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

**Q. Who has become the first Arab country to receive observer status in the Asia/Pacific Group (APG) on Money Laundering?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has become the first Arab country to receive observer status in the Asia/Pacific Group (APG) on Money Laundering, a regional body similar to the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).
- ✓ The UAE is participating as an observer at the plenary session of the APG, which is currently taking place in Vancouver, Canada.
- ✓ Obtaining observer status reflects the UAE's commitment to international cooperation in combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism.
- ✓ Observer status is awarded to countries that actively and cooperatively combat financial crime, and the UAE has demonstrated this through its participation in organizations such as MENAFATF and other multilateral fora.
- ✓ The UAE delegation attending the APG plenary session is led by Hamid Al Zaabi, Director-General of the Executive Office for Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (EO AML/CTF).
- ✓ The delegation includes representatives from the UAE Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and other government officials.

### UAE IN NEWS 2023

- UAE becomes first Arab country to get observer status on Asia-Pacific money laundering.
- United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the fourth largest investor in India during 2022-23.
- Dubai Emerges as India's Top Choice for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
- UAE to Host World's Largest IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025.
- Etihad Airways, the national airline of the UAE, has been named the Environmental Airline of the Year 2023 for the second year in a row at the Airline Rating Awards.



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







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**Q. Who is the author of the book titled “Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow”?**

A) Dom Moraes

B) Anuja Chauhan

C) Vinod Mankara

D) Anita Desai

**Answer : C**

- ✓ A new book 'Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow' by Vinod Mankara released.
- ✓ National Award winning filmmaker-writer Vinod Mankara's new book titled "Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow" was released from the rocket launchpad of Satish Dhawan Space Center (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ The book release coincided with preparations for India's upcoming moon mission, Chandrayaan-3, at SDSC-SHAR.
- ✓ ISRO Chairman S Somnath released the book by handing it over to Vikram Sarabhai Space Center (VSSC) Director S Unnikrishnan Nair.
- ✓ The book launch was attended by several prominent personalities including SDSC-SHAR Director A Rajarajan, LPSC Director V Narayanan, former ISRO Director K Radhakrishnan, Lipi Akbar, Managing Director of Lipi Prakashan (publisher of the book) and many other space scientists.
- ✓ The book, "Prism: The Ancestral Abode of the Rainbow", is a collection of science articles, providing readers with unique insights and perspectives.

## FAMOUS BOOKS AND AUTHORS IN NEWS 2023

- **Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow : Vinod Mankara**
- **"Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)" : A.K. Bhattacharya**
- **Master Residential Real Estate : Ashwinder R Singh.**
- **The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life Ruskin Bond**
- **Ringside Vijay Darda**
- **Guts Amidst Bloodbath: The Anshuman Gaekwad Narrative Aditya Bhushan**
- **"The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces" :Feroze Varun Gandhi.**
- **Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise" : Amitabh Kant .**
- **Milk and Honey : Rupri Kaur .**



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- **Collective Spirit, Concrete Action : Shashi Shekhar Vempati.**
- **"Reflections" : Narayanan Vaghul.**
- **Jaidip Mukerjea : Autobiography titled "Crosscourt".**
- **'Sachin@50'- Celebrating A Maestro : Boria Majumdar.**
- **"The Great Bank Robbery: NPAs, Scams and the Future of Regulation" : Pattabhi Ram & Sabyasachee Dash.**
- **"Gandhi: Siyasat aur Sampradaiykta" : Piyush Babele.**
- **"Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire" : Nandini Das.**
- **"War & Women" : Dr MA Hasan.**
- **'Why can't Elephants be Red?' : Vani Tripathi Tikoo.**
- **Phoolange : Lekhnath Chhetri.**
- **Pyre : Perumal Murugan.**
- **Ghulam Nabi Azad's Autobiography 'Azaad' .**
- **"A Matter of the Heart: Education in India" : Anurag Behar.**
- **Snakes in the Ganga: Breaking India 2.0 : Shri Rajiv Malhotra and Vijaya Viswanathan.**
- **"Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform" : Rachna Biswat Rawat.**
- **Ambedkar a Life : Shashi Tharoor.**
- **"The World: A Family History of Humanity," : Simon Sebag Montefiore.**
- **"Revolutionaries In India's Freedom Struggle:" : Sanjeev Sanyal.**
- **"India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn" : Ashwin Fernandes.**
- **"The Light We Carry Overcoming In Uncertain Times" : Michelle Obama.**
- **Brave Hearts of Bharat, Vignettes from Indian History : Vikram Sampath.**
- **Freedom at Midnight, "City of Joy" : Dominique Lapierre.**
- **Forks in the Road My Days at RBI and Beyond : Chakravarthi Rangarajan.**
- **'The World: A Family History' : Simon Sebag.**
- **Winning the Inner Battle : Shane Watson.**
- **Nuclearization of Asia : Rene Naba.**





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- From dependence to Self-Reliance : Bimal Jalan.
- The Philosophy of Modern Song : Bob Dylan
- India's Struggle for Independence – Gandhian Era : P. Jyothimani.
- “As Good as My Word” : KM Chandrasekhar..
- ‘Victory City’ : Salman Rushdie
- “The Poverty of Political Economics” : Meghnad Desai

**Q. Which country has launched the world's first methane-liquid oxygen space rocket into orbit?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ China launches world's first methane-fuelled space rocket
- ✓ A private Chinese company has launched the world's first methane-liquid oxygen space rocket into orbit.
- ✓ The Zhuque-2 carrier rocket was launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China.
- ✓ The move helps China beat rivals like the US, India, and Europe in developing the next-generation launch vehicle that could carry payloads into orbit around Earth.
- ✓ The rocket successfully delivered a test payload into sun-synchronous orbit (SSO), the first in the world to make such an achievement.
- ✓ A methane-powered rocket, also known as Methalox, uses methane as the fuel and liquid oxygen (LOX) as the oxidizer. It operates based on the same principles as traditional launch vehicles but differs in terms of propellant choice and certain design considerations.

**Q. In which state of India the annual 'Bonalu Festival' was organized?**

- A) Telangana
- B) Madhya Pradesh
- C) Assam
- D) Sikkim

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The annual Bonalu Festival was organized in Telangana's capital Hyderabad, especially in parts of the old city.
- ✓ This festival is celebrated every year during the Hindu lunar month of Ashadha.



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- ✓ Bonalu is an annual festival celebrated in parts of Telangana including Hyderabad and Secunderabad.
- ✓ The festival is dedicated to Goddess Mahakali, who is believed to be an incarnation of Goddess Durga.
- ✓ The word 'Bonam' in Telugu means 'food' or 'feast'.

### FESTIVAL IN NEWS 2023

- **Bonalu Festival : Telangana**
- **Kharchi Puja : Tripura**
- **Palkhi festival : Maharashtra**
- **Raja festival : Odisha**
- **Kheer Bhawani Mela : Jammu and Kashmir**
- **Great Prayer Festival : Ladakh**
- **Sinthan Snow Festival : Jammu and Kashmir**
- **Heritage Festival : Goa**
- **Thawe Festival : Bihar**
- **Bohag Bihu festival : Assam**
- **49th Khajuraho Dance Festival : Madhya Pradesh**
- **Yaoshang festival : Manipur**
- **Purple Fest : Goa**
- **Orange Festival : Nagaland**
- **Kala Ghoda Arts Festival : Mumbai, Maharashtra**
- **Losar Festival : Ladakh**
- **23rd Hornbill Festival : Nagaland**
- **Gaan Ngai festival : Manipur**
- **Cherchera Festival : Chhattisgarh**
- **26th National Youth Festival 2023 : Hubballi, Karnataka**
- **International Yoga Festival 2023 : Rishikesh, Uttarakhand**
- **Tribal Dance Festival & Military Tattoo : New Delhi**
- **Mongeeet Festival : Assam**
- **International Kite Festival 2023 : Ahmedabad, Gujarat**



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- Vigyanika Science Literature Festival : Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Baisakhi is a harvest festival : Punjab and Haryana

**Q. Who has been appointed as the president of the Delhi chapter of National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO)?**

- A) Dilip Shanghvi  
B) Bhavish Aggarwal  
C) Harshvardhan Bansal  
D) Karsanbhai Patel

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Harshvardhan Bansal appointed President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter.
- ✓ According to an announcement made by the National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO), Unity Group Director Harshvardhan Bansal has been appointed as the President of NAREDCO Delhi Chapter.
- ✓ NAREDCO, a premier national organization representing the real estate sector, functions under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- ✓ **About NAREDCO**
- ✓ NAREDCO was established in 1998 with the support of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.
- ✓ Headquarters – New Delhi
- ✓ Its primary objective is to provide a valid platform to the government, real estate industry and general public to address concerns and find solutions to challenges in the real estate sector.
- ✓ It has a membership base of over 5000 members across India, including its State NAREDCO chapters.
- ✓ As per the report, digital trade in Malaysia contributes 22.6% to the country's GDP and is expected to rise to 25.5% by 2025.

**Q. The 2023 Exercise Nomadic Elephant-XV is a joint military exercise conducted between Indian Army and the Army of\_\_\_\_\_**

- A) Mauritius  
B) Mongolia  
C) Kazakhstan  
D) United States

**Answer : B**





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- ✓ The 15th edition of India-Mongolia joint military exercise "Nomadic Elephant-2023" is scheduled to be held from 17 to 31 July 2023 at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- ✓ Exercise Nomadic Elephant is an annual training program of India with Mongolia which is conducted alternately in Mongolia and India.
- ✓ Earlier the military exercise program was organized at Special Forces Training School, Bakloh in October 2019.
- ✓ Troops from Mongolian Armed Forces Unit 084 and Indian troops from the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry Regiment will participate in the 15th edition of the military exercise
- ✓ About Mongolia
- ✓ It is located in North Central Asia.
- ✓ Capital: Ulaanbaatar
- ✓ Currency: Tugrik
- ✓ President: Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh

**Q. Rare Bird 'Jerdon's Babbler' Spotted In Which Tiger Reserve in Uttar Pradesh?**

**A) Pilibhit Tiger Reserve**

**B) Dudhwa Tiger Reserve**

**C) Amangarh Tiger Reserve**

**D) Palamau Tiger Reserve**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Rare bird 'Jerdon's Babbler' spotted in Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ A rare and globally endangered bird species called 'Jerdon's Babbler' was recently spotted in the grasslands of Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR) in Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ According to surveyors, more than 95% of 'Jerdon's Babbler' in India are from Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✓ The Jordanian babbler lives in pairs in small flocks in tall grasslands.
- ✓ This globally threatened bird has been listed as 'vulnerable' by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) since 1994.
- ✓ Earlier, the Jordan Babbler was found along the Sutlej River in Haryana and Punjab. However, due to habitat loss, this species is now mainly found in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✓ About 30% of the global population of the Jordanian babbler is found in India



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**Q. Which Countries are signed historic Memorandum of Understanding on LCS system?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ In a significant move to strengthen economic ties, India and the United Arab Emirates have signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Local Currency Settlement (LCS) system.
- ✓ This groundbreaking agreement, signed between the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of the UAE, aims to revolutionize cross-border transactions between the two nations.
- ✓ The LCS system allows for the use of the Indian Rupee and UAE Dirham in bilateral trade, marking India's first-ever LCS arrangement.
- ✓ This innovative system is expected to have a transformative impact on transaction costs and processing time while also increasing reliance on local currencies.
- ✓ The agreement comes as a significant milestone in the rapidly evolving India-UAE relationship, in line with the Vision Statement unveiled by the two leaders during their virtual summit in February 2022

**Q. Who has launched AI for India 2.0 a free online training programme on Artificial Intelligence on World Youth Skills' Day?**

- A) Amit Shah  
B) Rajeev Chandrasekhar  
C) Mansukh L. Mandaviya  
D) Dharmendra Pradhan

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Union Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched AI for India 2.0, a free online training programme on Artificial Intelligence, 15th July 2023 on World Youth Skills' Day.
- ✓ A joint initiative of Skill India and GUVI, this NCVET and IIT Madras accredited online programme will equip youth with frontier skills.

