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

Q. NITI Aayog convened a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy in which city?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ NITI Aayog convened a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy in New Delhi.
- ✓ The aim of this conference is to examine prospects and challenges for green and sustainable growth globally.
- ✓ The first day of the workshop will focus on themes related to energy, climate, technology, policy, and reshaping global finance for sustainable growth.
- ✓ The second day will discuss several themes related to multilateralism as well as adjustment, resilience, and inclusion in an uncertain world.

NITI AAYOG IN NEWS 2023

- NITI Aayog convened a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy in New Delhi.
- The NITI Aayog has published the second edition of the Multidimensional Poverty Index titled 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A progress of Review 2023'.
- About 135.5 million (13.5 crore) persons have exited poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21.
- Nearly 3.43 crore people escaped poverty in Uttar Pradesh, registering the largest decline among the 36 States and Union Territories.
- NITI Aayog released the Techno-Commercial Readiness and Market Maturity Matrix (TCRM Matrix) framework for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in India .
- NITI Aayog has recently released the Export Preparedness Index 2022.
- This time Tamil Nadu has achieved the top rank by leaving behind Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) launched the Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem (EVOLVE) mission.



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

Q. India's tiger population estimated to 3,925 with annual growth rate of __ per annum.

A) 5.4%

B) 6.1%

C) 7.5%

D) 9.2%

Answer : B

- ✓ India's tiger population is estimated to be 3,925 with an annual growth rate of 6.1% per annum. This was revealed in a report released by Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ashwini Kumar on the occasion of Global Tiger Day 29th July 2023.



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- ✓ Last year (2022) during the celebration of 50 years of the Project Tiger at Mysuru, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had declared the minimum tiger population of 3 thousand 167, which is the population estimated from the camera-trapped area
- ✓ Akashvani correspondent reports that India currently harbors almost 75 percent of the world's wild tiger population.
- ✓ The largest population of tigers is found to be in Madhya Pradesh with 785 in numbers followed by 563 in Karnataka, 560 in Uttarakhand, and 444 tigers in Maharashtra.
- ✓ As per the report, the tiger abundance within the Tiger Reserves is the highest of 260 tigers in Corbett followed by 150 in Bandipur and 141 tigers in Nagarhole.
- ✓ The reports highlight that 35 percent of the tiger reserves urgently require enhanced protection measures, habitat restoration and subsequent tiger reintroduction.

Q. Ministry of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship jointly signed How Many MoUs in New Delhi?

- A) 106
- B) 100
- C) 96
- D) 90

Answer : A

- ✓ The Ministry of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship signed 106 MoUs with various esteemed organizations and institutions in New Delhi.
- ✓ The event took place on the occasion of the Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam 2023 and the 3rd anniversary of the National Education Policy. Speaking on the occasion, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said that the MoUs aim to foster innovation, research, and knowledge exchange in multiple domains, promoting collaboration in education and industry-academia linkages. These partnerships involve both public and private entities and cover school education, literacy, and higher education.
- ✓ Under the CBSE, 15 MoUs were signed with organizations like Atal Innovation Mission, IBM, Intel, and Microsoft, among others, to focus on skill development and education.
- ✓ The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) signed 3 MoUs, including one with Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) to promote Indian Sign Language.



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Q. Which Indian won the gold medal in the 10m air rifle event at the World University Games?

- A) Divyansh Singh Panwar B) Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar
C) Arjun Babuta D) Saurabh Chowdhary

Answer : B

- ✓ Indian shooter Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar wins gold at FISU World University Games in Chengdu, China.
- ✓ Shooter Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar won the gold medal for India at the FISU World University Games in Chengdu, China.
- ✓ Competing in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions, Tomar shot a total of 461.7 in the final to secure the top podium position.
- ✓ With Tomar's win, India now has gold, silver and bronze medals in shooting at the Games.
- ✓ The Indian men's 25m pistol rapid fire team, consisting of Vijayveer Sidhu, Udayveer Sidhu and Adarsh Singh, won the silver medal.
- ✓ The mixed compound archery team of Aman Saini and Pragati also won gold in the competition.
- ✓ India has won a total of 17 medals including nine gold, three silver and five bronze at the Games, placing it second in the medals tally.
- ✓ **FISU World University Games:**
- ✓ The Universiade, formerly known as the Universiade, is an international multi-sport event organised by the International University Sports Federation (FISU) for university athletes.

Q. National Cooperative Consumer Federation of India has tied up with which e-commerce startup?

- A) Blinkit B) Magicpin
C) Flipkart D) Amazon

Answer : B

- ✓ Hyperlocal e-commerce startup Magicpin has recently entered into an agreement with the National Cooperative Consumer Federation of India (NCCF).
- ✓ Under this, tomatoes have been started selling at Rs 70 per kg through selected online platforms registered on government-backed ONDC.
- ✓ NCCF was established on 16 October 1965.



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- ✓ NCCF functions under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India

Q. How many medals did India win in the Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships?

A) 11

B) 12

C) 13

D) 14

Answer : D

- ✓ India won 14 medals including 9 gold in Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships.
- ✓ India registered a remarkable success at the Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships, bagging a total of 14 medals including nine gold, four silver and one bronze.
- ✓ On the final day of the event at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo, Indian athletes added six medals to their tally
- ✓ **Gold Medalist:**
 - ✓ 4x400m Mixed Team Relay - Amoj Jacob, Aishwarya Mishra, Muhammad Anas, Himanshi Malik
 - ✓ 4x400m Women's Relay - Sonia Vaish, Aishwarya Mishra, Subha V, Himanshi Malik
 - ✓ 4x400m Men's Relay - Amoj Jacob, Muhammad Anas, Rajesh Ramesh, Muhammad Ajmal
 - ✓ Women's 3000m Steeplechase - Preeti
 - ✓ Men's 3000m Steeplechase - Bal Kishan
 - ✓ Women's 400m - Sonia Vaish
 - ✓ Men's Javelin Throw - Kishore Kumar Jena
 - ✓ Women's 10,000 Metres - Boundary
 - ✓ Men's 400m Hurdles - T Santosh Kumar
- ✓ **Silver Medalist:**
 - ✓ Men's pole vault - Shiva Subramani
 - ✓ Men's javelin throw - Shivpal Singh
 - ✓ Women's 400m - Jisna Mathew
 - ✓ 4x400m Mixed Team Relay - Nihal Joel William, Subha Venkatesan, Mizo Chacko Kurien, Vithya Ramraj
- ✓ **Bronze Medalist:**
 - ✓ 4x400m Women's Relay - Vithya Ramaraj, Jisna Mathew, WS Himaya Fernando (Sri Lanka), K. Shanika Lakshani (Sri Lanka)



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- ✓ India's gold medalist javelin thrower Kishore Kumar Jena received the coveted Best Male Thrower trophy.

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Semicon India 2023 conclave in which state?

A) Rajasthan

B) Gujarat

C) Kerala

D) Madhya Pradesh

Answer : B

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Semicon India 2023 conclave at Mahatma Mandir in Gujarat.
- ✓ The three-day conclave is being organized by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to showcase India's semiconductor strategy and development in the field of Semiconductors.
- ✓ The theme of the Conference is 'Catalysing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem'.
- ✓ The government has identified more than 300 educational institutes that will provide academic courses dedicated to the semiconductor sector to create skilled engineers.

GUJARAT IN NEWS 2023

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Semicon India 2023 conclave at Mahatma Mandir in Gujarat.
- DPIIT and Government of Gujarat jointly launch 'One District One Product' wall.
- 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.



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

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched "Urea Gold"—a new variety of urea that is coated with sulphur in which state?

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Rajasthan

D) Haryana

Answer : C

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched "Urea Gold"—a new variety of urea that is coated with sulphur in Rajasthan's Sikar.
- ✓ A bag of urea, which is sold in India at Rs 266, is being sold at Rs 800 in Pakistan, Rs 720 in Bangladesh, Rs 2,100 in China, and Rs 3,000 in the US."
- ✓ What is Urea Gold?
- ✓ It is a new variety of urea that is coated with sulphur, which is expected to address sulphur deficiencies in the soil.



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- ✓ The application of sulphur-coated urea, known as Urea Gold, will address sulphur deficiencies in the soil.
- ✓ This “innovative fertiliser” is more economical and efficient than neem-coated urea, “ensuring improved nitrogen use efficiency, reduced consumption, and enhanced crop quality.
- ✓ Urea coated with sulphur helps in slow release of nitrogen, therefore increasing its availability and uptake.
- ✓ Urea Gold has added humic acid to enhance longevity of the fertiliser. It will substitute urea consumption and also reduce fertiliser use.
- ✓ It is said that 15 kg of Urea Gold is comparable to 20 kg of conventional urea.

RAJASTHAN IN NEWS 2023

- Prime Minister Modi launched a new type of urea called "Urea Gold" during his visit to Rajasthan.
- Noor Shekhawat became the first transgender person in Rajasthan to be issued a birth certificate with the gender recorded as transgender.
- For the first time in India, the Rajasthan government introduced the Rajasthan Platform Based Gig Workers Bill, 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.



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- 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. India has signed five MoUs with which country for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in education, health, water facility, and IT?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ India has signed five MoUs with Laos for Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in education, health, water facility, and IT.
- ✓ The MoUs were signed during the 3rd round of Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) held between India and Lao PDR in Vientiane.
- ✓ Both sides discussed ways to bolster cooperation in various domains, including agriculture, health, and trade ties.
- ✓ The next round of Foreign Office Consultations will be held in New Delhi.

Q. Union Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the “ULLAS” mobile application on the 3rd anniversary of NEP. What is the meaning of second “L” in “ULLAS”?

- A) Learning B) Lesson
C) Lifelong D) Library

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched the ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society) initiative’s logo, slogan, and mobile application on the 3rd anniversary of NEP.
- ✓ The app serves as a digital gateway for learners to engage in diverse learning resources through the DIKSHA portal of NCERT.
- ✓ The ULLAS initiative focuses on promoting functional literacy, vocational skills, & digital literacy.



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- ✓ The newly-unveiled logo and slogan, “ULLAS: Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram”, symbolize the campaign’s enthusiasm and vigor in spreading knowledge and education to every corner of the country.
- ✓ The initiative aims to ignite the flame of curiosity and continuous learning in each individual, fostering a culture of knowledge-sharing in communities across India

Q. Amazon India will open its first-ever floating store in which lake under the last point delivery programme ‘I Have Space’?

- A) Chilika Lake B) Lonar Lake
C) Wular Lake D) Dal Lake

Answer : D

- ✓ Amazon India to open first floating store in Dal Lake
- ✓ As a part of the last point delivery programme ‘I Have Space’, Amazon India has announced to open its first-ever floating store in famous Dal Lake in Srinagar.
- ✓ The store should be open in a houseboat and will provide deliveries to its customers every day in Srinagar.
- ✓ Murtaza Khan Kashi, owner of houseboat Selec Town, will deliver packages every day to customers at the doorstep of their houseboats as part of the onboarding
- ✓ This will provide faster and more reliable deliveries to customers across Srinagar, opportunities for small businesses and strengthen Amazon’s delivery network.
- ✓ Launched in 2015, the ‘I Have Space’ programme has 28,000 neighbourhood and kirana partners in about 420 towns and cities in India.
- ✓ It partners with local stores and small businesses for delivering products within a 2-4 kilometres radius.
- ✓ The largest freshwater lake in India is Wular Lake (also coined as Wullar). It is also one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia. Wular Lake is located in Bandipora district of Jammu and Kashmir, India. Tectonic activity has formed the lake basin and it is fed by the Jhelum River

Q. Which payment company has launched an account for Indian exporters, the MoneySaver Export Account (MSEA)?

- A) GooglePay B) Paytm
C) BHIM D) Razorpay

Answer : D



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- ✓ Payment and banking company Razorpay has launched an account for Indian exporters, the MoneySaver Export Account (MSEA).
- ✓ With this product, Indian exporters will be now open a smart account in any country of their choice and receive payments locally via bank transfers on the Razorpay platform.
- ✓ The initiative allows exporters to receive international bank transfers from 160 countries.
- ✓ This will be India's first smart account to offer 50% savings on international bank transfers for exporters and help save them from high transfer costs, chargebacks and payment failures.
- ✓ The account can be opened and accessed via the Razorpay dashboard without any additional paperwork. The account comes with a single-click electronic Foreign Inward Remittance Statement (FIRS), accessible directly from the Razorpay dashboard.

Q. Syazrul Ezat Idrus has become the first cricketer to claim an elusive seven-wicket haul in the Men's T20 game against China. He belongs to which country?

- A) Indonesia
- B) Malaysia
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Australia

Answer : B

- ✓ Malaysia seamer Syazrul Ezat Idrus scripted history in ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 Asia Regional Qualifier B tournament, becoming the first player to record a seven-wicket against China in a Men's T20I game.
- ✓ The 32-year-old returned jaw-dropping figures of 7/8 in his four overs, a feat made even more remarkable by the fact that all seven of his victims were bowled.
- ✓ Riding on his stellar showing with the ball, his team posted a comfortable 8-wicket victory at Bayuemas Oval
- ✓ Nigerian Peter Aho held the previous record after returning figures of 6/5 against Sierra Leone in 2021.
- ✓ India's Deepak Chahar claimed 6/7 against Bangladesh in 2019 in what remains the best figures in a men's T20 contest between cricket's Test-playing nations. Overall, 12 bowlers have claimed six-wicket hauls in men's T20I.



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Q. Who has been designated as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Engineering Projects (India) Ltd?

- A) Gopal Vittal
B) Sangeeta Agrawal
C) Akshaya Moondra
D) Shivendra Nath

Answer : D

- ✓ Shivendra Nath has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., a public sector undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
- ✓ Currently, Nath is serving as the senior general manager in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and has been recommended for the CMD position by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) panel

Q. Who has been appointed as new National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Director?

- A) G. Kannabiran
B) V. Ramgopal Rao
C) Subhasis Chaudhuri
D) Rangan Banerjee

Answer : A

- ✓ Former director-in-charge of the National Institute of Technology - Tiruchi "G. Kannabiran" has been appointed as the new director of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).

