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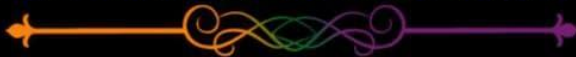


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Aparchit October 1st Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts
By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir

Q. Who has been awarded the prestigious Ballon d'Or Award for the year 2023?

- A) Emiliano Martinez B) Lionel Messi
C) Erling Holland D) Vinicius Junior

Answer : B

- ✓ Football legend Lionel Messi has been honored with the prestigious Ballon d'Or award for the year 2023.
- ✓ Messi has won the Ballon d'Or award for a record eighth time.
- ✓ The 67th Ballon d'Or Awards was held at the Theater du Châtelet in Paris, France.
- ✓ Spain's World Cup-winning star Aitana Bonmati won the Women's Ballon d'Or .
- ✓ The Ballon d'Or is an annual award presented by the French magazine France Football.
- ✓ In news , Argentina footballer, Lionel Messi has been named the Sportsman of the Year at the 2023 Laureus World Sports Awards.
- ✓ The Ballon d'Or is an annual football award presented by French news magazine France Football since 1956. Between 2010 and 2015, in an agreement with FIFA, the award was temporarily merged with the FIFA World Player of the Year (founded in 1991) and known as the FIFA Ballon d'Or

Q. Which small finance bank is set to be amalgamated into AU Small Finance Bank, effective February 1, 2024?

- A) ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited B) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited
C) ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited D) Fincare Small Finance Bank Limited

Answer : D

- ✓ Fincare Small Finance Bank (Fincare SFB) is set to merge with AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) from 1 February 2024.
- ✓ As per the terms of the merger, the share exchange ratio for the amalgamation shall be 579 equity shares of face value of ₹10 each of AU SFB for every 2,000 equity shares of face value of ₹10 each of Fincare SFB.
- ✓ Following the transaction, it is expected that existing shareholders of Fincare SFB will maintain approximately 9.9% ownership in AU SFB.
- ✓ AU Small Finance Bank Limited



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- ✓ Founded :1996
- ✓ Founder : Sanjay Agarwal
- ✓ Headquarters : Jaipur, Rajasthan
- ✓ MD & CEO : Sanjay Agarwal
- ✓ Tagline : Chalo Aage Badhein

SMALL FINANCE BANK IN NEWS 2023

- Fincare Small Finance Bank (Fincare SFB) is set to merge with AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) starting from February 1, 2024.
- Fintech Unicorn Slice To Merge With North East Small Finance Bank.
- AU Small Finance Bank, the largest small finance bank in India, has taken a remarkable step forward in customer service with the launch of their innovative 24×7 video banking platform.
- Equitas Small Finance Bank has entered into a partnership with IBM Consulting to develop and construct a digital banking platform.
- Arya.ag announces partnership with Shivalik Small Finance Bank to drive farmers' financial inclusion.
- AU Small Finance Bank has announced that it has been granted permission by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to act as an authorized dealer in foreign exchange. The bank has received a license to operate as an Authorized Dealer Category-I (AD-I) under section 10 of FEMA, 1999.
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank announced the launch of 'Blossom Women's Savings Account' with 7 percent per annum interest rate with monthly interest credit.
- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank launches Hello Ujjivan- India's first voice, visual, vernacular banking app.
- ESAF Small Finance Bank has bagged the prestigious Inclusive Finance India Awards 2022 for its contributions in advancing the goal of financial inclusion and supporting inclusive growth.
- Reserve Bank of India gave its approval to SBI Funds Management Ltd to acquire up to 9.99% stake in Equitas Small Finance Bank through the schemes of SBI Mutual Fund.
- AU Small Finance Bank introduces RuPay credit card for self-employed Customers



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Q. Who is the author of the book titled “Breaking the Mould”?

A) Raghuram Rajan

B) Urjit Patel

C) Bimal Jalan

D) Rajiv Mehrishi

Answer : A

- ✓ Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Raghuram Rajan’s new book ‘Breaking the Mould’ will be released on December 7.
- ✓ Rajan’s latest book, written in collaboration with fellow economist Rohit Lamba, will discuss the future of India’s economic development.
- ✓ The book is being published by Penguin Random House India.
- ✓ The former central banker’s latest book – his third since he exited the RBI governor’s office in September 2016

FAMOUS BOOKS AND AUTHORS IN NEWS 2023

- Breaking the Mould : Raghuram Rajan
- Career and Family: Women's Century-Long Journey toward Equity : Claudia Goldin
- The Reverse Swing: Colonialism to Cooperation’ : Ashok Tandon.
- “The Book of Life: My Dance with Buddha for Success” : Vivek Agnihotri
- People's G20 : Apurva Chandra
- Prism: The Ancestral Abode of Rainbow : Vinod Mankara
- "Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)" : A.K. Bhattacharya
- Master Residential Real Estate : Ashwinder R Singh.
- The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life : Ruskin Bond
- Ringside Vijay Darda
- Guts Amidst Bloodbath: The Anshuman Gaekwad Narrative Aditya Bhushan
- "The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India’s Urban Spaces" :Feroze Varun Gandhi.
- Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise" : Amitabh Kant .
- Milk and Honey : Rupri Kaur .
- Collective Spirit, Concrete Action : Shashi Shekhar Vempati.
- "Reflections" : Narayanan Vaghul (former chairman of ICICI Bank)
- Jaidip Mukerjea : Autobiography titled “Crosscourt”.



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- 'Sachin@50'- Celebrating A Maestro : Boria Majumdar.
- "The Great Bank Robbery: NPAs, Scams and the Future of Regulation" : Pattabhi Ram & Sabyasachee Dash.
- "Gandhi: Siyosat aur Sampradaiykta" : Piyush Babele.
- "Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire" : Nandini Das.
- "War & Women" : Dr MA Hasan.
- 'Why can't Elephants be Red?' : Vani Tripathi Tikoo.
- Phoolange : Lekhnath Chhetri.
- Pyre : Perumal Murugan.
- Ghulam Nabi Azad's Autobiography 'Azaad' .
- "A Matter of the Heart: Education in India" : Anurag Behar.
- Snakes in the Ganga: Breaking India 2.0 : Shri Rajiv Malhotra and Vijaya Viswanathan.
- "Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform" : Rachna Biswat Rawat.
- Ambedkar a Life : Shashi Tharoor.
- "The World: A Family History of Humanity," : Simon Sebag Montefiore.
- "Revolutionaries In India's Freedom Struggle:" : Sanjeev Sanyal.
- "India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn" : Ashwin Fernandes.
- "The Light We Carry Overcoming In Uncertain Times" : Michelle Obama.
- Brave Hearts of Bharat, Vignettes from Indian History : Vikram Sampath.
- Freedom at Midnight, "City of Joy" : Dominique Lapierre.
- Forks in the Road My Days at RBI and Beyond : Chakravarthi Rangarajan.
- 'The World: A Family History' : Simon Sebag.
- Winning the Inner Battle : Shane Watson.
- Nuclearization of Asia : Rene Naba.
- From dependence to Self-Reliance : Bimal Jalan.
- The Philosophy of Modern Song : Bob Dylan
- India's Struggle for Independence – Gandhian Era : P. Jyothimani.
- "As Good as My Word" : KM Chandrasekhar..



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- Bank of Baroda, a public sector bank, has announced its partnership with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL), a government-backed information utility appointed by the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India, to launch the Electronic Bank Guarantee (BG) system.
- Bank of Baroda, a prominent public lender, has recently launched the Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) facility for its customers. This innovative service allows customers to withdraw money from ATMs using the United Payment Interface (UPI), eliminating the need for a physical card.
- Bank of Baroda (BOB)
- Founded : 1908
- Founder : Sayajirao Gaekwad III
- Headquarters : Vadodara, Gujarat
- MD & CEO : Debadatta Chand
- Tagline : India's International Bank

Q. Which state has become the first state in India to have hallmarking centres in all districts of the state?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ Kerala becomes first state with Hallmarking Centers in every district
- ✓ With the inauguration of a hallmarking centre in Idukki, Kerala became the first state in India to have hallmarking centres in all 14 districts.
- ✓ The opening of hallmarking centres across the districts will make Kerala a hub of gold business and further strengthen its claim to being the most reliable market in the country to buy gold ornaments.
- ✓ The gold business in Kerala is worth more than ₹1 lakh crore with annual sales of around 250 tonnes. There are about 12,000 gold merchants in the State with the majority holding BIS registration.

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated various developmental projects in which state valued at ₹5,950 crore?

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



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Answer : A

- ✓ Priyanka Goswami of Uttar Pradesh has created a new national record in women's 20 km race walk at the 37th National Games in Goa. He completed the race in 1 hour 36 minutes 35 seconds. Maharashtra's Tejas Ashok Shirse set a new national sports record by completing the men's 110m hurdles in 13.80 seconds

Q. Operation Sesha, sometimes seen in the news recently, is associated with of the following?

- A) To curb the illegal trade of Timber.
- B) To curb child sexual abuse material in social media.
- C) To curb the increasing Narcotics substances among school students.
- D) To provide safety and security to lady passengers travelling alone

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently the Union Finance Ministry launched the 4th phase of 'Operation Sesha' to curb the illegal trade of Timber, including Red Sanders.
- ✓ Operation Sesha was launched in 2015 to bust organised syndicates of smugglers of precious woods.
- ✓ The name Sesha has been derived from Seshachalam forest in Andhra Pradesh, bordering Karnataka.
- ✓ Under this initiative, the directorate of revenue intelligence of Indian Customs works in collaboration with probe agencies of several other countries to curb illegal trade of timber.
- ✓ The Indian customs department will run the 4th phase of Operation Sesha in collaboration with WCO's Regional Intelligence Liaison Offices (RILOs) in Asia-Pacific and Middle-East.
- ✓ Phase IV of 'Operation Sesha' aims to curb the illegal trade of Timber, including Red Sanders.
- ✓ The use of artificial intelligence could play a huge role in the 4th phase of the operation.
- ✓ World Customs Organization (WCO) was established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC).
- ✓ It is an independent intergovernmental body whose mission is to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations.
- ✓ WCO is the only international organization with competence in Customs matters and can rightly call itself the voice of the international Customs community.

