the country to launch its own internet service.
- Kerala has become the first and only state in the country to have its own internet services.
- According to data shared by the GI Registry, Kerala received the highest number of Geographical Indication (GI) tags for products among all states in India in the fiscal year 23 (FY23).
- Kerala has adopted a water budget, the first of its kind in the country, to deal with the problem of water scarcity in summer.
- Dharmadam, Kerala becomes first complete library constituency in India.
- Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan launches 'One Panchayat, One Playground' project.
- India's first Graphene Innovation center to be set up in Kerala.
- Recently, a group of researchers discovered a butterfly subspecies from the fringes of Akkulam and Vembanad lakes in Kerala.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25th April flagged off Kerala's first Vande Bharat Express between Thiruvananthapuram and Kasargod at Thiruvananthapuram Central Station.
- Kerala declared first State to enable digital banking service.
- M T Vasudevan Nair was awarded the "Kerala Jyoti", the highest civilian honour in Kerala.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched the 2nd G20 Empower meeting in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala under the theme "Women Empowerment: Win-win for Equality and Economy".
- Kerala to become first State to use robotics tech extensively for manhole cleaning.
- National Green Tribunal (NGT) in New Delhi has imposed a fine of Rs 10 crore on the Kerala government for failing to protect the Vembanad and Ashtamudi lakes, listed as Ramsar sites.

**Q. Which Country Unveils World's Most Powerful Hypersonic Wind Tunnel for Advancing Aerospace Ambitions?**

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147



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A) Japan

B) USA

C) China

D) Russia

**Answer : C**

- ✓ China announced the successful completion of the JF-22 wind tunnel's final evaluation on May 30, 2023, marking a significant milestone in the country's pursuit of hypersonic capabilities.
- ✓ Named the JF-22, the wind tunnel located in the Huairou District in northern Beijing is reportedly able to simulate flights of up to 10 kilometers per second or 30 times the speed of sound, making it the fastest in the world according to China's Institute of Mechanics, its operator.
- ✓ The JF-22's construction began in 2018 and was completed in August 2021. The tunnel is 167 meters long and four meters in diameter.

**Q. Which volcano erupts on Hawaii's Big Island?**

A) Kilauea

B) Mauna Loa

C) Haleakalā

D) Mount Etna

**Answer : A**

- ✓ One of the world's most active volcanoes, Kilauea on the Big Island of Hawaii, continued to erupt sending up fountains of lava from its crater floor.
- ✓ The U.S. Geological Survey said the eruption began at 4:44 a.m. Wednesday (7th June 2023) local time with the glow of lava at the summit, and moved its volcano alert level from "warning" to "watch," and the aviation warning in the area to "red."

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI):**

1. It collects and maintains records relating to insolvency and bankruptcy cases and disseminate information relating to such cases.
2. It specifies the minimum eligibility requirements for registration of insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professionals and information utilities.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

A) 1 Only

B) 2 Only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ Insolvency regulator, IBBI, proposes to stipulate mandatory audit of Insolvency Resolution Process Costs (IRPC) in resolution cases where the assets of the corporate debtor (CD) is in excess of ₹ 100 crore.
- ✓ **About Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) :**
- ✓ It was established on 1st October 2016 under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016.
- ✓ It is responsible for the implementation of the IBC. The IBC amends and consolidates the laws relating to insolvency resolution of individuals, partnership firms and corporate persons in a time-bound manner.
- ✓ Functions :The IBBI regulates professionals as well as processes.
- ✓ It has regulatory oversight over the insolvency professional agencies, insolvency professional entities, insolvency professionals and information utilities.

**Q. WBIDC, Amazon and FICCI join hands to promote e-commerce exports from Which State?**

- A) West Bengal  
B) Gujarat  
C) Tamil Nadu  
D) Maharashtra

**Answer : A**

- ✓ WBIDC, Amazon and FICCI join hands to promote e-commerce exports from West Bengal

**Q. Who has inaugurated an exhibition under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) titled “Hamari Bhasha, Hamari Virasat” in New Delhi?**

- A) Narendra Modi  
B) Meenakshi Lekhi  
C) Nirmala Sitharaman  
D) Narendra Singh Tomar

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Minister of State for Culture, Meenakshi Lekhi has inaugurated an exhibition under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) titled “Hamari Bhasha, Hamari Virasat” to celebrate the 75th International Archives Day at National Archives of India, New Delhi.
- ✓ This exhibition is an endeavour to commemorate the treasured heritage of India’s linguistic diversity as a Nation: “**राष्ट्र एक भाषा अनेक**” India is blessed with extraordinary language diversity.
- ✓ The exhibition celebrates India’s linguistic diversity and showcases a selection of original manuscripts, and rare books.



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- ✓ The Gilgit Manuscripts, the oldest surviving manuscript collection in India, are also on display at the exhibition.

**Q. Which company has successfully launched pilot study on vehicles using E27 fuel and Ethanol Blended Diesel Fuel?**

- A) Coal India Limited                      B) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited  
C) Steel Authority of India Limited      D) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has successfully launched pilot study on vehicles using E27 fuel and Ethanol Blended Diesel Fuel.
- ✓ HPCL has become the first Oil Marketing Company in India to initiate such a comprehensive research program.
- ✓ The move aligns with the roadmap for ethanol blending in India by 2025, which aims to promote the adoption of ethanol blending in gasoline.
- ✓ HPCL successfully launched E20 fuel on February 6th, 2023, at 23 retail outlets (ROs) across the country.
- ✓ Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)
- ✓ Founded : 1974
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai
- ✓ Chairman : Pushp Kumar Joshi

**Q. Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation Ltd (NHDC Ltd.) will construct a 525 MW pumped storage project in which state?**

- A) Uttarakhand                              B) Himachal Pradesh  
C) Madhya Pradesh                         D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation Ltd (NHDC Ltd.) will construct a 525 MW pumped storage project near the Indira Sagar Dam in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ The project will use the existing reservoirs of Indira Sagar and Omkareshwar, which are part of the Indira Sagar Project.
- ✓ The project is being executed to meet the increasing peak-hour demand for energy in Madhya Pradesh.



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- ✓ The project is expected to generate 1.2 billion units of energy during peak hours and is estimated to cost Rs 4,200 crore (approximately \$550 million).
- ✓ NHDC Limited has been allotted this project by the Department of New & Renewable Energy, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

### MADHYA PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation Ltd (NHDC Ltd.) will construct a 525 MW pumped storage project near the Indira Sagar Dam in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana'.
- Madhya Pradesh cabinet approves 'Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana' for unemployed youth.
- Gond paintings from Madhya Pradesh have bagged the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, a recognition that protects and acknowledges the work of tribal artists.
- Madhya Pradesh government launched Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights Scheme.
- Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village located in Bhopal district has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- Madhya Pradesh Government on 5 March launched Ladli Bahna scheme under which each woman will be given one thousand rupees per month..
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced on March 4 to make Tehsil Mauganj of Rewa district the 53rd district of the state.

**Q. Which state government has recently decided to bring a whitepaper on the economic status of the state?**

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Himachal Pradesh

C) Rajasthan

D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The government of Himachal Pradesh has decided to bring a whitepaper on the economic status of the state.
- ✓ The cabinet subcommittee constituted to review the financial status of the state met for the first time in Shimla.
- ✓ The subcommittee will hold two more meetings and submit its report to the government within a month.



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#### HIMACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu informed that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) will set up an ethanol plant at Jeetpur Baheri in Una district at a cost of Rs 500 crore.
- European Commission (EC) has awarded protected geographical indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of India's Himachal Pradesh.
- Himachal Pradesh (HP) has become the first Indian state to develop a DNA database for unidentified bodies.
- Himachal Pradesh launched Sanjeevani Project to uplift the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- Himachal Pradesh targets to be first 'green energy state' by 2025.
- Himachal Cabinet approves monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women of Spiti Valley.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up of Rs 101 crore CM's Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh for the destitute in the state.
- Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone of 'Himachal Niketan' which will provide accommodation facilities to the students and residents of Himachal Pradesh visiting New Delhi.
- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its 53rd Statehood Day with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023

**Q. India with how many digital transactions in the year 2022 has topped the list of five countries in digital payments, according to data from MyGovIndia?**

A) 92.5 million

B) 68.5 million

C) 89.5 million

D) 73.5 million

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India with 89.5 million digital transactions in the year 2022 has topped the list of five countries in digital payments, according to data from MyGovIndia.
- ✓ India accounted for 46% of the global real-time payments in 2022, more than the other four leading countries combined.











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C) Bihar

D) Chhattisgarh

**Answer : B**

- ✓ GeM to organise District level Buyer-Seller workshops in Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ Government e-Marketplace (GeM), India's premier online procurement platform, is organising Buyer-Seller Workshops in all the 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh from 12th June till 31st August, 2023.
- ✓ These workshops aim to enhance the understanding of GeM's functionalities among buyers and sellers in the state, as well as provide a platform to address any queries or concerns they may have.
- ✓ The Buyer-Seller Workshops are a significant step towards ensuring accessibility and participation from every corner of the state.
- ✓ GeM believes in empowering buyers and sellers in the remotest districts of Uttar Pradesh by providing them with the necessary knowledge and resources to leverage the benefits of the platform effectively.
- ✓ These workshops will serve as a platform to address queries, provide guidance, and discuss any issues faced by the users at the district level.
- ✓ During the workshops, participants will receive comprehensive training on GeM's features, registration processes, and various aspects of online procurement.
- ✓ **About Government-e-Marketplace (GeM) platform.**
- ✓ Launch - 9 August 2016
- ✓ Purpose - to bring transparency and efficiency in the government buying process
- ✓ Nodal Ministry - Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- ✓ GeM works on inclusion, transparency and efficiency.
- ✓ Who registered on GeM - Artisans, weavers, SHGs, startups, women entrepreneurs & MSMEs are registered on GeM.
- ✓ The portal is open for - all government buyers, Central and State Ministries, departments, public sector enterprises, autonomous institutions, local bodies, etc
- ✓ Private buyers cannot buy on the platform but private people can sell products to government bodies by the portal

**Q. The second summit of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the G20 countries has begun in which city?**

A) Chennai

B) Hyderabad



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C) Bengaluru

D) Panaji

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The second summit of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the G20 countries began on 12 June in Panaji, the capital of Goa.
- ✓ The inaugural address at the summit was delivered by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu.
- ✓ Goa Governor PS Sreedharan Pillai and India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant also attended the meeting.
- ✓ SAIs from Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Spain, UAE, Morocco and Poland participated in the summit.
- ✓ Apart from the proceedings of the summit, the CAG is expected to sign MoUs with SAIs of Indonesia and Turkey to strengthen cooperation and knowledge sharing.
- ✓ Apart from SAI, over 80 national and international delegates as well as representatives from Think20 and Youth20 Engagement Groups are participating in the three-day summit.

### GOA IN NEWS 2023

- The second summit of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the G20 countries began on 12 June in Panaji, the capital of Goa.
- The tourism department of the Goa government is set to hold the 'Heritage Festival 2023' from April 28 to 30 at Saligao village in North Goa.
- Union Cabinet has approved the naming of Greenfield International Airport at Goa's Mopa as Manohar International Airport after former Defence Minister and Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar.
- Purple, First Inclusion Festival of India starts in Goa.
- Goa Manohar International Airport wins best sustainable greenfield airport award.
- Government of Goa has launched the Vision for All School Eye Health program.
- The first Prime Minister GatiShakti regional workshop for the Western and Central Zone was held in Goa.
- India's second longest cable-stayed eight-lane Zuari Bridge opens in Goa.
- 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference begins in Goa.



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**Q. The central government has formed a Peace Committee in Manipur to facilitate peace among ethnic groups in the state. Who will chair this committee?**

A) Amit Shah

B) Anusuiya Uikey

C) Rajnath Singh

D) Nirmla Sitharaman

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Government of India has constituted a Peace Committee in Manipur under the Chairpersonship of Governor, Manipur Anusuiya Uikey.
- ✓ The constitution of the Peace Committee in Manipur was announced by Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, during his visit to the state from May 29th, 2023 to June 1st, 2023.
- ✓ **Members of Peace Committee**
- ✓ The committee consists of the chief minister, state government ministers, members of parliament (MPs), members of the legislative assembly (MLAs) and leaders of various political parties.
- ✓ The Committee also includes former civil servants, educationists, litterateurs, artists, social workers and representatives of different ethnic groups.
- ✓ **Mandate of the Committee**
- ✓ The primary mandate of the Peace Committee is to facilitate the peace-making process among different ethnic groups in Manipur.
- ✓ This involves promoting peaceful dialogues and negotiations between conflicting parties or groups.
- ✓ The Committee aims to foster social cohesiveness, mutual understanding, and cordial communication between the various ethnic groups in the state.
- ✓ The objective of the committee is to resolve conflicts, redress grievances and promote reconciliation among the various communities in Manipur.

**Q. Which IIT has developed critical components for a highly efficient, cost-effective way to electrolyze seawater to generate hydrogen?**

A) IIT Madras

B) IIT Bombay

C) IIT Hyderabad

D) IIT Delhi

**Answer : A**

- ✓ IIT-Madras generates hydrogen from seawater using solar energy.



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- ✓ Researchers from the Department of Physics at IIT-Madras have developed critical components for a highly efficient, cost-effective way to electrolyze seawater to generate hydrogen.
- ✓ The results were published in the journal ACS Applied Energy Materials.
- ✓ State-of-the-art alkaline water electrolyzer technology is energy-intensive, requires an expensive oxide-polymer separator, and uses fresh water for electrolysis.

### IIT IN NEWS 2023

- IIT-Madras generates hydrogen from seawater using solar energy.
- India, Israel to jointly develop Center of Water Technology at IIT Madras.
- IIT Madras researchers partner for development of materials and micro-device processing techniques.
- IIT Kanpur's C3iHub, a cybersecurity Technology Innovation Hub, has launched a Cybersecurity Skilling Programme .
- IIT Madras to set up its first international campus in Tanzania.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras will be provided a grant of Rs 242 crore over a period of five years to carry out research on Lab Grown Diamonds (LGD).
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has been ranked 1st in India and 47th globally in engineering and technology by the QS World University Rankings for 2023.
- IIT Indore, in partnership with NASA-Caltech and the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, has designed an inexpensive camera setup.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Researchers have developed a three-dimensional (3D) paper-based portable device that can detect adulteration in milk within 30 seconds.
- IIT Kanpur to Host Youth20 Consultation under G20 Presidency of India.
- IIT Bombay's SHUNYA secures second place in 'Solar Decathlon' Build Challenge in US.
- Students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore won an award of AED (Emirates Dirham) 1 million along with a gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai.
- IIT Indore Students Awarded with Global Best M-GOV Awards by Egyptian President.
- Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) at IIT Kanpur has entered into a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreement with Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited.
- DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad.
- IIT Madras-incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system called BharOS.



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- IIT Madras Centre of Excellence working with DRDO on Advanced Defence Technologies including Combat Vehicle Technologies.
- IIT Madras researchers develop machine learning tool to detect tumour in brain, spinal cord.
- ISRO plans to develop astronaut training module with IIT Madras.
- IIT-Bombay and Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) join hands to develop touchless biometric system.
- IIT delhi has been ranked among the top 50 engineering institutions in the QS World University Rankings by Subject .
- An IIT Madras incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system 'Bharos' that can benefit India's 100 crore mobile phone users.

**Q. State Bank of India (SBI) has approved raising of funds aggregating how many crores via issuance of debt instruments, including capital instruments in FY24?**

- A) Rs 50,000 crore                      B) Rs 80,000 crore  
C) Rs 10,000 crore                      D) Rs 20,000 crore

**Answer : A**

- ✓ SBI to raise Rs 50,000 crore in FY24.
- ✓ The central board of State Bank of India (SBI) has approved raising of funds aggregating ₹50,000 crore via issuance of debt instruments, including capital instruments in FY24.
- ✓ The board's approval is for raising funds in the Indian rupee and/or any other convertible currency by issue of debt instruments, including but not limited to Long Term Bonds, Basel III-compliant Additional Tier 1 Bonds, Basel III-compliant Tier 2 Bonds.
- ✓ The resources will be raised through private placement mode to Indian and/or overseas investors during FY24, subject to the government's approval wherever required.
- ✓ SBI had raised funds aggregating about ₹38,850 crore through issuance of infrastructure bonds, Tier-2 bonds and AT-1 bonds in FY23.

**Q. Who has been appointed as brand ambassador for Printer company Epson India?**

- A) Rashmika Mandanna                      B) Alia Bhatt





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C) Deepika Padukone

D) Anushka Sharma

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Printer company Epson India has signed actor Rashmika Mandanna as its brand ambassador.
- ✓ The actress will collaborate with the company to promote its products in a multi-media campaign for its 'EcoTank' printers this month.
- ✓ She is one of the new entrants on the list of top 20 celebrities who endorse brands in India.
- ✓ The collaboration aims to spread awareness about printers and their benefits.

**Q. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the \_\_\_ largest investor in India during 2022-23, according to government data.**

A) 3rd

B) 4th

C) 2nd

D) 5th

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the fourth largest investor in India during 2022-23, according to government data.
- ✓ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) was signed a comprehensive free trade agreement with India in May last year.
- ✓ In the last fiscal, foreign direct investment (FDI) from the UAE to India jumped over three-fold to USD 3.35 billion from USD 1.03 billion in 2021-22, the data of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) showed.
- ✓ Singapore was the largest investor in India with USD 17.2 billion investment in FY23, followed by Mauritius (USD 6.1 billion) and the US (USD 6 billion).
- ✓ UAE's investments in India are mainly in sectors like services, sea transport, power, and construction activities.
- ✓ One of the crucial factors for the increase in foreign direct investment (FDI) from UAE is the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and UAE on February 18, 2022 (effective from May 1, 2022).

### UAE IN NEWS 2023

- United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the fourth largest investor in India during 2022-23.



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- UAE to Host World's Largest IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.
- Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, has been named the Environmental Airline of the Year 2023 for the second year in a row at the Airline Rating Awards.
- UAE India's second largest export destination and third largest source of imports.
- The first conference of I2U2 Business Forum, a joint initiative of India, Israel, the US and the United Arab Emirates, was held on 22 February 2023 in Abu Dhabi (UAE).
- United Arab Emirates (UAE) will host the 13th World Trade Organisation (WTO) Ministerial meeting in February 2024.
- UAE will host the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) in November 2023.
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) signed an agreement to set up its first overseas office in Abu Dhabi Global Market.
- UAE and India launched the UAE India Business Council - UAE Chapter (UIBCUC) to strengthen economic ties and enhance bilateral trade and investment.
- EDGE, UAE's leading defence group signed a Memorandum of Understanding with India's aerospace firm Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) at the International Defence Exhibition and Conference (IDEX).
- India, France, UAE Establish Trilateral Cooperation Initiative, in fields including Energy, Defence & Economy.
- India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is shortly to be connected to comparable networks in Indonesia, Mauritius, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- RBI, Central Bank of UAE sign MoU to promote innovation in financial products and services.
- Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan appointed President of UAE.
- Emaar, a Dubai-based real estate developer, has become the first foreign company to invest in a mega-mall spread over one million square feet in Srinagar.
- Indian Air Force contingent of 110 Air Warriors reached Al Dahfra airbase of United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 25 February for participating in Exercise 'Desert Flag VIII.
- President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, has appointed Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, his brother, as the Vice President of the country.





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- ✓ Randhawa won the gold medal in decathlon in the 1962 Asian Games. He finished fifth in the 110m hurdles at the 1964 Olympics.
- ✓ Athletics Federation of India is the national governing body for the sport of athletics in India

**Q. Who has become the youngest software developer in SpaceX?**

- A) Abhivan Purohit                      B) Karen Qazi  
C) Adam Clarke                         D) Akshay Sinha

**Answer : B**

- ✓ 14-year-old Bangladeshi-American student Kairan Quazi has become the youngest software developer to get a job at SpaceX.
- ✓ Qazi holds a bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University.
- ✓ The news of Qazi joining SpaceX has been confirmed by the university through LinkedIn.
- ✓ Qazi holds a BS degree in Computer Science and Engineering.

**Q. Recently in which state the sub-office of Reserve Bank has been opened?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has opened a sub-office in Kohima, the capital of Nagaland. Due to which the presence of Central Bank of North East India will increase further.
- ✓ Along with this, the Central Bank has also announced that another office will be opened soon in Itanagar.
- ✓ Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra inaugurated this sub-office.

**Q. Who has become the first Canadian Champion to win RBC Canadian Open?**

- A) Ben Shelton                              B) Nick Taylor  
C) Daniel Evans                             D) Nick Kyrgios

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Nick Taylor has become the first Canadian in 69 years to win his national Open, holing a 72-foot eagle putt on the fourth playoff hole to beat Tommy Fleetwood in the RBC Canadian Open.





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## Aparchit June 3rd Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

**Q. The India-Maldives Joint Military Exercise Ekuverin was held in which city?**

- A) Jaisalmer  
B) Visakhapatnam  
C) Pithoragarh  
D) Chaubatia

**Answer : D**

**Q. Which edition of the joint military exercise “Ex Ekuverin” between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand?**

- A) 10th  
B) 14th  
C) 12th  
D) 15th

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The 12th edition of the joint military exercise “Ex Ekuverin” between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defense Force has commenced on 11 June 2023 at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- ✓ Ekuverin, meaning 'friend', is a bilateral annual exercise held alternately in India and Maldives.
- ✓ The joint military exercise "EX EKUVERIN" between the two countries will be held from 11 to 24 June 2023.
- ✓ A platoon-strength contingent of the Indian Army and Maldives National Defense Force will participate in the 14-day long exercise.
- ✓ The 14-day exercise aims to enhance interoperability in UN counter-insurgency/anti-terrorist operations and promote joint humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.
- ✓ It will focus on sharing best practices, enhancing coordination and cooperation between the two forces at the tactical level.
- ✓ The 11th edition of joint military exercise "EX EKUVERIN" was held in Maldives in December 2021.

### MALDIVES IN NEWS 2023

- 12th edition of the joint military exercise “Ex Ekuverin” between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defense Force has commenced on 11 June 2023 at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- Sixth edition of India-Maldives Exercise ‘Ekatha’ begin in Maldives.



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- Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh handed over two made-in-India platforms, namely, Fast Patrol Vessel and a Landing Craft Assault ship, to the Maldives National Defence Forces (MNDF).
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will hand over a fast patrol vessel and a landing craft to the Maldives as India's "gift" .
- India Extended USD 40 Million for Bolstering Sports Infrastructure in Maldives.
- India and Maldives held the 4th Defense Cooperation Dialogue (DCD) in Male on March 19, 2023.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is set to embark on a three-day official visit to Maldives on 30th April.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed a Currency Swap Agreement with the Maldives Monetary Authority under the SAARC Currency Swap Framework.
- The corpus of the SAARC Currency Swap Facility of the RBI is USD 2 Billion.
- About Maldives
- It is also called Maldives Islands, an independent island country in the north-central Indian Ocean.
- Basis of economy - fisheries, tourism
- Industries - handicraft or cottage including the making of coir (coconut-husk fibre) and coir products, fish canning, and boatbuilding.
- Capital - Male
- President - Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- Currency - Rufiyaa

### MILITARY EXERCISE IN NEWS 2023

- The 12th edition of the joint military exercise "Ex Ekuverin" between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defense Force has commenced on 11 June 2023 at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- The first edition of the India, France and UAE maritime partnership exercise began in the Gulf of Oman.
- NATO is set to commence its largest air force deployment exercise in Europe, known as "Air Defender 23,".
- The Sapta Shakti Command of the Indian Army conducted exercise 'Sudarshan Shakti 2023' along the western borders in Rajasthan and Punjab.



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- The sea phase of the second edition of the bilateral exercise 'Al Mohed Al Hindi- 2023' between the Indian Navy and the Royal Saudi Naval Force (RSNF) was conducted at Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia.
- Indian Navy ships INS TARKASH and INS SUBHADRA arrived at Port Al-Jubail in Saudi Arabia.
- The first ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023) began on 2 May in Singapore.
- Harbour Phase - to be conducted at Changi Naval Base.
- Sea Phase - to be conducted in the South China Sea.
- India, Iran and Armenia have formed a trilateral grouping, to further deepen regional cooperation between the three countries.
- INS Kavaratti, indigenously designed & built ASW Corvette, arrived at Batam, Indonesia to participate in the 4th edition of India-Indonesia Bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti-23.
- The 7th edition of joint military exercise between India and the United Kingdom, named "AJEYA WARRIOR-23" is being conducted at Salisbury Plains, United Kingdom.
- Indian Navy and Royal Navy conducted annual bilateral maritime Exercise KONKAN 2023 off Konkan Coast in the Arabian Sea.
- Indian Air Force and the US Air Force will conduct the bilateral air exercise 'Cope India' from April 10 to 21, 2023 at the air force base in Kalaikunda, West Bengal.
- INS Androth, second in a series of eight Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft (ASW SWC), was launched on March 21, 2023, in Kolkata.
- Africa-India field training exercise AFINDEX-23 to be held in Pune.
- Indian Navy deployed a P8I aircraft to Guam, USA, on March 14, 2023, to participate in the third edition of 'Exercise Sea Dragon 23', a coordinated multi-lateral Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise for Long Range MR ASW aircraft organized by the US Navy.
- Operation Bold Kurukshetra, a bilateral armour training exercise, was held from March 6-13, 2023, in Jodhpur Military Station in India.
- Indian Ocean Area will host the third edition of the multilateral exercise La Perouse. The Royal Australian Navy, French Navy, Indian Navy, Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force, Royal Navy, and United States Navy.





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- Indian Navy's indigenously built guided missile frigate, INS Sahyadri participated in a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with French Navy (FN) ships FS Dixmude, a Mistral Class Amphibious Assault Ship and FS La Fayette, a La Fayette Class Frigate, in the Arabian Sea.
- 2023 edition of Indian Navy's major maritime exercise Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX), is currently underway in the Indian Ocean Region.
- Indian Army and the French Army will hold their first joint military exercise, FRINJEX-23, at Pangode Military Station in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- Indian warship INS Trikand has arrived in Bahrain for her first participation in the International Maritime Exercise organised by the US-led Combined Maritime Forces.
- A joint training exercise "Exercise Trishakri Prahar" was conducted in North Bengal.
- The fourth iteration of the biennial training exercise DUSTLIK (2023) will be held in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.
- First joint exercise between the special forces of the Indian and the Egyptian Army, 'Exercise Cyclone – I' started on 14 January at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- A joint counter-terrorism exercise Tarkash between National Security Guard (NSG) and US Special Operations Forces (SOF) culminated in Chennai.
- India and Japan has kick started an exercise 'Ex Dharma Guardian' at Camp Imazu in Shiga Province, Japan.
- Indian Air Force to Conduct Exercise 'PRALAY' in Northeastern Part of India

**Q. Which bank has become the first public sector bank to introduce an IVR-based UPI solution – UPI 123PAY?**

**A) State Bank of India**

**B) Punjab National Bank**

**C) Indian Overseas Bank**

**D) Kotak Mahindra Bank**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Punjab National Bank (PNB) has become the first public sector bank to introduce an IVR-based UPI solution – UPI 123PAY.
- ✓ **What is UPI 123PAY**
- ✓ Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a 24-hour payment channel enabling customers to perform fast, encrypted and real-time payments.



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- ✓ Till now, the solution was accessible only through smartphones or through Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) service and was dependent on good internet connectivity.
- ✓ The UPI 123PAY solution would extend the functionality and facilitate the feature to any phone users and those in low internet connectivity zones to perform UPI transactions
- ✓ **How to use UPI 123PAY**
- ✓ The UPI 123PAY functionality is simple and involves the following steps:
- ✓ Step 1-Dial the bank's easy-to-remember IVR number "9188-123-123"
- ✓ Step 2-Choose the beneficiary
- ✓ Step 3-Authenticate the transaction
- ✓ UPI 123PAY will be multilingual and be available in the customer's preferred language.
- ✓ The solution is available in multiple languages and can be accessed by dialing 9188-123-123.
- ✓ IDFC First Bank, City Union Bank, and NSDL Payments Bank have also gone live on IVR payments
- ✓ **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)

**Q. The Education Ministry will host the 4th and final Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting under India's G20 presidency in which city?**

- A) Chennai
- B) Pune
- C) Hyderabad
- D) Bengaluru

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Education Ministry will host the 4th and final Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting under India's G20 presidency in Pune from the 19th to the 21st June.
- ✓ The theme of the Meeting is "Ensuring Foundation Literacy and Numeracy, especially in the context of blended learning".



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- ✓ The Department of Higher Education is organizing a Seminar in collaboration with ELSEVIER on the 16th of June at IISER, Pune.
- ✓ The Seminar will be held on the theme 'Accessible Science: Fostering collaboration'

### PUNE IN NEWS 2023

- Education Ministry will host the 4th and final Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting under India's G20 presidency in Pune.
- The city of Pune will soon hold the distinction of having the country's deepest underground metro station..
- Pune's Civil Court interchange station will be 108.59 feet deep with a ceiling of 95 feet.
- India and 23 African nations on 21 March began a nine-day mega military exercise Africa-India Field Training Exercise (AFINDEX) in Pune.
- The first joint conference of army chiefs of India and African countries was held in Pune.
- Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad recently arrested a scientist of the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) on charges of espionage..
- The scientist named Pradeep Kurulkar was arrested in Pune.
- External Affairs Ministry's annual flagship event on Geoeconomics, Asia Economic Dialogue began on 23 February in Pune, Maharashtra.
- Maharashtra's first Electronics Manufacturing Cluster to be set up at Ranjangaon, Pune.
- Savitribai Phule Pune University won its first gold medal in the women's tennis event at the Khelo India University Games.
- DHARA - Annual Meeting of Members of the River Cities Alliance to be held In Pune.
- Union Minister for Youth Affairs Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the fourth Y20 consultation meeting in Pune.
- Talon Grikspoor of the Netherlands won the singles title at the Maharashtra Open tennis tournament in Pune



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**Q. What is the name of the fourth Survey Vessel large warship of the Indian Navy which has been launched recently?**

A) Sanshodhak

B) Bhima

C) Sadhak

D) Ajay

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The fourth Survey Vessel Large (SVL) of the Indian Navy, named 'Sanshodhak', was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai.
- ✓ **About 'Sanshodhak' warship**
- ✓ The ship's name, meaning 'Researcher', reflects its primary role as a Survey Vessel.
- ✓ The Ministry of Defence (MoD) highlighted the launch of the fourth SVL as a testament to India's commitment to indigenous shipbuilding, aligning with the government's 'Make in India' and Aatma Nirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) vision.
- ✓ The project, undertaken by L&T/GRSE for the Indian Navy, demonstrates the nation's resolve in promoting self-sufficiency in defense manufacturing.
- ✓ **Purpose and features of SVL ships**
- ✓ The SVL ships are designed to replace the existing Sandhayak Class survey ships and are equipped with new-generation hydrographic equipment to collect oceanographic data.
- ✓ These ships have a length of 110 meters, a width of 16 meters, and a displacement of 3,400 tons.
- ✓ The hull of the ships is constructed using DMR 249-A steel, an indigenously developed material manufactured by the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).
- ✓ With over 80 percent indigenous content by cost, the SVL project promotes defense production by Indian manufacturing units, contributing to employment generation and enhancing warship building capabilities in the country.
- ✓ **Construction and launch timeline**
- ✓ The contract for building four SVL ships was signed between the MoD and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Kolkata, on October 30, 2018.
- ✓ As per the build strategy, the first ship was built at GRSE, Kolkata, while the construction of the remaining three ships up to the outfitting stage was sub-contracted to L&T Shipbuilding, Kattupalli.
- ✓ The first three ships, named Sandhayak, Nirdeshak, and Ikshak, were launched on December 5, 2021, May 26, 2022, and November 26, 2022, respectively





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#### Answer : B

- ✓ Uruguay's Under-20 football team won their first Under-20 World Cup title by defeating Italy 1-0.
- ✓ Uruguay has become the first South American country to win this title since 2011.
- ✓ Uruguay lost the final of the tournament in 1997 and 2013
- ✓ 2023 FIFA U-20 World Cup : Host country : Argentina
- ✓ Uruguay
- ✓ Capital : Montevideo
- ✓ Currency : peso
- ✓ President : Luis Lacalle Pou

**Q. Which union minister announced schemes worth over Rs 8,000 crore for disaster management?**

A) Rajnath Singh

B) S Jaishankar

C) Piyush Goyal

D) Amit Shah

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced three major schemes worth over Rs 8,000 crore for disaster management.
- ✓ The home minister launched these schemes during a meeting with the disaster management departments of states and union territories at Vigyan Bhavan.
- ✓ A total of Rs 5,000 crore scheme has been launched for the expansion and modernization of fire services in the states.

