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

**Q. Who has inaugurated the India's first Vedic-themed park in Noida?**

A) Amit Shah

B) Rajnath Singh

C) Narendra Modi

D) Yogi Adityanath

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The country's first Vedic theme park has opened up in Noida, Uttar Pradesh Sector 78.
- ✓ Built with Rs 27 crore, the park has more than 50,000 plants that are mentioned in the Vedas such as banyan, kalpavriksha, and coconut, Times of India reported.
- ✓ It will also highlight excerpts from the four Vedic literature pieces -- Rig Veda, Atharva Veda, Yajur Veda, and Sama Veda -- via laser shows, wall paintings, and sculptures.
- ✓ The park, named Vedvan, was inaugurated by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- ✓ The construction of the park had begun in January 2021. The land on which it has been built used to be a dump yard, Vandana Srivastava from Noida Authority told the publication. The soil in the area had to be compacted and trees were then planted

### PARK IN NEWS 2023.

- The country's first Vedic theme park has opened up in Noida, Uttar Pradesh Sector 78.
- The government has given green signal to the project of setting Uttar Pradesh a state's first Pharma Park in Lalitpur district of Bundelkhand.
- India's First International Multimodal Logistics Park Coming at Jogighopa, Assam.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy laid the foundation stone of Vizag Tech Park.
- Adani Group is setting up two data centers in the Rs 21,844-crore tech park, one of 200 MW and the other of 100 MW.
- India has put forward a proposal to construct a G20 park in Delhi.
- Tiger spotted in Haryana's Kalesar National Park after 10 years.
- Bandipur National Park, located in the southern Indian state of Karnataka, recently completed 50 years as a Project Tiger Reserve.



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- A rare orange-colored bat was spotted in the Banana plantation in Parali Bodal village of Kanger Valley National Park in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari laid the Foundation Stone of the world's largest and unique Divyang Park – Anubhuti Inclusive Park in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- Uttar Pradesh government is planning to develop a theme park 'Ramaland' modelled on Disneyland to narrate the story of Lord Ram.
- Government, Ministry of Textiles, has issued a notification to set up 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks with a total outlay of Rs. 4,445 crore.
- Seven sites were chosen out of 18 proposals for PM MITRA parks which were received from 13 States.
- Eravikulam National Park in Munnar, Kerala, which is home to the Nilgiri tahr, now features a new attraction: a fernarium located within the park.
- World's largest safari park to be developed in Gurugram.
- A Namibian Cheetah passed away at Kuno National Park in MP, India. The cheetah, named Sasha.
- Silent Valley National Park, located in Kerala, in the last month identified 141 species of birds of which 17 were new species of birds.

**Q. Who has appointed as FPSB of India Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective 1 August 2023?**

- A) Krishna Mishra    B) Bikram Nag  
C) Emandi Sankara Rao                                  D) Kristalina Georgieva

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB) of India appointed Krishna Mishra as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with effect from 1 August 2023.
- ✓ FPSB India is the Indian subsidiary of FPSB, a global standard-setting organization for the financial planning profession.
- ✓ Krishna Mishra will lead the strategy and operations of FPSB India as CEO.
- ✓ His primary focus will be on advancing the financial planning profession in India.
- ✓ **Financial Planning Standards Board (FPSB).**
- ✓ It is a global non-profit organisation that sets and supports standards for the financial planning profession.





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- ✓ Its primary mission is to benefit the global public by establishing, promoting and implementing professional standards for financial planning.
- ✓ The FPSB develops and maintains the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certification program, which is recognized as the global standard for financial planning excellence.
- ✓ The FPSB aims to increase consumer confidence in the financial planning profession by establishing and maintaining global standards.
- ✓ It aims to protect the public interest and promote professionalism, integrity and competence among financial planners globally.

**Q. Which state government has launched the 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' to saturate recognition of rights pertaining to the Forest Rights Act (FRA)?**

- A) Bihar
- B) Odisha
- C) West Bengal
- D) Maharashtra

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Odisha government will soon launch 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' to saturate recognition of rights pertaining to the Forest Rights Act (FRA) and speed up the post-rights recognition activities within the prescribed time frame.
- ✓ Under the scheme, designed by the ST & SC Development department, it has been decided to constitute forest rights cells at the tehsil and district level with human resources to ensure and assist in the effective implementation of FRA, 2006.

### ODISHA IN NEWS 2023

- Odisha government, on July 2, 2023, launched a scheme named, Mo Jungle Jami Yojana to effectively implement the provisions of Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006.
- India's biggest natural arch formed 184 million years ago discovered in Odisha by Geological Survey of India (GSI).



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- 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.
- 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.

**Q. Global e-commerce transactions expected to hit \_\_\_\_ trillion by 2026**

A) \$8.5 Trillion

B) \$8.9 Trillion

C) \$9.3 Trillion

D) \$9.7 Trillion

**Answer : A**

- ✓ As per the Global Payments Report 2023, by FIS, the global e-commerce market is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 9% during 2022-26 with transaction value rising to over \$8.5 trillion in 2026.
- ✓ During 2021-22, all regions except Europe saw double-digit growth with the highest growth of 21% in the Middle East and Africa.
- ✓ Of the 40 markets, 37 saw double-digit YoY growth from 2021 to 2022.



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- ✓ The report predicts a mid-teens CAGR in the regions through 2026

**Q. PM Narendra Modi Unveiled How Many Projects Worth Rs 12,100 Crores in Varanasi?**

- A) 20 Projects                      B) 25 Projects  
C) 29 Projects                      D) 34 Projects

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has unveiled 29 development projects worth Rs 12,100 crores in his Varanasi parliamentary constituency.
- ✓ Arriving here from Gorakhpur, the prime minister launched the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction-Son Nagar railway line of the Dedicated Freight Corridor.
- ✓ Built at a cost of more than Rs 6,760 crore, the new line will facilitate faster and more efficient movement of goods.
- ✓ He also laid the foundation stones or inaugurated several other projects for Varanasi and adjoining districts.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath were present during the programme.
- ✓ Earlier in Gorakhpur, the prime minister attended the centenary celebrations of Gita Press and launched two Vande Bharat Express trains

**Q. Which country has plans to set up Representative Office in Mumbai?**

- A) Taiwan                              B) Japan  
C) South Korea                      D) Thailand

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Taiwan has announced plans to enhance its official presence in India by setting up a new representative office in the financial hub of Mumbai, taking the number of such facilities in the country to three.
- ✓ India and Taiwan, which don't have formal diplomatic relations, first established representative offices in each other's capitals in 1995.
- ✓ Besides the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in New Delhi, Taiwan set up an office in Chennai in December 2012.
- ✓ India currently has the India-Taipei Association (ITA) office in Taipei.
- ✓ These facilities on both sides function as de facto missions and are responsible for promoting cooperation in trade, investment, tourism, education, and science and technology.





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- ✓ Taiwan's foreign ministry said in a statement that the establishment of a TECC in Mumbai is aimed at further advancing "substantive ties" with India and deepening exchanges and cooperation

**Q. Which State overtakes Tamil Nadu to become India's largest MFI market?**

- A) Kerala  
B) Odisha  
C) Bihar  
D) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Bihar has overtaken Tamil Nadu to become the state with the highest microlending borrowings in India as of March 2023, according to a report.
- ✓ The report, published by credit information company Crif High Mark, highlighted Bihar's impressive growth with a 13.5 percent increase in the gross lending portfolio during the March quarter compared to the previous quarter.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new brand ambassador of Asics India Private Limited?**

- A) Deepika Padukone  
B) Priyanka Chopra  
C) Alia Bhatt  
D) Shraddha Kapoor

**Answer : D**

- ✓ A sports gear company, Asics India Private Limited has appointed actor Shraddha Kapoor as its new brand ambassador.
- ✓ The company focuses on the theme of 'Sound Mind, Sound Body', and the actor will endorse the brand's footwear and women's sportswear segment.
- ✓ In absolute terms, celebrity brand valuations accounted for \$1.6 billion in 2022 as compared to \$1.4 billion in 2021.

## LATEST BRAND AMBASSADOR IN NEWS 2023

- Shraddha Kapoor: Asics India Private Limited
- Rashmika Mandanna : Printer company Epson India
- Smriti Mandhana : Wrangler
- Hrithik Roshan : Zebronics TV
- Sachin Tendulkar : Smile Ambassador



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- Sania Mirza : Sony Sports Network
- Sourav Ganguly : Brand ambassador of Tripura Tourism
- Virat Kohli : Duroflex
- Alia Bhatt : Gucci, the luxury fashion brand from Italy
- Ayushman Khurana : Wakefit
- Rishabh Pant : Star Sports
- Rohit Sharma : JioCinema
- Virat Kohli : HSBC India
- Ranveer Singh : Star Sports Network
- Shreya Ghodawat : India's ambassador for She Changes Climate
- MC Mary Kom, Farhan Akhtar : Brand ambassadors of IBA Women's World Championships 2023
- Sachin Tendulkar : World's first 'Hand Ambassador' for Savlon India
- Ranveer Singh : Pepsi
- Ayushmann Khurrana : UNICEF India child rights
- Yastika Bhatia and Renuka Singh Thakur : Hyundai Motor India Ltd
- Vir Das : Plant-based meat brand UnCrave
- Harmanpreet Kaur : Puma
- Nikhat Zareen : National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
- Saurav Ganguly : Bandhan Bank 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign
- Anushka Sharma : Puma
- Deepika Padukone : Pottery Barn
- Virat Kohli : Smart watch Noise
- Prasoon Joshi : Uttarakhand State
- Lionel Messi : Byjus
- Janhvi Kapoor : Marico's Saffola Fittify
- Deepa Malik : Ambassador of Nikshay Mitra (TB Campaign)
- Suryakumar Yadav : UrbanGabru
- MS Dhoni : Navi Technologie
- Neeraj Chopra : Friendship Ambassador of Switzerland Tourism.



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**Q. The Taiwanese government will establish a Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in which city as part of a broader aim to further deepen cooperation with India?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Taiwanese government will establish a Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in Mumbai as part of a broader aim to further deepen cooperation with India.
- ✓ At present, Taiwan has TECCs in Delhi and Chennai.
- ✓ Taiwan's decision to set up the TECC in India's financial capital came at a time when leading Taiwanese companies are increasingly looking at relocating their production bases from China to India
- ✓ India is keen on having production facilities of leading Taiwanese chip producers, including Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (TSMC), the world's largest chipmaker whose clients included Apple.
- ✓ Since the TECC in Chennai was set up in 2012, nearly 60 percent of all Taiwanese businesses investing and opening factories in India have chosen to develop their operations in southern India.
- ✓ In 1995, New Delhi set up the India-Taipei Association (ITA) in Taipei to promote interactions between the two sides and to facilitate business, tourism and cultural exchanges.

**Q. The University of Jaffna has signed an MoU with which IITs to foster academic collaboration and promote research initiatives?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The University of Jaffna has signed an MoU with IIT Madras to foster academic collaboration and promote research initiatives.
- ✓ This initiative aims to enhance cross-cultural learning experiences and promote academic diversity.
- ✓ The MoU entails a range of opportunities for both institutions, including student and faculty exchanges. Initially, the exchange program will facilitate the transfer of approximately 10 students and faculty members each year at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.







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- ✓ This year, the fair will be organized for two consecutive months from July 3 to August 31.
- ✓ After 19 years, this is for the first time when there will be eight Mondays during the Shravani fair.
- ✓ Devotees from various parts of the country and abroad visit Deoghar during the month of 'Shravan' and offer prayers at Baba Baidyanath Dham temple.
- ✓ Baba Baidyanathdham Temple is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas in the country.

### MELA IN NEWS 2023

- Shravani Mela : Deoghar, Jharkhand
- Divya Kala Mela : Jaipur, Rajasthan
- 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.
- Gangasagar Mela : West Bengal
- Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela : New Delhi

**Q. Which state government has doubled the insurance coverage under Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (PMJAY)?**

A) Telangana

B) Kerala

C) Gujarat

D) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Gujarat state government has doubled the insurance coverage under Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana.
- ✓ Now, the beneficiaries of PMAY will get an insurance cover of Rs 10 lakhs instead of the earlier 5 lakhs.
- ✓ The decision will benefit nearly 1.78 crore Ayushman Bharat cardholders in the state. The beneficiaries will get a free of cost medical treatment over two thousand government hospitals and 795 private hospitals in the state under PMAY.



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- ✓ More than 39 lakh claims have been received in Gujarat under PMAY. The state ranks fifth in the country in terms of number of claims and has secured second position in terms of amount of claims cleared under PMAY so far.
- ✓ The claims worth over 2800 crore have been cleared in the state so far.

**Q. Which bank has become the first bank to officially roll out Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Bank of India, one of the largest public sector banks (PSBs) in the country, has become the first bank to officially roll out Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme.
- ✓ The scheme was announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during her Budget Speech 2023.
- ✓ The scheme offers an interest rate of 7.5 percent per annum, compounded quarterly.
- ✓ Individual girls or women can open an account under the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate scheme or a guardian can open an account on behalf of a minor girl.
- ✓ The account will mature after two years from the date of opening. Accounts under this scheme can be opened until March 31, 2025.
- ✓ According to a statement by the bank, while the minimum investment is Rs 1,000, any sum in multiples of Rs 100 can be deposited, up to a maximum limit of Rs 2 lakh.
- ✓ Individuals can open multiple accounts with a gap of three months between each account, subject to the overall investment cap of Rs 2 lakh.
- ✓ All earnings under the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate will be taxable as per existing income tax provisions. However, TDS (Tax Deducted at Source) will not be deducted under the scheme.
- ✓ Bank of India (BOI)
- ✓ Founded : 7 September 1906
- ✓ Founder : Ramnarain Ruia
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai
- ✓ MD & CEO : Rajneesh Karnatak





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✓ Tagline : Relationship beyond Banking

**Q. China's QU Dongyu was re-elected to a second term as Director-General of which organization?**

- A) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- B) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- C) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- D) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

**Answer : D**

- ✓ China's QU Dongyu was re-elected to a second term as Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- ✓ He was elected during the 43rd session of the conference of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) held in Rome, Italy.
- ✓ The international community has welcomed Qu's reappointment as head of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.
- ✓ He was the only candidate standing for the role of FAO director-general and received 168 out of 182 votes in a ballot in Rome
- ✓ Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- ✓ Founded: 16 October 1945
- ✓ Headquarters: Rome, Italy
- ✓ Director-General: QU Dongyu (China)
- ✓ Motto: "Fiat panis" (Let there be bread)

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Global cybersecurity solutions provider, Quick Heal Technologies Ltd?**

- A) Vishal Salvi
- B) Tilak Mehta
- C) Karsanbhai Patel
- D) Shradha Sharma

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Global cybersecurity solutions provider, Quick Heal Technologies Ltd has appointed Vishal Salvi as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with immediate effect.



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- ✓ Vishal Salvi, a former executive at Infosys, has over 29 years of experience in the cybersecurity and information technology domains in India and globally.
- ✓ Quick Heal is an Indian multinational cybersecurity software company, headquartered in Pune, Maharashtra, India

**Q. Which country has won gold in the Junior mixed team at the World Archery Youth Championship 2023?**

- A) India    B) China  
C) Indonesia                                      D) Thailand

**Answer : A**

- ✓ India win gold in Junior mixed team at World Archery Youth Championship 2023.
- ✓ India's Priyansh and Avneet Kaur won gold in the junior mixed team compound event, defeating Israel 146-144 in a keenly-contested final of the World Archery Youth Championships.
- ✓ India's Manav Jadhav and Aishwarya Sharma also won a bronze medal defeating Mexico in the cadet mixed compound event.
- ✓ The event is taking place at the University of Limerick in the west of Ireland from July 3-9

**Q. Which of the following cities is the venue of the 3rd World Hindu Congress (WHC) 2023?**

- A) Chicago    B) Bangkok  
C) Washington                                      D) New Delhi

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Third World Hindu Conference organized in Bangkok.
- ✓ According to the World Hindu Foundation, the third 'World Hindu Congress' (WHC) 2023 will be organized in Bangkok in November.
- ✓ The three-day Vishwa Hindu Sammelan will be organized by the Vishwa Hindu Foundation from November 24 at the Convention Center in Bangkok.
- ✓ **Organizer of World Hindu Congress:**
- ✓ The World Hindu Congress is being organized by the World Hindu Foundation. Its trustee is Swami Vigyananand.