Q. The Rajaji Tiger Reserve is located in:

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



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- ✓ At the district level, DCCB works as a banker of state government. Educational institutions, Zilla Parishad, Panchayat Samiti, Gram Panchayat, cooperative societies, etc have accounts in this bank.
- ✓ All the financial transactions of co-operative sector are conducted through DCCB.
- ✓ DCCBs have three sources of funds:
 - ✓ Their own share capital and reserves
 - ✓ Deposits from the public and
 - ✓ Loans from the state co-operative banks
- ✓ The main functions of the DCCBs are
 - ✓ To meet the credit requirements of member-societies
 - ✓ To perform banking business
 - ✓ To act as a balancing centre for the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) by diverting the surplus funds of some societies to those which face shortages of funds.
 - ✓ To undertake non-credit activities
 - ✓ To maintain close and continuous contact with PACS and provide leadership and guidance to them
 - ✓ To supervise and inspect the PACS and
 - ✓ To provide a safe place for the investment of the resources of PACs
- ✓ They also lend directly to the public for non-agricultural purposes within the area of operation of their branches

Q. The Amangarh Tiger Reserve is located in which state?

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

Answer : C

- ✓ The tiger population at the Amangarh Tiger Reserve has increased from 21 mature tigers and six cubs in 2021 to 28 mature tigers and four cubs now.
- ✓ About Amangarh Tiger Reserve:
 - ✓ Location:
 - ✓ It is located in Amangarh in Bijnor district in the state of Uttar Pradesh.



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- ✓ It is situated in the Terai region and covers an area of around 578 sq km.
- ✓ It shares its boundaries with Jim Corbett National Park of Uttarakhand.
- ✓ It was originally part of the Jim Corbett National Park, and after the state of Uttarakhand was carved out of Uttar Pradesh, Jim Corbett went to Uttarakhand and Amangarh remained in Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ It was declared a tiger reserve in 2012.

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Mahabali Tug, recently seen in the news:

- 1. It is indigenously built by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).**
- 2. It will aid naval ships and submarines during berthing and unberthing operations.**

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 : B

- ✓ Indian Navy recently commissioned Mahabali Tug Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd, Gujarat.
- ✓ About Mahabali Tug:
- ✓ It is a 25-ton Bollard Pull (BP) Tug.
- ✓ This vessel, a creation of Shoft Shipyard located in Bharuch, Gujarat, is one of three such tugs commissioned as part of a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Defence and the Shipyard.
- ✓ It has been constructed in accordance with the classification rules set forth by the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS).
- ✓ It will assume a crucial role in aiding naval ships and submarines during berthing and unberthing operations, as well as in navigating through confined waters.
- ✓ It is equipped to enhance firefighting capabilities for ships both alongside and at anchorage.
- ✓ It is also outfitted for limited Search and Rescue Operations



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- ✓ Recently, the Karnataka Forest Department, along with the Wildlife Trust of India, has launched the Hostile Activity Watch Kernel (HAWK) system.
- ✓ It is Cloud Based Information Management System designed to manage interlinked databases of wildlife crime, wildlife criminals, and wildlife mortality.
- ✓ It will help officials analyse the information and develop actionable intelligence to prevent wildlife crimes and curb Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT).
- ✓ The system connect the entire state forest department in real-time and the access is restricted through access levels.
- ✓ This system is a large ERP model cloud based system which use mobile and desk top interfaces to manage data.

Q. It is nestled between the Bay of Bengal in the east, and Palk Strait in the south. It primarily focuses on the protection and conservation of the black antelopes and also recognized as a Ramsar site. This is the most likely explanation of:

- A) Astamudi Wetland B) Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary
C) Vedantangal bird sanctuary D) Chilika lake

Answer : B

- ✓ The forest department of Tamil Nadu is preparing to augment waterbodies to attract more birds as the migratory season at Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary set to peak.
- ✓ Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary was established in the year of 1967 and is situated in the state of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ It houses the famous bird sanctuary of Vedaranyam and the Talaignayar forests.
- ✓ It is flanked by the Bay of Bengal in the east, and Palk Strait in the south.

Q. Which state government has launched the Swayampurna e-bazaar online platform to give market to different kinds of products made by self-help groups and women?

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

Answer : D

- ✓ Goa Government has launched the Swayampurna e-bazaar online platform to give market to different kinds of products made by self-help groups and women.



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- ✓ The Swayampurna e-bazaar is an extension of the successful Swayampurna Chavath Bazar.

GOA IN NEWS 2023

- Goa Government has launched the Swayampurna e-bazaar online platform to give market to different kinds of products made by self-help groups and women.
- Paytm is the official sponsor for the 37th National Games in Goa.
- Goa CM Pramod Sawant launches Griha Adhar scheme to empower Goan homemakers.
- Goa has become the first Indian state to offer free in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment.
- GI tags for Goan mangoes and bebinca, crafts from Rajasthan and U.P.
- The products are 'Jalesar Dhatu Shilp' (a metal craft), 'Goa Mankurad Mango', 'Goan Bebinca', 'Udaipur Koftgari Metal Craft', 'Bikaner Kashidakari Craft', 'Jodhpur Bandhej Craft', and 'Bikaner Usta Kala Craft'.
- 'India's First Village Atlas' Is Of Mayem In Goa.
- The tourism department of the Goa government is set to hold the 'Heritage Festival 2023' from April 28 to 30 at Saligao village in North Goa.
- Bharti Institute of Public Policy, a renowned think tank under the Indian School of Business (ISB), and the Government of Goa have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a knowledge partnership.
- The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, Shri Girish Chandra Murmu, holds the position of Chair of the Supreme Audit Institutions-20 (SAI20) Engagement Group during India's G20 Presidency. The SAI20 Summit is scheduled to take place in Goa from 12th to 14th June 2023.
- Union Cabinet has approved the naming of Greenfield International Airport at Goa's Mopa as Manohar International Airport after former Defence Minister and Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar.
- Purple, First Inclusion Festival of India starts in Goa.
- Goa Manohar International Airport wins best sustainable greenfield airport award.
- Government of Goa has launched the Vision for All School Eye Health program.
- The first Prime Minister GatiShakti regional workshop for the Western and Central Zone was held in Goa.
- India's second longest cable-stayed eight-lane Zuari Bridge opens in Goa.



Q. 'Commodity Markets Outlook report' is published by

- A) World Trade Organization B) Food and Agriculture Organization
C) International Monetary Fund D) World Bank

Answer : D

- ✓ Commodity Markets Outlook Report is published by the World Bank in April and October, every year. Commodity Markets Outlook report provides market analysis for major commodity groups – energy, metals, agriculture, precious metals, and fertilizers.
- ✓ The report forecasts prices for 46 key commodities.
- ✓ Under the Bank's baseline forecast, oil prices are expected to average \$90 a barrel in the current quarter before declining to an average of \$81 a barrel next year as global economic growth slows.
- ✓ Overall commodity prices are projected to fall 4.1% next year.
- ✓ Prices of agricultural commodities are expected to decline next year as supplies rise.
- ✓ Prices of base metals are also projected to drop 5% in 2024.
- ✓ Commodity prices are expected to stabilize in 2025.
- ✓ Commodity Markets Outlook
- ✓ It provides market analysis for major commodity groups - energy, metals, agriculture, precious metals, and fertilizers.
- ✓ The report forecasts prices for 46 key commodities, including oil.
- ✓ It is published by the World Bank in April and October.

WORLD BANK IN NEWS 2023

- Commodity Markets Outlook Report is published by the World Bank in April and October, every year.
- World Bank and Japan, have launched the Resilient and Inclusive Supply-chain Enhancement (RISE) initiative in Morocco.
- World Bank has approved \$1.5 billion in financing to accelerate India's development of low-carbon energy.
- World Bank has approved a substantial funding package of 700 million dollars for Sri Lanka.
- World Bank has approved \$391 million in financing to improve access to high-quality healthcare services and to economic opportunities for people in Assam and Tripura.



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- World Bank approves \$150-million loan for Resilient Kerala programme.
- World Bank has granted its approval for a USD 255.5 million loan aimed at enhancing the quality of technical education in government-run institutions across India.
- World Bank approves \$150-million loan for Resilient Kerala programme.
- World Bank (WB) launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.
- Indian origin Ajay Banga confirmed as the 14th President of World Bank.
- Ministry of Education and the World Bank held a unique workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program.
- The Cabinet approved the Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project in October 2020.
- World Bank has approved a loan of US \$ 363 million for the supply of clean drinking water from taps to 2 million rural households in Karnataka.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- According to the World Bank's (WB) annual report 'State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2023' released on May 23, 2023, revenues collected from carbon taxes and Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) globally have reached a record high, about US\$95 billion in 2022.
- World Bank's Executive Board of Directors has approved USD 108 million loan for Assam, to help the state improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting.
- India and the World Bank have signed a loan agreement for the construction of the Green National Highway Corridors Project (GNHCP) in four States.
- These four states are-Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.
- World Bank has signed two complementary loans with India worth USD 500 million each to support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- India will be the first country in the world to receive \$100 billion from remittances during 2022, the World Bank.
- WORLD BANK
- Founded : 1944
- Headquarters : Washington Dc



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

Q. Which drone company has recently received certification from DGCA?

- A) Garuda Aerospace B) Paras Defense and Space Technologies
C) Throttle Aerospace Systems D) Aero360

Answer : C

- ✓ RatanIndia Enterprises-owned drone company Throttle Aerospace Systems has received type-certification from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for manufacturing drones.
- ✓ Throttle Aerospace was the first company in India to receive a Drone License Certificate from DGCA and was eligible for the Product Linked Scheme of the Government of India.
- ✓ Single Engine Turbine (SET) planes have been in use for Scheduled Commuter Airlines (SCAs) since 2018. Until now, their operations were restricted to daytime and Visual Flight Rules (VFR). As SCAs primarily operate regional flights, this decision opens up new possibilities for nighttime travel to remote destinations.