Q. Who has inaugurated the AMC Repo Clearing Limited (ARCL) and Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF)?

- A) Droupadi Murmu
B) Arvind Kejriwal
C) Rajnath Singh
D) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer : D

- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will launch the Rs. 33,000-crore backstop fund for mutual funds (MFs).
- ✓ The backstop facility, termed the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF), was cleared by the capital markets regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), in March.
- ✓ The fund corpus will be created by pooling money from debt schemes. The initiative aims to provide liquidity to debt schemes during periods of market stress.



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- ✓ According to a Sebi circular issued on Thursday, debt schemes — excluding passive, overnight, and gilt funds — will contribute 25 basis points (bps) of their assets under management towards the creation of the CDMDF.
- ✓ Conservative hybrid funds will also contribute to the fund. In addition, asset management companies (AMCs) will make a one-time contribution of 2 bps.
- ✓ The total collection will be around Rs. 3,300 crore. The fund can avail itself of credit for up to 10 times the initial corpus whenever needed.
- ✓ The circular also details the investment framework of the CDMDF and the pricing models.

Q. Which Indian-American has been appointed as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the US Finance Agency?

- A) Soumya Swaminathan B) Preeti Tandon
C) Nisha Biswal D) Geeta Gopinath

Answer : C

- ✓ Indian-American policy expert Nisha Biswal has been appointed as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the US Finance Agency.
- ✓ His appointment was recently confirmed by the US Senate.
- ✓ Biswal will serve as the Deputy CEO of the International Development Finance Corporation of the US.

Q. The World Lung Cancer Day is an annual celebration, which takes place on__

- A) Last Saturday of July B) First Sunday of August
C) 31 July D) 01 August

Answer : D

- ✓ Every year, World Lung Cancer Day is observed on August 1 to raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and highlight the issues of lack of sufficient research funding for the ailment.
- ✓ The campaign was first organized in 2012 by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies (FIRS) , in collaboration with the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC) and also the American College of Chest Physicians.
- ✓ The IASLC is the largest organization in the world of its kind that only deals with lung cancer.



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Q. The first week of August from 01 to 07, is dedicated to which of these observation every year?

- A) World Anti-Corruption Week B) World Allergy Week
C) World Breastfeeding Week D) World Tourism Week

Answer : C

- ✓ The World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) is marked every year in the first week of August, between 1 to 7 August, to raise awareness on the importance of breastfeeding for mothers and infants
- ✓ The theme of the World Breastfeeding Week 2023 is "Let's make breastfeeding and work, work!"
- ✓ The week is organized by WABA, WHO and UNICEF since 1991.

Q. When is the Muslim Women's Rights Day observed in India?

- A) August 02 B) August 01
C) July 31 D) July 30

Answer : B

- ✓ In India, "Muslim Women's Rights Day" is celebrated across the nation on August 01 to celebrate the enactment of the law against Triple Talaq.
- ✓ The first Muslim Women's Rights Day was observed in 2020.
- ✓ The Government of India enacted the law against Triple Talaq on August 01, 2019 to make the social malpractice of Triple Talaq a criminal offense.
- ✓ The law is formally called the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019.
- ✓ It prohibits the practice of instant divorce by Muslim men and any violation of the law is punishable by a jail term of up to three years

Q. What is the theme of the World Breastfeeding Week 2023?

- A) Protect Breastfeeding:A Shared Responsibility
B) Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet
C) Empower Parents, Enable Breastfeeding
D) Let's make breastfeeding and work, work!

Answer : D



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Q. According to a research report by Standard Chartered Bank, the per capita income of India is likely to grow around 70% by which year?

A) 2030

B) 2025

C) 2040

D) 2035

Answer : A

- ✓ According to a research report by Standard Chartered Bank, the per capita income of India is likely to grow around 70% by 2030 and is expected to reach \$4,000 from current levels of \$2,450.
- ✓ The boost in income will help the country to become a middle-income economy with a GDP of \$6 trillion and half of it will be coming from household consumption.
- ✓ Since 2001, the per capita GDP grew from \$460 to \$1,413 in 2011 to \$2,150 in 2021.
- ✓ The primary factor propelling significant economic growth will be external trade, which is anticipated to nearly double to \$2.1 trillion by 2030.
- ✓ This substantial increase would be a remarkable jump from the \$1.2 trillion recorded in fiscal 2023 when the GDP stood at \$3.5 trillion.
- ✓ The report assumes an annual nominal GDP growth of 10% going forward.
- ✓ Telangana currently takes the top spot in the per capita income rankings with ₹2,75,443 (equivalent to \$3,360).
- ✓ Following closely are Karnataka with ₹2,65,623, Tamil Nadu with ₹2,41,131, Kerala with ₹2,30,601, and Andhra Pradesh with ₹2,07,771.
- ✓ Standard Chartered plc is a British multinational bank with operations in consumer, corporate and institutional banking, and treasury services.
- ✓ Headquarters
- ✓ London, England, UK

TARGET YEAR IN NEWS 2023

- According to a research report by Standard Chartered Bank, the per capita income of India is likely to grow around 70% by 2030 and is expected to reach \$4,000 from current levels of \$2,450.
- The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by FY 2030.



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

Q. Maharashtra government has decided to give the first 'Udyog Ratna' award to which personality?

A) Gautam Adani

B) Ratan Tata

C) Azim Premji

D) Mukesh Ambani

Answer : B

- ✓ Ratan Tata to get Maharashtra govt's first 'Udyog Ratna' award
- ✓ The Maharashtra government has decided to confer the first 'Udyog Ratna' award (Maharashtra Bhushan award) on veteran industrialist and chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata.



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- ✓ The award is the state's highest honor given to eminent individuals, has led the Maharashtra government to introduce Udyog Ratna Award from this year onward.
- ✓ The first recipient of this award will be the renowned industrialist, Ratan Tata.
- ✓ The award is a recognition of his outstanding achievements in the industrial sector.
- ✓ The 'Udyog Ratna' award is a state-level award given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the industrial sector of Maharashtra.
- ✓ Ratan Tata has been honoured with several prestigious awards for his contributions:
- ✓ He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2008 and the Padma Bhushan in 2000, both of which are India's highest civilian awards.
- ✓ In a recent remarkable achievement, Ratan Tata was conferred with the 'Order of Australia' award, Australia's highest civilian honour.

MAHARASHTRA IN NEWS 2023

- Maharashtra Industries Minister Uday Samant will present the first 'Udyog Ratna' award to veteran industrialist and Tata Sons Chairman Emeritus Ratan Tata.
- Maharashtra topped the list with the highest number of missing women in 2021, with a reported count of 56,498.
- Maharashtra's Economy will become a trillion dollar by 2028, said N Chandrashekar, president of the State Economy Development Council.
- Maharashtra Prisons Department has launched a "video call" facility for foreign nationals lodged in different jails across the state.
- NCP leader Ajit Pawar has been sworn in as the new Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- Maharashtra Government launched Namoo Shetkari Mahasnanman Yojana.
- Maharashtra becomes the first state in the country to approve Good Governance Regulations.
- Uttar Pradesh surpasses Maharashtra in sugar production this season.
- A new initiative called 'beggar-free city' started in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister, is scheduled to present the 'Maharashtra Bhushan' Award to Dattatreya Narayan Dharmadhikari, also known as Appasaheb Dharmadhikari, on April 16 for his notable work as a social worker and reformer.
- Maharashtra Government has introduced a 4% quota for employees with disabilities in promotions.



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- Bank of Maharashtra inaugurated its first dedicated Branch for Start-ups in Pune.
- Ramesh Bais Appointed as the New Governor of Maharashtra.
- Maharashtra became the first state in the country to pass the Lokayukta Bill.
- Recently a rare low altitude basalt plateau has been discovered in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra..
- Nilesh Sambre conferred with 'Maratha Udyog Ratna 2023' by Maharashtra State.
- Talon Grikspoor of the Netherlands won the singles title at the Maharashtra Open tennis tournament in Pune.

Q. James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea was elected as the new chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in Nairobi, Kenya. He is from which country?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea of the United Kingdom was elected as the new chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in Nairobi, Kenya.
- ✓ Skea beat his nearest rival, Thelma Krug of Brazil, in a run-off. He won 90 votes while Krug won 69.
- ✓ The election took place at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, where the IPCC is holding its 59th Session.
- ✓ With nearly 40 years of experience and expertise in climate science, James Ferguson 'Jim' Skea will lead the IPCC through its seventh assessment cycle
- ✓ IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change):
- ✓ It was established in 1988 through a collaboration between the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).
- ✓ Its main headquarters is located in Geneva

Q. India has signed a US\$ 200 million loan with ADB to enhance urban services in which state?

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

Answer : B



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- ✓ Govt of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a \$200 million loan as additional financing in Rajasthan.
- ✓ The project will incorporate various innovative and climate-resilient solutions for expanding basic urban services and incorporate nature-based solutions to rehabilitate heritage structures besides piloting public-private partnerships in the state's water and sanitation sector to deepen private sector engagement.
- ✓ A total of 1,451 km of water supply pipes, and 1,110 km of sewer pipes have been laid as part of the ongoing project, which was approved in September 2020, while 68,098 households have been connected to water services in selected secondary towns in the state.
- ✓ A new feature in ADB's support is the water facility development for urban resilience improvement and heritage-sensitive urban development in eight heritage.

ADB IN NEWS 2023

- ADB have signed a \$200 million loan as additional financing in Rajasthan.
- ADB approves \$295mn loan to improve Transport Connectivity in Bihar.
- ADB gives 130 million dollars to increase horticulture in Himachal Pradesh.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$141.12 million loan agreement for the development of an industrial corridor in Andhra Pradesh.
- Pakistan is the largest recipient of ADB loans in Asia, Pakistan received loans of USD 5.58 billion.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced its plans to invest in non-convertible debentures valued at Rs 150 crore in Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd (TPDDL).
- ADB approves \$130 million loan to promote horticulture in Himachal Pradesh.
- ADB to provide \$1.2 billion loan for infrastructure projects.
- ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)
- Founded : 19 December 1966
- HQ : Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- President : Masatsugu Asakawa (Japan)
- Vice President : Ashok Lavasa (Indian?)
- Director of ADB for India : Takeo Konishi
- Executive Director : Sameer Kumar
- Member Countries : 68 (Nuie).



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- ADB has grown to encompass 68 members; of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside.
- Japan is the largest contributor in the subscribed capital of the country.
- Asian Development Outlook, reports published by ADB.
- It is a regional multilateral financial institution focused on countries in the Asia and Pacific region.
- It currently has 68 members – of which 49 are from the Asia and Pacific region and 19 from outside.

Q. Which company has been appointed 'Puneet Chandok' to lead India operations, effective from September 1, 2023

- A) Tesla
B) Google
C) Microsoft
D) Amazon

Answer : C

- ✓ Microsoft has appointed Puneet Chandok as the new Corporate Vice President of Microsoft India and South Asia, effective from September 1, 2023.
- ✓ He will take over operational responsibilities from Anant Maheshwari and will lead the integration of Microsoft's businesses across South Asia, including countries like Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.
- ✓ Aim : Puneet aims to strengthen Microsoft's presence in the region and focus on key industries through a customer-centric approach, with generative AI as a core technology.

MICROSOFT IN NEWS 2023

- Microsoft has appointed Puneet Chandok as the new Corporate Vice President of Microsoft India and South Asia, effective from September 1, 2023.
- Microsoft has launched a new 'voice chat' feature to its AI-powered Bing Chat on the desktop.
- Microsoft and AirJaldi Partner to Expand Internet Connectivity in Rural India.
- Microsoft India has announced two new initiatives aimed at supporting small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) in their digital transformation journey.
- Microsoft has launched Jugalbandi, a generative AI-driven multilingual chatbot accessible via popular messaging platform, WhatsApp.



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- European Union regulators gave the green light for Microsoft's \$69 billion acquisition of Activision Blizzard, one of the world's largest gaming firms.
- MakeMyTrip collaborates with Microsoft to introduce voice assisted booking in Indian languages.
- Microsoft introduces 'Bing Image Creator' powered by OpenAI's DALL-E.
- Microsoft Invests \$10 Billion in ChatGPT Maker OpenAI.
- HDFC Bank collaborates with Microsoft as part of its digital transformation.
- Anant Maheshwari, the President of Microsoft India, has been appointed as the Chairperson of Nasscom for the period 2023-24, succeeding Krishnan Ramanujam.
- Microsoft inks licensing deal with cloud gaming provider Boosteroid.
- Google introduces AI chatbot 'Bard' to compete with Microsoft's ChatGPT.
- Elon Musk plans to launch "TruthGPT" AI platform to compete with Microsoft and Google.
- ISRO and Microsoft Signed MoU to Boost Indian Space Tech Ecosystem.
- Infosys Collaborates with Microsoft to Accelerate Industry Adoption of Cloud.
- Microsoft strikes a deal to make Xbox PC video games available on the Boosteroid cloud gaming platform.
- MICROSOFT
- Founded : 1975
- Founders : Bill Gates and Paul Allen
- Headquarters : Washington DC
- Chairman : Satya Nadella
- CEO : Satya Nadella
- President : Brad Smith

Q. Which Cabinet has approved Water Tourism and Adventure Sports Policy?

- A) Tamil Nadu
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Andhra Pradesh

Answer : B

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved a policy that aims at making the state a water tourism and adventure sports destination.