#### AMIT SHAH IN NEWS 2023

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced three major schemes worth over Rs 8,000 crore for disaster management.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) complex in Bengaluru which will help to prevent crimes and warn against any danger.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated National Tribal Research Institute in New Delhi on 7 June..
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled a 120 feet tall statue of a Polo player at the Merging Polo Complex in Imphal East district of Manipur.



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- Home Minister Amit Shah released a book titled 'Revolutionaries - The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom' at a function in New Delhi..
- The author of this book is economist Sanjeev Sanyal.
- Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a training program on legislative drafting in New Delhi.
- Union Home and Co-operation Minister Amit Shah chaired the Western Zonal Council meeting at Diu.
- Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched IFFCO Nano DAP (Liquid) in New Delhi.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah on 20th May laid the foundation stone for the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) at Okha in Gujarat's Devbhumi Dwarka district..
- Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on 10 April launched the 'Vibrant Villages Programme' at Kibithu, a border village in Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Vedic Heritage Portal on 23 March 2023 at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) in New Delhi.
- Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the meeting of Heads of Departments of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) member-states in New Delhi on 20 April.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 'Jai Hind-Naya Prakash Aur Dhvani Program / Light and Sound Show' at the Red Fort in Delhi.

**Q. Which state government has announced monthly pension for the Padma awardees of the state?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has announced Rs 10,000 monthly pension for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan winners of the state under a monthly pension scheme.
- ✓ Along with this, free travel facility in state government's Volvo buses has also been announced for them.



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#### HARYANA IN NEWS 2023

- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has announced Rs 10,000 monthly pension for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan winners of the state under a monthly pension scheme.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal will inaugurate the integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under the Amrit Jal Kranti initiative.
- Haryana has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation.
- A tiger has been spotted in a camera trap at Kalesar National Park in Yamunanagar district of Haryana.
- Haryana becomes first state in India to have 100% electrified railway network.
- First nuclear power plant in North India would be built in Gorakhpur, Haryana,

**Q. Which bank has recently planned to raise Rs 750 crore from bonds to fund business growth?**

A) Karnataka Bank

B) Indian Overseas Bank

C) Saraswat Bank

D) Punjab & Sind Bank

**Answer : D**

- ✓ State-owned Punjab & Sind Bank has planned to raise Rs 750 crore from bonds to fund business growth.
- ✓ The board has approved the raising of capital up to Rs 750 crore through the issuance of Basel-III compliant Additional Tier-I Bonds or Tier-II Bonds.
- ✓ The fundraising will be done in one or more tranches within a period of 12 months
- ✓ Punjab & Sind Bank
- ✓ Founded : 24 June 1908
- ✓ Headquarters : New Delhi
- ✓ MD & CEO : Swarup Kumar Saha
- ✓ Executive Director : Kollegal V Raghavendra
- ✓ Tagline : Where Service is a Way of Life





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**Q. Which bank has launched a new deposit scheme 'Vikas Ashadeep 400 days'?**

- A) Chaitanya Godavari Grameena Bank
- B) Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank
- C) Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank
- D) Prathama UP Gramin Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has launched a new deposit scheme 'Vikas Ashadeep 400 days'.
- ✓ The scheme is of a tenor of 400 days with an interest rate of 7.50 percent for senior citizens and 7 percent for general public.
- ✓ Under the scheme, a minimum of ₹10,000 and a maximum of ₹2 crore can be deposited.
- ✓ The scheme is applicable to all segments of depositors, including senior citizens, and institutions. The scheme is open for a limited period.
- ✓ The bank has a network of 639 branches with total business of ₹33350 crore. This included ₹18710 crore of deposits and ₹14640 crore of advances

**Q. Andy Murray beats Jurij Rodionov to win Surbiton Trophy. Surbiton Trophy is related to which sport?**

- A) Football
- B) Badminton
- C) Tennis
- D) Hockey

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Tennis player Andy Murray clinched his second ATP Challenger Tour title of the season Surbiton Trophy.
- ✓ The former World No. 1 defeated Jurij Rodionov 6-3, 6-2 in the final at the ATP Challenger Tour 125 grass-court event.
- ✓ The 36-year-old Murray also became the oldest grass-court champion at an ATP Challenger Tour event and earned a seeded position at Wimbledon next month which begins on 3 July.

**Q. The Global Wind Day is marked annually on \_\_\_\_**

- A) 13 June
- B) 14 June
- C) 15 June
- D) 16 June

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ Every year the Global Wind Day is celebrated worldwide on 15 June to spread awareness about wind energy, the various uses of wind energy, and the ways and possibilities as to how wind energy can help change the world.
- ✓ The day is organised jointly by the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), WindEurope and the national associations.
- ✓ 2023 marks the 16th year of Global Wind Day

**Q. Which entity has introduced a regulatory framework for online investment platforms that facilitate investments in commission-free mutual fund (MF) schemes?**

- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| A) RBI   | B) SEBI |
| C) SIDBI | D) NPCI |

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has introduced a regulatory framework for online investment platforms that facilitate investments in commission-free mutual fund (MF) schemes.
- ✓ The regulation brings clarity on the obligations of such platforms while opening an avenue to monetize their business. It also addresses investor concerns on associated risks and introduces grievance redressal mechanism.
- ✓ As per the framework, platforms providing MF investment services in direct (commission-free) plans will have to apply for 'execution only platform' (EOP) licence either with Sebi or the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) within three months of the regulation coming into force, which happens in September 2023.
- ✓ Platforms of investment advisors and stock brokers will not need an EOP registration if it is open only for their advisory or broking clients.

#### SEBI IN NEWS 2023

- SEBI has introduced a regulatory framework for online investment platforms that facilitate investments in commission-free mutual fund (MF) schemes.
- SEBI sets up intermediary advisory panel to be led by S Ravindran.
- SEBI Introduced Risk disclosure Framework for Trading by Individual Traders in Equity F&O Segment.



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- SEBI introduced the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) system for issuers of non-convertible securities, securitized debt instruments and security receipts.
- NDTV appoints former SEBI Chairman UK Sinha and business leader Dipali Goenka as Independent Directors.
- Sebi introduces Application Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA) -like facility for secondary market trading in India.
- NSE gets the final SEBI approval to launch Social Stock Exchange.
- Markets regulator SEBI has launched an information database on municipal bonds.
- SEBI allowed Alternative Investment Funds(AIFs) to participate in the Credit Default Swaps(CDS) market as protection buyers and sellers in a bid to facilitate the deepening of the domestic corporate bond segment.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):
  - It is the regulatory body for securities and commodity markets in India established in 1988.
  - Its main objectives are to protect the interests of investors in securities and promote the development of the securities market in India by regulating intermediaries, ensuring transparency and accountability of listed companies, and promoting investor education.
  - It is owned by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, but functions as an autonomous body with its own governing board.
  - It has the power to issue guidelines, rules and regulations, investigate and punish fraudulent business practices.
  - It is the regulator of the Capital market and Commodities market in India.
  - The first SEBI chairman was Dr S A Dave (1988-90)
  - Madhabi Puri Buch is the current and 10th Chairperson of the SEBI.
  - Headquarters : Mumbai

**Q. NTPC Secures Which Rank in Forbes 'The Global 2000'- List for 2023.**

- A) 389
- B) 411
- C) 433
- D) 456

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ NTPC climbs up 52 positions to 433rd rank in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List.
- ✓ NTPC Limited, India's largest power generation company, has made significant progress in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List for 2023, climbing 52 positions to reach the 433rd rank.
- ✓ This remarkable advancement showcases NTPC's growing influence and presence in the global market.
- ✓ It is a testament to the company's consistent expansion, strong financial performance, and unwavering commitment to excellence.
- ✓ "The Global 2000" List compiled by Forbes acknowledges the world's largest companies based on four key metrics: sales, profits, assets, and market value.
- ✓ NTPC's significant climb in the rankings from the 485th position in 2022 to the 433rd position in 2023 underscores its exceptional performance across these metrics.
- ✓ In addition to its global ranking, NTPC has also secured the 10th position among the largest Indian companies on the list, moving up one spot compared to the previous year.

### NTPC IN NEWS 2023

- NTPC climbs up 52 positions to 433rd rank in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List.
- NTPC Kanti launches Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GeM)-2023.
- NTPC Group's total installed capacity reaches 72,304 MW with first overseas capacity addition in Bangladesh.
- Country's largest power generation company NTPC Limited has been conferred with 'ATD Best Awards 2023' by Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA.
- NTPC and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) sign agreement for joint development of nuclear power plants.
- India's largest power company NTPC Ltd has commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project at Kawas, Gujarat.
- NTPC hosts an international seminar on 'Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage' (CCUS) at First Energy Transitions Working Group meeting in Bengaluru.
- NTPC Limited announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Energy Vault Holdings ("Energy Vault).
- NTPC Renewable Energy Limited (NTPC REL) signs MoU with Government of Tripura for cooperation in renewable energy development.



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- NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd has signed an MoU with the Indian Army for setting up Green Hydrogen Projects in its establishments on Build, Own and Operate (BOO) model.
- **About NTPC**
- The NTPC which was earlier known as National Thermal Power Corporation of India is owned by the Government of India. It was set up in 1975.
- The Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station in the Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh, with an installed capacity of 4,760MW, is currently the biggest thermal power plant in India.
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairman and Managing Director: Gurdeep Singh

**Q. Who was given the 'Governor of the Year' award by Central Banking in London?**

A) C. Rangarajan

B) Urjit Ravindra Patel

C) Shaktikanta Das

D) Bimal Jalan

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das was honored with the 'Governor of the Year' award by Central Banking in London.
- ✓ Das is the second RBI governor to have received this award.
- ✓ In the year 2015, the then RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan received this award.
- ✓ The award is presented by Central Banking, a leading organisation that covers matters related to central banks and financial regulators globally.
- ✓ The Central Banking Awards 2023 announced the winners at the end of March, the National Bank of Ukraine received the title of Central Bank of the Year.
- ✓ Shaktikanta Das, representing the Reserve Bank of India, was honoured with the Governor of the Year award at the event.
- ✓ Das is a retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, who is currently serving as the 25th governor of the RBI.
- ✓ With the second term of three years, Das will head the RBI till December, 2024.



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**Q. Which railway station was recently awarded the 'Eat Right Station' certificate?**

- A) Varanasi Railway Station                      B) Guwahati Railway Station  
C) Patna Railway Station                         D) Ahmedabad Railway Station

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Guwahati Railway Station of the Northeast Frontier Railway has been awarded the 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India), for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.
- ✓ Guwahati Railway Station has become the first railway station of Northeast Frontier Railway to get this certification.
- ✓ This certification is provided by FSSAI to those railway stations which meet the standard in providing safe and nutritious food to the passengers.

### FSSAI IN NEWS 2023

- Guwahati Railway Station of the Northeast Frontier Railway has been awarded the 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI (Food Safety and Standards Authority of India), for providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- Varanasi Cantt Railway Station of the Indian Railways has been awarded the 5-Star 'Eat Right Station' certification for providing high quality nutritious food to the passengers.
- The Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) has awarded the food provided by the Bulandshahr prison of Uttar Pradesh a five-star rating and the tag 'Eat Right Campus'. Bulandshahr Jail is the second prison after Farrukhabad jail to get this tag from Uttar Pradesh..
- G Kamala Vardhana Rao was appointed the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- FSSAI has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which is a consolidating statute related to food safety and regulation in India.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)



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- Founded : 2008
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- Chairperson : Rajesh Bhusan
- CEO : G Kamala Vardhana Rao

**Q. In which city the World Bank has launched its first 'Road Safety Project' in South Asia?**

A) New Delhi

B) Dhaka

C) Colombo

D) Kathmandu

**Answer : B**

- ✓ World Bank launches its first road safety project in South Asia.
- ✓ World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.
- ✓ The project seeks to improve road safety and reduce fatalities and injuries from road crashes in selected cities, high-risk highways, and district roads.
- ✓ **Implementation on National Highways.**
- ✓ The project will focus on two national highways in Bangladesh: Gazipur-Elenga (N4) and Natore-Nawabganj (N6).
- ✓ These highways will serve as the primary sites for implementing various road safety measures.
- ✓ The aim is to achieve a substantial reduction of over 30 percent in road traffic deaths on these two highways.
- ✓ **Infrastructure Enhancements**
- ✓ To enhance road safety and reduce accidents and fatalities, the project will include the construction of essential infrastructure elements along the Gazipur-Elenga and Natore-Nawabganj highways.
- ✓ These improvements will encompass the installation of road signs, dividers, footpaths, zebra crossings, speed breakers, and bus bays.
- ✓ **Emergency Services and Trauma Care**
- ✓ The project will introduce innovative emergency services, including the use of bike-ambulances equipped with a toll-free number.
- ✓ These services will ensure swift transportation of road crash victims to hospitals, improving their chances of receiving timely medical attention



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- ✓ **Speed Control Measures and Institutional Strengthening**
- ✓ To regulate speed and curb reckless driving, the project will install closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems along the roads and develop an electric messaging system.
- ✓ It will also allocate resources for patrol vehicles and crash site cleaning equipment

### WORLD BANK IN NEWS 2023

- World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.
- Indian origin Ajay Banga confirmed as the 14th President of World Bank.
- Ministry of Education and the World Bank held a unique workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program.
- The Cabinet approved the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project in October 2020.
- World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 363 million for the supply of clean drinking water from taps to 2 million rural households in Karnataka.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- According to the World Bank's (WB) annual report 'State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2023' released on May 23, 2023, revenues collected from carbon taxes and Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) globally have reached a record high, about US\$95 billion in 2022.
- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- India and the World Bank have signed a loan agreement for the construction of the Green National Highway Corridors Project (GNHCP) in four States.
- These four states are-Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
- World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- India will be the first country in the world to receive \$100 billion from remittances during 2022, the World Bank.





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- 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
- Founded : 1944
- Headquarters : Washington Dc
- 14th President : Ajay Banga
- MD&CFO : Anshula Kant
- Chief Economist : Carman Reinhart
- Executive Director : Rajesh Khullar
- Member Countries :189
- World Bank Group : 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID).
- All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.
- World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- India is a member of IBRD, IFC, IDA and MIGA. The country is not a member of the ICSID

**Q. PTC India Financial Services Limited has appointed whom as the Director (Finance) of the company?**

- A) Ajay Sinha                                      B) Mahendra Lodha  
C) Abhishek Kapoor                                D) Rajiv Ranjan Kohli

**Answer : B**

- ✓ PTC India Financial Services Limited (PFS) has appointed Mahendra Lodha as Director (Finance) and Chief Financial Officer of the company.
- ✓ Lodha has earlier worked in companies like SIDBI Venture Capital Limited, Rajasthan Asset Management Company Limited

**Q. In which state was the country's 'first' toy train powered by CNG inaugurated?**

- A) Rajasthan                                         B) Tamil Nadu  
C) Maharashtra                                     D) Arunachal Pradesh



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#### Answer : A

- ✓ Toy train was started once again in Gulab Bagh of Udaipur (Rajasthan), which has been named Maharana Pratap Express train.
- ✓ According to the engineer of the toy train, Anirudh Singh Nathawat, this is the country's first CNG-powered toy train. Here tourists will be able to ride this toy train for ₹25/₹50.

#### RAJASTHAN IN NEWS 2023

- PM Modi Launches Projects Worth Rs 5,500 Crore In Rajasthan, Including 114 Km Long Six-Lane Udaipur-Shamlaji Section Of NH-48.
- Lithium reserves have been discovered in Rajasthan's Degana following the recent discovery in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Jal Jan Abhiyan virtually on Abu Road in the Sirohi district of Rajasthan.
- Indian Air Force's MiG-21 crashes near Hanumangarh in Rajasthan.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Ashok Gehlot has announced the launch of 19 new districts and 3 new divisions in Rajasthan.
- Presently there are 33 districts in the state.
- With the creation of these 19 new districts, the total number of districts in Rajasthan will increase to 52.

**Q. Who has flagged off the first Agri- SEZ project of Gabon from New Delhi?**

- A) Dharmendra Pradhan
- B) Smriti Irani
- C) Mansukh L. Mandaviya
- D) Ashwini Vaishnaw

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Union Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan flagged off Gabon's first Agri- SEZ project from New Delhi.
- ✓ In the primary part of the programme, 30 farmers and 20
- ✓ B.Sc./M.Sc. Agri and B.Tech/M. Tech Engineering college students from the
- ✓ Gajapati district, will likely be travelling collectively as agri-technical



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- ✓ and technical consultants for the agriculture SEZ which is being
- ✓ developed underneath this undertaking.
- ✓ African coverage. Being a trusted accomplice within the journey of
- ✓ socio-economic growth, India has prolonged concessional loans
- ✓ of over USD 12.3 billion to Africa and USD 700 mn of grant
- ✓ help with growth tasks in numerous sectors, an
- ✓ official assertion quoted the Union minister as saying.

**Q. Which Country SBER Bank has Launched Indian Rupee Accounts for Individuals?**

- A) China
- B) Japan
- C) Germany
- D) Russia

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Russia's dominant lender, SBER Bank has launched Indian rupee accounts for individuals, expanding the range of foreign currencies available as Moscow strives to reduce dependency on the U.S. dollar and euro.
- ✓ As Sberbank has highlighted, the bank supports the trend of de-dollarisation and constantly increases the number of foreign currencies available to clients.
- ✓ Sberbank has more than 100 million retail clients and already offers deposits in China's yuan and UAE dirhams.

**Q. Microfinance loan portfolio increased by \_\_\_\_ to Rs 3.48 lakh crore during 2022-23.**

- A) 20%
- B) 22%
- C) 25%
- D) 29%

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Microfinance loan portfolio increased by 22% to Rs 3.48 lakh crore during 2022-23.
- ✓ Gross loan portfolio stood at Rs 2.85 lakh crore as on March 31, 2022.
- ✓ Microfinance loan disbursements during FY 2022-23 improved by 23% to Rs 2,96,423 crores compared to Rs 2,39,433 crore in the previous financial year.
- ✓ About 7.17 crore loans were disbursed during FY 22-23 as against 6.30 crore in the previous year indicating higher ticket size of new loans, microfinance institutions network (MFIN), the microfinance industry association and an RBI-recognized self-regulatory organization.





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- ✓ The 2025 Annual Conference of IAS would be attended by 30 Member Countries, 18 National Sections and over 50 IAS Universities/ Institutes of Public Administration in Member Countries.
- ✓ Theme : In accordance with India's governance model, the theme for 2025 IAS Annual Conference at Kochi is proposed as "Next Generation Administrative Reforms - Empowering the Citizens and Reaching the Last Mile".

**Q. Who has launched the multilingual India Legal app, a helpline to enable citizens obtain legal assistance from their homes?**

- A) Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud                      B) Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana  
C) Uday Umesh Lalit                                      D) N. Venkatachaliah

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Former Chief Justice of India N. Venkatachaliah has launched the multilingual India Legal app, a helpline to enable citizens obtain legal assistance from their homes.
- ✓ The app will help in disposing of around 70 percent of new cases.
- ✓ The app will benefit a wide range of consumers, including a large legal community of 1.2 million lawyers and half a million students.
- ✓ The first call on the app came from Meerut. An employee alleged that his employer did not give him money. Venkatachaliah directed him to file a case against the employer and to approach the High Court.
- ✓ The second call came from Chennai. A woman, speaking in Tamil, said she was in a live-in relationship with a man who clicked her private photographs and was now blackmailing her.
- ✓ As per the woman, the man was threatening to upload her photographs on social media. Venkatachaliah advised her to file a complaint with the police

**Q. Which state has recently celebrated the Raja festival?**

- A) Assam    B) Odisha  
C) Haryana    D) Rajasthan

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Odisha has celebrated the Raja festival, an agricultural festival.
- ✓ Raja festival is celebrated for three days.
- ✓ The first day of the festival is called 'Pahili Raja', the second day is called 'Majhi Raja' 'Raja Sankranti' or 'Mithuna Sankranti', the third day is 'Bhudaha' or 'Basi Raja' or 'Sesha Raja'.



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- ✓ Most of the festivals are connected to agriculture in one way or the other. So is the Raja festival. Odisha's Raja festival is a unique one as mother earth is worshipped during this festival.
- ✓ Notably, 'Pahili Raja' falls on the last day of month 'Jyestha' and 'Raja Sankranti' on the first day of month 'Asadha', celebrating the beginning of the rainy season.

**Q. Which bank has launched a digital platform for hassle-free account opening platform that eliminates the hassle of paper-based documentation?**

- A) Indian Overseas Bank                      B) Kotak Mahindra Bank  
C) South Indian Bank                          D) Karur Vysya Bank

**Answer : C**

- ✓ South Indian Bank has introduced SIB SWIFTe, an innovative and customer-centric digital account opening platform that eliminates the hassle of paper-based documentation.
- ✓ The platform prioritizes customer convenience and transforms the account opening process, enabling the bank to swiftly on-board customers in less than five minutes.
- ✓ This facility brings the branch-like experience to the comfort of customers' homes, allowing them to connect with bankers at their convenience.
- ✓ SIB SWIFTe, a user-friendly and intuitive interface, provides clear instructions and visual cues to guide both customers and bank representatives through each step.
- ✓ South Indian Bank
- ✓ Founded : 1929
- ✓ Headquarters : Thrissur, Kerala
- ✓ Chairman : Salim Gangadharan
- ✓ MD & CEO : Murali Ramakrishnan
- ✓ Tagline : Experience Next Generation Banking.

**Q. Which payments bank has entered into a tie-up with Sequoia Capital-backed fintech Hubble to introduce India's first spending account?**

- A) India Post Payments Bank                      B) Fino Payments Bank  
C) Paytm Payments Bank                          D) Airtel Payments Bank

**Answer : B**



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- ✓ Fino Payments Bank has entered into a tie-up with Sequoia Capital-backed fintech Hubble to introduce India's first spending account.
- ✓ The bank customers can park their funds, spend (on categories such as food ordering, shopping, travel, entertainment, etc.) and save up to 10 percent on all purchases made from the account.
- ✓ Further, users can track spends across categories of over 50 brands that Hubble has partnered with and save up to ₹20,000 a year.
- ✓ The spending account is integrated with the bank's digital savings account operated through its mobile app FinoPay. Users earn an interest rate of 2.75 percent per annum on the funds parked in the account

**Q. Which has launched mission EVOLVE (Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem) in association with NITI Aayog to finance MSMEs in the EV space?**

A) SEBI

B) RBI

C) SIDBI

D) NABARD

**Answer : C**

- ✓ SIDBI launches EVOLVE mission with NITI Aayog.
- ✓ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) launched the Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem (EVOLVE) mission.
- ✓ The mission has been launched in collaboration with NITI Aayog, World Bank, Korean-World Bank and Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF).
- ✓ Its main objective is to provide financial assistance to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the electric vehicle sector.
- ✓ The collaboration between SIDBI, NITI Aayog, World Bank, Korea-World Bank and Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) highlights the importance of public-private partnership.
- ✓ The EVOLVE mission contributes to the promotion of sustainable transportation solutions in India.
- ✓ By supporting MSMEs in the electric vehicle industry, the initiative aims to foster a vibrant ecosystem for electric vehicles.
- ✓ **EVOLVE Mission Aim:**
- ✓ Its primary objective is to provide funds for the purchase of 50,000 Electric Vehicles (EVs).
- ✓ Sanction letters have been sent to companies such as Aristo Securities and Muffin Green Finance to achieve this goal.



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- ✓ These companies have been tasked with facilitating the introduction of around 5,000 two-wheeler and three-wheeler electric vehicles on the roads in the near future
- ✓ **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI):**
- ✓ Apex regulatory body for micro, small and medium enterprise finance companies in India.
- ✓ Responsible for licensing and regulation in this sector.
- ✓ **Jurisdiction:**
- ✓ Under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- ✓ The headquarters is located in Lucknow.
- ✓ **Establishment:**
- ✓ Established on 2nd April, 1990 by the Government of India.
- ✓ Initially a wholly owned subsidiary of IDBI Bank.
- ✓ Delinked from IDBI Bank on March 27, 2000

**Q. A Book titled *Rebels Against the Raj: Western Fighters for India's Freedom* has won the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography 2023. Who is the author of this book?**

- A) Jhumpa Lahiri
- B) Vikram Seth
- C) Aravind Adiga
- D) Ramchandra Guha

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Historian and writer Ramchandra Guha's book *Rebels Against the Raj: Western Fighters for India's Freedom* has won the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography 2023.
- ✓ Guha has been awarded £5,000 (₹5 lakhs approximately) and a bound copy of Elizabeth Longford's memoir, *The Pebbled Shore*.
- ✓ The Bengaluru-based historian's book tells the story of seven foreigners — four British, Two American, and one Irish — who joined India's freedom fight against British rule. The list of names includes Annie Besant, B.G. Horniman, Philip Spratt, Richard Ralph Keithahn, Samuel Stokes, Madeline Slade, and Catherine Mary Heilemann.
- ✓ The award was founded in 2003 by Flora Fraser and Peter Soros to commemorate British historian Elizabeth Longford. Every year it rewards exemplary works in historical biography. The prize is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year





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**Q. What has been renamed as Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society?**

- A) Kalam Memorial Museum and Library Society
- B) PM Memorial Museum and Library Society
- C) Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Museum and Library Society
- D) Indian Memorial Museum and Library Society

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society renamed as Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society.
- ✓ The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society (NMML) in New Delhi has been officially renamed as the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society.
- ✓ A decision in this regard was taken during a special meeting of the NMML Society presided over by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who is its Vice-President.
- ✓ The idea of setting up a museum dedicated to all the prime ministers of India at the Teen Murti complex in New Delhi was initially proposed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2016.
- ✓ The NMML Executive Council approved the construction of the museum within Teen Murti Estate, and the project was completed.
- ✓ **About Nehru Memorial Museum and Library**
- ✓ It was established in 1964 in the memory of Jawaharlal Nehru (1889-1964).
- ✓ It is an autonomous institute under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.
- ✓ It is located in Teen Murti House, the official residence of the first Prime Minister of India.
- ✓ It has four major components, a Memorial Museum, a Library on Modern India, a Center for Contemporary Studies and the Nehru Planetarium.
- ✓ It is a specialised library designed and developed as an exclusive research and reference centre on colonial and post-colonial India. It has a rich manuscript section.

### RECENTLY RENAMED IN NEWS 2023

- Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society renamed as Prime Ministers' Museum and Library Society, New Delhi.
- Central government renamed the Mughal Gardens in New Delhi's Rashtrapati Bhavan as 'Amrit Udyan'.



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- Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village located in Bhopal district has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- Ahmednagar renamed Ahilyadevi Holkar Nagar, Maharashtra.
- Coastal Road in Mumbai renamed after Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, Maharashtra.
- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kaam Karyakram (PMKKK) renamed as Promotion of Prime Minister's Heritage (PM Vikas) Scheme.
- IDFC Asset Management Company Limited (AMC) to be renamed as Bandhan Mutual Fund as SEBI approves change in ownership.
- Maharashtra's Bandra-Versova sea route in Mumbai will be renamed as 'Veer Savarkar Bandra-Versova Sagari Setu'.
- Churchgate Railway Station in Mumbai will now be known as First Indian RBI Governor CD Deshmukh.
- Union Government Approved Renaming of Aurangabad & Osmanabad in Maharashtra.
- Philips Domestic Appliances has announced the change of its company name to Versuni.
- Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village, situated in the Bhopal district, has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- On Parakram Diwas, Prime Minister Narendra Modi participate in a ceremony to name 21 largest unnamed islands of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Edelweiss General Insurance rebranded itself as Zuno General Insurance.

**Q. According to IEA, the growth in demand for oil in Which Country will overtake that in China by 2027?**

- A) Russia
- C) India

- B) USA
- D) Canada

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The growth in demand for oil in India will overtake that in China by 2027, According to report by the International Energy Agency (IEA).
- ✓ 'Oil 2023', the multilateral agency's outlook for the next 5 years, said China's demand will fall consistently from 2024 after a massive rise this year (2023).



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- ✓ The United States, China, and India are the world's three largest oil consumers in that order.
- ✓ IEA raised its forecast for world oil growth demand to 2.4 million barrels per day in 2023, after the Chinese economy rebounded towards growth faster than expected. China will in 2023 account for nearly 60% of global growth in oil demand
- ✓ India consumed 222.30 million tonnes of petroleum products in 2022-23: 10.2% more year-on-year.
- ✓ Global crude output reached an estimated 82.3 million barrels per day till April 2023 due to record production runs in Asia

**Q. Which institute has been awarded accreditation as 'Athi Uttam' by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training (NABET)?**

- A) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**
- B) Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI)**
- C) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**
- D) Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ GSITI Hyderabad recognized as "Athi Uttam".
- ✓ The Geological Survey Training Institute of India (GSITI) located at Hyderabad has been accredited as "Athi Uttam" by the National Accreditation Board for Education and Training (NABET).
- ✓ The accreditation recognizes GSITI's excellent services and high standards in the field of Earth Science training.
- ✓ The accreditation was granted to GSITI after an on-site assessment conducted by Capacity Building Commission (CBC), NABET and Quality Control of India.
- ✓ GSITI, established in 1976, functions under the Ministry of Mines and is headquartered in Hyderabad.
- ✓ The institute consists of six Regional Training Divisions (RTDs) located at Hyderabad, Nagpur, Jaipur, Lucknow, Kolkata and Shillong.
- ✓ Four Field Training Centers (FTCs) are also established at Chitradurga (Karnataka), Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Jawar (Rajasthan) and Kuju (Jharkhand).
- ✓ The Institute conducts courses on Remote Sensing sponsored by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) under the NNRMS programme.



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**Q. Which Indian documentary has won a special prize in the 'Health for All' category at the 4th Annual Health for All Film Festival (HAFF) held at the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva?**

- A) One in 36 Million                      B) The Man Who Sold His Skin  
C) When Climate Change Turns Violent D) Communicating for health impact

**Answer : C**

- ✓ WHO Award for 'When Climate Change Turns Violent.
- ✓ The documentary titled 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' has bagged the special award in the 'Health for All' category at the 4th annual Health for All Film Festival held at the World Health Organization Headquarters in Geneva.
- ✓ This documentary has been directed by Vandita Saharia from Rajasthan.
- ✓ She was the only Indian in the list of winners.
- ✓ The 4.32-minute documentary 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' focuses on the relationship between domestic violence, climate change and human trafficking.
- ✓ The ceremony announced the winning films for seven different categories, while four films received special mentions by the jury.
- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ✓ Formation : 7 April 1948
- ✓ Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ First President : Andrija Štampar
- ✓ Director General : Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia)
- ✓ Deputy Director General : Soumya Swaminathan (Indian)
- ✓ Member Countries : 194.

**Q. Which has recently been recognized as the most trusted electronic media organization in the country?**

- A) DD India and All India Radio                      B) Zee TV and Disney Star  
C) StarPlus and Colors TV                      D) Zee News and Sony Max

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Akashvani and Doordarshan emerge as most trusted electronic media organization in country.