Q. In which country is the world's first AI Safety Summit being organized?

- A) Britain B) France
C) USA D) India

Answer : A

- ✓ The world's first AI Safety Summit has started in the European country Britain, many countries including India, America, France, Singapore are participating in this conference.



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- ✓ Union Minister Rajiv Chandrashekhar is representing India at the two-day summit starting on November 1 in Buckinghamshire in southern England.
- ✓ This is the first time that such an AI Safety Summit is being organized.
- ✓ United Kingdom is set to host a pivotal two-day artificial intelligence (AI) summit on November 1 and 2, bringing together government officials and companies from across the globe, including the U.S. and China.

Q. The the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile is developed by:

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

Answer : A

- ✓ Recently The Pentagon (USA's Department of Defense) has announced the latest test of the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile to "showcase" its nuclear capability.
- ✓ The launch of this missile will take place today at the Vandenberg Space Force Base in Southern California.
- ✓ The silo-launched missile will be tested without a warhead attached.
- ✓ The announcement comes amid rising geopolitical tensions as the Russia-Ukraine conflict drags on, the Israel-Hamas war escalates and US-China relations continue to deteriorate.
- ✓ About Minuteman III missile:
- ✓ It is a strategic weapon system using a ballistic missile of intercontinental range and first became operational in the early 1970s.
- ✓ Originally it was only supposed to be kept in service for about ten years, but instead it has been modernized as its replacement, the Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD) is due to become available for use in 2029.
- ✓ It is a three-stage, solid-fuel missile.
- ✓ Its length is 18.2 meters and Diameter is 1.85 meters.
- ✓ Its range is 6,000-plus miles and maximum range is about 8,000 miles.



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USA IN NEWS 2023

- The Pentagon (USA's Department of Defense) has announced the latest test of the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile to "showcase" its nuclear capability.
- Outside India, Dr. The largest statue of BR Ambedkar will be unveiled in the United States. The 19-foot statue of Ambedkar has been named 'Statue of Equality' and will be inaugurated in Maryland, USA.
- The world's largest Hindu temple, BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham, will be inaugurated on October 8 in New Jersey, USA.
- International Olympic Committee (IOC) executive board has accepted a proposal to include T20I Cricket along with squash, lacrosse, flag football, and baseball/softball in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.
- Ruixiang Zhang, Assistant Professor, University of California, Berkeley, USA will be awarded with the 2023 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize for his outstanding contributions in mathematics.
- The Indian Army will participate in the 19th edition of the joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas 2023' with the United States.
- ICC confirms venues of 2024 Men's T20 World Cup to be co-hosted by USA.
 - Seventh edition of the Indian Navy – US Navy (IN – USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX was conducted at Kochi, Kerala.
 - The United States is celebrating its 247th Independence Day this year on 4th July.
 - United States of America announces its intention to rejoin UNESCO in July.
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to the United States from June 21 to June 24 is one of the most important diplomatic visits of 2023.
 - PM Modi will lead the International Yoga Day celebrations at the United Nations Secretariat in New York.
 - India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X) was launched at an 2-day event in Washington DC which was co-organised by Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX), Ministry of Defence and US Department of Defence (DoD).
 - Indian Economic Trade Organization appoints Nutan Roongta as Director of USA East Coast.
 - Serbia's men and the United States women won the FIBA 3×3 World Cup 2023, which took place in Vienna, Austria.



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ODISHA IN NEWS 2023

- Odisha Cabinet, led by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, has granted approval for the 'Location Accessible Multi-modal Initiative (LAccMI)' scheme.
- Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia inaugurated Utkela Airport owned by the Government of Odisha.
- Recently, Koraput Kalajeera Rice,' an aromatic rice of odisha has got Geographical Indications status.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has distributed land right certificates to the 65,000 poor families living in the slums of five metropolitan cities including Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur, and Rourkela.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has launched the 'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' for indigenous people of the state to ensure individual and community rights over forest land for eligible beneficiaries.
- India's biggest natural arch formed 184 million years ago discovered in Odisha by Geological Survey of India (GSI).
- Odisha becomes the first state to notify a committee for conservation of seeds preserved by tribal farmers.
- Odisha government launched the 'Mo Ghara' (My Home) housing scheme.
- PM Modi launches railway projects worth over 8,000 crore rupees in Odisha.
- Odisha government has expanded the jurisdiction of Special Development Councils (SDCs) from nine to 23 districts to improve the lives of 84 lakh tribal people.
- Odisha has its 88th foundation day on 1st April 2023.
- World Bank's Board of Executive Directors has approved USD 100 million loan under Odisha State Capability and Resilient Growth Program.
- Odisha won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission, a 5T initiative of the state.
- Aska police station of Odisha's Ganjam district became the country's number one police station.
- Gangapur police station in Odisha's Ganjam district has been awarded the second best police station award.
- Gold Deposits Found at Different Location in Three Districts of Odisha , including Deogarh, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanj.



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- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced that the Odisha government aims to make Odisha slum-free by the end of 2023

Q. Which country has recently given the facility to Indians to travel without visa?

- A) Japan
B) Sri Lanka
C) Israel
D) Thailand

Answer : D

- ✓ Southeast Asian country Thailand has recently provided the facility to Indians to travel without visa.
- ✓ Indians can travel to Thailand without a visa during the period from November 10, 2023 to May 10, 2024.
- ✓ Thailand has taken this decision with the aim of promoting tourism in the country.
- ✓ After Malaysia, China and South Korea, about 12 lakh tourists have visited Thailand so far this year.

Q. Who will chair the International Jury Panel at 'India International Film Festival'?

- A) Akshay Kumar
B) Anurag Thakur
C) Shekhar Kapur
D) Amitabh Bachchan

Answer : C

- ✓ Famous filmmaker Shekhar Kapur will chair the international jury panel at the 'India International Film Festival'.
- ✓ The 54th edition of this film festival will be organized from November 20 to November 28, 2023 in Goa.
- ✓ It is one of the largest film events in South Asia. It was established in 1952

Q. In which dictionary has the word 'Baseball' related to cricket been added recently?

- A) Oxford
B) Collins
C) Webster
D) None of these

Answer : B

- ✓ Recently the word 'Bazball' related to cricket has been included in the prestigious Collins Dictionary.
- ✓ This word is used to adopt an aggressive approach in the game of cricket.
- ✓ This term was first used by Andrew Miller.
- ✓ This word came into discussion when Brendon McCullum was made the captain of England's Test team.



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- ✓ The document is likely to be released by the Indian PM after going through some fine-tuning before the draft vision document is ready by December.
- ✓ India's Vision and Progress Towards 2047
- ✓ What is the Current State of the Indian Economy?
- ✓ What will be Included in the Vision India@2047?
- ✓ Preliminary Results from the Vision India@2047
- ✓ Challenges Ahead in Implementing the Vision India@2047.
- ✓ India's Vision and Progress Towards 2047:
- ✓ In his 2021 Independence Day speech, the Indian PM paid homage to the freedom fighters and shared his vision for Amrit Kaal and 2047, when the country would celebrate 100 years of independence.
- ✓ He had given a call to make India a developed nation by 2047 - Viksit Bharat@2047 - and had urged CMs of states to work towards it with a Team India approach.
- ✓ Expounding on the PM's vision, the Union Finance Minister (in her Budget 2022-2023 speech) shared that during the Amrit Kaal (India at 75 to India at 100), the government aims to -
- ✓ Elaborating more on the goals for 2047, the Union Budget 2023-2024 re-emphasised that Jan Bhagidari through Sabka Saath, Sabka Prayas is essential and delineated the Saptarishi principles:
- ✓ Inclusive Development;
- ✓ Reaching the Last Mile;
- ✓ Infrastructure and Investment;
- ✓ Unleashing the Potential;
- ✓ Green Growth;
- ✓ Youth Power;
- ✓ Financial Sector.
- ✓ What is the Current State of the Indian Economy?

CURRENTLY NO. 5		
GDP in \$ tn	2022	2023
United States	25.5	27.9
China	17.9	17.7
Japan	4.2	4.4
Germany	4.1	4.2
India	3.4	3.7



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- ✓ By 2022, the size of Indian GDP had already become larger than the GDP of the UK and also France.
- ✓ India is currently estimated to be the fifth largest economy with a GDP of \$3.7 trillion.
- ✓ Several estimates show that India's GDP is expected to overtake Japan and Germany by 2030. According to the Ratings agency S&P, India's nominal GDP will rise from \$3.4 trillion in 2022 to \$7.3 trillion by 2030.
- ✓ This rapid pace of economic expansion would result in the size of the Indian GDP, making India the second largest economy in the Asia-Pacific region.
- ✓ What will be Included in the Vision India@2047?
- ✓ The exercise to draw up the Vision India@2047 document was started in (December) 2021.
- ✓ 10 groups of secretaries across sectors such as rural and agriculture, infrastructure, social vision, welfare, technology, governance, security, foreign affairs, etc., were constituted for the purpose.
- ✓ The document will outline the structural changes and reforms needed to reach the objective of becoming a 30-trillion dollars developed economy by 2047 with a per-capita income of \$18,000-20,000.
- ✓ It will also have details about creating human capital to achieve the vision, how to leverage the country's market size and how to address regional disparities.
- ✓ The vision document will also detail the roadmap where India will be in 2030 and in 2047
- ✓ Preliminary Results from the Vision India@2047:

Indicator	Unit	2030	2040	2047
GDP at current prices	\$ trillion	6.7	16.1	29
Per capita GDP at current prices	\$	4,418	10,021	17,590
Exports	\$ trillion	1.6	4.6	8.7
Imports	\$ trillion	1.9	5.9	12.1
Investment	₹ trillion	195.5	591.1	1,273.4
Savings	₹ trillion	207.8	649.4	1,339.7

Source: Niti Aayog

- ✓ The economy will need to post an annual average economic growth of 9.2% between 2030-2040, 8.8% between 2040-2047 and 9% between 2030 to 2047.
- ✓ The preliminary results predict that India's exports will be valued at \$8.67 trillion in 2047 while its imports will be valued at \$12.12 trillion.
- ✓ India's apex policy think tank (Niti Aayog) also predicts India's average life expectancy to jump to 71.8 from 67.2 in 2021 and its literacy rate to 89.8% from 77.8% in 2021.



