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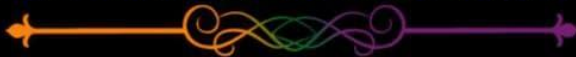


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**Aparchit November 3rd Week English Best 350+ MCQs with Amazing Facts**  
**By :- Aparchit Exam Warriors/Kumar Kaushal Sir**

**Q. The Indian government has recently signed a \$400 million policy-based loan agreement with which organization to support its urban reform agenda?**

- A) New Development Bank                      B) International Monetary Fund  
C) World Bank                                      D) Asian Development Bank

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The Indian government has signed a \$400 million policy-based loan agreement with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to support its urban reform agenda, which includes building high-quality urban infrastructure, increasing service delivery, and fostering efficient governance systems.
- ✓ While Sub-programme 1 was approved in 2021 with a \$350 million budget to implement national-level policies and guidelines to strengthen urban services, Sub-programme 2 supports investment planning and reform measures at the state and urban local body (ULB) levels
- ✓ Sub-programme 2 supports the reforms initiated by states and ULBs in operationalising the national flagship programme of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 targeted for universal access to water supply and sanitation, said Konishi.

**ADB IN NEWS 2023**

- India & ADB sign \$400 million loan to support urban reform agenda.
- ADB to Support Improvement of Urban Infrastructure and Services in Peri-urban Areas of Ahmedabad, India.
- ADB Capital Management Reforms Bring \$100 Billion Benefits Over Next Decade to Asia-Pacific.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced the allocation of US \$ 400 million for welfare work with a special focus on women and girls in Afghanistan.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Fourth Partner Energy Private Limited (Fourth Partner) signed a long-term loan of up to 1.2 billion Indian rupees (about \$14.7 million) .
- ADB Approves USD 40.5 Million Loan to Enhance Childhood Development and Maternal Mental Health in Meghalaya.
- Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$200 million loan as additional financing for the ongoing Rajasthan.



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- ADB approves \$295mn loan to improve Transport Connectivity in Bihar.
- ADB gives 130 million dollars to increase horticulture in Himachal Pradesh.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$141.12 million loan agreement for the development of an industrial corridor in Andhra Pradesh.
- Alok Kumar has been appointed as a member of the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) High-level Advisory Group on Digital Technology for Development.
- Pakistan is the largest recipient of ADB loans in Asia, Pakistan received loans of USD 5.58 billion.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced its plans to invest in non-convertible debentures valued at Rs 150 crore in Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd (TPDDL).
- ADB approves \$130 million loan to promote horticulture in Himachal Pradesh.
- Indian government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed loan agreements aggregating to \$1.22 billion.
- ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)
- Founded : 19 December 1966
- HQ : Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- President : Masatsugu Asakawa (Japan)
- Vice President : Ashok Lavasa (Indian?)
- Director of ADB for India : Takeo Konishi
- Executive Director : Sameer Kumar
- Member Countries : 68 (Nuie).
- ADB has grown to encompass 68 members; of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside.
- Japan is the largest contributor in the subscribed capital of the country.
- Asian Development Outlook, reports published by ADB.
- It is a regional multilateral financial institution focused on countries in the Asia and Pacific region.
- It currently has 68 members – of which 49 are from the Asia and Pacific region and 19 from outside.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the new Foreign Minister of Britain?**

**A) Liz Truss**

**B) David Cameron**

**C) James Cleverley**

**D) Zakir Ahmed**



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**Answer : B**

- ✓ Former UK Prime Minister David Cameron has been appointed as the new Foreign Minister of Britain.
- ✓ PM Rishi Sunak has chosen David Cameron as the new Foreign Minister in place of James Cleverley.
- ✓ David Cameron was the Prime Minister of Britain between 2010 and 2016.

**Q. Which Union Ministry instituted Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL)?**

- A) Ministry of Corporate Affairs      B) Ministry of Finance  
C) Ministry of MSME                      D) Ministry of Electronics and IT

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Corporate Affairs Ministry (MCA) extended the term of the 16-member Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL) up to December 31, 2023.
- ✓ The extended term of this panel, which was tasked to submit a draft Bill of proposed digital competition law, had expired on October 31. CDCL will have to submit its report to the government including a draft Digital Competition Act (DCA).

**Q. Ben Gurion Canal Project is a proposed canal project through which country?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Ben Gurion Canal Project, initially conceived in the 1960s, is a proposed canal project through the state of Israel. It would connect the Gulf of Aqaba to the Mediterranean Sea.
- ✓ It holds the potential to reshape global maritime trade dynamics by breaking Egypt's control over the most direct route between Europe and Asia. Nevertheless, the project's realization faces formidable obstacles of logistical complexity, political hurdles, and financial constraints, rendering it currently appear highly improbable.