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- ✓ According to Reuters Institute's Digital News Report 2023, DD India and All India Radio have been recognized as the most trusted electronic media organizations in the country.
- ✓ The report highlights that although overall trust in news has decreased marginally by 3 percentage points, public broadcasters and print brands have managed to maintain a relatively high level of trust among the public.
- ✓ DD India and All India Radio have been specifically described as electronic media organizations with the highest degree of trust.
- ✓ This recognition reflects the credibility that these public broadcasters have established among their audiences.
- ✓ Being recognized as the most trusted electronic media organizations reflects the belief that the public space in DD India and All India Radio highlights their importance in the media ecosystem and the role they play in shaping public opinion.
- ✓ **About the Reuters Institute Digital News Report**
- ✓ The Digital News Report of the Reuters Institute is an annual publication.
- ✓ It provides valuable insight into the evolving landscape of digital news around the world.
- ✓ The report is widely recognized as a comprehensive and reliable source of information on news trends and media patterns.
- ✓ The report aims to examine the changing dynamics of news, the impact of digital technologies on news and the emerging role of news organizations in the digital age

**Q. Which government has appointed Jane Marriott as first woman envoy to Pakistan?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Britain appoints Jane Marriott as first female envoy to Pakistan.
- ✓ The United Kingdom appointed Jane Marriott as the next British High Commissioner to Pakistan, making her the first female British envoy to Islamabad.
- ✓ Jane Marriott previously served as the High Commissioner to Kenya since September 2019.
- ✓ She will replace Dr Christian Turner, who held the position of British Ambassador to Pakistan since December 2019.



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- ✓ Prior to his diplomatic career, he held roles in the Cabinet Office and the Home Office
- ✓ About United Kingdom
- ✓ It is an island nation located in northwestern Europe. It consists of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- ✓ Capital - London
- ✓ Prime Minister - Rishi Sunak
- ✓ Emperor - Charles III

### FIRST'S FEMALE IN NEWS 2023

- Britain appoints Jane Marriot as first female envoy to Pakistan.
- Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- Shalini Singh from Lucknow has become the first woman NCC cadet in India to complete a mountaineering course in the Himalayan region of Uttarakhand.
- Parminder Chopra becomes first woman Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation.
- Amy Pope of the United States has been selected as the first female Director-General of the United Nations Migration Agency.
- Lieutenant Shivangi Singh is the first woman Rafale pilot to take part in Orion Exercise 2023.
- Wing Commander Deepika Mishra has become the first woman Air Force officer to receive the Gallantry Medal.
- New Zealand-born Kim Cotton has become the first female umpire to officiate in a Men's T20 International (T20I) cricket match involving two ICC full-member nations.
- Sheenu Jhavar becomes first woman president of TiE Rajasthan.
- American Space Agency, NASA has selected the first woman astronaut, Christina Koch for its Artemis II mission.
- Surekha Yadav, Asia's 1st woman loco pilot who now operates Vande Bharat, From Solapur to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal (CSMT) in Maharashtra.
- Shalija Dharmi 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.



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- Captain Shiva Chauhan becomes the first women officer to be operationally deployed in the highest battleground in Kumar Post on the Siachen glacier.
- The first woman officer to be posted on foreign assignment in the Border Roads Organization (BRO) - Captain Surabhi Jakhmola.
- Rae Bareli's hockey stadium is named after hockey star Rani Rampal, first woman player from India to achieve this feat.
- Hekani Jakhalu became the first female MLA of Nagaland Assembly.
- Equatorial Guinea appoints Manuela Roka Botey as first female PM.
- Indian-origin Manpreet Monica Singh sworn in as 1st female Sikh judge of USA.
- Santhi Kumari Appointed as First Woman Chief Secretary of Telangana.
- Saudi Arabia's Rayna Barnawi first female astronaut is set to go into space this year .
- Dina Boluarte became Peru's first female president.
- FIFA has announced that Stephanie Frappart of France will be the first woman to referee a men's' World Cup match.
- PT Usha Become First Women President of Indian Olympic Association.

**Q. Which bank has introduced “MY ACCOUNT MY NAME” for Savings Bank account customers?**

**A) Indian Overseas Bank**

**B) Kotak Mahindra Bank**

**C) South Indian Bank**

**D) Karur Vysya Bank**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian Overseas Bank has introduced “MY ACCOUNT MY NAME” for Savings Bank account customers.
- ✓ This is the first time such a feature has been introduced in the banking industry.
- ✓ In ‘My Account My Name’ customer can choose any name (alias) for his/her account in addition to the account name. This ‘Alias Name’ name can be shared by customers to others instead of sharing the 15-digit account numbers.
- ✓ The account name can be a combination of seven letters only or seven numbers only or seven alphanumeric — like AJIT007, PRADHAN or 2424707 and others.
- ✓ Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)
- ✓ Founded : 1937



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- ✓ Founder : M. Chidambaram Chettyar
- ✓ Headquarters : Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- ✓ MD & CEO : Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- ✓ Tagline : Good People to Grow With

**Q. Which Country appointed Philip Green as country's new High Commissioner to India?**

- A) Australia                                      B) France  
C) Canada    D) New Zealand

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Australian foreign minister "Penny Wong" appointed "Philip Green" as Australia's next High Commissioner to India.
- ✓ She also announced that Hilary McGeachy has been appointed as Australia's first Consul-General in Bengaluru.
- ✓ India and Australia are working together for a peaceful Indo-Pacific region, Wong said both countries are working together through the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership as well as partners of the Quad grouping.
- ✓ Philip Green will also serve as High Commissioner to the Kingdom of Bhutanu

### AUSTRALIA IN NEWS 2023.

- India and Australia sign agreements in the field of migration, mobility partnership and green hydrogen.
- India and Australia sign a framework mechanism for mutual recognition of qualifications.
- Australian High Commission in India Announces Government Grant for Project in Kargil.
- Ratan Tatahas received the Order of Australia (AO), Australia's highest civilian honour.
- Australia will host the third in-person Quad summit in Sydney.
- An Indian-origin politician, Daniel Mookhey has been appointed as the Treasurer of the New South Whales in Australia.
- 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.





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- Deakin University of Australia to set up campus in Gujarat International Financial Tec-City (GIFT) City.
- Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced that two Australian universities Wollongong and Deakin are set to establish campuses in Gujarat's '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).
- 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.
- 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. Who is organizing the outreach program "Julie Ladakh"?**

- A) Indian Navy
- B) Indian Army
- C) Indian Air Force
- D) Indian Coast Guard

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian Navy's Outreach Program "Jully Ladakh" (Hello Ladakh).



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- ✓ The Indian Navy recently has launched an outreach program called "Julley Ladakh" (Hello Ladakh) to increase awareness about the Navy and engage with the youth and civil society in the pristine state of Ladakh.
- ✓ As part of this initiative, a 5000 km Motorcycle Expedition was flagged off from the National War Memorial on June 15, 2023, by Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh, the Vice Chief of Naval Staff.
- ✓ This outreach program follows the successful efforts of the Indian Navy in the North East region and the Sam No Varunah car expedition, which aimed to connect with citizens in coastal states.
- ✓ **Outreach activities**
- ✓ The outreach activities planned for this program include a Motor Cycle Expedition that will pass through a significant part of Ladakh.
- ✓ **Key objectives of the "Julley Ladakh" initiative**
- ✓ Celebrate Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, which marks 75 years of Indian Independence.
- ✓ Conduct awareness drives at schools and colleges in Ladakh to highlight the career opportunities offered by the Indian Navy, including the Agnipath Scheme.
- ✓ Motivate the youth to consider joining the Indian Navy.
- ✓ Showcase "Nari Shakti," an initiative of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, by including women officers and spouses in the program.
- ✓ Interact with naval veterans and Veer Naris (war widows) in the region

**Q. Who joined hands to drive citizen awareness 'G20-Stay Safe Online' campaign?**

- A) Google and MeitY                      B) Meta and MeitY  
C) Amazon and MeitY                      D) Microsoft and MeitY

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Google and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) have launched a partnership to increase public awareness of cyber safety.
- ✓ Google will now cooperate with the government to promote the "Stay Safe Online" campaign.
- ✓ Google will release a series of videos with YouTube producers to instruct people on how to share material properly online. The series will focus on particular abilities to more accurately assess the calibre of internet information.
- ✓ GOOGLE



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- ✓ Founded :1998
- ✓ Founders : Larry Page and Sergey Brin
- ✓ Headquarters : Mountain View, California, US
- ✓ CEO : Sundar Pichai

**Q. The 4th Tourism Working Group Meeting under India's G20 presidency and G20 Tourism Ministers meeting will be held in which state?**

- A) Assam
- B) Kerala
- C) Goa
- D) Rajasthan

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The 4th Tourism Working Group Meeting under India's G20 presidency and G20 Tourism Ministers meeting will be held in Goa from 19th June to 22nd June.
- ✓ A side event on making Cruise Tourism a model for sustainable and responsible travel will be organized on 19th June.
- ✓ The Secretary said various cultural programs will be organized to highlight and showcase the rich cultural heritage of Goa.
- ✓ Tourism Ministry will also organize a side event Towards a circular economy of plastics in tourism-the global tourism plastics initiative in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme UNEP and United Nations World Tourism Organization UNWTO.

**Q. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) recently unanimously adopted a resolution to set up a new memorial wall for dead peacekeepers, which was introduced by which country?**

- A) China
- B) Russia
- C) United States
- D) India

**Answer : D**

- ✓ UNGA adopts Resolution to establish a new Memorial Wall for fallen Peacekeepers.
- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) recently unanimously adopted a resolution to set up a new memorial wall for dead peacekeepers, which was moved by India.
- ✓ The adoption of this resolution is a significant achievement for India and reflects the confidence of the international community in India's contribution and intention.



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- ✓ India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj presented the draft resolution titled 'Memorial Wall for Fallen United Nations Peacekeepers' at the UN General Assembly Hall.
- ✓ The resolution received widespread support and a record 190 co-sponsorships, demonstrating global recognition of India's efforts in peacekeeping.
- ✓ **About the Memorial Wall**
- ✓ The Memorial Wall will symbolize the UN's commitment to peacekeeping and serve as a reminder of the sacrifices made by fallen peacekeepers.
- ✓ It will stand as a constant reminder of the price paid for global decisions and the importance given to peacekeeping operations by the United Nations.

**Q. Who has launched a book titled "Master Residential Real Estate"?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Real estate expert, Ashwinder Singh launched a book titled "Master Residential Real Estate".
- ✓ The book, "Master Residential Real Estate," serves as a comprehensive guide to the real estate industry.
- ✓ The book covers a wide range of topics related to residential real estate.
- ✓ Ashvinder Singh provides valuable insight into the current state of the real estate market.
- ✓ "Master Residential Real Estate" aims to empower readers with practical knowledge and advice.

**Q. Who Joined Hands to Accelerate Sustainable Development in India?**

- A) NITI Aayog and United Nations  
B) DRDO and United Nations  
C) Planning Commission and United Nations  
D) Ministry of Power and United Nations

**Answer : A**

- ✓ NITI Aayog, United Nations join hands to accelerate sustainable development in India.
- ✓ NITI Aayog and the United Nations in India signed the Government of India-United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 in New Delhi .



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- ✓ The Government of India-United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (GoI-UNSDCF) for the period 2023-2027 was signed by CEO of NITI Aayog, B V R Subrahmanyam, and UN Resident Coordinator India, Shombi Sharp.
- ✓ The signing ceremony took place in the presence of Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Suman Bery, senior representatives from NITI Aayog, central ministries, and heads of UN agencies in India.
- ✓ **GoI-UNSDCF 2023-2027**
- ✓ The GoI-UNSDCF 2023-2027 represents the collective commitment of the UN development system to support the Government of India in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while promoting gender equality, youth empowerment, and human rights.
- ✓ It aligns with the national vision for development and aims to contribute to the country's progress.
- ✓ The Government of India-UNSDCF, through its partnerships, outcomes and outputs, will play a key role in realizing the national development priorities.

### NITI AAYOG IN NEWS 2023

- NITI Aayog, United Nations join hands to accelerate sustainable development in India.
- PM Modi chairs the 8th meeting of the NITI Aayog Governing Council held at the New Convention Center at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- The meeting is focused on the theme of "Growth India @ 2047: Role of Team India".
- BVR Subrahmanyam was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of Niti Aayog.
- The government has monetised assets worth ₹26,000 crore during FY23 against the target of ₹1.6 lakh crore for the current fiscal : NITI Aayog.
- NITI Aayog, the Indian government's policy think-tank, recently released a report titled "Promoting Millets in Diets: Best Practices across States/UTs of India." .
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), an initiative by NITI Aayog, has launched three new resources aimed at fostering innovation and creativity among India's youth.
- NITI Aayog ( National Institution for Transforming India)
- Founded : 1st January 2015
- Preceding : Planning Commission ( 15th March 1950)
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- Chairperson : Narendra Modi



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- Vice Chairperson : Suman K Bery
- CEO : BVR Subrahmanyam
- NITI Aayog comes under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

**Q. How many crores dividend check has State Bank of India (SBI) given to FM Nirmala Sitharaman for the financial year 2022-23?**

- A) Rs 4,500 Crores                      B) Rs 4,860 Crores  
C) Rs 5,290 Crores                      D) Rs 5,740 Crores

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The country's largest public sector bank, State Bank of India (SBI), has given the government a cheque of Rs 5,740 crore as its dividend income for the financial year 2022-23.
- ✓ This is the highest dividend the State Bank of India has given in any financial year. Dinesh Kumar Khara, chairman of the country's largest bank, handed over the dividend cheque to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.
- ✓ According to the data available on the BSE website, the State Bank of India has paid a dividend of Rs 23.1130 per share to shareholders for the financial year 2022-23. The record date for this was 31 May 2023

**Q. Which state has celebrated the Palkhi festival by Warkari community?**

- A) Assam                                      B) Rajasthan  
C) Maharashtra                              D) Gujarat

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Warkari community has celebrated the Palkhi festival in Pandharpur, Maharashtra.
- ✓ Palkhi festival is an annual yatra to Pandharpur in Maharashtra to honor the Hindu god Vithoba.
- ✓ The Palkhi festival is a tradition that dates back 1000 years and was initiated by saints from Maharashtra, India.
- ✓ The Palkhi festival takes place in the month of Jyeshth (June) and lasts for a total of 22 days. It involves a journey from the departure points to Pandharpur. It is still practiced today by their followers known as varkaris.
- ✓ Devotees take a holy dip in the sacred Chandrabhaga River before visiting the Vithoba temple.



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## FESTIVAL IN NEWS 2023

- Palkhi festival : Maharashtra
- Raja festival : Odisha
- Kheer Bhawani Mela : Jammu and Kashmir
- Great Prayer Festival : Ladakh
- Sinthan Snow Festival : Jammu and Kashmir
- Heritage Festival : Goa
- Thawe Festival : Bihar
- Bohag Bihu festival : Assam
- 49th Khajuraho Dance Festival : Madhya Pradesh
- Yaoshang festival : Manipur
- Purple Fest : Goa
- Orange Festival : Nagaland
- Kala Ghoda Arts Festival : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Losar Festival : Ladakh
- 23rd Hornbill Festival : Nagaland
- Gaan Ngai festival : Manipur
- Cherchera Festival : Chhattisgarh
- 26th National Youth Festival 2023 : Hubballi, Karnataka
- International Yoga Festival 2023 : Rishikesh, Uttarakhand
- Tribal Dance Festival & Military Tattoo : New Delhi
- Mongeet Festival : Assam
- International Kite Festival 2023 : Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Vigyanika Science Literature Festival : Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Baisakhi is a harvest festival : Punjab and Haryana



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**Q. The Defence Ministry has signed a contract of 500 crore rupees with which company to strengthen the Indian Army's communication system?**

- A) ICOMM Tele Limited                      B) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)  
C) Bharat Dynamics Ltd (BDL)            D) Antrix Corporation Ltd (ACL)

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Defence Ministry signs Rs 500 crore contract to strengthen Indian Army's communication system.
- ✓ In a significant move to promote indigenous manufacturing and support the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, the Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with ICOMM Tele Limited, Hyderabad, on June 15, 2023, in New Delhi.
- ✓ The contract is for the procurement of 1,035 units of 5/7.5 Ton Radio Relay Communication equipment containers, with a contract value of approximately Rs 500 crore.
- ✓ The delivery of these containers is scheduled to commence in the current financial year 2023-24.
- ✓ The acquisition of these Radio Relay Containers fulfills a long-pending requirement for mobile communication detachments of the Indian Army.
- ✓ **Significance of MoU**
- ✓ This approach will not only enhance domestic production capabilities but also encourage the active participation of the private sector in achieving the goals of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- ✓ By investing in domestic manufacturing and promoting self-reliance in the defence sector, the Ministry of Defence aims to strengthen India's defence capabilities while reducing dependency on foreign imports.
- ✓ This contract marks a significant step towards achieving the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and stimulating the growth of the indigenous defence industry

**Q. NTPC Barauni has achieved a significant milestone by securing the first rank in the Best Industry Category at the 4th National Water Awards. NTPC Barauni is situated in which state?**

- A) Jharkhand                                      B) Bihar  
C) Chhattisgarh                                  D) Rajasthan

**Answer : B**

- ✓ NTPC Barauni secures First Rank at 4th National Water Awards, in Best Industry Category.
- ✓ NTPC Barauni has achieved a significant milestone by securing the first rank in the Best Industry Category at the 4th National Water Awards.









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- Odisha government launched the 'Mo Ghara' (My Home) housing scheme.
- PM Modi launches railway projects worth over 8,000 crore rupees in Odisha.
- Odisha government has expanded the jurisdiction of Special Development Councils (SDCs) from nine to 23 districts to improve the lives of 84 lakh tribal people.
- Odisha has its 88th foundation day on 1st April 2023.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- Odisha won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission, a 5T initiative of the state.
- Aska police station of Odisha's Ganjam district became the country's number one police station.
- Gangapur police station in Odisha's Ganjam district has been awarded the second best police station award.
- Gold Deposits Found at Different Location in Three Districts of Odisha , including Deogarh, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanj.
- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced that the Odisha government aims to make Odisha slum-free by the end of 2023.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated an 'International Craft Summit' in Jajpur
- Odisha govt launched Anemia eradication programme 'AMLAN'.
- Odisha government observed 10th November as 'Millet Day' in the state.
- Odisha government to provide free 5 Kg rice per month for one year under the State Food Security Scheme.
- Odisha Government has started working on the Sukapaika River revival plan following a direction from the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a 24×7 piped drinking water project — 'Drink from Tap' — in 19 cities of the state.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has announced a winter assistance of Rs 146 crore to the needy to protect themselves from the coming winter.
- Odisha Govt announces Rs 200 crores relief for drought hit distressed farmers.
- Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the Rs 300 crore Angul-Balram rail line connecting Odisha's Talcher Coalfield.



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- Dhanu Yatra' festival, considered to be the world's largest open-air theatre, began on 27th December in the Western Odisha town of Bargarh.

**Q. How many National Water Awards for the year 2023 have been presented by Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar?**

- A) 44  
B) 41  
C) 51  
D) 35

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the fourth National Water Awards in New Delhi.
- ✓ The awards, announced by the Jal Shakti Ministry, recognized 41 winners across 11 categories for their outstanding contributions to water conservation in India in 2022.
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh received the first prize in the best State category, while the best district award went to Ganjam District in Odisha.
- ✓ The Jagannadhapuram Village Panchayat in Bhadradi Kothagudem district of Telangana was honored with the best Village Panchayat award.
- ✓ Each winner was presented with a citation, a trophy, and cash prizes.
- ✓ **National Water Awards**
- ✓ The National Water Awards aim to acknowledge and encourage the efforts made by individuals and organizations in realizing the government's vision of a water-prosperous India.
- ✓ They also seek to create awareness about the importance of water and promote the adoption of best practices for its sustainable use.
- ✓ Vice-President stressed the significance of adopting the three Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle - to revive ancient water harvesting systems such as ponds.
- ✓ Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat shared that approximately 56,000 Amrit Sarovars (sacred ponds) have been constructed in the country.

**Q. Which state has topped under the Best State category at the fourth National Water Awards?**

- A) Uttar Pradesh  
B) Madhya Pradesh  
C) Karnataka  
D) Gujarat

**Answer : B**



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- ✓ Madhya Pradesh received the first prize in the best State category, while the best district award went to Ganjam District in Odisha.
- ✓ The Jagannadhapuram Village Panchayat in Bhadradi Kothagudem district of Telangana was honored with the best Village Panchayat award.

### MADHYA PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Tiger State Madhya Pradesh is poised to get its 7th tiger reserve with the state government going forward with the notification of Nauradehi and Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- Madhya Pradesh received the first prize in the best State category, while the best district award went to Ganjam District in Odisha.
- Narmada Hydroelectric Development Corporation Ltd (NHDC Ltd.) will construct a 525 MW pumped storage project near the Indira Sagar Dam in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Ladli Bahna Yojana'.
- Madhya Pradesh cabinet approves 'Mukhya Mantri Sikho Kamao Yojana' for unemployed youth.
- Gond paintings from Madhya Pradesh have bagged the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, a recognition that protects and acknowledges the work of tribal artists.
- Madhya Pradesh government launched Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights Scheme.
- Madhya Pradesh government announced that Islam Nagar village located in Bhopal district has been renamed as Jagdishpur.
- Madhya Pradesh Government on 5 March launched Ladli Bahna scheme under which each woman will be given one thousand rupees per month..
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced on March 4 to make Tehsil Mauganj of Rewa district the 53rd district of the state.

**Q. Which country has raised the age of voluntary sexual intercourse from 13 to 16?**

- A) Japan
- B) China
- C) United States
- D) Germany

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Japan raised the age of consensual sex from 13 to 16.
- ✓ Provisions have also been made under the new law to amend the old law related to sexual offenses and to raise awareness about the issues of same-sex relationships.
- ✓ The move comes after a wait of over a century since it was last changed in 1907.
- ✓ Japan revised its criminal law on sexual offenses in 2017 for the first time in 110 years.
- ✓ The historic move sets the stage for rape trial and criminalises voyeurism.
- ✓ Under the newly implemented changes, having sex with a person below the age of 16 years is considered rape.
- ✓ Those who threaten, entice or use money to get children under 16 to meet for sexual purposes face up to one year in prison or a fine of 500,000 yen (\$3,500).
- ✓ Secretly filming private body parts, underwear or obscene acts without reasonable cause shall be punishable by imprisonment of up to three years or a fine of up to three million yen.
- ✓ Age of consent in different countries
- ✓ In India the age of consent is 18, while in Britain it is 16, in Germany and China it is 14.
- ✓ **About Japan**
- ✓ It is also called Nihon or Nippon and is an archipelago in the western Pacific Ocean in East Asia.
- ✓ It is made up of four main islands Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu and Honshu is the largest island of Japan.
- ✓ Its highest mountain is Mount Fuji.
- ✓ It is the third largest economy in the world after the United States and China.
- ✓ Capital - Tokyo
- ✓ Currency - Yen
- ✓ Prime Minister - Fumio Kishida

**Q. Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal received the first over dimensional cargo (ODC) transported via waterways at Numaligarh Refinery jetty is situated in which state?**

A) Assam

B) Odisha

C) Kerala

D) Gujarat

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal received the first over dimensional cargo (ODC) transported via waterways at Numaligarh Refinery jetty (Assam) on 16th June.
- ✓ The ODC was transported by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) vessel MV Marine 66 from Kolkata to Numaligarh Refinery Jetty via Indo Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBPR).
- ✓ The Diesel Hydrotreating (DHT) reactor had a net weight of 485 MT, while the gross weight was 521 MT.
- ✓ The length of this reactor is 31.5 m while the height is 8.250 m and the diameter is 8.00 m.
- ✓ This is the first consignment transported by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), the nodal agency in charge of inland waterways in the country, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, to augment the capacity of Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) from 3 MMT to 9 MMT.
- ✓ Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI).
- ✓ IWAI is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, Government of India.
- ✓ It plays a crucial role in the development, maintenance, and regulation of the country's inland waterways.
- ✓ It was established on 27th October 1986.
- ✓ Its headquarters is located in Noida, UP

### ASSAM IN NEWS 2022-23

- Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal received the first over dimensional cargo (ODC) transported via waterways at Numaligarh Refinery jetty (Assam).
- Indian Army's Gajraj Corps, along with other disaster management groups, conducted a joint flood relief drill, 'Exercise Jal Rahat', at Hagrama Bridge on Manas River in Assam.
- India's first International Multi Modal Logistics park in Jogighopa, Assam.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the Ayushman Assam Scheme under the Mukhya Mantri Jan Arogya (MMJA) in Guwahati.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28th April virtually commissioned 91 FM Transmitters of capacity of 100 Watt at Diphu in Karbi Anglong district of Assam.
- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the Mission Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE) in the state.



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- Assam-based non-profit organization Aaranyak has formed a network of local communities called the Elephant Conservation Network (ECN).
- North East's 1st compressed biogas plant in Assam.
- Assam to Celebrate Mongeet Festival of Music, Culture, and Food.
- REC Limited, a Maharatna Company under the Ministry of Power, Govt. of India organized 'Bijli Utsav' in Anandapur Gaon of Baksa district and adjoining villages in Assam.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the second version of 'Orunodoi', the flagship scheme .
- Tapan Saikia will receive the Asom Baibhav, the highest civilian honour that the Assam government.
- Trees Beyond Forests initiative launched in Assam.
- Assam Grants Industry Status to Its Tourism Sector.
- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Swanirbhar Naari' scheme.
- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Vidya Rath – School on Wheels' project.
- Gamosa, Tandur Redgram, and Ladakh apricots get GI tags from Assam.
- Assam CM Nominated Charaideo Maidam to Seek UNESCO World Heritage Tag.
- First Unani Medicine Regional Center of Northeast Inaugurated in Silchar, Assam

**Q. G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (AMM) has been held from 15th-17th June 2023 in Which City?**

**A) Hyderabad**

**B) Bengaluru**

**C) Chennai**

**D) Visakapatnam**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian Institute of Millets Research (ICAR-IIMR) as the 'Global Centre of Excellence on Millets (Shree Anna)' at the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi reiterated the role of the premier institute in the promotion and adoption of millets, in his video message at the G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting in Hyderabad.

### HYDERABAD IN NEWS 2023

- Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) under the Union Ministry of AYUSH organized a mega 'Yoga Festival' at NCC Parade Ground, Hyderabad.







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#### Answer : A

- ✓ Tiger State Madhya Pradesh is poised to get its 7th tiger reserve with the state government going forward with the notification of Nauradehi and Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuaries as a combined protected area.
- ✓ This new reserve, spanning an expansive 2,339 sq km and around 20km from Bhopal, is yet to be officially named and will straddle three districts -- Narsinghpur, Sagar, and Damoh.
- ✓ **MP is known for its six tiger reserves :**
- ✓ Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Panna, Pench, Sanjay Dubri, and Satpura. Sources say the seventh will be named 'Durgavati Tiger Reserve

#### Q. Which countries are Joins Hands with UN Habitat for Mission LiFE?

- A) India and Oman
- B) India and Kuwait
- C) India and Israel
- D) India and Libya

#### Answer : B

- ✓ Embassy of India in Kuwait, in association with the United Nations Habitat Office in Kuwait, organized a Beach Cleaning Event.
- ✓ The event, held at the Beach opposite Bneid Al Gar, received tremendous support from various organizations, including the Office of the Hawally Governor, Kuwaiti Municipality, and Indian community associations such as the Kuwait Kerala Muslim Cultural Centre (KKMCC), Thrissur Association of Kuwait (TRASSK), Telugu Kala Samithi (TKS), Kuwait Tamil Peoples Service Centre (KTPSC), Prvasandra Reddy Association - Kuwait (PRAK), and Kuwait Kannada Koota (KKK).
- ✓ The Beach Cleaning Event was organized as part of the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle For Environment) initiative of the Government of India, which was announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister H.E Narendra Modi at the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP26).
- ✓ Aim : The mission aims to bring individual behaviors to the forefront of global climate action by promoting a circular economy and mindful utilization.
- ✓ Under Mission LiFE, behavioral change solutions target water and waste management sectors, encouraging climate-friendly practices at the individual, household, and community levels.



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**Q. Who has reappointment of MD and CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank?**

- A) M. V. Nair  
B) Arun Kumar Mishra  
C) Rekha Sharma  
D) P N Vasudevan

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Equitas Small Finance Bank the Reserve Bank of India gave its approval for the re-appointment of P N Vasudevan as Managing Director and Chief Executive officer of the bank.
- ✓ Vasudevan has been reappointed for a period of three years, from July 23, 2023, to July 23, 2026.
- ✓ Equitas Small Finance Bank
- ✓ Founded : 2016
- ✓ Headquarteres : Chennai
- ✓ MD & CEO : Vasudevan P N
- ✓ Tagline : It's Fun Banking
- ✓ Rani Rampal & Smriti Mandhana : Brand ambassador of Equitas Small Finance Bank

**Q. Which will be awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 for his extraordinary contribution to social, economic, and political transformation through non-violent and Gandhian methods?**

- A) Ayana Charitable Trust  
B) Prarthana Samaj  
C) Gita Press Gorakhpur  
D) Church of God Chenna

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Gita Press, Gorakhpur, awarded Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021.
- ✓ Gita Press, Gorakhpur, will be awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 in recognition of its exceptional contribution to social, economic, and political transformation through non-violent and Gandhian methods.
- ✓ The jury, headed by Prime Minister Modi, unanimously selected Gita Press as the recipient of the Gandhi Peace Prize.
- ✓ PM Modi highlighted Gita Press's efforts in promoting Gandhian ideals of peace and social harmony, emphasizing that the award signifies recognition of their community service after a century of establishment.
- ✓ **About Gita Press**
- ✓ Established in 1923, Gita Press is renowned as one of the world's largest publishers, having published 41.7 crore books in 14 languages, including 16.21 crore copies of the Shrimad Bhagavad Gita.
- ✓ **About Gandhi Peace Prize**





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- The Cabinet approved the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project in October 2020.
- World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 363 million for the supply of clean drinking water from taps to 2 million rural households in Karnataka.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- According to the World Bank's (WB) annual report 'State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2023' released on May 23, 2023, revenues collected from carbon taxes and Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) globally have reached a record high, about US\$95 billion in 2022.
- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- India and the World Bank have signed a loan agreement for the construction of the Green National Highway Corridors Project (GNHCP) in four States.
- These four states are-Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
- World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- 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**
- Founded : 1944
- Headquarters : Washington Dc
- 14th President : Ajay Banga
- 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).



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- All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.
- World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- India is a member of IBRD, IFC, IDA and MIGA. The country is not a member of the ICSID

**Q. Who has been awarded the 45th European Essay Prize for lifetime achievement by the Charles Veillon Foundation?**

- A) Jhumpa Lahiri
- B) Arundhati Roy
- C) Kiran Desai
- D) Shashi Deshpande

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Arundhati Roy received the 45th European Essay Prize for Lifetime Achievement and the award is presented by the Charles Whelan Foundation.
- ✓ Arundhati Roy's book of essays, 'Azadi' (2021), especially the French translation, received acclaim.
- ✓ 'Azaadi' explores the concept of freedom in an increasingly totalitarian world, with an emphasis on fiction and alternative imaginations.
- ✓ Roy is known for his notable works, including the Booker Prize-winning novel The God of Small Things.
- ✓ The award ceremony will be held on September 12 in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- ✓ Past recipients of the European Essay Prize include Alexander Zinoviev, Amin Malouf and Siri Hustvedt.
- ✓ **European Essay Prize:**
- ✓ It is the first literary award dedicated solely to the genre of the essay.
- ✓ The award recognizes outstanding essays that criticise current societies, their practices and ideologies.
- ✓ It has been awarded since 1975 highlighting its long standing presence in the literary scene.
- ✓ Award-winning essays shed light on social norms, political structures, cultural practices, and socioeconomic challenges
- ✓ The first Indian to win the Booker Prize was the author and activist Arundhati Roy. Her first novel 'God of Small Things' in 1997.