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NITI AAYOG IN NEWS 2023

- India is estimated to be a \$30 trillion developed economy by 2047, preliminary results from the Centre's vision document - The Vision India@2047, which is being prepared by Niti Aayog.
- NITI Aayog convened a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy in New Delhi.
- The NITI Aayog has published the second edition of the Multidimensional Poverty Index titled 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A progress of Review 2023'.
- About 135.5 million (13.5 crore) persons have exited poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21.
- Nearly 3.43 crore people escaped poverty in Uttar Pradesh, registering the largest decline among the 36 States and Union Territories.
- NITI Aayog released the Techno-Commercial Readiness and Market Maturity Matrix (TCRM Matrix) framework for promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in India .
- NITI Aayog has recently released the Export Preparedness Index 2022.
- This time Tamil Nadu has achieved the top rank by leaving behind Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) launched the Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem (EVOLVE) mission.
- The mission has been launched in collaboration with NITI Aayog, World Bank, Korean-World Bank and Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF).
- NITI Aayog, United Nations join hands to accelerate sustainable development in India.
- PM Modi chairs the 8th meeting of the NITI Aayog Governing Council held at the New Convention Center at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- The meeting is focused on the theme of "Growth India @ 2047: Role of Team India".
- BVR Subrahmanyam was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of Niti Aayog.
- The government has monetised assets worth ₹26,000 crore during FY23 against the target of ₹1.6 lakh crore for the current fiscal : NITI Aayog.
- NITI Aayog, the Indian government's policy think-tank, recently released a report titled "Promoting Millets in Diets: Best Practices across States/UTs of India." .
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), an initiative by NITI Aayog, has launched three new resources aimed at fostering innovation and creativity among India's youth.
- NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India)



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

Q. Which country will host the FIFA Men's World Cup 2034?

A) Argentina

B) Japan

C) Germany

D) Saudi Arabia

Answer : D

- ✓ International Football Federation (FIFA) President Gianni Infantino has confirmed that Gulf country Saudi Arabia will host the FIFA World Cup 2034.



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- ✓ Earlier, Australia refused the bid for the 2034 FIFA Men's Football World Cup.
- ✓ The FIFA World Cup 2026 will be organized in Morocco (Africa) and 2030 will be organized in Portugal and Spain (Europe).
- ✓ FIFA WORLD CUP
- ✓ 2022 : Qatar (32 Teams)
- ✓ 2026 : Canada, Mexico, US (48 teams)
- ✓ FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup
- ✓ 2022 : Costa Rica
- ✓ FIFA U-17 World Cup
- ✓ 2022- Women's : India
- ✓ 2023 - Women's : Australia and New Zealand
- ✓ Most successful team(s) Men's : Brazil (5 titles)
- ✓ Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)
- ✓ Founded : 21 May 1904
- ✓ Founded : Paris, France
- ✓ Headquarters : Zürich, Switzerland
- ✓ Membership : 211
- ✓ Languages : English, French, German, Spanish & Italian
- ✓ First President : Robert Guérin
- ✓ President : Gianni Infantino (Switzerland)
- ✓ Secretary General : Fatma Samoura

Q. Who has been awarded the British Academy Book Prize for the year 2023?

A) Ankita Sinha

B) Amitabh Ghos

C) Nandini Das

D) Vikram Seth

Answer : C

- ✓ Recently India-born author Nandini Das was named the winner of the 2023 British Academy Book Prize.
- ✓ He has been given this award for his book 'Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire'.
- ✓ Nandini Das who is a Professor in the English faculty at the University of Oxford, won the award for her book 'Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire'.



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- ✓ The winner gets the £25,000 prize cash award, and each of the shortlisted works will receive £1,000 each.
- ✓ About the British Academy Book Prize:
- ✓ This was formerly known as the Nayef Al-Rodhan Prize.
- ✓ It was established in 2013.
- ✓ It was established to reward and celebrate the best works of non-fiction that demonstrate rigour and originality and have contributed to public understanding of other world cultures and their interactions.
- ✓ The British Academy is the UK's national academy for humanities and social sciences.
- ✓ The eligible books come from the subjects that fall within those disciplines, from archaeology, history, and psychology to philosophy, languages, and cultural studies.

Q. In which stadium of India was the statue of great cricket player Sachin Tendulkar unveiled?

- A) Arun Jaitley Stadium B) Wankhede Stadium
C) Brabourne Stadium D) Eden Gardens

Answer : B

- ✓ The statue of great cricket player Sachin Tendulkar has been unveiled at Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.
- ✓ Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde unveiled a grand bronze statue of Sachin at the Wankhede Stadium.
- ✓ Sachin Tendulkar retired from international cricket 10 years ago i.e. in 2013 at Wankhede Stadium itself.
- ✓ Sachin is depicted in his trademark 'lofted drive' pose in this statue.

Q. Consider the following statements, with respect to recently launched PM Vishwakarma scheme

- 1. It is a Central Sector Scheme to support traditional artisans and craftspeople of rural and urban India**
- 2. It is launched with financial outlay of Rs.13,000 crore for a period of five years.**

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

- ✓ Prime Minister of India has launched the 'Prime Minister (PM) Vishwakarma Scheme' on the occasion of Vishwakarma Jayanti.



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✓ **PM Vishwakarma Scheme**

✓ About:

✓ The scheme is designed to uplift traditional artisans and craftspeople engaged in various occupations like blacksmithing, goldsmithing, pottery, carpentry, and sculpting, with a focus on preserving cultural heritage and integrating them into the formal economy and global value chains.

✓ It will be implemented as a Central Sector Scheme, fully funded by the Government of India.

✓ **Ministry:**

✓ Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME) is the Nodal Ministry for the Scheme.

✓ The Scheme will be jointly implemented by the MoMSME, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

✓ **Features:**

✓ Recognition and Support: Artisans and craftspeople enrolled in the scheme will receive a PM Vishwakarma certificate and an identity card.

✓ They will also be eligible for collateral-free credit support of up to Rs 1 lakh (first tranche) and Rs 2 lakh (second tranche) at a concessional interest rate of 5%.

✓ Skill Development and Empowerment: The Scheme has been allocated a budget ranging from Rs 13,000 crore for five financial years from 2023-2024 to 2027-2028.

✓ The scheme offers a stipend of Rs 500 for skill training per day and Rs 15,000 grant for the purchase of modern tools.

✓ **Scope and Coverage:** The scheme encompasses 18 traditional trades across both rural and urban areas

✓ **Registration and Implementation:** Registration for the Vishwakarma Yojana can be completed at common services centers in villages.

✓ **Objectives:**

✓ To ensure that artisans are seamlessly integrated into both domestic and global value chains, thus enhancing their market access and opportunities.

✓ Preservation and promotion of India's rich cultural heritage of traditional crafts.

✓ Assisting artisans in transitioning to the formal economy and integrating them into global value chains.

✓ **Significance:**

✓ Vishwakarmas (Traditional Artisans) play a critical role in society regardless of technological advancements.

✓ There is a need to recognize and support these artisans and integrate them into the global supply chain.



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- ✓ 114th : Afghanistan : 30.6 Score.
- ✓ GHI scores are based on the values of four component indicators.
- ✓ Undernourishment: (the share of the population whose caloric intake is insufficient)
- ✓ Child stunting: (the share of children under the age of five who have low height for their age)
- ✓ Child wasting: (the share of children under the age of five who have low weight for their height)
- ✓ Child mortality: (the share of children who die before their fifth birthday).
- ✓ India's ranking is based on a Global Hunger Index score of 28.7 on a 100-point scale.
- ✓ This categorises India's severity of hunger as "serious".

Q. For each country, GHI values are determined by which of the following indicators?

1. Undernourishment

2. Child Wasting

3. Child Stunting

4. Child Mortality

Select the correct answer

A) 1 and 4

B) 1, 2 and 4

C) 1, 2 and 4

D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : D

- ✓ First, for each country, values are determined for four indicators namely undernourishment, child wasting, child stunting, and child mortality

Q. Who has been given the status of 16th Navratna company in the country?

A) RITES Limited

B) IRCON International Limited

C) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

D) Bharat Dynamics Limited

Answer : A

- ✓ RITES Ltd Granted 'Navratna' Status: India's 16th Central Public Sector Enterprise.
- ✓ RITES Ltd, a prominent Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Railways, has achieved the prestigious 'Navratna' status, becoming the 16th CPSE in India to be granted this distinction.
- ✓ IRCON International Limited (IRCON) and RITES Limited (RITES), both Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the Ministry of Railways, have been declared as the 15th and 16th Navratna respectively among the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSEs).



