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- IIT Kanpur's C3iHub, a cybersecurity Technology Innovation Hub, has launched a Cybersecurity Skilling Programme .
- IIT Madras to set up its first international campus in Tanzania.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras will be provided a grant of Rs 242 crore over a period of five years to carry out research on Lab Grown Diamonds (LGD).
- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay has been ranked 1st in India and 47th globally in engineering and technology by the QS World University Rankings for 2023.
- IIT Indore, in partnership with NASA-Caltech and the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, has designed an inexpensive camera setup.
- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Researchers have developed a three-dimensional (3D) paper-based portable device that can detect adulteration in milk within 30 seconds.
- IIT Kanpur to Host Youth20 Consultation under G20 Presidency of India.
- IIT Bombay's SHUNYA secures second place in 'Solar Decathlon' Build Challenge in US.
- Students of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore won an award of AED (Emirates Dirham) 1 million along with a gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai.
- IIT Indore Students Awarded with Global Best M-GOV Awards by Egyptian President.
- Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) at IIT Kanpur has entered into a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreement with Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited.
- DRDO Industry Academia Centre of Excellence inaugurated at IIT Hyderabad.
- IIT Madras-incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system called BharOS.
- IIT Madras Centre of Excellence working with DRDO on Advanced Defence Technologies including Combat Vehicle Technologies.
- IIT Madras researchers develop machine learning tool to detect tumour in brain, spinal cord.
- ISRO plans to develop astronaut training module with IIT Madras.
- IIT-Bombay and Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) join hands to develop touchless biometric system.
- IIT delhi has been ranked among the top 50 engineering institutions in the QS World University Rankings by Subject .
- An IIT Madras incubated firm has developed an indigenous mobile operating system 'Bharos' that can benefit India's 100 crore mobile phone users.



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Q. Which ship-building company delivered INS Imphal, the third ship of Project 15B-Class of stealth guided missile destroyers?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) delivered the third Stealth Destroyer of Project 15B Class Guided Missile Destroyer, i.e., Yard 12706 (IMPHAL), to the Indian Navy.
- ✓ About Yard 12706 (IMPHAL):
- ✓ The ship is constructed using Indigenous Steel DMR 249A and is among the largest Destroyers constructed in India, with an overall length of 164 metres and a displacement of over 7500 tonnes.
- ✓ The ship is propelled by a powerful Combined Gas and Gas Propulsion Plant (COGAG), consisting of four reversible Gas Turbines, which enables her to achieve a speed of over 30 knots (approx 55 Kmph).
- ✓ Key points about Project 15B
- ✓ Project 15B (P15B) / Visakhapatnam-class is the latest destroyer design currently under construction for the Indian Navy.
- ✓ These ships have been designed indigenously by the Indian Navy's Directorate of Naval Design, New Delhi.
- ✓ Each ship spans 163 meters in length and 17.4 meters in beam and displaces 7,300 tonnes

Q. Which state government has inaugurated 'Mission Mahila Sarathi'?

- A) Bihar
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Kerala
- D) Karnataka

Answer : B

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated "Mission Mahila Sarathi" recently in Ayodhya.
- ✓ Under the scheme, 51 buses of the state transport corporation will be operated by women drivers and conductors.



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UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the first Uttar Pradesh International Trade Show at India Expo Center and Mart in Greater Noida.
- Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA) has signed an MoU with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for the solarisation of residential units at Ayodhya and for bio-energy and renewable project financing.
- Ashok Leyland has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the government of Uttar Pradesh to set up an integrated commercial vehicle bus plant focused on green mobility in Uttar Pradesh.
- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to organize a campaign under Road Safety Fortnight from July 17 to 31.
- Uttar Pradesh Police Department has launched 'Operation Conviction' to combat criminals and mafias in the state.
- Uttar Pradesh government has decided to cancel all Traffic Chalan for private and commercial vehicle owners pending from 2017 to 2021.
- UP holds 2nd position in GI tagged products.
- After getting GI tag for three more One District One Product (ODOP) crafts, Uttar Pradesh has now come second in the country in terms of maximum number of items with Geographical Indication tag.
- The ODOP crafts which have got GI tag include Mainpuri Tarkashi, Mahoba Gaura Stone Craft and Sambhal Horn Craft.
- Tamil Nadu leads with 55 GI-tags, followed by UP and Karnataka with 48 and 46 GI products, respectively.
- The state government has given green signal to the project of setting Uttar Pradesh a state's first Pharma Park in Lalitpur district of Bundelkhand.
- Uttar Pradesh introduces "School Health Program" digital health cards for children.
- The online rural education initiative 'Pahal' was officially launched by Chief Secretary Durga Shankar Mishra at Government UP Sainik Inter College in Sarojini Nagar.
- Uttar Pradesh on track to be first Indian state with 100% EVs in govt depts.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the India's first urban transport ropeway on March 24, 2023, in Varanasi.



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

Q. India's first Nano DAP plant has been inaugurated in which state?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the country's first Nano DAP plant in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- ✓ Nano Liquid Dapp Plant in Kalol has been set up by IFFCO at a cost of Rs 300 crore. IFFCO was established in 1967.



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Q. With which country has the Union Cabinet approved the Memorandum of Cooperation for Semiconductor Supply Chain Partnership?

- A) France
B) Germany
C) Singapore
D) Japan

Answer : D

- ✓ The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Cooperation between India and Japan on Japan-India Semiconductor Supply Chain Partnership. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology had signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with Japan in July 2023.

SIGNS MoU IN NEWS 2023

- India-Japan pact on semiconductor supply chain gets Cabinet green light.
- India, Italy sign defence agreement.
- India and Tanzania elevate ties to Strategic Partnership; Agree on 5 year roadmap for defence cooperation.
- India, Tanzania to sign 15 agreements with eye on USD 10 billion trade.
- India And Saudi Arabia Tie Up For Green Hydrogen.
- India And Saudi Arabia Sign Agreement On Cooperation In Energy Sector.
- India, New Zealand Sign MoU To Enhance Cooperation In Civil Aviation.
- India and Trinidad and Tobago have entered a partnership by signing an MoU to share INDIA STACK.
- India, Moldova agree to sign MoU for cooperation in agriculture
- India, UAE sign MoU on linking of India's Unified Payments Interface with Instant Payment Platform of UAE.
- India, Panama sign MoU on electoral cooperation.
- India and Singapore extend MoU on cooperation for 5 years.
- Israel signed an agreement with India to enhance technological advancements and sustainable practices cooperation in the fields of water and agriculture.
- India and US To Establish Monitoring Group to Boost High-Tech Trade and Tech Partnership.
- India and Australia Sign Agreements on Migration and Green Hydrogen Task Force.
- India, Israel sign MoU for industrial research and development cooperation.



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- NET Zero' Innovation Virtual Centre to be jointly created by India-UK.
- India, UK sign agreement to collaborate on science and innovation.
- Nepal and India to Sign Agreement for Cross-Border Digital Payments.
- India and Romania sign first Defence Cooperation Agreement to strengthen bilateral relations.
- India, US to sign memorandum of understanding on semiconductors.
- Australia, India agree on strengthening economic, defence ties.

Q. Which Indian-American was awarded the National Medal of Technology and Innovation by the US President?

- A) Vivek Ramaswami B) Ashok Gadgil
C) Arun Mehra D) Ajay Bagga

Answer : B

- ✓ US President Joe Biden honored two Indian American scientists with the National Medal of Technology and Innovation. Which includes Ashok Gadgil and Subra Suresh.
- ✓ This award is given to those Americans who have made achievements in science and technology. This award was established in 1959

Q. Who has been appointed by the Election Commission of India as its national icon?

- A) Kapil Dev B) Mahendra Singh Dhoni
C) Anushka Sharma D) Rajkumar Rao

Answer : D

- ✓ The Election Commission of India has appointed actor Rajkumar Rao as its national icon. National icons make people aware about voting.
- ✓ Rajkumar Rao was given the National Award for Best Actor for his film 'Newton'.
- ✓ In August this year, the Election Commission had made former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar its national icon.

Q. Which country is hosting the UN Forum on 'Forest Fire and Certification'?

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



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Answer : D

- ✓ A two-day Country Led Initiative (CLI) program is being organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in Uttarakhand at the Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun. In this, about 55 representatives from 30 countries and 41 representatives from 20 organizations will discuss the topic of Forest Fire and Certification. This program is a part of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

Q. Who has been made the new head coach of the Indian women's cricket team?

- A) Amol Muzumdar B) Ramesh Powar
C) Nikhil Chopra D) Ajay Jadeja

Answer : A

- ✓ Domestic cricket legend Amol Muzumdar has been named the new head coach of the Indian women's cricket team by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Muzumdar has previously worked as the batting coach for Rajasthan Royals (RR) in the Indian Premier League (IPL)

Q. Which player has made the record of fastest century in ODI World Cup history?

- A) Rohit Sharma B) Glenn Maxwell
C) Aiden Markram D) Babar Azam

Answer : B

- ✓ Australia's Glenn Maxwell has scored the fastest century in World Cup history. Glenn Maxwell completed his century against Netherlands in just 40 balls. During his innings, Maxwell hit 9 fours and 8 sixes.
- ✓ In this case, Maxwell broke the record of South Africa's Aiden Markram who had scored a century in 49

Q. The Indian textile industry in collaboration with industry bodies will host the world's largest textiles event "Bharat Tex 2024" in which city from 26 February to 29 February 2024?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ The Indian textile industry in collaboration with industry bodies will host the world's largest textiles event "Bharat Tex 2024".
- ✓ This mega exhibition is scheduled to take place from 26 February to 29 February 2024 in New Delhi.