**Q. 'Mars Sample Return mission' is associated with which country?**

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

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ The ambitious Mars Sample Return mission by NASA, considered one of the most intricate space endeavors, is at risk due to escalating expenses that could lead to a budgetary crisis for the space agency.
- ✓ The objective of the Mars Sample Return mission is to gather rock samples from Mars utilizing unmanned probes and robotic rovers.

**Q. Arignar Anna Zoological Park (AAZP), which was seen in the news, is in which state?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Arignar Anna Zoological Park (AAZP), Vandalur received a pair of Himalayan black bears from the Jambu Zoo, Jammu and Kashmir.
- ✓ In the exchange, AAZP will provide a pair of Bengal tigers. Also known as the Vandalur Zoo, it is a zoological garden located in the southwestern part of Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

## TAMIL NADU IN NEWS 2023

- 'Guidance', the nodal agency for investment promotion of Tamil Nadu, has received the United Nations Promotion Award 2023.
- Project Nilgiri Tahr' launched in Tamil Nadu.
- The second spaceport of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), will come up in about two years at Kulasekarapattinam in Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu.
- The U.K. and Tamil Nadu collaborate on a smart technology project for sustainable water, waste, and resource management.
- Recently, Udangudi 'Panangkarupatti' (palm jaggery/ gur) from Tamil Nadu has received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- Tamil Nadu government has unveiled its new tourism policy to develop the State into the most attractive experiential destination in Asia.
- Tamil Nadu's Salem Sago gets GI tag.
- Bhaderwah Rajmash and Sulai honey of Doda and Ramban districts of Jammu and Kashmir, have been granted Geographical Indication (GI) tags.
- The Matti banana variety, native to Kanniyakumari district Tamil Nadu was recently granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

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- Taiwanese firm Foxconn Technology Group, a key supplier to Apple Inc., signed a letter of Intent with the Tamil Nadu government to invest ₹1,600 crore to establish a manufacturing facility in Kancheepuram district.
- Centre has approved the establishment of a new spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu for carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) developed by the ISRO.
- Tamil Nadu's Authoor betel leaves get Geographical Indication (GI) certificate.
- Tamil Nadu bagged the Best Performing State award 2023 in cadaver organ donation .
- Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister "Udhayanidhi Stalin" has unveiled the trophy and the 'Bomman' mascot for the prestigious Asian Champions Trophy 2023 hockey tournament to be held in Chennai.
- Muthamizh Selvi, first Tamil Nadu woman to scale Mt Everest.
- Tamil Nadu government declared Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary as the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the state..
- Tamil Nadu becomes first state to launch its own Climate Change Mission.
- Tamil Nadu govt to launch five-year Tamil Nadu Millet Mission.
- In a first of its kind initiative in India, the Government of Tamil Nadu announced the 'Nilgiri Tahr Project' .

**Q. India is ranked \_ in the list of 129 countries in the world in inclusiveness index by US varsity.**

A) 121st

B) 117th

C) 106th

D) 92nd

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India is ranked 117th in the list of 129 countries in the world in the inclusiveness index published by the Othoring and Belonging Institute (OBI) at California University, United States. Smaller countries like Bangladesh (106) and Israel (115) were placed better than India.
- ✓ The index examines inclusivity in terms of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and the general population using several measures.
- ✓ The measures include out-group violence, political representation, income inequality, anti-discrimination laws, rate of incarceration, and immigration/ asylum policies, as per a release from OBI.



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- ✓ India was ranked last (129) in religion inclusiveness, 121st in gender, 108th in disability, 87th in race, 40th in the general population, and 39th in LGBTQ.
- ✓ New Zealand finished first in the index for the second consecutive year. Portugal recorded its best showing by securing second place (up from 5th place in 2022) followed by the Netherlands in the third place.
- ✓ Iran was placed at the bottom of the global list. Yemen, which has been devastated by the Saudi-led invasion performed poorly followed by the Comoros Islands, a former French colony located off the southeastern coast of Africa.

**Q. Asia-Pacific Airlines Aim for \_\_\_\_ Green Fuel Usage By 2030.**

- A) 5%
- B) 15%
- C) 25%
- D) 35%

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Association of Asia-Pacific Airlines (AAPA) has announced a groundbreaking target for its 14 member airlines, including newly inducted Air India, to achieved 5% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) usage by 2030.
- ✓ This move aims to address the aviation industry's carbon emissions challenges, signaling a significant demand for sustainable fuel production.
- ✓ National Initiatives in India :
- ✓ India has also taken steps toward promoting sustainable aviation fuel. In May, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in India expressed its intention to mandate 1% SAF use by domestic carriers by 2025. The civil aviation ministry has further outlined plans to increase the blending of sustainable aviation fuel to 2% by 2026 and 5% by 2030.
- ✓ Progress in India and Global Impact :
- ✓ India has witnessed SAF demonstration flights, including one by Spice Jet in 2018 and Air Asia India in May 2023, marking the country's first domestic commercial passenger flight with SAF blending up to 1%. These initiatives contribute to the global efforts to address aviation's environmental impact, as the sector currently contributes 3% of global carbon emissions.
- ✓ Global Targets and Progress :
- ✓ In 2016, the International Civil Aviation Organization set a carbon-neutral growth target starting from 2019 and aims for net-zero emissions by 2050. Despite progress, SAF production, which reached approximately



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300 million liters in 2022, represents only 0.1% of total aviation fuel use, according to the International Air Transport Association.