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- ✓ The Uttar Pradesh Water Tourism and Adventure Sports Policy, 2023, will be valid for 10 years

Q. Who has inaugurated the 20th annual conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, India Region?

- A) Draupadi Murmu B) Jagdeep Dhankar
C) Om Birla D) Rajnath Singh

Answer : C

- ✓ Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla has inaugurated the 20th annual conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, India Region.
- ✓ The conference will focus on discussing natural disasters and management strategies, particularly concerning the northeast region.
- ✓ He also highlighted the importance of regional cooperation and connectivity through the Act East policy, as it can lead to enhanced regional integration at economic, and social levels in the North East.

Q. Who has launched the book titled 'Dr APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die' in Rameshwaram?

- A) Narendra Modi
B) Nirmala Sitharaman
C) Piyush Goyal
D) Amit Shah

Answer : D

- ✓ Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has launched the book titled 'Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die' in Rameshwaram.
- ✓ This book is an English translation of the Tamil book 'Ninaivugalukku Maranamillai'. Written by two people closest to A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, his niece Dr. Nazema Maraikayar and the distinguished ISRO scientist Dr. Y.S. Rajan, who was a close confidante of Kalam.
- ✓ This is the story of how a small-town boy from Rameswaram ascended to the highest echelons of the Indian political world.
- ✓ The book is about the history of Indian rocketry, science, technology and innovation, beautiful representation of Indian politics and administrative system and description of many incidents related to wishes and imagination of Dr. Kalam



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Q. The Great Barrier Reef is located in which country?

- A) Brazil
B) Egypt
C) Peru
D) Australia

Answer : D

- ✓ A UNESCO heritage committee recently stopped short of listing Australia's Great Barrier Reef as a site that is "in danger" but warned the world's biggest coral reef ecosystem remained under "serious threat" from pollution and the warming of oceans.
- ✓ About Great Barrier Reef.
- ✓ Location: It lies in the Pacific Ocean off the northeastern coast of Queensland, Australia, in the Coral Sea.
- ✓ It is the longest and largest coral reef system in the world.
- ✓ It was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981.

Q. The Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) is located in which state?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ A male tiger was recently discovered dead in the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR), after getting ensnared in a trap intended for deer.
- ✓ About Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve.
- ✓ It is located at the junction of the Eastern and the Western Ghats in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, in the Erode District of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Its area is contiguous with the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka) and BR Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka).

Q. A new report has revealed that by which year Metaverse users will exceed 600 million due to generative artificial intelligence (AI)?

- A) 2030
B) 2025
C) 2026
D) 2027

Answer : C



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- ✓ A new report has shown that Metaverse users will surpass 600 million by 2026 due to generative artificial intelligence (AI).
- ✓ **About Metaverse:**
- ✓ It refers to a virtual or digital universe where people can interact with each other and digital objects in a shared online space.
- ✓ Origin of the term: The term “metaverse” first appeared in author Neal Stephenson’s 1992 science-fiction novel Snowcrash, which describes a future where millions of people use virtual avatars to participate in a cyberspace realm.

Q. Recently, the Prime Minister of India, in which edition of 'Mann ki Baat programme highlighted the business of 'bhojpatra calligraphy' by the women of Mana village near Badrinath?

- A) 102
- B) 101
- C) 104
- D) 103

Answer : D

- ✓ Recently, the Prime Minister of India, in 103rd edition of 'Mann ki Baat programme highlighted the business of 'bhojpatra calligraphy' by the women of Mana village near Badrinath.
- ✓ **About Bhojpatra Tree:**
- ✓ It is also known as Himalayan Birch and it is widely found in the Himalayas.
- ✓ It is a deciduous tree native to the Western Himalayas that grows at elevations of up to 4,500 metres
- ✓ It has a high freezing tolerance potential, allowing it to form a treeline in the Himalayan region.
- ✓ It is a long-lived species which can survive up to 400 years and the only angiosperm in the Himalaya which dominates an extensive area at sub - alpine altitudes.
- ✓ Distribution: It is widely distributed in the altitudinal range from 3100 - 3800 m in North-western Himalaya.
- ✓ **Mann Ki Baat' program**
- ✓ The program 'Mann Ki Baat' started on 3 October 2014 and is broadcast on the last Sunday of every month.
- ✓ It inspires millions of people to participate in India's development journey.
- ✓ The episodes aired between 2014 and 2019 were more general and motivational in nature, with the latter episodes discussing a lot of government policies and initiatives



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Q. Which of the following is the state bird of Himachal Pradesh?

- A) Sparrow
- B) Monal
- C) Peacock
- D) Western Tragopen

Answer : D

- ✓ There has been a gradual increase in the population of Western Tragopan at Himachal Pradesh's Sarahan pheasantry, the conservation breeding centre, bringing a glimmer of hope for its survival and growth.
- ✓ About Western Tragopan:
- ✓ It is also known as the western horned tragopan, is amongst the rarest of all living pheasants.
- ✓ Due to its beautiful plumage and large size, this bird is locally known as 'jujurana' or 'king of birds'.
- ✓ It is the state bird of Himachal Pradesh.

Q. ISRO launched seven satellites of which country with PSLV-C56 rocket?

- A) Israel
- B) Brazil
- C) Singapore
- D) Sri Lanka

Answer : C

- ✓ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched seven satellites of Singapore with PSLV-C56 (PSLV-C56) rocket from Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota.
- ✓ This is the 58th flight of PSLV and 17th flight of PSLV in Core Alone configuration.
- ✓ PSLV-C56 vehicle launched all seven satellites precisely into their intended orbits.
- ✓ DS-SAR, a radar imaging earth observation satellite is a primary satellite for the mission
- ✓ The 360-kg satellite, upon deployment at an altitude of 535 km into a Near-equatorial Orbit (NEO), would be used to support the satellite imagery requirements of various agencies within the Government of Singapore

Q. World Wide Web Day is observed every year on which day?

- A) 31 July
- B) 01 August
- C) 02 August
- D) 30 July

Answer : B

- ✓ 1 August – World Wide Web Day



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- ✓ World Wide Web Day is an annual observance that celebrates the birth of the World Wide Web and its impact on the world.
- ✓ The World Wide Web, commonly referred to as the Web, was developed by British computer scientist Sir Tim Berners-Lee while he was working at CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research) in 1989.
- ✓ He proposed the idea of a global hypertext system that would allow information to be shared and accessed over the Internet.
- ✓ In March 1989, Berners-Lee submitted a proposal for a “distributed information system” to facilitate sharing and updating information among researchers at CERN
- ✓ The first web server, “httpd,” and the first web browser, “WorldWideWeb” (later renamed Nexus), were created by Berners-Lee and his colleague Robert Cailliau in 1990.
- ✓ On August 6, 1991, the world’s first website went live. It was a simple page that explained the World Wide Web project and provided information about how to access and use it.
- ✓ This website was hosted on Berners-Lee’s NeXT computer, which also served as the world’s first web server

Q. Which city is the host of the 5th World Coffee Conference?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ India to host 5th World Coffee Summit in Bengaluru for the first time.
- ✓ India is all set to host the 5th World Coffee Conference (WCC) for the first time from 25-28 September 2023 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. During the event, tennis player Rohan Bopanna will serve as the brand ambassador.
- ✓ The theme of the World Coffee Summit 2023 is "Sustainability through circular economy and regenerative agriculture".
- ✓ The conference will bring together growers, farmers, roasters, exporters, policy makers and researchers from over 80 countries to discuss important topics related to the global coffee sector.
- ✓ **About International Coffee Organization (ICO)**



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- ✓ The International Coffee Organization (ICO), established in 1963 under the auspices of the United Nations following the ratification of the first International Coffee Agreement in 1962, is the organising body behind the World Coffee Conference.
- ✓ ICO is headquartered in the UK, and currently has 75 member countries and top-level experts working towards building a circular coffee economy, promoting regenerative agriculture, promoting sustainability through consumption and increasing access to finance. work in.
- ✓ The World Coffee Conference is a high-level event held every four to five years, previously held in the United Kingdom (2001), Brazil (2005), Guatemala (2010) and Ethiopia (2016).
- ✓ Its main goal is to facilitate discussion on important issues affecting the global coffee industry.
- ✓ Brazil is the world's largest coffee producer.
- ✓ India is the sixth largest producer of coffee in the world.
- ✓ Karnataka is the largest coffee-producing state in India.

BENGALURU IN NEWS 2023

- Bengaluru becomes the first Indian city to join the World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF).
- India is all set to host the 5th World Coffee Conference (WCC) for the first time from 25-28 September 2023 in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- Sberbank's branch in India has been granted permission by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to set up an IT unit in Bengaluru.
- India's first 3D-printed post office to come up in Bengaluru.
- The second Trade and Investment Working Group meeting under the G20 India Presidency began in Bengaluru.
- Foxconn to invest nearly 1 billion USD in Bengaluru.
- Nitin Gadkari unveiled first methanol run buses in Bengaluru.
- India Energy Week 2023 (IEW 2023), being organised during India's G20 Presidency, will be held in Bengaluru between February 6 and 8, 2023. .
- The Union Ministry of Defence has announced on 27 November 2022 that the biennial air show AeroIndia-2023 will be held at the Air Force Station Yelahanka in Bengaluru's from 13-17 February, 2023. This would be the 14th edition of Aero India.



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- The first G-20 Environment meeting under the G-20 India Presidency will be held at the Taj West End in Bengaluru.
- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar on 15 March inaugurated a 5-day cultural program "AgriUnifest" in Bengaluru..
- The first meeting of the G-20 Energy Transition Working Group under the chairmanship of India will be held in Bengaluru from 5 to 7 February

Q. Which Indian-origin author debut novel on Booker Prize longlist 2023?

- A) Jhumpa Lahiri
B) Chetna Maroo
C) Kiran Desai
D) Preeti Shenoy

Answer : B

- ✓ London-based Indian-origin author Chetna Maroo's debut novel 'Western Lane' is among 13 books to make the cut for the 2023 Booker Prize longlist revealed
- ✓ Kenya-born Maroo's novel, set within the context of the British Gujarati milieu, has been praised by the Booker judges for its use of the sport of squash as a metaphor for complex human emotions.
- ✓ The longlist comprises 13 books written by authors from various countries, including Ireland, Canada, the US, and the UK, explore universal and topical themes.
- ✓ The 2023 Booker Prize winner will be announced on November 26 at an award ceremony in London.
- ✓ The winner receives GBP 50,000 and a trophy named "Iris" in honour of the 1978 Booker Prize-winning Irish-British author Iris Murdoch

Q. Which city will host India's first International Athletic Union's Ageas Federation Life Insurance 50 km World Championship on November 2023?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ Hyderabad will host India's first International Athletic Union's Ageas Federation Life Insurance 50 km World championship on 5 November 2023.
- ✓ The competition will feature four categories - men and women in individual and team events - besides the Master's segment.



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- ✓ The event will also see three other runs - 21.1 half marathon, 10K and 5K Runs organized by NEB Sports.
- ✓ Top ultrarunners from the USA, Germany, Japan, Chinese Taipei, New Zealand, Australia, Great Britain, India, and other countries will participate.
- ✓ Bengaluru also successfully hosted the IAU 100km Asia Oceania Championship in July 2023.

HYDERABAD IN NEWS 2023

- Hyderabad will host India's first International Athletic Union's Ageas.
- Lloyds Banking Group, one of the UK's largest financial services organisations, said on 21st June 2023 that it is setting up a technology centre in Hyderabad.
- Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) under the Union Ministry of AYUSH organized a mega 'Yoga Festival' at NCC Parade Ground, Hyderabad.
- Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao recently unveiled a 125-feet tall bronze statue of BR Ambedkar in Hyderabad.
- Hyderabad to become India's first city with 100% sewerage facilities by May 2023.
- The G20 Second Digital Economy Working Group meeting began on April 17 in Hyderabad.
- 'Grand start-up Conclave' on Animal Husbandry and Dairy in Hyderabad.
- The two-day 'Food Conclave-2023' will be organized on April 28 and 29 in Hyderabad, Telangana.
- World Economic Forum (WEF) has chosen Hyderabad to set up its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution focused on healthcare and life sciences.
- The seasoned Jean Eric Vergne of DS Penske automobiles won an action-packed Formula E Prix in Hyderabad.
- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar officially inaugurated the Integrated Biological Control Laboratory located in Hyderabad.
- two-day inception meeting of the Startup-20, the new engagement group of G-20 initiated by India, has begun in Hyderabad.
- Hyderabad host Street Circuit Car Racing before the India's first Formula E grand Prix to be held in February 2023.



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Q. Which Ministry is implementing the scheme of "Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana"?

- A) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- B) Ministry of Rural Development
- C) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Answer : D

- ✓ The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the scheme of "Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana(RVY)" with the objective to provide the senior citizens, suffering from any of the age related disability/infirmity, with assisted living devices which can restore near normalcy in their bodily functions, overcoming the disability/infirmity manifested such as low vision, hearing impairment, loss of teeth and loco-motor disabilities.
- ✓ Funds are released to the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation(ALIMCO), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, as a sole implementing agency of the scheme.
- ✓ The scheme was launched on 01.04.2017 for providing physical aids and assisted-living devices to senior citizens belonging to the Below Poverty Line(BPL) category. The scheme has been revised in the year 2020-21.
- ✓ After the revision, the assisted-living devices are being provided to the senior citizens belonging to the BPL category and also to the senior citizens with monthly income not more than Rs.15000/-.
- ✓ All the districts of the country have been selected for implementation of the RVY. The scheme is implemented in two steps in the districts:
 1. Assessment Camp : In the assessment camp, the ALIMCO identifies the beneficiaries, suffering from the age related disability/infirmity, for required aids & appliances.
 2. Distribution Camp : The aids & appliances are provided to the identified beneficiaries post assessment camp.
- ✓ This information was given by Minister of State for Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment "Sushri Pratima Bhoumik" in a written reply in Lok Sabha 1st August 2023



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Q. How many loans have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) in Financial Year 2022-23?