**Q. In which city IIT Delhi is going to open its first global campus?**

- A) Dubai  
B) Muscat  
C) Havana  
D) Abu Dhabi

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ IIT Delhi is going to set up its first Global Campus in Abu Dhabi (UAE). Bachelor's degree courses are also expected to start from September 2024.
- ✓ The MoU related to this was signed in Abu Dhabi in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ Earlier, IIT Madras also announced setting up its first global campus in the African country of Tanzania.

**Q. Which Union Minister has chaired the Regional Conference on 'Drugs Smuggling and National Security'?**

- A) S Jaishankar                      B) Amit Shah  
C) Rajnath Singh                    D) Nitin Gadkari

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired the Regional Conference on 'Drugs Smuggling and National Security' in Delhi.
- ✓ More than 1,44,000 kg of drugs worth Rs 2,416 crore were destroyed in various parts of the country by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in coordination with the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) of all states in the presence of the Home Minister at the event.

**Q. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has addressed the inaugural session of the G20 conference on crime and security to be held in which city?**

- A) Lucknow                              B) Noida  
C) Gurugram                            D) Jaipur

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Union Home Minister Amit Shah has addressed the inaugural session of the G20 conference on crime and security to be held in Gurugram.
- ✓ The conference is envisaged as an opportunity to forge a global partnership to build a safe cyberspace and to prioritize cybersecurity concerns.
- ✓ The proceedings focus around cyber security and measures to counter cybercrime in the context of new and emerging technologies like Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Metaverse.
- ✓ Cybersecurity has become an essential aspect of security-related affairs internationally, which requires adequate focus owing to its economic and geopolitical implications





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**Q. Which edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) will be held from October 27 -29 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi this year?**

- A) 8th                                  B) 7th  
C) 5th                                  D) 4th

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The seventh edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC), co-hosted by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) will be held from October 27 -29 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi this year.
- ✓ The event will be themed around “Global Digital Innovation” and will showcase 6G, advancements in 5G networks, the increasing use of artificial intelligence (AI) in telecommunications, edge computing, and developments related to India Stack.
- ✓ IMC 2023 would also highlight related technology domains such as broadcast technology, satellite communication, manufacture of semiconductors
- ✓ The India Mobile Congress 2023 will signify the vision of our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, to promote India’s pivotal role in the digital revolution impacting every sector globally. This includes pioneering breakthroughs in 5G, 6G, broadcasting, satellite, semiconductor, drone, devices, and green technologies

**Q. Which UTs has bagged the SKOCH Award in the Gold category for its outstanding efforts in creating marketing avenues for Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the state?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM) has bagged the SKOCH Award under the theme “State of Governance India 2047” in Gold category for its outstanding efforts in creating marketing avenues for Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the Union Territory.
- ✓ The SKOCH award marks a significant milestone for JKRLM, being the first award received since the inception of the scheme. This recognition represents a remarkable accomplishment for the organization.
- ✓ The JKRLM has introduced several groundbreaking initiatives that have transformed the lives of countless women associated with Self Help Groups.



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**Q. The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by which year?**

- A) 2025
- B) 2030
- C) 2035
- D) 2040

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by FY 2030.
- ✓ The ministry is considering a comprehensive scheme, with an outlay of ₹6,000 crore, to promote coal and lignite gasification projects for both public sector undertakings (PSUs) and the private sector.
- ✓ The adoption of gasification technology in India will revolutionize the coal sector, reducing reliance on imports of natural gas, methanol, ammonia, and other essential product.
- ✓ Currently, India imports around half of its natural gas, most of its methanol, and 13-15% of its total ammonia requirement

### TARGET YEAR IN NEWS 2023

- The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by FY 2030.
- 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.



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- 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. Which of the following company has been awarded the 'Golden Peacock Environment Management Award'?**

A) TATA Power

B) JSW Energy

C) NTPC Limited

D) Adani Transmission Limited

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Golden Peacock' Environment Management Award 2023 to Adani Transmission Limited.
- ✓ Indian company Adani Transmission Limited (ATL) has been awarded the 'Golden Peacock Environment Management Award' by the 'Institute of Directors' in the 'Power Transmission Sector'.
- ✓ This year an assessment group comprising environment, health and safety, energy and climate change experts assessed more than 520 applications.
- ✓ These applications were approved by Justice M.N. The review was done by an eminent jury committee headed by Venkatachaliah.
- ✓ **Golden Peacock Environment Management Award:**
- ✓ The award is given for reducing its ecological footprint through programs such as zero waste in landfills, single-use plastic free, water-positive operations, promoting renewable energy integration and implementation of best-in-class environmental management strategies.
- ✓ ATL was declared the 'Winner' by its B2C arm i.e. Adani Electricity Mumbai Limited for its unique strategic initiative of increasing renewable energy in bulk power purchase for distribution in Mumbai region.
- ✓ Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been awarded the prestigious Golden Peacock Environment Management Award for the year 2021 in the steel sector by the Institute of Directors. SAIL has been the winner of this award for three consecutive years.





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**Q. India has signed an MoU with which country for the construction of three additional submarines under the P75 program?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India and France have signed an MoU for the construction of three additional submarines under the P75 program.
- ✓ The MoU has been signed between Mazgon Dockyard Ltd and Naval Group for the construction of submarines under the P75 programme.
- ✓ The Scorpene Submarines have advanced stealth features and are equipped with long-range guided torpedoes and anti-ship missiles.
- ✓ These submarines have a state-of-the-art SONAR suite and sensor suite permitting outstanding operational capabilities.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron adopted 'Horizon 2047: 25th Anniversary of the India-France Strategic Partnership, Towards A Century of India-France Relations

**Q. Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has inaugurated dual elevated Eastern Cross Taxiways and the fourth runway at which airport?**

- A) Cochin International Airport, Kochi  
B) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi  
C) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad  
D) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has inaugurated dual elevated Eastern Cross Taxiways and the fourth runway at the Delhi airport.
- ✓ The Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), the country's largest airport, handles more than 1,500 aircraft movements daily.
- ✓ The Eastern Cross Taxiways (ECT), which is 2.1 kilometers long, will reduce passengers' time on the tarmac after landing and before take-off of flights.



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- ✓ IGIA is operated by the Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL), a consortium led by GMR Airports Infrastructure Ltd.
- ✓ The Eastern Cross Taxiway (ECT) will reduce CO2 emissions by 55000 tonnes annually.

### 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 has been allotted an additional 1,44,220 houses under the 'Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojna-Gramin' (PMAY-G) scheme for the financial year 2023-24 recently?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh has been allotted an additional 1,44,220 houses under the 'Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojna-Gramin' (PMAY-G) scheme for the financial year 2023-24.
- ✓ Following this, the state's total quota of houses completed will reach 21,68,574.
- ✓ It is also mentioned in the letter that in line with the scheme's focus, the state is required to earmark at least 60% of the targets for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes subject to their availability in the housing database.
- ✓ It is also requested to finalise the District, Block, GP-wise and Category-wise targets in the State as per the User Manual on Housing issued by the Ministry.
- ✓ The letter also states that the Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of the scheme till March 2024 to complete the remaining houses within the cumulative target of 2.95 crore houses.
- ✓ According to the government, 2 crore 18 lakh pucca houses have been built till March 11, 2023, under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G).
- ✓ The government has set a target of constructing two crore 95 lakh pucca houses with basic facilities by March 2024.
- ✓ **About Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana**
- ✓ The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation launched the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana rural in 2016.
- ✓ The scheme was initiated with the objective of 'Housing for All by 2024'.
- ✓ The scheme has 2 Components - Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Rural).
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana Gramin was earlier called Indira Awas Yojana which was renamed in March 2016.







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

**Q. PM Modi inaugurated the Integrated Terminal of Veer Savarkar International Airport, in which state/UT?**

- A) Puducherry                      B) Sikkim  
C) Lakshadweep                      D) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Integrated Terminal Building of Veer Savarkar International Airport Integrated Terminal, Port Blair in virtual mode.
- ✓ About Rs 710 crore has been spent in completing this project.
- ✓ This new terminal building will facilitate ease of trade and increase connectivity in the region.
- ✓ The airport's terminal design resembles a conch-shaped structure depicting the sea and islands

**Q. Which ministry has launched the 'Central Registrar - Sahara Refund Portal'?**

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs                      B) Ministry of Cooperation  
C) Ministry of Finance                      D) Ministry of Defense

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah launched the "Central Registrar - Sahara Refund Portal" in New Delhi.
- ✓ An 'Online Portal' has been developed for submission of claims by bona fide depositors of Sahara Group of Co-operative Societies.

**Q. In which country, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) lessons have been made compulsory for 15- to 18-year-olds in schools?**

- A) Ireland                      B) New Zealand  
C) Germany                      D) Iceland

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Lessons in relationships and sex education (RSE) are to be compulsory for 15 to 18-year-olds at schools in the Republic of Ireland.
- ✓ The move is planned as part of changes to the social, personal and health education (SPHE) for senior pupils.
- ✓ Lessons will be “taught in a way that LGBTQ+ identities, relationships and families are fully integrated”, according to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA).
- ✓ A major review of RSE in schools in the Republic of Ireland was ordered by the government in 2018. That has already led to changes to the RSE curriculum in primary and post-primary schools.
- ✓ Under the planned changes in the Republic of Ireland, post-primaries will be expected to provide one hour a week of SPHE lessons to senior pupils.
- ✓ There will be lessons on health and well-being, relationships and sexuality, and into adulthood. The relationships and sexuality lessons will teach pupils about “nurturing respectful, caring and healthy relationships.
- ✓ Pupils will also be taught about safe sex, responses to unplanned pregnancy, and accessing sexual health services.
- ✓ About Ireland
- ✓ Capital : Dublin
- ✓ Currency : Euro
- ✓ President : Michael D. Higgins

**Q. Indian team has won how many medals at the 64th International Mathematical Olympiad which was held in Japan’s Chiba city?**

A) 5

B) 6

C) 7

D) 8

**Answer : B**

- ✓ A six-member Indian team won six medals – two gold, two silver, and two bronze at the 64th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 2023, which was held in Japan’s Chiba city.
- ✓ The team finished ninth out of the 112 countries that competed. This is the fourth time the Indian team has finished in the top 10.





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- ✓ The gold medal was won by Atul Shatavart Nadig and Arjun Gupta, who both scored 37 points. Ananda Bhaduri and Siddharth Choppara grabbed silver with 29 points apiece, while Adhitya Mangudy and Archit Manas won bronze with 22 and 20 points, respectively.
- ✓ India has finished seventh in 1998, seventh again in 2001, and ninth in 2002. India has also won three gold medals for the fourth time since 1998. Furthermore, our country also received.

**Q. Who has won the gold medal in the women's 3000m steeplechase at the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand?**

- A) Tania Sachdev                      B) Parul Chaudhary  
C) Ashwini Nachappa                D) Reeth Abraham

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor and runner Parul Chaudhary won gold medals at the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ✓ Tajinderpal Singh Toor heaved his best throw of the day on his second attempt to retain his continental title. He started with 19.80m and followed it up with 20.23m.
- ✓ Tajinderpal Singh Toor also won the gold medal at the last edition of the Asian championships held in Doha four years ago. He claimed a silver at the 2017 edition held in Bhubaneswar.

**Q. Who will lead a five-member Indian contingent at the World Weightlifting Championships in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia from September 4 to 17?**

- A) Lovlina Borgohain                      B) Mary Kom  
C) Ravi Dahiya                              D) Mirabai Chanu

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Tokyo 2020 Olympics silver medalist Mirabai Chanu will lead a five-member Indian contingent at the World Weightlifting Championships in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- ✓ The Riyadh event will be a qualifying event for the 2024 Paris Olympics and will be held from September 4 to 17.
- ✓ Chanu will be competing in women's 49 kg category. The two-time world championships medalist will be aiming for a gold. She won gold in 2017 meet at Anaheim while had to settle for silver last year in Bogota.
- ✓ BindyarDevi, the 2021 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships gold medal winner, will be taking part in women's 55 kg event.