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- ✓ Swami Vigyanananda is the Managing Trustee of the Vishwa Hindu Foundation as well as the Joint General Secretary of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP).
- ✓ **Invited members from India:**
- ✓ Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath, Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Mohan Bhagwat and Ma Amritanandamayi have been invited to this event.
- ✓ Representatives of Hindu organizations and prominent Buddhist teachers from all over the world have been invited to the conference.
- ✓ Among politicians from India, only Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has been invited.
- ✓ **Former World Hindu Congress:**
- ✓ The first World Hindu Congress was held in Delhi in 2014 and the second in 2018 in Chicago, USA.
- ✓ **Organizing Issue:**
- ✓ According to Trustee Swami Vigyanananda, the achievements of Hindus will be discussed in the Congress of Bangkok along with discrimination against Hindus in different regions of the world and ways to deal with it.
- ✓ According to the World Hindu Foundation, there are 1.2 billion Hindus living in about 200 countries of the world and this forum provides an opportunity to discuss together irrespective of caste, creed, gender, language or any other discrimination.
- ✓ Tibetan Buddhism Guru Dalai Lama has participated in the first World Hindu Congress held in Delhi.
- ✓ **Number of Representatives:**
- ✓ The first Congress was attended by 1800 delegates and the second Congress by over 2400 delegates. This time the number of delegates has been limited to 2500

**Q. Which edition of the bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) hosted by the Indian Navy is being conducted at Visakhapatnam?**

- A) 8th
- B) 7th
- C) 6th
- D) 9th

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The seventh edition of the bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX 23) 2023 being conducted by the Indian Navy is being conducted at Visakhapatnam from 5 to 10 July 2023.
- ✓ The seventh edition marks the 11th anniversary of JIMEX since its inception in 2012.





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✓ **Practice Leadership:**

✓ Units of the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) under the command of RADM Nishiyama Takahiro while Indian Navy ships under the command of Admiral Gurcharan Singh are participating in the exercise.

✓ **Demonstration of practice weapons:**

✓ The exercise will see the participation of INS Delhi, India's first indigenously built Guided Missile Destroyer, INS Kamorta, an indigenously designed and built Anti-Submarine Warfare Corvette, Fleet Tanker INS Shakti, Maritime Patrol Aircraft P-8I and Dornier.

### JAPAN IN NEWS 2023

- Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, was present at the unveiling ceremony of the bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima, Japan.
- Japan 'seriously looking' at joining India's UPI payments system.
- India invited to attend G7 Hiroshima summit in Japan.
- United Kingdom has announced sanctions on the military-industrial complex and metals as well as Russian diamonds in a new round of sanctions ahead of the G7 meeting in Japan.
- Japan has decided to provide specialized training to 1,000 Indian engineers ahead of starting work on the high-speed rail track system for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor (MAHSR).
- The total length of the corridor between Ahmedabad and Mumbai is 508 km, of which 348 km falls in Gujarat and 156 km in Maharashtra.
- Japan will provide an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of USD 1.24 billion to Bangladesh for infrastructure and connectivity projects.
- Japan has decided to provide specialized training to 1,000 Indian engineers ahead of starting work on the high-speed rail track system for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor (MAHSR).
- Exercise 'Veer Guardian 2023' between the Indian Air Force and the Japanese Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) will be conducted from January 12 to 26 at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.
- The dialogue on April 05, 2023 was co-chaired by Mr. Giridhar Armane, Defense Secretary of India and Mr. Oka Masami, Defense Minister of International Affairs of Japan.
- According to the latest Nikkei Asia industry data, India has overtaken Japan to become the third largest auto market for the first time.



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- Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya addressed the G7 Health Ministerial meeting on Global Health Architecture in Nagasaki, Japan.
- India and Japan will conduct their first Air exercise from 16 January to 26 January 2023 at the Hyakuri Air Base and at the Iruma Air Base in Sayama Japan.
- The 4th edition of the joint military exercise between India and Japan, "X Dharma Guardians" will be conducted from 17 February to 2 March 2023 at Camp Imazu, Shiga Prefecture, Japan.
- Bangladesh, India, and Japan are set to hold a connectivity event in Tripura, India on April 11-12.
- Japan to invest ₹7,200 crores in Uttar Pradesh, HMI Group is developing 30 hotels in the state.
- SJVN Ltd, a state-owned company, has secured Rs 915 crore in 'GREEN' financing from Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) to support its 90 MW Omkareshwar floating solar project in Madhya Pradesh and 100 MW Raghnesda solar project in Gujarat.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in Exercise Shinyuu Maitri with the Japan Air Self-Defence Force (JASDF) which was conducted from 13 February 2023 to 02 March 2023 at Komatsu, Japan.
- Japan, U.S., South Korea, Taiwan launch 'Chip 4' talks for supply chain.
- India has surpassed Japan in terms of auto sales last year to become the third-largest auto market globally for the first time.
- JAPAN
- Capital : Tokyo
- Currency : Yen
- Emperor : Naruhito
- 100th Prime Minister : Fumio Kishida

**Q. World Meteorological Organization (WMO) issues Ozone and UV bulletins at an interval of seven years. The Montreal Protocol was signed in which year?**

- A) 1985
- C) 1987

- B) 1973
- D) 2005

**Answer : C**

- ✓ 'Ozone UV Bulletin' released by WMO.
- ✓ The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) issues Ozone and UV bulletins at an interval of seven years. According to which the ozone layer is continuously improving.



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- ✓ To monitor and understand changes in the ozone layer, WMO has released its first Ozone and UV Bulletin.
- ✓ According to the information given by WMO, with the help of Montreal Protocol and amendments made from time to time, the use of substances that damage the ozone layer has been limited by 99 percent.
- ✓ The Montreal Protocol is an international treaty on the prevention of substances that deplete the ozone layer.
- ✓ It is designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out emissions of substances known to be responsible for depleting the ozone layer
- ✓ **International Initiative for the Protection of the Ozone Layer:**
- ✓ The 1985 Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer provided a framework for international cooperation on ozone protection.
- ✓ The Montreal Protocol which was adopted in the year 1987 is a worldwide agreement to stop the production of ozone-depleting substances.
- ✓ The Montreal Protocol has been signed by 197 parties of the world.
- ✓ 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.

**Q. Who has been presented with the British National Award for Best Director for 'What's Love Got To Do With It'?**

A) Shekhar Kapur

B) Gurinder Chadha

C) Tarsem Singh

D) Mira Nair

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Noted film director Shekhar Kapur has been presented with the British National Award for Best Director for 'What's Love Got To Do With It'.
- ✓ At the award ceremony, the film 'What's Love Got To Do With It' was nominated in nine categories, out of which the film won four.
- ✓ Apart from Best Director, the film was also awarded Best British Film, Best Screenplay and Best Supporting Actor.
- ✓ Shekhar Kapur is best known for directing films ranging from Bandit Queen, Mr. India to Elizabeth.





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✓ **National and International Career of Shekhar Kapur:**

- ✓ Shekhar's international career His film Elizabeth, which came in 1998, was given the Oscar Award in the Best Make-up category.
- ✓ Its sequel Elizabeth - The Golden Age, which came in the year 2007, won the Oscar Award in the Best Costume Design category.
- ✓ Currently Shekhar is in news for the sequel of his classic Hindi film Masoom.
- ✓ What's Love Got To Do With It is a British romantic comedy, released in the UK as well as the US and India.
- ✓ The film stars Lily James, Shazad Latif, Shabana Azmi, Emma Thompson, Sajal Ali, Oliver Chris and Asim Chowdhary in lead roles.

**Q. RBI's working group has recommended the inclusion of the rupee in the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) basket and recalibration of the foreign portfolio investor (FPI) regime to accelerate the pace of internationalization of the rupee. These recommendations have been given by an Inter-Departmental Group (IDG) headed by\_.**

**A) Deepak Mohanty**

**B) Ajay Shankar**

**C) Janki Ballabh**

**D) Radha Shyam Ratho**

**Answer : D**

- ✓ RBI's working group has recommended the inclusion of the rupee in the Special Drawing Rights (SDR) basket and recalibration of the foreign portfolio investor (FPI) regime to accelerate the pace of internationalization of the rupee.
- ✓ The recommendations by an Inter-Departmental Group (IDG), headed by RBI Executive Director Radha Shyam Ratho.
- ✓ The group was constituted by RBI Deputy Governor T Rabi Sankar to review the position of the rupee as an international currency and to frame a road map for the internationalization of the domestic currency.
- ✓ Internationalization of the rupee is a process that involves increasing the use of the local currency in cross-border transactions.
- ✓ The rupee has the potential to become an internationalized currency as India is one of the fastest-growing countries and has shown remarkable resilience even in the face of major headwinds.



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- ✓ Last year in July, the RBI put in place a mechanism to settle international trade in rupees in order to promote growth of global trade with emphasis on exports from India and to support the increasing interest of the global trading community in the rupee.
- ✓ As part of the long-term measures to achieve internationalization of the rupee, the group suggested inclusion of the rupee in SDR (Special Drawing Rights) basket.
- ✓ The SDR is an international reserve asset created by the IMF (International Monetary Fund) to supplement the official reserves of its member countries. The value of the SDR is based on a basket of five currencies—the U.S. dollar, the euro, the Chinese renminbi, the Japanese yen, and the British pound sterling.
- ✓ The RBI should also look at expanding the footprint of the rupee-denominated payment mechanism.
- ✓ For the medium term, the group recommended review of withholding tax for masala bonds issuances, expansion of RTGS (Real Time Gross Settlement) system for settling international transactions and inclusion of the rupee in the Continuous Linked Settlement (CLS) system

### 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.
- Government of India has constituted a Peace Committee in Manipur under the Chairpersonship of Governor, Manipur Anusuiya Uikhey.
- 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.



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- 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.
- 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. India and which country will co-host a two-day 'India-Africa International Millet Conference' on 30 – 31 August 2023?**

A) Kenya

B) Ethiopia

C) Nigeria

D) Rwanda

**Answer : A**

- ✓ India and Kenya will co-host a two-day 'India-Africa International Millet Conference' on 30 – 31 August 2023.
- ✓ The event will witness participation from government leaders, researchers, farmers, entrepreneurs and industry associations from around the globe.
- ✓ Through the international conference, the government of India and Kenya aim to raise public awareness about millet as the world's emerging smart food.





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- ✓ The government of India spearheaded the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution for declaring the year 2023 as the International Year of Millets.
- ✓ India produces all the nine commonly known traditional millets viz. Sorghum, Pearl Millet, Finger Millet, Foxtail Millet, Proso Millet, Little Millet, Barnyard Millet, Browntop Millet and Kodo Millet.
- ✓ Millet is a common term for categorizing small-seeded grasses that are often called Nutri-cereals. Most of the states in India grow one or more millet crop species.
- ✓ Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana are the major millets producing states.
- ✓ In March, India held its first mega-global event Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference in Delhi to celebrate 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYM)
- ✓ **Millets and India**
- ✓ According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), India is the largest producer of millet in the world.
- ✓ The total production of millets in India in 2020-21 was 17.96 million tonnes which was nearly 41% of the world production.
- ✓ Rajasthan was the largest millet producing state in India.
- ✓ Rajasthan, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and Uttarakhand being the top 10 states in terms of millet production.
- ✓ In India, millet is primarily a kharif crop, requiring less water and agricultural inputs.
- ✓ India declared 2018 as the National Year for Millets to promote millets for nutrition security.

### MILLET IN NEWS 2023

- India and Kenya will co-host a two-day 'India-Africa International Millet Conference' on 30 – 31 August 2023.
- India's Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar recently launched the Millets Experience Centre (MEC) at Dilli Haat in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference in New Delhi on 18th March, 2023.
- United Nations agency Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) hosted an opening ceremony of the International Year of Millets – 2023 (IYM2023) in Rome, Italy.



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- The 4th International Trade Fair of Millets and Organics Products began on 20 January 2023 at Tripuravasini, Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The year 2023 is being observed all over the world as the International Year of the millets.
- The Government of India aims to make the International Year of the millets a 'People's Movement' and position India as the 'Global Hub for Millets'.
- India is the largest producer of millets in the world.
- According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation, global millet production in 2020 was 30.464 million metric tonnes (MMT), of which India accounted for 12.49 MMT or 41 per cent of the total millet production.
- India is the largest producer of millets in the world followed by Niger and China and the second largest exporter of these grains.
- The Government of India has set a target of production of 205 lakh tonnes of Nutri Cereals in the country by 2022-23.
- To promote the export of millets, a one-day 'Millets-Smart Nutritive Food' conclave was organised by the government on 5th December in New Delhi.
- Assam government launches millet mission to double the income of state farmers.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has announced to observe the first Thursday of the Margasira month of the Hindu calendar on November 10 as 'Mandia Day' or 'Millet Day' in the state.

**Q. The Ministry of Home Affairs has launched the “Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States” with a total budget of how many rupees?**

- A) Rs. 2,000 crore                      B) Rs. 3,000 crore  
C) Rs. 4,000 crore                      D) Rs. 5,000 crore

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Ministry of Home Affairs launched the “Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States” with a total budget of Rs. 5,000 crore.
- ✓ The scheme, part of the preparedness and capacity building funding window under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), aims to strengthen fire services across the country.
- ✓ Out of the allocated amount, Rs. 500 crore has been reserved for incentivizing states based on their legal and infrastructure-related reforms.



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- ✓ The primary objective of the scheme is to expand and modernize fire services at the state level through the preparedness and capacity-building components of the NDRF.
- ✓ The concerned State Governments shall have to contribute 25% of the total cost of such projects/proposals from their budgetary resources.