- ✓ The industry faces the challenge of scaling up production to meet ambitious targets.

## TARGET YEAR IN NEWS 2023

- Members of the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) collectively have set an “aspirational target” of 5% sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) usage by 2030.
- India to push developed nations to become carbon-negative before 2050.
- This ‘Bharat Drone Shakti 2023’ event will help the country to achieve its commitment of becoming a global drone hub by 2030.
- Vaccine manufacturer Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL) expects to commercially launch its dengue fever vaccine by early 2026.
- Group Chief Economic Advisor at the State Bank of India (SBI), Soumya Kanti Ghoshon has reiterated that India is likely to become the third-largest economy by 2027.
- The Ministry of Coal has set a target to gasify 100 million tonnes of coal by FY 2030.
- According to the report of Goldman Sachs Research, by the year 2075, India will become the second largest economy in the world after China leaving behind not only Japan and Germany but also America.
- UNEP suggests measures to reduce 80% of world's plastic pollution by 2040.
- India aims to become one trillion dollar tourism economy by 2047.
- The government announced a plan to add 250 GW of renewable energy capacity in the next five years to achieve its target of 500 GW of clean energy by 2030.
- India has set targets for half of its installed electricity capacity to be from non-fossil fuel sources by 2030 and for the country to attain net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.
- 2023 foreign trade policy has the vision to take India’s goods and services exports to \$2 trillion by 2030.
- India to get 9% of Electricity from Nuclear Sources by 2047.
- India sets target to become ‘Global Hub for Green Ship’ building by 2030
- Indian Railways to become Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030.
- India to produce 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030.





- India has set a target to replace the use of diesel by renewable energy in the agriculture sector by 2024.
- Indian Government has set a target to eliminate TB in India by 2025.
- India targets ₹25,000-cr worth defence exports by 2024.
- Reserve Bank of India's 2023 monetary policy objective is to hold inflation within the mandated tolerance band and guide it towards the medium-term target of 4% by 2024.

**Q. Which organization's executive board has approved a proposal to make a 50% increase in the quota allocated to members in proportion to their current quotas?**

- A) World Bank                                      B) Asian Development Bank  
C) International Monetary Fund              D) New Development Bank

**Answer : C**

- ✓ IMF executive board has approved a 50% quota increase
- ✓ The executive board has approved a proposal to make a 50% increase in the quota allocated to members in proportion to their current quotas.
- ✓ The proposal has come after the guidance from the IMF Committee at the 2023 annual meetings.
- ✓ Presently, India has a quota of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) of 13,114.4 million. This means India has a share of 2.75%.
- ✓ The proposal will be effective only after consideration and voting by the Board of Governors.

**Q. Which country recently got a new island after an underwater volcanic eruption?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Japan gets a new Island after an undersea volcano eruption
- ✓ The world's newest island has been formed off the coast of the Japanese island of Iwo Jima in the Pacific Ocean following an undersea volcanic eruption around 1,200 km south of Tokyo.
- ✓ The newly created island has not been named yet. However, as far as its measurement goes, it is approximately around 100 m in diameter, and took shape through phreatomagmatic eruptions. These eruptions are actually triggered when magma reacts with seawater, thereby resulting in explosive releases of ash and steam.



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- ✓ Reportedly, the eruption started on October 21, 2023, around 1 km off the coastline of Iwoto Island, which was formerly known as Iwo Jima.

**Q. Which country has won its first Billie Jean King Cup 2023?**

- A) Canada
- B) Mexico
- C) Spain
- D) Argentina

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Canada won its first Billie Jean King Cup
- ✓ Leylah Fernandez and Marina Stakusic won their singles matches as Canada beat Italy 2-0 to claim its first-ever Billie Jean King Cup.
- ✓ Stakusic ranked 258th in the world, put Canada ahead by defeating No. 43 Martina Trevisan 7-5, 6-3 for the biggest win of her career, then Fernandez sealed the victory by beating Jasmine Paolini 6-2, 6-3 at La Cartuja Stadium.
- ✓ Canada, captained by Heidi El Tabakh, became the 13th nation to win the Billie Jean King cup and the second consecutive new champion after Switzerland won in Glasgow 12 months ago.
- ✓ The Canada men's team is the current Davis Cup champion.
- ✓ The women's teams competed in four round-robin groups, with the winners advancing to the semifinals. The United States was eliminated by the Czech Republic in a group that also included title-holder Switzerland.
- ✓ The biggest team competition in women's tennis started two days after the end of the WTA Finals in Cancun, Mexico, which featured the top eight players on the tour — including winner Iga Swiatek