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- ✓ These enterprises of the Railway Ministry have been given Navratna status by the Union Finance Ministry on 12 October 2023.
- ✓ About Navratna Status:
- ✓ The government categorises all Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) into three categories, namely Maharatna, Navratna, and Miniratna.
- ✓ Criteria to grant Navratna status:
- ✓ To get Navratna status, the PSU should be a Miniratna-I, Schedule 'A' company, should have obtained an 'excellent' or 'very good' MoU rating in three of the last five years, and must have a composite score of 60 in six performance indicators.
- ✓ For a company to achieve Navratna status, it must report a net profit of more than Rs 5,000 crore for three consecutive years, and maintain an average annual turnover of Rs 25,000 crore for three years, or have an annual average net worth of over Rs 15,000 crore for three years.
- ✓ Navratna companies can achieve 'Maharatna' status by meeting specific performance benchmarks and fulfilling certain eligibility criteria.
- ✓ How does Navratna status benefit PSUs?
- ✓ Navratna PSUs have a comparative advantage over other companies as they have been granted financial independence to invest up to Rs 1,000 crore without seeking approval from the Union government.
- ✓ List of 16 Navratna PSUs:
 1. Bharat Electronics Limited,
 2. Container Corporation of India Limited,
 3. Engineers India Limited,
 4. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited,
 5. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited,
 6. National Aluminium Company Limited,
 7. National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited,
 8. Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited,
 9. NMDC Limited,
 10. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited,
 11. Shipping Corporation of India Limited,
 12. Rail Vikas Nigam Limited,



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9. Power Finance Corporation
10. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
11. Steel Authority of India Limited
12. Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
13. Oil India Ltd

Q. Who has been awarded the Nobel Prize in the field of Economics this year?

- A) Joshua D. Angrist B) Claudia Goldin
C) Raghuram Rajan D) David Card

Answer : B

- ✓ The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2023 was awarded to Claudia Goldin "for having advanced our understanding of women's labour market outcomes"
- ✓ Claudia Goldin is an American economic historian and labor economist who is currently the Henry Lee Professor of Economics at Harvard University.
- ✓ Noble Prize in Economics
- ✓ First awarded : 1969
- ✓ Reward : 11 million
- ✓ Presented By : Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
- ✓ First Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969.
- ✓ Indian Winners Noble Prize in Economics
- ✓ Amartya Sen : 1998
- ✓ Abhijit Banerjee : 2019
- 🌐 NOBEL PRIZE 2023 WITH FACTS
- 🏆 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE 2023
- ◇ Drew Weissman (USA)
- ◇ Katalin Karikó (Hungarian -American)
- ◆ For their work in mRNA vaccines.
- ✓ mRNA vaccines such as those from Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech were approved in December 2020.
- ✓ These vaccines provide genetic instructions to cells, simulating infection and training the immune system.
- ✓ The full form of mRNA is messenger Ribonucleic Acid.



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🏆 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS 2023

- ◇ Pierre Agostini (France)
- ◇ Ferenc Krausz (Hungary)
- ◇ Anne L'Huillier (France)

◆ for "experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter".

- ✓ Anne L'Huillier is a French physicist, and professor of atomic physics at Lund University in Sweden.

🏆 NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY 2023

- ◇ Mounji G. Bawendi (France)
- ◇ Louis E. Brus (USA)
- ◇ Alexei I. Ekimov (Russia)

◆ for the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots

🏆 NOBEL PRIZE IN LITERATURE 2023

- ◇ Jon Fosse (Norway)

◆ for his “innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable”.

- ✓ He is the fourth Norwegian recipient of the prize.
- ✓ His debut novel, Raudt, svart (Red, Black), was published in 1983.

🏆 NOBEL PRIZE IN PEACE 2023

- ◇ Narges Mohammadi (Iran)

◆ “for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all”.

- ✓ She is the vice president of the Defenders of Human Rights Center (DHRC).
- ✓ In 2010, she was arrested for her work for the Centre for the Defenders of Human Rights. According to Mr. Rahmani, Ms. Mohammadi has since then been arrested 13 times, sentenced to a total of 31 years and 154 lashes.

🏆 AVERAGES RIKSBANK PRIZE IN ECONOMIC SCIENCES IN MEMORY OF THE ALFRED NOBEL 2023

- ◇ Claudia Goldin (USA)



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◆ “for having advanced understanding of women’s labour market outcomes.”

- ✓ Claudia Goldin is an American economic historian and labor economist who is currently the Henry Lee Professor of Economics at Harvard University.
- ✓ **MOST IMPORTANT SURPRISE FACTS NOBEL PRIZE**
- ✓ Established : 1901
- ✓ First awarded : 1901
- ✓ Fields (6) : Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace and Economic
- ✓ Country : Sweden (all prizes except the Peace Prize); Norway (Peace Prize only)
- ✓ Memory of Sir Alfred Nobel (Sweden) founder of the Nobel Prize (invention of dynamite)
- ✓ Economic Science Nobel Prize established : 1969
- ✓ Malala Yousafzai is the youngest Nobel Laureates who got the Peace Prize in 2014 at the age of just 17 years with Kailash Satyarthi.
- ✓ John Bardeen is the only Nobel Laureate who has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics twice, in 1956 and 1972.
- ✓ Marie Curie is the only one woman who has been honoured twice, with the 1903 Nobel Prize in Physics and the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.
- ✓ Frederick Sanger is the only Nobel Laureate who has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry twice, in 1958 and 1980
- ✓ Switzerland-based International Committee of the Red Cross is the only 3-time recipient of the Nobel Prize, being conferred with Peace Prize in 1917, 1944, and 1963
- ✓ Rabindra Nath Tagore was the first Indian to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913 for his poetry collection Gitanjali.
- ✓ Noble Prize categories are physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, peace and economics, the last being introduced in 1968.
- ✓ Linus Pauling is the only person to have been awarded two unshared Nobel Prizes – the 1954 Nobel Prize in Chemistry and the 1962 Nobel Peace Prize
- ✓ **9 INDIANS HAVE SO FAR WON THE NOBLE PRIZE**
 1. Rabindranath Tagore (1913, Literature)
 2. CV Raman (1930, Physics)
 3. Har Gobind Khorana (1968, Medicine)



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- ✓ The ENCORE counting application is an end-to-end application for returning officers to digitize the votes polled, tabulate the round-wise data and then take out various statutory reports of counting.

ECI IN NEWS 2023

- Election Commission of India (ECI) has designed in-house software ENCORE for complete Candidate and election management.
- Election Commission of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Education to bring electoral literacy in schools across the country.
- Election Commission of India has appointed actor Rajkumar Rao as its national icon. National icons make people aware about voting.
- Former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India and Congress leader Manohar Singh Gill died at the age of 86.
- Dr. M.S. Gill was the 11th Chief Election Commissioner of India.
- "Chacha Chaudhary aur Chunavi Dangal" comic book has been launched by the Election Commission of India (ECI) & Pran Comics to inspire youth to enroll and participate in the festival of democracy.
- Chacha Chaudhary, Sabu, Raaka, Dhamaka Singh, Billoo & other comic characters will now create awareness amongst children about elections.
- Cricketing legend Sachin Tendulkar has been designated as a "national icon" by the Election Commission (EC) to encourage greater voter participation in the electoral process.
- Election Commission of India and the Electoral Tribunal (ET) of Panama signed an MoU in Panama City to establish an institutional framework for cooperation in the field of election management and administration.
- Election Commission launches web portal for Contribution Reports.
- **ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA**
- Founded : 25 January 1950
- 25 January : Voter's Day
- HQ : New Delhi
- First Election Commissioner : Sukumar Sen
- First Woman Chief Election Commissioner : V.S. Ramadevi
- 25th Chief Election Commission : Rajiv Kumar



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- Election Commissioner : Anup Chandra Pandey & Arun Goel
- Tenure : 6/65yrs
- Article : 324
- The Commission consists of one Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners. They are appointed by the President of India.
- The Election Commission of India (ECI) has granted national party status to Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).
- Election Commission of India (ECI) has organized the 3rd International Conference on the theme 'Inclusive Elections and Elections Integrity'.

Q. The Adaptation Gap Report, Sometimes Seen In The News, Is Who Published?

- A) World Bank
- B) World Economic Forum
- C) United Nations Development Programme
- D) United Nations Environment Programme

Answer : D

- ✓ According to Adaptation Gap Report, the money being made available to developing countries for adaptation measures has been declining, and nowhere close to the scale of requirement.
- ✓ It is annually published by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) since 2014.
- ✓ The aim of the reports is to inform national and international efforts to advance adaptation.
- ✓ It provides an update on the global status and progress of the adaptation process across three elements: planning, financing, and implementation.
- ✓ It complements the Emissions Gap Report series, and explores the implications of failing to close the emissions gap.
- ✓ It is co-produced by the UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre (UNEP-CCC) and the World Adaptation Science Programme (WASP)..
- ✓ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- ✓ Formation : 5 June 1972
- ✓ Headquarters : Nairobi, Kenya



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✓ Executive Director : Inger Andersen (Denmark).

Q. Which city has been declared the winner of the US National Gatka Championship, the first-ever American national championship of the popular Sikh martial arts?

A) London

B) Paris

C) New York City

D) Tokyo

Answer : C

- ✓ New York city wins first US National Gatka Championship
- ✓ The city of New York has been declared the winner of the US National Gatka Championship, the first-ever American national championship of the popular Sikh martial arts.
- ✓ Held at a Gurdwara in Queens, New York, over the weekend, the popular Sikh martial arts championship was attended by more than 100 players in different age groups from various parts of the country.
- ✓ The championship saw the Kansas Gatka Association securing the runner-up position, while the NJ Gatka Association achieved third place.