**Q. Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited has launched five all-women branches as part of its commitment to diversity and equal opportunities. What is the name of these branches?**

- A) Maitreyi
- B) Lady Brunchers
- C) Coyote Sisters
- D) Pink Ladies

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Piramal Finance opened the first all women branch named "Maitreyi" at Thripunithura near Kochi to cater to the unique needs of women customers.
- ✓ Kerala was chosen as the location for the inaugural branch due to its demographic and market dynamics, 50% of customers in Kerala are women, as against the national average of 20%.
- ✓ Kerala also has a high percentage of self-employed individuals, highlighting the entrepreneurial spirit of the state's population.
- ✓ Each Maitreyi branch has a dedicated team of 7-15 women employees to cater to the specific needs of the customers.
- ✓ The branch offers a wide range of services including home loans, MSME loans with a focus on home construction and property loans.
- ✓ Piramal Finance aims to strengthen its commitment to provide financial services to women across India by opening branches in Jaipur, Mumbai, Mohali and New Delhi
- ✓ About Kerala
- ✓ Formation - 1 November 1956
- ✓ Capital - Thiruvananthapuram
- ✓ Official Bird - Great Hornbill
- ✓ Governor - Arif Mohammad Khan
- ✓ Chief Minister - Pinarayi Vijayan





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#### KERALA IN NEWS 2023

- Piramal Finance opened the first all women branch named "Maitreyi" at Thripunithura near Kochi to cater to the unique needs of women customers.
- 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. European Space Agency (ESA) has launched the specially designed Euclid Space Telescope to review solar system bodies. This telescope will be installed at a distance of about \_\_\_ from the Earth.**

A) 2.3 million kilometers

B) 1.8 million kilometers

C) 2.2 million kilometers

D) 1.5 million kilometers



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#### Answer : D

- ✓ ESA launches 'Euclid Space Telescope' to review solar system bodies.
- ✓ The European Space Agency (ESA) has launched the specially designed Euclid Space Telescope to review solar system bodies and obtain new information.
- ✓ Through this telescope, the scientist will prepare a three-dimensional map of billions of galaxies spread over a wide area of 10 billion light years of the universe.
- ✓ Also, it is expected that its observations will help in solving the mysteries of dark matter and dark energy.
- ✓ This teslascope is named after the Greek mathematician Euclid.
- ✓ This telescope will be installed at a distance of about 1.5 million kilometers from the Earth by going to the second Lagrange Point (L2) and from there it will also be able to observe those waves which are difficult to reach the surface of the Earth.
- ✓ The goal of the Euclid teslascope is to create the most accurate three-dimensional map of the universe by observing billions of galaxies that span an area of 10 billion light-years.
- ✓ The age of this campaign has been kept at six years.
- ✓ Through this detailed map, scientists will be able to collect a lot of data to solve the mystery of the expansion of the universe and will get a lot of information about its development.
- ✓ In the past, the James Webb Space Telescope has also been established near the Lagrange 2 point.
- ✓ **Uses of Euclid Telescope:**
- ✓ Euclid consists of a 1.2 m diameter principal mirror, a near infrared spectrometer, and a photometer. It is heavy about 2 tons heavy.
- ✓ Through this, pictures of space, spectroscopy, and photometry can be obtained in the near infrared spectrum.
- ✓ A sunshield will act to protect the telescope from solar radiation and keep its temperature constant for accurate measurements.
- ✓ This telescope will make important contributions to the study of human resources, global health, climate change, and oceans.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT)?**

- A) Adarsh Kumar Goel                      B) Sheo Kumar Singh  
C) Swatanter Kumar                      D) Lokeshwar Singh Pant

#### Answer : B



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- ✓ Justice Sheo Kumar Singh becomes NGT acting chairman.
- ✓ Central Government has authorized Justice Sheo Kumar Singh-I, Judicial Member of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), to act as the Chairperson of the Tribunal till a new Chairperson is appointed.
- ✓ Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel who was appointed as the Chairman in July 2018; Retired on 6 July 2023.
- ✓ The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change issued a notification on 6 July 2023 authorizing Justice Sheo Kumar Singh-I to act as the Chairperson.
- ✓ **National Green Tribunal (NGT):**
- ✓ India is the third (first developing) country in the world after Australia and New Zealand to set up a Special Environment Tribunal.
- ✓ Establishment: On 18th October, 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
- ✓ Objective: To speed up disposal of environmental issues.
- ✓ Headquarters: Delhi (Four Regional Offices - Bhopal, Pune, Kolkata and Chennai).
- ✓ Settlement of issues: Settlement of environmental issues within 6 months.
- ✓ Composition: Consists of Chairperson, Judicial Members and Expert Members.
- ✓ Appointment of Chairperson: By the Central Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.
- ✓ Tenure: Term of three years or till the age of sixty five years and not eligible for reappointment

**Q. Who has been appointed as MD & CEO of UK based Lloyds Banking Group?**

- A) Pramod Kumar Mishra                      B) Ajit Kumar Doval  
C) Rajiv Gauba                                  D) Sirisha Voruganti

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Sirisha Voruganti appointed MD & CEO of Lloyds Banking Group's Technology Center in India.
- ✓ Lloyds Banking Group, one of the leading UK-based financial services groups, has appointed Sirisha Voruganti as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of its new Lloyds Technology Centre.
- ✓ Voruganti is a globally renowned technology and innovation leader.
- ✓ She previously served as the Managing Director and Board Member of JCPenney in India.
- ✓ **About Lloyds Banking Group:**
- ✓ Lloyds Banking Group is a British financial institution formed in 2009 through the acquisition of HBOS by Lloyds TSB.





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- ✓ It is one of the UK's largest financial services organisations, serving 30 million customers and employing 65,000 people.
- ✓ Lloyds Bank was founded in 1765, and the legacy of the wider group stretches back 320 years.
- ✓ The group is listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) and is a constituent of the FTSE 100 Index.
- ✓ It has a market capitalization of approximately £30.65 billion as of August 1, 2022.
- ✓ The headquarters of Lloyds Banking Group is located in Edinburgh, United Kingdom.
- ✓ Robin Budenberg is the chairman of Lloyds Banking Group.

**Q. India has been included in the “Champions Group” of the Global Crisis Resolution Group (GCRG). Who has been designated as the "Sherpa" for the GCRG process?**

**A) Amitabh Kant**

**B) Piyush Goyal**

**C) Sanjay Verma**

**D) Rajnath Singh**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India in 'Champions Group' of Global Crisis Resolution Group.
- ✓ The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India informed on 7 July 2023 that India has been included in the “Champions Group” of the Global Crisis Resolution Group (GCRG).
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been invited by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.
- ✓ UN Secretary-General Guterres established the Global Crisis Response Group (GCRG) in March 2022 to address urgent and critical global issues such as food and energy security challenges.
- ✓ **Champions Group:**
- ✓ Champions Group maintains GCRG.
- ✓ It includes the Heads of State and Government of Bangladesh, Barbados, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia and Senegal.
- ✓ According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the decision to join the grouping reflects India's growing global leadership and commitment to address current global challenges.
- ✓ India's participation will further strengthen the efforts of the United Nations in finding result-oriented solutions to development issues affecting the world, especially developing countries.
- ✓ **Sanjay Verma became the Sherpa of GCRG.**
- ✓ Sanjay Verma, who was Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been designated as the "Sherpa" for the GCRG process.



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- ✓ According to the Ministry of External Affairs, these Sherpas will have an online meeting on July 14 and the Champions Group meeting will be held on July 21

**Q. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)?**

- A) B. Neeraj Prabhakar                      B) Sri Konda Laxman  
C) Himanshu Pathak                         D) Tarun Bajaj

**Answer : A**

- ✓ B. Neeraj Prabhakar has been appointed as the chairman of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- ✓ Ms. Prabhakar, Vice-Chancellor of Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University, has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) for ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (IIOPR) at Pedavegi, Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ In addition, Ms. Prabhakar has also served as a member of the Telangana Oil Palm Advisory Committee, which advises the state government on various issues for the cultivation and promotion of oil palm.
- ✓ Telangana boasts of the highest oil extraction from oil palm kernels produced among all states in India.
- ✓ The ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Palm Research (IIOPR) at Pedavegi (Andhra Pradesh) is the only dedicated institute in India dedicated to research on oil palm and developing technologies applicable to all oil palm growing states.
- ✓ Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR):
- ✓ Established: 16 July 1929
- ✓ Headquarters: New Delhi
- ✓ Director General: Himanshu Pathak

**Q. Who has been appointed by Google as India Policy Head?**

- A) Ajit Mohan                                      B) Sanjay Gupta  
C) Amit Agarwal                                 D) Srinivasa Reddy

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Google appoints Srinivasa Reddy as new India policy head.
- ✓ Google has appointed Srinivasa Reddy as India Policy Head. In this new role, Reddy has been tasked with ensuring fair and secure Internet access for users across the Indian subcontinent.



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- ✓ This will lead to greater dedication of Google's products and services for Indian users and to use them in a fair and reliable manner.
- ✓ Srinivasa Reddy has been appointed in place of Archana Gulati who exits Google in September 2022 after her five-month tenure.
- ✓ **Reddy has also contributed to Apple in the past.**
- ✓ Reddy served as Apple's head of regulatory affairs in India between 2018 and 2021, in a policy and regulatory role.
- ✓ Prior to that he served for five years at Ericsson as Vice President and Head of Government and Industry Relations. He has also worked with Aircel, Marconi and Blue Star.
- ✓ Reddy will help Google deal with several policy and regulatory challenges in the country.
- ✓ In October last year, India's antitrust body fined Google \$275 million in two cases for abusing its dominant position in the Android market and forcing developers to use in-app payment systems.

**Q. Indian aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation has signed an MoU with which of the following for cooperation in unmanned aircraft systems and innovative air mobility?**

- A) European Union Aviation Safety Agency
- B) Federal Aviation Administration
- C) Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia
- D) Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation has signed an MoU with the European aviation regulator European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for cooperation in unmanned aircraft systems and innovative air mobility.
- ✓ This MoU will focus on collaboration on unmanned aircraft and innovative air mobility between the two civil aviation authorities.
- ✓ This would include cooperation between the two organizations in the areas of development of certification standards, environmental standards, related requirements for the certification, use of unmanned aircraft system, innovative air mobility operations which includes licensing of personnel, training, air traffic management and infrastructure, including Unmanned Aircraft System Traffic Management (UTM) standards and services.





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✓ Further, this will result in collaboration in conducting conferences, workshops, training programmes by DGCA and EASA in the matter.

**Q. India has signed a protocol document with which country to extend the current MoU on cooperation in personnel management and public administration until 2028?**

- A) Singapore                                      B) Malaysia  
C) Vietnam                                        D) Indonesia

**Answer : A**

✓ Aparchit 9&10th July English Super Current Affairs MCQ with Facts 2023

**Q. Which Municipal Corporation has become the first urban body in the country to get the Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR)?**

- A) Mumbai Municipal Corporation      B) Indore Municipal Corporation  
C) Pune Municipal Corporation          D) Surat Municipal Corporation

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) has become the first urban body in the country to get the Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) credit by recycling the banned single-use plastic items after seizing them.
- ✓ Notably, Indore was adjudged India's cleanest city for the sixth time in a row last year in the central government's annual cleanliness survey.
- ✓ Single-use plastic is completely banned in the city. About eight tonnes of such plastic in the recent past and stopped from getting circulated.
- ✓ On average, 1,162 tonnes of solid waste is generated every day in Indore, which includes about 164 tonnes of plastic waste.
- ✓ This waste is collected under different categories from every doorstep in the city by civic vehicles and disposed of the same day in the plant being run under the PPP model.

**Q. At which airport in India, the country's first elevated cross taxiway service has been started?**

- A) Indira Gandhi International Airport    B) Kolkata International Airport  
C) Varanasi International Airport        D) Mumbai International Airport

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ The country's first elevated cross taxiway (ECT) service has been started at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport.
- ✓ With its help, the operational efficiency of the airport will increase and it will also help in reducing carbon emissions.
- ✓ This dual lane ECT service is of 2.1 km which will connect the northern and southern airfields of the airport.

### 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.
- 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".



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**Q. Which state government has doubled the insurance cover under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMAY)?**

A) Madhya Pradesh

B) Uttar Pradesh

C) Gujarat

D) Haryana

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Gujarat government has doubled the insurance cover under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMAY) from 11 July 2023.
- ✓ Now the beneficiaries of PMAY will be able to get an insurance cover of Rs 10 lakh instead of Rs 5 lakh.
- ✓ According to state health minister Rushikesh Patel, the decision will benefit around 1.78 crore Ayushman Bharat card holders in the state.
- ✓ Beneficiaries under PMAY will get free medical treatment in two thousand government hospitals and 795 private hospitals in the state.
- ✓ Gujarat has received over 39 lakh claims under PMAY.
- ✓ Gujarat ranks fifth in the country in terms of number of claims and second in terms of amount of claims settled so far under PMAY

### GUJARAT IN NEWS 2023

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah organized a virtual ceremony to lay the foundation stone of the country's first cooperative-run Sainik School.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the best tourism facilities in the historical lighthouses of Gujarat.
- Under the Sagarmala programme, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is developing a National Maritime Heritage Complex, a world-class facility at Lothal, Gujarat.
- 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.





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- 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.

**Q. Which state is top in performance grading index (PGI)?**

**A) Punjab and Chandigarh**

**B) Kerala and Rajasthan**

**C) Bihar and Haryana**

**D) Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education released the Performance Grading Index (PGI) report for States/UTs, an index for evidence based comprehensive analysis of school education system in State/UTs.
- ✓ According to PGI, even though the states have been successful to a great extent in recent years in connecting most of the children to schools, they are still far behind in the standards of teaching-learning and quality.
- ✓ **PGI 2.0:**
- ✓ This year's report released by the Ministry of Education has been named PGI 2.0.
- ✓ **Punjab and Chandigarh on top in overall ranking:**
- ✓ No state has been found in the top-5 category of PGI. Punjab and Chandigarh have been placed at the top position with the highest number of points in the overall ranking of PGI.



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- ✓ While on the parameters of learning outcome and quality, Rajasthan has also topped with Punjab and Chandigarh with the highest marks.
- ✓ **Six Standards and Ten Categories:**
- ✓ The Ministry has set six standards and ten categories in place of the earlier five standards and eight categories to determine the performance of the states in school education, in which the subject of teacher education has been added anew.
- ✓ In these indexes, the weightage (marks) given on the basis of government work has been reduced.
- ✓ **Six Standards of PGI 2.0:**
- ✓ Among the six parameters on the basis of which this grade of states has been prepared,
- ✓ Learning Outcome and Quality,
- ✓ Access to School
- ✓ Infrastructure and Facilities,
- ✓ Equality,
- ✓ Governance Management and
- ✓ Includes teacher education and training.
- ✓ States have been given marks on the basis of 73 different parameters of all these.
- ✓ **Ten categories of PGI:**
- ✓ The ten categories that have been created under PGI, which is based on 1000 marks, include:
- ✓ Daksha (941-1000)
- ✓ Utkarsh (881-940)
- ✓ Ati Uttam(821-880)
- ✓ Uttam (761-820)
- ✓ Prachesta-1(701-760)
- ✓ Prachesta-2 (641-700)
- ✓ Prachesta-3 (581-640)
- ✓ Aspirant-1 (521-580)
- ✓ Aspirant- 2 (461-520) and
- ✓ Akankshi-3 (401-460).
- ✓ **No state in top five:**



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- ✓ In the PGI-2.0 report for the year 2021-22, there is no state in the top-5 categories in the overall ranking, while Punjab and Chandigarh have found place in the sixth category i.e. Prachesta-2.
- ✓ Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Delhi, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu were in the seventh category i.e. Prachesta-3.
- ✓ Thirteen states have made it to the eighth category of overall ranking i.e. Aspirational-1, including Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Sikkim, West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep, Daman and Dadar Nagar Haveli is included.
- ✓ 12 states including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand have made it to the ninth category i.e. Akankshi-2.

**Q. What is the highest Grade in Performance Grading Index (PGI)?**

- A) Daksha  
B) Utkarsh  
C) Prachesta  
D) Ati Uttam

**Answer : A**

- ✓ **Ten categories of PGI:**
- ✓ The ten categories that have been created under PGI, which is based on 1000 marks, include:
- ✓ Daksha (941-1000)
- ✓ Utkarsh (881-940)
- ✓ Ati Uttam(821-880)
- ✓ Uttam (761-820)
- ✓ Prachesta-1(701-760)
- ✓ Prachesta-2 (641-700)
- ✓ Prachesta-3 (581-640)
- ✓ Aspirant-1 (521-580)
- ✓ Aspirant- 2 (461-520) and
- ✓ Akankshi-3 (401-460).

**Q. Which ministry has released the report on Performance Grading Index 2.0?**

- A) NITI Aayog  
B) Ministry of External Affairs  
C) Ministry of Finance  
D) Ministry of Education





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#### Answer : D

- ✓ Ministry of Education releases report on Performance Grading Index 2.0 for States/UTs for 2021-22.
- ✓ the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education (MoE), released the Performance Grading Index (PGI): 2.0: 2021-22: States & Union Territories' which assesses the performance of school education system at the State/UT level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis.
- ✓ It should be noted that the PGI: 2.0 is the revised version of earlier 'PGI – State structure for 2021-22'.
- ✓ None of the States/UTs has attained the highest Grade i.e., Daksh.
- ✓ The top-most grade attained in PGI 2.0 is Prachesta – 2. It was attained by only 2 States and UTs, namely Punjab with score of 647.4 and Chandigarh (659.0).
- ✓ The new PGI 2.0 structure covers 73 indicators, focused more on qualitative assessment, digital initiatives and teacher education.