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Q. According to which market intelligence, India surpasses Japan to become 2nd largest economy in Asia by 2030?

- A) Fitch Rating
- B) FICCI
- C) S&P Global
- D) OECD

Answer : C

- ✓ India, the world's fifth largest economy in the world, is likely to overtake Japan to become the world's third-largest economy with a GDP of \$ 7.3 trillion by 2030, S&P Global Market Intelligence.
- ✓ After two years of rapid economic growth in 2021 and 2022, the Indian economy has continued to show sustained strong growth during the 2023 calendar year.
- ✓ India's gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to grow 6.2-6.3 percent in the fiscal year ending in March 2024, being the fastest-growing major economy this fiscal year.
- ✓ India's nominal GDP measured in \$ terms is forecast to rise from \$ 3.5 trillion in 2022 to \$ 7.3 trillion by 2030

Q. The Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023, recently seen in news is a joint bilateral training exercise between the India and which of the following country's army?

- A) Nepal
- B) Malaysia
- C) Sri Lanka
- D) Indonesia

Answer : B

- ✓ The joint bilateral training exercise "Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023" between the Indian and Malaysian Army has officially started at Umroi Cantonment in India.
- ✓ The Malaysian Army contingent includes troops from the 5th Royal Battalion of the Malaysian Army, while the Indian contingent is represented by a battalion of THE RAJPUT REGIMENT.
- ✓ The previous edition of this exercise took place in Malaysia in 2022



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- ✓ Construction of Hostels in higher educational institutions which are top-ranked as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of Government of India and are funded by the Centre/State/UT Governments either fully or partially.

Q. Consider the following statements about Small Savings Instruments (SSIs)

1. All deposits received under various small savings schemes are pooled in the National Small Savings Fund.

2. Public provident fund (PPF) and Kisan Vikas Patra are the examples of Small Savings Instruments.

3. The money in the fund is used by the central government to finance its fiscal deficit.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

A) Only one

B) Only two

C) All three

D) None of the above

Answer : C

- ✓ The government of India has raised the rates offered for most small savings instruments (SSIs) in the range of 40 basis points (bps) to 150 bps over the last five quarters.
 - ✓ About Small Savings Instruments (SSIs):
 - ✓ These are a set of savings instruments managed by the central government with the aim of encouraging citizens to save regularly, irrespective of their age.
 - ✓ Features
 - ✓ They provide returns that are generally higher than bank fixed deposits.
 - ✓ It also gives a sovereign guarantee and tax benefits.
 - ✓ The interest rates on small savings schemes change on a quarterly basis.
 - ✓ All deposits received under various small savings schemes are pooled in the National Small Savings Fund.
 - ✓ These instruments can be classified under three headings:
 - ✓ Postal deposits (comprising savings account, recurring deposits, time deposits of varying maturities, and monthly income scheme (MIS)).
 - ✓ Savings certificates (National Small Savings Certificate VIII (NSC) and Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP)).
 - ✓ Social security schemes (public provident fund (PPF) and Senior Citizens' Savings Scheme (SCSS)).
- The money in the fund is used by the central government to finance its fiscal deficit.



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

Q. Which of the following has recently unveiled its indigenously built the Vikram-1 rocket?

- A) Boeing Rotorcraft Systems B) Tata Advanced Systems
C) Skyroot Aerospace D) National Aerospace Laboratories

Answer : C

- ✓ Space start-up Skyroot Aerospace has unveiled its indigenously built Vikram-1 rocket in Hyderabad which is expected to deliver satellites to low earth orbit early 2024.
- ✓ Skyroot's Vikram-1 is described as a "technologically advanced, multi-stage launch vehicle with a payload capacity of approximately 300 Kg to Low Earth Orbit.
- ✓ It is an all-carbon-fiber-bodied rocket equipped with 3D-printed liquid engines.
- ✓ Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh also inaugurated 'The MAX-Q Campus', the new headquarters of the start-up at the GMR Aerospace and Industrial Park at Mamidipally in South Hyderabad.



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- ✓ IndusInd Bank has collaborated with Viamericas Corporation to offer non-resident Indians (NRIs) in the US digital inward remittance services on the 'Indus Fast Remit' platform.
- ✓ The service will offer competitive exchange rates on remittances to India.
- ✓ NRIs can initiate remittance transactions using the auto debit payment mode (automated clearing house – ACH) through their overseas bank accounts on the Fast Remit platform.
- ✓ INDUSLND BANK
- ✓ Founded : 1994
- ✓ Founder : S.P. Hinduja
- ✓ Headquarters : Pune, Maharashtra,
- ✓ MD & CEO : Sumant Kathpalia
- ✓ Tagline : We Make You Feel Richer

Q. Which state government has launched the 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' to boost employment opportunities in the state?

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Uttarakhand

C) Rajasthan

D) Haryana

Answer : C

- ✓ The Rajasthan government has launched the 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' at Jaipur's Techno Hub to boost employment opportunities in the state.
- ✓ The platform has launched in collaboration with Jaipur-based startup Hyrefox.
- ✓ Objective – To serve as a user-friendly platform for both job providers and job seekers.
- ✓ The platform not only allows companies to discover potential talent but also lets them post job openings and connect with their future employees

RAJASTHAN IN NEWS 2023

- Rajasthan government has launched the 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' at Jaipur's Techno Hub to boost employment opportunities in the state.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched multiple projects worth ₹5,000 crore in Rajasthan and asserted that they will lead to further development of the state.
- Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has announced the formation of three new districts in the state — Malpura, Sujangarh, and Kuchman City. Rajasthan will now have 53 districts.



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- Rajasthan government has issued an order to conduct a caste survey in the state. It will become the second state in India to carry out such a survey, after Bihar.
- Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) India Limited, a Navratna Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSE) under the Ministry of Coal, has emerged victorious in securing an 810 MW Solar PV project capacity from Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Nigam Limited (RRVUNL).
- Prime Minister recently offered prayers at the Sanwariya Seth Temple in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.
- 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.
- 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.

Q. Who has been appointed as Brand Ambassador of an ed-tech platform, Henry Harvin Education?

A) Shashi Tharoor

B) Amitav Ghosh

C) Chetan Bhagat

D) Salman Rushdie



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Answer : C

- ✓ Henry Harvin Education, an ed-tech platform specializing in upskilling and reskilling programmes for young professionals, has onboarded Chetan Bhagat as its brand ambassador.
- ✓ Backed by this alliance, Henry Harvin Education is poised for a voyage of further innovation and transformative growth, solidifying its position as a trailblazing influence in the global education sector.
- ✓ This partnership represents a shared vision and commitment to empowering the youth of India.
- ✓ Chetan Bhagat Books:
 - ✓ One Night @the Call Centre
 - ✓ Half Girlfriend
 - ✓ 5 Point Someone
 - ✓ The Three Mistakes of My Life
 - ✓ 2 States
 - ✓ Half Girlfriend
 - ✓ What India Wants

LATEST BRAND AMBASSADOR IN NEWS 2023

Chetan bhagat	Henry Harvin Education
Mohammed Shami	Puma
Sachin Tendulkar	ICC as the global ambassador of ODI World Cup 2023
Mahendra Singh Dhoni	JioMart
Katrina Kaif	Uniqlo
Hrithik Roshan	lubricants brand Mobilil
Anushka Sharma	W
Mahendra Singh Dhoni	Swaraj Tractors
Iga Świątek	Infosys
Rafael Nadal	Infosys
Rahul Dravid	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
Shah Rukh Khan	ICC World Cup 2023
Shraddha Kapoor	Asics India Private Limited
Rashmika Mandanna	Printer company Epson India
Smriti Mandhana	Wrangler
Hrithik Roshan	Zebronics TV
Sachin Tendulkar	Smile Ambassador
Sania Mirza	Sony Sports Network
Sourav Ganguly	Brand ambassador of Tripura Tourism
Virat Kohli	Duroflex
Alia Bhatt	Gucci, the luxury fashion brand from Italy
Ayushman Khurana	Wakefit



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Rishabh Pant	Star Sports
Rohit Sharma	JioCinema
Virat Kohli	HSBC India
Ranveer Singh	Star Sports Network
Shreya Ghodawat	India's ambassador for She Changes Climate
MC Mary Kom, Farhan Akhtar	Brand ambassadors of IBA Women's World Championships 2023
Sachin Tendulkar	World's first 'Hand Ambassador' for Savlon India
Ranveer Singh	Pepsi
Ayushmann Khurrana	UNICEF India child rights
Yastika Bhatia and Renuka Singh Thakur	Hyundai Motor India Ltd
Vir Das	Plant-based meat brand UnCrave
Harmanpreet Kaur	Puma
Nikhat Zareen	National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)
Saurav Ganguly	Bandhan Bank 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign
Anushka Sharma	Puma
Deepika Padukone	Pottery Barn
Virat Kohli	Smart watch Noise
Prasoon Joshi	Uttarakhand State
Lionel Messi	Byjus

Q. Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda, and Chief Minister of Gujarat, Bhupendra Patel have inaugurated the Aadi Mahotsav at Ahmedabad. What is the theme of this festival?