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**Q. Who has been awarded the prestigious German Peace Prize 2023 for his literary work?**

- A) Shashi Tharoor                      B) Vikram Seth  
C) Chetan Bhagat                      D) Salman Rushdie

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Author Salman Rushdie has been awarded a prestigious German prize for his literary work and for his resolve in the face of a “constant threat to his life”.
- ✓ He would receive the award in Frankfurt on October 22, 2023.
- ✓ Cash prize: Euro 25,000 (\$27,300).
- ✓ This prize was established in 1950 to recognize a personality committed to serving international understanding between nations and cultures through their work.

**Q. The Department of Legal Affairs under the Union law ministry has set up a panel to recommend reforms in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act. The committee would be led by \_\_\_.**

- A) T K Vishwanathan                      B) Rajesh Verma  
C) Ramesh Kandula                      D) Mahendra Kumar Sharma

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Government of India has constituted an expert panel headed by former Law Secretary TK Vishwanathan to propose reforms in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act and reduce the burden on the courts.
- ✓ The expert committee comprises Attorney General N Venkataramani and members from various government departments, private law firms and legal entities.
- ✓ The mandate of the Committee includes evaluating the current arbitration ecosystem in India, analyzing the strengths, weaknesses and challenges in comparison to foreign jurisdictions.
- ✓ The panel is expected to submit its report within 30 days and recommend a framework for a cost-effective arbitration system.
- ✓ The Committee will focus on developing a competitive environment both domestically and internationally in the arbitration services market, and will aim at establishing a cost-effective arbitration regime.
- ✓ The Department of Legal Affairs is taking steps to strengthen the dispute resolution environment in India and promote ease of doing business through legal reforms.



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- ✓ The reform of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act aims to reduce court interference, make arbitration a party-driven process and ensure time-bound finalization of arbitration awards

### COMMITTEE IN NEWS 2023

- Government of India has constituted an expert panel headed by former Law Secretary TK Vishwanathan to propose reforms in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act and reduce the burden on the courts.
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has established an 11-member Cheetah Project Steering Committee under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Rajesh Gopal, secretary general of Global Tiger Forum, has been appointed as its chairman..
- IRDAI has recently constituted a five-member expert committee comprising medical experts and insurers to advise on matters related to mental health and insurance; Headed By : Pratima Murthy.
- Razorpay forms 4-member advisory board to strengthen corporate governance; Head-former RBI deputy governor NS Vishwanathan.
- Ministry of Finance has set up of a four-member committee forms panel to suggest changes to National Pension Scheme (NPS); Headed By- Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan.
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has set up a 14-member committee to look into stalled real estate projects; Headed By – Amitabh Kant.
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has constituted a nine-member task force to make India a ‘product developer and manufacturing nation’. Chaired By - Bhuvnesh Kumar.
- International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has formed an expert committee to create a roadmap to encourage Indian startups/fintech domiciled abroad to relocate to the GIFT City in Gujarat. Chaired By - G. Padmanabhan.
- 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.
- The five-judge Constitution Bench was headed by Justice K M Joseph.
- 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. Headed By - AM Sapre.





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- Government of India (GoI) constituted a 16-member inter-ministerial committee to analyse the need for a separate law for competition in the digital market and to draft a digital competition act within three months. Headed By - Manoj Govil.
- The Shipping Ministry has formed a committee to draft revised Guidelines for operationalization of Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) and Roll on-Passenger (Ro-Pax) ferry service. Headed By- Sanjay K. Mehta.

**Q. Who has unveiled its version of the metaverse called Bharatmeta?**

- A) india.ai
- B) Wistron.ai
- C) Better.ai
- D) Kiya.ai

**Answer : D**

- ✓ India is poised to become a major player in the metaverse technology landscape, as showcased by Kiya.ai, an India-based company specializing in Artificial Intelligence and emerging technology solutions.
- ✓ At the prestigious VivaTech event held in Paris 2023, Kiya.ai unveiled its version of the metaverse called Bharatmeta, making it the first of its kind from India.
- ✓ The demonstration took place at the India Pavilion during the event 'VivaTech', which is recognized as Europe's largest annual technology and startup gathering.

**Q. Which airline has placed a order with European manufacturer Airbus for 500 A320 Family aircraft?**

- A) SpiceJet
- B) Go First
- C) Air India
- D) IndiGo

**Answer : D**

- ✓ IndiGo, India's largest airline by market share, has placed a record order with European manufacturer Airbus for 500 A320 Family aircraft.
- ✓ It is the biggest single purchase agreement in the history of commercial aviation.
- ✓ This IndiGo order book comprises a mix of A320NEO, A321NEO and A321XLR aircraft. The airline will take the delivery of these aircraft between 2030 and 2035.
- ✓ The agreement takes the total number of Airbus aircraft on order by IndiGo to 1,330, making it the world's biggest A320 Family customer.



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✓ Earlier this year, Tata-owned Air India placed orders for 470 aircraft from Airbus and US manufacturer Boeing.

**Q. In which city the G20 4th Education Working Group meeting will be held from June 20th to 21st, 2023?**

A) Chennai

B) Pune

C) Kochi

D) Kolkata

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Ministry of Education is gearing up to host the 4th Education Working Group (EdWG) meeting in Pune, Maharashtra. The highly anticipated event will take place from June 20th to 21st, 2023, and will witness the participation of 85 delegates from G-20 member countries, guest countries and esteemed organizations such as OECD, UNESCO and UNICEF.
- ✓ Additionally, Ministers from 15 countries have confirmed their attendance for the Education Ministers' gathering on June 22, 2023, along with senior representatives from UNICEF, OECD and UNESCO.

### PUNE IN NEWS 2023

- Education Ministry will host the 4th and final Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting under India's G20 presidency in Pune.
- The city of Pune will soon hold the distinction of having the country's deepest underground metro station..
- Pune's Civil Court interchange station will be 108.59 feet deep with a ceiling of 95 feet.
- India and 23 African nations on 21 March began a nine-day mega military exercise Africa-India Field Training Exercise (AFINDEX) in Pune.
- The first joint conference of army chiefs of India and African countries was held in Pune.
- Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad recently arrested a scientist of the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) on charges of espionage..
- The scientist named Pradeep Kurulkar was arrested in Pune.
- External Affairs Ministry's annual flagship event on Geoeconomics, Asia Economic Dialogue began on 23 February in Pune, Maharashtra.
- Maharashtra's first Electronics Manufacturing Cluster to be set up at Ranjangaon, Pune.



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- Savitribai Phule Pune University won its first gold medal in the women's tennis event at the Khelo India University Games.
- DHARA - Annual Meeting of Members of the River Cities Alliance to be held In Pune.
- Union Minister for Youth Affairs Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the fourth Y20 consultation meeting in Pune.
- Talon Grikspoor of the Netherlands won the singles title at the Maharashtra Open tennis tournament in Pune

**Q. Who has built the 'Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope'?**

- A) C-DAC
- B) IUCAA
- C) DRDO
- D) Tech Mahindra

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Pune-based Inter-University Center for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) has built a unique space telescope, the Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT).
- ✓ It will be used in ISRO's first solar mission Aditya-L1.
- ✓ This space telescope will provide a full disk image of the Sun in the 2000 to 4000A wavelength range which has never been possible before.
- ✓ This space telescope will be sent with seven payloads in the Aditya-L1 mission.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the non-executive chairman by Axis Bank?**

- A) Shaktikanta Das
- B) Urjit Patel
- C) NS Vishwanathan
- D) Ajay Mehra

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Axis Bank has appointed NS Vishwanathan, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, as non-executive chairman.
- ✓ The board of directors of the bank has appointed Vishwanathan for a period of three years. Apart from Axis Bank, Vishwanathan was appointed as the head of the advisory board at Razorpay in April 2023.
- ✓ Vishwanathan had joined RBI in 1981 and retired as Deputy Governor in March 2020



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#### AXIS BANK IN NEWS 2023

- Axis Bank has appointed NS Vishwanathan, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, as non-executive chairman.
- Axis Bank launches Digital Onboarding platform 'Sarathi' for POS Terminals.
- Axis Bank and India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd announce strategic partnership under the co-lending model.
- Axis Bank completes deal to buy Citibank's India consumer business.
- Axis Bank Partners with OPEN to Launch a Fully Digital Current Account.
- **AXIS BANK**
- Founded : 1993
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Rakesh Makhija
- MD & CEO : Amitabh Chaudhary
- Tagline : Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)?**

A) Ravi Sinha

B) Ajay Sinha

C) Vivek Kala

D) Vinod Lahori

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Ravi Sinha, a 1988 batch IPS officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, has been selected as the next chief of the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)..
- ✓ Sinha will take over from current chief Samant Kumar Goel, whose term ends on June 30, 2023.
- ✓ Presently, Ravi Sinha is holding the post of Special Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat
- ✓ **Research and Analysis Wing (RAW):**
- ✓ It is the foreign intelligence agency of India.
- ✓ RAW's primary function is to gather foreign intelligence.
- ✓ It is responsible for counter-terrorism and counter-proliferation efforts.
- ✓ RAW advises Indian policy makers on strategic matters.
- ✓ Established - 21 September 1968



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- ✓ Founder - RN Kao, Indira Gandhi
- ✓ Headquarters - New Delhi
- ✓ Officeholder - Samant Goyal (Director of Intelligence Agency)

**Q. India has gifted indigenously built missile corvette 'INS Kirpan' to which country?**

- A) Vietnam                                      B) Bangladesh  
C) Bhutan                                         D) Sri Lanka

**Answer : A**

- ✓ India gifts missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam.
- ✓ Defense Minister Rajnath Singh on 19 June announced the gift of an indigenous in-service missile corvette, INS Kirpan, to the Vietnam People's Navy.
- ✓ The announcement is expected to significantly enhance the capabilities of the Vietnamese Navy.
- ✓ **About INS Kirpan**
- ✓ INS Kirpan is a missile corvette belonging to the Khukri class with a displacement of about 1,350 tonnes.
- ✓ It was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 12 January 1991.
- ✓ The length of the corvette is 91 meters and the beam is 11 metres.
- ✓ It is capable of attaining speeds of over 25 knots.
- ✓ Equipped with a variety of weapons including medium-range cannon, 30 mm close-range gun, chaff launcher and surface-to-surface missiles, INS Kirpan has the versatility to play multiple roles.
- ✓ The roles performed by INS Kirpan include coastal and offshore patrolling, coastal security, surface warfare, anti-piracy operations and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.

**Q. In which state will the 37th edition of the National Games of India be organized?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant launched the mascot 'Moga' of the 37th edition of the National Games at a launch ceremony held at the Goa Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium.
- ✓ The 37th edition of the National Games will be organized at various places in the state of Goa.
- ✓ National Games in India are organized by the Indian Olympic Association



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**Q. Which country won the title of Squash World Cup 2023?**

- A) India                                      B) Iran  
C) Turkey                                     D) Egypt

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Egypt emerged victorious in the World Squash Championship, defeating Malaysia 2-1 in the final held in Chennai.
- ✓ Malaysia secured the silver medal in the championship.
- ✓ The third place in the championship was shared between the host country, India, and Japan.
- ✓ Malaysia defeated India with a score of 3-0 in the semi-final held the previous day.
- ✓ The state of Tamil Nadu has gained recognition in international sports by successfully organizing the Chess Olympiad within a remarkable four-month timeframe

**Q. Which State Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department launched a web portal to check illegal cattle transportation?**

- A) Bihar                                        B) Karnataka  
C) Assam                                      D) Uttar Praesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Assam Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department launched a web portal for cattle transportation, during a program held in Guwahati.
- ✓ Aim : To prevent the illegal transportation of cattle

**Q. Which bank has recently launched its ActivMoney feature, which gives customers the benefit of fixed deposit (FD)-like interest up to 7 percent per annum?**

- A) Indian Overseas Bank                      B) Kotak Mahindra Bank  
C) Yes Bank                                        D) HDFC Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Kotak Mahindra Bank launches 'ActivMoney'



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- ✓ Kotak Mahindra Bank launched its ActivMoney feature, which gives customers the benefit of fixed deposit (FD)-like interest up to 7 percent per annum, and the flexibility to access their funds at any time from the linked savings account.
- ✓ This is an auto sweep feature that is offered by several other banks, including Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, and IndusInd Bank.

**Q. Which fintech company has introduced a UPI Software Development Kit (SDK) for customers to make payments to online merchants without any failure of the system?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Paytm has introduced a UPI Software Development Kit (SDK) for customers to make payments to online merchants without any failure of the system.
- ✓ UPI SDK has also assured fail-proof transactions.
- ✓ Paytm UPI SDK will let users pay directly from bank accounts through UPI PIN without having to jump between merchant and payment app. Along with Paytm UPI Lite, the company is enhancing two-sided payments, for both merchants and customers.

**Q. Indian men's football team has won the Intercontinental Cup 2023 by defeating which country?**

- A) Argentina                      B) Portugal  
C) Lebanon                        D) Brazil

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Indian men's football team beat Lebanon 2-0 to win the Intercontinental Cup 2023 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ It was India's first win over Lebanon in 47 years and second in eight meetings.
- ✓ This was the third edition of the Intercontinental Cup. The Indian football team upset Kenya to win the inaugural Intercontinental Cup in 2018 while North Korea clinched the crown in 2019 by beating Tajikistan.
- ✓ Indian captain – Sunil Chhetri



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**Q. The inaugural edition of India's first-ever Women's Kabaddi League (WKL) commenced in which city?**

A) Dubai

B) New Delhi

C) London

D) New York

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The inaugural edition of India's first-ever Women's Kabaddi League (WKL) commenced with great fanfare in Dubai.
- ✓ The league is being organized by the Kabaddi Federation of India and the Dream Sports Group.
- ✓ The league consists of eight teams, featuring a total of 96 players, each representing Indian states.
- ✓ These teams bear the names of various states, including the Delhi Dynamites, Gujarat Angels, Great Marathas, Haryana Hustlers, Punjab Panthers, Rajasthan Riders, Uma Kolkata, and Bengaluru Hawks.

**Q. World Refugee Day is observed on which day?**

A) 18 June

B) 20 June

C) 19 June

D) 17 June

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) observes the World Refugee Day on June 20 each year to raise awareness of the situation of refugees throughout the world.
- ✓ 2023 Theme: Hope Away from Home
- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly recognised the day on 4 December 2020.
- ✓ United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) headquarter – Geneva, Switzerland

**Q. Which country will rejoin UNESCO in July 2023 four years after leaving due to allegations of bias against Israel?**

A) Russia

B) Germany

C) Japan

D) United States

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The United States will rejoin UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organization, in July 2023.
- ✓ The move ends Washington's more than ten-year dispute with the UN cultural agency after the US left UNESCO in 2018.





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- ✓ US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Verma submitted a letter to UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay last week to formalize plans to rejoin.
- ✓ In addition, the US will also pay an outstanding balance of over \$600 million
- ✓ **America's reason for being out of UNESCO**
- ✓ The United States exited UNESCO primarily due to the induction of Palestine as a member in 2011.
- ✓ This move resulted in the US suspending its funding to the agency, which amounted to millions of dollars, during the presidency of Barack Obama.
- ✓ The reason behind the US halting funding was that Palestine is not recognized as a sovereign state by the United Nations.
- ✓ While Palestine was granted non-member observer state status in 2012, enabling its participation in General Assembly proceedings, it did not possess voting rights.
- ✓ **Why did the USA rejoin UNESCO?**
- ✓ The absence of the United States from UNESCO allowed China to gain greater influence within the organization.
- ✓ Recognizing the need to maintain a strong international presence and influence, the US has sought to re-engage to counter China's growing authority.
- ✓ By rejoining, the US is seeking to regain its role in shaping and influencing UNESCO's policies.

### UNESCO IN NEWS 2023

- United States will rejoin UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organization, in July 2023.
- Jagdish Bakan wins UNESCO's 2023 Michel Batisse Award .
- UNESCO World Heritage Centre has recommended Santiniketan, the cultural site in West Bengal, India, for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- According to a report published by UNESCO at the United Nations 2023 Water Conference in New York, 26 percent of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water.
- Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the Felix Houphouet-Boigny UNESCO Peace Prize in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast.
- Visva-Bharati University is expected to get the status of the world's first "Living Heritage University" from UNESCO.
- UNESCO listed Ukraine's Odesa a World Heritage Site in Danger.



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- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Centre has nominated the maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo to seek a UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.
- The historic maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo were chosen out of 52 sites for the UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- Formation : 16 November 1945
- Headquarters : Paris, France
- Director-General : Audrey Azoulay (France)
- Member countries : 193
- Total UNESCO sites in india : 40.

**Q. According to Hurun India, which is the most valuable listed private company in India?**

- A) HDFC Bank                                      B) Infosys  
C) Reliance Industries                              D) ITC

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Hurun India has recently released the list of India's listed most valuable private companies, in this list Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries is at the top position.
- ✓ According to Hurun India, the total market capitalization of Reliance Industries is ₹16,37,327 crore.
- ✓ Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) of Tata Group comes second in this list with a total market capitalization of Rs 11.8 lakh crore.
- ✓ In this list, TCS is second and HDFC Bank is in third place with Rs 9.4 lakh crore.
- ✓ Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)
- ✓ Founded : 8 May 1973
- ✓ Founder : Dhirubhai Ambani
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- ✓ CMD : Mukesh Ambani
- ✓ Owner : Mukesh Ambani (50.49%)
- ✓ Director : Nita Dalal Ambani
- ✓ Subsidiaries





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✓ **RBI Deputy Governor (4)**

- ✓ 1. Tavarana Rabi Sankar
- ✓ 2. Michael D Patra
- ✓ 3. M Rajeshwar Rao
- ✓ 4. Swaminathan Janakiraman

✓ **FIVE SUBSIDIARIES OF RBI :**

- ✓ 1. Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGC)
- ✓ 2. Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)
- ✓ 3. Reserve Bank Information Technology Private Limited (ReBIT)
- ✓ 4. Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS).
- ✓ 5. Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)
- ✓ India has four currency note printing presses.
- ✓ Nashik in Maharashtra and Dewas in Madhya Pradesh owned by govt of India.
- ✓ Mysuru in Karnataka and Salboni in West Bengal owned by RBI.
- ✓ Coins are minted in four mints owned by the Government of India.
- ✓ Mumbai, Hyderabad, Calcutta and Noida

**Q. In which country Indian Army is participating in 'Exercise Khan Quest 2023'?**

- A) France
- B) Japan
- C) Mongolia
- D) Russia

**Answer : C**

- ✓ With the participation of military contingents and observers from more than 20 countries, the multinational peacekeeping joint exercise "Ex Khan Quest 2023" began in Mongolia on 19 June.
- ✓ The ceremony was inaugurated by Mongolian President Ukhmagin Khurelsukh at the exercise site.
- ✓ The exercise is jointly sponsored by the Mongolian Armed Forces (MAF) and the United States Army Pacific Command (USARPAC).
- ✓ The Indian Army is being represented by a contingent of the Garhwal Rifles.
- ✓ **Purpose of the exercise**



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- ✓ The 14-day exercise aims to improve interoperability among the participating countries, facilitate exchange of experiences and provide training to uniformed personnel for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKO).
- ✓ **Significance of exercise**
- ✓ The exercise will help prepare participants for future UN peacekeeping operations, enhance peacekeeping capabilities and improve military preparedness.
- ✓ It includes various activities like Command Post Exercise (CPX), Field Training Exercise (FTX), Combat Discussion, Lectures and Demonstrations.
- ✓ This military exercise will strengthen defense cooperation between the Indian Army and the participating countries, especially the Mongolian Armed Forces, thereby enhancing bilateral relations between India and Mongolia.
- ✓ **About Mongolia**
- ✓ It is located in North Central Asia.
- ✓ Capital: Ulaanbaatar
- ✓ Currency: Tugrik
- ✓ President: Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh

- Q. Which state government has launched free power scheme, 'Gruha Jyothi Scheme'?**
- A) Telangana
  - B) Madhya Pradesh
  - C) Karnataka
  - D) Uttar Praesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Karnataka government has launched a free power scheme named 'Gruha Jyothi scheme' for providing free electricity up to 200 units a month.
- ✓ Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah also stated that the scheme also extends to tenants living on rent if their electricity consumption matches the scheme's criteria.
- ✓ The beneficiaries will get a 'zero bill' starting August 1 if usage is within their entitlement.
- ✓ The Gruha Jyothi scheme is part of the Congress government's five poll promises.



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#### KARNATAKA IN NEWS 2023

- Karnataka government is currently facing challenges in implementing the Anna Bhagya scheme starting from July 1 due to the unavailability of the required amount of rice.
- Karnataka government has launched a free power scheme named 'Gruha Jyothi scheme' for providing free electricity up to 200 units a month.
- Karnataka government has advised the women to apply for Shakti smart cards to avail the free travel in state run buses.
- Siddaramaiah was sworn in as the 24th Chief Minister of Karnataka for his second term .
- The National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22 Karnataka, overall, is the most “innovative” State, followed by Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.
- According to the India Justice Report (IJR) 2022, which assesses the performance of states in terms of justice delivery, the state of Karnataka has achieved the top rank .
- World Bank has granted a loan of USD 363 million to the state of Karnataka in India, which will help to provide clean drinking water.
- Karnataka ended their 54-year wait to win the Santosh Trophy national football championship, beating Meghalaya .
- The Karnataka Government will build the country’s first Marina or a boat basin offering dockage, at Byndoor in Udupi district to promote coastal tourism in Karnataka.
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying announced that the fourth phase of the Sagar Parikrama program began in Karnataka.
- Karnataka bags National Award For Fasal Bima Yojana, implementing the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme.
- Karnataka Bank awarded ‘Prathista Puraskar for achieving highest percentage in BHIM-UPI transactions.
- Mysuru and Hampi are the two popular destinations in Karnataka to be promoted as a part of the new Tourism policy ‘The Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme, which focuses on revving up destination tourism.
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka.
- About Karnataka State



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- Formation - 1 November 1956
- Capital- Bengaluru
- Chief minister : Siddaramaiah
- Governor- Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Legislative Assembly seats- 224
- Lok Sabha seats- 28
- Jog Falls (Garsoppa) located in Karnataka is the highest waterfall in India which is on Sharavathi River.
- Yakshagana is the main folk dance of Karnataka.

**Q. Which author has been awarded the prestigious 'German Peace Prize'?**

A) Chetan Bhagat

B) Salman Rushdie

C) Arundhati Roy

D) Amish Tripathi

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Salman Rushdie wins German Book Trade 2023 Peace Prize.
- ✓ The Peace Prize of the German Book Trade for 2023 has been awarded to British-American author Salman Rushdie.
- ✓ Birth and Background: Salman Rushdie was born on June 19, 1947 in Bombay (now Mumbai), India.
- ✓ The Satanic Verses: Rushdie achieved international recognition through his controversial 1988 novel, The Satanic Verses.
- ✓ History of the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade
- ✓ It was established in 1950 and the award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the promotion of international understanding between nations and cultures through their literary works.
- ✓ The prize is endowed with €25,000 (\$27,300).
- ✓ The award ceremony takes place in October during the Frankfurt Book Fair, one of the largest and most important book fairs in the world.
- ✓ The purpose of the award is to encourage efforts to promote peace, dialogue and cooperation.
- ✓ Past recipients of the award include Margaret Atwood, Orhan Pamuk, Susan Sontag, Amos Oz, and Vaclav Havel.



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- ✓ Last year, the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade was awarded to Ukrainian author Serhiy Zhadan.
- ✓ **List of famous books by Salman Rushdie:**
- ✓ Midnight's Children
- ✓ Shame
- ✓ The Satanic Verses
- ✓ fury
- ✓ Shalimar The Clown
- ✓ The Golden House
- ✓ Quichotte
- ✓ Victory City

**Q. Which Government has implemented Anna Bhagya Scheme i.e. Free Rice Distribution Scheme for the citizens of state?**

A) Kerala

B) Telangana

C) Karnataka

D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Karnataka's Anna Bhagya Scheme.
- ✓ The Karnataka government is currently facing challenges in implementing the Anna Bhagya scheme starting from July 1 due to the unavailability of the required amount of rice.
- ✓ The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has halted the sale of rice to state governments, including Karnataka, since June 12.
- ✓ This discontinuation of rice supply has created difficulties for the implementation of the Anna Bhagya scheme.
- ✓ However, Punjab has in principle agreed to supply rice to Karnataka in the required quantity.
- ✓ FCI initially agreed to provide the required 2.28 lakh tonnes of rice, but later refused to do so.
- ✓ Telangana and Andhra Pradesh expressed their inability to supply, while the Chhattisgarh government offered to supply 1.5 lakh tonnes.
- ✓ **About Anna Bhagya Scheme**
- ✓ The state government intends to increase the allocation of free rice from 5 kg to 10 kg per person on Below Poverty Line (BPL) cards under the Anna Bhagya scheme.





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- ✓ The aim of this increase in free rice allocation is to provide more support and food security to the persons belonging to BPL category.
- ✓ The implementation of this revised allocation is scheduled to begin from July 1.
- ✓ The increased allocation of free rice will cost the state government an estimated ₹840 crore per month.
- ✓ Annually, the scheme is expected to cost Rs 10,092 crore to the state exchequer

**Q. Which state's chief minister has inaugurated "The Tribune Real Estate Expo 2023" in the state?**

A) Rajasthan

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Himachal Pradesh

D) Uttarakhand

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has inaugurated "The Tribune Real Estate Expo, 2023, Shimla".
- ✓ Around 15 real estate developers and some banks are participating in the expo.
- ✓ The expo is expected to attract potential buyers and investors from across the country.
- ✓ Most of these developers are exhibiting their properties situated in Zirakpur, Mohali and other areas close to Chandigarh.
- ✓ The expo is being organized by the Himachal Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (HPRERA) and the Himachal Pradesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HPCCI).

## HIMACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has inaugurated "The Tribune Real Estate Expo, 2023, Shimla".
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu informed that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) will set up an ethanol plant at Jeetpur Baheri in Una district at a cost of Rs 500 crore.
- European Commission (EC) has awarded protected geographical indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of India's Himachal Pradesh.
- Himachal Pradesh (HP) has become the first Indian state to develop a DNA database for unidentified bodies.



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- Himachal Pradesh launched Sanjeevani Project to uplift the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- Himachal Pradesh targets to be first 'green energy state' by 2025.
- Himachal Cabinet approves monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women of Spiti Valley.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up of Rs 101 crore CM's Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh for the destitute in the state.
- Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone of 'Himachal Niketan' which will provide accommodation facilities to the students and residents of Himachal Pradesh visiting New Delhi.
- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its 53rd Statehood Day with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023

**Q. Who has become the first male footballer to play 200 international matches?**

- A) Lionel Messi                      B) Cristiano Ronaldo  
C) Kylian Mbappe                      D) Karim Benzema

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Portugal football team captain Cristiano Ronaldo has become the first male footballer to play 200 international matches. Ronaldo achieved this feat during the UEFA Euro 2024 qualifying match against Iceland.
- ✓ He was also awarded the Guinness World Record Certificate for this achievement

**Q. The two-day conference of Science-20 under G-20 has been organized in which city?**

- A) Lucknow                              B) Patna  
C) Gandhinagar                              D) Bhopal

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The two-day conference of Science-20 under G-20 has organized at the Taj Hotel in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ The theme of the conference is "Connecting Science to Society and Culture".



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- ✓ The conference is being presided over by Professor Ashutosh Sharma, President of the Indian National Science Academy.
- ✓ The conference is being attended by representatives of the G-20 countries, invited states, and international organizations.
- ✓ The Science-20 consultation was begun with a preliminary meeting to be held in Puducherry on 30 and 31 January 2023 while the Science-20 conferences will culminate with a summit-level meeting in Coimbatore

**Q. The Ministry of Defence has recently approved the deal to acquire the MQ-9 Reaper drones from which country?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Defence Ministry has approved the deal for acquiring the Predator (MQ-9 Reaper) drones from America for which the final decision would be taken by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS).
- ✓ The deal for the Predator drones was approved by the Defence Acquisition Council meeting.
- ✓ The DAC is the highest body in the Defence Ministry to take decisions on acquisitions.
- ✓ The hunter-killer MQ-9 drones are capable of a variety of roles, including maritime surveillance, anti-submarine warfare, over-the-horizon targeting, airborne early warning, electronic warfare.
- ✓ The SkyGuardian variant has a wingspan of 79 feet and can carry a payload of 2,155kg on nine hardpoints.
- ✓ The SeaGuardian variant can fly over the horizon via satellite for more than 30 hours and has advanced intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities

**Q. The civil aviation sector in India recorded a growth of how much percent during January-May 2023, compared to the same period in 2022?**

- A) 49%                                      B) 36%  
C) 73%                                      D) 67%

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The civil aviation sector in India recorded a growth of 36% during January-May 2023, compared to the same period in 2022.
- ✓ The number of passengers carried during the period increased to 79.8 million, from 58.9 million in 2022.



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- ✓ Domestic passenger traffic grew by 37.7%, while international passenger traffic grew by 33.2%. The cargo traffic also grew by 13.2% during the period.
- ✓ In the month of May last year, passenger count was over 114 lakh, which in May this year rose to over 132 lakh, registering a Month-on-Month growth of 15.24 percent

**Q. Who is the first Indian swordsman to win a medal in the Asian Championships?**

- A) Anju Rani
- B) Bhavani Devi
- C) Bhavna Kohli
- D) Babita Kumari

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Bhavani Devi creates history by winning India's first medal in Asian Fencing Championships.
- ✓ Bhavani Devi won the bronze medal in the women's sabre event at the Asian Fencing Championships held in Wuxi, China.
- ✓ Bhavani lost her semi-final match against Uzbekistan's Zainab Daybekova with a score of 14-15.
- ✓ In the quarterfinals, Bhavani defeated defending world champion Misaki Emura of Japan by a score of 15-10.
- ✓ Bhavani registered his first win against a Japanese swordsman.
- ✓ Bhavani's next challenge will be the World Championships to be held in Milan from July 22 to 30.

**Q. Which pair won the doubles title of Indonesia Badminton Open?**

- A) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty
- B) B. Sai Praneeth and Lakshya Sen
- C) Chirag and Lakshya Sen
- D) Shrikant Kidambi and Satwik

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Satwik-Chirag become men's doubles champions at Indonesia Open 2023.
- ✓ Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian pair to win the doubles title at a BWF Super 1000 event at the Indonesia Open 2023.
- ✓ They defeated the Malaysian world champion pair of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in the final.
- ✓ The win made them the first doubles team from India to win the Indonesia Open.
- ✓ They also became the first pair from India to win a Badminton World Federation (BWF) Super 1000 title.



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- ✓ Indonesia Open 2023 took place at Istora Gelora Bung Karno in Jakarta, Indonesia
- ✓ Recently, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty created history by becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to win a gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championships.

**Q. Which player of India has broken the national and Asian record in shot-put?**

- A) Jagraj Singh Mann                      B) Bahadur Singh Sagoo  
C) Tajinderpal Singh Toor                D) Inderjit Singh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India's top shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor created a new Asian shot put record at the Inter-State Championships in Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ Tajinderpal Singh Toor broke his previous Asian record with a throw of 21.77m, surpassing his earlier record of 21.49m in 2021.
- ✓ His remarkable throw placed him ninth in the global rankings for longest shot put distance recorded this season.
- ✓ Toor cleared the qualifying mark of 21.40m to secure his place in the upcoming World Championships.