Q. India and which country has re-launched Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) negotiations?

A) Maldives

B) Bhutan

C) Sri Lanka

D) Thailand

Answer : C

- ✓ India and Sri Lanka held the 12th round of negotiations on the Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- ✓ The delegations from both sides delved into a spectrum of critical areas, including Trade in Goods, Technical Barriers to Trade, and Trade in Services.
- ✓ Both sides acknowledged the potential in India and Sri Lanka trade partnership and possibilities for enhanced economic relations.
- ✓ India was Sri Lanka's largest trading partner with an overall bilateral merchandise trade of 5.45 billion dollars in 2021
- ✓ DON'T CONFUSED
- ✓ Australia-India Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) was signed by the two countries on April 2, 2022.



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- ✓ On February 18, 2022, India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are set to firm up a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

SRI LANKA IN NEWS 2023

- India and Sri Lanka conclude 12th round of talks on Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka has recently announced visa-free access for Indian passport holders.
- Ministry of Transport and Highways of Sri Lanka has signed a contract with India's IRCON International Limited for the design, testing and commissioning of signaling systems with Sri Lanka Railways.
- Sri Lanka hosted the Karnataka Cultural Festival on August 27, 2023.
- FIFA has lifted its ban on the Sri Lankan Football Federation with immediate effect.
- India gives Lanka Rs 450 mn in aid for unique digital identity project.
- World Bank approves \$700 million for crisis-hit Sri Lanka.
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off India's first international cruise vessel - MV Empress, from Chennai to Sri Lanka.
- Bharti Airtel has announced its plan to merge its Sri Lanka operations with Dialog Axiata, the largest telecom provider in Sri Lanka.
- The 10th annual SLINEX-2023 bilateral maritime exercise between India and Sri Lanka has commenced in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka assent to Adani Green's \$442 Million Wind Power Project.
- India will support Sri Lanka's debt restructuring plan as the island nation looks to trim its huge public expenditure to win approval for a crucial bailout from the International Monetary Fund.
- 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



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- 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 organisation has released a report, which states that Indian Farmers faced \$169 Billion Implicit Tax due to Export Measures in 2022?

- A) NABARD B) OECD
C) IMF D) World Bank

Answer : B

- ✓ The most recent assessment on agricultural policy and support worldwide by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has highlighted that in 2022, Indian farmers incurred an implicit tax of \$169 billion.
- ✓ This tax was a result of export bans, duties, or permits imposed on various commodities, including wheat and rice, in an effort to stabilize prices for consumers. As a consequence of these measures, the overall market price support (MPS) for farmers in 2022 turned negative.
- ✓ About Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- ✓ It is an international organisation of 38 countries committed to democracy and the market economy.
- ✓ OECD members are typically democratic countries that support free-market economies.
- ✓ The OECD was established on Dec. 14, 1960, by 18 European nations, plus the United States and Canada.
- ✓ Headquarters: Paris, France.
- ✓ Goal: The stated goal of the OECD is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all.
- ✓ The OECD publishes economic reports, statistical databases, analyses, and forecasts on the outlook for economic growth worldwide.



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- ✓ The organization also seeks to eliminate bribery and other financial crime worldwide.
- ✓ The organization also seeks to eliminate bribery and other financial crime worldwide.
- ✓ The OECD maintains a so-called "black list" of nations that are considered uncooperative tax havens.
- ✓ India is one of the many non-member economies with which the OECD has working relationships in addition to its member countries

Q. What is India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in October 2023?

- A) Rs 1.65 lakh crore B) Rs 1.72 lakh crore
C) Rs 1.82 lakh crore D) Rs 1.92 lakh crore

Answer : B

- ✓ India's Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections in October 2023 increased by 13.4% to Rs 1,72,003 crore, the second-highest ever.
- ✓ The growth was driven by a rebound in imports.
- ✓ Gross GST collection in April 2023 is all time high, Rs 19,495 crore more than the next highest collection of Rs. 1,67,540 crore, in April 2022.
- ✓ The GST revenue collection for October 2023 is second highest ever, next only to April 2023.
- ✓ The gross GST for September, collected in October, rose 13% annually to Rs 1,72,003 crore. The growth in India's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues bounced back in October with tax collections rising at a 10-month high pace of 13.4%.

Q. Which city is the host India-US 2+2 meeting in 2023?

- A) New Delhi B) Chennai
C) New York D) Chicago

Answer : A

- ✓ The India-US 2+2 meeting is scheduled to be held in New Delhi in November 2023. The meeting will be held amid global turbulence and it will address differences over Canada's allegations against India.
- ✓ US Secretary of State Antony J Blinken and Defence Secretary Lloyd J Austin will be visiting India next week for the India-US 2+2 ministerial dialogue.
- ✓ External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will host the two visiting US Cabinet ministers.



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



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

Q. 'Bletchley Declaration', which was released recently, is associated with which field?

- A) Cryptocurrency B) Artificial Intelligence
C) Economy D) Climate Change

Answer : B

- ✓ India, along with 27 other countries and the European Union have signed world's first agreement on artificial intelligence (AI) safety at a meeting in the United Kingdom.
- ✓ The agreement pledges to work together to assess the risks associated with artificial intelligence.
- ✓ It was signed during two-day 'AI Safety Summit 2023' at United Kingdom's World War II code-breaking centre in Bletchley Park.
- ✓ In a statement, the UK government said, the agreement will be known as the Bletchley Declaration.

Q. What is the name of the National Public Procurement Portal of India?

- A) Government e-Market portal B) Bharat e-Market portal
C) Namo e-Market portal D) India e-Market portal

Answer : A

- ✓ Government e Marketplace (GeM) is a 100 percent Government owned & National Public Procurement Portal.
- ✓ Procurement of services from the Government e-Market (GeM) portal is expected to touch Rs 1.5 lakh crore this fiscal year. This is an increase from Rs 65,957 crore in 2022-23.
- ✓ The CEO of GeM, P K Singh, said that service procurement was just Rs 3,069 crore in the fiscal year 2019-20.
- ✓ It reached Rs 65,957 crore in 2022-23.



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- ✓ Justice Menon began his judicial career as an additional judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on April 1, 2002, and his dedication and expertise led to his elevation to the position of a permanent judge in 2003.
- ✓ The former judge was first recommended to the post in 2019 and served for four years..
- ✓ Justice Menon was elevated as an additional judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court on April 1, 2002. He was made permanent judge of the High Court on March 21, 2003.

Q. Who has been chosen for the Kerala Jyothi Award 2023 instituted by the Kerala government?

- A) T. Padmanabhan B) Sarah Joseph
C) M. T. Vasudevan Nair D) M. Mukundan

Answer : A

- ✓ Eminent writer T. Padmanabhan has been chosen for the Kerala Jyothi Award 2023 instituted by the Kerala government.
- ✓ He was selected for the highest civilian honour by the government considering his contributions in the field of Malayalam literature.
- ✓ The State also announced other 'Kerala Puraskarngals', the highest award given by the government to distinguished personalities who have made outstanding contributions in various spheres of social life.
- ✓ Justice (Retired) M. Fathima Beevi and Nataraja Krishnamurthy (Soorya Krishnamurthy) have been selected for the 'Kerala Prabha' award considering contributions in the field of social service and civil service and in the field of arts respectively..
- ✓ Others who won the 'Kerala Sree' award include Punalur Somarajan (social service sector), V.P. Gangadharan (health sector), Ravi DC (industry and commerce sector), K.M. Chandrasekhar (civil service sector), Pandit Ramesh Narayan (art, music).

Q. Who has become India's highest wicket-taker in ODI World Cup

- A) Jasprit Bumrah B) Mohammed Shami
C) Hardik Pandya D) Yuzvendra Chahal

Answer : B

- ✓ Mohammed Shami has become India's highest wicket-taker in ODI World Cup history during the India versus Sri Lanka 2023 World Cup match at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.



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- ✓ With 45 wickets in ODI World Cups, Shami went past Zaheer Khan and Javagal Srinath after his fifer against the Lankans. Zaheer and Srinath have 44 wickets in World Cups for India.
- ✓ Shami also entered the top 10 list of the highest wicket-takers in ODI World cup history, which is topped by Glenn McGrath's 71 scalps.
- ✓ Among active international cricketers, only Mitchell Starc and Trent Boult are above Shami in the list with 56 and 49 wickets, respectively.
- ✓ Most wickets for India in ODI World Cup
- ✓ Mohammed Shami – 45 wickets in 14 matches
- ✓ Zaheer Khan – 44 wickets in 23 matches
- ✓ Javagal Srinath – 44 wickets in 34 matches
- ✓ Jasprit Bumrah – 33 wickets in 16 matches
- ✓ Anil Kumble – 31 wickets in 18 matches
- ✓ Top 5 all-time wicket-takers in ODI World Cup
- ✓ Glenn McGrath (AUS) – 71 wickets in 39 matches
- ✓ Muthiah Muralidaran (SL) – 68 wickets in 40 matches
- ✓ Mitchell Starc (AUS) – 56 wickets in 24 matches
- ✓ Lasith Malinga (SL) – 56 wickets in 29 matches
- ✓ Wasim Akram (PAK) – 55 wickets in 38 matches

Q. Who has won the gold medal in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions individual event at the Asian Shooting Championship in Changwon, South Korea?

- A) Ankit Singh
- B) Aishwaryatap Singh Tomar
- C) Divyansh Singh Panwar
- D) Rudranksh Patil

Answer : B

- ✓ Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar won the gold medal in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions individual event and helped India grab a team silver at the Asian Shooting Championship in Changwon, South Korea.
- ✓ The 22-year-old Tomar shot 463.5 in the final to win the gold. China's Tian Jiaming took the silver with a score of 462.7. Another Chinese, Du Linshu picked up the bronze with 450.3.