- A) Marketing Development
- B) Tribal Culture
- C) Van Dhan Vikas Kendras
- D) Celebration of Tribal Entrepreneurship, Crafts, Culture and Commerce

Answer : D

- ✓ Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda, and Chief Minister of Gujarat, Bhupendra Patel have inaugurated the Aadi Mahotsav at Ahmedabad.
- ✓ The Aadi Mahotsav is a 10-day mega event which is being organized by the TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India, Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs), at the Ahmedabad Haat, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad.
- ✓ The theme of the festival is 'Celebration of Tribal Entrepreneurship, Crafts, Culture and Commerce'.



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- ✓ The Aadi Mahotsav features the exhibition-cum-sale of tribal handicrafts, art, paintings, fabric, jewellery, cuisine and much more through 100 stalls. More than 200 tribal artisans and artists from across the country are participating in the festival

Q. India's Deepthi Jeevanji has clinched the gold medal in the women's ____ -T20 event at the Asian Para Games 2023

- A) 200m
- B) 300m
- C) 400m
- D) 500m

Answer : C

- ✓ India's Deepthi Jeevanji has clinched the gold medal in the women's 400m-T20 event at the Asian Para Games 2023.
- ✓ Deepthi clocked a timing of 56.69 seconds to finish more than two whole seconds ahead of her nearest rival Orawan Kaising of Thailand, who secured the silver medal with a time of 59s.

Q. Prachi Yadav has won gold in the women's Para KL2 event at the Asian Para Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China. She is related to which sport?

- A) Canoe
- B) Archery
- C) Tennis
- D) Wushu

Answer : A

- ✓ Prachi Yadav has won gold in the women's Para Canoe KL2 event at the Asian Para Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China

Q. Who has been appointed as the Director of General Hospital Services (Armed Forces)?

- A) Sadhna Saxena Nair
- B) Sankar Muthusamy
- C) Bharat Raghav
- D) Nicholas Nathan Raj

Answer : A

- ✓ Air Marshal Sadhna Saxena Nair took charge as the Director of General Hospital Services (Armed Forces), becoming the first women officer to hold the prestigious post.

Q. Who has won the women's singles title at Abu Dhabi Masters 2023 in UAE?

- A) Unnati Hooda
- B) Rakshitha Sree
- C) Anupama Upadhyaya
- D) Ayush Shetty



Answer : A

- ✓ India's Unnati Hooda beat Samiya Imad Farooqui in the final of the Abu Dhabi Masters 2023 women's singles event in the United Arab Emirates.
- ✓ The 16-year-old Unnati Hooda took 40 minutes to defeat the 20-year-old Samiya Imad Farooqui 21-16, 22-20 on the badminton courts of the ADNEC Marina Hall in the UAE capital.
- ✓ Unnati Hooda is an Indian badminton player

Q. Who won the gold medal for India with a new Asian Games record in the Men's High Jump T47 at the Asian Para Games 2022?

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| A) Nishad Kumar | B) Bhim Singh |
| C) Monu Ghangas | D) Tejaswin Shankar |

Answer : A

- ✓ Nishad Kumar bagged a gold medal for India with a new Asian Games record in the Men's High Jump T47 at the 4th Asian Para Games 2022.
- ✓ Nishad took the gold with a jump of 2.02m. China's Hongjie Chen settled for silver (1.94m). India's Ram Pal too won silver as he registered 1.94m in his fifth attempt.

Q. Who won the gold medal in the Men's High Jump T63 event at the Asian Para Games 2022?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| A) Ajit Singh Balla | B) Gurnam Singh |
| C) Shailesh Kumar | D) Bhim Singh |

Answer : C

- ✓ Shailesh Kumar has won the gold medal in the Men's High Jump T63 event at the Asian Para Games 2022.
- ✓ The Asian Para Games 2022 is being held in Hangzhou, China.
- ✓ Shailesh Kumar leaped a distance of 1.82m and in the process broke the Games record

Q. Pranav Soorma has won the gold medal at the Asian Para Games 2022. He is related to which sport?

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| A) Karate | B) Wrestling |
| C) Wushu | D) Club throw |

Answer : D

- ✓ India swept all three medals in the men's club throw F51 event with Pranav Soorma winning the gold on the opening day of the athletics competition at the Hangzhou Asian Para Games 2022.



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- ✓ The 29-year-old Soorma broke the Asian Para Games record with an effort of 30.01m to clinch the gold while Dharambir (28.76m) and Amit Kumar (26.93m) were second and third respectively.

Q. World Polio Day is observed every year on October 24. What is the theme of World Polio Day 2023?

- A) Stories of Progress: Past and Present
- B) End Polio Now
- C) A healthier future for mothers and children
- D) Together, we end polio

Answer : C

- ✓ World Polio Day is observed every year on October 24.
- ✓ Objective – To create awareness around the importance of polio vaccination to protect children.
- ✓ Theme 2023 – A healthier future for mothers and children.
- ✓ It is also an opportunity to highlight the importance of all mothers, fathers, caregivers, health workers and volunteers who play a key role in getting polio vaccines to children and their communities.
- ✓ On January 13, this year, India completes 12 polio-free years which is considered as a remarkable achievement; the last polio case in India was detected in 2011

Q. UN Disarmament Week is celebrated every year from to

- A) 25-29 October
- B) 25-30 October
- C) 25-31 October
- D) 24-30 October

Answer : D

- ✓ UN Disarmament Week is celebrated every year on October 24 to 30.
- ✓ It is an annual event organized by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).
- ✓ Objective – To raise awareness of the importance of disarmament and to promote the elimination of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

Q. Who is next Kotak Mahindra Bank CEO from January 1, 2024?

- A) Ashok Vaswani
- B) Rajshankar Ray
- C) B Ramesh Babu
- D) A. Manimekhalai.

Answer : A



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- ✓ International banker Ashok Vaswani, who until last year was at a senior role in British bank Barclays, will succeed Uday Kotak as MD & CEO at Kotak Mahindra Bank — the fourth largest private lender..
- ✓ Ashok Vaswani is set to hold the position of the new CEO and MD of Kotak Mahindra Bank for a period of three years, likely from January 1, 2024
- ✓ Kotak Mahindra Bank
- ✓ Founded 1985
- ✓ Founders : Uday Kotak
- ✓ Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ✓ MD & CEO : Ashok Vaswani
- ✓ Tagline : Let's Make Money Simple Ab Kona Kona Kotak.
- ✓ Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited is an Indian banking and financial services company headquartered in Mumbai.
- ✓ It is India's third largest private sector bank by market capitalisation after HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank.
- ✓ As of 31 March 2023, the bank has a national footprint of 1,780 branches and 2,963 ATMs.
- ✓ Kotak Mahindra Finance was then renamed Kotak Mahindra Bank. At the time, Uday Kotak had a 56% stake in the company while Anand Mahindra held a 5% stake .

NEWLY BANK MD & CEO IN NEWS 2023

- Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Ashok Vaswani as the Managing Director & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) for a period of three years.
- South Indian Bank has appointed P R Seshadri as its MD & CEO .
- Ashwani Kumar is new MD & CEO of UCO Bank.
- Karnataka Bank Appoints Srikrishnan Harihara Sarma as MD & CEO.
- Rajneesh Karnatak Named As New MD and Chairman Of Bank Of India.
- Debadatta Chand named as new Managing Director of Bank of Baroda.
- Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been elevated as Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.
- K Satyanarayana Raju named as new MD and CEO of Canara Bank.



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Purple Fest	Goa
Orange Festival	Nagaland
Kala Ghoda Arts Festival	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Losar Festival	Ladakh
23rd Hornbill Festival	Nagaland
Gaan Ngai festival	Manipur
Cherchera Festival	Chhattisgarh
26th National Youth Festival 2023	Hubbali, Karnataka
International Yoga Festival 2023	Rishikesh, Uttarakhand
Tribal Dance Festival & Military Tattoo	New Delhi
Mongeeet Festival	Assam
International Kite Festival 2023	Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Vigyanika Science Literature Festival	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
Baisakhi is a harvest festival	Punjab and Haryana

Q. What rights does the Montreux Convention provide to Turkey during times of war?

- A) Full control over the Turkish Straits
- B) The right to regulate trade through the Black Sea
- C) The ability to block all vessels, including merchant vessels
- D) The right to regulate the transit of naval warships

Answer : D

- ✓ The Turkish Ministry of National Defence recently announced that it will impose restrictions on the passage of warships belonging to countries not bordering the Black Sea within the framework of the Montreux Convention.
- ✓ About the Montreux Convention:
- ✓ It is an agreement concerning the Dardanelles Strait and the Bosphorus Strait, also known as the Turkish straits or the Black Sea straits.
- ✓ The Turkish straits are the only maritime passage between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.
- ✓ According to the 1936 Montreux Convention Regarding the Regime of the Straits, often referred to simply as the Montreux Convention, Turkey has control over the Turkish Straits.
- ✓ In the event of a war, the pact gives Turkey the right to regulate the transit of naval warships and to block the straits for warships belonging to the countries involved in the conflict.



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- ✓ Merchant vessels enjoy freedom of passage through the Turkish Straits, while passages of vessels of war are subject to some restrictions that vary depending on whether these vessels belong to the Black Sea littoral States or not.