- A) 3.78core B) 5.91 core
C) 7.12 core D) 6.23 core

Answer : D

- ✓ Over 6.23 core loans sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana
- ✓ Over 6 core 23 lakh loans have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) in Financial Year 2022-23.
- ✓ The Union Minister for State for Finance, Dr. Bhagwat Kisanrao Karad, shared this information in a written reply during a Lok Sabha session.
- ✓ The objective of PMMY is to provide access to institutional finance to new or existing micro units or enterprises up to 10 lakh rupees.
- ✓ The complaints with regard to the implementation of PMMY are redressed in consultation with the respective Banks
- ✓ The complaints received at the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System are also being taken up with respective Banks for redressal within the prescribed timeline.
- ✓ Mudra loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) can be availed of from a nearby branch office of a bank.
- ✓ **Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) – MUDRA Scheme**
- ✓ Definition : Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) is a scheme to extend collateral free loans
- ✓ Maximum limit of loan is Rs 10 lakh
- ✓ Stands for Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd (MUDRA) Bank
- ✓ Founded : 8 April 2015
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai
- ✓ Chairman : S. Ramann
- ✓ It was converted as a wholly owned subsidiary of SIDBI and renamed as MUDRA (SIDBI) Bank
- ✓ MUDRA Portal : Borrowers can also now file online application for MUDRA loans on Mudramitra portal
- ✓ Mudra Yojana offers three type of product namely Shishu, Kishor and Tarun
- ✓ Shishu : covering loans upto 50,000/- (Single page application form for this product)
- ✓ Kishor : covering loans above 50,000/- and upto 5 lakh



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- ✓ Tarun : covering loans above 5 lakh and upto 10 lakh

Q. Which bank has raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.54 percent through its third infrastructure bond issuance?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ SBI raises 10,000 cr via 15-year Infrastructure bonds
- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.54 percent through its third infrastructure bond issuance.
- ✓ The proceeds will be directed towards bolstering long-term resources for funding critical infrastructure projects and supporting the affordable housing segment.
- ✓ The bank attracted bids of Rs 21,698 crores, a staggering 4.34 times the base issue size, indicating robust demand for these financial instruments.
- ✓ The investors range from various sectors including provident funds, pension funds, insurance companies, mutual funds, corporates, etc.
- ✓ Bidding for the 15-year tenor bonds took place on July 31

SBI IN NEWS 2023

- State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 10,000 crore at a coupon rate of 7.54 percent through its third infrastructure bond issuance.
- 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.



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- 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’.
- 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



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- 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.

Q. Who has launched India's first Indigenously developed, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scanner in New Delhi?

A) Jitendra Singh

B) Manoj Sinha

C) Piyush Goyal

D) Anurag Thakur

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh launched India's first indigenously developed, affordable, lightweight, ultrafast, high field (1.5 Tesla), next generation Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scanner.
- ✓ Dr Jitendra said, as an indigenous MRI scanner is made available, the cost of MRI scanning is expected to reduce considerably for the common man thus allowing a wider access to the otherwise highly priced MRI scans

Q. Who has been elected as a member of the Board of Directors and a Constituency Director at BRICS' New Development Bank?

A) Raja Al Gurg

B) Aisha Bint Buti Bin Bisher

C) Maryam Buti Al Suwaidi

D) Thuraiya Hamid Alhashmi

Answer : D

- ✓ BRICS' New Development Bank (NDB) has elected Thuraiya Hamid Alhashmi, Director of International Financial Relations and Organisations Department at the UAE Ministry of Finance, as a member of its Board of Directors and a Constituency Director.



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- ✓ Alhashmi will become the first Emirati and Arab woman to assume a Director's position at the multilateral bank, established by the grouping by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) in July 2015.
- ✓ Her appointment followed an internal voting process during NDB's 8th annual meeting, held recently in Shanghai, China.
- ✓ NDB, also known as BRICS bank, is a multilateral financial institution set up by the five BRICS countries, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa.
- ✓ Egypt has been inducted as the fourth new member of the BRICS New Development Bank(NDB).
- ✓ New Development Bank approves UAE, Bangladesh and Uruguay as a new member
- ✓ New Development Bank (NDB)
- ✓ Founded : 2015
- ✓ Headquarters : Shanghai, China
- ✓ Membership (9) : Brazil ,Russia, India, China , South Africa, Bangladesh, UAE , Uruguay & Egypt.
- ✓ President : Dilma Vana Rousseff (Brazil)
- ✓ Vice President : Anil Kishora (Indian)
- ✓ The initial authorized capital of the bank is \$100 bln divided into 1 mln shares having a par value of \$100,000 each.
- ✓ The initial subscribed capital of the NDB is \$50 bln divided into paid-in shares (\$10 bln) and callable shares (\$40 bln).

Q. With whom has ALIMCO signed MoU for providing aids and assistive devices?

- A) GAIL
- B) NTPC
- C) NHPC
- D) SJVN

Answer : C

- ✓ NHPC Limited and Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, under which NHPC will provide CSR support for distribution of aids and assistive devices to around 1,000 Divyangjans (Persons with Disabilities) in the vicinity of NHPC Projects located in North and North Eastern states.
- ✓ The MoU was signed at NHPC Corporate Office, Faridabad on August 1st 2023, under the CSR initiative of NHPC.



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- ✓ The MoU was signed by Group Deputy General Manager (HR), CSR & SD, NHPC and General Manager - Marketing, ALIMCO in the presence of Shri Uttam Lal, Director (Personnel), NHPC; Executive Director (CSR & SD), NHPC, and other senior officers from NHPC CSR&SD Division and ALIMCO

Q. Which country Tiger population has Increased by 27 percent since its last count in 2015?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ Over a decade later on Global Tiger Day 2023, the Royal Government of Bhutan has announced that tiger populations continue to increase in the country, a fantastic achievement.
- ✓ The latest survey estimates there now to be 131 tigers in the country, a 27 percent increase from the last survey in 2015.
- ✓ It reflected the success of Tiger conservation efforts in the South Asian Himalayan landlocked nation situated between China and India.
- ✓ It was in 2010 that Bhutan continued its commitment to protecting its wildlife when the country joined the global effort to double the number of tigers in the wild by 2022

Q. How Many Countries Responsible for 52% of the World's Mismanaged Plastic Waste?

- A) 12
B) 15
C) 17
D) 20

Answer : A

- ✓ The point at which the amount of plastics exceeds the global waste management capacity, according to Swiss-based research consultancy Earth Action (EA).
- ✓ Nearly 68,642,999 tonnes of additional plastic waste will end up in nature this year, noted the 2023 Plastic Overshoot Day Report by EA.
- ✓ India is among the 12 countries, along with China, Brazil, Indonesia, Thailand, Russia, Mexico, the United States, Saudia Arabia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iran and Kazakhstan, which are responsible for 52 per cent of the world's mismanaged plastic waste, it pointed out.
- ✓ Under current scenarios, despite pledges and increased waste management capacity, increased production of plastics will lead to global plastics pollution tripling by 2040, it pointed out.



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- ✓ Of the 159 million tonnes of plastics (which can be used only for a short time) to be produced globally in 2023, 43 per cent (68.5 million tonnes) will end up causing pollution, the report pointed out.
- ✓ Three countries (followed by India) with the highest mismanaged waste — Mozambique (99.8 per cent), Nigeria (99.44 per cent) and Kenya (98.9 per cent) — belong to Africa, according to the document.
- ✓ India ranks fourth in the MWI, with 98.55 per cent of generated waste being mismanaged and fares poorly in the management of plastics waste, according to the EA report.
- ✓ According to CSE's report, The Plastic Life Cycle, India recycles 12.3 per cent of its plastic waste and incinerates 20 per cent. The centralised EPR portal developed by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change also suggests India has a cumulative capacity to process 14.2 million tonnes of plastic waste annually

Q. Which state has recently approved the concept of a vertical university campus?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The state of Maharashtra will approve setting up Vertical University Campus (VUC) in Mumbai and Thane due to less space available in the city thus becoming the first state in the country to approve such campuses.
- ✓ This concept is adopted by the United States (US) and other Western countries as of now.
- ✓ In the previous policy, a private university can be established on a minimum land of 25-acre in rural areas, 15-acre in district headquarters and 10-acre in regional headquarters, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) and Pune Metropolitan Region (PMR).
- ✓ The idea of a vertical university campus was conceived to deal with the issue of land scarcity, which is common in major cities such as Mumbai and international metropolises like New York City, Washington DC and Tel Aviv, Israel

Q. Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani has inaugurated the G20 EMPOWER Summit in which city?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| A) Hyderabad | B) Gandhinagar |
| C) Bengaluru | D) Chennai |

Answer : B



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- ✓ Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani has inaugurated the G20 EMPOWER Summit in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ✓ The summit, organized around the theme- 'Women-Led Development: ensuring a Sustainable, inclusive, and equitable global economic growth', will witness the participation of delegates from across G20 nations, invited guest countries and international organizations in addition to many global experts, policymakers and stakeholders.
- ✓ The inaugural session launched of key outcomes under the G20 EMPOWER agenda this year including the G20 EMPOWER Tech Equity Digital Inclusion Platform, the Best Practices Playbook, the KPI Dashboard, and the adoption of the G20 EMPOWER Communique 2023.
- ✓ The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for EMPOWER which is the G20 Alliance for Empowerment and Progress of Women's Economic Progression.

Q. Which university will launch an "Astrology OPD", where teachers and research students at the university's astrology department will check people's horoscopes for an hour every evening?

- A) Sampurnanand Sanskrit University
- B) Banaras Hindu University
- C) Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University
- D) Chaudhary Charan Singh University

Answer : A

- ✓ The Sampurnanand Sanskrit University in Varanasi will launch an "Astrology OPD", where teachers and research students at the university's astrology department will check people's horoscopes for an hour every evening.
- ✓ For the 'Astro-OPD', minister of state Ravindra Jaiswal has sanctioned ₹25 lakh from the MLA fund. An OPD is an acronym for outpatient department.
- ✓ An OPD is an acronym for the outpatient department.

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has received the Lokmanya Tilak National Award on the 103rd death anniversary of which freedom fighter?

- A) Subhas Chandra Bose
- B) Bhagat Singh
- C) Chandra Shekhar Azad
- D) Bal Gangadhar Tilak



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Answer : D

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has received the Lokmanya Tilak National Award in Maharashtra's Pune, on the 103rd death anniversary of freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
- ✓ The award, according to the organizers, honours his extraordinary leadership, which helped India move up the progress ladder.
- ✓ PM Modi is the 41st recipient of this award.
- ✓ Every year on 1st August, the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak, this award is bestowed upon individuals who have made remarkable and extraordinary contributions to the progress and development of the nation.
- ✓ **About Lokmanya Tilak National Award:**
- ✓ The award was instituted in 1983 by the Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust.
- ✓ This award is given every year on 1st August, the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak, to persons who have made remarkable and extraordinary contributions, working for the progress and development of the nation.
- ✓ Who was Lokmanya Tilak?
- ✓ Bal Gangadhar Tilak, commonly known as Lokmanya Tilak, was a prominent Indian nationalist, freedom fighter, social reformer, and political leader during the Indian independence movement.
- ✓ He was one of the prime architects of modern India and probably the strongest advocate of Swaraj or Self Rule for India.
- ✓ He is known for his slogan, "Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it."
- ✓ He was born as Keshav Gangadhar Tilak and his followers bequeathed upon him the title of 'Lokmanya', meaning he who is revered by the people.
- ✓ He was considered a radical Nationalist.
- ✓ The British Government termed him the "Father of Indian Unrest".
- ✓ He also helped found the All India Home Rule League in 1916–18 with G. S. Khaparde and Annie Besant.
- ✓ Tilak was a prolific writer and journalist. He used his newspaper, "Kesari" (meaning Lion) in Marathi and later "Maratha" in English to disseminate nationalist ideas.
- ✓ Lal-Bal-Pal: He had popular leaders such as Bipin Chandra Pal and Lala Lajpat Rai as his political companions, and the three were popularly known as the 'Lal-Bal-Pal triumvirate.'



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Q. Who defeated Laura Siegemund to win a title in BNP Paribas Warsaw Open?

- A) Caroline Wozniacki B) Aryna Sabalenka
C) Iga Świątek D) Ons Jabeur

Answer : C

- ✓ Poland's tennis sensation and world No. 1 Iga Swiatek claimed her fourth title of the season with a 6-0, 6-1 win defeating Laura Siegemund in the final of the BNP Paribas Warsaw Open.
- ✓ Swiatek won the match and added it to her 15th career title.
- ✓ This season is turning out great for Swiatek as she already won Doha, Stuttgart, and Roland Garros.
- ✓ Laura Natalie Siegemund is a German professional tennis player.
- ✓ Iga Swiatek achieved a significant achievement by securing her fourth WTA title of the year .

Q. Taiwanese electronics contract manufacturer Foxconn has signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with which state government for two projects with an estimated investment outlay of ₹5,000 crore?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ Karnataka govt, Foxconn sign Letter of Intent with Rs 5000 cr investment.
- ✓ Taiwanese electronics contract manufacturer Foxconn has signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the government of Karnataka for two projects with an estimated investment outlay of ₹5,000 crore, expected to generate 13,000 jobs.
- ✓ These projects are in addition to the iPhone end assembly plant, which the company has planned to set up at Devanahalli with an investment of about ₹14,000 crore.
- ✓ The intended projects include a phone enclosure project for which Foxconn Industrialist Internet (FII), a Foxconn subsidiary will invest ₹3,000 crore and is estimated to create 12,000 jobs.
- ✓ Additionally, Foxconn will invest ₹2,000 crore for a semiconductor equipment manufacturing project. The project will be taken up in collaboration with Applied Materials and is expected to generate 1,000 jobs.