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Q. Which state released the draft State Energy Efficiency Action Plan?

- A) Kerala
B) Goa
C) West Bengal
D) Assam

Answer : A

- ✓ The draft State Energy Efficiency Action Plan for Kerala suggests that the state has the potential to achieve significant energy savings by the year 2030.
- ✓ This can be accomplished through various measures such as increasing the adoption of electric vehicles, promoting green buildings, and enhancing energy efficiency in households and industries.

Q. Which Indian chess player won the FIDE Women's Grand Swiss 2023 title?

- A) Harika Dronavalli
B) Tania Sachdev
C) Divya Deshmukh
D) R Vaishali

Answer : D

- ✓ In chess, R Vaishali has won the FIDE Women's Grand Swiss 2023 title in Isle of Man, UK.
- ✓ Whereas Vidit Gujarati defeated Alexander Predke of Serbia and achieved the top position in the open section.
- ✓ Along with this, both the players have also qualified for the prestigious Candidates Tournament to be played in Canada in April next year.
- ✓ Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi and International Master R Vaishali on Sunday won the open and women's titles respectively at the FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 to qualify for their respective Candidates 2024 events.

CHESS GRANDMASTER IN NEWS 2023

- Raunak Sadhwani (Maharashtra) won FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship.
- Divya Deshmukh (Maharashtra) Emerges Winner Of 2023 Tata Steel Chess India Women's Rapid Tournament defeated Koneru Humpy.
- Magnus Carlsen (Norway) wins the Chess World Cup Final 2023.
- Aditya Samant becomes India's 83rd Grandmaster.
- Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa has won the title of V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM Chess Tournament 2023 .
- Magnus Carlsen (Norway) won the 2023 Superbet Rapid & Blitz Poland



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- According to the India Justice Report (IJR) 2022, which assesses the performance of states in terms of justice delivery, the state of Karnataka has achieved the top rank .
- World Bank has granted a loan of USD 363 million to the state of Karnataka in India, which will help to provide clean drinking water.
- Karnataka ended their 54-year wait to win the Santosh Trophy national football championship, beating Meghalaya .
- The Karnataka Government will build the country's first Marina or a boat basin offering dockage, at Byndoor in Udupi district to promote coastal tourism in Karnataka.
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying announced that the fourth phase of the Sagar Parikrama program began in Karnataka.
- Karnataka bags National Award For Fasal Bima Yojana, implementing the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme.
- Karnataka Bank awarded 'Prathista Puraskar for achieving highest percentage in BHIM-UPI transactions.
- Mysuru and Hampi are the two popular destinations in Karnataka to be promoted as a part of the new Tourism policy 'The Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme, which focuses on revving up destination tourism.
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka.
- November 1, 2023, marks the 50th anniversary of Karnataka's formation, a significant day in the state's history. Originally founded on November 1, 1956, as a result of the State Reorganisation Act, Karnataka was initially known as Mysore State.
- About Karnataka State
- Formation - 1 November 1956
- Capital- Bengaluru
- Chief minister : Siddaramaiah
- Governor- Thawar Chand Gehlot
- Legislative Assembly seats- 224
- Lok Sabha seats- 28
- Jog Falls (Garsoppa) located in Karnataka is the highest waterfall in India which is on Sharavathi River.



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- ✓ Campaign Aims : To provide a platform for inclusion of women in water governance. They will be given first-hand knowledge about water treatment processes through visits to Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) in their respective cities.
- ✓ India has more than 3,000 Water treatment plants, with a designed water treatment capacity of more than 65,000 MLD and operational capacity of more than 55,000 MLD. During the said campaign, women Self Help Groups (SHGs) will visit more than 550 water treatment plants, with a combined operational capacity of more than 20,000 MLD (more than 35% of the country's total).
- ✓ The phase I of "Women for Water, Water for Women Campaign", "Jal Diwali" shall witness participation from all States/ UTs (barring the 5 States under Model Code of Conduct), with an expected participation of more than 15,000 SHG women, nationwide.
- ✓ About the AMRUT Mission:
- ✓ Launch: June 2015
- ✓ Concerned Ministry: Housing and Urban Affairs
- ✓ Purpose:
- ✓ To ensure that every household has access to a tap with the assured supply of water and a sewerage connection.
- ✓ The Priority zone of the Mission is water supply followed by sewerage.
- ✓ To increase the amenity value of cities by developing greenery and well maintained open spaces (e.g. parks).
- ✓ To reduce pollution by switching to public transport or constructing facilities for non-motorized transport (e.g. walking and cycling).
- ✓ Components:
- ✓ Capacity building, reform implementation, water supply, sewerage and septage management, storm water drainage, urban transport and development of green spaces and parks.
- ✓ The reforms aim at improving delivery of citizen services, bringing down the cost of delivery, improving financial health, augmenting resources and enhancing transparency. It also includes replacement of street lights with LED lights.
- ✓ Central Sponsored Scheme: Total outlay for AMRUT was Rs. 50,000 crores for five years from FY 2015-16 to FY 2019-20.
- ✓ Unable to meet set targets for urban renewal in 500 cities, the Centre has extended the mission period of AMRUT upto 31st March, 2021.



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Q. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) will open its new Regional Administrative Office in which country?

- A) Saudi Arabia B) UAE
C) Sri Lanka D) Maldives

Answer : A

- ✓ CBSE to open new administrative Office in UAE
- ✓ In a significant development for the Indian expatriate community in the United Arab Emirates, Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan held a meeting with the Principals of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliated schools in Dubai.
- ✓ One of the significant announcements made during the meeting was the acceptance of a long-standing demand by CBSE schools to open a regional administrative office in UAE, recognizing the country's central role in overseeing CBSE-affiliated schools in the GCC region
- ✓ The meeting was marked by a sense of unity and inclusion, encapsulated in the phrase "Vasudaiva Kutumbakam," which translates to "the world is one family." This move towards greater inclusivity is a promising development for the Indian expatriate community and the education sector in the UAE.

Q. Vibrant Gujarat International Roadshow was held in which city?

- A) Paris B) London
C) New York D) Dubai

Answer : D

- ✓ Vibrant Gujarat International Roadshow held in Dubai
- ✓ In a bid to showcase the immense potential for business and investment opportunities in the vibrant state of Gujarat, the Government of Gujarat hosted the Vibrant Gujarat International Roadshow in Dubai.
- ✓ The event, a prelude to the upcoming 10th Edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit scheduled for January 10-12, 2024, served as a platform for industry representatives from both Gujarat and the UAE to engage, network, and explore collaborations.
- ✓ The roadshow succeeded in fostering meaningful connections between industry leaders and government officials while shedding light on the myriad opportunities for investment and growth in Gujarat.
- ✓ As the state gears up for the 10th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit in January 2024, the prospects for business and collaboration in this dynamic Indian state look brighter than ever



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- ✓ The word “permacrisis”, defined as “an extended period of instability and insecurity” was the Collins word of the year in 2022.

Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been re-elected as the Chairman of which of the following temple trust?

- A) Shree Somnath Trust B) Sabarimala Temple Trust
C) Badrinath Temple Trust D) Ayodhya Ram Mandir Trust

Answer : A

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s tenure as the chairman of the Shree Somnath Trust has been extended by five years.
- ✓ During a meeting of the board, various aspects of the temple’s operations were discussed, including how to enhance the pilgrimage experience through the use of technology.
- ✓ This marks a historic moment as it is the first time in the 74-year-long history of the Shree Somnath Trust that a chairman has been elected for a five-year tenure.
- ✓ The trust has launched a video highlighting the history and traditions of the temple
- ✓ PM Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated and lay the foundation stone of various projects worth Rs. 83 crores at the historic Somnath Temple in Gujarat on 20 August 2021.
- ✓ According to the temple authorities, Prime Minister Modi is the chairman of the Shree Somnath Trust.
- ✓ Somnath is an ancient temple town in the state of Gujarat
- ✓ It is located in Prabhas Patan in Saurashtra, Gujarat.
- ✓ It is among the twelve Jyotirlinga shrines of Lord Shiva in India, it is the first one.

Q. Who among the following has been appointed as Executive Director by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- A) Manoranjan Mishra B) Ashwani Bhatia
C) Amarjeet Singh D) Ananth Narayan

Answer : A

- ✓ Manoranjan Mishra has been appointed as Executive Director by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- ✓ In his role as Executive Director, Mishra will oversee the Enforcement Department, Risk Monitoring Department, and Department of External Investments & Operations.



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- ✓ Prior to being promoted to ED, he was serving as Chief General Manager in the Department of Regulation.
- ✓ Mishra has experience of over three decades in the Reserve Bank having worked in the areas of regulation of banks and NBFCs, supervision of banks, and currency management.

Q. Rohit Rishi has been appointed as Executive Director of which the following bank?

- A) Bank of Maharashtra B) Indian Overseas Bank
C) Punjab & Sind Bank D) Canara Bank

Answer : A

- ✓ Rohit Rishi has been appointed as Executive Director of the Bank of Maharashtra.
- ✓ Prior to Rishi's appointment, Asheesh Pandey was the sole ED on the bank's board.
- ✓ Earlier, Rishi was field GM with Indian Bank and has experience in the field of MSME and corporate credit.
- ✓ Bank of Maharashtra
- ✓ Founded : 1935
- ✓ Headquarters : Pune, Maharashtra
- ✓ MD & CEO : A. S. Rajeev
- ✓ Tagline : One Family One Bank/ Ek Parivar Ek Bank

Q. Who has won the Mahatma Awards 2023 for sustainable and impactful contributions to corporate social responsibility (CSR) in areas such as education, health, livelihood, environment, and disaster relief?