Q. Which Company has Introduces Maternity Insurance Plan for Women Delivery Partners?

- A) Flipkart
B) Meesho
C) Zomato
D) Foodpanda

Answer : C

- ✓ Zomato, the food ordering and delivery platform, has introduced a maternity insurance programme for its female delivery partners. This insurance coverage caters to a range of pregnancy-related expenses, including childbirth and maternity complications.
- ✓ Operated in collaboration with ACKO, the maternity insurance programme is available to female delivery partners who have completed 1,000 deliveries on the Zomato platform and have maintained an active status for at least 60 days prior to applying for this insurance.
- ✓ This insurance plan provides up to ₹25,000 for natural childbirth, up to ₹40,000 for cesarean sections, and up to ₹40,000 in case of maternity complications such as miscarriage and abortion.
- ✓ The comprehensive insurance offering encompasses coverage for both natural and caesarean deliveries for up to two children
- ✓ India's gig economy has been growing daily. According to data by NITI Aayog, India has 7.7 million gig workers, and the numbers are expected to swell to 23.5 million by 2029-30
- ✓ ZOMATO
- ✓ Founded : July 2008
- ✓ Founders : Deepinder Goyal & Pankaj Chaddah
- ✓ Headquarters : Gurgaon, Haryana
- ✓ CEO : Deepinder Goyal

Q. Which state government to Set Up ₹237 Crore Graphene Production Facility?

- A) Odisha
B) Maharashtra
C) Uttar Pradesh
D) Kerala

Answer : D

- ✓ Kerala government decided to establish a graphene production facility as a pilot project in the State.



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- ✓ Graphene, a material produced from graphite, is in high global demand for its use in making electronics, sensors, coatings, composites, and biomedical devices.
- ✓ The Cabinet cleared the proposal to establish the exploratory facility for ₹237 crore in public-private partnership (PPP) mode. It has not specified the location of the facility.

KERALA IN NEWS 2023

- Kerala government decided to establish a graphene production facility as a pilot project in the State.
- The Indian Blind Football Federation (IBFF) said that the 'IBSA Blind Football Intercontinental Cup 2023' will be organized at the United Sports Center in Kakkanad in Kochi, Kerala.
- Kerala unveils additional books to include portions deleted by NCERT.
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) Secretary Shri Alkesh Kumar Sharma launched the 'Graphene-Aurora program' at a function in Maker Village Kochi, Kerala.
- 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.

Q. The Lemru Elephant Corridor, recently seen in the news, is located in ____.

A) Assam

B) Karnataka

C) Chhattisgarh

D) Maharashtra

Answer : C

- ✓ The Union Coal Ministry has said that Coal India Limited's (CIL) 40 coal blocks in and around the Lemru Elephant Corridor (LEC) will not be auctioned at the request of the Chhattisgarh government.
- ✓ About Lemru Elephant reserve
- ✓ It is located in the Korba district of Chhattisgarh.
- ✓ It seeks to give elephants a permanent habitat while also minimising property damage and human-animal conflict.
- ✓ The reserve is part of an elephant corridor that connects Lemru (Korba), Badalkhol (Jashpur), Tamorpingla (Surguja).
- ✓ Elephant reserves in India- There are 33 notified Elephant Reserves (ERs) in the country, spread over 14 states.
- ✓ What is Project Elephant?
- ✓ It was launched by the Government of India in 1992 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with following objectives:
 - ✓ To protect elephants, their habitat & corridors
 - ✓ To address issues of man-animal conflict
 - ✓ Welfare of captive elephants



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Q. In which state did Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launch 124 PM-Shri schools?

- A) Haryana
B) Uttar Pradesh
C) Assam
D) Punjab

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan, along with Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, launched 124 PM-Shri schools in the state.
- ✓ These schools have been designed with smart classrooms and information and communication technology (ICT) laboratories.
- ✓ PM-Shri School Scheme is a central government scheme.
- ✓ About Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM-SHRI) Scheme:
 - ✓ It is a Centrally Sponsored scheme announced in 2022.
 - ✓ Objective: Development of more than 14500 schools across the country by strengthening selected existing schools being managed by Central Government/ State/ UT Government/ local bodies.
 - ✓ The duration of the scheme is from 2022-23 to 2026-27, after which it shall be the responsibility of the States/UTs to continue to maintain the benchmarks achieved by these schools.
- ✓ Features:
 - ✓ The selected schools will act as exemplar schools showcasing all components of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) and offering mentorship to other schools in their vicinity.
 - ✓ The PM SHRI Schools will be developed as Green Schools, incorporating environment-friendly aspects.
 - ✓ The pedagogy adopted in these schools will be more experiential, holistic, integrated, play/toy-based (particularly in the foundational years), inquiry-driven, discovery-oriented, learner-centric, discussion-based, flexible and enjoyable.
 - ✓ The focus will be on the learning outcomes of every child in every grade.

Q. Which Indian player won the gold medal in the 50m Rifles SH-1 event at the Asian Para Games?

- A) Ajay Sinha
B) Rahul Kumar
C) Siddharth Babu
D) Amit Anand

Answer : C



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- ✓ Siddharth Babu won gold medal in 50 meter rifles SH-1 event in Asian Para Games. Indian Para athletes created history by winning the most medals in the Asian Para Games on October 26, taking the country's medal tally to 82, including 18 gold.
- ✓ India had earlier won 72 medals in the 2018 Asian Para Games

Q. Who has been elected as the next King of Malaysia?

- A) Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar B) Al-Sultan Abdullah
C) Al-Sultan Ibrahim D) Yang Amat Berhormat

Answer : A

- ✓ The royal families of Malaysia have elected Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar as the next king of the country.
- ✓ He will take over from outgoing King Al-Sultan Abdullah on January 31 next year.
- ✓ Malaysia has a unique tradition in which the heads of its nine royal families become kings on a rotating basis for a five-year term.
- ✓ Malaysia is a country in Southeast Asia.
- ✓ Capital : Kuala Lumpur
- ✓ Currency : Malaysian ringgit (MYR).

Q. Who to become Slovakia's new prime minister for fourth time?

- A) Robert Fico B) Peter Pellegrini
C) Eduard Chmelár D) Andrej Danko

Answer : A

- ✓ Leftist leader Robert Fico was appointed Slovakia's prime minister for the fourth time, after pledging in his election campaign to end military support for Ukraine and criticising sanctions on Russia.
- ✓ President Zuzana Caputova appointed Fico and his cabinet after his SMER-SSD party won the Sept.
- ✓ Slovakia officially the Slovak Republic is a landlocked country in Central Europe
- ✓ Capital : Bratislava
- ✓ Currency : Euro
- ✓ • President : Zuzana Čaputová
- ✓ • Prime Minister : Robert Fico



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Q. Who has inaugurated the 7th Edition of the India Mobile Congress at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi?

A) Amit Shah

B) Narendra Modi

C) Droupadi Murmu

D) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer : B

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th Edition of India Mobile Congress 2023 on 27 October 2023 and said 'The Future is Here and Now'. The event is taking place at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan in New Delhi
- ✓ Reliance Jio's Space Fibre and Jio Bharat Device :
- ✓ During the event, Akash Ambani introduced Reliance Jio's groundbreaking initiative – Space Fibre, India's first satellite-based giga fibre service capable of delivering internet speeds of up to 1 Gbps. This innovation is set to transform high-speed broadband services in previously inaccessible areas of India. Furthermore, the Jio Bharat device, offering 4G services, was on display at the Jio pavilion.
- ✓ Bharti Enterprises' Technological Showcase :
- ✓ At the Mobile Congress, Bharti Enterprises showcased the “future of innovation” with technologies like 5G Plus, AI-enabled tech, and other digital infrastructure solutions. These advancements are set to revolutionize the telecommunications landscape in India.
- ✓ The '100 5G Use Case Labs' Initiative :
- ✓ During the event, Prime Minister Modi conferred awards upon 100 '5G Use Case Labs' established in educational institutions across India as part of the '100 5G Labs initiative.' This initiative focuses on developing 5G applications tailored to India's unique requirements and global demands
- ✓ Asia's Largest Telecom, Media, and Technology Forum :
- ✓ The India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2023, scheduled from October 27 to 29, is Asia's largest telecom, media, and technology forum. It serves as a platform to showcase India's remarkable advancements in telecommunications and technology, make significant announcements, and offer startups the opportunity to showcase innovative products and solutions.
- ✓ Theme: 'Global Digital Innovation' :
- ✓ Under the theme 'Global Digital Innovation,' IMC 2023 aims to reinforce India's position as a developer, manufacturer, and exporter of cutting-edge technologies. This includes 5G, 6G, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and critical discussions on issues related to the semiconductor industry, green technology, and cybersecurity.



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- ✓ Founded in 1971, the park was given the status of a national park in 1974.
- ✓ In 2002, a portion of the park became a biological reserve, the Bannerghatta Biological Park. It is the first biological park in India to have a fenced, forested elephant sanctuary.
- ✓ In 2006, India's first butterfly enclosure was inaugurated at the park.

Q. The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) will conduct a 5G Hackathon VIMARSH 2023 to address the challenges faced by Law Enforcement Agencies. The Hackathon will be organized by which ministry?

- A) Ministry of Home Affairs B) Ministry of Finance
C) Ministry of Defence D) Ministry of Education

Answer : A

- ✓ The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) will conduct a 5G Hackathon VIMARSH 2023 to address the challenges faced by Law Enforcement Agencies.
- ✓ The students can submit their ideas between the 1st of November to the 9th of December this year. The grand finale of VIMARSH 2023 will be organized on the 28th of February next year.
- ✓ The Hackathon will be jointly organized by the Home Ministry, the Department of Telecom, and Telecom Centres of Excellence India.
- ✓ Nine Problem Statements have been formulated to conduct a Hackathon with students and startups.

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently inaugurated which edition of the National Games at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Goa?