**Q. International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the names of the three legends of cricket as the latest inductees of the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame. Who among the following is not include in ICC's hall of fame?**

- A) Aravind D'Silva
- B) Virender Sehwag
- C) Diana Edulji
- D) Heather Knight

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Virender Sehwag, Diana Edulji & Aravind D'Silva enter ICC's Hall of Fame
- ✓ Three cricketing greats and standout performers in the history of the game – Former Indian legendary opener Virender Sehwag, former Indian Women Test skipper Diana Edulji, and Sri Lanka's iconic star Aravinda de Silva are the latest inductees to be added to the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.



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- ✓ The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the name of the three legends of cricket as the latest inductees of the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.
- ✓ Sehwag had dynamism a destructive opener of the modern era holds a record that is still hard to match, the first Indian with a Triple century. Sehwag has in fact scored two Triple Hundreds
- ✓ During his illustrious career, Sehwag scored 23 Test centuries, the fifth most by an India men's player, and claimed a record of the highest score by an Indian player ever, 319 which was against South Africa in Chennai in 2008. Overall, Sehwag has 8,586 runs to his name at an average of 49.34 in 104 appearances.
- ✓ The second inductee in the ICC Hall of Fame Edulji captained India for almost three decades, and as a left-arm orthodox spinner claimed 100 wickets while making 54 international appearances.
- ✓ The third inductee of the ICC Hall of Fame was a winner of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup with Sri Lanka in 1996 – Aravinda de Silva. The Sri Lankan batter was known for his consistency, scoring 20 Test centuries during an 18-year international career which is the third most by any Sri Lanka men's player.

**Q. India ended its campaign at the Asian Archery Championships in Bangkok with how many medals?**

- A) 5
- B) 7
- C) 6
- D) 9

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India ended its campaign at the Asian Archery Championships in Bangkok with seven medals comprising three gold, a silver, and three bronze.
- ✓ In the Women's team final, Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Parneet Kaur, and Aditi Gopichand Swami defeated Chinese Taipei in a thrilling contest to win the yellow metal.
- ✓ Kaur also won gold in the women's individual event after beating compatriot Vennam in the final.
- ✓ India won their second gold medal of the day after Swami and Priyansh beat Thailand in the final of the Mixed Team event.

**Q. Which State Launched 'Food Security' Campaign to Ensure Zero Hunger?**

- A) Meghalaya
- B) Manipur
- C) Nagaland
- D) Arunachal Pradesh

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ The Department of Food, Civil Supplies, and Consumer Affairs in Meghalaya has launched the 'Food Security' Campaign, which focuses on sensitising the public about the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 and strives to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 2 – 'Zero Hunger.
- ✓ The campaign was launched by Minister-in-Charge Comingone Ymbon at the Shillong Press Club.
- ✓ Objective : The objectives of the Campaign is to create general awareness about food security being a right of the citizen and calls upon the public at ground zero community level to work together towards 'Zero Hunger' to meet the need of the public at the bottom of the poverty pyramid.
- ✓ The One Nation One Ration Card scheme (ONORC) will also be taken up as one of the salient features of the National Food Security Act, he added

**Q. Which Country Launched Interactive Map for Biodiversity Restoration?**

- A) Australia
- B) Netherlands
- C) New Zealand
- D) United Kingdom

**Answer : C**

- ✓ A new interactive map was launched to restore a minimum of 15 percent local biodiversity within every catchment in New Zealand in the next nearly 100 years.
- ✓ The interactive map from Eco-index includes information on the type of habitat that existed there historically and targets for restoring 15 percent of biodiversity in each area.
- ✓ The free, open access-resourced tool will help community groups, businesses, government and land managers to set restoration priorities for areas where local biodiversity is most at risk, said Eco-index, a program aiming at tackling the challenge of biodiversity decline in New Zealand

**Q. Which Company delivers India's first LNG-Powered Haulage Truck - AVTR 1922?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Ashok Leyland becomes the first Indian Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) to unveil an in-house LNG engine compliant with BSVI Stage II emission standards.