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**Q. Who has surpassed Harbhajan Singh to become the second-highest wicket-taker for India in international cricket?**

- A) Ravichandran Ashwin                      B) Bhuvneshwar Kumar  
C) Yuzvendra Chahal                        D) Jasprit Bumrah

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has surpassed Harbhajan Singh to become the second-highest wicket-taker for India in international cricket.
- ✓ With this performance, Ashwin has 709 wickets in 271 international matches. These wickets have come at an average of 25.67 and his best bowling figures are 7/59.
- ✓ He has 27 four-wicket hauls, 34 five-wicket hauls, and 8 ten-wicket hauls in international cricket.
- ✓ India's best bowler in international cricket is Anil Kumble, who has taken 953 in 401 matches at an average of 30.06 with best figures of 10/74.
- ✓ Harbhajan has now slipped to third position, with 707 wickets in 365 matches at an average of 32.59 and best figures of 8/84.

**Q. Which city of Australia has decided not to host the Commonwealth Games 2026?**

- A) Gold Coast                                  B) Perth  
C) Sydney                                        D) Victoria

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Australian state of Victoria has decided not to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games.
- ✓ Victoria's Premier Dan Andrews told that his state is not ready for about 7 billion Australian dollars to be spent in its organization.
- ✓ The 12-day Commonwealth Games (2026) was proposed to be held in Victoria, Australia.

**Q. India has recently signed an agreement with which country to develop new generation military equipment?**

- A) China                                         B) UK  
C) France                                        D) Germany

**Answer : C**

- ✓ India and France have agreed to develop new generation military equipment as part of a long-term roadmap.



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- ✓ French Ambassador to India Emmanuel Lenain has informed about this and called it a reflection of "trust and strong partnership".
- ✓ This agreement was done during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Paris.
- ✓ Recently the PM of India had visited France where he was honored with the highest honor of Japan.

**Q. The Nelson Mandela International Day is observed annually on which day?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Nelson Mandela International Day (also Mandela Day) is held every year on July 18 globally to honour the legacy of the late President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela.
- ✓ The day 18 July marks the birth anniversary of the great South African leader, who was born in 1918.
- ✓ United Nations officially declared July 18 as UN Mandela Day in November 2009.
- ✓ The first UN Mandela Day was held on 18 July 2010.
- ✓ Theme 2023 : "The Legacy Lives on Through You: Climate, Food and Solidarity"
- ✓ It marks the 105th Birth anniversary of Nelson Mandela
- ✓ The first UN Mandela Day was held on 18 July 2010
- ✓ Nelson Mandela South Africa's first black President (1994-1999)
- ✓ He has served 27 years in prison
- ✓ **FAMOUS BOOKS PENS BY MANDELA**
- ✓ Long Walk to Freedom: The Autobiography of Nelson Mandela
- ✓ Conversations with Myself
- ✓ Favorite African Folktales
- ✓ Nelson Mandela: In His Own Words
- ✓ **IMPORTANT AWARDS**
- ✓ India's Highest civilian honour 'Bharat Ratna' in 1990
- ✓ Pakistan's Highest civilian honour 'Nishan-e-Pakistan' in 1992
- ✓ Nobel Peace Prize 1993 : Nelson Mandela & Frederik Willem de Klerk
- ✓ The first two Non-Indians who receive the Bharat Ratna are -Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan(1987) {first foreigner to received Bharat ratna} and Nelson Mandela (1990





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**Q. The geographical indication (GI) tag has finally been given to the Authoor vetrilai (betel leaf from Authoor) of which state?**

A) Telangana

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Karnataka

D) Kerala

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu's Authoor betel leaves get Geographical Indication (GI) certificate.
- ✓ Authoor betel leaves from Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu have been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) certificate by Tamil Nadu State Agricultural Marketing Board and NABARD Madurai Agribusiness Incubation Forum..
- ✓ The Authoor Vattara Vetrilai Vivasayigal Sangam, a body representing growers of the Authoor betel leaf, has been awarded the GI certificate.
- ✓ This recognition as a Geographical Indication opens up new opportunities for the marketing of Authoor betel leaves.

## GI TAG IN NEWS 2023

- Tamil Nadu's Authoor betel leaves get Geographical Indication (GI) certificate.
- Geographical Indications Registry, in June 2023, accorded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to the Kari Ishad mango predominantly grown in Ankola taluk of Uttara Kannada in Karnataka .
- Mircha rice variety from West Champaran district of Bihar has recently been granted the GI tag.
- After getting GI tag for three more One District One Product (ODOP) crafts, Uttar Pradesh has now come second in the country in terms of maximum number of items with Geographical Indication tag.
- The ODOP crafts which have got GI tag include Mainpuri Tarkashi, Mahoba Gaura Stone Craft and Sambhal Horn Craft.
- Tamil Nadu leads with 55 GI-tags, followed by UP and Karnataka with 48 and 46 GI products, respectively.
- 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).



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- Ladakh wood carvings, also known as 'Ladakh Shingskos', have been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The GI tag was granted to Tamil Nadu's famous Cumbum Paneer Thirachai, also known as Cumbum Grapes.
- Gond paintings from Madhya Pradesh have bagged the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Banarasi paan has been awarded the GI tag, which signifies its unique identity and origin. Three other foods from the Varanasi region, including Banarasi Langda Mango, Ramnagar Bhanta (Brinjal), and Adamchini rice, have also received the GI tag.
- Chhattisgarh's Nagri Dubraj rice variety gets geographical indication tag.
- Gamocha', a symbol of the culture and identity of Assam, has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- European Commission (EC) has recently granted Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh in India.
- The Central Government has granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag to Mithila Makhana, Bihar.
- **GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS (GI) :-**
- GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Darjeeling Tea was the first Indian product to get the geographical indication tag in 2004.
- The second GI tag in India was given to Aranmula Kannadi (Handicraft) which is a mirror and made in Kerala.
- A GI is registered for an initial period of ten years, which must be renewed after 10 years.
- Kerala has topped among Indian states for having most number of products securing the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in financial year 2022-23.
- **What is GI tag?**
- A GI is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin.



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**Q. According to RBI, India needs average annual \_\_\_ GDP growth to become developed by 2047.**

- A) 6.6%                                      B) 7.6%  
C) 8.6%                                      D) 9.6%

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India could become a developed country by 2047 with an average annual real GDP growth of 7.6 percent over the next 25 years, said an article published by the Reserve Bank in its July 2023 bulletin.
- ✓ The task, however, may not be easy, given the current level of capital stocks, infrastructure and skill sets of the people, said the article titled 'India @ 100'.
- ✓ Addressing the nation on August 15, 2022 -- the 75th year of India's independence -- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid down a vision for the next 25 years to become a developed nation by 2047.

**Q. Which company has been honoured with the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023?**

- A) Reliance Industries                      B) NTPC Limited  
C) Adani Power                                D) JSW Energy

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Power major NTPC has been honoured with the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023.
- ✓ The company received awards in two categories: "Best Use of AI/AR/VR in Learning and Upskilling" and "Best Advances in Creating Extended Enterprise Learning Programs."
- ✓ Director HR, NTPC, Dilip Kumar Patel accepted the award on behalf of the company during a function held at Gurugram on July 13, 2023.
- ✓ These accolades are in recognition of NTPC's dedication to incorporate cutting-edge technologies, especially Virtual Reality (VR), in its Learning and Development (L&D) initiatives.

### NTPC IN NEWS 2023

- NTPC has been honoured with the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023.
- NTPC climbs up 52 positions to 433rd rank in Forbes' "The Global 2000" List.
- NTPC Kanti launches Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GeM)-2023.





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

**Q. Who has launched the sale of subsidized Chana Dal under the brand name 'Bharat Dal'?**

A) Piyush Goyal

B) Smriti Irani

C) Amit Shah

D) Nirmala Sitharaman

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Piyush Goyal launches sale of subsidised Chana Dal under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' at affordable prices.
- ✓ The objective of subsidised chana dal is to make pulses available to the consumers at affordable prices.
- ✓ The government's stock of gram is converted into chana dal for distribution.
- ✓ **Availability and Outlets:**
- ✓ Retail outlets of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) in Delhi-NCR selling the chana dal.
- ✓ NAFED undertakes milling and packaging of the Chana Dal.
- ✓ Distribution through retail outlets of NAFED, NCCF, Kendriya Bhandar, and Safal.
- ✓ State governments can procure chana dal for their welfare schemes, police, jails, and consumer cooperative outlets.
- ✓ **Versatile Usage and Nutritiona Benefits of Chana:**
- ✓ Chana is the most abundantly produced pulse in India, consumed in various forms.
- ✓ Chana whole: Soaked and boiled for salads.
- ✓ Roasted chana: Served as snacks.
- ✓ Fried chana dal: Alternative to tur dal in curries and soups.
- ✓ Chana besan: Major raw material for namkeens and sweets.
- ✓ Nutritional benefits: Rich in fibre, iron, potassium, vitamin B, selenium, beta carotene, and choline.
- ✓ Supports various health aspects: Control of anaemia, blood sugar, bone health, and mental health.

**Q. Which company has launched the world's first Generative AI tool for insurance?**

- A) Tata Max
- B) Infosys
- C) Simplify
- D) Meta

**Answer : C**

- ✓ AI automation company Simplify has launched InsuranceGPT, the world's first generative AI tool for insurance.
- ✓ It is the world's first custom-built GPT tool powered by a no-code AI-powered platform.

### ChatGPT IN NEWS 2023

- AI automation company Simplify has launched InsuranceGPT, the world's first generative AI tool for insurance.



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- Odisha TV, an Odia-based news station, has unveiled “Lisa,” India’s first regional AI news anchor.
- Meta and Microsoft have jointly announced the expansion of their artificial intelligence partnership by introducing their new large language model (LLM) called “Llama 2”.
- Elon Musk has launched his AI startup, xAI, aiming to create an alternative to ChatGPT.
- Inflection AI Company unveiled a modern talkbot named ‘Pi Chatbot’.
- ‘Gigachat’ Russia’s Sberbank launches AI to compete with ChatGPT.
- Google introduces AI chatbot ‘Bard’ to compete with Microsoft’s ChatGPT.
- Google to launch its AI Chatbot amid ChatGPT’s Growing Popularity.
- Lexi’: India’s first AI assistant powered by ChatGPT.
- Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has recently launched a chatbot to help people get an answer to their queries related to the Aadhaar card. It is called “Aadhaar Mitra”.
- India’s First Agri Chatbot Ama KrushAI Launched in Odisha.
- Chinese search engine Baidu revealed its plans of launching a ChatGPT-style AI chatbot called ‘Ernie Bot’.
- Bard is a chat service developed by Google that utilizes artificial intelligence to engage in conversations with users.
- Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) unveiled WhatsApp chatbot service ‘Bal Mitra’.
- Punjab and Haryana Court recently utilized the assistance of an AI chatbot called ChatGPT to make a decision regarding a bail application in a criminal case, marking the first time an Indian court has done so.

**Q. Which state’s transport department has introduced a UPI payments system at inter-state check posts to curb corruption?**

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Andhra Pradesh

C) Rajasthan

D) Haryana

**Answer : B**





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- ✓ Andhra Pradesh transport department has introduced a UPI payments system at inter-state check posts to curb corruption.
- ✓ The policy will support the Chief Minister's directives toward corruption-free administration without any intermediaries.
- ✓ The new policy has been implemented at 15 check posts of the transport department across the state.
- ✓ Further, people can pay border tax, temporary permit tax, voluntary tax, compounding fee, etc by scanning the QR code.
- ✓ The State has interstate checkposts with Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Telangana.

**Q. Which company has recently commissioned India's first transnational power project?**

- A) Reliance Industries                      B) Adani Group  
C) TATA Group                                 D) Wipro Group

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Adani Group commissions India's first transnational power project
- ✓ Gautam Adani met Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina for full load commencement and handover of the 1,600 MW ultra-supercritical Godda power plant.
- ✓ Adani Power set up the 1,600 MW thermal power in Jharkhand's Godda to supply power generated to Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) through a dedicated transmission line.
- ✓ The Godda Plant became fully operational in June. The plant was commissioned in a record time of three-and-a-half years.
- ✓ The first unit of the power plant, with 800 MW capacity, achieved its COD in April this year.