**Q. Who has become the first Indian to win gold in the recurve category of the Youth World Archery Championships?**

A) Partha Salunkhe

B) Limba Ram

C) Atanu Das

D) Jayanta Talukdar

#### Answer : A

- ✓ Parth Salunkhe became the first male archer to win a gold medal in the recurve event.
- ✓ Parth Salunkhe has become the first male archer to win a gold medal in the recurve event at the World Youth Archery Championships to be held in Ireland from 3 to 9 July 2023. India finished with its highest ever medal tally of 11 medals in this championship.
- ✓ The 19-year-old from Satara in Maharashtra won the gold medal on July 9 after defeating a Korean in the Under-21 men's recurve individual final.
- ✓ Salunkhe, who topped the ranking round, defeated seventh seed Song Injun 7-3 in a hard-fought five-set match.
- ✓ India also won a bronze medal in the Under-21 women's recurve individual event when Bhaja Kaur defeated Su Hsien-yu of Chinese Taipei 7-1.
- ✓ **Highest ever medal tally of 11 in India Championship:**
- ✓ India finished with six gold, one silver and four bronze medals, the highest in terms of total medal tally.
- ✓ In terms of rankings, they were second only to Korea, which took the pole position with six gold and four silver medals.



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✓ **About Ireland:**

- ✓ Capital: Dublin
- ✓ Currency: Euro
- ✓ President: Michael D. Higgins
- ✓ Prime Minister: Leo Varadkar (Indian origin)
- ✓ At present, three countries in Europe have Prime Ministers of Indian origin – Rishi Sunak (Britain), Antonio Costa (Portugal) and Leo Varadkar (Ireland).

**Q. Which Indian badminton player has won the title of Canada Open?**

- A) Parupalli Kashyap                      B) Srikant Kidambi  
C) Lakshya Sen                              D) B Sai Praneeth

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Lakshya Sen has won the men's singles title in Canada Open 2023 by defeating world number-10 player Li Shi Feng of China in straight sets 21-18, 22-20.
- ✓ Commonwealth Games gold medalist Lakshya Sen has clinched the men's singles title at the Canada Open 2023 by defeating the current All England champion Li Shi Feng of China.
- ✓ This is Lakshya's second BWF World Tour title this season.
- ✓ He has already won the India Open title in January 2022.
- ✓ Lakshya's current world ranking in men's singles is 19.
- ✓ He defeated world number four Kunlavut Witidsarn in the round of 32. Lakshya then got a win over world number 11 Kento Nishimoto of Japan in the semi-finals.
- ✓ Women's Singles: Akane Yamaguchi (Rank 1) of Japan won the Women's Singles title by defeating Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon at the Canada Open 2023..

**Q. Lakshya Sen has won the men's singles title in Canada Open 2023 by defeating Li Shi Feng of which country?**

- A) Indonesia                                  B) Malaysia  
C) China                                         D) Japan

**Answer : C**



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**Q. Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the International Financial Services Centers Authority?**

- A) Injeti Srinivas                      B) K Rajaraman  
C) Ajay Sinha                              D) Rahul Johri

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Government of India Telecom Secretary K.K. Rajaraman has been appointed as the new chairman of the International Financial Services Centers Authority (IFSCA).
- ✓ He will replace Injeti Srinivas, the first chairperson of the regulatory authority.
- ✓ IFSCA was established in April 2020 under the International Financial Services Centers Authority Act, 2019.
- ✓ It is headquartered in GIFT City, Gandhinagar.

**Q. In which city is the G20 Culture Working Group meeting being organized?**

- A) Hampi                                      B) Jaipur  
C) Patna                                        D) Kushinagar

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The third meeting of the G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) is being organized in Hampi, Karnataka.
- ✓ Union Parliamentary Affairs and Coal and Mines Minister Prahlad Joshi also participated in this meeting.
- ✓ International representatives of various G20 countries are participating in this meeting.
- ✓ The G20 Culture Working Group aims to make a place in the Guinness Book of World Records by creating the largest work of 'Lambani Embroidery Patch Work'.

**Q. Which Space Agency has signed an MoU with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)?**

- A) Blue Origin                                B) Space Micro  
C) Nanoracks                                 D) Voyager Space

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Voyager Space, a global leader in space exploration, is pleased to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), to foster collaboration in spacecraft launch and deployment opportunities on-board NSIL's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) and Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).





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- ✓ Under this MOU, Voyager Space and NSIL will explore launch and deployment opportunities for small satellites orbited by SSLV and PSLV.
- ✓ The two organizations will also study the use of space qualified components from NSIL in support of spacecraft manufacturing, deployment, operations, and other areas of interest.
- ✓ ISRO’s state-of-the-art launch infrastructure and NSIL’s experience in delivering payloads to orbit expands access to space for Voyager’s global customer base. Voyager Space has previously flown customer satellites on two PSLV missions

**Q. Who has launched the 'Ama Pokhari' Yojana to rejuvenate around 2,000 large water bodies in all 115 urban local bodies of the state?**

- A) Naveen Patnaik                                      B) Nitin Gadkari  
C) Ashwini Vaishnaw                                  D) Narendra Modi

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched 'Ama Pokhari' Yojana to rejuvenate around 2,000 large water bodies in all 115 urban local bodies of the state.
- ✓ The state government would invest 120 crore rupees in the implementation of the initiative.
- ✓ Launching the project, the chief minister said the project will be implemented using natural and organic methodology to improve the climate of surrounding areas

**Q. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has set a “flexible” net zero target for the global shipping industry by which year?**

- A) 2030    B) 2040  
C) 2050    D) 2070

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) agreed on a “flexible” net zero target of 2050 for the global shipping industry.
- ✓ The target is “by or around” 2050 and includes a clause that it only applies if national circumstances allow.
- ✓ The IMO also agreed to reduce emissions by at least 20% by 2030, and by at least 70% by 2040.
- ✓ The London-based IMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations which is responsible for measures to improve the safety and security of international shipping and to prevent pollution from ships.



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- ✓ The Maritime Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of IMO has also agreed on a goal to uptake zero GHG emission technologies, fuels and energy sources, “at least 5 percent, striving for 10 percent by 2030”.
- ✓ Most of the developing nations had been lobbying for the mid-century target — could be 2051, 2052 or 2053, insisting on not strictly fixing 2050 as the year for achieving net zero

**Q. The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with which company for the procurement of two Dornier Aircraft for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) along with an associated engineering support package at an overall cost of Rs 458.87 crore?**

- A) Larsen & Toubro (L&T)                      B) Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)  
C) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)        D) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Ministry of Defense signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for procurement of 2 Dornier aircraft for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) with Associated Engineering Support Package at a total cost of Rs 458.87 crore in New Delhi.
- ✓ The aircraft will be equipped with many advanced equipment such as glass cockpit, maritime patrol radar, electro optic infra-red device, mission management system etc.
- ✓ Its addition will further boost the aerial surveillance capability of the maritime areas under the responsibilities of the ICG.
- ✓ Dornier aircraft are indigenously manufactured at HAL (Transport Aircraft Division) in Kanpur.
- ✓ This initiative of the Ministry of Defense will contribute significantly in achieving self-reliance in defense in line with the Government's 'Make in India'.
- ✓ **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL):**
- ✓ Establishment: 23 December 1940 (Aircraft manufacturing started from 1942).
- ✓ Founder: Incorporated as Hindustan Aircraft Limited in Bangalore by Walchand Hirachand.
- ✓ It was formed on 1 October 1964 as Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- ✓ Headquarters: Bangalore
- ✓ Management: by a Board of Directors appointed by the President of India through the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- ✓ The HAL HF-24 Marut fighter-bomber was the first indigenously built fighter aircraft in India.



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**Q. Who has been awarded the highest honor 'Philippe Chatrier Award 2023'?**

- A) Martina Navratilova                      B) Justine Henin  
C) Steffi Graf                                  D) Monica Seles

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The International Tennis Federation (ITF) has awarded the highest honor 'Philippe Chatrier Award 2023' to Belgian tennis player Justine Henin.
- ✓ Henin won seven Grand Slam singles titles, an Olympic gold medal, and was part of Belgium's team that won the Fed Cup now called the Billie Jean King Cup in 2001.
- ✓ The award, named after the former ITF president, was introduced in 1996 and recognizes people who have made significant contributions to the sport on and off the court.
- ✓ Henin won the French Open four times, the U.S. Open twice and the Australian Open once. She was a two-time runner-up at Wimbledon. She won Olympic gold at the 2004 Athens Games.
- ✓ The award will be presented Saturday at the ITF World Champions Awards at London's Victoria and Albert Museum

**Q. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh is on an official visit to which country from 10 to 11 July 2023?**

- A) Malaysia                                      B) Vietnam  
C) Indonesia                                    D) Egypt

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Defense Minister Rajnath Singh is on an official visit to Malaysia from 10 to 11 July 2023, the main objective of this visit is to strengthen bilateral defense cooperation and further enhance political partnership.
- ✓ Rajnath Singh will hold bilateral talks with Malaysian Defense Minister Dato' Seri Mohd Hassan, in which the two ministers will review defense cooperation between the two countries and explore new ways to further strengthen these ties.
- ✓ The two countries will also exchange views on regional and global issues of bilateral interest.
- ✓ Rajnath Singh will also call on Malaysian Prime Minister C YB Dato' Seri Anwar Bin-Ibrahim during his visit.
- ✓ Both India and Malaysia have a common interest in the peace and prosperity of the entire region.





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- ✓ The two democracies share a strong and multi-faceted relationship, which extends to a number of strategic areas, including defense and security.
- ✓ **About Malaysia:**
- ✓ Malaysia is a country in Southeast Asia located on the Malay Peninsula and the island of Borneo.
- ✓ It is a country of diverse culture, blending Malay, Chinese, Indian and indigenous influences.
- ✓ Capital: Kuala Lumpur
- ✓ Currency: Ringgit
- ✓ Prime Minister: C YB Dato' Seri Anwar bin-Ibrahim

**Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 29 development projects worth over Rs 12,100 crore in which city?**

- A) Varanasi
- B) Prayagraj
- C) Agra
- D) Lucknow

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 29 development projects worth over Rs 12,100 crore in Varanasi.
- ✓ The projects aim to boost infrastructure and improve the quality of life in Varanasi.
- ✓ The projects included the inauguration of 19 projects worth 10,720 crore rupees and the laying of the foundation stone for 10 projects worth 1,389 crore rupees.
- ✓ **Dedication of Infrastructure Projects:**
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi dedicated the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Junction-Sone Nagar railway line of the Dedicated Freight Corridor built at a cost of over Rs 6,760 crore.
- ✓ He also inaugurated three railway lines and widening to four-lanes of Varanasi-Jaunpur section of NH-56.
- ✓ **Inauguration of several projects:**
- ✓ Several projects were inaugurated, including the construction and renovation of PWD roads, an International Girls Hostel building on the BHU campus and a vocational training centre in Karsara village.
- ✓ A unique floating changing room jetty was also inaugurated at Dashashwamedh Ghat to facilitate bathing in river Ganga.
- ✓ **Foundation stone of projects:**



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- ✓ PM Modi laid the foundation stone for construction of 3 two-lane rail over bridges, construction and renovation of 15 PWD roads, redevelopment of Manikarnika and Harishchandra ghats and floating changing room ghats at six ghats and 192 rural drinking water schemes under Jal Jeevan Mission.
- ✓ **About Uttar Pradesh:**
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh is a state located in the northern part of India.
- ✓ It has a population of over 240 million, making it the most populous state in India as well as the most populous subdivision in the world.
- ✓ The state was officially established in 1950.
- ✓ Capital - Lucknow (Executive Branch)
- ✓ Governor - Anandiben Patel
- ✓ Chief Minister - Yogi Adityanath
- ✓ Assembly: 403 seats
- ✓ Legislative Council: 100 seats
- ✓ Rajya Sabha - 31 seats
- ✓ Lok Sabha - 80 seats

**Q. Which state government has signed six MoUs with private industries for the mangrove plantation under the MISTHI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) Scheme?**

**A) Rajasthan**

**B) Gujarat**

**C) Haryana**

**D) Bihar**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Gujarat government has signed six MoUs with private industries for the mangrove plantation under the MISTHI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes) Scheme.
- ✓ Led a plantation drive for mangroves, under PM Narendra Modi's visionary Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes program, at a site near Rukmini Temple.
- ✓ The importance of core activities such as mangrove plantation target, stock of mangrove nurseries, livelihood opportunities, publicity and outreach programme as well as eco-tourism in mangrove areas through self helps groups (SHGs) to help achieve 30% increase in the mangrove sink.
- ✓ The mangrove forest will be developed at a cost of Rs 510 lakhs in the next five years
- ✓ **MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes).**



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- ✓ 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%

**Q. Which state government has announced free accident and life insurance cover of Rs 4 lakh to gig workers?**

A) Kerala

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Telangana

D) Karnataka

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Karnataka government has announced a free accidental and life insurance cover worth Rs 4 lakh, for which it will entirely bear the cost of the annual premium.
- ✓ Those employed as full-time or part-time delivery personnel for Swiggy, Zomato, Amazon etc are set to benefit from the insurance cover announced by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the budget presented.
- ✓ The cover comprises life insurance and accidental insurance of Rs 2 lakh each.
- ✓ An association of gig workers had submitted a request to the labour department to provide accidental cover for all the gig workers in the state, where there are over 2-4 lakh of them.

### 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.





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- 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
- Formation - 1 November 1956
- Capital- Bengaluru
- Chief minister : Siddaramaiah
- Governor- Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Legislative Assembly seats- 224
- Lok Sabha seats- 28



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- 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 day is observed as the World Population Day every year?**

- A) 11 July
- B) 10 July
- C) 12 July
- D) 9 July

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The World Population Day is observed every year on July 11 to raise awareness of global population issues, including their relations to the environment.
- ✓ The day was established by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in 1989 in commemoration of the day in 1987, when the world reached the population of 5 billion.
- ✓ The purpose of observance of this day is to raise public awareness on the importance of various population issues such as family planning, maternal health, gender equality, poverty and human rights.
- ✓ **Theme of World Population Day 2023**
- ✓ Its theme is "Unleashing the Power of Gender Equality: Elevating the Voices of Women and Girls to Unlock the Infinite Potential of Our World."
- ✓ The theme underlines the importance of gender equality in harnessing the full potential of women and girls and the immense opportunities they present for our global society.

**Q. Which Countries are jointly conducted an 'Operation Broader Sword' to prevent illegal drugs shipment?**

- A) India and UK
- B) India and USA
- C) India and UAE
- D) India and Germany

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Operation Broader Sword: Indo-US joint initiative to stop illegal shipments.
- ✓ India and the United States jointly launched 'Operation Broader Sword' with the goal of stopping the illegal transportation of pharmaceuticals, equipment and precursor chemicals through the International Mail System (IMS).