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- ✓ The AVTR 1922, powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), is built on the AVTR platform and shares a high degree of commonality with Ashok Leyland's existing diesel truck range. This ensures that our customers benefit from streamlined service and maintenance processes

**Q. Who has launched PM-PVTG Mission And Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra On Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas?**

A) Amit Shah

B) Narendra Modi

C) Rajnath Singh

D) Droupadi Murmu

**Answer : B**

- ✓ On 15 November 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch the PM-PVTG Development Mission, a groundbreaking scheme aimed at fostering the comprehensive development of approximately 28 lakh people belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- ✓ This significant event is scheduled to coincide with the birth anniversary celebration of the revered tribal freedom fighter, Birsa Munda, observed as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas for the past three years.
- ✓ The launch ceremony is strategically planned to take place in Jharkhand's Khunti district, specifically after a visit to Ulihatu village, the birthplace of Birsa Munda.
- ✓ This visit will mark a historic moment as Prime Minister Modi becomes the first sitting Prime Minister to visit this village.
- ✓ PM-PVTG Mission and Development Initiatives :
- ✓ The PM-PVTG Development Mission aims to address the critical needs of the 75 PVTG communities residing in over 22,000 remote villages across 18 States and Union Territories.
- ✓ The focus areas include power, water, road connectivity, housing, education, and healthcare.
- ✓ This comprehensive approach aligns with the government's commitment to uplifting marginalized communities.
- ✓ Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra :
- ✓ Simultaneously, Prime Minister Modi is expected to launch the "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra" from Khunti, with the ambitious goal of achieving saturation of flagship government schemes across the country.
- ✓ This Yatra will commence from tribal-dominated districts, aiming to cover all districts by January 2024.
- ✓ The initiative reflects the government's dedication to extending the benefits of its schemes to the remotest corners of the nation.
- ✓ Saturation of Key Schemes :



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- ✓ \* Concerted efforts will be made in PVTG villages to achieve the saturation of vital schemes.
- ✓ \* These schemes include PM-Jan Arogya Yojana, Sickle-Cell Elimination Campaign, TB Elimination Campaign, 100% immunization, PM Surakshit Matritva Yojana, PM Matru Vandana Yojana, PM Poshan, PM Jan Dhan Yojana, among others.
- ✓ Financial Commitment :
- ✓ \* While initially budgeted at ₹15,000 crore over three years, the government has now allocated ₹24,000 crore for the PM-PVTG Development Mission.
- ✓ \* This financial commitment underscores the government's determination to bring about substantial positive change in the lives of PVTG communities.

**Q. \_\_ and OneWeb Secure Licenses for Satellite Internet Services.**

- A) Jio  
B) Airtel  
C) BSNL  
D) Vodafone Idea

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Jio Satellite Communications Ltd and Eutelsat OneWeb have been granted the requisite licences to provide satellite internet services in India.
- ✓ Both companies hold the GMPCS (Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite) licence, alongside a pan-India ISP (Internet Service Provider) licence.
- ✓ As reported by the Financial Express, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) allocated ISP-A and a VSAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) licence to OneWeb on Wednesday. The report states that Jio secured the ISP licence in October.
- ✓ Jio showcased JioSpaceFiber at the India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2023, while Airtel's booth featured solutions from Eutelsat OneWeb.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Amazon and Starlink are also in the process of obtaining the GMPCS licence in India. Starlink is anticipated to secure the licence soon.

**Q. 6th India-OPEC Energy Dialogue High-Level Meeting Held In Which Country ?**

- A) Germany  
B) France  
C) Austria  
D) Netherlands

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ The 6th High-Level Meeting of the India-OPEC Energy Dialogue took place on 9 November 2023, at the OPEC Secretariat in Vienna, Austria.
- ✓ Recognizing the pivotal role of India in global economic growth and energy demand, the parties acknowledged the World Oil Outlook 2023.
- ✓ This forecasted India as the fastest-growing major developing economy, projecting long-term growth of 6.1% between 2022-2045 and accounting for over 28% of incremental global energy demand during the same period.
- ✓ As India stands as the third-largest energy consumer, crude oil importer, and the fourth-largest global refiner, the collaboration between India and OPEC becomes not only essential but also natural.

**Q. Who has become the first woman to skydive from 21,500 feet near Mount Everest?**

- A) Arunima Sinha                      B) Sheetal Mahajan  
C) Krishna Puri                        D) Aditi Ashok

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian skydiver Sheetal Mahajan has become the first woman to skydive by jumping from a helicopter from a height of 21,500 feet in front of Mount Everest, the world's highest peak.
- ✓ After which she landed on 'Kalapathar' peak at a height of 17,444 feet.
- ✓ He is a renowned Indian skydiver who holds several skydiving records and was also awarded the fourth highest civilian award, the Padma Shri, in 2001.