- A) 38th B) 35th
C) 36th D) 37th

Answer : D

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 37th National Games at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Goa.
- ✓ PM said, India is advancing in various domains and setting unprecedented benchmarks today. From Khelo India to TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme), the government has created a new ecosystem to support players in the country.
- ✓ National Games is reflection of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. The Prime Minister also appreciated the preparation for the National Games by the Goa government.



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- ✓ Moga is the official mascot for the 2023 National Games of India

Q. Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda, and Chief Minister of Gujarat, Bhupendra Patel have inaugurated the Aadi Mahotsav at Ahmedabad. What is the theme of this festival?

- A) Marketing Development
- B) Tribal Culture
- C) Van Dhan Vikas Kendras
- D) Celebration of Tribal Entrepreneurship, Crafts, Culture and Commerce

Answer : D

- ✓ Union Minister for Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda, and Chief Minister of Gujarat, Bhupendra Patel have inaugurated the Aadi Mahotsav at Ahmedabad.
- ✓ The Aadi Mahotsav is a 10-day mega event which is being organized by the TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India, Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs), at the Ahmedabad Haat, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad.
- ✓ The theme of the festival is 'Celebration of Tribal Entrepreneurship, Crafts, Culture and Commerce'.
- ✓ The Aadi Mahotsav features the exhibition-cum-sale of tribal handicrafts, art, paintings, fabric, jewellery, cuisine and much more through 100 stalls. More than 200 tribal artisans and artists from across the country are participating in the festival

Q. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has constituted a committee of 12 members to simplify insurance policy wording. Who will chair this committee?

- A) L Viswanathan
- B) Anand R. Baiwar
- C) Pramod Rao
- D) G. P. Garg

Answer : A

- ✓ The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has constituted a committee of 12 members to simplify insurance policy wording.
- ✓ The committee, which will be headed by L Viswanathan, a member of the Insurance Advisory Committee (IAC), will also include the Secretary Generals of the Life Insurance and General Insurance Council along with the president of the Insurance Brokers Association of India (IBAI) and the Principal Officer, State Bank of India (Corporate Agent) as well as other senior members of the insurance industry.



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- ✓ This decision comes in the backdrop of Ir dai's observation that policyholders often find it difficult to understand the terms and conditions in insurance policy contracts due to the complex language used in the policy, stopping them from making informed decisions while purchasing an insurance policy.
- ✓ As a step towards Ir dai's goal of Insurance for all by 2047, the regulator is putting efforts towards creating a progressive, supportive, facilitative and forward-looking architecture, which will foster a healthy environment leading to wider choice, accessibility and affordability to the policyholders.
- ✓ The eight-member committee has been asked to submit its recommendations within 8-10 weeks.

COMMITTEE IN NEWS 2023

- Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has constituted a committee of 12 members to simplify insurance policy wording. The committee, which will be headed by L Viswanathan.
- Government has constituted an eight member high level committee to examine One Nation, One Election. Former President Ram Nath Kovind has been appointed as Chairman of the committee.
- Government of India has constituted an expert panel headed by former Law Secretary TK Vishwanathan to propose reforms in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act and reduce the burden on the courts.
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has established an 11-member Cheetah Project Steering Committee under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and Rajesh Gopal, secretary general of Global Tiger Forum, has been appointed as its chairman.
- Government of India has constituted a Peace Committee in Manipur under the Chairpersonship of Governor, Manipur Anusuiya Uikey.
- IRDAI has recently constituted a five-member expert committee comprising medical experts and insurers to advise on matters related to mental health and insurance; Headed By : Pratima Murthy.
- Razorpay forms 4-member advisory board to strengthen corporate governance; Head-former RBI deputy governor NS Vishwanathan.
- Ministry of Finance has set up of a four-member committee forms panel to suggest changes to National Pension Scheme (NPS); Headed By- Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan.
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has set up a 14-member committee to look into stalled real estate projects; Headed By – Amitabh Kant.



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- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has constituted a nine-member task force to make India a 'product developer and manufacturing nation'. Chaired By - Bhuvnesh Kumar.
- International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has formed an expert committee to create a roadmap to encourage Indian startups/fintech domiciled abroad to relocate to the GIFT City in Gujarat. Chaired By - G. Padmanabhan.
- A five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has ruled that the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs) will now be made by a high-power committee consisting of the Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and the Chief Justice of India.
- The five-judge Constitution Bench was headed by Justice K M Joseph.
- Supreme Court has formed a six-member expert committee to examine Hindenburg Research firm's report on the Adani Group and probe the stock price crash in Adani stocks. Headed By - AM Sapre.
- Government of India (GoI) constituted a 16-member inter-ministerial committee to analyse the need for a separate law for competition in the digital market and to draft a digital competition act within three months. Headed By - Manoj Govil.
- The Shipping Ministry has formed a committee to draft revised Guidelines for operationalization of Roll on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) and Roll on-Passenger (Ro-Pax) ferry service. Headed By- Sanjay K. Mehta.

Q. World Energy Outlook 2023, recently in news is published by which of the following organization?

- A) International Renewable Energy Agency
- B) International Energy Agency
- C) International Atomic Energy Agency
- D) Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

Answer : B

- ✓ According to World Energy Outlook 2023, India will see the largest energy demand growth of any country or region in the world over the next 3 decades.
- ✓ It is the world's most authoritative source of energy analysis and projections.
- ✓ Findings of World Energy Outlook 2023 for India
- ✓ Power consumption – India will exceed the whole of Africa now.



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- ✓ Air-conditioner usage – Residential ownership to see 9 fold increase by 2050.
- ✓ Energy demand – A sharp rise as temperatures cross the 25-degree Celsius threshold.
- ✓ Energy supply – To rise to 60.3 exajoules (EJ) by 2050.
- ✓ Investments – Need to nearly triple by the end of this decade to be on a trajectory to meet its net zero emissions target.
- ✓ Annual CO2 emissions – To rises nearly 30% by 2050, which is one of the largest increases in the world.
- ✓ Implication over India's climate – Over the past 5 decades, more than 700 heatwave events occurred

Q. Indian Army's first Vertical Wind Tunnel has been constructed in which state?

- A) Sikkim B) Punjab
C) Himachal Pradesh D) Jammu and Kashmir

Answer : C

- ✓ Indian Army's inaugural Vertical Wind Tunnel (VWT) has been inaugurated at the Special Forces Training School (SFTS) located in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- ✓ This state-of-the-art wind tunnel is aimed to enhance and improve the Combat Freefall (CFF) skills of armed forces personnel

HIMACHAL PRADESH IN NEWS 2023

- Indian Army's inaugural Vertical Wind Tunnel (VWT) has been inaugurated at the Special Forces Training School (SFTS) located in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Launches Scheme For Specially-Abled Children, 'SABAL'.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu launched 'Sashakt Mahila Loan Yojana', a collateral-free loan scheme for women.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has inaugurated "The Tribune Real Estate Expo, 2023, Shimla".
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu informed that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) will set up an ethanol plant at Jeetpur Baheri in Una district at a cost of Rs 500 crore.
- European Commission (EC) has awarded protected geographical indication (PGI) status to Kangra tea, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of India's Himachal Pradesh.



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- Himachal Pradesh (HP) has become the first Indian state to develop a DNA database for unidentified bodies.
- Himachal Pradesh launched Sanjeevani Project to uplift the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- Himachal Pradesh targets to be first 'green energy state' by 2025.
- Himachal Cabinet approves monthly incentive of Rs 1,500 for women of Spiti Valley.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up of Rs 101 crore CM's Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh for the destitute in the state.
- Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu laid the foundation stone of 'Himachal Niketan' which will provide accommodation facilities to the students and residents of Himachal Pradesh visiting New Delhi.
- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its 53rd Statehood Day with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023
- About Himachal Pradesh
- Formation - 1 November 1956
- Capital - Shimla and Dharamshala (Winter)
- District - 12
- Governor- Shiv Pratap Shukla
- Chief Minister - Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
- Rajya Sabha - 3 seats
- Lok Sabha - 4 seats
- Symbol of Himachal Pradesh
- Bird - Western Tragopan
- Fish - Golden Mahseer
- Flowers - Pink Rhododendron
- Mammal - Snow Leopard
- Tree -Deodar Cedar



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Q. Consider the following statements, with reference to Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN:

- 1. The scheme aims to improve infrastructure and connectivity in India, especially in remote and underserved regions.**
- 2. It is a component of India's National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP), 2016.**
- 3. UDAN 5.1 is designed specifically for helicopter routes by increasing the scope of operations for helicopter operators.**

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A) Only one**
- B) Only two**
- C) All three**
- D) None**

Answer : C

- ✓ The Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) has recently completes 6 years with a total of 75 airports have being and 499 UDAN routes being operationalized under UDAN.
- ✓ The Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN aims to improve infrastructure and connectivity in India, especially in remote and underserved regions.
- ✓ It is a vital component of India's National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) 2016, launched by the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) with a 10-year vision.
- ✓ The first RCS-UDAN flight was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 2017, connecting Shimla to Delhi.
- ✓ The scheme focuses on improving unserved air routes in underserved regions of the country and fulfilling the aspirations of the common citizens.
- ✓ UDAN 5.1 – designed specifically for helicopter routes by increasing the scope of operations for helicopter operators, enhancing viability gap funding (VGF) and reducing Airfare Caps.
- ✓ UDAN 5.2 – is underway to further enhance the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country, achieve last-mile connectivity.
- ✓ The scheme will provide greater operational flexibility to the small aircraft operators



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Q. Consider the following statements with respect to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) framework::

1.ESG investment strategies guarantee higher financial returns compared to traditional investment approaches.