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- ✓ The operation was aimed at disrupting the flow of illegal substances entering the United States from India.
- ✓ The operation primarily focused on packages entering the United States from India through the two major International Mail Facilities (IMF) located at New York (JFK International Airport) and Chicago (ORD International Airport).
- ✓ During the operation, investigators thoroughly examined more than 1,500 shipments originating from India, and took conclusive action on nearly 500 products. These operations primarily targeted illegal drugs intended to treat serious illnesses.
- ✓ Many of the shipments were found to contain opioids and other controlled substances, highlighting the importance of the operation in combating illegal drug trafficking

### IMPORTANT OPERATION & CODE NAME IN NEWS 2023

- **OPERATION BROADER SWORD**
  - India and the USA, jointly conducted an 'Operation Broader Sword' to stop the illegal shipment of drugs through the International Mail System.
- **OPERATION KARUNA**
  - India launched "Operation Karuna" to provide humanitarian assistance for people in Myanmar, which is affected by Cyclone Mocha.
- **OPERATION KAVERI**
  - India launches Operation Kaveri to evacuate Indian citizens stranded in Sudan
- **OPERATION DOST**
  - Due to the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria, India has launched a campaign named 'Operation Dost' to help the affected people.
- **OPERATION GARUDA**
  - Central Bureau of Investigation has launched a multi-phase 'Operation Garuda' against illicit drug trafficking network.
- **OPERATION YATRI SURAKSHA**
  - To give assurance of the safety to the passengers, the Indian railways with the coordination of Railway Protection Force has launched a pan India drive under the code name Operation Yatri Suraksha.
- **OPERATION "NARCOS"**







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- ✓ CEO: Sunil Duggal
- ✓ Subsidiaries: Hindustan Zinc, Bharat Aluminum Company, More
- ✓ Parent organization: Vedanta Resources

**Q. 'Lord Hanuman' has been declared as the official mascot of which championship?**

- A) Asian Athletics Championship      B) Cricket Asia Cup  
C) Davis Cup      D) World Athletics Championship

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Lord Hanuman is the Official Mascot of the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ✓ It is being organized on the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Asian Athletics Federation.
- ✓ The logo of the 25th Asian Athletics Championships 2023 depicts the dedication and sportsmanship displayed by the athletes participating in the Games.
- ✓ India is participating in the championship under the leadership of shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor and long jumper Murali Sreesankar

**Q. With which country India has started bilateral trade in rupees?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India and Bangladesh have started bilateral trade in rupees.
- ✓ It was launched at an event jointly organized by the Bangladesh Bank and the Indian High Commission in Dhaka.
- ✓ Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka Pranay Verma said that India and Bangladesh will conduct trade in Indian Rupee along with the normal transaction method in US Dollars.
- ✓ Bangladesh is India's largest trading partner in South Asia and India is Bangladesh's second largest trading partner in Asia.



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### BANGLADESH IN NEWS 2023

- India and Bangladesh have started bilateral trade in rupees.
- The 6th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) is taking place in Dhaka, Bangladesh from May 12-13, 2023.
- India and Bangladesh have recently jointly launched the '50 Start-up Exchange Programme' to promote collaboration and exchange between the start-up ecosystems of the two countries.
- Mohammad Shahabuddin elected President of Bangladesh .
- He will be the 22nd President of Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh will be connected to North-East by 2024.
- The 21st meeting of the Bangladesh–India Joint Steering Committee (BIJSC) on the power sector was held on 4th May at Khulna, Bangladesh.
- a new border-haat was inaugurated between India and Bangladesh at Bholaganj under Companyganj Upazila of Sylhet.
- The High Commission of India opened its 16th Visa application center in Kushtia town of Southwestern Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh Power Development Board received 450 MW of electricity from Adani Power.
- Power is supplied from Adani's power plant in Godda, Jharkhand.
- India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline to be jointly inaugurated by PM Modi and Sheikh Hasina.
- Bangladesh, India, and Japan are set to hold a connectivity event in Tripura, India on April 11-12.
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the first submarine base of Bangladesh 'BNS Sheikh Hasina' at Pekua in Cox's Bazar.
- NTPC Group's total installed capacity reaches 72,304 MW with first overseas capacity addition in Bangladesh.
- People's Republic of Bangladesh
- Capital: Dhaka
- Currency : Taka
- Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina Wazed
- President: Mohammad Shahabuddin





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**Q. Which National Law University (NLU) has launched Eklavya, a 'Research Affiliate' program?**

- A) National Law University (NLU) Delhi
- B) National Law University (NLU) Mumbai
- C) National Law University (NLU) Kolkata
- D) National Law University (NLU) Kerala

**Answer : A**

- ✓ **National Law University Delhi launches 'Eklavya': A Research Affiliate Program.**
- ✓ National Law University (NLU), Delhi launched a research affiliate program named 'Eklavya' to promote collaboration and inclusivity in legal scholarship.
- ✓ The 'Eklavya' program is open to individuals who do not have a traditional law degree, who have at least three years of experience working on law-related issues.
- ✓ Full-time or part-time employees require approval from their current organization or institution.
- ✓ Self-employed individuals, freelancers, or independent consultants must provide a declaration stating their business status.
- ✓ **Benefits and Opportunities:**
- ✓ Connect with faculty, researchers and scholars of NLU Delhi to promote subject research collaboration.
- ✓ Get guidance and advice from experienced academicians and legal experts affiliated with NLU Delhi.
- ✓ Access the extensive library resources and research facilities available at NLU Delhi.
- ✓ Connect with a diverse community of legal professionals, policy makers and researchers through seminars, conferences and workshops.
- ✓ Contribute to the development of legal scholarship through research papers, articles and publications.
- ✓ Raise your professional profile and receive recognition for your research contributions

**Q. Which Country Sheikh Talal Fahad Al Ahmad Al Sabah has been elected as the new President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)?**

- A) Kuwait
- B) Oman
- C) Qatar
- D) Saudi Arabia

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Sheikh Talal Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait has been elected as the new President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA).



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- ✓ Sheikh Talal was succeeded by his brother Sheikh Ahmad al-Fahd al-Sabah.
- ✓ Sheikh Talal succeeded his elder brother, Sheikh Ahmed Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, who led the OCA until 2021.
- ✓ Sheikh Ahmed was forced to step down after being found guilty of forgery and sentenced to at least 13 months in prison.
- ✓ Sheikh Talal defeated Kuwaiti Hussein Al-Musallam, OCA Director General and World Aquatics President, at the OCA General Assembly in Bangkok.
- ✓ **Olympic Council of Asia (OCA)**
- ✓ The OCA was founded in 1982 by Sheikh Talal's father, Fahad Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.
- ✓ It serves as the governing body of the Games in Asia and currently consists of 45 member National Olympic Committees.
- ✓ The International Olympic Committee recognized the OCA the same year it was founded in 1982.
- ✓ Established: 16 November 1982, New Delhi.
- ✓ Headquarters: Kuwait City, Kuwait
- ✓ Chairman: Talal Fahd Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah
- ✓ Membership: 45 National Olympic Committees
- ✓ Motto: Ever Onward

**Q. 7th edition of the SALVEX exercise conducted in Kochi between India and which country?**

**A) United States**

**B) United Kingdom**

**C) Japan**

**D) France**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Seventh edition of the Indian Navy – US Navy (IN – USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX was conducted at Kochi.
- ✓ IN and USN have been participating in joint Salvage and EOD exercises since 2005.
- ✓ Objective – To enhance the skill sets of the Diving teams in a number of diverse disciplines such as mine detection and neutralization, wreck location, and salvage.
- ✓ The exercise saw participation from both the navies which included the ships – INS Nireekshak and USNS Salvor in addition to Specialist Diving and EOD teams.
- ✓ SALVEX also saw conduct of joint training exercises towards enhancing interoperability, cohesiveness and gaining from best practices mutually in Maritime Salvage and EOD operations.



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#### USA IN NEWS 2023

- Seventh edition of the Indian Navy – US Navy (IN – USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX was conducted at Kochi, Kerala.
- The United States is celebrating its 247th Independence Day this year on 4th July.
- United States of America announces its intention to rejoin UNESCO in July.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to the United States from June 21 to June 24 is one of the most important diplomatic visits of 2023.
- PM Modi will lead the International Yoga Day celebrations at the United Nations Secretariat in New York.
- India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X) was launched at an 2-day event in Washington DC which was co-organised by Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX), Ministry of Defence and US Department of Defence (DoD).
- Indian Economic Trade Organization appoints Nutan Roongta as Director of USA East Coast.
- Serbia's men and the United States women won the FIBA 3×3 World Cup 2023, which took place in Vienna, Austria.
- UNITED STATES (US)
- Capital : Washington, D.C.
- Largest city : New York City
- Currency : Dollar
- First President : George Washington
- 46th President : Joe Biden
- 49th Vice President : Kamala Harris
- India ambassador to US : Taranjit Singh Sandhu.
- Exercise Tiger Triumph (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief exercise)
- Exercise Vajra Prahar (Special Forces' Exercise)
- Cope India (Air Force).
- Malabar Exercise (Quadrilateral naval exercise of India, USA, Japan and Australia).
- Red Flag (US' multilateral air exercise).





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**Q. India and which country have recently started trade settlements in local currencies and this new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries?**

- A) Ethiopia                                      B) Tanzania  
C) Nigeria                                        D) Egypt

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India and Tanzania have started trade settlements in local currencies and this new initiative will help in promoting commerce between the two countries.
- ✓ India-Tanzania bilateral trade has seen very strong growth and stood at USD 6.4 billion in 2022-23.
- ✓ This is not only a very substantial bilateral trade, but it's also actually a bilateral trade, which is getting increasingly balanced. Many new products are being added to the trade baskets. India remains the biggest destination for Tanzanian exports.
- ✓ Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, and Canara Bank have operations in Tanzania.
- ✓ About 18 countries have already opened special vostro accounts with Indian banks
- ✓ About Tanzania
- ✓ Tanzania, East African country situated just south of the Equator.
- ✓ President: Samia Suluhu Hassan
- ✓ Capital: Dodoma
- ✓ Currency: Tanzanian shilling

**Q. EAM S Jaishankar has filed his nomination papers for elections to the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat. How many Rajya Sabha seats are there in the state of Gujarat at present?**

- A) 17    B) 11  
C) 15    D) 21

**Answer : B**

- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has filed his nomination papers for elections to the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat.
- ✓ Four years ago, Jaishankar had filed his nomination for the first time from Gujarat for the Rajya Sabha.
- ✓ Out of the 11 Rajya Sabha seats from Gujarat, eight are currently held by the BJP and the rest by the Congress.



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- ✓ Of the eight seats held by the BJP, the terms of S Jaishankar, Jugalji Thakor and Dinesh Anavadiya will end on August 18. Polls will be held for these three seats.
- ✓ The last date for filing nominations is July 13 and the candidates can withdraw their nomination till July 17.
- ✓ Gujarat:
- ✓ Capital: Gandhinagar
- ✓ Governor: Acharya Devvrat
- ✓ Chief Minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel
- ✓ Assembly: 182
- ✓ Rajya Sabha: 11 seats
- ✓ Lok Sabha: 26 seats

### External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar IN NEWS 2023

- Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar went on a four-day official visit to Tanzania from 5 to 8 July 2023.
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar launched Varanasi's 'Tulsi Ghat Restoration Project' on 10 April 2023 during his visit to Kampala, Uganda.
- India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar virtually inaugurated the Buzi Bridge built by India in Mozambique
- During his visit to Stockholm, Sweden, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar held a meeting with the Defense Minister and Foreign Minister of Sweden.
- Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is on a visit of two African countries Uganda and Mozambique from April 10 to 15, 2023.
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar unveiled the bust of Sardar Vallabhai Patel at India House in Fiji's capital Suva on 17 February

**Q. Which country has launched its first homegrown open-source operating system named “Openkylin” for computers?**

A) Japan

B) China

C) Israel

D) Germany



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#### Answer : B

- ✓ China has launched its first homegrown open-source operating system named Openkylin for computers.
- ✓ The country steps up efforts to cut reliance on US technology.
- ✓ The OpenKylin 1.0 was developed by a group of Chinese companies led by China Electronics Corp, the country's largest State-owned comprehensive electronic information enterprise group.
- ✓ The system has been designed as a rival to the ubiquitous Windows and MacOS systems.

**Q. Which of the following has constituted a five-member working group for implementing the recommendations of the Reserve Bank of India's committee on the "working of the Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)"?**

- A) Indian Banks' Association                      B) Finance Ministry  
C) Reserve bank of India                              D) NITI Aayog

#### Answer : A

- ✓ The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has constituted a five-member working group for implementing the recommendations of the Reserve Bank of India's committee on the "working of the Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs)".
- ✓ The Group comprises Ajit Kumar (MD and CEO of Secondary Loan Market Association), Hari (CEO of Association of ARCs in India), Mythili Balasubramanian (Executive Director of Edelweiss ARC), Dharmendra Pali (senior officials from SBI) and Anupama Ranade (senior officials from ICICI Bank).
- ✓ The Group has been constituted at the behest of the RBI. The central bank wants IBA and SLMA to take appropriate measures for early implementation of the committee's recommendations in consultation with the lenders and ARCs.
- ✓ In light of the committee's recommendations aimed at enabling ARCs to fulfill the increasing demand of the financial sector, the working group will undertake a thorough review of assignment agreements and trust deed templates.
- ✓ IBA is expected to provide a model process document to lenders for ensuring certainty and transparency in auctions conducted by them.
- ✓ RBI had set up a committee to undertake a comprehensive review of the working of ARCs under the chairmanship of Sudarshan Sen, former ED, RBI, on April 28, 2021. The report of the committee was released on November 2, 2021





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**Q. In which country a national health emergency has been declared due to 'Guillain-Barre syndrome'?**

- A) Chile  
B) Cuba  
C) Brazil  
D) Peru

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Peru declared a nationwide emergency as Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS), a rare neurological disorder, surged in the country. A 90-day health emergency has been imposed in the country to curb the outbreak.
- ✓ So far a total of 182 cases have been reported, of which 147 have been discharged, 4 people died, and 31 remain hospitalised.
- ✓ What is Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS)?
- ✓ Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) is a rare autoimmune disease causing neurological disorder, where the body's immune system mistakenly attacks the peripheral nerves. The attack is leading to the symptoms such as muscle weakness, numbness, and tingling, that start with the legs and spread upwards, and in extreme cases, it can also lead to paralysis of the whole body.

**Q. Who has been honored with the Best Member Federation Award by the Asian Athletics Federation?**

- A) Indonesian Athletics Association  
B) Indian Athletics Federation  
C) Bangladesh Athletics Federation  
D) Chinese Athletics Association

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) was conferred with the Best Member Federation award by the Asian Athletics Federation in Bangkok.
- ✓ AFI President Adille Sumariwalla received the award during a ceremony organized by the Asian Athletics Association.
- ✓ The Asian Athletics Association is the continental governing body for the sport of athletics in Asia

**Q. Which day has been designated as the World Malala Day by United Nations?**

- A) 11 July  
B) 13 July  
C) 12 July  
D) 10 July

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ The United Nations designated 12 July to be observed as World Malala Day, on July 12, 2013, in honour of the young Pakistani human rights activist, Malala Yousafzai.
- ✓ The theme for World Malala Day 2023 is inspired by the book "I Am Malala", which focuses on the influence of celebrities as heroes and role models for social progress.
- ✓ Born: 12 July 1997, Mingora, Pakistan.
- ✓ July 12 also marks the birth anniversary of Yousafzai, the youngest Nobel Prize laureate.
- ✓ On her 16th birthday, on 12 July 2013, Yousafzai delivered speech at the United Nations (UN) headquarters on the need for gender equality in education, following which the day was declared as the World Malala Day by the UN
- ✓ Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi win the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize
- ✓ In 2014, aged just 17, Malala Yousafzai from Pakistan became the youngest Nobel Peace Prize winner.
- ✓ Malala Yousafzai was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her fight for the right of every child to receive an education.
- ✓ UN declares Malala Yousafzai as the most famous teenager of the decade
- ✓ Malala yousafzai Pens Book
  - “We Are Displaced”
  - 'I Am Malala' autobiography
  - 'Malala's Magic Pencil'
- ✓ The film 'Gul Makai', based on the life of Malala Yusufzai
- ✓ Film Director : Amjad Khan

**Q. According to the Goldman Sachs report, India will become the second-largest economy in the world by which year?**

- A) 2050
- B) 2040
- C) 2075
- D) 2055

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India to be world's second largest economy by 2075: Goldman Sachs Research.