**Q. International Day of Yoga is celebrated on which day?**

- A) 18 June                                      B) 19 June  
C) 20 June                                      D) 21 June

**Answer : D**

- ✓ International Yoga Day is celebrated every year on 21 June.
- ✓ The day aims to promote the many benefits of practicing yoga.
- ✓ The date chosen coincides with the summer solstice, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.
- ✓ International Yoga Day encourages physical, mental and spiritual harmony.
- ✓ **The theme chosen for International Day of Yoga 2023 is "Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".**
- ✓ The theme represents the shared desire of "One Earth, One Family, One Future".
- ✓ Yoga promotes meditation, stress reduction, and overall health and vitality.
- ✓ In its 9th edition, this year (2023), Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be hosting the ceremony at the United Nations (UN) headquarter in New York during his state visit to the United States between 20 June to 24th June 2023.



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- ✓ This is the first time that a yoga session was organized by the Prime Minister at this place.
- ✓ **History of International Yoga Day**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed the idea of a dedicated Yoga Day in 2014 during his speech at the 69th session of the United Nations General Assembly.
- ✓ On 11 December 2014, all 193 member states of the United Nations unanimously agreed to observe 21 June as the International Day of Yoga.
- ✓ The inaugural ceremony of International Day of Yoga took place on June 21, 2015.
- ✓ International Yoga Day has received global recognition and is celebrated in more than 190 countries.

**Q. What is the theme of the 2023 International Yoga Day?**

- A) Yoga for Peace                                      B) Yoga for well-being  
C) Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam      D) Yoga for Climate Action

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The theme chosen for International Day of Yoga 2023 is "Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".
- ✓ The theme represents the shared desire of "One Earth, One Family, One Future".

**Q. The World Hydrography Day is marked every year on \_\_**

- A) 19 June  
B) 20 June  
C) 21 June  
D) 18 June

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Every year the World Hydrography Day is observed on 21 June to make the public aware about the hydrography and the essential role that it plays in everyone's life.
- ✓ The theme for 2023 WHD is "Hydrography – underpinning the digital twin of the ocean".
- ✓ The United Nations General Assembly accepted a resolution to celebrate World Hydrography Day on every June 21 in 2005.

The day is organised by the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) since 2006 to publicise the work of hydrographers and the importance of hydrography.



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**Q. The World Humanist Day is observed annually on \_\_\_\_**

A) 18 June

B) 19 June

C) 20 June

D) 21 June

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The World Humanist Day is celebrated every year around the world on the June solstice, which usually falls on June 21.
- ✓ The day aims to spread awareness of Humanism as a philosophical life stance and means to effect change in the world.
- ✓ The day has been organised by the International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU), since 1980.
- ✓ IHEU is the global federation for Humanist, atheist, rationalist, ethical culture, secularist and other freethought groups.

**Q. The World Music Day is observed on which day?**

A) 19 June

B) 20 June

C) 21 June

D) 18 June

**Answer : C**

- ✓ World Music Day (Fête de la Musique, as called in French) takes place on 21 June every year to honor the amateur and professional musicians, and to encourage them to showcase their work to the world.
- ✓ The first ever music day took place in 1982 in Paris

**Q. UK's largest financial services providers 'Lloyds Banking Group', would set up a technology center in Which City?**

A) Chennai

B) Bengaluru

C) Visakhapatnam

D) Hyderabad

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Lloyds Banking Group, one of the UK's largest financial services organisations, said on 21st June 2023 that it is setting up a technology centre in Hyderabad and will recruit 600 people by the end of 2023.
- ✓ Lloyds's captive will come up in the Knowledge City. The group, which has brands such as Lloyds Bank, Halifax, and Bank of Scotland under its belt, said it plans to expand its digital capabilities through the tech centre.



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- ✓ The new captive is part of the group's strategic investment of £3 billion over the next three years to transform its digital offerings.

### HYDERABAD IN NEWS 2023

- Lloyds Banking Group, one of the UK's largest financial services organisations, said on 21st June 2023 that it is setting up a technology centre in Hyderabad.
- Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) under the Union Ministry of AYUSH organized a mega 'Yoga Festival' at NCC Parade Ground, Hyderabad.
- Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao recently unveiled a 125-feet tall bronze statue of BR Ambedkar in Hyderabad.
- Hyderabad to become India's first city with 100% sewerage facilities by May 2023.
- The G20 Second Digital Economy Working Group meeting began on April 17 in Hyderabad.
- 'Grand start-up Conclave' on Animal Husbandry and Dairy in Hyderabad.
- The two-day 'Food Conclave-2023' will be organized on April 28 and 29 in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- World Economic Forum (WEF) has chosen Hyderabad to set up its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution focused on healthcare and life sciences.
- The seasoned Jean Eric Vergne of DS Penske automobiles won an action-packed Formula E Prix in Hyderabad.
- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar officially inaugurated the Integrated Biological Control Laboratory located in Hyderabad.
- two-day inception meeting of the Startup-20, the new engagement group of G-20 initiated by India, has begun in Hyderabad.
- Hyderabad host Street Circuit Car Racing before the India's first Formula E grand Prix to be held in February 2023.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the first Muslim female federal judge in US history?**

- A) Zaynab bint Ali
- B) Shamila N. Chaudhary
- C) Noor Al Hussein
- D) Nusrat Chowdhary

**Answer : D**





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- ✓ Nusrat Chowdhary will become the first Muslim woman federal judge in US history.
- ✓ Nusrat Chowdhry, a civil rights lawyer, has been confirmed by the US Senate for appointment as the first Muslim female federal judge in US history.
- ✓ She became the first Bangladeshi American and the first Muslim American woman to become a federal judge.
- ✓ She will serve as a federal judge in Brooklyn federal court in New York after receiving a 50-49 vote along party lines.
- ✓ Endorsed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), she currently holds the position of Legal Director for the ACLU of Illinois.
- ✓ Chowdhary previously served in the ACLU National Office and was the Deputy Director of the ACLU Racial Justice Program.
- ✓ Chowdhury has a notable academic background, having graduated from Columbia, Princeton and Yale Law Schools.
- ✓ He has also served as clerk to chief justices in the US District Court and US Circuit Court of Appeals.
- ✓ Earlier, in 2019, Zahid Qureshi became the country's first federal Muslim judge when he was confirmed to serve as a district court judge in New Jersey.

### FIRST'S FEMALE IN NEWS 2023

- Nusrat Chowdhary will become the first Muslim woman federal judge in US history.
- Celeste Saulo of Argentina has been appointed as the first female Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- Shalini Singh from Lucknow has become the first woman NCC cadet in India to complete a mountaineering course in the Himalayan region of Uttarakhand.
- Parminder Chopra becomes first woman Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation.
- Amy Pope of the United States has been selected as the first female Director-General of the United Nations Migration Agency.
- Lieutenant Shivangi Singh is the first woman Rafale pilot to take part in Orion Exercise 2023.
- Wing Commander Deepika Mishra has become the first woman Air Force officer to receive the Gallantry Medal.



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- New Zealand-born Kim Cotton has become the first female umpire to officiate in a Men's T20 International (T20I) cricket match involving two ICC full-member nations.
- Sheenu Jhavar becomes first woman president of TiE Rajasthan.
- American Space Agency, NASA has selected the first woman astronaut, Christina Koch for its Artemis II mission.
- Surekha Yadav, Asia's 1st woman loco pilot who now operates Vande Bharat, From Solapur to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal (CSMT) in Maharashtra.
- Shalija Dhama 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.
- Captain Shiva Chauhan becomes the first women officer to be operationally deployed in the highest battleground in Kumar Post on the Siachen glacier.
- The first woman officer to be posted on foreign assignment in the Border Roads Organization (BRO) - Captain Surabhi Jakhmola.
- Rae Bareilly's hockey stadium is named after hockey star Rani Rampal, first woman player from India to achieve this feat.
- Hekani Jakhalu became the first female MLA of Nagaland Assembly.
- Equatorial Guinea appoints Manuela Roka Botey as first female PM.
- Indian-origin Manpreet Monica Singh sworn in as 1st female Sikh judge of USA.
- Santhi Kumari Appointed as First Woman Chief Secretary of Telangana.
- Saudi Arabia's Rayna Barnawi first female astronaut is set to go into space this year .
- Dina Boluarte became Peru's first female president.
- FIFA has announced that Stephanie Frappart of France will be the first woman to referee a men's World Cup match.
- PT Usha Become First Women President of Indian Olympic Association.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?**

A) N. K. Sodhi

B) P. Vishwanatha Shetty

C) Krishnamurthy Subramanian

D) Amit Agarwal

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ Amit Agarwal has assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- ✓ Amit Agarwal is a senior IAS officer of 1993 batch of Chhattisgarh cadre.
- ✓ He is a graduate of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur.
- ✓ He has held important positions at the Center and in the states of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ Before becoming the CEO of UIDAI, he served as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- ✓ **About Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**
- ✓ **Establishment and Authorization:**
- ✓ Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is a government department established on 12 July 2016.
- ✓ It works under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- ✓ UIDAI is a statutory authority created under the Aadhaar Act 2016.
- ✓ **Objectives and Functions:**
- ✓ UIDAI provides a 12 digit unique identification number called "Aadhaar" to all Indian residents.
- ✓ Aadhaar serves as a universal identity for residents across the country.
- ✓ UIDAI links the Aadhaar number with basic demographic and biometric information of residents.
- ✓ This information includes a photograph, ten fingerprints and two iris scans.
- ✓ The data is stored in a secure, centralized database managed by the UIDAI

**Q. Which company has received orders worth Rs 3,914 crore of orders for the Akash Prime Weapon System?**

- A) Hindustan Unilever Limited                      B) Bharat Electronics Limited  
C) Tata Advanced Systems                         D) Reliance Industries Limited

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Bharat Electronics (BEL) has received orders worth Rs 5,900 crore, of which Rs 3,914 crore of orders are from the Akash Prime Weapon System.
- ✓ BEL received a work order for 2 regiments of Improved Akash Weapon System (AWS) with upgrades from Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), another defence PSU, for a value of Rs 3,914 crores.



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- ✓ Akash is an all-weather, point/area air-defense weapon system for defending vulnerable points/areas against threats emanating from low, medium and high altitudes. The system uses high-mobility vehicles for mobile application.

**Q. Which company has started delivering 'Armado,' an Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV), built specifically for the Indian armed forces?**

- A) Mahindra Defence Systems                      B) BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited  
C) Tata Advanced Systems                         D) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Mahindra Defence Systems has started delivering 'Armado,' an Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV), built specifically for the Indian armed forces.
- ✓ The Mahindra 'Armado' Armored Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV) is a light armoured specialist vehicle built for use by military and defence forces.
- ✓ The modular type vehicle allows for efficient maintenance and can be upgraded or configured in the field for a wide variety of operational roles. The ALSV offers ballistic protection up to B7, STANAG Level II.
- ✓ The ALSV provides protected mobility at the front, side, and rear as per STANAG Level I Ballistics and Blast for four crew members with battle load with ample stowage space for arms and ammunition inside the crew compartment and additional 400 kgs cargo load-carrying capacity. It can also be upgradable up to STANAG – II Ballistics.
- ✓ The Aramado has a maximum speed of 120 kmph and can accelerate from 0 to 60 kmph in 12 seconds. It has a 30-degree gradability with parking brake holding capacity in full GVW, along with 50 km run-flat system on all five wheels

**Q. According to a new report, Glaciers in Asia's Hindu Kush Himalaya could lose up to how much percent of their volume by the century's end due to global warming?**

- A) 75%    B) 85%  
C) 95%    D) 65%

**Answer : A**

- ✓ According to a new report, Glaciers in Asia's Hindu Kush Himalaya could lose up to 75 percent of their volume by the century's end due to global warming.



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- ✓ Global warming is causing dangerous flooding and water shortages for the 240 million people who live in the mountainous region.
- ✓ A team of international scientists has found that ice loss in the region, home to the famous peaks of Everest and K2, is speeding up.
- ✓ The Hindu Kush Himalaya stretches 3,500 km (2,175 miles) across Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan. At 1.5 degrees Celsius or 2 degrees Celsius of warming above pre-industrial temperatures, glaciers across the entire region will lose 30 percent to 50 percent of their volume by 2100.

**Q. According to the climate report, which of the following continent is world's fastest-warming continent?**

- A) Asia  
B) Europe  
C) Africa  
D) North America

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Europe should brace for more deadly heatwaves driven by climate change, said a sweeping report, noting the world's fastest-warming continent was some 2.3 degrees Celsius hotter last year.
- ✓ Crop-withering drought, record sea-surface temperatures, and unprecedented glacier melt are among the consequences laid out in a report by the WMO and the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service.
- ✓ Since the 1980s, Europe has been warming twice the global average and witnessed its warmest summer on record last year as countries like France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom faced their warmest year on record.

**Q. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 National Highway projects in which state?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 National Highway projects at Sonapat, Karnal, and Ambala in Haryana.



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- ✓ The construction of 11 flyovers on 8-lane National Highway 44 from Delhi to Panipat in Sonapat at a cost of Rs 890 crore with a total length of 24 km will provide better connectivity to the economic nodes of Haryana, Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ The construction of national highways, Karnal Greenfield 35 km 6-lane Ring Road at a cost of Rs 1690 crore is not just a road but will become the lifeline for the development and prosperity of the region in times to come.
- ✓ Gadkari also Inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 2 NH projects worth Rs 1255 Crore in Ambala, Haryana

### HARYANA IN NEWS 2023

- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 National Highway projects at Sonapat, Karnal, and Ambala in Haryana.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has announced Rs 10,000 monthly pension for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan winners of the state under a monthly pension scheme.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal will inaugurate the integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under the Amrit Jal Kranti initiative.
- Haryana has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation.
- A tiger has been spotted in a camera trap at Kalesar National Park in Yamunanagar district of Haryana.
- Haryana becomes first state in India to have 100% electrified railway network.
- First nuclear power plant in North India would be built in Gorakhpur, Haryana,

**Q. The Indian cabinet has given its approval to Micron Technology's plan to invest \$2.7 billion in setting up a semiconductor testing and packaging unit in which state?**

- A) Bihar
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Kerala
- D) Gujarat

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ The Indian cabinet has given its approval to Micron Technology's plan to invest \$2.7 billion in setting up a semiconductor testing and packaging unit in Gujarat.
- ✓ The government will provide production-linked incentives worth Rs 11,000 crore (\$1.34 billion) for the semiconductor plant.
- ✓ This investment is expected to boost India's semiconductor industry and aligns with Prime Minister Modi's vision of making India a global hub for semiconductor production.
- ✓ The new facility is anticipated to create jobs and enhance India's capabilities in the sector, contributing to its digital ambitions and self-reliance in advanced technologies.

### GUJARAT IN NEWS 2023

- Indian cabinet has given its approval to Micron Technology's plan to invest \$2.7 billion in setting up a semiconductor testing and packaging unit in Gujarat..
- Urban-20 City Sherpas' meet begins at Ahmedabad in Gujarat.
- India's largest power company NTPC Ltd has commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project at Kawas, Gujarat.
- BJP leader Bhupendra Patel took oath as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for a second straight term.
- Madhvendra Singh has been appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Gujarat Maritime Cluster by Gujarat Ports Infrastructure Company Limited.
- First G20 Tourism Working Group meeting at Dhordo in Kutch region of Gujarat.
- Former Gujarat governor and veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Om Prakash Kohli passed away.
- Gujarat Day is celebrated on May 1 every year. The state was established on May 1, 1960.
- Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has declared the last week of April as "Swagat Saptah" in commemoration of the completion of 20 years of the "State Wide Attention on Grievances by Application of Technology" (SWAGAT) initiative.
- Deakin University of Australia to set up campus in GIFT city.
- Two Australian Universities Wollongong and Deakin to set up Campuses in Gujarat's GIFT City.
- The Youth 20 India Summit will be held at the Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara in Gujarat.
- International Kite Festival 2023 begins in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- Vedanta-Foxconn JV choose Dholera SIR for India's first semiconductor facility



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**Q. Which state government has sanctioned funds amounting to Rs 13.48 crore for development projects at temples and dargahs?**

A) Punjab

B) Rajasthan

C) Haryana

D) Telangana

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Rajasthan government has sanctioned Rs 13.48 crore to promote religious tourism at Nagaur, Jaisalmer, and Alwar regions of the state.
- ✓ The state government has been continuously working to promote religious tourism and develop various facilities for pilgrims at these places.
- ✓ Under the initiative, Rs 3.10 crore has been sanctioned for Butati in Nagaur district, Rs 1.65 crore for Ghatveshwar Mahadev Temple, Rs 1.61 crore for Harmal Das Ji Maharaj Temple and Rs 1.36 crore for improving facilities at Dargah Hazrat Samman Badi Khat.
- ✓ CM Ashok Gehlot announced the allocation of funds for development works at religious places in the 2023-24 State Budget.

### RAJASTHAN IN NEWS 2023

- Rajasthan government has sanctioned Rs 13.48 crore to promote religious tourism at Nagaur, Jaisalmer, and Alwar regions of the state.
- PM Modi Launches Projects Worth Rs 5,500 Crore In Rajasthan, Including 114 Km Long Six-Lane Udaipur-Shamlaji Section Of NH-48.
- Lithium reserves have been discovered in Rajasthan's Degana following the recent discovery in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Jal Jan Abhiyan virtually on Abu Road in the Sirohi district of Rajasthan.
- Indian Air Force's MiG-21 crashes near Hanumangarh in Rajasthan.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Ashok Gehlot has announced the launch of 19 new districts and 3 new divisions in Rajasthan.
- Presently there are 33 districts in the state.
- With the creation of these 19 new districts, the total number of districts in Rajasthan will increase to 52.







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- ✓ Intel has signed an agreement with the German government for investing more than 30 billion euros (\$32.8 billion) in a chip manufacturing site in Magdeburg, Germany.
- ✓ Intel acquired the land for two semiconductor facilities in Magdeburg in eastern Germany in November 2022 and is expected to start production in four or five years.
- ✓ The investment in Germany means a significant expansion of Intel's production capacity in Europe and is the biggest investment ever made by a foreign company in Germany.
- ✓ **About Intel**
- ✓ Founded : 1968
- ✓ Founders : Gordon Moore, Robert Noyce, Arthur Rock
- ✓ Headquarters : Santa Clara, California, United States
- ✓ CEO : Patrick P. Gelsinger
- ✓ Chairperson : Omar Ishrak

**Q. Which bank has partnered with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India?**

- A) IndusInd Bank                      B) Bank of Baroda  
C) Punjab National Bank              D) Canara Bank

**Answer : A**

- ✓ IndusInd Bank has forged a strategic partnership with Wise, a global technology company specializing in secure money transfers.
- ✓ The collaboration aims to provide convenient and efficient online inward remittance services specifically tailored for Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) residing in the United States and Singapore.
- ✓ Through this partnership, IndusInd Bank's customers can transfer funds from these two major global markets. The remittance service, known as Indus Fast Remit (IFR), will integrate with the Wise Platform, allowing NRIs to enjoy a multi-currency inward remittance service
- ✓ INDUSLND BANK
- ✓ Founded : 1994
- ✓ Founder : S.P. Hinduja
- ✓ Headquarters : Pune, Maharashtra,
- ✓ MD & CEO : Sumant Kathpalia
- ✓ Tagline : We Make You Feel Richer



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**Q. IFFCO has recently tied up with which country for the export of Nano Liquid Urea?**

- A) France  
B) Germany  
C) Australia  
D) USA

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has signed an agreement with California-based Kapoor Enterprises Inc. for the export of Nano Liquid Urea to the US. In June 2021, IFFCO launched the world's first Nano Liquid Urea and also launched Nano DAP in April this year.
- ✓ Both Nano Urea and Nano DAP are transformative innovations in the agriculture industry

**Q. Which state's hockey team won the Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship 2023?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Hockey Madhya Pradesh won the 13th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2023 by defeating Hockey Chandigarh in the final at Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium. On the other hand, the Haryana team secured the third position in the competition. Shreyas Dhupe (17', 46'), Mohammad Konain Dad (25') and Ali Ahmed (52') scored for Madhya Pradesh

**Q. Which Country first mRNA-based Omicron-specific booster vaccine approved?**

- A) USA  
B) China  
C) Russia  
D) India

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the country's first mRNA-based Omicron-specific booster vaccine, which is developed by Gennova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd, for emergency use.
- ✓ The Pune-based company on Tuesday (20th June 2023) released a press release to announce that its vaccine against the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2, which will be available under the name GEMCOVAC-OM, has received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the office of the DCGI.



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- ✓ According to Gennova, GEMCOVAC-OM is the first booster COVID-19 vaccine developed in India against the highly transmissible Omicron variant. Approximately 3000 individuals received the vaccine in the Phase-II/ III trials clinical trial conducted at 20 centers across 13 cities in India.







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- ✓ Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani donated ₹315 crores to IIT Bombay.
- ✓ As per the release, this substantial contribution builds upon his previous grants of ₹85 Crores to the Institute, bringing the cumulative value of his support to ₹400 Crores.
- ✓ The release noted that the donation will be instrumental in fostering world-class infrastructure, stimulating research in emerging areas of engineering and technology, and nurturing a deep tech startup ecosystem at IIT Bombay.

### IIT IN NEWS 2023

- Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani donated ₹315 crores to IIT Bombay.
- IIT-Madras generates hydrogen from seawater using solar energy.
- India, Israel to jointly develop Center of Water Technology at IIT Madras.
- IIT Madras researchers partner for development of materials and micro-device processing techniques.
- IIT Kanpur's C3iHub, a cybersecurity Technology Innovation Hub, has launched a Cybersecurity Skilling Programme .
- IIT Madras to set up its first international campus in Tanzania.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras will be provided a grant of Rs 242 crore over a period of five years to carry out research on Lab Grown Diamonds (LGD).
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has been ranked 1st in India and 47th globally in engineering and technology by the QS World University Rankings for 2023.
- IIT Indore, in partnership with NASA-Caltech and the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, has designed an inexpensive camera setup.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Researchers have developed a three-dimensional (3D) paper-based portable device that can detect adulteration in milk within 30 seconds.
- IIT Kanpur to Host Youth20 Consultation under G20 Presidency of India.
- IIT Bombay's SHUNYA secures second place in 'Solar Decathlon' Build Challenge in US.
- Students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore won an award of AED (Emirates Dirham) 1 million along with a gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai.
- IIT Indore Students Awarded with Global Best M-GOV Awards by Egyptian President.
- Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) at IIT Kanpur has entered into a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreement with Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited.



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- DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad.
- IIT Madras-incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system called BharOS.
- IIT Madras Centre of Excellence working with DRDO on Advanced Defence Technologies including Combat Vehicle Technologies.
- IIT Madras researchers develop machine learning tool to detect tumour in brain, spinal cord.
- ISRO plans to develop astronaut training module with IIT Madras.
- IIT-Bombay and Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) join hands to develop touchless biometric system.
- IIT delhi has been ranked among the top 50 engineering institutions in the QS World University Rankings by Subject .
- An IIT Madras incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system 'Bharos' that can benefit India's 100 crore mobile phone users.

**Q. Who has been appointed as chairman of GIFT (Gujarat International Finance Tec) City?**

A) Ajit Doval

B) Satya Pal Malik

C) Nripendra Misra

D) Hasmukh Adhia

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Hasmukh Adhia has been appointed as the chairman of GIFT City Limited.
- ✓ Hasmukh Adhia is a retired bureaucrat and former Union Finance Secretary and Revenue Secretary.
- ✓ Before Hasmukh Adhia, former Chief Secretary of Gujarat Sudhir Mankad was in the post of president.
- ✓ GIFT City aims to promote international financial services and develop infrastructure for the finance and technology sectors.
- ✓ Hasmukh Adhia has been appointed as the director and chairman of the boards of Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Limited (GACL) and Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC).
- ✓ **About GIFT City**
- ✓ Gujarat International Finance Tec (GIFT) City is a central business district under construction in Gandhinagar district of Gujarat, India.
- ✓ It is India's first operational Greenfield Smart City and International Financial Services Centre.
- ✓ GIFT City has been promoted as a greenfield project by the Government of Gujarat.



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- ✓ GIFT City is divided into two zones: the International Financial Services Center (IFSC) and the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA).
- ✓ IFSC is designed for global financial institutions and international transactions.
- ✓ DTA caters to home businesses in a variety of industries.

**Q. Which City has set a new Guinness World Record in the Yoga event 21st June 2023?**

- A) Pune  
B) Surat  
C) Indore  
D) Bengaluru

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Surat sets Guinness World Record for largest gathering on Yoga Day.
- ✓ A new Guinness World Record was created with the participation of 1.53 lakh people in the Yoga Day event in Surat, Gujarat.
- ✓ Largest gathering for a yoga session at one place, with 1.53 lakh people participating.
- ✓ The previous record was set in 2018 in Kota, Rajasthan with 1,00,984 participants.
- ✓ **Event Description and Recognition:**
- ✓ Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi announced the new record.
- ✓ Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel attended the state level 'International Yoga Day' celebrations in Surat.
- ✓ The representatives of Guinness World Records presented the certificate to Chief Minister Patel.
- ✓ The participants were given wristbands with QR codes for accurate counting.
- ✓ The QR code data confirmed the participation of 1.53 lakh people surpassing the previous record.
- ✓ **Scale and Organization:**
- ✓ 2.20 lakh people registered through the online link.
- ✓ The participants of the Yoga Day event in Surat were accommodated on two stretches of roads spread over 10.5 km.
- ✓ A total of 135 blocks were built with LED screens and trainers, each accommodating around 1,000 people.
- ✓ International Day of Yoga was celebrated across Gujarat at 72,000 places with 1.25 crore participants.
- ✓ **Significance and Schemes:**
- ✓ Chief Minister Patel highlighted the efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in popularizing Yoga globally.
- ✓ Yoga and Pranayama played an important role during the COVID-19 pandemic.





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- ✓ The state government is planning to open 21 "Yoga studios" to promote yoga.
- ✓ The State Yoga Board has trained 5,000 instructors.

**Q. With whom did Hindustan Aeronautics Limited tie up for the production of Light Combat Aircraft for the Indian Air Force?**

- A) GE Aerospace                      B) Airbus  
C) Boeing                                D) Collins Aerospace

**Answer : A**

- ✓ As Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on his maiden US State visit, GE Aerospace said Thursday (22nd June 2023) that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ✓ GE Aerospace and HAL have reached an agreement that includes potential joint production of GE Aerospace's F414 engines in India. The collaboration is part of the Indian Air Force's Light Combat Aircraft (LAC) Mk2 program.
- ✓ However, GE Aerospace is currently working with the US government to obtain the necessary export authorization for this endeavour.
- ✓ The plans to develop complex jet engine technology in India by Ohio-based GE Aerospace, a subsidiary of GE, has been under discussion for over a year now.
- ✓ The MoU between HAL and GE Aerospace represents a significant step forward for GE's involvement in India.
- ✓ The agreement builds upon GE Aerospace's previous commitment to manufacturing 99 engines for the IAF under the LCA Mk2 program. This new development positions GE Aerospace favourably to expand its product offerings in India, including the F404 engine currently used in the LCA Mk1 and LCA Mk1A aircraft.

**Q. Who has been appointed the chairman of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC)?**

- A) Tanneru Sriranga Rao                      B) Raj Pratap Singh  
C) Sanjay Kumar                                D) Umesh Kumar

**Answer : D**





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- ✓ He lauded CREDAI for creating a beautiful and accessible space that would enhance the urban landscape while providing a comfortable retreat for the common citizen.

### AMIT SHAH IN NEWS 2023

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced three major schemes worth over Rs 8,000 crore for disaster management.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) complex in Bengaluru which will help to prevent crimes and warn against any danger.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated National Tribal Research Institute in New Delhi on 7 June..
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled a 120 feet tall statue of a Polo player at the Merging Polo Complex in Imphal East district of Manipur.
- Home Minister Amit Shah released a book titled 'Revolutionaries - The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom' at a function in New Delhi..
- The author of this book is economist Sanjeev Sanyal.
- Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a training program on legislative drafting in New Delhi.
- Union Home and Co-operation Minister Amit Shah chaired the Western Zonal Council meeting at Diu.
- Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched IFFCO Nano DAP (Liquid) in New Delhi.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah on 20th May laid the foundation stone for the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) at Okha in Gujarat's Devbhumi Dwarka district..
- Union Home Minister and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on 10 April launched the 'Vibrant Villages Programme' at Kibithu, a border village in Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Vedic Heritage Portal on 23 March 2023 at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) in New Delhi.
- Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the meeting of Heads of Departments of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) member-states in New Delhi on 20 April.



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- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the 'Jai Hind-Naya Prakash Aur Dhvani Program / Light and Sound Show' at the Red Fort in Delhi.

**Q. Which state government has launched panchayat-level medicine scheme?**

- A) Uttarakhand  
B) Chhattisgarh  
C) Jharkhand  
D) West Bengal

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren has launched the state government's ambitious panchayat-level drugs shop scheme, aimed at making essential medicines available in remote areas.
- ✓ Soren inaugurated the scheme in Chatra district by handing over licences to three persons for operating the medicine shops in panchayats.
- ✓ The CM also laid foundation of 177 projects worth around Rs 364 crore for Chatra district.

**Q. Who joins Asian Development Bank's High-level Advisory Group on Digital Technology for Development?**

- A) Aalok Kumar  
B) Muneesh Kapur  
C) Dinesh Kumar Khara  
D) Sitikantha Pattanaik

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Aalok Kumar, Corporate Officer & Sr VP - Head of the Global Smart City Business, NEC Corporation, and President & CEO, NEC Corporation India, has been appointed as a member of the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) High-level Advisory Group on Digital Technology for Development

**Q. Which Country first mRNA-based Omicron-specific booster vaccine approved?**

- A) USA  
B) China  
C) Russia  
D) India

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the country's first mRNA-based Omicron-specific booster vaccine, which is developed by Gennova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd, for emergency use.



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- ✓ The Pune-based company on Tuesday (20th June 2023) released a press release to announce that its vaccine against the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2, which will be available under the name GEMCOVAC-OM, has received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) from the office of the DCGI.
- ✓ According to Gennova, GEMCOVAC-OM is the first booster COVID-19 vaccine developed in India against the highly transmissible Omicron variant. Approximately 3000 individuals received the vaccine in the Phase-II/ III trials clinical trial conducted at 20 centers across 13 cities in India.

**Q. Who has been selected for the first-ever Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award?**

- A) R.S Raju                                      B) N. Gopi  
C) Nandha Kumar                                D) P. Saravan

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Acharya N. Gopi has been selected for the first-ever Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award, instituted by Bharat Jagruthi.
- ✓ The award would be presented to Acharya Gopi at an event to be organized at Telangana Saraswatha Parishath in Abids on June 21, 2023.
- ✓ The award has been instituted for honoring the litterateurs every year.
- ✓ Acharya Gopi has penned 56 books including 26 compilations of poems, 7 compilations of essays, 5 translations, and 3 research books

**Q. Who is the first Indian Prime Minister to address a joint session of the US Congress twice?**

- A) Narendra Modi                                B) H. D. Deve Gowda  
C) Manmohan Singh                             D) Atal Bihari Vajpayee

**Answer : A**

- ✓ PM Modi has become the first Indian Prime Minister to address the joint session of the US Congress twice. He is the second international leader after Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to do so. Earlier, PM Modi had addressed the joint session of the US Congress in the year 2016.