2.ESG criteria are used by investors, stakeholders, and organizations to evaluate a company's commitment to sustainable and responsible business practices.

3.ESG investing only applies to public equity investments, not other asset classes such as private equity, fixed income or real estate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 only

C) 2 and 3 only

D) 1 only

Answer : B

- ✓ Statements 1 and 3 are incorrect.
- ✓ ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) investment strategies do not guarantee higher financial returns compared to traditional investment approaches.
- ✓ ESG investments are made with the primary goal of aligning one's portfolio with ethical and sustainable values, and they take into account not only financial factors but also environmental, social, and governance considerations.
- ✓ While some ESG investments may perform well financially, their returns are subject to the same market risks and fluctuations as traditional investments.
- ✓ ESG investing is a framework for evaluating how companies manage their environmental, social, and governance risks and opportunities.
- ✓ This framework can be applied to any type of investment, regardless of the asset class.
- ✓ Statement 2 is correct.
- ✓ ESG criteria are used by investors, stakeholders, and organizations to evaluate a company's commitment to sustainable and responsible business practices.
- ✓ Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria are a set of standards that companies can use to measure and manage their impact on the environment, society, and their own governance practices
- ✓ ESG criteria are becoming increasingly important to investors, stakeholders, and organizations because they can help to identify companies that are making a positive impact on the



Q. With reference to Energy Transition, consider the following statements:

1. Energy Transition refers to the transformation of the energy sector from fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption to renewable energy sources.

2. India is the fourth-largest renewable energy producer in the world.

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

- ✓ Energy Transition refers to the transformation of the energy sector from fossil-based systems of energy production and consumption to renewable energy sources.
- ✓ It involves a shift in the energy mix to reduce the carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases.
- ✓ India is the world's third-largest consumer of electricity.
- ✓ India stands fourth globally in renewable energy installed capacity, fourth in wind power capacity, and fourth in solar power capacity.

Q. Consider the following:

1. Fintech companies

2. Credit unions

3. Peer-to-peer lending platforms

4. Insurance companies

Which of the options provided above possesses the capability to deliver digital lending services?

A) 1, 2 and 3 only

B) 1, 3 and 4 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1 and 2 only

Answer : A

- ✓ Fintech companies, Credit unions, Peer-to-peer lending platforms, Microfinance institutions are capable of digital lending. Digital lending is the process of applying for, receiving, and managing loans through online platforms. It uses technology to automate and streamline the lending process, making it faster, easier, and more convenient for borrowers. Digital lending platforms can be offered by traditional banks or by new fintech companies. They typically use a variety of data sources, including bank statements, credit history,



and social media data, to assess a borrower's creditworthiness. This allows them to make faster and more informed lending decisions

Q. With reference to India's Tax base, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. India's tax base has significantly declined since 2013-14.

2. The number of returns filed by individual taxpayers in various income ranges has grown.

Select the correct statements using the codes given below:

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : B

- ✓ Statement 1 is incorrect. India's tax base has significantly expanded since 2013-14. The number of income tax returns filed by individuals has increased from 3.36 crore to 6.37 crore between assessment years 2013-14 and 2021-22. Statement 2 is correct. The number of returns filed by individual taxpayers in various income ranges has grown.
- ✓ In the income range up to ₹5 lakh, there has been a 32% increase in the number of returns filed, including those with incomes below the taxable limit.
- ✓ For higher income ranges of ₹5 lakh to ₹10 lakh, the number of returns filed increased by 295%.

Q. 'Arattu' festival, which was seen in the news, is a famous festival of which state?

A) Kerala

B) Karnataka

C) Odisha

D) Bihar

Answer : A

- ✓ The 'Arattu' festival has a rich tradition of being celebrated at the Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram.
- ✓ The uniqueness of the 'Arattu' festival is that the head of the royal family of the erstwhile Travancore kingdom still escorts the idols of deities during the procession in traditional attire.
- ✓ The Arattu Festival is celebrated twice each year.



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KERALA IN NEWS 2023

- The 'Arattu' festival has a rich tradition of being celebrated at the Sree Padmanabha Swamy Temple in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- Kerala government decided to establish a graphene production facility as a pilot project in the State.
- The Indian Blind Football Federation (IBFF) said that the 'IBSA Blind Football Intercontinental Cup 2023' will be organized at the United Sports Center in Kakkanad in Kochi, Kerala.
- Kerala unveils additional books to include portions deleted by NCERT.
- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) Secretary Shri Alkesh Kumar Sharma launched the 'Graphene-Aurora program' at a function in Maker Village Kochi, Kerala.
- 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.
- M T Vasudevan Nair was awarded the "Kerala Jyoti", the highest civilian honour in Kerala.



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- ✓ The first edition of Chanakya Defence Dialogue will be held on 3rd & 4th November 2023 in Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi. This is the first event of its kind being organized by the Indian Army.
- ✓ This Dialogue will carry out a comprehensive analysis of security challenges in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific. It will focus on crafting a roadmap for collaborative security measures in the region to fortify India's position as a ready, resurgent, and relevant stakeholder among the nations of this region.
- ✓ Indian Army has been closely working with 340 indigenous defence industries towards the fructification of 230 contracts by the year 2025. The COAS also mentioned that Indian Army has identified 45 niche technologies in the field of military applications.

Q. Which of the following has launched its Maiden Mutual Fund Schemes – Nifty LargeMidcap 250 Index Fund, ELSS Tax Saver Nifty LargeMidcap 250 Index Fund?

- A) HDFC Mutual Fund B) Bharti AXA General Insurance
C) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance D) Zerodha Fund House

Answer : D

- ✓ Zerodha Fund House has launched its maiden funds – Zerodha Nifty LargeMidcap 250 Index Fund and Zerodha ELSS Tax Saver Nifty LargeMidcap 250 Index Fund, open-ended, passive, index equity mutual fund schemes.
- ✓ The NFO opened on 20th October 2023 and will remain open till 3rd November 2023.
- ✓ It is a joint venture between Zerodha Broking Limited and Smallcase Technologies Pvt Ltd.
- ✓ Zerodha Fund House (ZFH) is a passive-only AMC which aims to build simple, transparent, and affordable mutual funds. ZFH will leverage technology at every touchpoint to provide building blocks for every investor's portfolio.
- ✓ Zerodha Nifty LargeMidcap 250 Index Fund and Zerodha ELSS Tax Saver Nifty LargeMidcap 250 Index Fund will be benchmarked against Nifty LargeMidcap 250 Index TRI (Total Returns Index).

Q. Richa Chadha has been honored with the title of 'Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' by the government of which country for her significant contribution in the field of art?

- A) France B) Australia
C) Russia D) Japan

Answer : A



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- ✓ Richa Chadha has been awarded the title of ‘Chevalier dans l’ordre des Arts et des Lettres’ by the French government for her significant contributions in the field of arts.
- ✓ Jean-Marc Sere-Charlet, the Consul General of France in Mumbai, presents the award to Chadha on the sidelines of the Jio MAMI Mumbai International Film Festival.
- ✓ The actresses’ 2015 critically-acclaimed film, ‘Masaan’ was an Indo-French co-production that was screened in the ‘Un Certain Regard’ section at the Cannes Film Festival the same year and had won two awards.
- ✓ For her maiden home production film, ‘Girls Will Be Girls’ she has received both, the French grant ‘Aide aux Cinemas du Monde’ (ACM) as well as the new incentives introduced by the Indian authorities.

Q. Sheetal Devi has become the first Indian woman to win two gold medals in a single edition of the Asian Para Games by claiming the top honours in the women’s individual compound event. She is related to which sport?

- A) Archery B) Wushu
C) Shotput D) Tennis

Answer : A

- ✓ Teenaged armless archer Sheetal Devi has become the first Indian woman to win two gold medals in a single edition of the Asian Para Games by claiming the top honours in the women’s individual compound event.
- ✓ It is a hat-trick of medals for the 16-year-old from Jammu and Kashmir, who holds her bow with her foot.
- ✓ Earlier this week, Sheetal won gold in the compound mixed team event and silver in the women’s doubles.
- ✓ Sheetal, who became the first armless woman to win a Para World Archery Championships medal in July, defeated Singapore’s Alim Nur Syahidah 144-142 in the gold medal match

Q. Who has been appointed by State Bank of India as its new brand ambassador?

- A) Sachin Tendulkar B) Mahendra Singh Dhoni
C) Rohit Sharma D) Virat Kohli

Answer : B

- ✓ State Bank of India (SBI) has appointed cricket legend Mahendra Singh Dhoni as the official brand ambassador of the bank.
- ✓ As a brand ambassador, Dhoni will play a key role in various promotional campaigns of the bank.
- ✓ State Bank of India is a public sector bank, its headquarters is in Mumbai, Maharashtra.



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MS DHONI IN NEWS 2023

- Lay's announces cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its brand ambassador, starring in a campaign – 'No Lay's, No Game.'
- State Bank of India (SBI), the nation's largest lender, has appointed the legendary cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its official Brand Ambassador.
- Reliance Retail's JioMart has signed up Mahendra Singh Dhoni, India's most iconic cricketer, as its brand ambassador.
- Industrialist Anand Mahindra has welcomed Mahendra Singh Dhoni as the cricketer became a brand ambassador of his Swaraj Tractors.
- Former India cricket team captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni and drone market Garuda Aerospace have launched a surveillance drone named 'Droni.'
- Viacom18 announces former captain MS Dhoni as their brand ambassador.