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- ✓ According to the report of Goldman Sachs Research, by the year 2075, India will become the second largest economy in the world after China leaving behind not only Japan and Germany but also America.
- ✓ According to the world's important investment bank Goldman Sachs, India has left behind China in terms of population, so its GDP is expected to expand.
- ✓ India's current economy: \$3.2 trillion
- ✓ Presently India's economy ranks in the world: Fifth
- ✓ India's economy in the world by 2075: \$52.5 trillion (2nd largest)
- ✓ **Currently, the economy of the top countries (in trillions of dollars):**
- ✓ America: 23.3
- ✓ China: 17.7
- ✓ Japan: 4.9
- ✓ Germany: 4.3
- ✓ India: 3.2
- ✓ UK: 3.1
- ✓ **Economy of top countries in 2075 (in trillions of dollars):**
- ✓ China: 57
- ✓ India: 52.5
- ✓ America: 51.5
- ✓ Europe: 30.3
- ✓ Japan: 7.5
- ✓ **The main reasons for the reduction of India's dependence on developed countries:**
- ✓ According to Goldman Sachs Research, India's dependence ratio on the regional economy will be the lowest in the next two decades. Because:
- ✓ Helping to grow the economy quickly with talent and workforce.
- ✓ Here innovation and increasing labor productivity are quite strong.
- ✓ Capital investment will continue to be an important driver of growth in the future as well.
- ✓ Decreased dependency ratio on other countries.
- ✓ Savings rate expected to rise due to rising incomes and favorable demographics.





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## TARGET YEAR IN NEWS 2023

- According to the report of Goldman Sachs Research, by the year 2075, India will become the second largest economy in the world after China leaving behind not only Japan and Germany but also America.
- UNEP suggests measures to reduce 80% of world's plastic pollution by 2040.
- India aims to become one trillion dollar tourism economy by 2047.
- The government announced a plan to add 250 GW of renewable energy capacity in the next five years to achieve its target of 500 GW of clean energy by 2030.
- India has set targets for half of its installed electricity capacity to be from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030 and for the country to attain net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.
- 2023 foreign trade policy has the vision to take India's goods and services exports to \$2 trillion by 2030.
- India to get 9% of Electricity from Nuclear Sources by 2047.
- India sets target to become 'Global Hub for Green Ship' building by 2030
- Indian Railways to become Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030.
- India to produce 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030.
- India has set a target to replace the use of diesel by renewable energy in the agriculture sector by 2024.
- Indian Government has set a target to eliminate TB in India by 2025.
- India targets ₹25,000-cr worth defence exports by 2024.
- Reserve Bank of India's 2023 monetary policy objective is to hold inflation within the mandated tolerance band and guide it towards the medium-term target of 4% by 2024.

**Q. According to Global Firepower, a data website that tracks global defense-related information, which country has the weakest military force in the world?**

A) Bhutan

B) Benin

C) Somalia

D) Liberia

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The US has the strongest military force in the world, with Russia and China in second and third and India in fourth place, according to Global Firepower, a data website that tracks global defense-related information.



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- ✓ The 2023 Military Strength list – which also includes the nations with the weakest military force in the world, which includes Bhutan and Iceland – assessed over 60 factors.
- ✓ The top four nations remain as they were in the 2022 Global Firepower list.
- ✓ However, the UK has moved up from eighth place last year to fifth this year. South Korea remains in sixth place as it was last year.
- ✓ Pakistan enters the top 10 in seventh place, and Japan and France ranked fifth and seventh last year, drop to eighth and ninth this year
- ✓ **10 nations with the most powerful militaries in the world-**
- ✓ 1. United States
- ✓ 2. Russia
- ✓ 3. China
- ✓ 4. India
- ✓ 5. United Kingdom
- ✓ 6. South Korea
- ✓ 7. Pakistan
- ✓ 8. Japan
- ✓ 9. France
- ✓ 10. Italy
- ✓ **5 nations with the least powerful militaries in the world-**
- ✓ 1. Bhutan
- ✓ 2. Benin
- ✓ 3. Moldova
- ✓ 4. Somalia
- ✓ 5. Liberia

**Q. According to the Global Firepower report, what is the rank of India in the world's most powerful armies?**

A) second

B) third

C) fourth

D) fifth

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ According to the latest ranking of 2023 by Global Firepower, a data website containing information related to the defense of the countries of the world, India is the fourth most powerful army country in the world. USA is on top in this list.
- ✓ In this ranking, after the US, Russia and China are in second and third place respectively

**Q. The 50th GST Council meeting in New Delhi concluded under whose leadership?**

- A) Rajnath Singh
- B) Smriti Irani
- C) S. Jaishankar
- D) Nirmala Sitharaman

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The 50th GST Council meeting, headed by the Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, has been concluded in New Delhi.
- ✓ Key Highlights :
- ✓ \* 28% GST rate has been levied on the full value of gaming, horse racing, and casino.
- ✓ \* Exempted GST on pharma products like cancer drug Dinutuximab, and Food for Special Medical Purposes.
- ✓ \* Reduced GST on Uncooked, unfried & extruded snack palettes to 5%.
- ✓ \* Reduced GST on Fish soluble paste to 5%.
- ✓ \* Imitation zari thread brought down from 12% to 5%..

**Q. What percentage of GST has been fixed on 'Online Gaming' in the 50th meeting of the GST Council?**

- A) 05%
- B) 15%
- C) 18%
- D) 28%

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The GST Council has approved the imposition of 28 per cent GST on the full value of online gaming, casino and horse racing.

**Q. Who is the first transgender woman to win Miss Universe Netherlands?**

- A) Gayatri Kulan
- B) Rikkie Kollé
- C) Linki Rajye
- D) Thapiye Sriti

**Answer : B**





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- ✓ Rikkie Kollé is the first transgender woman to win Miss Universe Netherlands.
- ✓ Nathalie Mogbelzada was named first runner-up while Habiba Mostafa and Lou Dirchs were awarded Miss Congeniality and Miss Social Media.
- ✓ She succeeded Ona Moody and will represent the Netherlands at Miss Universe 2023.
- ✓ Kollé won this year's Miss Universe Netherlands competition against nine other finalists.
- ✓ According to NOS, a broadcasting organization based in the Netherlands, Kollé is the second transgender person to compete in the Miss Universe competition after Angela Ponce. Ponce represented her home country of Spain in the international pageant in 2018.
- ✓ Kollé previously appeared on Holland's Next Top Model in 2018, when she reached the final four.

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

- Rikkie Kollé is the first transgender woman to win Miss Universe Netherlands.
- 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.
- Indian-American Aarya Walvekar crowned Miss India USA 2022.
- Pallavi Singh wins the Mrs Universe Divine Crown in South Korea.
- Khushi Patel from UK is crowned Miss India Worldwide 2022.
- Karolina Bielawska from Poland has won the title of Miss World 2021.
- 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



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- 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. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of SBI Cards & Payment Services (SBI Card)?**

- A) Abhijit Chakravorty                      B) Phanindra Subramanya  
C) K. Satyanarayana Raju                D) Sumant Kathpalia

**Answer : A**

- ✓ SBI appoints Abhijit Chakravorty as SBI Card's CEO.
- ✓ The country's largest pure-play credit card issuer, SBI Cards & Payment Services (SBI Card) has appointed Abhijit Chakravorty as MD & CEO for two years.
- ✓ Chakravorty, who is presently a Deputy Managing Director at SBI, will assume charge of his new role on August 12.
- ✓ Incumbent MD & CEO Rama Mohan Rao Amara has tendered his resignation owing to his transfer to SBI. Amara will demit office on August 11.
- ✓ Amara was appointed as MD & CEO of SBI Card in January 2021.

**Q. Who has inaugurated a day-long mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs" in New Delhi?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated a day-long mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs" in New Delhi.
- ✓ The conclave is aimed at discussing ways to strengthen Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) through Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).
- ✓ The conclave witnesses the participation of experts from the sector as well as members from the FPOs.
- ✓ Under the FPOs scheme, financial assistance of 33 lakh rupees is provided to each FPO. Further, financial assistance of 25 lakh rupees per FPO is given to the Cluster-Based Business Organizations (CBBOs) for promoting and handholding the FPOs.



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- ✓ In order to realize Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Sahkar se Samridhhi and with the efforts of Cooperation Minister Amit Shah, a decision was also taken recently to form 1100 new FPOs in the Cooperative sector.

### AMIT SHAH IN NEWS 2023

- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated a day-long mega conclave "Strengthening PACS through FPOs" in New Delhi.
- Union Minister for Home and Cooperation Amit Shah has virtually launched the 'Akshar River Cruise' on Sabarmati Riverfront.
- 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.





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- 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. Who will be awarded the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Award 2023?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be awarded the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Award this year.
- ✓ The Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust (Hind Swaraj Sangh) would confer the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023 to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Pune on August 1, 2023.
- ✓ This award recognizes PM Modi's supreme leadership under which India has climbed the ladder of progress.
- ✓ It is presented annually on the occasion of Lokmanya Tilak's death anniversary.
- ✓ Other awardees: Indira Gandhi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Sharad Pawar, Cyrus Poonawalla, and Manmohan Singh

**Q. Who has inaugurated LRMR Hangar & Dispersal at Naval Air Station, INS Utkrosh in Port Blair?**

- A) VR Chaudhari                        B) Anil Chauhan  
C) Manoj Pande                         D) R. Hari Kumar

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Chief of Defense Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan has inaugurated LRMR Hangar & Dispersal at Naval Air Station, INS Utkrosh in Port Blair.
- ✓ The twin hangar spread over 6000 sq. mt. can accommodate a combination of P8I aircraft with Dronier & Advanced Light Helicopters.
- ✓ The new hangar facility will provide support for vital air operations in strategically important A&N Islands. It will help in strengthening the security of the Indian Oceans Region.



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- ✓ General Anil Chauhan also inaugurated the Wet Basin & Refit Jetty at Naval Ship Repair Yard at Port Blair. The jetty has slung material compartments and accommodation for personnel.
- ✓ It is made in consultation with IIT Chennai with a cost of more than 360 Cr

**Q. NABARD celebrated its \_\_\_\_ Foundation Day on July 12, 2023.**

- A) 31st    B) 36th  
C) 40th    D) 42nd

**Answer : D**

- ✓ National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) celebrated its 42nd Foundation Day on July 12, 2023.
- ✓ The day was marked by a series of events across the country, including a webinar on the theme of "NABARD: 42 Years of Rural Transformation."
- ✓ The webinar was addressed by the Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, who highlighted the important role that NABARD has played in the development of rural India.
- ✓ About the NABARD
- ✓ It is a development bank focussing primarily on the rural sector of the country.
- ✓ It is a statutory body established in 1982 under National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981.
- ✓ Established on the recommendations of Shivaraman Committee.
- ✓ Headquarters - Mumbai

**Q. Who has been reappoints as Chairman & Managing Director of 'ITC Ltd' effective from 22 July, 2024?**

- A) Sanjiv Puri    B) Debasish Panda  
C) Rajiv Kumar    D) Madhabi Puri Buch

**Answer : A**

- ✓ ITC Ltd's board has recommended the re-appointment of Sanjiv Puri as the company's chairman & managing director for a period of 5 years, effective 22 July, 2024.
- ✓ ITC Limited is an eminent Indian conglomerate, which holds a prominent position among the largest companies in the country.



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- ✓ Its operations encompass a diverse range of business sectors, such as tobacco manufacturing, food processing, retailing, and financial services

**Q. Which Country would join Britain in supplying long-range SCALP missiles to Ukraine?**

- A) Belgium                      B) France  
C) Israel                         D) India

**Answer : B**

- ✓ France will join Britain in supplying long-range SCALP missiles to Ukraine. Speaking on arrival at a summit of the 31-member NATO alliance in Lithuania.
- ✓ French President Emmanuel Macron said he had decided to boost military aid to Ukraine to help its counteroffensive.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said it would be absurd if NATO leaders gathering for a summit did not offer his country a timeframe for membership after the alliance head said it would send Kyiv a positive message.
- ✓ Kyiv is pushing to be allowed into the Western alliance, bound together by mutual security guarantees. But divisions among NATO's 31 members mean there will not be a date or straightforward invitation for Ukraine to join..

**Q. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has recognized the first Flying Training Organization of which state?**

- A) Gujarat                        B) Telangana  
C) Tamil Nadu                    D) Himachal Pradesh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ DGCA approves Tamil Nadu's first flying training school.
- ✓ Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) approved EKVI Air Training Organization Pvt Ltd to set up the first Flying Training Organization (FTO) in Tamil Nadu, India..
- ✓ This approval is for aviation education in India, as it is the 36th flight training school in the country and the first in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ EKVI Air Training Organization Pvt Ltd will operate from Salem airport, providing an opportunity to aspiring pilots in the region to get professional training and fulfill their dreams of becoming skilled aviators.
- ✓ **About Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**





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- ✓ DGCA is the regulatory authority for civil aviation in India.
- ✓ Its main focus is to ensure safety in air transport services.
- ✓ It enforces civil air regulations and air safety standards.
- ✓ It coordinates its operations with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- ✓ In the mid-1990s, the Indian government allowed private operators in the aviation industry.
- ✓ DGCA registers civil aircraft and sets airworthiness standards.
- ✓ It licences pilots, aircraft maintenance engineers, flight engineers and air traffic controllers.
- ✓ It certifies airports and communication, navigation, surveillance/air traffic management facilities.
- ✓ It grants air operator certificates to Indian carriers and regulates air transport services

**Q. Which state cabinet has approved a proposal to recommend the inclusion of the Kui language in the 8th schedule of the Constitution of India?**

- A) Odisha  
B) Bihar  
C) Assam  
D) Nagaland

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Odisha state cabinet has approved a proposal to recommend the inclusion of the Kui language in the 8th schedule of the Constitution of India.

**Q. India topped the medals tally at the 34th International Biology Olympiad (IBO) 2023 held in Which Country from 3 July to 11 July 2023?**

- A) USA  
B) UAE  
C) UK  
D) France

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India topped the medals tally at the 34th International Biology Olympiad (IBO) 2023 held in Al Ain, UAE from 3 July to 11 July 2023, by virtue of every student winning a gold medal! This is the first time that India has turned in an all-gold performance at IBO. It is also the first time that India has topped the medals tally at the Olympiad
- ✓ **The students this year were :**
- ✓ Dhruv Advani (GOLD) from Bengaluru, Karnataka
- ✓ Ishan Pednekar (GOLD) from Kota, Rajasthan.



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- ✓ Megh Chhabda (GOLD) from Jalna, Maharashtra.
- ✓ Rohit Panda (GOLD) from Risali, Chattisgarh

**Q. Who has been named first woman director of the 'IIT Zanzibar' campus in Tanzania?**

- A) Tejaswini Saraf                      B) Bhavya Sree  
C) Preeti Aghalayam                  D) Swayam Shashank Chube

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Zanzibar campus (Tanzania) of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) which is set to become the first offshore campus of the prestigious institution will also be the first IIT campus to be led by a woman director.
- ✓ Preeti Aghalayam to become 1st woman head of IIT, to lead Zanzibar campus.

**Q. Who has become the first Indian to be named the 'Best Asian Under-20 Male Athlete of the Year'?**

- A) Murali Sreeshankar                  B) Eldoz Paul  
C) Selva Prabhu Thirumaran          D) Avinash Sable

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Indian triple-jumper Selva Prabhu Thirumaran became the first Indian to be named the "Asian Under-20 Male Athlete of the Year" by the Asian Athletics Association.
- ✓ Selva won a silver medal at the World U20 Athletics Championships in Colombia last year.
- ✓ Selva was given the award during the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Asian Athletics Association in Bangkok.