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

- A) Punjab                                         B) Himachal Pradesh  
C) Uttarakhand                                 D) Chhattisgarh

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Harela Festival 2023 begins in Uttarakhand
- ✓ Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami participated in a program on water conservation, organized on the occasion of the Harela festival 2023.
- ✓ The festival symbolizes happiness, prosperity, peace, environment, and nature conservation.



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- ✓ Harela is an annual Hindu festival celebrated in the hill states of Uttarakhand and some regions of Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Harela and Bhitauli Festivals are the prominent folk festivals of Uttarakhand, celebrated in the Kumaon Region.

### UTTARAKHAND IN NEWS 2023

- Harela Festival 2023 begins in Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand has become India's first state to launch the Resham Keet Bima scheme for sericulturists.
- Uttarakhand tableau which showcased the state's wildlife and religious sites at the 74th Republic Day parade has won the top prize.
- India's First Green Solar Panel Factory to Build by Luminous in Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand awarded for adventure tourism & all round development of tourism.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister launches Lakhpati Didi Yojana.
- The Uttarakhand High Court will be shifted from Nainital to Haldwani.
- Uttarakhand Plans Genetic Enhancement of Its Indigenous Badri Cow.
- Uttarakhand Government appoints Prasoon Joshi as its Brand Ambassador.
- Uttarakhand Gaurav Samman: NSA Ajit Doval and late CDS Gen Rawat to receive award.
- Uttarakhand CM Launched SBI Foundation and HESCO's Project for Chamoli.
- Uttarakhand Foundation Day is observed on November 9 every year.
- Uttarakhand Governor Approved 30% Women's Reservation Bill.
- PM Modi has inaugurated connectivity projects worth 3,400 crores in Mana village of Chamoli district of Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand recently received the first prize in two categories - the best adventure tourism destination and all-round development of tourism - from the Union tourism ministry.
- India's first commercial space observatory will be set up in the Garhwal division of Uttarakhand.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has launched the "Mukhyamantri Udyaman Khiladi Unnayan Yojana" on the occasion of National Sports Day.
- Uttarakhand education department launched an e-governance portal "Samarth".







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**Q. How many gold medals have won by India in Asian Athletics Championships 2023 held in Bangkok, Thailand?**

A) 6

B) 8

C) 5

D) 7

**Answer : A**

- ✓ India won a total of 27 medals and secured the third position in the Asian Athletics Championships 2023 held in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ✓ India finished third with a total of 27 medals, including six gold, twelve silver and nine bronze medals, in the second-best-ever performance.
- ✓ Athlete Jyoti Yaraji won India's first gold medal in women's 100m race and silver medal in women's 200m race in this championship.
- ✓ Indian athletes won a total of 13 medals including 8 silver and 5 bronze medals on the last day of competition in Bangkok Athletics Championships 2023.
- ✓ Top five countries in the medal tally
- ✓ Japan- 16 Gold, 11 Silver, 10 Bronze
- ✓ China- 8 Gold, 8 Silver, 6 Bronze
- ✓ India- 6 Gold, 12 Silver, 9 Bronze
- ✓ Sri Lanka- 3 Gold, 2 Silver, 3 Bronze
- ✓ Qatar- 2 Gold, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze

**Q. Who has been appointed as new MD of Michelin India ?**

A) Onkar Singh Kanwar

B) Arnab Banerjee

C) Rahul Mammen Mappillai

D) Shantanu Deshpande

**Answer : D**

- ✓ French tyre major Michelin has appointed Shantanu Deshpande as Managing Director of its Indian operations.
- ✓ He will be based out of Pune.

**Q. In which country 'International Defense Exhibition 2023' will be organized?**

A) South Korea

B) India

C) China

D) Singapore



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### Answer : A

- ✓ The International Aerospace and Defense Exhibition (ADEX) 2023 will be organized in Seoul, the capital of South Korea.
- ✓ 550 companies from 35 countries will participate in this defense exhibition.
- ✓ This six-day defense exhibition will start on 17 October 2023.
- ✓ This will be the biggest ever edition of the exhibition, which was first held in 1996

**Q. Where was the 3rd G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting held?**

- A) Lucknow                                      B) Jaipur  
C) Gandhinagar                                 D) Bhopal

### Answer : C

- ✓ The third G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting under the chairmanship of India was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ✓ The theme of the G20 summit to be held under the chairmanship of India is "One Earth, One Family, One Future".

**Q. According to the Henley Passport Index 2023, Which country passport becomes the world's most powerful passport?**

- A) Germany                                      B) Austria  
C) Singapore                                     D) United Kingdom

### Answer : C

- ✓ Singapore on top and India at 80th position in Henley Passport Index 2023.
- ✓ Singapore has topped the Henley Passport Index 2023, becoming the most powerful passport in the world.
- ✓ Singapore passport holders are granted visa-free access to an impressive 192 out of 227 global travel destinations.
- ✓ Three European countries, namely Germany, Italy and Spain, now rank second in the index. Their passports provide visa-free access to 190 destinations.
- ✓ Japan, which held the top position for the last five years, is now ranked third in the index. Apart from this, Austria, Finland, France, Japan, South Korea, Luxembourg, and Sweden are also in third place, their passport holders can travel to 189 destinations without visa.



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**Q. What is the rank of Indian passport as per Henley Passport Index 2023?**

- A) 80th
- B) 81st
- C) 82nd
- D) 83rd

**Answer : A**

- ✓ India's rank in Henley Passport Index
- ✓ India has shown remarkable progress on the Henley Passport Index, improving its ranking by 5 places as compared to the previous year.
- ✓ India is currently ranked 80th along with Togo and Senegal.
- ✓ Indian passport holders now enjoy visa-free access to 57 countries, reflecting the country's enhanced global travel privileges.
- ✓ Pakistan ranks 100th on the Henley Passport Index and its passport gives holders visa-free access to 33 destinations.
- ✓ **About Henley Passport Index**
- ✓ Introduced by Dr. Christian H. Kaelin, President of Henley & Partners, almost 20 years ago.
- ✓ It calculates passport rankings based on exclusive and official data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- ✓ The index considers the number of destinations that passport holders can travel to without prior visas.
- ✓ The methodology used by the Henley Passport Index differs from other passport rankings, such as those published by financial advisors Arton Capital.
- ✓ The index relies entirely on data from the International Air Transport Association to determine its rankings.
- ✓ **DON'T CONFUSED**
- ✓ Singapore has world's most powerful passport in 2023; India ranks 80th: Henley Passport Index.
- ✓ India's Rank drop by 6 positions at 144 in The Passport Index 2023 by Arton Capital : UAE top

**Q. Which Indian Grandmaster won the Super GM Chess tournament in Hungary?**

- A) Nihal Sarin
- B) Adhiban Bhaskaran
- C) Parimarjan Negi
- D) R. praggnananda

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Young Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa has won the title of V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM Chess Tournament 2023 in Hungary.





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- ✓ 17-year-old Praggnanandha scored 6.5 points to finish first in the 10-player event.
- ✓ He remained one point ahead of M Amin Tabatabei (Iran) and Sanan Sajugirov of Russia in this tournament.

### CHESS GRANDMASTER IN NEWS 2023

- Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa has won the title of V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM Chess Tournament 2023 .
- Magnus Carlsen (Norway) won the 2023 Superbet Rapid & Blitz Poland
- Telangana's Vuppala Praneeth became India's 82nd Grandmaster.
- Ding Liren has become 17th world chess champion – the first from China – defeating Russia's Ian Nepomniachtchi in a tie-breaker.
- Global Chess League (GCL) announced Dubai as the inaugural edition of the world's largest and first franchise-based chess league. The league is a joint venture between FIDE and Tech Mahindra.
- Ding Liren became China's first world chess champion after defeating Russia's Ian Nepomniachtchi in a tie-breaker.
- Sayantan Das from West Bengal has become India's 81st Chess Grandmaster.
- Vignesh NR became the 80th Grandmaster of the country.
- Dutch player Anish Giri, five times the runner-up in Wijk aan Zee, has won Tata Steel Masters 2023.
- Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh Wins Title At World Chess Armageddon Asia And Oceania Event.
- 16-year-old from Tamilnadu, M Pranesh became India's 79th chess grandmaster .
- Kolkata-based chess player, Koustav Chatterjee became India's 78th Grandmaster.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the 25th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard?**

- A) Ajay Sinha
- B) Rannvijay Singh
- C) Mahesh Sharma
- D) Rakesh Pal

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Rakesh Pal has been appointed as the 25th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).
- ✓ He has the distinction of being the first gunner of ICG.





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

**Q. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director & CEO of Invest India?**

A) Nivruti Rai

B) Chanda Kochhar

C) Naina Lal Kidwai

D) Arundhati Bhattacharya

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Nivriti Rai appointed as Managing Director and CEO of Invest India.
- ✓ Renowned global business and technology expert Nivriti Rai has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of Invest India.
- ✓ Ms Rai takes over from Manmeet K Nanda, Joint Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), who assumed the additional charge of MD & CEO in the interim in March 2023.





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- ✓ Ms. Rai joins Invest India after an illustrious 29 years of service as a global business and technology veteran at Intel.
- ✓ **INVEST INDIA:**
- ✓ India's National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency.
- ✓ Established: 2009 (Carried out as a non-profit enterprise under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry).
- ✓ Invest India focuses on sector-specific investor targeting and developing new partnerships to enable sustainable investment in India

**Q. Reserve Bank of India has canceled the license of which co-operative bank?**

- A) Abhyudaya Co-operative Bank      B) United India Co-operative Bank  
C) Bharat Co-operative Bank      D) Janta Sahakari Bank Limited

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the license of United India Co-operative Bank, a bank in Uttar Pradesh. RBI said that this bank has failed to comply with the relevant sections of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- ✓ Customers can withdraw up to Rs 5,00,000 from the Deposit and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DIGCS) under depositor rules.

### RBI CANCELED LICENSE IN NEWS 2023

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the license of United India Co-operative Bank, a bank in Uttar Pradesh.
- RBI Cancels Certificate of Registration of 7 NBFCs and Surrender Permits of 14 NBFCs.
- RBI Cancels Registration of Four NBFCs, 11 Surrender Certificates.
- RBI Grants Non-Banking Institution License to Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank in Dharwad, Karnataka , Cancels Banking Permit.
- Equitas Holdings Ltd, a prominent non-banking financial company (NBFC) in India, has voluntarily surrendered its NBFC licence to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- RBI cancelled the registration of Pune-based Kudos Finance and Investments and Mumbai-based Credit Gate for regulatory lapses in lending practices.





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- ✓ The satellite network portal to be established in Katosan and Tejpura in Jotana taluka of Gujarat is scheduled to launch in 2023, with an estimated cost of over Rs. 100 crores for its Phase-1. It is also expected to create approximately 500 direct and indirect employment opportunities in the state.

### GUJARAT IN NEWS 2023

- London-based company OneWeb and the Gujarat Government's Science and Technology Department have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) today for the establishment of a 'Satellite Network Portal Site' in Gujarat.
- 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.
- 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.





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- 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 union minister has inaugurated the Global Food Regulators Summit 2023?**

- A) Rajnath Singh                      B) Anurag Thakur  
C) Mansukh Mandaviya                D) Smriti Irani

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the Global Food Regulators Summit 2023 in New Delhi.
- ✓ On this occasion, he has called for creating a global platform for food security.
- ✓ Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar also participated in this two-day conference.
- ✓ This summit is being organized by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India

**Q. India has donated \_\_\_\_ million to the United Nations to support the promotion of the Hindi language.**

- A) \$0.5 million                              B) \$1 million  
C) \$1.7 million                                D) \$2.5 million

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India has donated \$1 million to the UN for the promotion of Hindi.
- ✓ India’s Commitment to Promote Hindi at the UN:
- ✓ India’s Permanent Representative Ruchira Kamboj, who gave her the cheque last Friday, said in a statement that New Delhi “will continue to promote the use of the Hindi language in the United Nations”.
- ✓ She highlighted the efforts of the United Nations to mainstream and consolidate news and multimedia content in Hindi language have been appreciated in India and in countries where a Hindi-speaking population resides.