Q. Which bank has partnered with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to issue its first electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) on the latter's platform?

A) Federal Bank

B) RBL Bank

C) Kotak Mahindra Bank

D) IndusInd Bank

Answer : C

- ✓ Kotak Mahindra Bank has partnered with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to issue its first electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) on the latter's platform.
- ✓ The tie-up enables the digitization of Trade, thus helping eliminate the paper-based issuance of Bank Guarantees.
- ✓ The digitization includes issuance, amendment, closure, digital stamping, and signing, significantly reducing the Guarantee turnaround time (TAT) to a few hours compared to 2-3 working days for the paper-based process. The e-BG also mitigates the authentication risks.

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK IN NEWS 2023

- Kotak Mahindra Bank has partnered with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to issue its first electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) on the latter's platform.
- Ashok Vaswani is next Kotak Mahindra Bank CEO.



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- ✓ After the second edition, the Exercise was upgraded to a company-level exercise and renamed as 'Exercise KAZIND'.
- ✓ The Exercise has been further upgraded as a Bi-service Exercise this year by including the Air Force component.

Q. Deep Narayan Nayak has been awarded the Global Teacher Prize 2023. He is from which state?

- A) Chhattisgarh B) Rajasthan
C) West Bengal D) Maharashtra

Answer : C

- ✓ A teacher from West Bengal, Deep Narayan Nayak has been announced as a top 10 finalist from across 130 countries in the USD 1 million Global Teacher Prize 2023.
- ✓ Deep Narayan, from Tilka Manjhi Adivasi Free Primary School in Jamuria, Asansol, earned the title of "Teacher of the Streets" during the COVID-19 lockdown when he moved classrooms outside and helped bridge the digital divide for disadvantaged children living below the poverty line in remote communities, empowering those with learning disabilities, counseling students and their parents, and improving literacy rates among adult learners.
- ✓ Now in its eighth year, the annual prize is organized by the UK-based Varkey Foundation in collaboration with UNESCO and in strategic partnership with Dubai Cares, a UAE-based global philanthropic organization.
- ✓ The prize was created to recognize an exceptional teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to the profession as well as to shine a spotlight on the important role teachers play in society

Q. Which company has become the official sponsor for the 37th National Games?

- A) MasterCard
B) Dream 11
C) BharatPe
D) Paytm

Answer : D

- ✓ India's renowned fintech giant, Paytm is the official sponsor for the 37th National Games in Goa.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the National Games at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Fatorda.



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SPONSOR IN NEWS 2023

- Paytm becomes official sponsor for 37th National Games .
- MotoGP Bharat has roped in IndianOil as the title sponsor for the event scheduled to take place at the Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida.
- ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 to be sponsored by Mahindra on Disney Star.
- Amul has been named as the official sponsor of the Indian contingent for the 19th Asian Games 2022 to be held in Hangzhou, China.
- The 28th edition of BWF World Badminton Championships 2023, sponsored by TotalEnergies, was held at Royal Arena, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- International Cricket Council (ICC) has a brand tie-up with Mastercard for the upcoming Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 to be held in India between 5 October and 19 November 2023.
- Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) signed a three-year sponsorship deal with fantasy sports gaming platform Dream 11.
- BCCI ropes in Adidas as new kit sponsor of Indian cricket team.
- Mastercard has reportedly taken over from BharatPe as the global sponsor of the International Cricket Council (ICC).
- Tata Group bags Title sponsorship rights for the Women's Premier League to 2027.
- Adani Sportsline is principal sponsor of Indian Olympic Association Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022, the Hangzhou Asian Games 2022, and the Paris Olympic Games 2024.
- Kewal Kiran Clothing (KKCL) replaces MPL as Indian cricket team's official sponsor.
- Adidas will sponsor the India cricket team kit as part of a Rs 350 billion deal.
- BCCI to become an official partner of the TATA Indian Premier League (IPL) for the 2023 season.
- Sony Sports signs Hyundai Ioniq 5, Samsonite as sponsors for Australian Open 2023.
- Odisha extends Indian Hockey team sponsorship till 2033.
- For the second year in a row, the State Bank of India (SBI) has extended its sponsorship for Khleo India Youth Games (KIYG) in Madhya Pradesh and remained as KIYG's Principal sponsor for KIYG 2022 edition.



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Q. The European Union (EU) and India conducted their first joint naval exercise in which place?

- A) Gulf of Guinea
B) Indian Ocean
C) South China Sea
D) Gulf of Finland

Answer : A

- ✓ The European Union (EU) and India recently conducted their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea. The exercise followed the third meeting of the EU-India Maritime Security Dialogue in Brussels.
- ✓ During the exercise, Indian Navy's INS Sumedha, an Offshore Patrol Vessel, was joined by three EU Member States' ships in the Gulf of Guinea

Q. In the context of the Global Minimum Corporate Tax (GMCT), consider the following statements:

- 1. It is a proposed international tax reform that would set a minimum tax rate of 15% on multinational corporations.**
- 2. It is a tax on the gross revenue of multinational corporations.**
- 3. It will require all multinational corporations to pay the same tax amount, regardless of their size or location.**

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A) Only one
B) Only two
C) All three
D) None

Answer : A

- ✓ Statement 1 is correct. GMCT is a proposed international tax reform that would set a minimum tax rate of 15% on multinational corporations. It is designed to address the problem of tax avoidance, where companies shift their profits to low-tax jurisdictions in order to reduce their overall tax burden. The GMCT will work through a two-pillar approach:
- ✓ Pillar One: This pillar would allow countries to tax a share of the profits of multinational corporations that are generated in their markets, even if the company does not have a physical presence in the country.
- ✓ Pillar Two: This pillar would introduce a global minimum tax rate of 15% on multinational corporations. If a company pays less than 15% tax in any country where it operates, its home country would be able to impose a top-up tax to bring the effective tax rate up to 15%.
- ✓ Statements 2 and 3 are incorrect. GMCT is not a tax on the gross revenue of multinational corporations. It is a tax on the profits of multinational corporations. The GMCT is designed to reduce the incentives for



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companies to shift their profits to low-tax jurisdictions. The GMCT does not require all multinational corporations to pay the same tax amount, regardless of their size or location. The tax rate will be applied to the net income or profit that enterprises make from their businesses, and the actual tax liability will depend on the size and location of the corporation

Q. With reference to Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) consider the following statements::

1.It aims to provide full compensation for the wage loss in terms of cash incentive, so that the woman can take adequate rest before and after delivery of the first child.

2.Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal ministry for implementing the scheme.

3.The benefit under PMMVY is to be provided to a woman for the first two children provided the second child is a girl.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A) 1 and 2 only

B) 2 and 3 only

C) 1 and 3 only

D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer : B

- ✓ Statement 1 is incorrect. PMMVY is a partial compensation scheme, which means that it does not fully cover the wage loss of a pregnant woman. The scheme provides a cash incentive of ₹5,000 to pregnant women and lactating mothers who meet certain eligibility criteria. Statements 2 and 3 are correct. Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal ministry for implementing the scheme. The benefit under PMMVY is to be provided to a woman for the first two children provided the second child is a girl.
- ✓ About PM Matru Vandana Yojana:
- ✓ It is a Centrally Sponsored Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme launched in 2017.
- ✓ Objectives
- ✓ Providing partial compensation for the wage loss in terms of cash incentive, so that the woman can take adequate rest before and after delivery of the first child
- ✓ To improve health-seeking behaviour amongst Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers (PW&LM).
- ✓ Features
- ✓ The scheme is to provide maternity benefits to women belonging to socially and economically disadvantaged sections of society.



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- ✓ The maternity benefit is to be provided to a woman for the first two living children provided the second child is a girl
- ✓ Under this scheme monetary benefit of Rs. 5,000 is given to the expecting mothers from the time of the initial stage of pregnancy to till the time the child is born.
- ✓ Additionally, Rs. 1,000 is provided under the Janani Suraksha Yojana post-institutional delivery.
- ✓ The Rs. 5,000 is provided in three installments.
- ✓ The first installment of Rs. 1,000 is paid at the time of registration of the pregnancy.
- ✓ The second installment of Rs. 2,000 is paid at the time of completing 6 months of pregnancy and receiving at least one antenatal checkup.
- ✓ The third installment of Rs. 2,000 is received after the birth and registration of birth of such child and after such child receives the first cycle of immunization for BCG, OPV, DPT and Hepatitis-B.
- ✓ Cases of miscarriage/stillbirths are to be treated as fresh cases for providing maternity benefits under the scheme

Q. Consider the following statements about Saras Aajeevika Mela

1. It aims to bring rural women SHG members under one platform to showcase their skills, sell their products and linkages with potential market players.

2. It is organised by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR).

Choose the correct statements:

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

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently, the union Minister of State for Rural Development, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution inaugurated the popular SARAS Mela Gurugram.
- ✓ About Saras Aajeevika Mela:
- ✓ It is an initiative by the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) of Ministry of Rural Development.



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- ✓ Aim: To bring the rural women Self Help Group members under one platform to showcase their skills, sell their products, and help them build linkages with potential market players.
- ✓ It is organised by the Ministry of Rural Development and National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR)
- ✓ Key facts about DAY-NRLM
- ✓ It is a flagship rural poverty alleviation program of the Government of India.
- ✓ It addresses multiple dimensions of The programme aims to reach out to 10 Crore rural poor households and organise one woman member from each rural household into affinity-based women SHGs.
- ✓ These SHGs provide close, long-term handholding support to their members, enabling them to access financial services from banks, diversify and stabilise their livelihoods, and effectively access their entitlements with ease.
- ✓ Objective: To ensure that each family is able to achieve household food security and have more than one stabilised livelihood source.