**Q. Who has become the first Indian woman cricketer to be inducted into ICC's 'Hall of Fame'?**

- A) Diana Edulji                        B) Anjum Chopra  
C) Mithali Raj                         D) Poonam Yadav

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Former Indian captain Diana Edulji became the first Indian woman cricketer to be inducted by the International Cricket Council (ICC) in its Hall of Fame.
- ✓ Along with him, former Indian opener Virender Sehwag and Sri Lankan Aravind de Silva have also been included in the Hall of Fame.
- ✓ Diana played 54 matches for India between 1976 and 1993 and took more than 100 wickets



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**Q. "One Station One Product" initiative of Indian Railways is now operational at how many stations?**

A) 1,000

B) 1,037

C) 1,041

D) 1,150

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian Railways' "One Station One Product" initiative is now operational at 1,037 stations across the country.
- ✓ This initiative is specifically designed to sell indigenous products to the local people.
- ✓ This scheme has been designed by the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.
- ✓ The pilot project of the scheme was started on 25 March 2022

**Q. Who was the founder of Sahara Group who passed away recently?**

A) Subrata Roy

B) Sudarshan Roy

C) Rana Kapoor

D) Abhinandan Anand

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Subrata Roy, founder and chairman of Sahara Group, died at the age of 75 in a hospital in Mumbai.
- ✓ Subrata Roy, born in 1948 in Araria, Bihar, started Sahara India Parivar in 1978.

**Q. Which day has been declared by the Government to be observed as the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (Tribal Pride Day)?**

A) 15 November

B) 16 November

C) 11 November

D) 19 November

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is observed on 15th November across the nation, to commemorate the contributions of tribal communities in the nation's history and culture.
- ✓ The birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda is celebrated as the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas or Tribal Pride Day.
- ✓ On this day, President Droupadi Murmu paid tributes to Bhagwan Birsa Munda at Ulihatu village in Jharkhand.
- ✓ It was last year the Centre announced the celebration of the day as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas to honour and commemorate the contributions of Birsa Munda to India's free movement against British rule





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✓ He was born on 15th November 1875 in a Munda tribe.

**Q. The commemoration of the Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (Tribal Pride Day) marks the birth anniversary of which Indian freedom fighter?**

A) Tilka Majhi

B) Taty Tope

C) Birsa Munda

D) Chandra Shekhar Azad

**Answer : C**

✓ 15 November has been chosen as this date marks the birth anniversary of Sri Birsa Munda who is revered as Bhagwan (God) by tribal communities across the country

**Q. Which bank received approval from the RBI for making bank Securities a wholly-owned subsidiary?**

A) HDFC Bank

B) Yes Bank

C) ICICI Bank

D) Axis Bank

**Answer : C**

✓ ICICI Bank has received a green signal from the Reserve Bank to make I-Process Services (India) Private Ltd a wholly-owned subsidiary of the lender.

✓ The board of the bank had, at its meeting held on February 17-18, 2023, approved a proposal for making I-Process Services (India) Private Limited (iProcess) a wholly-owned subsidiary of the bank, subject to receipt of requisite regulatory and statutory approval.

✓ Started in 2005, I-Process Services (India) Private Ltd was set up to provide staffing solutions services for some of India's top financial institutions.

## ICICI BANK IN NEWS 2023

- ICICI Bank receives RBI's nod to make Securities a wholly-owned subsidiary.
- ICICI Bank Introduces 'iFinance,' A One-Stop Solution for Multi-Bank Account Access.
- IIT Kanpur has signed an MoU with private lender ICICI Bank to support the startup ecosystem in the institute.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken strict measures against two prominent banking institutions, Kotak Mahindra Bank penalty of Rs 3.95 crore and ICICI Bank penalty of Rs 12.19 crore, by imposing significant penalties.



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- RBI approves reappointment of Sandeep Bakshi as ICICI Bank MD & CEO for three more years till October 2026.
- ICICI Bank gets RBI nod to make I-Process Services as wholly-owned subsidiary.
- ICICI Bank offers Ecosystem Banking for Indian Startups.
- ICICI Bank and BNP Paribas have signed an initial pact to cater to the banking requirements of European corporates operating in India and Indian companies in the European Union.
- Zomato Partners with ICICI Bank to Launch Zomato UPI, Streamlining Payments for Users
- Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) BANK
- Founded : 1994
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO : Sandeep Bakhshi
- Tagline : Hum Hai Na Khayal Apka.

**Q. The 'AAINA Dashboard for Cities' portal has been launched by which Union Ministry?**

A) Ministry of MSME

B) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

C) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

D) Ministry of Electronics and IT

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Recently, the 'AAINA Dashboard for Cities' portal has been made live by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)
- ✓ About AAINA Dashboard for Cities:
- ✓ It would serve as a tool for comparing similarly placed Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and promoting peer learning amongst ULBs.
- ✓ This dashboard will inspire the ULBs by pointing to possibilities and areas of improvement and providing them the opportunity to learn and engage with frontrunners.
- ✓ It aims to create a robust database of the key performance metrics of Urban Local Bodies, which could be accessed by all stakeholders, and subsequently would open for public view once it gets populated.
- ✓ Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across the country can participate in this pioneering initiative to voluntarily submit their key data on a regular basis, through a simple, easy-to-fill, data entry form on the portal.
- ✓ Objectives of the AAINA Dashboard are to help cities to