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- ✓ Hindi was introduced in the UN by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee who became in 1977 the first Indian official when he was the external affairs minister to speak at the UN in the language

**Q. Which Company has bagged orders worth Rs 800 crore from the Indian Army?**

- A) Tata Motors
- B) BharatBenz
- C) Ashok Leyland
- D) Mahindra & Mahindra

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Mumbai, Commercial vehicle maker Ashok Leyland on has bagged orders worth Rs 800 crore from the Indian Army.
- ✓ The contracts awarded also include the procurement of the Field Artillery Tractor (FAT 4x4) and the Gun Towing Vehicle (GTV 6x6), Ashok Leyland said in a statement.

**Q. Which Company joined hands with TSSC launch 5G skill development centre in Gujarat?**

- A) Nokia
- B) Apple
- C) Sony
- D) Samsung

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Nokia announced an expansion of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) to the state of Gujarat with the establishment of a Nokia Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Skill Development in collaboration with Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) and Kaushalya- TheSkill University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- ✓ NOKIA
- ✓ Founded : 1865
- ✓ Founders : Fredrik Idestam, Leo Mechelin & Eduard Polón
- ✓ Headquarters : Espoo, Finland
- ✓ Chairmam : Sari Baldauf
- ✓ President & CEO : Pekka Lundmark

**Q. Which Company in collaboration with Max Life Insurance Co. Ltd launched an innovation and development centre in Chennai?**

- A) Infosys
- B) Tech Mahindra
- C) Tata Consultancy Services
- D) Cognizant Technology Solutions

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ Cognizant Technology Solutions along with Max Life Insurance has launched an innovation and development center in Chennai.
- ✓ The facility will bring together teams from both companies to accelerate Max Life's digital transformation efforts.
- ✓ The companies did not disclose investment in the new centre and the number and nature of staff it would house.

**Q. The International Chess Day is marked every year on which day?**

- A) 17 July
- B) 19 July
- C) 20 July
- D) 16 July

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The International Chess Day is celebrated annually on July 20, since 1966, to celebrate one of the most ancient and most popular games in history that promotes fairness, equality, mutual respect and understanding among nations.
- ✓ It was on this day that the International Chess Federation (FIDE) was founded, in 1924.
- ✓ The idea to celebrate the day as the international chess day was proposed by UNESCO

**Q. On which day of the year is Science Exploration Day observed?**

- A) 17 July
- B) 18 July
- C) 20 July
- D) 19 July

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Science Exploration Day (also called Moon Day) is marked every year on 20 July.
- ✓ It was on this day in 1969 that Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin became the first humans to land on the Moon's surface.
- ✓ Neil Armstrong was the first man to set foot on the moon's surface.
- ✓ The Armstrong- Aldrin duo spent 21.5 hours on the surface of the moon out of which they spent 2.5 hours outside of their capsules.
- ✓ To commemorate their achievement, the day was declared a holiday in 1984 by the then President of the United States, Ronald Reagan







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➤ At Rs 21,000 crore, LIC is India's largest IPO.

**Q. Which Indian Building Surpasses Pentagon To Become World's Largest Office?**

A) Mumbai Diamond Bourse

B) Surat Diamond Bourse

C) Delhi Diamond Bourse

D) Bengaluru Diamond Bourse

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Surat Diamond Bourse has also surpassed the Pentagon office complex of the US Department of Defense as the world's largest office complex.
- ✓ The full functioning of the Surat Diamond Bourse will give a boost to the dynamism and growth of the diamond industry.
- ✓ The exchange will serve as a hub of trade, innovation and collaboration, boosting the country's economy and creating over 1.5 lakh jobs.
- ✓ **Inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 21 November:**
- ✓ Surat Diamond Bourse will start functioning from November 21, 2023. The official inauguration will be done in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ **90% of the world's diamonds get their final form in Surat:**
- ✓ Surat is famous for producing 90 percent of the world's diamonds. According to the Union Ministry of Finance, 14 out of 15 diamonds in the world are finally cut in Surat.
- ✓ **Bourse Cost:**
- ✓ This office complex has been built at a cost of more than Rs 3,000 crore. This Diamond Bourse has been constructed in 6.7 million square feet.
- ✓ **Chief Architect:**
- ✓ The office complex was designed by Manit Rastogi, founding partner of architecture firm Morphogenesis, who was commissioned following an international design competition.
- ✓ **Complex Structure:**
- ✓ The Surat Diamond Bourse consists of nine interconnected buildings connected by 24 feet wide spine corridors. Each of these buildings is 15 floors high including the ground floor.
- ✓ Each office ranges from 300 to 75,000 square feet in size.
- ✓ There is also a 2 million square feet parking area in the basement of the exchange.







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## HARYANA IN NEWS 2023

- Haryana has won the 6th Youth Women's National Boxing Championships in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- Startup20 Shikhar summit begins in Haryana's Gurugram.
- India's first hydrogen-powered train will start its journey from Jind district of Haryana.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 National Highway projects at Sonapat, Karnal, and Ambala in Haryana.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has announced Rs 10,000 monthly pension for Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan winners of the state under a monthly pension scheme.
- Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal will inaugurate the integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under the Amrit Jal Kranti initiative.
- Haryana has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation.
- A tiger has been spotted in a camera trap at Kalesar National Park in Yamunanagar district of Haryana.
- Haryana becomes first state in India to have 100% electrified railway network.
- First nuclear power plant in North India would be built in Gorakhpur, Haryana

**Q. Government Gujarat has inaugurated the 'One District One Product' Wall at Garvi Gujarat Bhawan in Which City?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ DPIIT and Government of Gujarat jointly launch 'One District One Product' wall.
- ✓ One District One Product (ODOP) programme, an initiative of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry collaborated with the Government of Gujarat to promote indigenous crafts and artisans of the state.
- ✓ Gujarat, with its 33 districts, offers a wide range of unique products, including traditional crafts such as Gamathi block prints and Mata-ni-Pachedi, as well as agricultural goods such as groundnut and cumin.



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- ✓ The collaboration between ODOP and the Government of Gujarat includes product tagging and story cards to enhance the promotion and recognition of Gujarat's unique products.
- ✓ The partnership aims to increase the visibility of Gujarat products at the national level and drive consumers towards the emporia, thereby boosting sales.
- ✓ Specific interventions have been made to enhance the market presence of certain products in Gujarat. For example, Sujani Handloom, Jamnagari Bandhini, and Patan Patola have been onboarded on the Government e-Marketplace (GeM), and support from the National Institute of Design (NID) workshop has been provided for Agate Stone in Khambhat district and Sujani from Bharuch district.

**Q. OPPO India set up first Public-Private Partnership model Atal Tinkering Lab in Which State?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ OPPO India announces the establishment of an Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) in Kerala in collaboration with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) as Knowledge Partners.
- ✓ Motive : This programme motivates students to explore, experiment, and undertake projects involving DIY kits in robotics, electronics, and rapid prototyping.
- ✓ Objective : The primary objective of this initiative is to create an empowered future-ready workforce and nurture entrepreneurship and technological skills among the youth.

**Q. India has signed an agreement with which country for joint development of semiconductor ecosystem?**

- A) Brazil  
B) Japan  
C) Argentina  
D) Germany

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India has signed an agreement with Japan for joint development of semiconductor ecosystem and maintaining the resilience of the global supply chain.
- ✓ Japan has become the second Quad partner after the United States.
- ✓ With about 100 semiconductor manufacturing plants, Japan is among the top five countries with a semiconductor ecosystem.



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## JAPAN IN NEWS 2023

- India has signed an agreement with Japan for joint development of semiconductor ecosystem .
- 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.
- 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.





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- 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. Which ministry has won the "Best Engagement" award for procurement through GeM portal?**

**A) Ministry of Coal**

**B) Ministry of Home Affairs**

**C) Ministry of Agriculture**

**D) Ministry of Health**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Ministry of Coal has won the "Best Engagement" award for procurement through GeM portal. Ministry of Coal has successfully set new benchmarks in the e-Procurement ecosystem.
- ✓ Coal India Limited has been awarded "Rising Star" and NLC India Limited has been awarded in "TimelyPayments" category



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**Q. Ministry of Culture has tied up with which bank to provide financial assistance to veteran artistes?**

- A) Canara Bank    B) State Bank of India  
C) Yes Bank    D) Punjab National Bank

**Answer : A**

- ✓ An MoU has been signed between the Ministry of Culture and Canara Bank to facilitate the provision of financial assistance to experienced artistes.
- ✓ As per the MoU, the data of the beneficiaries will be uploaded on the online portal to be developed by Canara Bank.
- ✓ 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. Who has received the Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award for his contributions to making high-quality care affordable and accessible in the US?**

- A) Dr. Ami Bera    B) Dr A.K. Bhattacharya  
C) Dr. Prajct Sao                                         D) Dr. Chandrashekhar Kulkarni

**Answer : A**

- ✓ An Indian-American physician-turned-politician, Dr. Ami Bera has received the Champion of Healthcare Innovation Award for his contributions to making high-quality care affordable and accessible in the US.
- ✓ Bera the longest-serving Indian-American serving in the US Congress, was among those facilitated during the council's Innovation Expo held here last week.
- ✓ Bera served as Chief Medical Officer for Sacramento County in California before being sworn in as a Congressman in 2013 and has represented Sacramento County in the US House of Representatives since then.
- ✓ He is currently a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, where he serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, Central Asia, and Nonproliferation.



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- ✓ He is also a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic

**Q. In which state will the 69th edition of the Filmfare Awards be organized in the year 2024?**

- A) Uttar Pradesh                      B) Maharashtra  
C) Gujarat                                D) Goa

**Answer : C**

- ✓ In the year 2024, the 69th edition of the Filmfare Awards will be organized in Gujarat, for which preparations have been started.
- ✓ This is the first time that the Filmfare Awards will be organized in Gujarat.
- ✓ Its organization will promote film destination and tourism in the state.
- ✓ Filmfare Awards is an annual award ceremony, first organized in 1954

**Q. In which country was the Asian Surfing Championship organized?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Indian surf team won the bronze medal in the Asian Surfing Championship held at Thulisdhoo Island in Maldives.
- ✓ 18 countries of Asia participated in this championship.
- ✓ The Indian team consisted of 4 senior surfers in the men's section and 2 surfers in the under-18 section.
- ✓ Out of these 5 surfers were from Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The Indian Surfing Federation is the recognized national governing body for the sport of surfing in India.

## MALDIVES IN NEWS 2023

- The Indian surf team won the bronze medal in the Asian Surfing Championship held at Thulisdhoo Island in Maldives.
- 12th edition of the joint military exercise “Ex Ekuverin” between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defense Force has commenced on 11 June 2023 at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- Sixth edition of India-Maldives Exercise ‘Ekatha’ begin in Maldives.





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

**Q. The Chachin grazing festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm by local graziers in which state?**

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

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Chachin Grazing Festival celebrated in Arunachal Pradesh
- ✓ The Chachin grazing festival was celebrated with great enthusiasm by local graziers in the Tawang region near Bumla Pass, Arunachal Pradesh.
- ✓ The festival featured a medical camp for aiding local graziers and a veterinary camp for their yaks.



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- ✓ The two-day event held at Chachin saw enthusiastic participation from Graziers from all over Tawang region.
- ✓ Chachin and other traditional grazing areas, near Bumla Pass have historically served as the backbone of the local Monpa lifestyle that is largely dependent on nomadic herding – a primitive form of subsistence farming – as means of livelihood.

### ARUNACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Chachin Grazing Festival celebrated in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh launched an app named 'Arunpol App' of Arunachal Pradesh Police..
- Assam and Arunachal Pradesh have signed an agreement for the settlement of an inter-state boundary dispute between the two States.
- A tripartite committee recommended that some areas be transferred from Assam to Arunachal..
- 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.
- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates Siyom bridge in Arunachal Pradesh.
- A fish museum, the first of its kind in the Northeast, would soon be built in Arunachal Pradesh.
- The Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Pema Khandu, inaugurated the newly renovated Shar Nyima Tsho Sum Namyig Lhakhang (Gonpa) at Gyangkhar, his native village in Tawang district.
- February 20, 2023, Arunachal Pradesh is celebrating its 37th Statehood Day.
- A bipartisan resolution was passed by the US, formally recognizing the McMahon Line as the international boundary between China and India's Arunachal Pradesh.
- The trailer of 'Love in 90s', the first film made in Tagin language of Arunachal Pradesh.