- A) IBM B) Infosys
C) UST D) Microsoft

Answer : C

- ✓ UST wins 2023 Mahatma Awards for impactful CSR initiatives
- ✓ Leading digital transformation solutions company UST has won the 2023 Mahatma Awards for sustainable and impactful contributions to corporate social responsibility (CSR) in areas such as education, health, livelihood, environment, and disaster relief.
- ✓ An initiative of the Aditya Birla Group, the award was presented on Gandhi Jayanti.
- ✓ A highlight of the company's CSR drive is its Adopt-a-School programme which impacts over 32,000 students in India and Mexico.



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- ✓ Literature : Kozhikode (2023)
- ✓ Music : Chennai (2017), Varanasi (2015), Gwalior (2023)
- ✓ With the latest additions, the UCCN now counts 350 cities in more than a hundred countries, representing seven creative fields: Crafts and Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Media Arts and Music.

UNESCO IN NEWS 2023

- Kozhikode in Kerala has been designated as the UNESCO 'City of Literature' and Gwalior as the 'City of Music' in the latest UNESCO list of Creative Cities Network.
- temples of the Hoysala Empire in Karnataka, India were officially added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites, marking India's 42nd addition to the prestigious heritage list.
- Santiniketan, located in West Bengal, India, has achieved the prestigious status of being recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site .
- Santiniketan as the 41st World Heritage Property in India.
- UNESCO have stated in a new report that the Italian city of Venice should be added to a list of world heritage sites in danger.
- The historic Byculla Railway Station, located in Mumbai received the prestigious UNESCO Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award.
- United States will rejoin UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organization, in July 2023.
- Jagdish Bakan wins UNESCO's 2023 Michel Batisse Award .
- UNESCO World Heritage Centre has recommended Santiniketan, the cultural site in West Bengal, India, for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- According to a report published by UNESCO at the United Nations 2023 Water Conference in New York, 26 percent of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water.
- Former German chancellor Angela Merkel has been awarded the Felix Houphouet-Boigny UNESCO Peace Prize in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast.
- Visva-Bharati University is expected to get the status of the world's first "Living Heritage University" from UNESCO.
- UNESCO listed Ukraine's Odesa a World Heritage Site in Danger.
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Centre has nominated the maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo to seek a UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.



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- The historic maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo were chosen out of 52 sites for the UNESCO World Heritage Site tag.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- Formation : 16 November 1945
- Headquarters : Paris, France
- Director-General : Audrey Azoulay (France)
- Member countries : 193

Q. Inaugurated the domestic sailing of the first international cruise liner 'Costa Serena' in India?

- A) Sarbananda Sonowal B) Anurag Thakur
C) Smriti Irani D) S Jai Shankar

Answer : A

- ✓ Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal is set to launch the domestic sailing of the first International Cruise Liner 'COSTA SERENA' at Mumbai.
- ✓ The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is very focussing to bring India on the cruising map of the world.
- ✓ At the recently concluded Global Maritime India Summit 2023 organised by the Ministry, discussions revolved around reaching the target of 50 million cruise passengers in India by 2047. India has a huge potential to achieve this.
- ✓ Such cruise initiatives are part of 'Dekho Apna Desh'.
- ✓ Costa Cruises, a prominent European cruise company, operates under an Italian flag and is renowned for offering high-end inter-country cruise experiences .
- ✓ Costa Cruises is expected to carry approximately 45,000 passengers in its next 2 months voyages. These passengers would have otherwise booked from international destinations. The biggest advantage is an International Cruising experience for Indians in Indian waters.

Q. Who inaugurated the second edition of 'World Food India 2023'?

- A) Piyush Goyal B) Narendra Modi
C) Nirmala Sitharaman D) Hardeep Singh Puri

Answer : B



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Q. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL)?

A) Rajat Aggarwal

B) Koppu Sadashiv Murthy

C) Deepak Verma

D) Ajay Kapoor

Answer : B

- ✓ Koppu Sadashiv Murthy has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL).

BHEL IN NEWS 2023

- Koppu Sadashiv Murthy has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL).
- BHEL has appointed Bani Verma as Director (Industrial Systems and Products) of the company.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) said that Tajinder Gupta has taken charge as Director (Power).
- BHEL develops India's first catalyst set to curb NOx emissions in power plants
- State-owned engineering firm Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has successfully manufactured the first set of indigenous SCR Catalysts for limiting NOx emissions from thermal power plants.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed an MoU with Greenstat Hydrogen India Pvt. Ltd. for "potential collaboration opportunities in Green Hydrogen and derivatives in the Hydrogen Value Chain.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has signed MoUs with Coal India Limited (CIL) and NLC India Limited (NLCIL) for setting up Coal Gasification based plants.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL):
- It is a major Central Public Sector Enterprise in India.
- It has the distinction of being the largest manufacturer of power generation equipment under government ownership.
- BHEL works as a part of the Government of India and comes under the purview of the Ministry of Heavy Industry.
- Establishment - 1956
- Headquarters - New Delhi



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➤ CMD : Koppu Sadashiv Murthy

Q. Who has been awarded the best photographer in the '10 years and under' category at the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition held in London?

- A) Vihaan Talya Vikas B) Anton Trexler
C) Liron Gertsman D) Stefan Gerrits

Answer : A

- ✓ 10-Year-Old Bangalore Kid, Vihaan Talya Vikas was awarded the best photographer in his category at the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition held in London.
- ✓ Organized by the Natural History Museum, London, the competition showcases the finest wildlife photography from around the world.
- ✓ Vihaan's achievement is all the more impressive considering the stiff competition he faced. His photograph rose above 50,000 entries from 95 countries to secure the coveted award in the under-10 category.
- ✓ The event is also considered the 'Oscars of Photography'.
- ✓ In news, Wildlife photographer Jack Zhi has been named as the overall winner for the Bird Photographer of the Year 2023, for his image titled "Grab the Bull by the Horns".

Q. Who is the bowler with the highest wicket taker in ODI World Cup history?

- A) Jasprit Bumrah B) Mohammed Shami
C) Ravichandran Ashwin D) Ravindra Jadeja

Answer : B

- ✓ Fast bowler Mohammed Shami has become the highest wicket-taker for India in World Cup history.
- ✓ In this matter, he has left behind former Indian bowlers Zaheer Khan and Javagal Srinath, who had 44-44 wickets in their names.
- ✓ After that, the name of fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah comes in this list, who has taken 33 wickets so far.
- ✓ If we talk about most wickets in World Cup history, then this record is in the name of former Australian fast bowler Glenn McGrath who has taken 71 wickets



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Q. With whom has the Election Commission signed an agreement to promote electoral literacy?

- A) Ministry of External Affairs B) NCERT
C) UPSC D) Ministry of Education

Answer : D

- ✓ The Election Commission of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Education to bring electoral literacy in schools across the country.
- ✓ Its objective is to include voter education and electoral literacy in the curriculum from classes 6th to 12th in all schools.
- ✓ Under the MoU, study material on electoral literacy will be included in NCERT school textbooks and state education boards will also be advised to follow the same

Q. Who was recently honored with the second Rohini Nayyar Award?

- A) Rajeev Kumar B) Sachin Tendulkar
C) Kapil Dev D) Dinanath Rajput

Answer : D

- ✓ Former software engineer Dinanath Rajput has been honored with the second Rohini Nayyar Award for his significant contribution in the empowerment of tribal women in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.
- ✓ Dinanath Rajput has established Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) only for women in Naxal affected areas.

Q. Which University to launch Its First Own Satellite, to be named after its founder Sir Syed Ahmad Khan?

- A) Jamia Hamdard University B) Amity University Noida
C) South Asian University D) Aligarh Muslim University

Answer : D

- ✓ The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), under the department of space, government of India, has approved Aligarh Muslim University's (AMU) proposal for development of the varsity's first satellite, to be named after its founder Sir Syed Ahmad Khan.
- ✓ The satellite is tentatively scheduled to be launched in 6 months.
- ✓ "The SS AMU SAT is a nano satellite project which began in November 2021 under AMU Robo Club.



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- ✓ As part of the deal, the Finnish gear maker will provide Tata Play Fiber with a variety of fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) and WiFi equipment, including optical line terminal (OLT) and optical network terminal (ONT) with WiFi6 and mesh beacons to bolster the broadband network's presence in India

Q. Which company has scored the overall highest score of 6 out of 10 points in the Research Firm Fairwork Index 2023 for gig workers?

- A) Amazon
- B) Big Basket
- C) Uber
- D) Ola

Answer : B

- ✓ Tata-owned BigBasket has topped, while ride-hailing majors Uber and Ola, along with logistics startup Porter, are the worst platforms for gig workers, according to research firm Fairwork India 2023.
- ✓ Big Basket, BluSmart, Zomato, Urban Company, and Swiggy scored the highest points in the Fairwork India Report 2023 with Big Basket scoring the overall highest score of 6 out of 10 points.
- ✓ Both Ola and Porter scored zero on a scale of 1 to 10 when evaluated for minimum standards of fair work in the platform economy, according to the 'Fairwork India 2023' report.

Q. 7 Indian States and 2 UTs Celebrated Their Formation Day on?

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

Answer : A

- ✓ India has a rich and diverse history, and its states reflect this diversity. Each state has its own unique culture, language, and traditions. Some states were formed on the basis of linguistic identity, while others were formed on the basis of geographical or historical factors.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab. The Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry are also celebrating their formation day observe November 1 as Formation Day because they were all formed on this day in different years.
- ✓ Other states and Union Territories that observe November 1 as Formation Day include :
- ✓ Chhattisgarh (2000)



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- ✓ Kerala (1956)
- ✓ Madhya Pradesh (1956)
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh (1956)
- ✓ Lakshadweep (1956)
- ✓ Puducherry (1956)





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ROLL NO - 2283002821
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NAME - MANU VARGHESE
ROLL NO - 2110710970
BANK - KERALA GRAMEEN
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