**Q. The India Literacy Board proposes to set up a Literacy Museum at its premises, popularly known as Literacy House in which city?**

- A) Varanasi                                  B) Lucknow  
C) Agra                                        D) Prayagraj

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The India Literacy Board proposes to set up a Literacy Museum at its premises, popularly known as Literacy House, in Lucknow.



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- ✓ The board has also requested the state tourism department to declare the campus as a destination for literacy tourism to attract national and international visitors.
- ✓ Exhibiting how pictorial books, puppets and other tools were used to educate people in the past.
- ✓ The museum will come up at a cost of ₹8 crore and will be based on the design of noted architect Laurie Baker.
- ✓ U.S. citizen Welthy Honsinger Fisher had set up the India Literacy Board or Literacy House in Lucknow in 1956 with a mission to end illiteracy and enlighten society with its motto: “It is better to light a lamp than to curse the darkness.”
- ✓ Situated on Kanpur Road here, the Literacy House was designed like an Indian village by Laurie Baker and consists of a cluster of simple yet innovative brick buildings.
- ✓ An institution of international repute, the India Literacy Board is registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860

**Q. Indian Mango Festival ‘Aamras’ has been inaugurated by UP’s Minister of State Dinesh Pratap Singh in which country?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ MoS DP Singh inaugurates Indian Mango Festival ‘Aamrus’ in Russia.
- ✓ Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Uttar Pradesh Government, Dinesh Pratap Singh and Ambassador of India to Russia Pavan Kapoor have participated in the inauguration of the Indian Mango Festival ‘Aamrus’ in Moscow.
- ✓ In the festival, the “enthusiastic” Russian audience got to enjoy five samples of different varieties of Mangoes from Uttar Pradesh – Dasheri, Langra, Chausa, Amrapali and Mallika.
- ✓ The festival was organized by the Embassy of India with the support of the Uttar Pradesh Government, APEDA, and DISHA

**Q. Which bank will be signing a ₹3,000 crore IT transformation deal to revamp and enhance its tech infrastructure?**

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





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#### Answer : A

- ✓ Public sector bank Canara Bank will be signing a ₹3,000 crore IT transformation deal to revamp and enhance its tech infrastructure.
- ✓ In a highly competitive bidding race, global tech giants IBM and its managed infrastructure services spin-off Kyndryl are the frontrunners, positioning themselves to secure the partnership
- ✓ The partnership will aim to modernize and enhance Canara Bank's technological capabilities, enabling it to provide efficient banking solutions to its customers
- ✓ Over the last three years, Canara Bank has significantly on new technology initiatives. For the current year alone, the spending has been ₹1,200 crore. The bank aims for 90 percent of its RAM (Retail, Agriculture, and MSME) transactions to go digital from end to end by March 2024.
- ✓ Canara Bank:
  - ✓ It is a leading commercial bank of India.
  - ✓ It was established in 1906, by Sri Ammembal Subba Rao Pai.
  - ✓ Syndicate Bank was merged with Canara Bank on 1 April 2020. After this merger, Canara Bank has become the fourth largest bank in the country.
  - ✓ Headquarters Bangalore, India
  - ✓ K. Satyanarayana Raju has taken charge as Managing Director & CEO of Canara Bank

**Q. With whom has the Defense Ministry tied up for safe and nutritious food for the armed forces?**

- A) FCI
- B) MOFPI
- C) FSSAI
- D) AMUL

#### Answer : C

- ✓ The Defense Ministry has signed an MoU with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to promote the use of millets and promote healthy eating practices among the armed forces and ensure safe and nutritious food.
- ✓ It aims to create awareness among personnel about dietary diversity and nutritional benefits of millet-based food products.
- ✓ FSSAI is a statutory body established under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.



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#### FSSAI IN NEWS 2023

- Defence ministry, FSSAI to promote use of millets, healthy eating habits among armed forces.
- Guwahati Railway Station of the Northeast Frontier Railway has been awarded the 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI, 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)
- Founded : 2008
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- Chairperson : Rajesh Bhusan
- CEO : G Kamala Vardhana Rao

**Q. 'SAMARTH scheme', which was seen in the news, is associated with which Ministry?**

A) Ministry of Finance

B) Ministry of Home affairs

C) Ministry of defence

D) Ministry of Textiles

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The panel of implementation partners of SAMARTH scheme has been expanded by inducting 43 new implementation partners.
- ✓ The objective of this expansion is to enhance the reach and effectiveness of the scheme.



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- ✓ Additionally, the scheme has set a new target of training around 75,000 beneficiaries, which will be allocated to training partners.
- ✓ With the increase in cost norms by 5%, the funding pattern of the scheme has also been revised. This amendment provides the much needed additional financial support to the industries involved in imparting skills under Samarth scheme.
- ✓ **About Samarth Scheme**
- ✓ **Scheme Name: Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SAMARTH).**
- ✓ **Nature of the Scheme:** Demand-driven and placement-oriented Umbrella Skill Program.
- ✓ **Objective:** To encourage and supplement the efforts of the industry in generating employment in the organised textile and allied sectors, covering the entire value chain of textiles (excluding spinning and weaving).
- ✓ **Focus Areas:** Entry level skilling and upskilling/reskilling programs to improve the productivity of existing workforce in the apparel and garments sectors.
- ✓ Implementation Period: Till March 2024
- ✓ **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Textiles
- ✓ This initiative is part of the steps taken by the government to make the textile sector worth 250 billion USD by the end of this decade from the present 150-155 billion USD.

**Q. Sariska Tiger Reserve, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?**

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Karnataka
- D) Tamil Nadu

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Supreme Court's concern regarding the high number of visitors to Pandupol temple within the core area of Sariska Tiger Reserve, a panel constituted to find a solution.
- ✓ **About Sariska Tiger Reserve**
- ✓ It is situated in the Aravalli hills in the Alwar district of Rajasthan.
- ✓ It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1955 and a tiger reserve in 1978 under Project Tiger.
- ✓ Recognized as the first tiger reserve in the world to have successfully translocated tigers.
- ✓ **Attractions and Features:**
- ✓ Ancient Temple: Pandupol Temple.
- ✓ Architecture: Bhangarh Fort, Ajabgarh, Pratapgarh.





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- ✓ Visible Lakes: Siliserh Lake, Jai-Samand Lake.
- ✓ **Topography and Vegetation:**
- ✓ Varied topography: grasslands, dry deciduous forests, rocks and rocky landscapes.
- ✓ Dominant tree species: Dhok trees cover about 90% of the area.
- ✓ Other plant species: Salar, Kadaya, Gol, Ber, Banyan, Gugal, Bamboo, Kair, Adusta, etc.

### TIGER RESERVE IN NEWS 2023

- A photo of an elephant taken at the Anamalai Tiger Reserve (ATR) in Tamil Nadu has emerged as the winner of the Siena Drone Photo Awards 2023.
- According to the latest tiger census data released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the number of tigers in India is set to reach 3,167 in 2022.
- Bandipur Tiger Reserve, Karnataka completed 50 years as a Project Tiger Reserve 1 April 2023.
- Tiger Safari in Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve (RVTR) in Rajasthan's Bundi district is expected to be open in July.
- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana..
- Union Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav informed that Ramgarh Vishdhari Sanctuary in Rajasthan has been notified as the 52nd Tiger Reserve of India.
- The new butterfly park at Anamalai Tiger Reserve emphasises the need to conserve indigenous species.
- It was earlier known as Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and National Park and as Anamalai Wildlife Sanctuary.
- It is located in Tamilnadu.
- Project Tiger is a tiger conservation programme launched on April 1, 1973 by the Government of India during Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's tenure.
- Madhya Pradesh has the most number of tiger reserves with six in total. It also has the largest number of tigers in the entire country at 526.
- The national animal of India is the magnificent Royal Bengal Tiger. Its scientific name is Panthera.



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**Q. Who has inaugurated the indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) 'SAGAR SAMPARK'?**

A) Amit Shah

B) Narendra Modi

C) Rajnath Singh

D) Sarbananda Sonowal

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Sarbananda Sonowal, the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, inaugurated the 'Sagar Sampark' Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) to strengthen the maritime sector in India.
- ✓ The DGNSS system is a terrestrial-based enhancement system that corrects errors and inaccuracies in the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), providing more accurate positioning information.
- ✓ It helps mariners navigate safely and reduces the risk of collisions, groundings, and accidents in port and harbour areas.
- ✓ **Enhancing Maritime Sector Capability with 'Sagar Sampark':**
- ✓ The launch of 'Sagar Sampark - Differential Global Navigation Satellite System' at six locations enhances the capability of the Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) in the field of Radio Aids to Marine Navigation.
- ✓ This initiative reflects the Ministry's commitment to innovation, infrastructure development, and strengthening the Indian Maritime sector.
- ✓ **Benefits of the DGNSS System for Safe Navigation:**
- ✓ The DGNSS system provides more accurate information to ships, enabling safe navigation and efficient movement of vessels.
- ✓ It significantly improves the accuracy of GPS positioning by reducing errors caused by atmospheric interferences, satellite clock drift, and other factors.
- ✓ **Fulfilling International Obligations and Standards:**
- ✓ The DGNSS system aligns with the international obligations of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), and the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA).
- ✓ It serves as an important Radio Aid to Navigation, ensuring compliance with international standards.
- ✓ **Advanced Features of the DGNSS System:**



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- ✓ The DGNSS system incorporates multiple satellite constellations, including GPS and Global Navigation Satellite System (GLONASS), increasing availability and redundancy.
- ✓ It utilizes modern technology receivers and advanced software to transmit corrections, improving positioning accuracy within a range of 5 meters

**Q. Which State/UT has launched the Mobile-Dost-App?**

- A) Goa
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Maharashtra
- D) Jammu and Kashmir

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Mobile-Dost-App launched in J&K for Citizen Centric Services.
- ✓ The 'Mobile Dost App' was launched in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) by Chief Secretary of J&K, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, in line with the Apka Mobile Hamara Daftar vision.
- ✓ This app, developed by the IT (Information Technology) department of J&K with support from the Government of Haryana, brings digital transformation and improved accessibility to J&K residents.
- ✓ **About Mobile Dost App:**
- ✓ It aims at empowering people of J&K by providing a comprehensive platform to access all the Government to citizen Services (G2C) directly from their mobile devices.
- ✓ It offers over 450 government-to-citizen services, including certificates, licenses, grievance registration, and welfare scheme access.
- ✓ The app also provides emergency helpline connections, government tender information, bill payment, travel details, job applications, news updates, event information, and important contacts

### JAMMU AND KASHMIR IN NEWS 2023

- Mobile-Dost-App launched in J&K for Citizen Centric Services.
- The third G20 Tourism Working Group (TWG) meeting will be held in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.
- Government of India blocked 14 messenger mobile applications widely used in Jammu and Kashmir for spreading terror.
- Home Minister Amit Shah e-inaugurated the Mata Sharda Devi Temple near the Line of Control in Karnah sector of Jammu and Kashmir.





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- Wildlife conservationist Aliya Mir was awarded Wildlife Conservation Award by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.
- Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the Khelo India Winter Games at Gulmarg in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Jammu & Kashmir becomes the first union territory in India to completely switch to a digital method of administration.
- For the first time in the country, reserves of 59 lakh tonnes of lithium have been found in the Reasi district of Jammu division.
- Union Ministry of Tourism in association with Real Sports India in collaboration with local administration, Amazing Bhaderwah Tourism Association (ABTA) organised Snow-Marathon at Bhaderwah, Jammu.
- About Jammu and Kashmir
- It was a state of India until August 2019, which was bifurcated as two union territories namely Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh on 31 August 2019.
- Capital- Srinagar (May-October), Jammu (November-April).
- Lieutenant Governor - Manoj Sinha.
- Legislative Council - 36 seats.
- Legislative Assembly - 89 seats.
- Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, Justice - Koteswar Singh.

**Q. World's largest International Temple Convention and Expo (ITCX) will be organized at the Rudraksh Convention Center in which city?**

- A) Lucknow
- B) Prayagraj
- C) Varanasi
- D) Kanpur

**Answer : C**

- ✓ World's largest International Temple Convention and Expo organized in Varanasi.
- ✓ The world's largest International Temple Convention and Expo (ITCX) will be organized from 22 to 24 July 2023 at the Rudraksh Convention Center in Varanasi.



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- ✓ Conceived by Temple Connect (India), it is the world's first event solely dedicated to the management of temples.
- ✓ The conference will focus on nurturing and empowering the governance, management and operations of the world and temple ecosystem.
- ✓ **Conference Participation:**
- ✓ More than 450 temple functionaries from 25 countries are expected to participate in the conference.
- ✓ Along with Hindus, office bearers of Math-Temples and Gurudwaras belonging to Sikh, Buddhist and Jainism have also been invited.
- ✓ **Launch of the conference:**
- ✓ The conference will be inaugurated by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on July 22.
- ✓ The event will be held at Rudraksh Convention Centre.
- ✓ For the first time, the International Temples Convention & Expo is being organized by Temple Connect.

**Q. 11th meeting of the Executive Board of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) was held in which country?**

- A) Nigeria
- B) Egypt
- C) Ethiopia
- D) Colombia

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The 11th meeting of the Executive Board of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) was held in Cartagena, Colombia.
- ✓ An International Conference on “A Global Perspective on the Challenges of the Regional Elections 2023” was also organized by the National Civil Registry, Colombia.
- ✓ In the Executive Board meeting, the participants discussed various issues including programs and activities to be undertaken by A-WEB during 2023-24, Annual Progress Report of A-WEB and its regional offices including A-WEB India Centre, budget and membership related issues were discussed.
- ✓ **India's leadership in A-WEB:**
- ✓ A three-member delegation of the Election Commission of India (ECI) was led by Chief Election Commissioner Rajeev Kumar in the meeting.
- ✓ On the sidelines of the 11th A-WEB Executive Board meeting, a bilateral meeting with the National Election Commission of the Republic of Korea on the ECI Electronic Postal Ballot System was also held
- ✓ **Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB):**







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- ✓ It is a French twin-engine multirole fighter aircraft designed by Dassault Aviation Company of France..
- ✓ India had signed deal for purchase of 36 Rafale jets from French aerospace major Dassault Aviation for the IAF at a cost of Rs 59,000 crore.
- ✓ Out of 36 Rafale jets, 30 are fighter jets and six are trainers.

**Q. Which state government has launched pilot project of the Antyodaya Shram Suraksha Accident Insurance Scheme?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Union Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan have launched the Antyodaya Shram Suraksha Accident Insurance Scheme from Nadia of Kheda district in Gujarat.
- ✓ The scheme, launched on a pilot basis, is being implemented through the Indian Postal Department, the Indian Post Payments Bank, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- ✓ Gujarat became the first state in India to launch a scheme for the welfare of laborers.
- ✓ The objective of Antyodaya Shramik Suraksha Yojana is to give priority to the welfare and safety of our Shram Yogis so that they can get financial security in case of an accident.
- ✓ In case of the laborer's accidental death, '10 lakh will be given to their family and the same amount will be given to the worker in case of permanent disability. Also, in the event of the death, the deceased's children will be eligible for education assistance of '1 lakh.

**Q. Which company will acquire online marketplace OLX India's auto sales business for Rs 537 crore?**

- A) Hyundai Motor Company                      B) Tata Motors  
C) AutoTrader                                         D) CarTrade Tech Ltd

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Mumbai-headquartered used car platform CarTrade Tech is lining up Rs 537 crore towards acquiring Olx India's auto sales business.
- ✓ It will acquire 100 percent stake of Sobek Auto India (Sobek), which operates Olx India's auto business.