**Q. Which city will host the first edition of Comic Con India from 17 to 18 February 2024?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Comic Con India has announced its first-ever edition in Chennai.



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- ✓ Chennai Comic Con will take place on February 17 and 18, 2024 at the Chennai Trade Centre in Nandambakkam.
- ✓ The event will showcase a range of international and Indian comic creators, artists and industry figures while immersing fans in a 'world of comics, manga, anime and all things pop culture.
- ✓ Previous editions of Comic Con India have happened in cities like Mumbai, New Delhi, Hyderabad, and Bangalore.

**Q. Which university has unveiled a “heritage point” at its zoology department, featuring bricks from the 19th century and a 100-year-old wooden log?**

- A) Lucknow University                      B) University of Delhi  
C) Jawaharlal Nehru University        D) University of Allahabad

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Lucknow University has unveiled a “heritage point” at its zoology department, featuring bricks from the 19th century and a 100-year-old wooden log.
- ✓ The items mark the university’s centenary year. The log, extracted from a mango tree on the campus, is also over a century old, according to scientists.
- ✓ A stone plaque next to the heritage point documents the university’s historical progression. The university’s vice chancellor inaugurated the heritage point, which aims to display the rich heritage of the institution to students

**Q. Which country’s reptile sanctuary will import 6 alligators and 6 crocodiles from India?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ US’s largest reptile sanctuary wants to import gharials from India
- ✓ The United States’ largest reptile bank based in Arizona has applied to the federal government to import six gharials and another equal number of mugger crocodiles from Tamil Nadu, which it argued would help preserve these endangered species.
- ✓ The Phoenix Herpetological Society has applied for permission in this regard to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.





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- ✓ Phoenix Herpetological Society has requested a permit to import three male and three female captive-bred gharials (*Gavialis gangeticus*) and three male and three female captive-bred mugger crocodiles (*Crocodylus palustris kimbula* and *Crocodylus palustris*) from Madras Crocodile Bank Trust in Tamil Nadu

**Q. Who has been elected as the new President of the Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA)?**

- A) Amit Vatkar  
B) Neeraj Akhoury  
C) Paresh Dandona  
D) Kavitha Bhatia

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Cement Manufacturers Association elects Neeraj Akhoury as its president
- ✓ Managing Director of Shree Cement, Neeraj Akhoury has been elected as the new President of the Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA).
- ✓ While JSW Cement Managing Director Parth Jindal has been appointed as Vice President of CMA.
- ✓ Both were unanimously elected at the Extraordinary General Meeting of CMA.
- ✓ CMA represents almost 80 percent of the total installed cement capacity in India

**Q. Who has won the IBSF World under-21 women's snooker championship in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia?**

- A) Anshika Singh  
B) Anupama  
C) Keerthana  
D) Natasha Chethan

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Keerthana Pandian defeated fellow Indian Anupama Ramachandran in the final to emerge as the IBSF World under-21 women's snooker champion in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- ✓ Bengaluru's Natasha Chethan made it a memorable outing for the Indians by claiming the bronze medal.

**Q. Which state government has launched 'Sashakt Mahila Loan Yojana', a collateral-free loan scheme for women?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu launched 'Sashakt Mahila Loan Yojana', a collateral-free loan scheme for women.



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- ✓ The initiative has been launched by the Himachal Pradesh State Cooperative Bank (HPSCB) and aims to help women fulfil their daily needs to realise their entrepreneurial aspirations, engage in livelihood activities and uplift their families.
- ✓ The absence of collateral removes a significant barrier for women, especially those who lack valuable assets to offer as security for loan applications.
- ✓ 'Sashakt Mahila Loan Yojana' will provide financial assistance to women for self-employment and livelihood activities, which will contribute to their economic empowerment and financial independence.
- ✓ Through this scheme, women can improve their socio-economic status, which will have a positive impact on their lives and community.
- ✓ The Himachal Pradesh State Cooperative Bank offers three credit options under this scheme: Rs 21,000, Rs 51,000 and Rs 1,01,000, all at a relatively low interest rate of 8.51 per cent.

### HIMACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu launched 'Sashakt Mahila Loan Yojana', a collateral-free loan scheme for women.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has inaugurated "The Tribune Real Estate Expo, 2023, Shimla".
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu informed that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) will set up an ethanol plant at Jeetpur Baheri in Una district at a cost of Rs 500 crore.
- European Commission (EC) has awarded protected geographical indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of India's Himachal Pradesh.
- Himachal Pradesh (HP) has become the first Indian state to develop a DNA database for unidentified bodies.
- Himachal Pradesh launched Sanjeevani Project to uplift the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- Himachal Pradesh targets to be first 'green energy state' by 2025.
- Himachal Cabinet approves monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women of Spiti Valley.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up of Rs 101 crore CM's Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh for the destitute in the state.



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- Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone of 'Himachal Niketan' which will provide accommodation facilities to the students and residents of Himachal Pradesh visiting New Delhi.
- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its 53rd Statehood Day with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023
- About Himachal Pradesh
- Formation - 1 November 1956
- Capital - Shimla and Dharamshala (Winter)
- District - 12
- Governor- Shiv Pratap Shukla
- Chief Minister - Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
- Rajya Sabha - 3 seats
- Lok Sabha - 4 seats
- Symbol of Himachal Pradesh
- Bird - Western Tragopan
- Fish - Golden Mahseer
- Flowers - Pink Rhododendron
- Mammal - Snow Leopard
- Tree -Deodar Cedar

**Q. Tata Motors-owned Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) has appointed whom as its Chief Executive Officer for a 3 Year term?**

A) Adrian Mardell

B) Ola Kallenius

C) Oliver Zipse

D) Zak Brown

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Adrian Mardell has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) for a period of three years.
- ✓ The appointment was made by Tata Motors, which owns JLR.
- ✓ Prior to becoming CEO, Mardell served as interim CEO through November 16, 2022.





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- ✓ With the appointment of Adrian Mardell as CEO, Richard Molyneux was announced as the new Chief Financial Officer of JLR.
- ✓ Richard Molyneux was previously the Acting Chief Financial Officer from December 12, 2022. Prior to this, he held the position of Finance Director of Operations at Jaguar Land Rover for six years.
- ✓ Adrian Mardell's journey with Jaguar Land Rover began in 1990, and he held various financial positions within the company until 2008.
- ✓ **About Tata Motors Limited**
- ✓ It is an Indian multinational automotive manufacturing company.
- ✓ It operates as a part of the Tata Group conglomerate.
- ✓ Tata Motors produces a wide range of vehicles including passenger cars, trucks, vans, coaches and buses.
- ✓ Establishment - 1945
- ✓ Founder - Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoi Tata
- ✓ Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ✓ Chairman - Natarajan Chandrasekaran

**Q. Which bank will set up a new trustee company as its wholly-owned subsidiary for managing the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF)?**

- A) Kotak Mahindra Bank                      B) State Bank of India  
C) Punjab National Bank                      D) Canara Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ State Bank of India will set up a new trustee company as its wholly-owned subsidiary for managing the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF).
- ✓ CDMDF will act as a backstop facility for the purchase of investment-grade corporate debt securities to instill confidence amongst the participants in the corporate bond market during times of stress and to generally enhance secondary market liquidity by creating a permanent institutional framework for activation in times of market stress
- ✓ The setting up of the Fund, which will be classified as an Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) under the SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012, is subject to receipt of all regulatory approvals.
- ✓ **Close-ended scheme**
- ✓ CDMDF will be launched as a close-ended scheme with an initial tenure of 15 years from the date of its initial closing (date on which contribution from all AMCs and specified schemes is received by CDMDF).



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- ✓ Based on the requirements of the corporate bond market, the tenure can be extended with prior approval of the government in consultation with SEBI subsequent.
- ✓ To begin with, units of CDMDF shall be subscribed by Asset Management Companies (AMCs) of Mutual Funds and “specified debt-oriented MF Schemes” (that is Open-ended Debt oriented Mutual Fund schemes excluding Overnight funds and Gilt funds and including Conservative Hybrid funds).

### SBI IN NEWS 2023

- State Bank of India will set up a new trustee company as its wholly-owned subsidiary for managing the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF).
- State Bank of India (SBI), Bengaluru Circle, recently launched 'Project Kuber' to meet the banking needs of its customers.
- State Bank of India (SBI), the country's biggest lender, has raised USD 750 million through bonds to fund offshore business growth.
- State Bank of India (SBI) launched a coffee table book titled "The Banker to Every Indian" and the book celebrates 75 years of Indian independence and 200 years of SBI's history.
- SBI to launch new current accounts and savings accounts in FY24 to attract deposits.
- The bank intends to launch two new variants of current accounts, one with a balance of ₹50,000 and another with a balance of ₹50 lakh. It also plans to introduce a new savings account called “Parivar” (family) account.
- State Bank of India (SBI) announced the completion of a \$1 billion syndicated social loan facility.
- The facility of \$1 billion was arranged through MLABs, MUFG bank and Taipei Fubon Commercial Bank Co.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has partnered with the NGO That's Eco Foundation to donate ₹48 lakh for the plantation of 32,000 tree saplings at Garden City University in Bengaluru.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 3,717 crore through its third Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance in the current financial year at coupon rate of 8.25 per cent..
- SBI reintroduces 400 days 'Amrit Kalash' retail term deposit scheme and provides an interest rate of 7.6% for senior citizens.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched its coffee table book named 'The Banker to Every Indian'.



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- Commercial Indo Bank LLC (CIBL) is a joint venture in Russia between SBI (60 per cent) and Canara Bank (40 per cent).
- SBI announces completion of \$1 billion Syndicated Social Loan Facility.
- Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) signed a memorandum (MoU) of understanding with State Bank of India to help farmers in getting low interest rate loans.
- According to the Indian Banks' Association (IBA)'s report titled "EASE Reforms Index for the first quarter of FY23" the State Bank of India(SBI) was adjudged as the Best Bank in adopting reforms prescribed for Public Sector Banks(PSB).
- SBI on 5 December 2022 announced that its personal banking advances excluding high value home loans have crossed the Rs 5 lakh-crore mark as on 30 November 2022.
- State Bank of India (SBI), India's largest lender, approved raising Rs 10,000 crore through infrastructure bonds during the financial year 2023 (FY23) including a greenshoe option of Rs 5,000 crore.
- **STATE BANK OF INDIA (SBI )**
- **Founded : 1 July 1955**
- **Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra**
- **Chairman : Dinesh Kumar Khara**
- **Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI**
- **The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.**
- **Tagline of State Bank of India**
- **(1) Pure Banking Nothing Else**
- **(2) With you all the way**
- **(3) A bank of the common man**
- **(4) The banker to every Indian**
- **(5) The Nation banks on us.**
- It is one of the largest and oldest banks in India.