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- ✓ The location for this project is likely to be finalized at the Haraluru Muddenahalli – Hi-Tech Aerospace and Defence Park-Phase II in Bengaluru Rural district, where Foxconn has sought a 35-acre plot

KARNATAKA IN NEWS 2023

- Karnataka govt, Foxconn sign Letter of Intent with Rs 5000 cr investment.
- Siddaramaiah was sworn in as the 24th Chief Minister of Karnataka for his second term .
- The National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22 Karnataka, overall, is the most “innovative” State, followed by Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.
- According to the India Justice Report (IJR) 2022, which assesses the performance of states in terms of justice delivery, the state of Karnataka has achieved the top rank .
- World Bank has granted a loan of USD 363 million to the state of Karnataka in India, which will help to provide clean drinking water.
- Karnataka ended their 54-year wait to win the Santosh Trophy national football championship, beating Meghalaya .
- The Karnataka Government will build the country’s first Marina or a boat basin offering dockage, at Byndoor in Udupi district to promote coastal tourism in Karnataka.
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying announced that the fourth phase of the Sagar Parikrama program began in Karnataka.
- Karnataka bags National Award For Fasal Bima Yojana, implementing the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme.
- Karnataka Bank awarded ‘Prathista Puraskar for achieving highest percentage in BHIM-UPI transactions.
- Mysuru and Hampi are the two popular destinations in Karnataka to be promoted as a part of the new Tourism policy ‘The Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme, which focuses on revving up destination tourism.
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka.
- About Karnataka State
- Formation - 1 November 1956
- Capital- Bengaluru
- Chief minister : Siddaramaiah



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- Governor- Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Legislative Assembly seats- 224
- Lok Sabha seats- 28
- Jog Falls (Garsoppa) located in Karnataka is the highest waterfall in India which is on Sharavathi River.
- Yakshagana is the main folk dance of Karnataka.

Q. President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated ‘Unmesha’ – International Literature Festival and ‘Utkarsh’ – Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts in which state?

A) Rajasthan

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Uttarakhand

Answer : B

- ✓ The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated ‘Unmesha’ – International Literature Festival and ‘Utkarsh’ – Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ Culture Department Madhya Pradesh along with Sangeet Natak Akademi and Sahitya Akademi of the Ministry of Culture is organizing this event from 3rd to 5th August.
- ✓ The international literature festival Unmesh is Asia’s largest literary convention.
- ✓ 15 countries will participate in the Unmesh festival.
- ✓ Literature gave strength to the ideals of our freedom struggle. In every corner of the country, many writers gave expression to the ideals of freedom and renaissance

MADHYA PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- President of India, Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated ‘Unmesha’ – International Literature Festival and ‘Utkarsh’ – Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- India's first online gaming academy launched in Madhya Pradesh.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Mission in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh.
- Tiger State Madhya Pradesh is poised to get its 7th tiger reserve with the state government going forward with the notification of Nauradehi and Durgavati Wildlife Sanctuaries.



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

Q. Which bank has recently launched EXIM Current Account specially curated for customers involved in the import and export business?

A) HDFC Bank

B) ICICI Bank

C) South Indian Bank

D) IDFC First Bank

Answer : C

- ✓ South Indian Bank (SIB) has launched SIB EXIM Current Account specially curated for customers involved in the import and export business.
- ✓ The current account is available in two variants SIB EXIM Silver and SIB EXIM Gold with the required Quarterly Forex Throughput (QFT) of \$15,000 and \$50,000 respectively.
- ✓ SIB EXIM Current Account offers competitive rates in trade finance transactions, free and unlimited NEFT/RTGS transactions through digital channels, unlimited free cash withdrawals from any SIB branches, free cash deposit limit of up to 15 times of previous month AMB, free issuance of international debit card and a lot more transactional benefits to cater the needs of this segment.



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- ✓ Moreover, South Indian Bank is also authorized by RBI as an Agency Bank for collection of customs duty through the ICEGATE portal.
- ✓ About South Indian Bank
- ✓ Founded : 1929
- ✓ Headquarters : Thrissur, Kerala
- ✓ Chairman : Salim Gangadharan
- ✓ MD & CEO : Murali Ramakrishnan
- ✓ Tagline : Experience Next Generation Banking.

Q. India recently signed a MoU with which country to collaborate on the sharing of INDIA STACK?

- A) Papua New Guinea B) Ethiopia
C) Egypt D) Saudi Arabia

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) of Papua New Guinea signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for sharing India Stack.
- ✓ **About India Stack:**
- ✓ It is a set of Application Programming Interface (APIs) that allows governments, businesses, startups and developers to utilise a unique digital Infrastructure.
- ✓ India Stack consists of three layers of open APIs: identity, payments, and data.
- ✓ Although the name of this project bears the word India, the vision of India Stack is not limited to one country.
- ✓ It can be applied to any nation, be it a developed one or an emerging one.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding ZARTH application

1. It is an augmented reality transient hunter application
2. It is developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 only B) 2 only
C) Both 1 and 2 D) Neither 1 nor 2



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Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, a team of researchers at the Center for Data Driven Discovery, California Institute of Technology has developed ZARTH app that allows anyone with a smartphone to 'hunt' for transients
- ✓ **About ZARTH App:**
- ✓ The ZTF Augmented Reality Transient Hunter (ZARTH) is built along the lines of the augmented reality mobile game.
- ✓ It allows the user to do serious science while playing a game.
- ✓ The app uses the open-source Sky Map and adds data daily from the Zwicky Transient Facility (ZTF)'s robotic telescope at the Palomar Observatory in California.
- ✓ Palomar is also home to one of the oldest, largest, and most powerful telescopes in the world: the 200-inch Hale reflector.
- ✓ The ZTF scans the entire northern sky every two days and uses the data to make large area sky maps that have important applications in tracking near-earth asteroids and studying supernovae.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding National Education Policy.

1. It focuses on the Equitable and Inclusive Education for all children in India

2. The equitable and quality education for girl children is being met through specific provisions under Samagra Shiksha 2.0.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : C

- ✓ Recently, the Minister of State for Education informed the Lok Sabha about the Gender Inclusion Fund (GIF), mentioned in the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020.
- ✓ About Gender Inclusion Fund (GIF):
- ✓ The fund will be utilised to ensure that all kids receive a high-quality education.
- ✓ It will also be used to guarantee that amenities such as secure and sanitary vending machines are included on GIF's infrastructure checklist.
- ✓ The NEP focuses on 'Equitable and Inclusive Education' which reverberates the idea that no child should be left behind in terms of educational opportunity because of their background and socio-cultural identities.



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- ✓ It has taken into account the concerns of the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) which includes female and transgender individuals.
- ✓ NEP prescribes to approach gender as a cross-cutting priority to achieve gender equality in education with the partnership of states and local community organizations.
- ✓ The objectives of NEP for equitable and quality education for girl children are being met through specific provisions under Samagra Shiksha 2.0 by allocating dedicated resources for Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs).
- ✓ To reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), which are residential schools from class VI to XII for girls belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL), are sanctioned in Educationally Backward Blocks

Q. With reference to Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), consider the following statements:

- 1. They are designed to pool small sums of money for investment in infrastructure projects.**
- 2. They are regulated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).**
- 3. They are suitable for high net worth individuals.**

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 only B) 2 only
C) 1 and 3 only D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer : C

- ✓ The Central government is working on a proposal to launch a fresh InvIT for national highways where domestic retail investors can hold units of the trust.
- ✓ **About Infrastructure investment trust (InvIT):**
- ✓ It is Collective Investment Scheme similar to a mutual fund, which enables direct investment of money from individual and institutional investors in infrastructure projects
- ✓ These are like mutual funds in structure which can be established as a trust and registered with Sebi.
- ✓ An InvIT has 4 parties namely; Trustee, Sponsor(s) and Investment Manager and Project Manager.
- ✓ While the trustee (certified by Sebi) has the responsibility of inspecting the performance of an InvIT, sponsor(s) are promoters of the company that set up the InvIT.
- ✓ InvITs are regulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014.



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- ✓ The minimum investment amount in an InvIT Initial Public Offering (IPO) is Rs 10 lakh, therefore, InvITs are suitable for high net worth individuals, institutional and non-institutional investors.

Q. With reference to the Red-headed vulture, consider the following statements

1. It is categorized as a critically endangered species under the IUCN Red List

2. It is only found in the Himalayan Region. Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 Only

B) 2 Only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : A

- ✓ The conservationists to script India's first captive breeding success story of the Himalayan vultures inside the Assam State Zoo in Guwahati.
- ✓ **Why in news?**
- ✓ It is the second instance (First was in France) in the world and first in India where this species has been kept for breeding.
- ✓ The captive breeding was a joint project undertaken by the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and the Assam forest department.
- ✓ **About Himalayan vulture:**
- ✓ The Himalayan vulture (*Gyps himalayensis*) or Himalayan griffon vulture is an Old World vulture.
- ✓ It is one of the two largest Old World vultures and true raptors.
- ✓ It is a typical vulture which has a bald white head, wings that are very wide and short tail feathers.
- ✓ Distribution: It is native to the Himalayas and the adjoining Tibetan Plateau and also found in the Central Asian mountains.
- ✓ These are diurnal and mostly solitary species.
- ✓ Conservation status
- ✓ IUCN: Near Threatened.
- ✓ Other Vulture species found in India
- ✓ India is home to 9 species of Vulture namely the Oriental white-backed, Long-billed, Slender-billed, Himalayan, Red-headed, Egyptian, Bearded, Cinereous and Eurasian Griffon



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- ✓ The scheme promotes digital transactions through cash back incentives up to an amount of Rs. 100 per month.
- ✓ The vendors can avail the facility of escalation of the credit limit on timely/ early repayment of loan.
- ✓ Implementation agency: Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS):

1. It was initially set up as a Cell in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation in January 1978 on the recommendation of the Pande Committee

2. The aim of BCAS is to safeguard civil aviation operations against acts of unlawful interference

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 Only
- B) 2 Only
- C) Both 1 and 2
- D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : C

- ✓ The Aviation security body Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) recently informed all the airports across the country to not promote any kind of advertisement or commercial at security checks.
- ✓ **About Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS):**
- ✓ It was initially set up as a Cell in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation in January 1978 on the recommendation of the Pande Committee, constituted as a reaction to the hijacking of the Indian Airlines flight on 10th September 1976.
- ✓ It was reorganized into an independent department under the Ministry of Civil Aviation on 1st April 1987.
- ✓ The aim of BCAS is to safeguard civil aviation operations against acts of unlawful interference.
- ✓ The main responsibilities of BCAS include laying down standards and measures with respect to the security of civil flights at international and domestic airports in India.
- ✓ It is the authoritarian unit for civil aviation security in India. It is controlled by an officer of the rank of Director General of Police and is designated as Commissioner of Security.
- ✓ Headquarters: New Delhi



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Q. Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2023 is the 19th edition of the Joint Military Training Exercise between Indian Army and ____

- A) United States B) Singapore
C) Nepal D) Sri Lanka

Answer : A

- ✓ Armies of India and the United States will begin another edition of their joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' at Fort Wainwright in Alaska.
- ✓ **About Yudh Abhyas:**
- ✓ It is a joint military exercise conducted annually between the armies of India and USA.
- ✓ It has been ongoing since 2004.
- ✓ It is designed to promote cooperation between the two militaries while sharing training, cultural exchanges, and building joint operating skills.
- ✓ Yudh Abhyas 2023:
- ✓ This marks the 19th edition of the joint exercise, which is hosted alternately between both countries.
- ✓ The training schedule focuses on the employment of an integrated battle group under Chapter VII of the UN Mandate.
- ✓ The schedule will include all operations related to peacekeeping and peace enforcement.
- ✓ The joint exercise will also focus on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.
- ✓ List of Exercises between India and USA:
- ✓ Army: Yudh Abhyas and Vajra Prahar
- ✓ Navy: MALABAR (Multilateral)
- ✓ Air Force: Cope India, Red Flag (Multilateral)

Q. 'eSanjeevani' telemedicine service has been integrated with which scheme?

- A) Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana
B) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana
C) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana
D) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

Answer : D



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- ✓ Union Health Minister recently informed the Rajya Sabha that the Centre's telemedicine application eSanjeevani has completed 14,17,81,384 teleconsultations.
- ✓ **About eSanjeevani:**
- ✓ It is a cloud-based integrated telemedicine solution of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India.
- ✓ It is a telemedicine app that provides both doctor-to-doctor and doctor-to-patient telecommunication.
- ✓ It is being designed, developed, deployed, and maintained by The Centre for Development and Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Mohali.
- ✓ **Two modules of eSanjeevani:**
- ✓ **eSanjeevani AB-HWC:**
- ✓ The doctor-to-doctor telemedicine platform, being implemented at all the Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) in the country under the Ayushman Bharat (AB) Scheme of Government of India.
- ✓ It operates on a Hub-and-Spoke model wherein the 'Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centers' (HWCs) are set up at the state level, which is connected with the hub (comprising MBBS/ Specialty/Super-Specialty doctors) at the zonal level.
- ✓ It was rolled out in 2019.
- ✓ **eSanjeevani OPD:**
- ✓ It is the Patient-to-Doctor remote consultation services rolled out in 2020 amid the first lockdown imposed to fight the Covid-19 pandemic, while the Outpatient Departments (OPDs) in the country were closed.
- ✓ It enables people to get outpatient services in the confines of their homes
- ✓ The National Health Authority (NHA) said that the 'eSanjeevani' telemedicine service has been integrated with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)

Q. Who has notified the creation of a new category of Ayush visa for foreign nationals for treatment?

- A) Ministry of Ayush B) Ministry of Finance
C) Ministry of External Affairs D) Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer : D

- ✓ The Ministry of Home Affairs recently notified the creation of a new category of Ayush visa for foreign nationals for treatment under Ayush systems/Indian systems of medicine.
- ✓ **About Ayush Visa:**



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- ✓ It is specifically designed for foreign nationals looking to receive medical treatment in India through traditional Indian systems of medicine.
- ✓ This visa aims to cater to those interested in Ayurveda, Yoga, and other traditional forms of therapeutic care and wellness.
- ✓ A new chapter, e., Chapter 11A, Ayush Visa, has been incorporated after Chapter 11 - Medical Visa of the Visa Manual, which deals with treatment under the Indian systems of medicine, and accordingly, necessary amendments have been made in various chapters of the Visa Manual, 2019.
- ✓ The introduction of the Ayush Visa category is part of the country's roadmap for the Heal in India initiative.
- ✓ Heal in India initiative: It seeks to provide “integrated and holistic treatment” to the world in India and enhance patient mobility for access to world-class, affordable, and quality healthcare services”.
- ✓ **What is AYUSH?**
- ✓ AYUSH, which stands for Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Naturopathy, Siddha, and Homoeopathy, is an acronym devised in 2003 to change the name of the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy (ISM & H).
- ✓ ISM & H was created in March 1995 under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ✓ On November 9, 2014, the government elevated AYUSH to a separate ministry.
- ✓ The word AYUSH is derived from a Sanskrit phrase “ayusmanbhava” meaning long life

Q. ‘Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve’ is located in a region spanning across which states?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) recently raised concern that cattle grazing in the forest and illegal fishing in the backwaters of Srisailam and Nagarjunasagar dams are posing a big threat to tigers in Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve (NSTR).
- ✓ About Nagarjunasagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve (NSTR).
- ✓ Location: It is located in the Nallamala hill ranges(an offshoot of the Eastern Ghats) of Andhra Pradesh and spreads across the undivided districts of Guntur, Prakasam, and Kurnool.
- ✓ It attained the status of a Tiger Reserve in 1983.
- ✓ This is the largest tiger reserve in the country, spreading over an area of 5937 Sq. Km.