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- ✓ Sobek entered into an Intellectual Property License Agreement and a Transitional Support Agreement for the use of certain brands and technology.
- ✓ The Mumbai-headquartered company is backed by investors including Warburg Pincus, Temasek, JPMorgan, and March Capital, and operates as a multi-channel auto platform.
- ✓ The platform deals in buying and selling of both used and new cars, as well as other value-added services.
- ✓ In terms of financial turnover, Sobek's revenue has grown from Rs 556.42 crore in FY2020 to Rs 1,110.40 crore in FY2022

**Q. Which of the following has signed an MoU with Climate Policy Initiative – India (CPI) for mutual assistance and cooperation to increase mobilization of global sustainable capital flows into India?**

**A) Finance Ministry**

**B) Reserve bank of India**

**C) NITI Aayog**

**D) International Financial Services Centres Authority**

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has signed an MoU with Climate Policy Initiative – India (CPI) for mutual assistance and cooperation to increase mobilization of global sustainable capital flows into India.
- ✓ IFSCA has taken significant steps in accelerating global sustainable capital flows by creating a conducive regulatory environment, based on international best practices, focused especially on the needs of India and developing countries.
- ✓ CPI is an analysis and advisory organization that works to improve the most important energy and land use practices around the world.
- ✓ IFSCA was established in April 2020 under the IFSC Authority Act, 2019.
- ✓ International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)
- ✓ Founded : April 27, 2020
- ✓ Headquarteres : GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- ✓ Chairmam : K Rajaraman

**Q. Which bank has won the Best Performance in CASA at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards 2022?**

**A) Karur Vyasya Bank**

**B) Jammu & Kashmir Bank**

**C) Indian Overseas Bank**

**D) Punjab & Sind Bank**



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#### Answer : B

- ✓ Jammu & Kashmir Bank has been felicitated for the Best Performance in CASA-India (1st Runner up in Small Bank Category) at ICC Emerging Asia Banking Conclave & Awards 2022.
- ✓ The function was organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Goa.
- ✓ It is a Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group headquartered in Calcutta.
- ✓ The event was participated by banks from India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka & Myanmar.

**Q. Which insurance company has won the Insurer Innovation Award 2023 for the APAC region at the World's Digital Insurance Awards?**

- A) Max Life Insurance                      B) Cholamandalam MS Insurance  
C) Bharti AXA Insurance                  D) Bajaj Allianz Insurance

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance wins Insurer Innovation Awards 2023
- ✓ One of the leading private life insurer in India, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has won the Insurer Innovation Award 2023 for the APAC region at the World's Digital Insurance Awards.
- ✓ Digital Insurer, acknowledges Bajaj Allianz Life's groundbreaking WhatsApp Conversational Platform empowering customers to digitally services their policies seamlessly.
- ✓ Bajaj Allianz Life emerged as the regional finalist winner for Asia Pacific region, amongst a sterling list of Insurance majors like HSBC Life, AIA China, Cathay Life Insurance, MSIG, and Singlife

**Q. Which company has signed a teaming agreement with Spanish-based Navantia for the submission of a techno-commercial bid for the Indian Navy's prestigious P75 (India) submarine program?**

- A) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited        B) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)  
C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited        D) Larsen & Toubro (L&T)

#### Answer : D

- ✓ Larsen and Toubro (L&T) has signed a teaming agreement with Spanish-based Navantia for the submission of a techno-commercial bid for the Indian Navy's prestigious P75 (India) submarine program.
- ✓ For its dwindling submarine fleet, the Navy is looking to procure six advanced diesel-electric submarines under Project 75 (I).





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- ✓ P75 (India) Submarine Project is expected to be valued at Euro 4.8 billion. This would also be followed by a 30-year life-cycle sustenance contract of similar value.
- ✓ Navantia would carry out the design of P75(1) submarines based on its S80 class of submarines.
- ✓ The first S80 class submarine was launched in 2021 and is undergoing sea trials prior to its delivery to Spanish Navy.
- ✓ Last month, public sector shipyard Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and Germany's Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) signed an agreement to be able to bid for producing the advanced submarines under Project 75 (I).

**Q. Which country's highest honor 'Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour' was awarded to PM Modi?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor awarded to Prime Minister Modi.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the highest French award 'Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour' by the President of the Republic of France, Emmanuel Macron on 13 July 2023.
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi was honored at an award ceremony held at the Elysee Palace in Paris.
- ✓ The Prime Minister thanked President Macron on behalf of the people of India for this distinguished honour.
- ✓ Prime Minister Modi is on an official visit to France and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 13 to 15 July 2023.
- ✓ This is the sixth visit of Prime Minister Modi to France.
- ✓ The Prime Minister is the Chief Guest at the Bastille Day Parade on 14 July 2023, in which a contingent of the Indian Armed Forces from the three Services is also participating.
- ✓ This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the India-France Strategic Partnership and the Prime Minister's visit will provide an opportunity to chart out a roadmap for the future of the partnership in various areas such as strategic, cultural, scientific, educational and economic cooperation.

#### HIGHEST CIVILIAN HONOUR IN NEWS 2023

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the highest French award 'Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour' .



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- 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.

### STATE HONOURS GIVEN TO NARENDRA MODI

14. Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour : France's highest civilian and military honour
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)



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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. Which Country would host the Conference on Traditional Medicines for ASEAN Countries on 20th July 2023?**

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| A) USA         | B) India       |
| C) Switzerland | D) Netherlands |

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India to host ASEAN countries conference on traditional medicines.
- ✓ The Ministry of AYUSH in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian Mission to ASEAN and ASEAN Secretariat, is organizing a Conference on Traditional Medicines for ASEAN Countries on 20th July, 2023.
- ✓ The aim of the conference is to strengthen cooperation and knowledge sharing between India and ASEAN countries in the field of traditional medicines.
- ✓ The "Act East Policy" launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a new impetus to the strategic partnership between India and ASEAN.
- ✓ **Growth and Achievements of Ministry of AYUSH:**
- ✓ The Ministry of AYUSH has seen significant growth since it became an independent ministry in 2014.
- ✓ Collaboration with international organizations and national institutions has allowed high-quality research on AYUSH systems in various health conditions, including non-communicable diseases such as diabetes mellitus, cancer, mental health, and infectious diseases such as COVID-19.
- ✓ The ASEAN conference will serve as a platform for sharing research results and experiences in the field of traditional medicine.
- ✓ Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- ✓ Founded : 1967
- ✓ Headquarteres : Jakarta, Indonesia
- ✓ Secretary General : Lim Jock Hoi





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- ✓ Member : 10 (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand & Vietnam)
- ✓ **Trick to Remember Countries of ASEAN**
- ✓ Trick : TV CLIP of MBBS
- ✓ T - Thailand
- ✓ V - Vietnam
- ✓ C - Cambodia
- ✓ L- Laos
- ✓ I - Indonesia
- ✓ P - Philippines of silent
- ✓ M - Malaysia
- ✓ B - Burma (Myanmar)
- ✓ B - Brunei
- ✓ S - Singapore.
- ✓ Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has agreed 'in principle' to admit East Timor as the group's 11th member.

**Q. Which bank has inaugurated IFSC banking unit at GIFT City, Gandhinagar?**

- A) Union Bank of India                      B) Punjab National Bank  
C) Bandhan Bank                                D) Bank of India

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Bank of India has inaugurated its IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) at GIFT SEZ area in Gandhinagar.
- ✓ This international financial services banking unit was inaugurated by the MD and CEO of the bank, Rajneesh Karnataka.
- ✓ He also inaugurated the NRI Help Center (NRI HC) on the occasion.
- ✓ Bank of India is an Indian public sector bank, it was established in 1906

### BOI IN NEWS 2023

- Bank of India has inaugurated its IFSC Banking Unit (IBU) at GIFT SEZ area in Gandhinagar
- Rajneesh Karnatak has been appointed as the MD & CEO of the Bank of India (BOI) with effect from April 29, 2023.



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- He replaces Atanu Kumar Das.
- Bank of India has launched a 'Centralized Pool Buy-Out and Co-Lending Cell' to boost priority sector lending in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Bank of India, one of the largest public sector banks (PSBs) in the country, has become the first bank to officially roll out Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC) scheme..
- Bank of India (BOI)
- Founded : 7 September 1906
- Founder : Ramnarain Ruia
- Headquarters : Mumbai
- MD & CEO : Rajneesh Karnatak
- Tagline : Relationship beyond Banking.

**Q. An Odia-based news station, Odisha TV has unveiled India's first regional AI news anchor. What is the name of this AI news anchor?**

- A) Piya
- B) Lisa
- C) Diya
- D) Sofia

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India welcomes its first regional AI news anchor, 'Lisa'
- ✓ In a significant milestone for the AI industry, Odisha TV, an Odia-based news station, has unveiled "Lisa," India's first regional AI news anchor.
- ✓ Lisa's introduction marks a groundbreaking moment in TV broadcasting and journalism, with the potential to revolutionize the industry.
- ✓ The news station revealed that she would soon be hosting news updates, showcasing her capabilities as an AI news anchor.
- ✓ Lisa possesses the remarkable ability to speak multiple languages, including Odia, English, and others.
- ✓ This unveiling follows a similar development earlier in March when the India Today Group introduced their own AI news anchor named Sana. Described as "bright, gorgeous, ageless, and tireless," Sana boasted multilingual proficiency and the ability to be controlled effortlessly



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**Q. According to the Maharashtra State Economy Development Council, Maharashtra is to be trillion-dollar economy by which year?**

A) 2024

B) 2025

C) 2028

D) 2027

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Maharashtra's Economy will become a trillion dollar by 2028, said N Chandrashekar, president of the State Economy Development Council.
- ✓ The council submitted its recommendation report to Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.
- ✓ In the report, A total of 8 sectors including 5 related to the industry sector and 3 connecting all these sectors in parallel have been mainly considered.
- ✓ Its recommendations and discussions have been held with farmers, entrepreneurs, local self-government bodies, and experts in various industries.

### MAHARASHTRA IN NEWS 2023

- Maharashtra's Economy will become a trillion dollar by 2028, said N Chandrashekar, president of the State Economy Development Council.
- Maharashtra Prisons Department has launched a "video call" facility for foreign nationals lodged in different jails across the state.
- NCP leader Ajit Pawar has been sworn in as the new Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- Maharashtra Government launched Namoshetkari Mahasaman Yojana.
- Maharashtra becomes the first state in the country to approve Good Governance Regulations.
- Uttar Pradesh surpasses Maharashtra in sugar production this season.
- A new initiative called 'beggar-free city' started in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister, is scheduled to present the 'Maharashtra Bhushan' Award to Dattatreya Narayan Dharmadhikari, also known as Appasaheb Dharmadhikari, on April 16 for his notable work as a social worker and reformer.
- Maharashtra Government has introduced a 4% quota for employees with disabilities in promotions.
- Bank of Maharashtra inaugurated its first dedicated Branch for Start-ups in Pune.
- Ramesh Bais Appointed as the New Governor of Maharashtra.





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- Maharashtra became the first state in the country to pass the Lokayukta Bill.
- Recently a rare low altitude basalt plateau has been discovered in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra..
- Nilesh Sambre conferred with 'Maratha Udyog Ratna 2023' by Maharashtra State.
- Talon Grikspoor of the Netherlands won the singles title at the Maharashtra Open tennis tournament in Pune.

**Q. Which IIT has developed a Deep Learning (DL) based framework, namely OsteoHRNet, that automatically assesses the Knee Osteoarthritis (OA) severity from X-rays images?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ IIT Guwahati researchers develop AI-based model for knee X-ray
- ✓ Researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati have developed a Deep Learning (DL) based framework, namely OsteoHRNet, that automatically assesses the Knee Osteoarthritis (OA) severity from X-rays images.
- ✓ This AI-based model can be used to detect the severity level of the disease and assist medical practitioners remotely for a more accurate diagnosis.
- ✓ Knee Osteoarthritis is the most common musculoskeletal disorder in the world and has a prevalence of 28 percent in India.
- ✓ There is no possible cure for Knee OA except total joint replacement at an advanced stage. Hence, an early diagnosis is essential for pain management and behavioral correction.

### IIT IN NEWS 2023

- IIT Guwahati researchers develop AI-based model for knee X-ray.
- 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.



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- 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.
- 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.









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- ✓ The state government's new initiative, to be launched on August 1, is in line with its ongoing efforts to improve the health infrastructure and facilities in Uttar Pradesh.

**Q. Which state government has decided to deploy air ambulances on the stretch to provide speedy medical assistance to injured on Samruddhi Expressway?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Air ambulance to be deployed on Samruddhi Expressway.
- ✓ In view of the frequent accidents on the Mumbai-Nagpur Samruddhi Expressway, the state government has decided to deploy air ambulances on the stretch to provide speedy medical assistance to injured.
- ✓ The government is also planning to build 16 helipads on the expressway to facilitate the landing and take-off of these air ambulances.
- ✓ The 701-km-long greenfield expressway is turning into a death trap with a life being lost every third day.

**Q. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the regional office of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in which country to facilitate close defence industrial collaboration between both countries?**

- A) Indonesia  
B) Malaysia  
C) Vietnam  
D) Maldives

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the regional office of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in Kuala Lumpur to facilitate close defence industrial collaboration between India and Malaysia.
- ✓ It will also serve as a hub for the HAL's engagement with the wider South-East Asian region and act as a window for other Indian defence PSUs.
- ✓ Malaysia has shown interest in the acquisition of Tejas fighter jets manufactured by HAL.
- ✓ Malaysia is home to the second-largest number of Persons of Indian Origin (PIO)
- ✓ **About Malaysia**
- ✓ Prime Minister - Anwar Ibrahim
- ✓ Capital - Kuala Lumpur
- ✓ Currency - Malaysian ringgit



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**Q. Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Manoj Ahuja has launched a new campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund titled BHARAT. What is the full form of BHARAT?**

- A) Banks Heraldng Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transverse
- B) Banks Heraldng Agriculture Rural & Agriculture Transformation
- C) Banks Heraldng Accelerated Regional & Agriculture Transformation
- D) Banks Heraldng Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Manoj Ahuja (Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture) has launched a month-long campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund.
- ✓ A new campaign for banks under Agri Infra Fund titled BHARAT (Banks Heraldng Accelerated Rural & Agriculture Transformation).
- ✓ This one month-long Campaign (from 15th July 2023 to 15th August 2023) with a target of Rs 7200 crore has launched through Video Conference attended by more than 100 Banking Executives that included MDs/Chairman, EDs of commercial Banks in public and private sector, Regional Rural Banks, Small Finance Banks, NBFCs and select cooperative Banks.
- ✓ He complimented the Banks for their active involvement and support to promote this Scheme which has resulted in creation of more than 31, 850 agri infra projects in the country with ₹24750 crore as loan amount under AIF with an outlay of ₹ 42,000 crores

**Q. Which Indian won the first gold in the 100m hurdles at the Asian Athletics Championships?**

- A) MR Poovamma
- B) Jyoti Yaraji
- C) Dutee Chand
- D) Hima Das

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India's runner Jyoti Yaraji won India's first gold medal in 100 meter hurdles at the Asian Athletics Championships 2023.
- ✓ 23-year-old Jyoti captured gold with a timing of 13:09 seconds.
- ✓ This is India's first gold medal in this event in the history of Asian Athletics Championships.





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**Q. Who has become the 17th Indian to score a century in his debut Test match?**

A) Ishan Kishan

B) Shardul Thakur

C) Yashasvi Jaiswal

D) Shubman Gill

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India's young opener Yashasvi Jaiswal has become the third Indian opener to score a century in the first Test innings of his career.
- ✓ Earlier, Shikhar Dhawan and Prithvi Shaw have achieved this feat as openers of the Indian team. With this, he has become the 17th Indian to score a century in Test debut.
- ✓ The first Indian batsman to score a century on Test debut was Lala Amarnath, who achieved this feat in 1933



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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
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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 GADISCUS  
👏👏 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 GADISCUS  
👏👏 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 GADISCUS  
👏👏 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 GADISCUS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
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 GADISCUS  
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 GADISCUS  
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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 GADISCUS  
👏👏 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 GADISCUS  
👏👏 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 GADISCUS  
👏👏 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