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**Q. Union Ministry of Jal Shakti has informed the Parliament that how many states and union territories have implemented the Ground Water Act?**

A) 21

B) 27

C) 18

D) 12

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Union Ministry of Jal Shakti informed the Parliament that 21 states and union territories have implemented the Ground Water Act.
- ✓ In this law, provision has been made for rain water harvesting. In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti Bishweshwar Tudu informed that the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti has prepared a model bill to enable all states and union territories to enact appropriate groundwater laws.
- ✓ **States implementing rain water harvesting model:**
- ✓ According to the ministry, the 21 states/UTs which have so far implemented groundwater laws on the lines of the Model Bill include Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Bengal, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Lakshadweep and Puducherry
- ✓ **Tap water to 60% rural households in SC areas:**
- ✓ Under this, tap water has been provided to 60 percent rural households in Scheduled Caste (SC) dominated areas.
- ✓ Out of 2,18,06,280 rural households in SC-concentrated/dominated habitations, 1,32,64,760 have been given tap water connections
- ✓ **Extensive use of groundwater in agriculture:**
- ✓ India is mainly dependent on groundwater for irrigation and it is using a major part of the total global amount of groundwater. Because about 70% of food production in the country is done with the help of tube wells.
- ✓ **Ground water crisis:**
- ✓ This excessive dependence of agriculture on ground water is giving rise to the ground water crisis. There is a need for a comprehensive action plan for groundwater conservation.
- ✓ In this context, in the 'World Water Development Report' in 2018, UNESCO had described India as the world's largest groundwater user



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**Q. Who has received the prestigious 'Eni Award' for scientific research in energy and environment?**

- A) Jhumpa Adhikari                      B) Rajdip Bandyopadhyaya  
C) Avijit Chatterjee                     D) Thalappil Pradeep

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Professor Thalappil Pradeep of IIT Madras has received the prestigious 'Eni Award' for scientific research in energy and environment.
- ✓ The Eni Award was established in 2007 and is a globally recognized honour.
- ✓ Professor Pradeep's research focuses on cost-effective and clean water solutions using advanced nanoscale materials.
- ✓ His groundbreaking work led to the discovery of sustainable materials that remove toxic pollutants from water.
- ✓ These water purification technologies benefit 1.3 million people in India every day.
- ✓ The President of Italy will confer the Eni Award on Professor T. Pradeep.
- ✓ **About the Eni Award**
- ✓ They are awarded in three categories: Energy Transitions, Energy Frontiers and Advanced Environmental Solutions.
- ✓ Yu Huang from the University of California (Los Angeles, USA) and Jeffrey R. Long from the University of California (Berkeley, USA) were awarded in the Energy Transition category.
- ✓ Matthew Rosensky from the University of Liverpool (UK) received the award in the Energy Frontiers category.
- ✓ The primary purpose of the Eni Award is to promote and recognize unprecedented progress in energy efficiency, renewable energy, decarbonization and environmental protection.
- ✓ The purpose of this award is to inspire and support the work of young researchers in these important areas

**Q. Who has set the Guinness world record for the fastest hit by a male player in badminton, recording a mindboggling 565 km/h with his smash?**

- A) Srikanth Kidambi                      B) Chirag Shetty  
C) Lakshya Sen                             D) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ Indian badminton player Satwiksairaj Rankireddy created a new Guinness World Record for the fastest hit in badminton during the Korea Open 2023.
- ✓ Satwiksairaj Rankireddy's smash reached an incredible speed of 565 km/h, breaking a decade-old record previously held by Malaysian player Tan Boon Heong, who clocked 493 km/h.
- ✓ The record-breaking event took place at the Yonex factory gym in Soka, Saitama, Japan, and was officially verified by Guinness World Records under controlled conditions.
- ✓ Satwik's smash also surpassed the top speed of 372.6 km/h achieved by a Formula 1 car.
- ✓ In the women's section, Malaysia's Tan Perli set the Guinness World Record for the fastest women's badminton hit with a remarkable speed of 438 km/h.
- ✓ In Korea Open 2023, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and his doubles partner Chirag Shetty defeated Thailand's Supak Jomkoh and Kittinpong Kedren with a score of 21-16, 21-14 to enter the pre-quarterfinals.
- ✓ Among all the Indian participants in the Korea Open 2023, Satwik and Chirag were the only players to enter the pre-quarterfinals.
- ✓ Among all the Indian participants in the Korea Open 2023, Satwik and Chirag were the only players to enter the pre-quarterfinals.
- ✓ Korea Open 2023 is scheduled to take place from 18 July 2023 to 23 July 2023. The host city of Korea Open 2023 is Yeosu, South Korea.
- ✓ About South Korea
- ✓ Capital - Seoul
- ✓ Prime Minister - Han Duck-soo
- ✓ President - Yoon Suk Yeol

### Satwiksairaj Rankireddy IN NEWS 2023

- Indian badminton player Satwiksairaj Rankireddy created a new Guinness World Record for the fastest hit in badminton during the Korea Open 2023.
- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty created history by becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to win a gold medal at the Badminton Asia Championships.
- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian pair to win the doubles title at a BWF Super 1000 event at the Indonesia Open 2023.





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**Q. Who has presented the Bhoomi Samman awards to nine state secretaries and 68 district collectors for their achievements in the implementation of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme?**

A) Draupadi Murmu

B) Narendra Modi

C) Rajnath Singh

D) Amit Shah

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Indian President Draupadi Murmu presented the "Bhoomi Samman" 2023 at a function organized by the Union Ministry of Rural Development at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- ✓ The awards were received by the State Secretaries and District Collectors along with their teams who have shown excellence in achieving completion of major components of the Digital India Land Records Modernization Program (DILRMP).
- ✓ **Honor to the secretaries of nine states and officers of 68 districts:**
- ✓ Officers of the team of total 68 districts including nine secretaries of Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Tripura and West Bengal were honored at the Bhoomi Samman-2023 function held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ✓ **Most awards to Odisha and Madhya Pradesh:**
- ✓ Among these, 57 officers from 19 districts of Odisha, 35 officers from 15 districts of Madhya Pradesh, who received maximum awards, were awarded Bhoomi Samman by the President
- ✓ **Digital India Land Records Modernization Program (DILRMP):**
- ✓ DILRMP was launched by the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj in August 2008 for the digitization of land records
- ✓ **Main components of DILRMP:**
- ✓ Change of land ownership;
- ✓ Digitization of maps and integration of curriculum and spatial data;
- ✓ Survey/Re-survey and
- ✓ Computerization of all land records including original land records.
- ✓ **Land Parcel Identification Number:**
- ✓ Under the Digital India Land Information Management System, a unique Land Parcel Identification Number is being provided, which can be used like an Aadhaar card.



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- ✓ This number will be helpful in making and implementing new welfare schemes along with proper use of land.
- ✓ Linking e-courts with the land records and registration data-base would have many benefits.
- ✓ Digitization of land will bring transparency in administration.
- ✓ Unethical and illegal activities related to land will be curbed.
- ✓ Now getting land related information in a free and convenient way will have many other benefits.

**Q. Tata Sons planned to build about Rs 42,300 crore electric vehicle battery factory in which country?**

- A) Israel** **B) United Kingdom**  
**C) United States** **D) Japan**

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Tata Sons plans to build a four-billion-pound (about Rs 42,300 crore) electric vehicle battery factory in the UK, which will be its first gigafactory outside India.
- ✓ Last month, it announced plans to establish a Rs 13,000-crore battery manufacturing facility in Gujarat.
- ✓ In Britain, the Tata group is working on plans to make batteries for Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) as well as other vehicle companies.
- ✓ The factory will be located in Bridgwater, Somerset, England.
- ✓ The UK plant, which will cater to the requirements of Tata Group company Jaguar Land Rover (JLR), will create up to 4,000 jobs and have an annual output of 40-gigawatt hours. Production at the gigafactory will start in 2026.

**Q. Who has been appointed the Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF)?**

- A) Rishav Singh** **B) Abhishek Kumar**  
**C) Manoj Yadava** **D) Rajesh Verma**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Senior IPS officer Manoj Yadava has been appointed the Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF).
- ✓ Yadava, a 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Haryana cadre, will succeed Sanjay Chander who retires on July 31.



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- ✓ The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Yadava to the post of DG, RPF, up to his superannuation on July 31, 2025.

**Q. Which insurance company has launched health insurance plans that will for the first time in India offer monthly subscriptions?**

- A) Bharti AXA General Insurance      B) PhonePe Insurance Broking Services  
C) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance      D) Universal Sompo General Insurance

**Answer : B**

- ✓ PhonePe Insurance Broking Services has launched health insurance plans that will for the first time in India offer monthly subscriptions.
- ✓ The health insurance plans, in partnership with leading insurers, are introducing UPI monthly mode of payment.
- ✓ The health insurance plans, which come with coverage up to one crore rupees, allow users to choose any hospital room without any cap.
- ✓ Health insurance in India is relatively very under-penetrated for various reasons ranging from lack of awareness to affordability issues.
- ✓ Big corporates including Star Health and leading banks such as HDFC Bank, and ICICI all offer health insurance packages, while the central and some state governments too have health insurance scheme for citizens of the world's most populous country.
- ✓ The only platform in the country where customers can pay for Insurance in easy installments through UPI on the PhonePe app.
- ✓ PhonePe has sold more than 5.6 million policies to date. PhonePe Insurance platform has also sold policies across 98% of India's PIN codes and has served more than 200 Mn vehicle insurance quotes

**Q. Which Country has signed letter of intent with HAL to buy helicopters?**

- A) Brazil      B) Spain  
C) Venezuela      D) Argentina

**Answer : D**





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- ✓ Argentina's Ministry of Defence and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) inked a Letter of Intent (LoI) pledging their commitment to a productive partnership and the purchase of Light and Medium Utility Helicopters for Argentina's armed services.
- ✓ According to a release from the Bengaluru-based PSU, the LoI was signed by the Argentinean Defence Minister "Jorge Taiana" and HAL Chairman and Managing Director "C B Ananthkrishnan" in Bengaluru.
- ✓ "The LoI was signed by Jorge Taiana, Argentinian defence minister and HAL CMD CB Ananthkrishnan in the presence of Francisco Cafiero, secretary of international affairs, Ambassador Hugo Javier Gobbi, Ambassador Dinesh Bhatia and other senior officers from the Argentinian side and HAL," the PSU said in a statement.
- ✓ According to media reports, Taiana, who arrived in New Delhi on July 17 for a four-day visit, planned to sign a Rs 8,675 crore contract with India for the fourth-generation fighter aircraft Tejas Mark-1A and LCH (Light Combat Helicopter) Prachanda.
- ✓ **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.

**Q. Who has launched a "Credit Guarantee Scheme" specifically designed for the Livestock Sector?**

- A) DAE
- B) MAFW
- C) MFPI
- D) DAHD

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing the "Credit Guarantee Scheme" under Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) to strengthen credit delivery system and facilitate smooth flow of credit to the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSMEs) engaged in Livestock sector without hassles of collateral security



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- ✓ For operationalizing the scheme, DAHD has established a Credit Guarantee fund Trust of Rs. 750.00 crores, which will provide credit guarantee coverage up to 25% of the credit facilities extended to the MSMEs by the eligible lending institutions.
- ✓ The credit guarantee scheme facilitates access to finance for un-served and under-served livestock sector, making availability of financial assistance from lenders to mainly first-generation entrepreneurs and under privileged section of society, who lack collateral security for supporting their ventures.
- ✓ **Objective :**
- ✓ The main objective of the Credit Guarantee Scheme is that the lender should give importance to project viability and secure the credit facility purely on the basis primary security of the assets financed.
- ✓ The establishment of credit guarantee fund trust was approved under the Prime Minister's AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan stimulus package of Rs.15000 crores“ Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund” (AHIDF) for incentivizing investments by individual entrepreneurs, private companies, MSMEs, Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs) and Section 8 companies to establish :
  - (i) the dairy processing and value addition infrastructure
  - (ii) meat processing and value addition infrastructure
  - (iii) Animal Feed Plant
  - (iv) Breed Improvement technology and Breed Multiplication Farm
  - (v) Animal Waste to Wealth Management (Agri Waste Management)
  - (vi) Setting up of Veterinary Vaccine and Drugs Manufacturing facilities.
- ✓ **Main Key features of the AHIDF scheme :**
- ✓ **Is the establishment of a Credit Guarantee Fund Trust of Rs. 750.00 Crores.**
- ✓ DAHD has formed a trust with NABSanrakshan Trustee Company Private Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of NABARD for the establishment of a Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for extending the credit guarantee to Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises under AHIDF scheme
- ✓ This fund trust established in March 2021 is the Nation's first ever fund trust under Credit guarantee scheme of AHIDF in the agriculture and Animal Husbandry sector and is a path-breaking initiative taken by DAHD which would exponentially increase the number of MSME units getting benefits of AHIDF scheme and strengthen the ecosystem for the collateral-free credit from the banks.
- ✓ Interest Subvention of 3%



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- ✓ Loan up to 90% of the total project cost from any Scheduled Bank, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)

**Q. Who would inaugurate the 'Festival of Libraries 2023', to be held on 5th - 6th August 2023 in New Delhi?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu will inaugurate the unique 'Festival of Libraries 2023', a two-day event to be held on 5th - 6th August 2023 at Hall No. 5 Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- ✓ The Festival is being organised by the Union Ministry of Culture. The Minister for Law and Justice(Independent Charge) and Minister of State for Culture, and Parliamentary Affairs Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, unveiled the schedule of, "Festival of Libraries" in New Delhi on 19th July 2023.
- ✓ Aims : To facilitate the formulation of action-oriented policies for the development of Model Libraries in India, right down to the village and community levels.