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- ✓ It is named after two major dams in the area, Nagarjuna Sagar Dam and Srisaïlam Dam.
- ✓ Two wildlife Sanctuaries, namely Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and Gundla Brahmeswaram Wildlife Sanctuary (GBM), constitute the Tiger Reserve.
- ✓ The river Krishna traverses through this Reserve for a linear distance of around 270 kilometres.

Q. Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection (MASI), which was seen in the news, is associated with which action?

- A) Monitoring of Child Care Institutions**
- B) Indian Railway e-Procurement System**
- C) trade-related payments to foreign**
- D) encourage inclusive growth and development of various sectors**

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, the Minister of Women and Child Development informed the Rajya Sabha about MASI Portal.
- ✓ About the MASI Portal:
- ✓ Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection (MASI) was developed for synchronous monitoring of the Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and their inspection mechanisms across the country.
- ✓ The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has developed this application.
- ✓ The effective and efficient functioning of the mechanism for inspection of CCIs provided under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 (as amended in 2021).
- ✓ The app is linked to the monitoring Portal where the automatic reports are generated.
- ✓ This App enables unified inspections by Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), State Inspection Committees, District Inspection Committees, Members of Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) as laid down under the JJ Act, 2015.
- ✓ Key Facts about National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- ✓ It is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament, the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.
- ✓ It works under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development.



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Q. Consider the following statements regarding JALDOST airboat

1. It is designed to remove excess aquatic weed and floating waste from water bodies.
2. It is developed by the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL).

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 Only

B) 2 Only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : C

- ✓ Recently, the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL) unveiled the JALDOST airboat.
- ✓ About JALDOST:
- ✓ It is an airboat that operates on water.
- ✓ It is designed to remove excess aquatic weed and floating waste from water bodies.
- ✓ It has a closed airtight pontoon type hull to make it inherently unsinkable.
- ✓ According to NAL, it has a hybrid propulsion system, comprising air propulsion and paddle wheel propulsion
- ✓ How it works?
- ✓ The ability to travel through weed makes JALDOST an ideal platform to collect them and bring them to the shore.
- ✓ A steel mesh belt conveyor system fixed in the front collects the waste. The collected waste falls on the horizontal deck conveyor.
- ✓ After reaching the shore, the collected waste is unloaded by a rear conveyor system to trucks or tractors.
- ✓ NAL has developed two versions of the airboat — JALDOST Mark-1 and an upgraded version JALDOST Mark-2.
- ✓ Key facts about National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)
- ✓ It is a constituent of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India, established in the year 1959.
- ✓ It is the only government aerospace R&D laboratory in the country's civilian sector.
CSIR-NAL is a high-technology-oriented institution focusing on advanced disciplines in aerospace.



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Q. The kuril Island dispute or Northern territories dispute is a dispute between Japan and ____.

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

Answer : B

- ✓ In Japan, conservative voices are hinting that Russian and Ukraine war could give Japan a chance to take control of disputed Kuril Islands.
- ✓ About Kuril Islands:
- ✓ These are a set of four islands situated between the Sea of Okhotsk and the Pacific Ocean near the north of Japan's northernmost prefecture, Hokkaido.
- ✓ Japan refers to them as Northern territories, Russia calls them the Kuril Islands and South Korea named them as Dokdo islands.
- ✓ These are part of the Pacific Ring of Fire belt and have over 100 volcanoes, of which 35 are said to be active volcanoes along with hot springs.
- ✓ Both Russia and Japan claim sovereignty over them though the islands have been under Russian control since the end of World War II.
- ✓ The Soviet Union had seized the islands at the end of World War II and by 1949 had expelled its Japanese residents.
- ✓ Tokyo claims that the disputed islands have been part of Japan since the early 19th century.
- ✓ What lies behind the dispute?
- ✓ According to Tokyo, Japan’s sovereignty over the islands is confirmed by several treaties like the Shimoda Treaty of 1855, the 1875 Treaty for the exchange of Sakhalin for the Kuril Islands (Treaty of St. Petersburg), and the Portsmouth Treaty of 1905 signed after the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05 which Japan had won.
- ✓ Russia, on the other hand, claims the Yalta Agreement (1945) and the Potsdam Declaration (1945) as proof of its sovereignty and argues that the San Francisco Treaty of 1951 is legal evidence that Japan had acknowledged Russian sovereignty over the islands. Under Article 2 of the treaty, Japan had “renounced all right, title and claim to the Kuril Islands.”

Q. UNESCO has suggested adding which city to its list of world heritage centres in danger?

- A) Venice B) Milan
C) Florence D) Bologna



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Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, experts from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) have stated in a new report that the Italian city of Venice should be added to a list of world heritage sites in danger.
- ✓ Venice in Italy is known as “Queen of the Adriatic,” because of its location on the Adriatic coast
- ✓ About UNESCO heritage danger list:
- ✓ The list highlights a number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites which are threatened due to factors like armed conflict and war, earthquakes and other natural disasters, pollution, poaching, uncontrolled urbanisation and unchecked tourist development.
- ✓ The UNESCO also sets certain guidelines and criteria under the 1972 World Heritage Convention, which decide, whether or not, a property is faced with specific and proven imminent danger or threat.
- ✓ Key facts about UNESCO
- ✓ UNESCO stands for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.
- ✓ It is specialized agency of the United Nations(UN).
- ✓ The constitution, which entered into force in 1946, called for the promotion of international collaboration in education, science, and culture.
- ✓ The agency’s permanent headquarters are in Paris, France.
- ✓ Parent Organisation - United Nations Economic and Social Council
- ✓ Goal: The primary goals of UNESCO are to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among nations through education, science, and culture, and to promote sustainable development and intercultural dialogue.
- ✓ UNESCO believes that these areas are crucial for building a more just, peaceful, and inclusive world.

UNESCO IN NEWS 2023

- The historic Byculla Railway Station, located in Mumbai received the prestigious UNESCO Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award.
- United States will rejoin UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organization, in July 2023.
- Jagdish Bakan wins UNESCO’s 2023 Michel Batisse Award .
- UNESCO World Heritage Centre has recommended Santiniketan, the cultural site in West Bengal, India, for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List.



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

Q. Which state government has recently signed an MoU with the Badminton Association of India to set up the National Centre of Excellence for Badminton in the state?

- A) Madhya Pradesh B) Haryana
C) Gujarat D) Assam

Answer : D

- ✓ Assam government has signed an MoU with the Badminton Association of India to set up the National Centre of Excellence for Badminton in the state.
- ✓ The MoU for the centre will be signed between the Assam government and the Badminton Association of India for 25 years, subject to renewal for a further 10 years.
- ✓ The centre will have world-class facilities to nurture and harness the potential of young badminton players across India.



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Q. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 1,974.07 crore to which state government under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24?

A) Gujarat

B) Madhya Pradesh

C) Rajasthan

D) Chhattisgarh

Answer : C

- ✓ The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned Rs 1,974.07 crore to the Rajasthan government under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24.
- ✓ Rs 930.44 crore has been sanctioned for three rural drinking water supply projects in Ajmer, Jalore, and Kota districts.
- ✓ Further, Rs 926.48 crore was sanctioned for the construction of 676 rural roads in the desert and tribal areas of the state.
- ✓ Earlier, Rs 117.15 crore had been sanctioned for the construction of 104 veterinary hospitals and 431 sub-centres in all districts of the state.
- ✓ NABARD is also supporting the state government in bringing 4.28 lakh hectares under micro-irrigation with a support of Rs 740 crore from the Micro Irrigation Fund.
- ✓ About National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- ✓ Founded : 12 July 1982
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ✓ Chairman : K V Shaji
- ✓ NABARD established on the recommendations of B. Sivaramman Committee

RAJASTHAN IN NEWS 2023

- NABARD has sanctioned Rs 1,974.07 crore to the Rajasthan government under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24.
- Noor Shekhawat became the first transgender person in Rajasthan to be issued a birth certificate with the gender recorded as transgender.
- For the first time in India, the Rajasthan government introduced the Rajasthan Platform Based Gig Workers Bill, 2023.
- Rajasthan Assembly passed a bill to provide minimum guaranteed income to all adult citizens as part of a welfare package for the state.



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- 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. Who has launched the mobile application Rajmargyatra '?

- A) Airports Authority of India (AAI) B) Border Roads Organisation (BRO)
C) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) D) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)

Answer : D

- ✓ Recently, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) takes a significant stride towards improving the highway user experience with the launch of 'Rajmargyatra' application.
- ✓ **About Rajmargyatra Application:**
- ✓ It empowers travellers with comprehensive information on Indian National Highways while also offering an efficient complaint redressal system.



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- ✓ This is user-friendly app which is now available for download on both Google Play Store and iOS App Store.
- ✓ The app is currently available in Hindi and English.
- ✓ **Features:**
- ✓ Comprehensive Highway Information:
- ✓ It serves as a one-stop repository of essential information for National Highway users.
- ✓ Get real-time weather conditions, timely broadcast notifications, and access to details about nearby toll plazas, petrol pumps, hospitals, hotels, and other essential services that ensure a seamless and safe journey on National Highways.
- ✓ With these improvements, 'Rajmargyatra' aims to create a seamless, user-friendly experience for highway users, fostering a safer and more enjoyable journey on Indian National Highways

Q. Recently researchers have discovered the fossil of Perucetus colossus whale in which country?

- A) Egypt
- B) Peru
- C) Canada
- D) Philippines

Answer : B

- ✓ Recently, researchers have discovered fossils of Perucetus colossus whale in Peru.
- ✓ About Perucetus colossus:
- ✓ Based on a newly-described fossil of the whale Perucetus colossus dating to more than 38 million years ago.
- ✓ Scientists believe that it may have been heavier than a blue whale even though it may not have been as long.
- ✓ Researchers guess that the species weighed between 85 and a simply massive 340 tonnes.

Q. The headquarters of 'IN-SPACE' has been inaugurated in which city?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ Three private sector satellite makers are expected to send their earth observation satellites this fiscal, according to the sectoral regulator Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE).
- ✓ About Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE):



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- ✓ It is a single-window, independent, nodal agency that functions as an autonomous agency in the Department of Space (DOS).
- ✓ It is formed following the Space sector reforms to enable and facilitate the participation of private players.
- ✓ IN-SPACe is responsible to promote, enable authorize and supervise various space activities of non-governmental entities including
- ✓ building launch vehicles & satellites and providing space-based services;
- ✓ sharing space infrastructure and premises under the control of DOS/ISRO; and establishing of new space infrastructure and facilities;
- ✓ The agency acts as an interface between ISRO and Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs) and assesses how to utilize India's space resources better and increase space-based activities.
- ✓ Headquarters: Bopal, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

Q. Mahanadi river originates in which among the following states of India?

- A) Chhattisgarh
- B) Odisha
- C) Manipur
- D) Assam

Answer : A

- ✓ The Odisha government recently alerted the districts in the Mahanadi delta area as it apprehends a “medium” flood in the river system following heavy rains for three consecutive days in the state.
- ✓ **About Mahanadi River:**
- ✓ It is one of the major east-flowing peninsular rivers in India.
- ✓ Origin: The river originates from the Sihawa range of hills in the Dhamtari district of Chhattisgarh state.
- ✓ Length: It flows a total of 860 km by distance before it ends up in the Bay of Bengal.
- ✓ **Course:**
- ✓ It flows in a southeastern direction through Chhattisgarh and Odisha.
- ✓ The catchment area of the basin extends over major parts of Chhattisgarh and Odisha and comparatively smaller portions of Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ Tributaries: The main tributaries of Mahanadi are Seonath River, Jonk River, Hasdeo River, Mand River, Ib River, Ong River and Telen River.
- ✓ **Hirakud Dam:**



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- ✓ The Hirakud Dam, the world's longest earthen dam (26km), is constructed across the Mahanadi River, about 15 km from Sambalpur in Odisha.
- ✓ Chilika Lake : Chilika, named wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention, gets 61% of its inland flow from the Mahanadi river system, mainly from its distributaries - Daya and Bhargabi.
- ✓ It ranks second to the Godavari River among the peninsular rivers in respect of water potential.