**Q. Which country is included in NASA's Artemis program recently?**

- A) India    B) China  
C) South Africa                                    D) Brazil

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ India has recently decided to join the Artemis accord, which brings together like-minded countries on a civil space exploration platform. Under this, NASA and ISRO have also agreed on a joint mission to the International Space Station in 2024. The Artemis Agreement is a non-binding agreement designed to advance civilian space exploration in the 21st century

**Q. When is the United Nations Public Service Day observed?**

- A) 22 June    B) 23 June  
C) 21 June    D) 20 June

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Satwik-Chirag become men's doubles champions at Indonesia Open 2023.
- ✓ Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian pair to win the doubles title at a BWF Super 1000 event at the Indonesia Open 2023.
- ✓ They defeated the Malaysian world champion pair of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in the final.
- ✓ The win made them the first doubles team from India to win the Indonesia Open.
- ✓ They also became the first pair from India to win a Badminton World Federation (BWF) Super 1000 title.
- ✓ Indonesia Open 2023 took place at Istora Gelora Bung Karno in Jakarta, Indonesia
- ✓ Recently, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty created history by becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to win a gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championship

**Q. The International Olympic Day is observed every year on \_\_\_\_**

- A) 23 June    B) 22 June  
C) 21 June    D) 20 June

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The International Olympic Day is held on June 23 each year to celebrate sports and health.
- ✓ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) approved to observe Olympic Day in January 1948 to commemorate the creation of the International Olympic Committee on 23 June 1894.
- ✓ The first Olympic Day was celebrated in the year 1948.
- ✓ The Olympic Day 2023 theme is Let's Move'



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**Q. The International Widows Day is an annual celebration, held on \_\_\_\_**

- A) 21 June
- B) 23 June
- C) 20 June
- D) 22 June

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The International Widows Day is a UN recognised day which takes place annually on 23 June to raise awareness of the issue of widowhood and also to address the “poverty and injustice faced by millions of widows and their dependents in many countries”.
- ✓ The first International Widows Day took place in 2005.
- ✓ The day was formally recognised by the United Nations General Assembly on 21 December 2010.

**Q. Which bank has launched the ‘one-view’ feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Axis Bank has launched the ‘one-view’ feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts, including non-Axis accounts.
- ✓ The feature has been launched using the open banking principle leveraging the account aggregator (AA) ecosystem—an industry-first initiative.
- ✓ AA or data aggregator platforms provide secure sharing of information while maintaining customer consent and data privacy.

## AXIS BANK IN NEWS 2023

- Axis Bank has launched the ‘one-view’ feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts.
- Axis Bank has appointed NS Vishwanathan, former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India, as non-executive chairman.
- Axis Bank launches Digital Onboarding platform ‘Sarathi’ for POS Terminals.
- Axis Bank and India Shelter Finance Corporation Ltd announce strategic partnership under the co-lending model.



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- Axis Bank completes deal to buy Citibank's India consumer business.
- Axis Bank Partners with OPEN to Launch a Fully Digital Current Account.
- AXIS BANK
- Founded : 1993
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Rakesh Makhija
- MD & CEO : Amitabh Chaudhary
- Tagline : Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

**Q. Who has been awarded Olympic Order by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)?**

- A) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus      B) Audrey Azoulay  
C) Okonjo-Iweala                      D) António Guterres

**Answer : A**

- ✓ WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- ✓ awarded Olympic Order by IOC.
- ✓ The International Olympic Committee (IOC) awarded the Olympic Order to Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO).
- ✓ The award was given to Dr. Tedros for his efforts in holding the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ✓ The Olympic Order was presented by IOC President Thomas Bach at the Olympic House.
- ✓ Dr. Tedros has been invited by President Bach to be the Guest of Honor at the Olympic Games Paris 2024.
- ✓ The award recognizes Dr. Tedros' support in promoting cooperation between the IOC and WHO, in particular the Cooperation Agreement signed in 2020.
- ✓ The IOC and WHO have collaborated on various initiatives, including the Let's Move campaign for Olympic Day.
- ✓ **About the Let's Move campaign**
- ✓ It stresses the importance of physical activity and regular exercise.
- ✓ It highlights the benefits associated with regular exercise, such as improved physical fitness and mental health.





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- ✓ The campaign is in line with the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Olympism365 strategy, which aims to increase access to sporting opportunities.
- ✓ The Let's Move campaign supports the IOC's aim of increasing access to sport for people of all ages and backgrounds
- ✓ **International Olympic Committee:**
- ✓ Founded - 23 June 1894, Paris, France
- ✓ Founders - Pierre de Coubertin and D. Bikélas
- ✓ Headquarters - Lausanne, Switzerland
- ✓ President - Thomas Bach
- ✓ Director General - Christophe De Kepper.
- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ✓ Formation : 7 April 1948
- ✓ Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ First President : Andrija Štampar
- ✓ Director General : Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia)
- ✓ Deputy Director General : Soumya Swaminathan (Indian)
- ✓ Member Countries : 194.

**Q. Which is the first Baltic country to recognize same-sex marriage?**

- A) Latvia
- B) Estonia
- C) Lithuania
- D) Iceland

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Estonia becomes 1st Baltic nation to legalize same-sex marriage.
- ✓ Estonia's parliament approved a law legalizing same-sex marriage, making it the first central European country to do so.
- ✓ The law will come into effect in 2024.
- ✓ The bill received 55 votes in the 101-seat parliament, from the coalition of liberal and social democratic parties.
- ✓ 53 percent of the population supported same-sex marriage in a 2023 poll by the Centre for Human Rights.





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**Q. Who has unveiled a new feature (face authentication) on the PM-Kisan mobile app?**

- A) Nitin Gadkari
- B) Narendra Singh Tomar
- C) Jyotiraditya Scindia
- D) Nirmala Sitharaman

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched PM Kisan mobile app with face authentication feature.
- ✓ Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the PM Kisan mobile app with a face authentication feature for e-KYC.
- ✓ The app allows remote farmers to complete the KYC process by scanning their face, without the need for OTP or fingerprint verification.
- ✓ The scheme is comprehensive and ambitious and the central government in collaboration with the states can provide installments to around 8.5 crore farmers after completing their KYC.
- ✓ PM Kisan Yojana is one of the largest DBT schemes in the world, which provides direct transfer of six thousand rupees per year to farmers in three installments.
- ✓ So far, more than 11 crore farmers have received a total transfer of Rs 2.42 lakh crore through PM Kisan Yojana.
- ✓ **PM Kisan Scheme:**
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM KISAN) is an initiative of the Government of India.
- ✓ The objective of this scheme is to provide minimum income support to the farmers.
- ✓ Farmers can receive up to ₹6,000 (US\$75) per year through this program.
- ✓ The announcement about PM KISAN was made on 1 February 2019 by Piyush Goyal during the Interim Union Budget 2019 of India.
- ✓ The primary objective of PM KISAN is to reduce the financial burden faced by the farmers and support their livelihood.
- ✓ **What is e-KYC?**
- ✓ It is the digital verification of the identity of individuals or entities.
- ✓ It uses the internet or digital platform for identity verification.



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- ✓ Verification of ID and address proof documents is done using special systems.
- ✓ The information provided is cross-checked with government databases such as the passport database.
- ✓ E-KYC simplifies the verification process, thereby saving time and cost.
- ✓ This improves accuracy and reliability, reducing the risk of fraud and money laundering.

### NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR IN NEWS 2023

- Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched PM Kisan mobile app with face authentication feature.
- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar officially inaugurated the Integrated Biological Control Laboratory located in Hyderabad.
- India's Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar recently launched the Millets Experience Centre (MEC) at Dilli Haat in New Delhi.
- Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the SATHI (Seed Traceability, Authentication and Holistic Inventory) Portal and Mobile App to deal with the challenges of seed production, quality seed identification, and seed certification.
- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the three-day 'Northeast Krishi Kumbh-2023' at Umiam in Meghalaya.
- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates "AgriUnifest" in Bengaluru.
- It was organized by Bangalore Agricultural University in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the Summit on Farm Machinery Technology, organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Tractor and Mechanisation Association (TMA) in New Delhi.
- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the integrated 'Agriculture Investment Portal' will prove to be a milestone in terms of investment in the agriculture sector.
- Narendra Singh Tomar, has introduced a new platform called 'DigiClaim' on the national crop insurance portal.



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**Q. Which of the following has partnered with Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to empower women and provide them with better career opportunities in the realm of entrepreneurship?**

- A) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- B) United Nations Population Fund (UNPF)
- C) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- D) International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

**Answer : A**

- ✓ UNDP partners with DAY-NULM towards empowering women entrepreneurs.
- ✓ The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) recently have joined forces in a collaborative partnership.
- ✓ The objective of this partnership is to empower women to make career choices in the field of entrepreneurship.
- ✓ The partnership aims to provide support to women who are interested in starting or expanding their own enterprises.
- ✓ It focuses on sectors such as the care economy, digital economy, electric mobility, waste management, food packaging, and more.
- ✓ **Entrepreneurship Development and Enterprise Growth.**
- ✓ The project, which spans three years and is extendable beyond 2025, is centered around fostering entrepreneurship development and accelerating enterprise growth.
- ✓ In the initial phase, it will cover eight cities.
- ✓ **On-Ground Mobilization and Business Development Services**
- ✓ UNDP and DAY-NULM will work together to engage in on-ground mobilization activities.
- ✓ This includes identifying areas of urban poverty and potential entrepreneurs.
- ✓ **Key facts about the DAY-NULM**
- ✓ It is a flagship mission under the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- ✓ It has the aim to uplift the urban poor by enhancing sustainable livelihood opportunities through skill development.
- ✓ Funding: It will be shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 75:25. For North Eastern and Special Categories – the ratio will be 90:10.



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- ✓ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- ✓ Formation : 22 November 1965
- ✓ Headquarters : New York City
- ✓ Head : Achim Steiner
- ✓ Total members : 170

**Q. Who will take over as the Chief Executive of the Alibaba Company?**

A) Eddie Woo

B) Eddie Wu

C) Jin yuanying

D) Peng Lei

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Eddie Wu has been appointed as the new CEO and Joseph Tsai as Executive Chairman by Alibaba Group.
- ✓ Eddie Wu is one of the co-founders of Alibaba and currently serves as the chairman of Taobao and Tmall Group.
- ✓ This leadership change is the second major change for Alibaba in recent years after Jack Ma stepped down in 2019.
- ✓ Alibaba CEO and Chairman Zhang to step down to focus on cloud business.
- ✓ Alibaba sells \$125 million stake in Paytm through block deal.
- ✓ **About Alibaba**
- ✓ It is a Chinese multinational technology company.
- ✓ It specializes in e-commerce, retail, internet and technology.
- ✓ Alibaba operates in a variety of sectors including e-commerce, retail, Internet services and technology solutions.
- ✓ The company's primary strength lies in its e-commerce platforms such as Alibaba.com, Taobao, Tmall and AliExpress.
- ✓ Alibaba facilitates businesses and consumers to connect, buy and sell a wide range of products and services.
- ✓ Alibaba Cloud, Alibaba's cloud computing division, provides infrastructure, data storage and AI capabilities.
- ✓ Founded - 4 April 1999
- ✓ Headquarters - Hangzhou, China
- ✓ Founders - Jack Ma, Joseph C. Tsai, Zhang Ying, Jianhang Jin



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**Q. Central govt has allocated how many crores for the construction of a Unity Mall in Dimapur, Nagaland?**

A) ₹145 Crores

B) ₹180 Crores

C) ₹200 Crores

D) ₹235 Crores

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Central government has allocated ₹145 crore to Nagaland for the construction of a Unity Mall in Dimapur.
- ✓ Aim : At promoting and showcasing the state's One District One Product (ODOP) offerings, the ministry of commerce & industry said.
- ✓ The allocation is part of the Union Budget 2023-24, which has earmarked ₹5,000 crore for the establishment of Unity Malls across the country.
- ✓ The announcement was made during an ODOP Sampark event organized by the Department for the Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in collaboration with Invest India and the Department of Industries and Commerce, Nagaland

**Q. Which govt will collaborate with NDDB to set up a milk processing plant at Dagwar in Kangra district?**

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Himachal Pradesh

D) Arunachal Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Himachal Pradesh government will collaborate with National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to set up a state-of-the-art milk processing plant at Dagwar in Kangra district, chief minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu
- ✓ While presiding over a meeting at Oakover in Shimla Sukhu said the plant would come up at a cost of about Rs 250 crore and dairy development board's assistance would be taken for its operation and marketing.
- ✓ The chief minister said the Dagwar plant's capacity would range from 1 lakh to 3 lakh litres, in which high-quality milk products would also be prepared.
- ✓ He said the Congress had in its "Pratigya Patra" promised to buy cow's milk at Rs 80 per litre and buffalo's at Rs 100 per litre from the farmers.



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#### HIMACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has inaugurated “The Tribune Real Estate Expo, 2023, Shimla”.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu informed that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) will set up an ethanol plant at Jeetpur Baheri in Una district at a cost of Rs 500 crore.
- European Commission (EC) has awarded protected geographical indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of India’s Himachal Pradesh.
- Himachal Pradesh (HP) has become the first Indian state to develop a DNA database for unidentified bodies.
- Himachal Pradesh launched Sanjeevani Project to uplift the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- Himachal Pradesh targets to be first ‘green energy state’ by 2025.
- Himachal Cabinet approves monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women of Spiti Valley.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up of Rs 101 crore CM’s Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh for the destitute in the state.
- Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone of ‘Himachal Niketan’ which will provide accommodation facilities to the students and residents of Himachal Pradesh visiting New Delhi.
- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its 53rd Statehood Day with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023

**Q. IFFCO has recently tied up with which country for the export of Nano Liquid Urea?**

- A) USA
- B) France
- C) Australia
- D) Germany

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO) has signed an agreement with California-based Kapoor Enterprises Inc for export of nano liquid urea to the US.
- ✓ The agreement comes at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on a state visit to the US.

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280





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- ✓ "IFFCO now started exporting world's 1st Nano Urea invented & manufactured indigenously in India by IFFCO to USA. An agreement in regard of exporting IFFCO Nano Urea to USA is signed between IFFCO & Kapoor Enterprises Inc, California," .
- ✓ As of now, IFFCO exports more than 5 lakh bottles of nano liquid urea to more than 25 countries.
- ✓ In June 2021, IFFCO launched the world's first nano urea fertiliser, while nano DAP in April this year (2023)
- ✓ Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO)
- ✓ Founded : 1967
- ✓ Headquarteres : New Delhi
- ✓ Chairmam : Dileep Sanghani
- ✓ MD & CEO : U.S Awasthi.

**Q. Who has inaugurated the Integrated Simulator Complex (ISC) 'Dhruv' in Kochi, Kerala?**

- A) Pinarayi Vijayan                      B) Narendra Modi  
C) S. Jaishankar                         D) Rajnath Singh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Integrated Simulator Complex (ISC) 'Dhruv' at Southern Naval Command, Kochi, Kerala on June 21, 2023.
- ✓ The ISC 'Dhruv' hosts modern state-of-the-art indigenously-built simulators which will significantly enhance practical training in the Indian Navy.
- ✓ These simulators are envisaged to give real-time experience on navigation, fleet operations and Naval tactics.
- ✓ These simulators will also be utilised for training of personnel from friendly countries

**Q. Which University has topped the Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Rankings 2023 globally?**

- A) University of Hong Kong                      B) Tsinghua University  
C) Peking University                             D) National University of Singapore

**Answer : B**

- ✓ 11th THE's Asia University Rankings 2023: IISc top Indian institutes, Overall Tops by China's Tsinghua University.



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- ✓ 11th edition of 'Times High Education (THE) Asia University Rankings 2023 has named Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru (Karnataka) as the highest-ranked Indian institution in Asia. Overall it is ranked at 48th in the Asian Region.
- ✓ On the whole regional front i.e. Asia, the list is topped by China's Tsinghua University, and Peking University at 1st and 2nd positions for the 4th year in a row.
- ✓ Singapore's National University of Singapore is ranked at 3rd place for the 3rd consecutive year.
- ✓ Notably, IISc 2023 position at 48th is the lowest rank since 2015, when it first entered the ranking at 34th spot. It was ranked 42nd in 2022.

**Q. Which institution in India has topped among the Indian Universities in the Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Rankings 2023 ?**

- A) IIT Delhi
- B) IIT Ropar
- C) IIT Indore
- D) IISc, Bengaluru

**Answer : D**

**Q. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$295 million loan to improve transport connectivity in which state?**

- A) Bihar
- B) Jharkhand
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Chhattisgarh

**Answer : A**

- ✓ ADB approves \$295mn loan to improve Transport Connectivity in Bihar.
- ✓ The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$295 million loan to improve transport connectivity in Bihar.
- ✓ The loan amount will be utilized towards widening and upgradation of around 265 kilometers of state highways, improving transport connectivity and safety in Bihar.
- ✓ The Central Government is contributing \$156.6 million for the same.



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- ✓ Since 2008, ADB has provided five loans totaling \$1.63 billion to Bihar, which have upgraded about 1,696 kilometers of state highways and constructed a new bridge over the Ganga River.

### ADB IN NEWS 2023

- ADB approves \$295mn loan to improve Transport Connectivity in Bihar.
- ADB gives 130 million dollars to increase horticulture in Himachal Pradesh.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$141.12 million loan agreement for the development of an industrial corridor in Andhra Pradesh.
- Pakistan is the largest recipient of ADB loans in Asia, Pakistan received loans of USD 5.58 billion.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced its plans to invest in non-convertible debentures valued at Rs 150 crore in Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd (TPDDL).
- ADB approves \$130 million loan to promote horticulture in Himachal Pradesh.
- ADB to provide \$1.2 billion loan for infrastructure projects.
- ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)
- Founded : 19 December 1966
- HQ : Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- President : Masatsugu Asakawa (Japan)
- Vice President : Ashok Lavasa (Indian?)
- Director of ADB for India : Takeo Konishi
- Executive Director : Sameer Kumar
- Member Countries : 68 (Nuie).
- ADB has grown to encompass 68 members; of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside.
- Japan is the largest contributor in the subscribed capital of the country.
- Asian Development Outlook, reports published by ADB.
- It is a regional multilateral financial institution focused on countries in the Asia and Pacific region.
- It currently has 68 members – of which 49 are from the Asia and Pacific region and 19 from outside.



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**Q. Which of the following companies has successfully conducted the Flight Qualification Test of the Raman-I Engine at the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), in Bengaluru, Karnataka?**

- A) AgniKul Cosmos                      B) Skyroot Aerospace  
C) Dhruva Space                         D) ABL Space Systems

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Skyroot successfully tested Raman-I Engine designed to use in Vikram-I rocket Skyroot Aerospace.
- ✓ Skyroot Aerospace, Hyderabad (Telangana) based private Indian Space company, successfully conducted the Flight Qualification Test of the Raman-I Engine at the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- ✓ 'Raman' is a series of engines or thrusters which uses the Earth storable hypergolic (MMH/N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) propellants for upper stage engine and attitude or reaction control in Skyroot's Vikram-1 launch vehicle (rocket).
- ✓ The Raman-I engine underwent a test firing at the LPSC of ISRO, marking Skyroot as the first Indian private company to launch a rocket with Vikram-S.
- ✓ The indigenous Vikram-S (named after Vikram Sarabhai, the father of India's space programme) was launched in November 2022, from the ISRO's Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, marking India's first privately developed rocket.
- ✓ The three variants of the Vikram rocket of Skyroot: Vikram-I can carry 480 Kilograms (kg) of payload to Low Earth Orbit, Vikram-II is designed to lift off with 595 kg of cargo, and Vikram-III can launch with 815 kg to 500 Kilometre (km) Low Inclination Orbit.
- ✓ Raman-1 engine for roll control and Raman-2 engine as a single higher thrust regeneratively cooled will be used in the upper stage of Vikram-1 launch vehicle, which may take place by the end of 2023.

**Q. Which state government has PCTS mobile app to ensure better healthcare for mothers, infants?**

- A) Gujarat                                      B) Chhattisgarh  
C) Rajasthan                                  D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Rajasthan govt brings PCTS mobile app to ensure better healthcare for mothers, infants.



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- ✓ The Medical, Health & Family Welfare (MOHFW) Department of the Rajasthan Government has launched the Pregnancy, Child Tracking & Health Services Management System (PCTS) app to enable online tracking, reporting and monitoring of the health of pregnant women, obstetricians and infants.
- ✓ PCTS was developed by the National Informatics Centre(NIC) as an Integrated system for Health information management system (HIMS).
- ✓ The PCTS app enables ASHA Sahyoginis, who are selected from the local community and trained as frontline health workers in Rajasthan, to efficiently reach women and infants in their designated areas.
- ✓ The ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) program is a community health initiative implemented by the Government of India. It was launched in 2005 as part of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and later incorporated into the National Health Mission (NHM).

**Q. When is the Passport Seva Divas observed in India?**

- A) 24 June    B) 22 June  
C) 21 June    D) 23 June

**Answer : A**

- ✓ In India, the Ministry of External Affairs observes the Passport Seva Divas on 24 June every year.
- ✓ It was on this day in 1967 that the Passports Act, 1967 had come into effect.
- ✓ The first Passport Seva Divas was observed in 2013.

**Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been recently awarded the 'Order of the Nile'. It is the highest honor of which country?**

- A) Nepal    B) Egypt  
C) South Africa    D) Suriname

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the 'Order of the Nile,' Egypt's highest honor, by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi during a ceremony at the Presidential palace in Cairo on 25th June.
- ✓ The 'Order of the Nile' was established in 1915 and is bestowed upon heads of states, crown princes, and vice presidents who have rendered invaluable services to Egypt or humanity.
- ✓ This is the 13th highest state honor conferred upon Prime Minister Modi.



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- ✓ During the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Egypt in 26 years, India and Egypt elevated their relationship to a 'Strategic Partnership' following extensive discussions between Modi and El-Sisi.
- ✓ Modi extended an invitation to El-Sisi to attend the G-20 Summit in New Delhi in September.
- ✓ **About Egypt**
- ✓ Egypt is a country located in North Africa.
- ✓ Egypt is home to famous monuments such as the Giza Pyramid Complex. One of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Pyramids of Giza are located on the banks of the Nile River. The Great Pyramid of Giza was built in 2560 BC.
- ✓ Capital - Cairo
- ✓ President – Abdel Fattah el-Sisi
- ✓ Currency - Egyptian pound

### HIGHEST CIVILIAN HONOUR IN NEWS 2023

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the 'Order of the Nile,' Egypt's highest honor, by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi .
- Suriname awarded President Draupadi Murmu its highest civilian honour, the Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was conferred with the highest honor by Fiji and Papua New Guinea.
- PM Modi was awarded "The Companion of the Order of Fiji" .
- Papua New Guinea conferred its highest civilian honour, Grand Companion of the Order of Loghu (GCL).
- Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata has received the Order of Australia (AO), Australia's highest civilian honour.
- FedEx CEO Raj Subramaniam received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, India's highest civilian honour for persons of Indian origin and the diaspora.
- Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran was conferred with France's highest civilian honour- "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur".
- Philanthropist and art collector Kiran Nadar was recently conferred "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour) by French.
- MT Vasudevan Nair honoured with Kerala's highest civilian honour.



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## STATE HONOURS GIVEN TO NARENDRA MODI

### ➤ STATE HONOURS GIVEN TO NARENDRA MODI

13. Order of the Nile : Egypt's highest honor ( 2023)
12. Companion of the Order of Logohu: the highest civilian award of Papua New Guinea (2023)
11. Companion of the Order of Fiji: Highest honour of Fiji ( 2023)
10. Ebakl Award by the Republic of Palau (2023)
9. Order of the Dragon King is the highest civilian honour of Bhutan ( 2021)
8. Legion of Merit is a military award of the USA (2020)
7. Order of Zayed is the highest civilian honour of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) (2019)
6. Order of St. Andrew is the highest civilian honour of Russia (2019)
5. Order of the Distinguished Rule of Izzuddin is the highest honour of the Maldives ( 2019)
4. King Hamad Order of the Renaissance is the highest honour of Bahrain (2019)
3. Grand Collar of the State Of Palestine is the highest civilian order of Palestine (2018)
2. Order of Abdulaziz Al Saud is the Highest honour of Saudi Arabia (2016)
1. Amir Amanullah Khan Award is the highest civilian award of Afghanistan (2016)

**Q. Who has been chosen for the Hindi language category of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar for his collection of short stories called 'Kotuk App'?**

**A) Suryanath Singh**

**B) Sudha Murty**

**C) Madhusudan Bisht**

**D) Gurmeet Karyalvi**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Sahitya Akademi has announced the recipients of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar for this year.
- ✓ The announcement was made at a meeting of the Sahitya Akademi's Executive Board, chaired by President Madhav Kaushik.
- ✓ The winners of both awards will receive an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of Rs 50,000 each at a ceremony to be held later.



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- ✓ Sudha Murty, a renowned children's author, has been selected for the Bal Sahitya Puraskar for her collection of stories titled 'Grandparents' Bag of Stories'.
- ✓ Suryanath Singh has been chosen for the Hindi language category of the Bal Sahitya Puraskar for his collection of short stories called 'Kotuk App'.
- ✓ Anirudh Kanisetti will receive the Yuva Puraskar for his work 'Lords Of The Deccan: Southern India From Chalukyas To Cholas', while Atul Kumar Rai will be awarded in the Hindi language category for his novel 'Chandpur ki Chanda'.
- ✓ The recipients for Manipuri, Maithili, and Sanskrit categories of Yuva Puraskar, as well as the Bal Sahitya Puraskar for Manipuri, will be announced later.
- ✓ No Yuva Puraskar winner was announced for Odia, and no Bal Sahitya Puraskar winner was announced for Kashmiri.

**Q. Who is the architect for new Parliament building?**

**A) Bimal Patel**

**B) Prasanna Pandian**

**C) Shiv Nath Prasad**

**D) Ram V. Sutar**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Recently, the Indian Prime Minister has inaugurated India's new Parliament building, part of the revamped Central Vista project.
- ✓ The construction of the new building, designed by Architect Bimal Patel, began in 2019.
- ✓ The New Parliament House is located in the Central Vista area of New Delhi.
- ✓ It has been designed to accommodate the growing size and needs of the Indian Parliament.
- ✓ The building has seating arrangements for 888 members of the Lok Sabha and 384 members of the Rajya Sabha.
- ✓ It also includes six committee rooms equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual systems.
- ✓ Covering an area of approximately 65,000 square metres, the new building has a triangular shape to optimise space utilisation.
- ✓ It is a four storied building constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 970 crore.
- ✓ The building was designed by Ahmedabad-based HCP Design, Planning and Management and constructed by Tata Projects Limited.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi also installed "Sengol" in a dedicated enclosure to the right of the Speaker's chair in the Lok Sabha chamber.





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✓ **About Sengol:**

- ✓ Sengol is made of silver and gold.
- ✓ It is a five feet long sceptre which was given by Lord Mountbatten to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on August 14, 1947 as a symbol of the transfer of power.
- ✓ Sengol is a symbol of rule in the Tamil kingdoms of the past.
- ✓ It was earlier displayed in the Allahabad Museum.
- ✓ Old Parliament House ( Purani Sansad Bhavan) in New Delhi was the seat of the Imperial Legislative Council between 18 January 1927 and 15 August 1947.
- ✓ It was designed by British architects Sir Edwin Lutyens and Sir Herbert Baker between 1912 and 1913, and completed in 1927.

**Q. Who has won the men's single title at the Roland Garros Tennis Tournament 2023, also known as French Open?**

**A) Roger Federer**

**B) Stefanos Tsitsipas**

**C) Daniil Medvedev**

**D) Novak Djokovic**

**Answer : D**

- ✓ In Tennis, Serbian Novak Djokovic won the French Open 2023 men's singles final, clinching his 23rd Grand Slam title.
- ✓ Novak Djokovic has become the first man to reach the 23rd Grand Slam title.
- ✓ He won the title by defeating Casper Ruud of Norway in straight sets.
- ✓ The win gives Djokovic his third French Open title and surpasses Rafael Nadal's record for most title wins.
- ✓ He overtook Rafael Nadal as the oldest Roland Garros champion at the age of 36 years and 20 days.
- ✓ He also became the first person to win all four Grand Slam events at least three times.
- ✓ This win marked Djokovic's 23rd major men's singles crown, surpassing all other players in the history of the sport. He also equaled Serena Williams' record for the most Grand Slam titles won in the Open Era.
- ✓ In addition to 10 Australia Open, Djokovic won the French Open (3 title) in 2016, 2021 & 2023 a total of 7 Wimbledon between 2011, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022 while the US Open (3 title) in 2011, 2015, 2018.
- ✓ Novak Djokovic beat Andy Murray to win the French Open for the first time at Roland Garros on this day in 2016.





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- ✓ While Norway ranked 2nd, followed by Finland and Sweden.
- ✓ Among India's neighbouring countries, Pakistan is at 142, Bangladesh at 59, China at 107, Nepal at 116, Sri Lanka at 115, and Bhutan at 103.
- ✓ Iceland is the only country that has reduced the gender gap by more than 90%.

**Q. Which country has topped the Gender Gap Index 2023 released by WEF?**

- A) Norway  
B) Iceland  
C) Singapore  
D) Greece

**Answer : B**

- ✓ According to a Gender Gap Index 2023, released by World Economic Forum, India has been ranked 127 out of 146 countries in the Global Gender Gap Report 2023, up by 8 positions from 135 in 2022.
- ✓ For the 14th year running, Iceland (91.2%) takes the top position.
- ✓ While Norway ranked 2nd, followed by Finland, and Sweden

**Q. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has recently inaugurated the construction of the 'Balidan Stambh' in which city?**

- A) Srinagar  
B) Lucknow  
C) Bhubaneswar  
D) Hyderabad

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Amit Shah lays foundation stone of 'Balidan Stambh' in Srinagar.
- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the construction of 'Balidan Stambh' in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar.
- ✓ The opening ceremony took place at a park near Lal Chowk, the commercial centre of Srinagar.
- ✓ The 'Sacrifice Pillar' is a monument that is being built as part of the Srinagar Smart City project.
- ✓ The aim of the memorial is to honour the courageous martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice for the country.

**Q. Which is the world's best liveable city, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit?**

- A) Bern  
B) Vienna  
C) Tokyo  
D) New York

**Answer : B**



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- ✓ According to the Global Liveability Index 2023 published by the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), Vienna in Austria has topped the ranking of the most liveable cities.
- ✓ While Copenhagen in Denmark placed second on the list, followed by Melbourne and Sydney.
- ✓ Damascus in Syria and Tripoli in Libya remained at the bottom of the liveability index.
- ✓ The list contains the names of 173 cities around the world that have been ranked based on a number of significant factors, including health care, education, stability, infrastructure and the environment.
- ✓ Five cities from India – Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, Chennai, New Delhi and Mumbai – are also in the list based on their performance in various metrics.
- ✓ From India, New Delhi and Mumbai are at 141st position and Chennai at 144th. Ahmedabad and Bengaluru are ranked 147 and 148, respectively.
- ✓ Rank      Cities
- ✓ TOP : Vienna, Austria
- ✓ 2nd Copenhagen, Denmark
- ✓ 3rd Melbourne, Australia
- ✓ 4th Sydney, Australia
- ✓ 5th Vancouver, Canada
- ✓ 6th Zurich, Switzerland
- ✓ 7th Calgary, Canada
- ✓ 8th Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ 9th Toronto, Canada
- ✓ 10th Osaka, Japan and Auckland, New Zealand
- ✓ 141st New Delhi & Mumbai, India
- ✓ 144th Chennai, India
- ✓ 147th Ahmedabad, India
- ✓ 148th Bengaluru, India

**Q. Who has approved US\$ 255.5 million with an aim to enhance the quality of technical education in India?**

**A) World Bank**

**B) Asian Development Bank**

**C) International Monetary Fund**

**D) New Development Bank**



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#### Answer : A

- ✓ World Bank has granted its approval for a USD 255.5 million loan aimed at enhancing the quality of technical education in government-run institutions across India.
- ✓ This funding will support approximately 275 selected government-run technical institutions over the course of the next five years, benefiting more than 350,000 students annually.
- ✓ The Multidisciplinary Education and Research Improvement in Technical Education Project will focus on improving student skills and employability through various measures.