Q. Which of the following are the Indigenous cattle breeds of India?

1. Harian

2. Kankrej

3. Rathi

4. Jamunapari

Choose the correct code:

A) 2 and 3

B) 1 and 2

C) 1, 3 and 4

D) 1, 2 and 3

Answer : D

- ✓ The Rashtriya Gokul Mission seeks to improve all Indigenous cattle breeds of India but recently it is found that it has promoted only the Gir indigenous cow breed.
- ✓ About the Rashtriya Gokul Mission
- ✓ It has been implemented for the development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds since December 2014.
- ✓ It is continued under the umbrella scheme Rashtriya Pashudhan Vikas Yojana from 2021 to 2026.
- ✓ Objectives
- ✓ To enhance the productivity of bovines and increase milk production in a sustainable manner using advanced technologies.



- ✓ To propagate the use of high genetic merit bulls for breeding purposes.
- ✓ To enhance artificial insemination coverage through strengthening the breeding network and delivery of Artificial insemination services at farmers' doorstep.
- ✓ To promote indigenous cattle & buffalo rearing and conservation in a scientific and holistic manner.
- ✓ About Gir Cow:
 - ✓ It is an excellent dairy cattle breed well-known among milk producers.
 - ✓ It is known for its milk producing ability, good fertility, heat tolerance, easy maintenance, resistance to diseases, and longevity.
 - ✓ The name of the breed is derived from its place of origin, the “Gir” forest of Gujarat.
 - ✓ It has the ability to adapt to the entire central belt and northern and southern stretches

Q. Consider the following statements about NISAR

1. NISAR is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.

2. NISAR is the first satellite mission to use two different radar frequencies to measure changes in our planet's surface.

Choose the correct statements:

A) 1 only

B) 2 only

C) Both 1 and 2

D) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : C

- ✓ The ‘NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar’ (NISAR) is poised to facilitate the exploration of how shifts in Earth's forest and wetland ecosystems impact the global carbon cycle and influence climate change.
- ✓ About NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR):
 - ✓ NISAR is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.
 - ✓ It is an SUV-size satellite weighing 2,800 kilograms.
 - ✓ It consists of both L-band and S-band synthetic aperture radar (SAR) instruments, which makes it a dual-frequency imaging radar satellite.
 - ✓ NISAR will be the first satellite mission to use two different radar frequencies (L-band and S-band) to measure changes in our planet's surface.
 - ✓ SAR is capable of penetrating clouds and can collect data day and night regardless of the weather conditions.
 - ✓ NASA has provided the L-band radar, GPS, a high-capacity solid-state recorder to store data, and a payload data subsystem. ISRO has provided the S-band radar, the GSLV launch system, and spacecraft.



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Q. Melghat Tiger Reserve, recently seen in news is located in which of the following state?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ A tiger was recently found dead in the Susarda range in the Paratwada division of Melghat Tiger Reserve (MTR) buffer zone
- ✓ About Melghat Tiger Reserve (MTR):
- ✓ Location:
- ✓ It is located in the Amaravati district of Maharashtra.
- ✓ It is located on the southern offshoot of the Satpura Hill Range in Central India, called Gavilgarh Hill.
- ✓ It was established as a wildlife sanctuary in 1967 and was declared a tiger reserve in 1974.
- ✓ It was the first tiger reserve in Maharashtra.
- ✓ It was among the first nine tiger reserves notified in 1973-74 under Project Tiger.

Q. Where was the fourth annual conference of the Indian Association for Economics and Allied Sciences held?

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

Answer : B

- ✓ Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the fourth annual conference of the Indian Economics & Allied Sciences Association at the University of Kashmir, Srinagar.
- ✓ Indian Economics and Allied Sciences Association (IEASA) President Professor Sudhakar Panda and IEASA Secretary Dr. Alok Kumar also participated in this program.

Q. Which city will host Beautyworld Middle East 2023?

- A) Muscat
B) Dubai
C) Abu Dhabi
D) Kuwait City

Answer : B

- ✓ Beautyworld Middle East 2023 will be held from October 30 to November 1, 2023 at the Dubai World Trade Centre.



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- ✓ This is a major international trade show. 1,750 exhibitors from 57 countries are expected to participate in this event.

Q. Which country has recently been removed by the Financial Action Task Force from its 'grey list'?

- A) Pakistan
- B) Malaysia
- C) Myanmar
- S) Albania

Answer : D

- ✓ The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has announced the removal of several countries from its 'grey list' in a review published on October 27, 2023.
- ✓ These include Cayman Islands, Panama, Jordan and Albania. Bulgaria has been included in the list.
- ✓ The 'grey list' includes countries that do not meet standards such as anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing (CFT).

Q. Which Indian shooter secured the 11th Paris Olympic quota for India in the Asian Shooting Championship?

- A) Saurabh Chaudhary
- B) Anjali Bhagwat
- C) Jeetu Rai
- D) Manu Bhakar

Answer : D

- ✓ Indian female shooter Manu Bhakar secured the 11th Paris Olympic quota for India in the Asian Shooting Championship.
- ✓ She finished fifth in the women's 25 meter sports pistol event at the Asian Championships in Changwon, Korea.
- ✓ Arjun Babuta in the men's 10 meter air rifle event and Sarabjot Singh in the men's 10 meter air pistol event have also secured Paris 2024 quota

Q. Climate change expert Professor Salimul Haq has passed away, he was a resident of which country?

- A) Pakistan
- B) Japan
- C) India
- D) Bangladesh

Answer : D

- ✓ Famous climate change expert Professor Saleemul Huq has passed away in Dhaka, Bangladesh. He was the director of the International Center for Climate Change and Development.



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- ✓ He was a resident of Bangladesh.
- ✓ Salimul Haq was a professor at Independent University Bangladesh (IUB).
- ✓ He was an associate of the United Kingdom's International Institute on Environment and Development (IIED)

Q. Who addressed the 7th Edition of Future Investment Initiative (FII) in Riyadh?

- A) Nitin Gadkari B) Amit Shah
C) Piyush Goyal D) Narendra Modi

Answer : C

- ✓ Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Textiles, Piyush Goyal attended the 7th Edition of Future Investment Initiative (FII) in Riyadh.
- ✓ Goyal addressed the 7th Edition of FII in one of the plenary sessions titled “The Coming Investment Mandate”.
- ✓ He also co-chaired a conclave session on the theme “From Risk to Opportunity: Strategies for Emerging Economies in the New Industrial Policy Era” along with the KSA Investment Minister.

Q. Who has launched a logo, website, and brochure of a newly established National Cooperative for Exports Limited (NCEL) at a national symposium in New Delhi?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has launched a logo, website and brochure of a newly established National Cooperative for Exports Limited (NCEL) at a national symposium in New Delhi.
- ✓ Shah also distributed membership certificates to NCEL members at the symposium to be organized at the Pusa complex here.
- ✓ NCEL has been established to serve as a national-level multi-state cooperative society that will act as an umbrella organization for exports within the cooperative sector.
- ✓ This visionary initiative is set to open up new avenues for cooperatives, fostering economic growth and inclusivity.



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- ✓ NCEL is committed to empowering farmers, laborers, and traders by providing them with opportunities for integrated growth. NCEL is poised to make a substantial impact on the export landscape, benefiting both cooperatives and the nation.
- ✓ It aims to focus on exporting the surplus available in the Indian cooperative sector by accessing wider markets beyond the geographical contours of the country.
- ✓ NCEL boasts an authorized share capital of Rs 2,000 crore, reflecting the significant financial backing it has received to fulfill its mission.

Q. Which oil company has launched India's first gasoline and diesel reference fuel, used by automobile manufacturers for testing vehicles?

- A) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)
- B) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- C) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)
- D) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)

Answer : C

- ✓ State-run Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has launched India's first gasoline and diesel reference fuel, used by automobile manufacturers for testing vehicles.
- ✓ The production of this specialized fuel by Indian Oil not only reduces India's dependence on imports but also catapults country's energy industry to the select global players armed with exclusive competencies.
- ✓ This is the first time that India is venturing into the production of Reference Gasoline and Diesel Fuels. The home-grown development of these products in-line with international benchmarks testifies to the brilliance and relentless hard work of Indian Oil.
- ✓ As per the latest SIAM projection, the current demand in the country for gasoline or petrol reference fuel is around 120 KL (kilo litre) per annum and demand for diesel reference fuel is around 15 KL per annum

Q. Swiss Watchmaker 'Rado' appoints ____ as its Global Brand Ambassador.

- A) Deepika Padukone
- B) Alia Bhatt
- C) Anushka Sharma
- D) Katrina Kaif

Answer : D



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- ✓ World Savings Day (formerly known as World Thrift Day) is observed every year on October 30 in India.
- ✓ However, the day is observed on October 31 in few countries where this day is a public holiday.
- ✓ World Savings Day aims to promote the importance of savings and learn more about the same.
- ✓ This year, the theme of Conquer your Tomorrow.
- ✓ The day was established on October 30, 1924, during the first International Savings Bank Congress (World Society of Savings Banks) in Milan, Italy.





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



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD.

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



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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



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



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



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

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



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



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



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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



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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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