Q. Which Ministry has launched the Study In India (SII) portal with a vision to promote Indian education to foreign students?

- A) Ministry of External Affairs B) Ministry of Civil Aviation
C) Ministry of Education D) Ministry of Earth Sciences

Answer : C

- ✓ The Education Ministry recently launched the Study In India (SII) portal with a vision to promote Indian education to foreign students.
- ✓ **About Study in India (SII) portal:**
- ✓ It is a dedicated website to provide information about higher education institutions (HEIs) in India.
- ✓ Aim: Establishing India as a global hub for education by welcoming students from diverse backgrounds.
- ✓ It will showcase the academic programmes in the HEIs covering undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes as well courses in Indian Knowledge System (IKS) such as Yoga, Ayurveda, classical arts and more.
- ✓ The portal will have information about the academic facilities, research support and related information available in the institutes.
- ✓ **Study in India (SII) programme:**
- ✓ It is a flagship project launched by the education ministry in 2018.
- ✓ Aim: Endorse India as a prime education hub for international students by inviting them to pursue higher education in the country and explore valuable educational opportunities enabled by top Indian universities.

Q. Indian Air Force recently received Spike Non Line of Sight (NLOS) anti-tank guided missiles. Which country manufactures the 'Spike Anti-Tank Missiles'?

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

Answer : C



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- ✓ The Indian Air Force recently received Israel's Spike Non Line of Sight (NLOS) anti-tank guided missiles.
- ✓ About Spike Non Line of Sight (NLOS) Anti-tank Guided Missile (ATGM):
- ✓ It is a fire-and-forget anti-tank and anti-personnel missile with a tandem-charge high-explosive warhead.
- ✓ It is developed by Rafael Advanced Defense Systems, a defence technology company based in Israel.
- ✓ It is available in man-portable, vehicle-launched, and helicopter-launched variants.
- ✓ Features:
- ✓ It can hit targets from distances of up to 30 kilometres.
- ✓ Weight: 71 kg
- ✓ It uses an electro-optical seeker that enables the launch operator to clearly see targets, unlike missiles reliant on radar or infrared guidance.

Q. Which ministry has launched the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR)?

- A) Ministry of Ayush
- B) Ministry of Environment and Forests
- C) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Answer : D

- ✓ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR).
- ✓ Objective: To reach out to the masses and spread awareness about substance use with a focus on higher educational Institutions, university campuses & schools.
- ✓ NMBA was launched on 15th August 2020 by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and is being implemented in 372 identified most vulnerable districts

Q. Which of the following state has launched the “Amrit Brikshya Andolan ” web portal/mobile application?

- A) Odisha
- B) Assam
- C) Chhattisgarh
- D) Jharkhand

Answer : B



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- ✓ Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched the Department of Forest & Environment's Amrit Brikshya Andolan web portal/mobile application and the Wood-based Industry (WBI) registration web portal, along with the theme song for the Amrit Brikshya Andolan.
- ✓ It is an initiative aimed at planting a total of 1 crore (10 million) commercially-viable saplings across the State by individuals from various walks of life on coming September 17.
- ✓ Individuals who register on the 'Amrit Brikshya Andolan' app or portal and upload their geo-tagged photographs planting saplings will receive a reward of Rs 100 in their bank account, with an aim to encourage more people to participate in the tree plantation drive.

Q. India's first beauty and lifestyle festival NYKAALAND will be held in which city in November 2023?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ India's First Beauty and Lifestyle Festival NYKAALAND debuts In Mumbai.
- ✓ Omnichannel consumer tech company Nykaa has collaborated with Book My Show to give India its first beauty and lifestyle festival Nykaaland.
- ✓ The two-day event will be held in Mumbai on November 5 and 6 at the Royal Western India Turf Club in Mahalaxmi Racecourse.
- ✓ The inaugural beauty and lifestyle festival will see the participation of leading makeup brands, makeup artists, entrepreneurs, dermatologists, beauty experts, and content creators.

Q. Which city is set to become the first city in the country to be septic tank-free and have toilets in 100% of households soon?

- A) New Delhi B) Guwahati
C) Ahmedabad D) Navi Mumbai

Answer : D

- ✓ Navi Mumbai is set to become the first city in the country to be septic tank-free and have toilets in 100% of households soon.
- ✓ The NMMC has laid a network of sewage drains all over the city with 7 state-of-the-art sewage treatment plants being set up with the help of Central government funds.
- ✓ The treated water is being used by industries and watering gardens.



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- ✓ As per a survey done in 2015, as many as 5,744 families in the city defecated in the open. The NMMC has constructed 406 public toilets to eradicate the practice.
- ✓ Toilets have provided 4,340 seats for the residents. Toilets in the households in slums are also being constructed

Q. Which of the following has partnered with the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A)'s startup incubator CIIE to support startups with meritorious ideas and technologies?

- A) RBI** **B) SEBI**
C) PFRDA **D) SIDBI**

Answer : D

- ✓ Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), the principal financial institution for MSMEs in the country has partnered with the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A)'s startup incubator CIIE.
- ✓ Through this tie-up, SIDBI will set up a SIDBI Accelerator Fund at the incubator with an initial corpus of Rs 20 crore.
- ✓ Objective: To support startups with meritorious ideas and technologies important for India's goals for 2047 to become self-reliant

Q. The union government has recently launched which edition of the Vivad se Vishwas scheme for settling contractual disputes involving the government and government undertakings?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ The government has launched the Vivad se Vishwas-2 scheme for settling contractual disputes involving the government and government undertakings.
- ✓ The scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2023-24.
- ✓ The scheme aims to resolve the government's contractual disputes with private parties, clear the backlog of litigation, and improve the ease of doing business.
- ✓ The deadline for submitting claims under the scheme is 31 October 2023.



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Q. Who will lead the Indian team in the World Athletics Championships?

- A) Neeraj Chopra
B) Hima Das
C) Jeswin Aldrin
D) Tajinderpal Singh Toor

Answer : A

- ✓ Neeraj Chopra, will lead the country's challenge at the World Athletics Championships from August 19 to 27, 2023 in Budapest.
- ✓ India will send a 28-member contingent to the prestigious event.
- ✓ Chopra, the Tokyo Olympics javelin gold medallist, won silver at the last World Championships in Eugene, US, last year. Now, the Diamond League champion is aiming at a gold.

NEERAJ CHOPRA IN NEWS 2023

- Neeraj Chopra, will lead the country's challenge at the World Athletics Championships from August 19 to 27, 2023 in Budapest.
- India observes 3rd 'Javelin Throw Day' on August 07, 2023.
- Neeraj Chopra clinched the prestigious Diamond League title for the second consecutive time by throwing his spear to 87.66m.
- Olympic gold medal winner Neeraj Chopra has secured victory with 88.67 m throw at Doha Diamond League 2023.
- Neeraj Chopra makes history, becomes World No 1 in men's javelin throw.
- Neeraj Chopra is on top with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Anderson Peters of Granada.
- The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) accepted Neeraj Chopra's proposal to train in Kuortane, Finland.
- The men's javelin must weigh at least 800g and be 2.6m-2.7m long while the women's javelin must weigh 600g and be 2.2m-2.3m long.
- Neeraj Chopra presently holds the rank of Subedar in the Indian Army.
- Neeraj Chopra is from Khandra village, Panipat district, Haryana

Q. Banks have written off bad loans worth__in the last nine financial years starting 2014-15 in Aug 2023.

- A) Rs 8.73 lakh crore
B) Rs 10.39 lakh crore
C) Rs 12.41 lakh crore
D) Rs 14.56 lakh crore



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Answer : D

- ✓ Banks have written off bad loans worth Rs 14.56 lakh crore in the last nine financial years starting 2014-15.
- ✓ Out of the total Rs 14,56,226 crore, written off loans of large industries and services stood at Rs 7,40,968 crore.
- ✓ Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) have recovered an aggregate amount of Rs 2,04,668 crore in written-off loans, including corporate loans, since April, 2014 and up to March, 2023, Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat Karad said in a written reply to Lok Sabha.
- ✓ Loans written-off during the financial year, net of recovery in written-off loans during the financial year (net write-off) in public sector banks (PSBs) was Rs 1.18 lakh crore in the financial year (FY) 2017-18, which has declined to 0.91 lakh crore in FY 2021-22 and to Rs 0.84 lakh crore (RBI provisional data) in FY 2022-23, he said in another reply.
- ✓ Net write-off loans by private sector banks stood at Rs 73,803 crore (RBI provisional data) in FY 2022-23,

Q. According to the SEBI report, Domestic companies raised from market in FY23.

- A) Rs 9.2 Lakh Crore B) Rs 9.8 Lakh Crore
C) Rs 10.6 Lakh Crore D) Rs 11.3 Lakh Crore

Answer : B

- ✓ Domestic companies raised Rs 9.8 lakh crore from capital markets in the fiscal 2022-23, which was 4.6 per cent higher than the amount raised in the fiscal 2022, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) said in its annual report.
- ✓ The capital markets regulator said that corporates or infrastructure entities raised funds via instruments such as equity (public, rights, preferential, QIP), debt (public and private placement), Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs).
- ✓ Of the total resources mobilized, equity and debt segments accounted for Rs 9.2 lakh crore of capital formation, SEBI said in its annual report for 2022-23.
- ✓ In the debt segment, the primary source of resource mobilization was private placement of debt, which rose 28 per cent over funds raised in FY2022.
- ✓ SEBI said in FY2023, the commitment raised by AIFs logged a growth of 30 per cent to Rs 8.34 lakh crore from Rs 6.41 lakh crore at the end of 2021-22. The amount of funds raised and investment made increased by 16.5 per cent and 19 per cent respectively in the last fiscal.



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- ✓ The net asset value being managed by REITs stood at Rs 70,614 crore whereas for InvITs it was Rs 1,76,957 crore as on March 31, 2023. Total funds raised by InvITs during FY2023 stood at Rs 6,360 crore.

SEBI IN NEWS 2023

- SEBI has introduced a regulatory framework for online investment platforms that facilitate investments in commission-free mutual fund (MF) schemes.
- SEBI sets up intermediary advisory panel to be led by S Ravindran.
- SEBI Introduced Risk disclosure Framework for Trading by Individual Traders in Equity F&O Segment.
- SEBI introduced the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) system for issuers of non-convertible securities, securitized debt instruments and security receipts.
- NDTV appoints former SEBI Chairman UK Sinha and business leader Dipali Goenka as Independent Directors.
- Sebi introduces Application Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA) -like facility for secondary market trading in India.
- NSE gets the final SEBI approval to launch Social Stock Exchange.
- Markets regulator SEBI has launched an information database on municipal bonds.
- SEBI allowed Alternative Investment Funds(AIFs) to participate in the Credit Default Swaps(CDS) market as protection buyers and sellers in a bid to facilitate the deepening of the domestic corporate bond segment.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):
 - It is the regulatory body for securities and commodity markets in India established in 1988.
 - Its main objectives are to protect the interests of investors in securities and promote the development of the securities market in India by regulating intermediaries, ensuring transparency and accountability of listed companies, and promoting investor education.
 - It is owned by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, but functions as an autonomous body with its own governing board.
 - It has the power to issue guidelines, rules and regulations, investigate and punish fraudulent business practices.
 - It is the regulator of the Capital market and Commodities market in India.



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- The first SEBI chairman was Dr S A Dave (1988-90)
- Madhabi Puri Buch is the current and 10th Chairperson of the SEBI.
- Headquarters : Mumbai

Q. Which company set to expand bandwidth with exclusive capacity on GSAT-24?

- A) Sun Direct B) Tata Play
C) Bharti Airtel D) Dish TV

Answer : B

- ✓ Direct-to-home (DTH) company Tata Play is set to expand its bandwidth capacity by 50% by adding 24 new Ku-band transponders on the communication satellite GSAT-24.
- ✓ **About GSAT-24**
- ✓ It was built by ISRO for NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) which was successfully placed into geostationary orbit by the Ariane 5 rocket.
- ✓ It is a 24-Ku band communication satellite weighing 4,180 kg with pan-India coverage for meeting DTH application needs.
- ✓ It was the first demand driven communication satellite mission undertaken by NSIL post space sector reforms.
- ✓ It is configured on ISRO's proven I-3k Bus with a mission life of 15 years.
- ✓ NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) NewSpace India Limited headquartered in Bengaluru is a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE).
- ✓ **What is DTH?**
- ✓ DTH stands for "Direct-to-Home." It is a satellite television broadcasting service that delivers television signals directly to subscribers' homes through satellite transmission. DTH allows viewers to access a wide range of TV channels and services without the need for cable connections

Q. Which State bagged the Best Performing State award 2023 in cadaver organ donation?

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

Answer : D



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- ✓ Tamil Nadu bagged the Best Performing State award 2023 in cadaver organ donation .
- ✓ Tamil Nadu leads all Indian states in organ donations with 1,705 people donating their organs and saving 6,247 human lives.

TAMIL NADU IN NEWS 2023

- Tamil Nadu bagged the Best Performing State award 2023 in cadaver organ donation .
- Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister "Udhayanidhi Stalin" has unveiled the trophy and the 'Bomman' mascot for the prestigious Asian Champions Trophy 2023 hockey tournament to be held in Chennai.
- Muthamizh Selvi, first Tamil Nadu woman to scale Mt Everest.
- Tamil Nadu government declared Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary as the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the state..
- Tamil Nadu becomes first state to launch its own Climate Change Mission.
- Tamil Nadu govt to launch five-year Tamil Nadu Millet Mission.
- In a first of its kind initiative in India, the Government of Tamil Nadu announced the 'Nilgiri Tahr Project'.