**Q. When is the World Brain Day observed globally?**

- A) July 22                                  B) July 21  
C) July 20                                  D) July 19

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The World Brain Day is celebrated on July 22 every year to raise awareness and promote advocacy related to brain health.
- ✓ The day is organised by the World Federation of Neurology (WFN).
- ✓ It was observed for the first time in 2014 and 2021 is the eighth World Brain Day.
- ✓ The theme of 2023 World Brain Day is "brain health and disability"

**Q. Who has become the first woman to be top Navy officer in US history?**

- A) Janet Yellen                              B) Lloyd Austin  
C) Lisa Franchetti                              D) Merrick Garland

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Lisa Franchetti becomes 1st woman to be top Navy officer in US history





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- ✓ President Joe Biden has chosen Admiral Lisa Franchetti to be the Navy's top officer, making her the first woman to hold this position in the US Navy's history and the first woman in the joint chiefs of Staff.
- ✓ Admiral Franchetti, currently serving as the vice chief of naval operations, has an impressive career history.
- ✓ She was commissioned in 1985 and has held various significant roles, including commander of US Naval Forces Korea, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Development, and director for Strategy, Plans, and Policy of the Joint Staff.

### FIRST'S FEMALE IN NEWS 2023

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



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

**Q. Which state's assembly passed a bill to provide minimum guaranteed income to all adult citizens as part of a welfare package for the state?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Rajasthan Assembly passed a bill to provide minimum guaranteed income to all adult citizens as part of a welfare package for the state.
- ✓ As per the Bill, some beneficiaries will receive guaranteed employment at minimum wage for at least 125 days per financial year.
- ✓ Other beneficiaries such as senior citizens, specially-abled persons, widows and single women shall be entitled to a pension under the Bill.
- ✓ The pension payable shall be increased at the rate of 15 percent per annum from FY 2024-25.



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- ✓ All families of the state, whether urban or rural, will be able to get an employment guarantee of 125 days every year and also get a minimum pension of Rs 1,000 per month in case of aged/disabled/single women, etc.

### RAJASTHAN IN NEWS 2023

- Rajasthan Assembly passed a bill to provide minimum guaranteed income to all adult citizens as part of a welfare package for the state.
- Rajasthan government is set to take stringent measures against recruitment exam paper leaks by introducing a bill in the upcoming assembly session.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 11 National Highway projects worth Rs 5600 crore in Pratapgarh, Rajasthan.
- Rajasthan government has sanctioned Rs 13.48 crore to promote religious tourism at Nagaur, Jaisalmer, and Alwar regions of the state.
- PM Modi Launches Projects Worth Rs 5,500 Crore In Rajasthan, Including 114 Km Long Six-Lane Udaipur-Shamlaji Section Of NH-48.
- Lithium reserves have been discovered in Rajasthan's Degana following the recent discovery in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Jal Jan Abhiyan virtually on Abu Road in the Sirohi district of Rajasthan.
- Indian Air Force's MiG-21 crashes near Hanumangarh in Rajasthan.
- Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Ashok Gehlot has announced the launch of 19 new districts and 3 new divisions in Rajasthan.
- Presently there are 33 districts in the state.
- With the creation of these 19 new districts, the total number of districts in Rajasthan will increase to 52.

**Q. Which country has recently initiated a project to drill a 10,000-metre (32,808 feet) hole into the ground to seek ultra-deep reserves of natural gas?**

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





# APARCHIT EXAM WARRIORS

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#### Answer : C

- ✓ China begins drilling 10000-metre-deep hole into Earth's crust
- ✓ Chinese scientists have initiated a project to drill a 10,000-metre (32,808 feet) hole into the Earth's crust, signaling China's interest in exploring new frontiers both above and below the planet's surface.
- ✓ The endeavor involves creating the country's deepest borehole, with drilling commencing in Xinjiang, a region known for its oil reserves.
- ✓ The borehole will penetrate more than 10 continental strata and reach the cretaceous system in the Earth's crust.
- ✓ This is located in the oil-rich Xinjiang region. Deep Earth exploration can help identify mineral and energy resources
- ✓ The initiative is led by China National Petroleum Corp., with the primary objectives being to gather data on the Earth's internal structure and test deep underground drilling technologies. The project is estimated to last for 457 days

**Q. Which IIT has signed an MoU with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to build capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy?**

A) IIT Madras

B) IIT Kanpur

C) IIT Guwahati

D) IIT Bombay

#### Answer : C

- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati has signed MoU with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to build capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy.
- ✓ The collaboration aims to expand awareness and knowledge of international affairs and Indian foreign policy.
- ✓ Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar announced this collaboration during his address at the 25th Convocation of IIT Guwahati.
- ✓ The agreement will be valid for a period of 3 years.

#### IIT IN NEWS 2023

- IIT Guwahati has signed MoU with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) to build capacity/skills in international affairs and foreign policy.



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- 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.
- 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.



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

**Q. India has gifted its in-service missile corvette "INS Kirpan" to which country to robust the strategic partnership between the two nations, especially in the maritime domain?**

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>A) Maldives</b>  | <b>B) Vietnam</b>  |
| <b>C) Indonesia</b> | <b>D) Malaysia</b> |

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India has gifted its in-service missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam to robust the strategic partnership between the two nations, especially in the maritime domain.
- ✓ Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar presided over the ceremony at Cam Ranh where the frontline warship was handed over to Vietnam People's Navy.
- ✓ It is for the first time that India gifted a fully operational corvette to any friendly foreign country.
- ✓ INS Kirpan, since its commissioning in 1991, has been an integral part of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet and has participated in many operations over the last 32 years.
- ✓ Manned by about 12 officers and 100 sailors, the ship is 90 metres long and 10.45 metres in width with maximum displacement of 1,450 tons.
- ✓ The transfer of INS Kirpan from the Indian Navy to Vietnam People's Navy symbolizes the status of Indian Navy of being the 'preferred security partner in the Indian Ocean Region.

**Q. Who is the author of the book titled "As the wheel turns"?**

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>A) Amrita Mahale</b> | <b>B) Ranjit Pratap</b>   |
| <b>C) Judy Balan</b>    | <b>D) Kanishk Tharoor</b> |







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

**Q. Which country has recently applied to join the BRICS Bank with an amount of \$1.5 billion?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Algeria has applied to join the BRICS group and submitted a request to become a shareholder member of the BRICS Bank with an amount of \$1.5 billion.
- ✓ Algeria had sought to join the BRICS to open new economic opportunities.



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- ✓ The North African country is rich in oil and gas resources and seeking to diversify its economy and strengthen its partnership with countries such as China.
- ✓ More than 40 countries have expressed interested in joining the BRICS group of nations.
- ✓ Argentina, Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Comoros, Gabon, and Kazakhstan are among countries that expressed interest.
- ✓ China will also invest \$36 billion in Algeria across sectors including manufacturing, new technology, the knowledge economy, transport, and agriculture.
- ✓ The BRICS group of nations comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. It accounts for more than 40% of the world's population and about 26% of the global economy.
- ✓ About BRICS
- ✓ The full form of BRICS is Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
- ✓ Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill coined the term BRIC (without South Africa) in 2001.
- ✓ He claimed that by 2050, the four BRIC economies would dominate the global economy by 2050.
- ✓ South Africa was included in the list in 2010.
- ✓ The presidency of the Forum is rotated annually among the members.
- ✓ BRICS accounts for about 40% of the world's population.
- ✓ It accounts for 30% of the world's GDP (Gross Domestic Product).
- ✓ In the year 2014, during the 6th BRICS Summit in Fortaleza, Brazil, the BRICS leaders signed an agreement to establish a New Development Bank (NDB).

**Q. Who has been appointed as chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF)?**

**A) S. Vincent Rajkumar**

**B) Kaushik Basu**

**C) Arvind Subramanian**

**D) Jayati Ghosh**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Renowned scientist, clinician and researcher, S. Vincent Rajkumar has been appointed as chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF).
- ✓ Dr. Rajkumar takes over from the current chairman Brian G.M. Durie.
- ✓ Dr. Durie, the co-founder and chairman of the Board of Directors for 33 years, has said that he will not seek re-election as chairman when his current term ends in the spring 2024.





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- ✓ He will, however, remain a member of the Board, hold the position of Chairman Emeritus and continue to perform his current activities.
- ✓ Dr. Rajkumar's accolades include the Jan Waldenstrom Lifetime Achievement Award (2021), the Mayo Clinic Distinguished Investigator Award (2018) and the Robert A. Kyle Lifetime Achievement Award (2016).
- ✓ Multiple myeloma is a cancer of the bone marrow plasma cells that make antibodies

**Q. Who has become the second pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket?**

- A) Ravichandran Ashwin                      B) Stuart Broad  
C) Bhuvneshwar Kumar                      D) Jasprit Bumrah

**Answer : B**

- ✓ England cricketer, Stuart Broad has become the second pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket.
- ✓ He reached the mark by removing Australia's Travis Head on day one of the fourth Ashes Test at Old Trafford.
- ✓ England team-mate James Anderson is the only other quick bowler to achieve the feat.
- ✓ Broad is fifth on the all-time list and Anderson third, with spinners Muttiah Muralitharan, Shane Warne and Anil Kumble completing the top five.
- ✓ Broad made his debut against Sri Lanka in Colombo in 2007, going on to make 166 Test appearances till date and be part of four Ashes-winning sides.
- ✓ MOST TEST WICKETS
- ✓ Muttiah Muralitharan – 800 in 133 Tests
- ✓ Shane Warne – 708 in 145 Tests
- ✓ James Anderson – 688 in 182 Tests\*
- ✓ Anil Kumble – 619 in 132 Tests
- ✓ Stuart Broad – 600\* in 166 Tests

**Q. Who has been appointed as the coach of the Indian national women's volleyball team for the 19th Asian Women's Championship?**

- A) Samhita Arni                                      B) Ravindra Banshtu  
C) Ira Trivedi    D) Nidhi Dugar Kundalia

**Answer : B**



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- ✓ Ravindra Banshtu has been appointed as the coach of the Indian national women's volleyball team for the 19th Asian Women's Championship.
- ✓ The championship will be held in Hangzhou, China from September 22 to October 8.
- ✓ Banshtu is currently serving as a coach in the sports department of Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ Dr. Bastu himself played 16 nationals in volleyball and played three times with the Indian team.
- ✓ She was selected as a coach in the Education Department in 2005

**Q. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has recently inaugurated a new Goods and Service Tax (GST) Bhavan in which state?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has inaugurated the state's lone Goods and Service Tax (GST) Bhavan at Agartala, Tripura.
- ✓ The GST Bhawan is a project of the CGST, CX and Customs Office, Agartala, Guwahati Zone, under the Central Board for Indirect Taxes (CBIC) in Agartala. It is located near Netaji Chowmuhanani on Mantri Bari Road in Agartala.
- ✓ The project sits at Mantri Bari Road, Agartala, and has quick and easy access to all taxpayers.
- ✓ The inauguration of the project in Amrit Kaal during the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav showcases the strength of New India.
- ✓ Built at Rs 28 crore, the GST Bhawan has eight floors, including the ground floor, and is equipped with facilities and space for support and training in GST-related issues.
- ✓ Before GST was introduced, Tripura, annually received only Rs 4.21 crore as central sales tax collection.
- ✓ However, since then, the state has come a long way in growth of businesses and subsequent revenue generation and in 2022-23, Tripura collected Rs 982.5 crore as interstate GST, within a matter of five-six years.

**Q. According to the report of which organization, about 1.5 million people die in road accidents every year in India, which contributes to 11 percent of the total number of such deaths globally?**

- A) NHAI  
B) WHO  
C) FICCI-EY  
D) NITI Aayog









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



👏👏 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



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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



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



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



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

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



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



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



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



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NAME - MANU VARGHESE  
ROLL NO - 2110710970  
BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN  
BANK CLERK