#### WORLD BANK IN NEWS 2023

- World Bank has granted its approval for a USD 255.5 million loan aimed at enhancing the quality of technical education in government-run institutions across India..
- World Bank approves \$150-million loan for Resilient Kerala programme.
- World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.
- Indian origin Ajay Banga confirmed as the 14th President of World Bank.
- Ministry of Education and the World Bank held a unique workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program.
- The Cabinet approved the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project in October 2020.
- World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 363 million for the supply of clean drinking water from taps to 2 million rural households in Karnataka.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- According to the World Bank's (WB) annual report 'State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2023' released on May 23, 2023, revenues collected from carbon taxes and Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) globally have reached a record high, about US\$95 billion in 2022.
- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- India and the World Bank have signed a loan agreement for the construction of the Green National Highway Corridors Project (GNHCP) in four States.



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- These four states are-Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
- World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- 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
- Founded : 1944
- Headquarters : Washington Dc
- 14th President : Ajay Banga
- MD&CFO : Anshula Kant
- Chief Economist : Carman Reinhart
- Executive Director : Rajesh Khullar
- Member Countries :189
- World Bank Group : 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID).
- All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.
- World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- India is a member of IBRD, IFC, IDA and MIGA. The country is not a member of the ICSID

**Q. Who has won the election for a second term as Prime Minister in Greece?**

- A) Alexis Tsipras
- B) Antonis Samaras
- C) Kyriakos Mitsotakis
- D) Dora Bakoyannis

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Greece's conservative New Democracy party has emerged victorious in the parliamentary election, securing another four-year term for reformist Kyriakos Mitsotakis as the Prime Minister.
- ✓ About Greece
- ✓ Greece is the southernmost of the countries of the Balkan Peninsula.









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- ✓ According to the MoU, Paytm Incubation Centre will provide its product to early-stage startups at a discounted price and offer free credits through the Paytm Startup toolkit to aid the business ventures of youths in their early stage of growth

**Q. Who have formed a partnership to create an AIP System in Indian Navy?**

- A) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and HAL    B) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and IIT Madras  
C) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and DRDO    D) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and ISRO

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Larsen & Toubro has signed a contract with DRDO for the realisation of two Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) system modules for Kalvari class of submarines of the Indian Navy.
- ✓ Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) or air-independent power is any marine propulsion technology that allows a non-nuclear submarine to operate without access to atmospheric oxygen.
- ✓ The Kalvari Class is a category of diesel-electric attack submarines based on the Scorpene-class submarine being built for the Indian Navy.

Technology of this indigenous AIP system generates hydrogen on demand, thereby obviating the need for carrying hydrogen onboard, which is a major safety concern for a submarine

**Q. Who has been selected as the new MD & CEO of Hindustan Unilever?**

- A) Rohit Jawa                                  B) Ajay Sinha  
C) Vivek Kasana                                D) G. Venugopal

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Rohit Jawa will take over as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Hindustan Unilever.
- ✓ He will replace Sanjeev Mehta on this post.
- ✓ **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. The 8th Global Pharmaceutical Quality Summit 2023 was held in which city?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers and Health & Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya addressed the 8th Global Pharmaceutical Quality Summit 2023 in Mumbai.
- ✓ The theme for the Summit was, 'Patient Centricity: New Paradigm of Manufacturing and Quality'.
- ✓ India played the role of pharmacy for the world during COVID-19 by ensuring an uninterrupted supply of quality medicines and vaccines to the world.
- ✓ The Indian pharmaceutical industry has demonstrated its potential both in terms of quality and quantity.

**Q. India has signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement with which country for Authorized Economic Operators?**

- A) Saudi Arabia
- B) Japan
- C) UAE
- D) Israel

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India and UAE signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Authorized Economic Operators.
- ✓ India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 23 June have signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Authorized Economic Operators.
- ✓ The agreement was formally signed during the World Customs Organization's (WCO) Customs Cooperation Council meeting held in Brussels.
- ✓ **Aim of Mutual Recognition Arrangement**
- ✓ The Mutual Recognition Arrangement aims to promote trade facilitation and ease of doing business between the two countries.
- ✓ It establishes a framework for recognizing Authorized Economic Operators (AEOs) from both India and the UAE.
- ✓ **India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).**
- ✓ The signing of this arrangement is in line with the broader objective of the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) signed in February 2022.
- ✓ CEPA aims to significantly increase the total value of bilateral trade in goods and services within five years.



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- ✓ The Mutual Recognition Arrangement is expected to contribute to achieving the trade targets set under the CEPA, fostering greater economic growth and cooperation between India and the UAE.

**Q. Which of the following state / UTs has celebrated Vitasta Mahotsav?**

- A) Ladakh                                      B) New Delhi  
C) Jammu and Kashmir                      D) Puducherry

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah addresses the Vitasta Mahotsav organized by the Ministry of Culture as the chief guest in Srinagar.
- ✓ The objective of Vitasta Mahotsav is to acquaint the whole country with the great cultural heritage, diversity and uniqueness of Kashmir.
- ✓ The festival focuses on the folk beliefs associated with the Vitasta (Jhelum) river.

**Q. Who has received the Guinness World Record Award certificate to become the first men's player to make 200 international appearances?**

- A) Cristiano Ronaldo                              B) Georgina Rodríguez  
C) Lionel Messi                                      D) Luka Modrić

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Portugal's star footballer Cristiano Ronaldo has made another big record. Ronaldo has become the first football player in history to play 200 international matches.
- ✓ The Guinness World Records team honored Ronaldo for this record before the match.
- ✓ In the match held in Iceland's capital Reykjavik, Ronaldo scored a goal in the 89th minute and gave the team a 1–0 victory over Iceland.
- ✓ Cristiano Ronaldo made his international debut for Portugal on 20 August 2003.
- ✓ Player with most international matches
- ✓ Kuwait's Bader Al-Mutawa is in second place in terms of playing most international matches, who has played a total of 196 matches so far.
- ✓ Malaysia's Soh Chin Ain is third with 195 matches.
- ✓ Lionel Messi of Argentina is joint 11th with 175 matches.
- ✓ Team India captain Sunil Chhetri tops the list playing 137 international matches for India



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**Q. Who is the author of a new book titled “Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)”**

- A) Simon Sebag Montefiore                      B) Nirmala James  
C) Ashwini Shrivastava                         D) A.K. Bhattacharya

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Journalist A.K. Bhattacharya wrote a new book titled “Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)”.
- ✓ The book is published by Penguin Business an imprint of Penguin Random House.
- ✓ The book is divided into three main parts:
  1. Nehru and his Finance Minister
  2. Finance Minister under Shastri and Indira Gandhi
  3. Indira Gandhi as her own Finance Minister

**Q. Who has inaugurated the Medha Rail Coach Factory in the Sangareddy district of Telangana?**

- A) Narendra Modi  
B) Draupadi Murmu  
C) Amit Shah  
D) K. Chandrasekhar Rao

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) inaugurated the Medha Rail Coach Factory in Sangareddy district.
- ✓ Medha signed an MoU with the Government of Telangana in 2017.
- ✓ The objective of the MoU is to set up a coach factory in the state.
- ✓ The land was allotted by the Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC).
- ✓ TSIIC allotted 100 acres of land for Rail & Metro coach manufacturing.
- ✓ Medha Rail Coach Factory is located in Kondakal village.
- ✓ Medha and Swiss railway rolling stock manufacturer Stadler Rail signed a joint venture (JV) agreement.
- ✓ The joint venture Telangana unit is meant to cater to its tenders from the Indian market and exports from customers in the Asia Pacific region.



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**Q. Which state government to build 1st underwater tunnel at a cost of Rs 6,000 crore in the state?**

A) Assam

B) Kerala

C) Telangana

D) Karnataka

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Assam's first underwater tunnel to be constructed between Numaligarh and Gohpur.
- ✓ The first underwater tunnel in Assam will be constructed between Numaligarh and Gohpur at an estimated cost of Rs 6,000 crore.
- ✓ Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the tender for the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) will open in the next month.
- ✓ The idea of an underwater tunnel arose from the many bridges built over the Brahmaputra River to facilitate the movement of both vehicles and railways.
- ✓ Discussions were held to determine the location and it was decided that the tunnel would be built between Numaligarh and Gohpur.
- ✓ The tender for the DPR will open on July 4 and Sarma expressed hope that work on the tunnel could begin during his tenure as chief minister.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the project, and once the tunnel is completed, it will bring the two banks, north and south, of the Brahmaputra river closer together.

### ASSAM IN NEWS 2022-23

- Assam's first underwater tunnel to be constructed between Numaligarh and Gohpur.
- Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal received the first over dimensional cargo (ODC) transported via waterways at Numaligarh Refinery jetty (Assam).
- Indian Army's Gajraj Corps, along with other disaster management groups, conducted a joint flood relief drill, 'Exercise Jal Rahat', at Hagrama Bridge on Manas River in Assam.
- India's first International Multi Modal Logistics park in Jogighopa, Assam.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the Ayushman Assam Scheme under the Mukhya Mantri Jan Arogya (MMJA) in Guwahati.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 28th April virtually commissioned 91 FM Transmitters of capacity of 100 Watt at Diphu in Karbi Anglong district of Assam.



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- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the Mission Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE) in the state.
- Assam-based non-profit organization Aaranyak has formed a network of local communities called the Elephant Conservation Network (ECN).
- North East's 1st compressed biogas plant in Assam.
- Assam to Celebrate Mongeet Festival of Music, Culture, and Food.
- REC Limited, a Maharatna Company under the Ministry of Power, Govt. of India organized 'Bijli Utsav' in Anandapur Gaon of Baksa district and adjoining villages in Assam.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the second version of 'Orunodoi', the flagship scheme .
- Tapan Saikia will receive the Asom Baibhav, the highest civilian honour that the Assam government.
- Trees Beyond Forests initiative launched in Assam.
- Assam Grants Industry Status to Its Tourism Sector.
- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Swanirbhar Naari' scheme.
- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched 'Vidya Rath – School on Wheels' project.
- Gamosa, Tandur Redgram, and Ladakh apricots get GI tags from Assam.
- Assam CM Nominated Charaideo Maidam to Seek UNESCO World Heritage Tag.
- First Unani Medicine Regional Center of Northeast Inaugurated in Silchar, Assam

**Q. Which IT company has bagged a digital transformation deal from Denmark-based Danske Bank estimated to be around USD 454 million for five years?**

- A) IBM
- B) HCL
- C) TCS
- D) Infosys

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Infosys bags \$454-million deal from Danske Bank.
- ✓ IT major Infosys has bagged a digital transformation deal from Denmark-based Danske Bank estimated to be around USD 454 million for five years.



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- ✓ As part of the strategic collaboration with Danske Bank, Infosys will acquire Danske Bank's IT centre in India, which employs 1400 digitally skilled professionals.
- ✓ This collaboration will help Danske Bank achieve its strategic priorities towards better customer experiences, operational excellence, and a modernized technology landscape, powered by next-gen solutions.
- ✓ INFOSYS
- ✓ Founded : 1981
- ✓ Headquarters : Bangalore, Karnataka
- ✓ Chairman : Nandan Nilekani
- ✓ MD & CEO : Salil Parekh

**Q. The first hydrogen-powered trains in India are expected to start from which state by the end of 2023?**

- A) Assam**
- B) Odisha**
- C) Haryana**
- D) Madhya Pradesh**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India's first hydrogen-powered train to run from Jind district, Haryana.
- ✓ The first hydrogen-powered trains in India are expected to start from the Jind district of Haryana by the end of 2023.
- ✓ The officials claimed that hydrogen-powered trains are running only in Germany, and the whole world is watching the project to see how India will start such trains.
- ✓ India's first hydrogen plant is being set up near the railway junction in Jind district. The development of the plant has reached the final stage and hydrogen will be produced from water.
- ✓ The first prototype of the hydrogen train is expected to be introduced in the financial year 2023-2024 between Jind and Sonapat on the Northern Railway.
- ✓ The hydrogen fuel-based train of eight bogies will be environmentally friendly.
- ✓ Hydrogen trains use fuel cells to convert hydrogen and oxygen into electricity.
- ✓ They offer a clean and eco-friendly alternative to diesel trains.
- ✓ The initiative aims to reduce carbon emissions and tackle pollution.
- ✓ Hydrogen-powered trains produce zero direct emissions, with water vapour being the only by product.



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### HARYANA IN NEWS 2023

- India's first hydrogen-powered train will start its journey from Jind district of Haryana.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 National Highway projects at Sonapat, Karnal, and Ambala in Haryana.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has announced Rs 10,000 monthly pension for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan winners of the state under a monthly pension scheme.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal will inaugurate the integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under the Amrit Jal Kranti initiative.
- Haryana has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation.
- A tiger has been spotted in a camera trap at Kalesar National Park in Yamunanagar district of Haryana.
- Haryana becomes first state in India to have 100% electrified railway network.
- First nuclear power plant in North India would be built in Gorakhpur, Haryana,

**Q. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has set up a state-of-the-art Business Centre at which city?**

A) New Delhi

B) Bengaluru

C) Mumbai

D) Hyderabad

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has set up a state-of-the-art Business Centre at NBCC Office Complex, East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi.
- ✓ The new office incorporates cutting-edge technology and innovative solutions to eliminate the use of paper and promote efficient digital workflows throughout the organization.
- ✓ IRDEA is a Mini Ratna (Category – I) Government of India enterprise under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- ✓ IREDA aims to reduce its carbon footprint, minimize waste generation, and contribute to the preservation of the environment.





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**Q. Who has won her second Ladies European Tour (LET) at the Tipsport Czech Ladies Open 2023?**

A) Diksha Dagar

B) Aditi Ashok

C) Anirban Lahiri

D) Jyoti Randhawa

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian golf player, Diksha Dagar has secured her second Ladies European Tour (LET) at the Tipsport Czech Ladies Open 2023.
- ✓ In the final, she defeated Trichat Cheenglab of Thailand.
- ✓ The 22-year-old southpaw Diksha won her first LET title back in 2019 in her rookie year and in 2021 she was part of the winning team at the Aramco Team Series in London.
- ✓ After Aditi Ashok, Diksha Dagar is the only other Indian woman golfer to have won two or more LET titles.

**Q. Which IT services company has partnered with state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for the deployment of private 5G network for enterprise customers?**

A) Infosys

B) Wipro

C) HCL Technologies

D) Tata Consultancy Services

**Answer : D**

- ✓ IT company L&T Technology Services has partnered with state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for the deployment of private 5G network for enterprise customers.
- ✓ Under the agreement framework signed by both companies, the spectrum will be provided by BSNL using both PLMN (public land mobile network) and isolated allotment.
- ✓ L&T Technology Services (LTTS) will anchor the private network requirements by deploying equipment, applications, servers, technology and software, and core for the integration of devices and sensors within the customer's ecosystem, the IT firm.

## TCS IN NEWS 2023

- BSNL has placed an order worth ₹15,000 crore to tech firm Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to further expand the 4G network in India. .
- No TCS on LRS transactions upto Rs 7 lakh via international debit, credit cards from July 1, 2023.
- When the scheme was introduced in the year 2004, that time this limit was of USD 25,000.



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- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), a leading global IT services company, has expanded its partnership with Google Cloud and unveiled a new offering called TCS Generative AI.
- K Krithivasan Appointed CEO Designate of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).
- Telefónica Germany Selects TCS as Transformation Partner to Build Future-Ready Operations Support.
- Tata Consultancy Services and Infosys grew their brand value to retain their positions as the second and third most valuable IT services brands, according to the 'IT Services 25' list prepared by UK-based consultancy Brand Finance for the year 2023.
- Accenture retained the top slot for the fifth year straight, with a brand valued at \$39.8 billion.
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been named to FORTUNE® magazine's list of the World's Most Admired Companies.
- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) received a nod from Central Government to go ahead with Rs 26,821 crore deal with Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) paving its way to launch 4G services in India.
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has partnered with a subsidiary of Financial Institutions, Inc. 'Five Star Bank' on its digital transformation journey..
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- Founded : 1968
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- MD & CEO : Kriti Krithivasan

**Q. Which of the following city will host Urban20 (U20) Mayoral Summit on 7-8 July 2023?**

- A) Hyderabad
- B) Bengaluru
- C) Ahmedabad
- D) Chennai

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The city of Ahmedabad is all set to host the Urban20 (U20) Mayoral Summit on 7-8 July 2023.
- ✓ This Mayoral Summit is expected to bring together several city leaders and Mayors from across G20 nations.



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- ✓ The summit will also be attended by delegates representing various cities, knowledge partners, Indian and international organizations, academic institutes and dignitaries from the Government of India and the State Government.
- ✓ Ahmedabad is the U20 Chair for the current sixth cycle and is supported by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) as the Technical Secretariat, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) as the nodal ministry.

**Q. Which Insurance Company Limited has launched the 'Nishchit Pension Plan'?**

- A) Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance      B) Life Insurance Corporation Of India  
C) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance      D) Bharti AXA General Insurance

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Limited, the life insurance subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited, has launched 'Nishchit Pension Plan'.
- ✓ It is a non-linked, non-participating individual pension plan that enables the policyholders to plan for their retirement.
- ✓ ABSLI Nishchit Pension Plan provides accrued guaranteed additions during the policy term and loyalty addition at the end of the policy term, provided the policy is in-force and all due premiums have been paid
- ✓ The maximum entry age to avail ABSLI Nishchit Pension Plan is 65 years, while the minimum entry age is 30 years. The minimum annualized premium is Rs. 20,000. The maximum age to avail the vesting benefit is 75 years, while the minimum vesting age is 45 years.

**Q. Manipal Technologies Limited (MTL) has partnered with which bank to drive financial inclusion by offering customized banking products?**

- A) Canara Bank      B) Kotak Mahindra Bank  
C) Indian Bank      D) Indian Overseas Bank

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Manipal Technologies Limited (MTL) has partnered with the Indian Bank to drive financial inclusion by offering customized banking products.



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- ✓ The partnership aims to build a sustainable network of corporate business correspondents (CBCs) that will enhance the availability, affordability, and accessibility of financial services, particularly in underserved markets and rural areas.
- ✓ The initial focus will be serving more than 600 locations and gradually expanding the presence in newer regions in states such as Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Haryana, and Punjab.
- ✓ MTL will work closely with Indian Bank to offer tailor-made banking products in rural locations.

**Q. Who has been honored by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) award for his contribution to the medical field?**

- A) Dr Anita Bhardwaj                      B) Dr Siddhartha Mukherjee  
C) Dr K Venugopal                         D) Dr Mohamed Rela

**Answer : C**

- ✓ A doctor at Alappuzha's General Hospital, Dr K Venugopal has been honored by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) for his contribution to the medical field.
- ✓ Dr. K Venugopal has been selected for the award in the category of community service.
- ✓ He will receive the award at a function to be held at IMA headquarters in New Delhi on July 1, 2023.
- ✓ The award was instituted by the IMA on the occasion of National Doctor's Day.

**Q. Who has been named the prestigious (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023 for the novel Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal?**

- A) Basu Chatterjee                         B) Shubira Prasad  
C) Meghan Markle                         D) Priya A S

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Indian writer, Priya A S has been named the prestigious (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023.
- ✓ She was awarded for children's literature in Malayalam for her 2018 novel Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal.
- ✓ She also won the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award for Children's Literature for the same novel in 2020.
- ✓ The (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar consists of Rs 50,000 and an engraved copper plaque. Panels of three members each picked the winners in each language.



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- ✓ In 2014, Priya won (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize for translating Arundhati Roy's Booker Prize-winning novel The God of Small Things into Malayalam.

**Q. In which country will the FIFA U-17 World Cup be organized?**

- A) Indonesia                                      B) Peru  
C) India    D) Brazil

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indonesia will host the upcoming FIFA U-17 World Cup. This tournament will be organized in Indonesia from 10 November to 02 December.
- ✓ Initially it was to be organized in Peru but Peru backed out due to its budget reasons.
- ✓ A total of 24 teams will participate in this tournament

**Q. Who has been appointed as the head coach of the junior women's national team by Hockey India?**

- A) Tushar Khandkar                              B) Rani Rampal  
C) Sandeep Singh                                 D) Ravi Awasthi

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Hockey India has appointed former captain Tushar Khandkar as the head coach of the junior women's national team.
- ✓ The Indian team is preparing for the World Cup to be held in Santiago from 29 November to 10 December.
- ✓ Khandkar has replaced Harvinder Singh who was the interim coach of the team.
- ✓ Hockey India plans, directs and operates the men's and women's hockey teams in India.

**Q. In which city the 3rd Infrastructure Working Group meeting of G20 is being held?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The G20 Third Infrastructure Working Group meeting is being held in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand.
- ✓ The meeting began with a discussion on the principles of financing cities.
- ✓ Significantly, this time G20 meetings are being organized under the chairmanship of India. At present India is the chairman of the G20 group.
- ✓ The G20 is an intergovernmental forum consisting of 19 countries and the European Union.



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#### UTTARAKHAND IN NEWS 2023

- 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.
- 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 Lakhpatti 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".

**Q. According to the schedule of ODI World Cup-2023, in which stadium of India will the final match be played?**

- A) Wankhede Stadium Mumbai
- B) Arun Jaitley Stadium Delhi
- C) Chepauk Stadium Chennai
- D) Narendra Modi Stadium Ahmedabad



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**Answer : D**

- ✓ The schedule of ODI World Cup-2023 has been announced. The ODI World Cup-2023 will be hosted by India.
- ✓ Two-time champions India will begin their World Cup campaign against Australia on October 8 in Chennai.
- ✓ The inaugural match of the tournament will be played between England and New Zealand on 5 October.
- ✓ The final match of the ODI World Cup 2023 will be played at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

**Q. When is the Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day observed globally?**

- A) 27 June                                      B) 25 June  
C) 26 June                                      D) 24 June

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The United Nations Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day is held on June 27 since 2017 to celebrate the work of MSME in local and global economies and their contribution to sustainable development.
- ✓ The day also recognise the contribution of these industries in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ✓ 2023 Theme is Future-ready MSMEs for India@100

**Q. What is the theme of Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day 2023?**

- A) MSME Day 2021: The Digital Dimension  
B) COVID-19: The Great Lockdown and its impact on Small Business  
C) Big Money For Small Business: Financing the SDGs  
D) Future-ready MSMEs for India@100

**Answer : D**

**Q. Who has flagged off the “Bharat in Paris” campaign with a short marathon at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi?**

- A) Narendra Modi                                      B) Nitin Gadkari  
C) Amit Shah                                      D) Anurag Thakur

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ Union Minister Anurag Thakur flagged off "Bharat in Paris" campaign.
- ✓ The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has launched the "Bharat in Paris" campaign to create awareness and promote sports across India ahead of the Paris Olympics games.
- ✓ The 2024 Olympics will be held in Paris, France, from July 26 to August 11.
- ✓ **Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)**
- ✓ It was created in July 2014 under the auspices of the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the objective of identifying and preparing potential medal prospects for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- ✓ It is a flagship program of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- ✓ The idea of the scheme is to look to the future and fund a developmental group of athletes who have the potential to bring medals to the Olympic Games in Paris in 2024 and Los Angeles in 2028.

### CAMPAIGN IN NEWS 2023

- Union Minister Anurag Thakur flagged off "Bharat in Paris" campaign.
- Federal Bank launches 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign.
- Union Minister Hardeep S Puri launched the campaign 'Meri LiFE, Mera Swachh Shahar' in New Delhi.
- RBI Launches '100 Days 100 Pays' Campaign to Settle Unclaimed Deposits.
- Union Minister Giriraj Singh launched the SAMARTH campaign to promote digital transactions at the Gram Panchayat level.
- A 100-day "Uttar Pradesh Global City" campaign has been launched by the 'Uttar Pradesh Government' ahead of the Global Investors Summit and G-20 Summit.
- UAE's Sharjah Police launched a traffic campaign called "Stay in Your Lane" to tackle road violations..
- Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2023-24 on 3rd May at NASC Complex New Delhi.
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Labour and Employment Bhupender Yadav participated in G20 Mega Beach Clean Up campaign at Juhu Beach in Mumbai.
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav on 4 February launched the 'Save Wetlands Campaign'.





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- Union Minister for Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh, who is also the vice president of CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research), on 17 December announced the launching of "One Week, One Lab" countrywide campaign from January 6, 2023.
- Meta Launches #DigitalSuraksha campaign in partnership with MeitY for the G20 campaign.
- Uttar Pradesh Government Launched 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' Campaign.
- Bandhan Bank launched the 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign along with the bank's brand ambassador Sourav Ganguly.
- WhatsApp launches 'Stay Safe' campaign to educate on online safety.
- The 'Catch the Rain 2023' campaign was introduced by President Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi.

**Q. Which bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) to foster the growth of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the State?**

A) Canara Bank

B) Kotak Mahindra Bank

C) Indian Bank

D) Indian Overseas Bank

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) to foster the growth of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the State and provide them with vital financial support.
- ✓ Under the terms of the MoU, TNSRLM will facilitate eligible SHGs for credit linkage with IOB.
- ✓ This strategic collaboration aims to streamline access to financial resources for SHGs, enabling them to undertake entrepreneurial activities, expand their ventures, and contribute to the economic development of the State.
- ✓ The collaboration is expected to catalyse the growth of SHGs targeting ₹1,875 crore and increase the disbursement under DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission) during this fiscal, effectively doubling the impact of financial assistance
- ✓ Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)
- ✓ Founded : 1937
- ✓ Founder : M. Chidambaram Chettyar
- ✓ Headquarters : Chennai, Tamil Nadu





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- 23rd Hornbill Festival : Nagaland
- Gaan Ngai festival : Manipur
- Cherchera Festival : Chhattisgarh
- 26th National Youth Festival 2023 : Hubbali, Karnataka
- International Yoga Festival 2023 : Rishikesh, Uttarakhand
- Tribal Dance Festival & Military Tattoo : New Delhi
- Mongeet Festival : Assam
- International Kite Festival 2023 : Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Vigyanika Science Literature Festival : Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Baisakhi is a harvest festival : Punjab and Haryana

**Q. Who has launched NANDI (NOC Approvals for New Drugs & Inoculation System) portal?**

- A) G. Kishan Reddy
- B) Parshottam Rupala
- C) Bhupender Yadav
- D) Mansukh L. Mandaviya

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Parshottam Rupala launched NANDI Portal.
- ✓ Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Parshottam Rupala on 26th June at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi launched NANDI (NOC Approvals for New Drugs & Inoculation System).
- ✓ The development of the NANDI portal was carried out in collaboration with the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) and the Center for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC).
- ✓ The portal aligns with the vision of Digital India and embodies the principles of Minimum Government and Maximum Governance by leveraging IT systems.
- ✓ The primary objective of the portal is to expedite the assessment and examination of veterinary product proposals, ensuring their safety, efficacy, and essentiality.
- ✓ The NANDI portal is expected to support the development of India as a global manufacturing hub for veterinary products and encourage research and development efforts to enhance animal health



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**Q. Finance Ministry has approved Rs \_\_\_\_\_ crore for 16 states under capex scheme.**

A) Rs 56,415 crore

B) Rs 58,415 crore

C) Rs 60,415 crore

D) Rs 63,415 crore

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Finance Ministry Approved investments worth Rs 56,415 Crore in 16 states as part of the 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24' scheme.
- ✓ Aiming at providing a timely boost to capital spending by states, the Department of Expenditure has approved investment projects in several sectors including health, education, irrigation, power, roads and railways among others.
- ✓ The said department has also included the state share of two projects, namely Jal Jeevan Mission and Pradhan Mantri Gram sadak Yojana under this scheme.
- ✓ Under the scheme, special assistance is being provided to the State Governments in the form of 50-year interest free loan up to an overall sum of Rs. 1.3 lakh crore during the financial year 2023-24,"

**Q. In which city will the FIFA Club World Cup 2023 be organized?**

A) Dubai

B) New Delhi

C) Jeddah

D) Tehran

**Answer : C**

- ✓ FIFA Club World Cup 2023 will be organized in Jeddah city of Saudi Arabia.
- ✓ The tournament will be played at King Abdullah Sport City Stadium and Prince Abdullah Al Faisal Stadium.
- ✓ In February, FIFA selected Saudi Arabia for the Club World Cup 2023.
- ✓ Saudi Arabia will host the Asian Cup in the year 2027.
- ✓ FIFA WORLD CUP
- ✓ 2022 : Qatar (32 Teams)
- ✓ 2026 : Canada, Mexico, US (48 teams)
- ✓ FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup
- ✓ 2022 : Costa Rica
- ✓ FIFA U-17 World Cup
- ✓ 2022- Women's : India



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- ✓ 2023 - Women's : Australia and New Zealand
- ✓ Most successful team(s) Men's : Brazil (5 titles)
- ✓ Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)
- ✓ Founded : 21 May 1904
- ✓ Founded : Paris, France
- ✓ Headquarters : Zürich, Switzerland
- ✓ Membership : 211
- ✓ Languages : English, French, German, Spanish & Italian
- ✓ First President : Robert Guérin
- ✓ President : Gianni Infantino (Switzerland)
- ✓ Secretary General : Fatma Samoura

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new Director of Outer Space Affairs of the United Nations?**

- A) Aarti Hola-Mani                      B) Meenakshi Sinha  
C) Naveen Kalra                         D) Roma Rastogi

**Answer : A**

- ✓ UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Indian-origin satellite industry expert Aarti Hola-Maini as the Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) in Vienna. Hola-Manny from the United Kingdom will replace Simonetta Di Pippo from Italy.
- ✓ The United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs is a UN office that promotes peaceful international cooperation in outer space

**Q. Who has become the first bowler in world cricket to play 100 consecutive Tests?**

- A) Pat Cummins                         B) Rashid Khan  
C) Ravichandran Ashwin               D) Nathan Lyon

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Australia's spinner Nathan Lyon has become the first bowler in the world to play 100 consecutive Tests for the national team.
- ✓ He achieved this feat with his inclusion in the playing 11 of the second Ashes Test against England.



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**Q. Which insurance company has launched the payment facility for premium through WhatsApp and UPI?**

- A) LIC  
B) Tata AIA  
C) Bajaj Allianz  
D) Bharti AXA

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Tata Group-backed insurance company Tata AIA has launched digital payments through WhatsApp and Unified Payments Interface.
- ✓ This is a first of its kind initiative in the insurance industry.
- ✓ Through this new facility, policyholders can pay premium digitally and also receive receipt of premium payment.

**Q. Which edition of the world's largest urban swachhata survey, Swachh Survekshan 2023 – Mera Shehar, Meri Pehchan has been started?**

- A) 7th  
B) 8th  
C) 9th  
D) 10th

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The stage is all set for the 8th edition of world's largest urban swachhata survey, Swachh Survekshan 2023 – Mera Shehar, Meri Pehchan.
- ✓ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched the Field Assessment for Swachh Survekshan (SS) 2023. Under SS 2023, around 3,000 assessors will take the field for assessment from 1 July, 2023
- ✓ Originally designed as a competitive monitoring tool, Swachh Survekshan was introduced under the aegis of MoHUA in 2016, with an objective to sanitation, helping cities to achieve the goal of sustainable sanitation and waste management in a fast-track competitive manner.
- ✓ Swachh Survekshan has enthused cities with a healthy spirit of competitiveness to improve urban sanitation and ensure best service delivery to their citizens

**Q. India's CAD narrows to \_\_\_\_\_ billion dollars in the January-March quarter**

- A) 1.9 billion  
B) 1.7 billion  
C) 1.5 billion  
D) 1.3 billion

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ According to the data released by the Reserve Bank, the current account deficit (CAD) of India has been narrowed to 1.3 billion dollars or 0.2% of GDP in the January-March quarter of the last fiscal (2022-23).
- ✓ The decline was mainly due to moderation in the trade deficit and a robust increase in services exports.
- ✓ RBI data has shown that net services receipts increased, both sequentially and on a year-on-year basis, on the back of a rise in net earnings from computer services

**Q. Who has launched a campaign called “Jeetenge Hum” to support the Indian cricket team in the 2023 Cricket World Cup?**

- A) Reliance Industries                      B) Wipro Group  
C) TATA Group                                 D) Adani Group

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Adani Group has launched a campaign called “Jeetenge Hum” to support the Indian cricket team in the 2023 Cricket World Cup.
- ✓ His ports-to-energy conglomerate on Saturday gathered 1983 World Cup Cricket legends including Kapil Dev to launch the 2023 World Cup winning campaign.
- ✓ The “Jeetenge Hum” campaign serves as a platform for national pride and support for the Indian cricket team.
- ✓ The campaign encourages fans to believe in the team’s ability to emerge victorious at the World Cup.
- ✓ **About “Jeetenge Hum” campaign.**
- ✓ The campaign commemorates the 40th anniversary of India’s historic victory in 1983.
- ✓ The campaign encourages Indian cricket fans to unite and unite in support of Team India.
- ✓ The campaign draws inspiration from the Adani Group’s ethos of “Kar Ke Dikhaya, Kar Ke Dikhayenge”.
- ✓ It epitomizes an indomitable spirit of achievement, both in cricket and business.