Q. Cabinet has approved an outlay of ___ crore for BharatNet Project .

- A) ₹1.10 lakh crore B) ₹1.39 lakh crore
C) ₹1.52 lakh crore D) ₹1.75 lakh crore

Answer : B

- ✓ Union Cabinet has approved a last-mile broadband connectivity plan for 6.4 lakh villages across the country under the BharatNet project with an outlay of Rs 1.39 lakh crore, according to sources.
- ✓ Around 1.94 lakh villages have been connected under the BharatNet project at present, and the balance is likely to be connected in two and a half years, they added.
- ✓ The last-mile connectivity will be provided by Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), an arm of state-owned BSNL, in partnership with village level entrepreneur (VLE).



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Q. Which country has partnered with Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL) to build 120 Vande Bharat trains?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ A joint venture between public sector company Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd (RVNL) and Russian engineering company Metrowagonmash is on course to manufacture and supply around 120 Vande Bharat trains to Indian Railways, at a cost of ₹120 crore per train.
- ✓ The blue-and-white trains, with AC sleeper coaches, are expected to be manufactured at a railway factory in Latur, Maharashtra.
- ✓ The RVNL wants a larger share of 69%, leaving 26% for Metrowagonmash and 5% for a third partner, Locomotive Electronic Systems.

Q. India's largest state in terms of area is Rajasthan which covers how many sq. km?

- A) 342,239 sq. km
B) 353,239 sq. km
C) 361,239 sq. km
D) 369,239 sq. km

Answer : A

- ✓ India is a country with many different states, each having its own special qualities.
- ✓ As of 4th August 2023, among 28 states of India, Rajasthan is the India's largest state with the total area of 342,239 sq. km and at the 8th position in terms of population.
- ✓ Largest State in India in terms of Area :
- ✓ India's largest state in terms of area is Rajasthan which covers 342,239 sq. km area, followed by Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ Here is the list of largest states of India in terms of area till 4th August 2023



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S. No.	State	Area (sq. km)
1.	Rajasthan	342,239
2.	Madhya Pradesh	308,245
3.	Maharashtra	307,713
4.	Uttar Pradesh	240,928
5.	Gujarat	196,024
6.	Karnataka	191,791
7.	Andhra Pradesh	162,968
8.	Odisha	155,707
9.	Chhattisgarh	135,191
10.	Tamil Nadu	130,058

Q. Which Country is the Most Populous Country in the World By August 2023?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ As of the latest available data, India has emerged as the most populous country in the world, surpassing China. With a population of approximately 142.86 crore, India now exceeds China's population by roughly 29,56311 lakh and become the most populous Country in the world
- ✓ List of Top 10 Most Populous Country in the World



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Rank	Country	Population
1	India	1,428,627,663
2	China	1,425,671,352
3	United States	339,996,563
4	Indonesia	277,534,122
5	Pakistan	240,485,658
6	Nigeria	223,804,632
7	Brazil	216,422,446
8	Bangladesh	172,954,319
9	Russia	144,444,359
10	Mexico	128,455,567

Q. PM Modi to Launch __ Crores Revamp of 508 Railway Stations under Amrit Bharat Scheme.

- A) ₹16,750 Crores B) ₹20,280 Crores
C) ₹24,470 Crores D) ₹28,500 Crores

Answer : C

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone for the redevelopment of 508 railway stations spread across the country in a virtual manner on 6th August 2023.
- ✓ According to the Ministry of Railways, the redevelopment work has been done at an estimated cost of ₹24,470 crore.
- ✓ Currently only 508 stations are being taken up for revival under the Amrit Bharat scheme launched for redevelopment of 1,309 stations



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Q. Cabinet Secretary "Rajiv Gauba" has been granted extension for how many years by the central government?

- A) 1 Year B) 2 Years
C) 3 Years D) 5 Years

Answer : A

- ✓ The Central government relaxed key rules to give a one-year extension to Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba beyond August 30, 2023, his extension was extended, as per a government order.
- ✓ With this extension, Rajiv Gauba now becomes the longest-serving cabinet secretary.
- ✓ Before Rajiv Gauba, BD Pande had been the longest-serving cabinet secretary from November 2, 1972, to March 31, 1977

FAMOUS SECRETARY IN NEWS

- Sanjay Malhotra : Revenue Secretary
- Aramane Giridhar : Defence Secretary
- Rajiv Gauba - Cabinet Secretary
- Vivek Kumar - Private Secretary to PM
- Vinay Mohan Kwatra - Foreign secretary
- Tarun Kapoor - Advisor to PM
- T V Somanathan - Finance Secretary.
- Ajay Seth - Economic Affairs Secretary.
- TV Somanathan - Expenditure Secretary.
- P Praveen Siddharth - Private Secretary to President.
- Kapil Dev Tripathi - Secretary to President

Q. What is the title of the short film made by the Sports Authority of India on the athletes participating in the Asian Games?

- A) Khelo India B) Halla Bol
C) Chak De India D) Namaste India

Answer : B



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- ✓ Sports Authority of India (SAI) under the Umbrella Campaign 'Cheer4India' has launched a short movie series 'Halla Bol' on the journey of Asian Games bound athletes to motivate them for Hangzhou Asian Games and spread awareness about the upcoming Asian Games.
- ✓ The Sports Authority of India (SAI) is the Apex National Sports Body of India, established in 1984 by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of India for the development of sports in India

Q. Which State Cabinet approved the proposal of a high-level committee to form 19 new districts and 3 new divisions in the State?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ The Rajasthan government has greenlit the formation of 19 new districts and 3 new divisions. The proposal put forward by a high-level committee was approved by the Ashok Gehlot-led Rajasthan cabinet.
- ✓ The western state will now have 50 districts - up from 33 - and 10 divisions.
- ✓ Jaipur district has been divided into Jaipur and Jaipur Rural, and Jodhpur district into Jodhpur and Jodhpur Rural.
- ✓ The other new districts are Apoonagarh, Balotra, Beawar, Deeg, Didwana-Kuchaman, Dudu, Gangapur City, Kekri, Kotputli-Behror, Khairthal-Tijara, Neem ka Thana, Phalodi, Slumber, Sanchoore and Shahpura.
- ✓ The new divisions are Banswara, Pali and Sikar.

Q. Who has been appointed Tesla's Chief Financial Officer (CFO)?

- A) Vaibhav Taneja
B) Kamal Bali
C) Masakazu Yoshimura
D) P Harish Chand Jain

Answer : A

- ✓ Indian-origin Vaibhav Taneja has been named Tesla's new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) as the previous finance chief Zachary Kirkhorn announced his decision to step down.

Q. When is National Javelin Day celebrated annually?

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

Answer : C



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- ✓ August 7 is celebrated as National Javelin Day in India. The Athletics Federation of India, the apex body for the athletics in India, took the decision to celebrate August 7 as the National Javelin Day to commemorate Neeraj Chopra's historic gold medal during the Tokyo Olympics.
- ✓ It was on August 7 2021, that Chopra hurled javelin at a distance of 87.58m during the men's Javelin Throw final of the Tokyo Games to win the gold medal.
- ✓ Chopra scripted history as it was India's first-ever gold medal in Track and Field events in Olympics. With the gold medal at Tokyo, Chopra also became the second individual gold medalist from India after Abhinav Bindra's gold-medal winning performance at the 2008 Beijing Games.
- ✓ India observes 3rd 'Javelin Throw Day' on August 07, 2023

Q. Who has laid the foundation stone for an archeological museum at Adichanallur in Tamil Nadu?

- A) Anurag Thakur B) Nirmala Sitharaman
C) Smriti Irani D) Rajnath Singh

Answer : B

- ✓ Nirmala Sitharaman laid the foundation stone for an archeological museum at Adichanallur in Tamil Nadu's Tuticorin district.
- ✓ Adichanallur was one of the five archaeological sites declared to be developed as 'Iconic Sites' in the Union Budget 2020-21. Adichanallur is an archaeological site located on the banks of river Tamirabarani in this district.
- ✓ The main objective of the museum would be to focus on establishing the significance of the archaeological sites identified as part of the cultural landscape of the Tamirabarani valley, not limiting to the site of Adichanallur

Q. Who appointed as strategic advisor for Cyrus Poonawalla Group's in August 2023?

- A) Keki Mistry B) Aditya Puri
C) Dilip Shanghvi D) Deepak Parekh

Answer : A

- ✓ Cyrus Poonawalla Group, a diversified group of businesses across sectors like pharmaceuticals, finance, clean energy, hospitality, has appointed Keki Mistry, former HDFC Ltd's CEO & Vice Chairman, as the strategic advisor to all the financial services ventures spearheaded by Adar Poonawalla.



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- ✓ According to a press release by the company, Mistry, with over 4 decades of experience, is one of the most respected professionals in the Indian Financial Services industry. He had served as the CEO and Vice Chairman of HDFC Ltd from 2010 till its merger with the HDFC Bank Ltd
- ✓ Serum Institute of India (SII)
- ✓ Founded: 1966
- ✓ Headquarters : Hadapsar, Pune
- ✓ Founder / Chairmam : Cyrus S. Poonawalla
- ✓ CEO: Adar Poonawalla

Q. India has handed over ___ million in advance to Sri Lanka to fund its unique digital identity project in Aug 2023.

- A) INR 350 million B) INR 400 million
C) INR 450 million D) INR 500 million

Answer : C

- ✓ Colombo, India has handed over INR 450 million in advance to Sri Lanka to fund its unique digital identity project, the most crucial step in the island nation's digitalisation programme being implemented through the Indian grant assistance.

SRI LANKA IN NEWS 2023

- India gives Lanka Rs 450 mn in aid for unique digital identity project.
- World Bank approves \$700 million for crisis-hit Sri Lanka.
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off India's first international cruise vessel - MV Empress, from Chennai to Sri Lanka.
- Bharti Airtel has announced its plan to merge its Sri Lanka operations with Dialog Axiata, the largest telecom provider in Sri Lanka.
- The 10th annual SLINEX-2023 bilateral maritime exercise between India and Sri Lanka has commenced in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka assent to Adani Green's \$442 Million Wind Power Project.
- India will support Sri Lanka's debt restructuring plan as the island nation looks to trim its huge public expenditure to win approval for a crucial bailout from the International Monetary Fund.



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- 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. Who to hold Public Hearing on Adani Kattupalli Port Expansion Amid Controversy?

- A) KAPCB**
- B) MHPCB**
- C) TNPCB**
- D) APPCB**

Answer : C

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) is set to conduct a public hearing on the proposed expansion of Adani group's Kattupalli Port in Tiruvallur district.
- ✓ The public hearing for the Kattupalli Port expansion by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ), which is investing Rs 53,031 crore, to ramp the port's capacity from 24.65 million tonnes (mt) per annum to 320 mt, will be held at 10 am on September 5, 2023



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Q. Which State has introduced the 'Shubhayatra' scheme to support and facilitate Overseas Emigrants?

- A) Goa
B) Kerala
C) Uttar Pradesh
D) Uttarakhand

Answer : B

- ✓ State government of Kerala has launched a groundbreaking scheme called 'Shubhayatra'. The scheme aims to provide much-needed financial support to first-time overseas emigrants from Kerala, facilitating a positive and productive migration ecosystem.
- ✓ In support of the 'Shubhayatra' scheme, the Kerala government has allocated ₹2 crore in the current financial year for providing tax holidays and interest subvention to emigrants

KERALA IN NEWS 2023

- Kerala has launched a groundbreaking scheme called 'Shubhayatra'.
- Kerala to set up India's first fisheries Atal Incubation Centre.
- Piramal Finance opened the first all women branch named "Maitreyi" at Thripunithura near Kochi to cater to the unique needs of women customers.
- Kerala has become the first state in the country to launch its own internet service.
- Kerala has become the first and only state in the country to have its own internet services.
- According to data shared by the GI Registry, Kerala received the highest number of Geographical Indication (GI) tags for products among all states in India in the fiscal year 23 (FY23).
- Kerala has adopted a water budget, the first of its kind in the country, to deal with the problem of water scarcity in summer.
- Dharmadam, Kerala becomes first complete library constituency in India.
- Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan launches 'One Panchayat, One Playground' project.
- India's first Graphene Innovation center to be set up in Kerala.
- Recently, a group of researchers discovered a butterfly subspecies from the fringes of Akkulam and Vembanad lakes in Kerala.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25th April flagged off Kerala's first Vande Bharat Express between Thiruvananthapuram and Kasargod at Thiruvananthapuram Central Station.
- Kerala declared first State to enable digital banking service.



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- M T Vasudevan Nair was awarded the "Kerala Jyoti", the highest civilian honour in Kerala.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched the 2nd G20 Empower meeting in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala under the theme "Women Empowerment: Win-win for Equality and Economy".
- Kerala to become first State to use robotics tech extensively for manhole cleaning.
- National Green Tribunal (NGT) in New Delhi has imposed a fine of Rs 10 crore on the Kerala government for failing to protect the Vembanad and Ashtamudi lakes, listed as Ramsar sites.



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NAME - PRIYADARSHINI
KALIYAMOORTHY
ROLL NO - [2120036944](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK
STATE - TAMILNADU



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NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY
ROLL NO - [2603003298](#)
SELECTED IN - ARYAVART
GRAMIN BANK CLERK
STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



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NAME - ISHITA GARG
ROLL NO - [2283004123](#)
STATE - PUNJAB
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK



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NAME - NIPUN
ROLL NO - [1533002831](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - PRAVEEN
ROLL NO - [1801005776](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB PO
KARNATAKA GRAMMENA
BANK
STATE - KARNATAKA



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

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NAME - BATHINA MANEESHA
ROLL NO - [2543024278](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - TELAGANA



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NAME - NISHU SHARMA
ROLL NO - [1523008901](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
STATE - HARYANA



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NAME - GURIYA KUMARI
ROLL NO - [1373006773](#)
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK
DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN
BANK



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NAME - GURPREET KAUR
ROLL NO - [2283002821](#)
BANK - PUNJAB GRAMIN BANK
STATE - FROM PUNJAB



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GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

NAME - MANU VARGHESE
ROLL NO - [2110710970](#)
BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN
BANK CLERK