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- ✓ See how they are faring vis-à-vis other cities.
- ✓ Inspire them by pointing to possibilities and areas of improvement and
- ✓ Providing opportunity to learn and engage with frontrunners.
- ✓ The Dashboard will present the data submitted by the ULBs on the basis of indicators across five broad pillars namely,
  - ✓ Political & Administrative Structure,
  - ✓ Finance
  - ✓ Planning,
  - ✓ Citizen Centric Governance and
  - ✓ Delivery of Basic Services.
- ✓ The ULBs will submit their data, including audited accounts, and self-reported performance metrics by logging in to the dashboard's portal.
- ✓ ULBs would be free to update the information initially provided by them, anytime on the portal as per need.
- ✓ The Dashboard has been envisaged as a permanent platform for ULB related data, that would be updated on a regular basis.
- ✓ The Ministry through Digital India Corporation will provide handholding support to ULBs / States in the data submission process on a need basis.
- ✓ Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

**Q. Where will the 'India International Science Festival' 2023 be organised?**

- A) Guwahati
- B) Jaipur
- C) Faridabad
- D) Lucknow

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The 9th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023 will be held at Faridabad, Haryana from January 17th-20th, 2024.
- ✓ About India International Science Festival:
  - ✓ It will be held at the Campus of Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI) and Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) of the Department of Biotechnology in Faridabad.
  - ✓ Theme: 'Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal'.



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- ✓ IISF 2023 aims to provide a platform for inspiring the public at large and individuals with diverse levels of interests, like students, educators, scientists, researchers, industry professionals, entrepreneurs, and science communicators.
- ✓ IISF 2023 will have a total of 17 themes to showcase scientific achievements, offering diverse benefits to participants and the general public.
- ✓ The IISF is dedicated to fostering creativity in Science, Technology and Innovation for the advancement of prosperous India.
- ✓ It is an initiative of the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Earth Sciences in association with Vijnana Bharati.
- ✓ Since 2015, the IISF has hosted eight editions in different geographical regions of India and expanded as a mega science festival.
- ✓ In 2021, the Department of Space and the Department of Atomic Energy became an integral part of IISF.

**Q. Joint military exercise 'Exercise Mitra Shakti-2023' is being organized with India and which country?**

- A) USA
- B) France
- C) Germany
- D) Sri Lanka

**Answer : D**

- ✓ India-Sri Lanka joint military exercise 'Mitra Shakti' commences.
- ✓ The 9th edition of the joint military exercise "Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023" is being organized in Pune, India.
- ✓ It will be organized from 16 to 29 November 2023.
- ✓ In this, India is being represented mainly by the soldiers of Maratha Light Infantry Regiment.

### SRI LANKA IN NEWS 2023

- The 9th edition of the India-Sri Lanka joint military exercise "Exercise MITRA SHAKTI-2023" is being organized in Pune
- 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.



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- 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
- 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



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- Parliament : parliamenthua (225 seats)
- National day : 4 February 1948

**Q. Which country will host the second edition of 'Voice of Global South Summit'?**

- A) Bangladesh
- B) India
- C) Thailand
- D) Malaysia

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The second edition of 'Voice of Global South Summit' will be hosted by India.
- ✓ The summit will focus on sharing the decisions taken at the G20 meetings during India's presidency with the countries of the global south.
- ✓ The first edition of the Voice of Global South Summit was hosted by India in virtual format in January this year

**Q. With whose collaboration, Indian Railways is going to start 'Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train'?**

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) Ministry of Tourism
- C) IRCTC
- D) Make My Trip

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Indian Railways is going to start 'Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train' in collaboration with IRCTC.
- ✓ It is being launched to promote 'Dekho Apna Desh' and 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' initiatives.
- ✓ Departing from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, the circular route will cover iconic destinations like Mumbai, Pune, Solapur, Guntakal, Renigunta, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Kanyakumari, Kochuveli.

**Q. Silkyara Tunnel, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?**

- A) Jharkhand
- B) Uttarakhand
- C) Assam
- D) West Bengal

**Answer : B**

- ✓ After 40 workers were trapped in the under-construction Silkyara Tunnel in Uttarakhand, relief and rescue operations for being made to safely evacuate the workers from the tunnel.
- ✓ The under-construction tunnel collapsed from Silkyara to Dandalgaon on the Brahmakhal-Yamunotri National Highway in Uttarkashi district of the state.



✓ The tunnel is part of the Rs 12000 crore Char Dham all-weather road project.

**Q. As per a recent UN report, which region was ranked as World's Worst Region for Water Scarcity?**

A) Africa

B) South America

C) South Asia

D) Europe

**Answer : C**

- ✓ A recently released United Nations report revealed that South Asia is experiencing a greater number of children facing hardships due to severe water scarcity exacerbated by climate change than any other region globally.
- ✓ According to a report from the UN children's agency, an astonishing 347 million children under the age of 18 are affected by high or extremely high water scarcity in South Asia, which is the highest figure among all global regions.