**Q. Who has published IS 18267: 2023 “Food Serving Utensils Made from Agri By-Products Specification,” aimed at reducing plastic pollution and promoting sustainability?**

- A) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)  
B) Food Corporation of India (FCI)  
C) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)  
D) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

**Answer : A**







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- ✓ With the launch of the new five Vande Bharat Express trains, the total count of the premium trains has reached 23. Currently, Vande Bharat trains are operational on 18 routes across the country.
- ✓ **About Vande Bharat Express Train.**
- ✓ The first Vande Bharat Express was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15 February 2019.
- ✓ These trains have a self-propelled engine which can save diesel and reduce electricity usage by up to 30%.
- ✓ The first Vande Bharat Express was manufactured by Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai.
- ✓ It was manufactured under the 'Make in India' programme, at a cost of about Rs 100 crore.
- ✓ These trains can achieve a maximum speed of 160 kmph.
- ✓ In the Union Budget for 2022-2023 the government has proposed the development and manufacture of 400 new Vande Bharat trains in the next three years

**Q. Which insurance company has launched three insurance products focusing on MSMEs — MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy, Property All Risk (PAR) Policy, and i-Select Liability?**

- A) ICICI Lombard General Insurance    B) HDFC Life Insurance  
C) Max Life Insurance    D) Aditya Birla General Insurance

**Answer : A**

- ✓ General insurance company ICICI Lombard has launched of three insurance products focusing on MSMEs — MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy, Property All Risk (PAR) Policy, and i-Select Liability.
- ✓ Objective – To make MSMEs more risk aware and provide them with the benefit of comprehensive coverage to safeguard their businesses.
- ✓ The MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy is a bundled product to protect MSMEs against loss or damage to property due to defined insured perils.
- ✓ The policy offers the benefits of optional coverage for STFI (Storms, Typhoons, Cyclones, Tempest, Tornados, Hurricanes, Floods and Inundation), and Terrorism, providing businesses with the flexibility to choose the right level of protection.

**Q. Rajat Verma has been appointed as Managing Director of which bank?**

- A) HSBC India    B) Woori Bank  
C) DBS Bank India    D) SBM Bank India

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ DBS Bank India has appointed Rajat Verma as managing director and head of institutional banking for India.
- ✓ Niraj Mittal, the current head of institutional banking for India, will be taking up a new role as country head of the DBS Bank in Australia.
- ✓ With 26 years of banking experience, Rajat has demonstrated an outstanding record of steering business growth and delivering results.
- ✓ He holds an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Lucknow, and a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering from the Delhi College of Engineering.
- ✓ Development Bank of Singapore (DBS) Bank
- ✓ Founded : 1968
- ✓ Headquarters : Singapore
- ✓ Chairman : Peter Seah
- ✓ CEO : Piyush Gupta

**Q. Which airport has launched a new app called BLR Pulse to provide hassle-free experience to the commuters at Kempegowda International Airport?**

- A) Mangaluru International Airport      B) Shivamogga Airport  
C) Kannur International Airport      D) Bangalore International Airport

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has launched a new app called BLR Pulse to provide hassle-free experience to the commuters at Kempegowda International Airport.
- ✓ The app is made available for both android and iPhone users.
- ✓ Through the BLR Pulse app, people can monitor real-time flight updates, book a table at restaurants inside the airport, connect WiFi, gather information on check-in gates, and even track the flights which are delayed.
- ✓ It is an omnichannel platform, developed in collaboration with GrayMatter Software Services.

### AIRPORT IN NEWS 2023

- Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has launched a new app called BLR Pulse to provide hassle-free experience to the commuters at Kempegowda International Airport.



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- Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has launched a new facility called 'DigiYatra' which enables passengers to avail of its services without downloading a mobile application.
- Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport is the first in India to offer a free reading lounge to the passengers, with a huge collection of literature.
- Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi ranked 9th busiest airports globally in 2022, as per Airports Council International (ACI). United States-based Atlanta airport has retained its position as the world's busiest airport.
- According to the Airport Council International (ACI), Delhi International Airport has been ranked among the cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 27 February 2023 launched the newly built Shivamogga airport along with various development projects worth over Rs 3,600 crore in Shivamogga, Karnataka.
- Bangalore's Kempegoda International Airport and Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport both ranked second and seventh in Cirium's list of the world's best-performing airports for 2022.
- Mopa International Airport Goa named after former CM Manohar Parrikar.
- Jaipur International Airport Limited has received the Aerodrome licence from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- Union Cabinet has given its approval for the naming of the new Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar, the State Capital of Arunachal Pradesh as "Donyi Polo Airport, Itanagar".

**Q. Who is the author of the book titled 'The Yoga Sutra for Children'?**

**A) Amrita Mahale**

**B) Meghna Pant**

**C) Roopa Pai**

**D) Samhita Arni**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ A book titled 'The Yoga Sutra for Children' by Roopa Pai.
- ✓ After her award-winning bestselling book 'The Gita for Children', author Roopa Pai's upcoming children's book will unravel the secrets of Patanjali's 2,000-year-old text on Yoga. '
- ✓ 'The Yoga Sutras for Children', published by Hachette India, aims to connect and relate the practice of Yoga to children's everyday lives and helps them use their mind power to bring out the best in themselves.



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- ✓ Pepered with ‘Think’ and ‘Do’ sections for a wholesome and interactive experience, the book shares Maharishi Patanjali’s techniques to “nurture energies and attitudes, enabling them to do small and big things in a focused and balanced way”

**Q. Union Minister Parshottam Rupala has recently launched ‘Report Fish Disease App’ to connect directly to district fisheries officers and scientists. It is funded under which scheme?**

- A) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
- B) Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana
- C) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana
- D) Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Parshottam Rupala launched the ‘Report Fish Disease’ App.
- ✓ Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala launched the 'Report Fish Disease' (RFD) app at Krishi Bhavan on 28 June to enhance the farmer-based disease reporting system and improve the reporting of aquatic animal diseases in India.
- ✓ The RFD app has been developed by ICAR-NBFGR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources) under the National Surveillance Program for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD).
- ✓ NSPAAD is funded by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India, under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.
- ✓ The primary objective of the RFD app is to assist farmers in improving their reporting methods, obtaining scientific guidance, and minimizing losses caused by diseases.
- ✓ This, in turn, helps increase farmers' income and overall profitability.
- ✓ **Benefits of RFD App**
- ✓ The RFD app enables farmers to report disease incidents in finfish, shrimps, and mollusks on their farms, allowing them to connect with field-level officers and fish health experts.
- ✓ The implementation of the Fish Disease Reporting App has a significant impact on fish disease management



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**Q. How many products of Uttar Pradesh have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai recently?**

- A) 8  
B) 7  
C) 6  
D) 9

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The seven products of Uttar Pradesh have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai.
- ✓ 'Amroha Dholak', 'Mahoba Gaura Patthar Hastashlip', 'Mainpuri Tarkashi', 'Sambhal Horn Craft', 'Baghpat Home Furnishings', 'Barabanki Handloom Product' and 'Kalpi Handmade Paper' are the products that been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ✓ The Amroha Dholak is a musical instrument made of natural wood. Mango, jackfruit and teakwood is preferred for making the dholak's.
- ✓ Baghpat and Meerut are famous for their exclusive handloom home furnishing product and running fabrics in cotton yarn since generations, and only cotton yarn are used in the handloom weaving process.
- ✓ The Barabanki Handloom Product has also being bestowed with a GI tag.
- ✓ For Kalpi Handmade Paper, the application was filed by Hasht Nirmat Kagaj Samiti, Industrial Estate, Kalpi, Uttar Pradesh. Kalpi has historically been a centre of handmade paper manufacturing.
- ✓ The Mahoba Gaura Patthar Hastashlip is a stone craft.
- ✓ Tarkashi, a popular art form from Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh, is primarily brass wire inlay work on wood.
- ✓ In the Sambhal Horn Craft, the raw material is procured from dead animals. They are completely hand-made.

**Q. Which state's police department has launched 'Operation Conviction' to combat criminals and mafias in the state?**

- A) Uttar Pradesh  
B) Madhya Pradesh  
C) Himachal Pradesh  
D) Kerala

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Uttar Pradesh Police Department has launched 'Operation Conviction' to combat criminals and mafias in the state.



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- ✓ The initiative will expedite the prosecution of cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, as well as those involving cow slaughter, religious conversion, rape, and murder.
- ✓ 'Operation Conviction' will ensure the immediate arrest of criminals, the collection of strong evidence against them, quality investigation, and effective representation of cases in courts so that they are punished in the shortest amount of time.

### UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Uttar Pradesh Police Department has launched 'Operation Conviction' to combat criminals and mafias in the state.
- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to cancel all Traffic Chalan for private and commercial vehicle owners pending from 2017 to 2021.
- UP holds 2nd position in GI tagged products.
- After getting GI tag for three more One District One Product (ODOP) crafts, Uttar Pradesh has now come second in the country in terms of maximum number of items with Geographical Indication tag.
- The ODOP crafts which have got GI tag include Mainpuri Tarkashi, Mahoba Gaura Stone Craft and Sambhal Horn Craft.
- Tamil Nadu leads with 55 GI-tags, followed by UP and Karnataka with 48 and 46 GI products, respectively.
- The state government has given green signal to the project of setting Uttar Pradesh a state's first Pharma Park in Lalitpur district of Bundelkhand.
- Uttar Pradesh introduces "School Health Program" digital health cards for children.
- The online rural education initiative 'Pahal' was officially launched by Chief Secretary Durga Shankar Mishra at Government UP Sainik Inter College in Sarojini Nagar.
- Uttar Pradesh on track to be first Indian state with 100% EVs in govt depts.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the India's first urban transport ropeway on March 24, 2023, in Varanasi.
- Uttar Pradesh government has launched the portal for the creation of 'Family ID – One Family One Identity'.
- Uttarakhand won the first prize for its tableau, followed by Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh in the second and third positions respectively.



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- Uttar Pradesh came in third with its tableau commemorating Ayodhya's Deepotsav.
- Uttar Pradesh Government Launched 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' Campaign.
- Uttar Pradesh tops charts for mobile gaming destination in India.
- Taj Mahotsav Starts In Agra of Uttar Pradesh.
- UP first all-woman PAC battalions formed by Uttar Pradesh Govt.
- Uttar Pradesh tops in India, 8462 lakes developed under Mission Amrit Sarovar.
- Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurates north India's first data centre at Greater Noida.
- Uttar Pradesh bags top honours at PMAY-U Awards 2021.
- Agriculture Minister of India, Narendra Singh Tomar, has introduced a new platform called 'DigiClaim' on the national crop insurance portal.
- Kannuj will be developed into a tourist destination as per the decision taken by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.
- Centre has approved the setting up of the Terai Elephant Reserve (TER) at Dudhwa-Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh. The Terai Elephant Reserve is the 3rd Elephant Reserve in India.
- Uttar Pradesh cabinet has gave a green signal for the development of the first tiger reserve in the Bundelkhand region

**Q. The Ministry of Power has launched a new platform "UTPRERAK" to promote clean technologies and enhance energy efficiency in the country. What is the full form of UTPRERAK?**

- A) Unnat Technical Pradarshan Kendra
- B) Unnat Technology Pradarshan Kendra
- C) Unnat Technology Pariksha Kendra
- D) Unnat Takniki Pradarshan Kendra

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Govt launches UTPRERAK to adopt Energy Efficient Technologies.
- ✓ The Ministry of Power has established a new platform called Advanced Industrial Technology Demonstration Center (AITDC) for industry stakeholders to demonstrate and exchange knowledge on new energy-efficient technologies in the country.







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- Matua Mela : West Bengal
- Shrimp Mela : Punjab
- Maghi Mela : Punjab
- 36th Surajkund International Crafts Mela : Faridabad, Haryana
- Divya Kala Mela : Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Gangasagar Mela : West Bengal
- Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela : New Delhi

**Q. Which University has topped the QS World Rankings 2024?**

- A) University of Oxford                      B) University of Cambridge  
C) Stanford University                      D) Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay emerged as India's highest-ranked educational institute, according to QS World Rankings 2024.
- ✓ Globally, it was ranked 149th and was the only such Indian institute in the top 150. However, it is the highest rank the institute has ever attained.
- ✓ IIT Bombay showed an improvement from last year's QS world rankings when it took the 172nd spot.
- ✓ It was followed by IIT Delhi (ranked 197th globally), slipping from 174th last year. These were the only two institutes in the top 200 on the list.
- ✓ At the third spot was the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, ranked 225th globally. It slipped sharply from 155th place last year.
- ✓ While in the overall ranking, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), United States topped the rankings for the twelfth consecutive year.
- ✓ UK's Cambridge University ranked second followed by Oxford University.
- ✓ QS World University Rankings 2024: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Tops for 12th Year, Indian Universities Make Gains.
- ✓ **QS World University Rankings 2024: Top Performers**
- ✓ Top : MIT, US
- ✓ 2nd : University of Cambridge, UK





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#### Answer : B

- ✓ RBI cancels Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank Dharwad's banking license.
- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the banking license of the Karnataka-based Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank, Dharwad, and allowed function only as a non-banking institution.
- ✓ This makes it obligatory on the part of Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank Ltd., Dharwad, Karnataka to stop conducting the business of 'banking' within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Act ibid, including acceptance of deposits from non-members with immediate effect.
- ✓ RBI has also been instructed to repay unpaid and unclaimed deposits of non-members held by it, whenever demanded, even after being notified as a non-banking Institution.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the first Indian council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) residing overseas?**

- A) Bhavish Aggarwal                      B) Shradha Sharma  
C) Vishesh Chandiok                      D) Trishneet Arora

#### Answer : C

- ✓ Vishesh Chandiok appointed initiated into ICAEW.
- ✓ CEO of Grant Thornton Bharat, Vishesh C. Chandiok has been appointed as the first Indian council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) residing overseas.
- ✓ This recognition honors Chandiok's significant contributions to the global accounting profession.
- ✓ His appointment highlights the influence of Indian professionals in accounting and finance globally.
- ✓ Founded in 1880, ICAEW has played a pivotal role in shaping the accounting industry and works with governments, regulators and business leaders globally

**Q. Who has been appointed as part-time Chairman of the Federal Bank?**

- A) Chandra Shekhar Ghosh                      B) L V Prabhakar  
C) Tapan Ray                                      D) AP Hota

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Reserve Bank of India has given its approval to the Federal Bank for the appointment of AP Hota as part-time chairman, with effect from June 29, 2023, till January 14, 2026.
- ✓ AP Hota has banking experience of over 27 years in the Reserve Bank, mostly in technology and payment systems, from 1982- 2009.



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- ✓ While at Reserve Bank of India, he served as nominee director to the Board of Vijaya Bank and subsequently Andhra Bank
- ✓ He was the architect of NPCI and served as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer between 2009- 2017.
- ✓ In 2018, he was appointed as an Independent Director of Federal Bank Limited.
- ✓ FEDERAL BANK
- ✓ Founded : 1931
- ✓ Headquarters : Aluva, Kerala
- ✓ MD & CEO: Shyam Srinivasan
- ✓ Tagline: Your Perfect Banking Partner

**Q. Which organization has organized an Anusandhaan Chintan Shivir' with an aim to encourage military research and development?**

A) HAL

B) BDL

C) DRDO

D) ISRO

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has organized an Anusandhaan Chintan Shivir in New Delhi aimed at promoting Defence Research and Development in the industry and academia.
- ✓ At the event, a list of 75 technology priority areas was released, encouraging indigenous innovation in defence technologies and fostering self-reliance.
- ✓ The DRDO Technology Foresight 2023, listing current and future technology development tasks, was also unveiled.
- ✓ Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan also attended the event as the Chief Guest with other dignitaries.

### DRDO IN NEWS 2023

- DRDO organises 'Anusandhaan Chintan Shivir' to encourage Defence R&D.
- Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have formed a partnership to create an Indigenous Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) System for the submarines in the Indian Navy.







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- World Bank has granted its approval for a USD 255.5 million loan aimed at enhancing the quality of technical education in government-run institutions across India.
- World Bank has granted its approval for a USD 255.5 million loan aimed at enhancing the quality of technical education in government-run institutions across India..
- World Bank approves \$150-million loan for Resilient Kerala programme.
- World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.
- Indian origin Ajay Banga confirmed as the 14th President of World Bank.
- Ministry of Education and the World Bank held a unique workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program.
- The Cabinet approved the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project in October 2020.
- World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 363 million for the supply of clean drinking water from taps to 2 million rural households in Karnataka.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- According to the World Bank's (WB) annual report 'State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2023' released on May 23, 2023, revenues collected from carbon taxes and Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) globally have reached a record high, about US\$95 billion in 2022.
- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- India and the World Bank have signed a loan agreement for the construction of the Green National Highway Corridors Project (GNHCP) in four States.
- These four states are-Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
- World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- 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.



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- WORLD BANK
- Founded : 1944
- Headquarters : Washington Dc
- 14th President : Ajay Banga
- MD&CFO : Anshula Kant
- Chief Economist : Carman Reinhart
- Executive Director : Rajesh Khullar
- Member Countries :189
- World Bank Group : 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID).
- All of these efforts support the Bank Group's twin goals of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity of the poorest 40% of the population in all countries.
- World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference, along with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- India is a member of IBRD, IFC, IDA and MIGA. The country is not a member of the ICSID

**Q. Indian Government has provided financial incentives of \_\_\_ crore rupees to 12 states to accelerate power sector reforms.**

A) Rs. 60,000 Crores

B) Rs. 66,000 Crores

C) Rs. 73,000 Crores

D) Rs. 79,000 Crores

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Centre has provided financial incentives to 12 states to accelerate power sector reforms.
- ✓ These states will receive over 66 thousand crore rupees incentives for reforms in the power sector.
- ✓ This initiative aims to support and motivate states in implementing reforms that enhance the efficiency and performance of the power sector.
- ✓ The announcement regarding this initiative was made in the Union Budget 2021-22 by the Union Finance Minister.
- ✓ As part of the initiative, states are granted an additional borrowing space of up to 0.5 percent of their Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) annually for a period of four years, from 2021-22 to 2024-25.







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- ✓ The full name of PM PRANAM is Promotion of Alternative Nutrients for Agriculture Management Scheme.
- ✓ **Aim of the Scheme :**
- ✓ to reduce the use of chemical fertilisers
- ✓ Reducing the subsidy burden on chemical fertilisers, which is projected to reach Rs 2.25 lakh crore in 2022-23 - 39 per cent more than last year's figure of Rs 1.62 lakh crore.
- ✓ 70 percent of the grant provided under the scheme can be used for asset creation related to technology adoption of alternative fertilizers and alternative fertilizer production units at village, block and district level.

**Q. Which state government has signed an MoU with American chipmaker firm Micron Technology for a semiconductor assembly and test facility in the state?**

A) Gujarat

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Gujarat government signs MoU with Micron Technology for semiconductor assembly and test facility.
- ✓ Gujarat government signs MoU with US chip maker firm Micron Technology for semiconductor assembly and testing facility in Ahmedabad.
- ✓ The MoU was signed in the presence of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Union Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav.
- ✓ The semiconductor assembly and testing facility will be located at Sanand in Ahmedabad district.
- ✓ The Central Government will provide 50 per cent financial assistance towards the total project cost.
- ✓ The State Government of Gujarat will provide an incentive of 20 per cent of the total project cost.
- ✓ The Semiconductor Assembly and Test Plant will generate 5,000 direct employment opportunities.
- ✓ **Micron Technology:**
- ✓ Micron Technology, Inc. is an American manufacturer of computer memory and computer data storage.
- ✓ Their product portfolio includes dynamic random-access memory (DRAM), flash memory, and USB flash drives.
- ✓ Micron markets its consumer products, such as memory modules, under the Crucial brand.
- ✓ Micron and Intel collaborated to form IM Flash Technologies, which focused on the production of NAND flash memory.



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- ✓ Micron owned Lexar between 2006 and 2017, further expanding its presence in the flash memory market.
- ✓ Establishment - October 5, 1978
- ✓ Founders - Ward Parkinson, Joe Parkinson, Dennis Wilson and Doug Pittman
- ✓ Headquarters - Boise Idaho.

### GUJARAT IN NEWS 2023

- Gujarat government signs MoU with US chip maker firm Micron Technology for semiconductor assembly and testing facility in Ahmedabad.
- Indian cabinet has given its approval to Micron Technology's plan to invest \$2.7 billion in setting up a semiconductor testing and packaging unit in Gujarat.
- Urban-20 City Sherpas' meet begins at Ahmedabad in Gujarat.
- India's largest power company NTPC Ltd has commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project at Kawas, Gujarat.
- BJP leader Bhupendra Patel took oath as the Chief Minister of Gujarat for a second straight term.
- Madhvendra Singh has been appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Gujarat Maritime Cluster by Gujarat Ports Infrastructure Company Limited.
- First G20 Tourism Working Group meeting at Dhordo in Kutch region of Gujarat.
- Former Gujarat governor and veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Om Prakash Kohli passed away.
- Gujarat Day is celebrated on May 1 every year. The state was established on May 1, 1960.
- Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has declared the last week of April as "Swagat Saptah" in commemoration of the completion of 20 years of the "State Wide Attention on Grievances by Application of Technology" (SWAGAT) initiative.
- Deakin University of Australia to set up campus in GIFT city.
- Two Australian Universities Wollongong and Deakin to set up Campuses in Gujarat's GIFT City.
- The Youth 20 India Summit will be held at the Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara in Gujarat.
- International Kite Festival 2023 begins in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- Vedanta-Foxconn JV choose Dholera SIR for India's first semiconductor facility





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- ✓ Meta has declared a fresh Mixed Reality (MR) programme in India that has an award of \$250,000 for homegrown new companies and developers to construct applications and experiences.
- ✓ They can assemble applications utilising Meta's Presence Platform, the organisation's expansive scope of machine perception and AI capabilities for the Meta Quest Platform and Metaverse.
- ✓ The company claims that the fund aims to foster innovation and establish a national XR technology ecosystem.
- ✓ **Meta launch in India :**
- ✓ Sandhya Devanathan, VP for Meta in India says : "Meta is committed to building the XR ecosystem in India.
- ✓ The Presence Platform is an integral part of the metaverse vision, aiming to make virtual experiences more tangible and accessible

**Q. In which state 'One-Tap-One-Tree' campaign has been launched?**

- A) Madhya Pradesh                      B) Himachal Pradesh  
C) Arunachal Pradesh                  D) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Government is going to launch a campaign titled 'one-tap-one-tree' from July 1, 2023, aimed at expanding the State's green cover along with the provision of potable tap water in rural areas simultaneously.
- ✓ The campaign is being launched jointly by the Namami Gange Programme and Rural Water Supply Department under the State government.

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- Uttar Pradesh cabinet has gave a green signal for the development of the first tiger reserve in the Bundelkhand region

**Q. Which has become the first Indian airline to achieve market capitalization of Rs 1 lakh crore?**

- A) Vistara  
B) Air India  
C) Spice Jet  
D) Indigo Airline

**Answer : D**

- ✓ InterGlobe Aviation Ltd, which operates budget carrier Indigo, has become India's leading airline to cross ₹1 trillion in market capitalization (Mcap) on June 28, 2023.
- ✓ The stock hit a 52-week high of ₹2,634.25 on the BSE earlier in the session 28th June 2023, with a market value of ₹1.01 trillion.
- ✓ Shares of IndiGo settled 3.55 percent higher at ₹2,619.85 apiece on the BSE, compared to the previous close of ₹2,529.95.

**Q. Which countries to upgrade defense partnership boost maritime security?**

- A) India and South Korea  
B) India and Singapore  
C) India and Philippines  
D) India and Thailand

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India and the Philippines are embarking on an exciting journey of collaboration in the defence sector, with a particular focus on the maritime domain.
- ✓ Through different initiatives including official-level interactions, resident Defense Attaché office in Manila, and the consideration of concessional Line of Credit, both nations are keen on deepening their defence ties.
- ✓ India and the Philippines had the 5th meeting of the Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation in Delhi

**Q. Who has been appointed as Special Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)?**

- A) Safin Hasan  
B) Ajay Bhatnagar  
C) Sanjukta Parashar  
D) Ake Ravi Krishna

**Answer : B**

- ✓ IPS officer Ajay Bhatnagar appointed Special Director in CBI.







# APARCHIT EXAM WARRIORS

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- ✓ The Indian Cooperative Congress aims to discuss various trends in the cooperative movement, showcase best practices adopted by successful cooperatives, and deliberate on the challenges faced by the cooperative world.
- ✓ An exhibition will also be held during the congress, showcasing various products of Self-Help Groups and NCUI Cooperative Education Field Projects under the banner of NCUI HAAT.
- ✓ **About National Cooperative Union of India**
- ✓ It is the apex organization representing the entire cooperative movement in India.
- ✓ It was established in 1929 as the All India Cooperative Institutes Association.
- ✓ Through the merger of the Indian Provincial Cooperative Banks' Association with the All India Cooperative Institutes Association, it was reorganized as the Indian Cooperative Union.
- ✓ In 1961, it took on its current name as the National Cooperative Union of India.
- ✓ Since its inception, the NCUI has been at the forefront of the cooperative movement in India, acting as a torchbearer.
- ✓ The NCUI plays a vital role in promoting and supporting cooperative initiatives throughout the country.

**Q. Who has chaired the 42nd edition of PRAGATI, a platform for proactive governance, reviewing 12 key projects across various ministries and states?**

A) Draupadi Murmu

B) Rajnath Singh

C) Narendra Modi

D) Amit Shah

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the 42nd edition of PRAGATI, the ICT-based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Centre and state governments.
- ✓ In the meeting, 12 key projects were reviewed.
- ✓ Among the 12 projects, seven projects were from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, two projects were from the Ministry of Railways and one project each was from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- ✓ These projects have a cumulative cost of over Rs. 1,21,300 crore and relate to 10 states viz., Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Haryana and two Union Territories viz. Jammu and Kashmir and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.



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**Q. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami honored the people of Uttarakhand who fought against the Emergency in 1975 and the honorarium of Loktantra Senani has been increased from Rs 16,000 to \_\_**

- A) Rs 20,000                      B) Rs 25,000  
C) Rs 30,000                      D) Rs 25,000

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami honored the people of Uttarakhand who fought against the Emergency in 1975.
- ✓ The CM announced that the dependents of Loktantra Senani will be given a pension fund and the honorarium of Loktantra Senani has been increased from Rs 16,000 to Rs 20,000.
- ✓ The Emergency was declared in 1975 by former PM Indira Gandhi and was in effect for 21 months.

**Q. Which country has launched the “Digital Nomad Strategy” to address its skilled labour shortage, particularly in the tech industry?**

- A) Italy                                      B) Egypt  
C) Canada                                      D) Germany

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Canada launched the "Digital Nomad Strategy" to address its skilled labour shortage, particularly in the tech industry.
- ✓ The strategy aims to attract talented individuals from around the world.
- ✓ The shortage of skilled workers, particularly in the tech industry, has prompted Canada to take proactive measures.
- ✓ The announcement was made during Collision's technical conference in Toronto.
- ✓ The strategy focuses primarily on the technology industry, recognizing its importance in driving innovation and economic growth.
- ✓ **Digital Nomad Strategy**
- ✓ Foreign workers are allowed to stay in Canada for up to six months under the Digital Nomad Strategy.
- ✓ If digital nomads receive job offers during their stay, they have the option of extending their time in the country.
- ✓ The strategy aims to address the shortage of skilled professionals in Canada's tech sector.



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- ✓ Digital nomads can continue their remote working arrangements while living in Canada.
- ✓ This strategy encourages networking and collaboration between foreign workers, local professionals and Canadian businesses
- ✓ **About Canada**
- ✓ Capital - Ottawa
- ✓ Currency - Canadian Dollar
- ✓ Official languages - English and French
- ✓ National Symbol - Maple Leaf
- ✓ Prime Minister - Justin Trudeau

**Q. Which Insurance company has partnered with actyv.ai to offer bite-sized insurance products to new-age Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) companies?**

- A) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance    B) HDFC ERGO General Insurance  
C) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance    D) Bharti AXA General Insurance

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Co. Ltd (Kotak General Insurance) has partnered with actyv.ai to offer bite-sized insurance products to new-age Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) companies.
- ✓ Kotak General Insurance will leverage actyv.ai's AI-powered platform to provide insurance solutions to support the business sustainability of small businesses.
- ✓ This partnership will offer innovative insurance products to the enterprise and close to one lakh supply chain partner ecosystem to focus on driving growth without worrying about business risks.
- ✓ Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (Kotak General Insurance) is a 100% subsidiary of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. Kotak General Insurance was established to service the growing non-life insurance segment in India.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new deputy head of the UN Development Programme (UNDP)?**

- A) He Xiangjian    B) Zhang Yiming  
C) Yang Huiyan    D) Xu Haoliang

**Answer : D**

- ✓ UN chief appoints Xu Haoliang of China as deputy head of UNDP.





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- ✓ World Bank has approved \$1.5 billion in financing to accelerate the development of India's low carbon energy sector.
- ✓ The financing will help India promote low-carbon energy by scaling up renewable energy, developing green hydrogen and stimulating climate finance for low-carbon energy investments, the bank said in a statement.
- ✓ The program will support the successful implementation of the National Green Hydrogen Mission that aims to stimulate \$100 billion in private sector investment by 2030," said Auguste Tano Kouame, World Bank Country Director for India



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350



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IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD (🔥)  
NAME - PRIYADARSHINI  
KALIYAMOORTHY  
ROLL NO - 2120036944  
SELECTED IN - RRB PO  
SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK  
STATE - TAMILNADU



24.0 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.  
NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY  
ROLL NO - 2603003298  
SELECTED IN - ARYAVART  
GRAMIN BANK CLERK  
STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



127.0 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - ISHITA GARG  
ROLL NO - 2283004123  
STATE - PUNJAB  
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



97.8 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.  
NAME - NIPUN  
ROLL NO - 1533002831  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
STATE - HARYANA



154.5 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - PRAVEEN  
ROLL NO - 1801005776  
SELECTED IN - RRB PO  
KARNATAKA GRAMMENA  
BANK  
STATE - KARNATAKA



34.5 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
Name: Bathina Maneesha  
Rollno: 2543024278  
Selected in : RRB clerk  
State : Telangana  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - BATHINA MANEESHA  
ROLL NO - 2543024278  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
STATE - TELAGANA



30.3 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - NISHU SHARMA  
ROLL NO - 1523008901  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
STATE - HARYANA



84.9 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.  
NAME - GURIYA KUMARI  
ROLL NO - 1373006773  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN  
BANK



17.7 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - GURPREET KAUR  
ROLL NO - 2283002821  
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK  
STATE - FROM PUNJAB



15.7 KB APARCHIT'S GARDENS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD  
NAME - MANU VARGHESE  
ROLL NO - 2110710970  
BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN  
BANK CLERK