**Q. 'Transporter-9 mission' is associated with which country?**

A) USA

B) UK

C) Russia

D) Israel

**Answer : A**

- ✓ SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket successfully launched the Transporter-9 mission from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, USA.
- ✓ This is the 12th launch and landing of the Falcon 9 stage booster, according to SpaceX mission information.

**Q. Which Union Ministry proposed to establish Cyber Security and Management Systems (CSMS) regulations?**

A) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

B) Ministry of MSME

C) Ministry of Electronics and IT

D) Ministry of Science and Technology

**Answer : A**



- ✓ The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has put forth a proposal to establish consistent Cyber Security and Management Systems (CSMS) regulations for specific categories of both passenger and commercial four-wheeled vehicles to safeguard their operations against cyber threats.
- ✓ In a draft document titled 'Approval of vehicles with regards to Cyber Security and Cyber Security management system,' MoRTH outlined that the process for vehicle type approval concerning cyber security should be initiated by the vehicle manufacturer or their officially accredited representative.

**Q. Which city is the host of 'World Travel Market (WTM) 2023' event?**

- A) London    B) New Delhi  
C) Paris    D) Rome

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, is actively participating in the World Travel Market (WTM) 2023 in London.
- ✓ The primary objective of this participation is to showcase a diverse range of tourism products and a series of transformative experiences for travellers to India.
- ✓ This initiative is being presented under the theme 'Incredible India! Visit India Year 2023.'

**Q. Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project is located on the border of Arunachal Pradesh and \_ :**

- A) Assam    B) Bhutan  
C) Nagaland                                         D) Myanmar

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project, which had already faced significant delays, encountered another setback.
- ✓ Located on the border of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, this project experienced a hillside collapse on the left side of the dam, leading to the deposition of debris into its reservoir.
- ✓ This event resulted in the obstruction of the only operational diversion tunnel and halted the flow of water downstream of the dam into the Subansiri River, a tributary of the Brahmaputra.

**Q. "800" is the biopic of which cricketer?**

- A) Muttiah Muralitharan                        B) Mahendra Singh Dhoni  
C) Ricky Pointing                                 D) Sachin Tendulkar





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## Answer : A

- ✓ “800”, the biopic of Sri Lankan cricket legend Muttiah Muralitharan, will have its digital premiere on JioCinema on December 2.
- ✓ The Tamil film, starring “Slumdog Millionaire” actor Madhurr Mittal in the role of the spinner, was released in theatres on October 6.
- ✓ Written and directed by MS Sripathy, the film is titled “800” after the record number of wickets Muralitharan took in Test cricket. It is produced by Movie Train Motion Pictures.

**Q. The annual apex-level international conference of the Indian Navy – the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) – will be held in which city ?**

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

## Answer : C

- ✓ The annual apex-level international conference of the Indian Navy – the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) – will be held in New Delhi from 15 to 17 November 2023.
- ✓ The event will include a Keynote Address by Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, the Hon’ble Vice President of India and a series of Special Addresses by Union Ministers and senior officers of the Government of India.
- ✓ The overarching theme of IPRD-2023 is “Geopolitical Impacts upon Indo-Pacific Maritime Trade and Connectivity”.
- ✓ The first two editions of IPRD were held in 2018 and 2019 respectively at New Delhi. IPRD 2020 was cancelled due to the Covid-19 outbreak. The third edition of IPRD was held in 2021 in online mode and the fourth edition was conducted, reverting to a physical format, at New Delhi in 2022

**Q. 10th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting was held in which country?**

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

## Answer : A

- ✓ 10th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting to be held in Jakarta, Indonesia
- ✓ Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will pay an official visit to Indonesian capital Jakarta from November 16 to 17, 2023 to attend the 10th ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus).



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- ✓ On the sidelines of the highest defence consultative and cooperative mechanism in ASEAN, ADMM-Plus, Rajnath Singh will hold bilateral meetings with the Defence Ministers of the participating 18 countries and discuss defence cooperation matters to further strengthen mutually-beneficial engagements.
- ✓ The ADMM-Plus is a platform for the ASEAN member States — Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and its eight Dialogue Partners — India, US, China, Russia, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand — to strengthen security and defence cooperation.
- ✓ The ADMM-Plus progresses practical cooperation amongst member countries through seven Experts Working Groups (EWGs) namely maritime security, military medicine, cyber security, peacekeeping operations, counter-terrorism, humanitarian mine action and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR).
- ✓ During the 10th ADMM-Plus, the next set of co-chairs for the cycle 2024-2027 would also be announced. In the present cycle, from 2021-2024, India, who became dialogue partner of the ASEAN in 1992, is co-chairing EWG on HADR along with Indonesia.
- ✓ About the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN):
- ✓ It is a regional intergovernmental organisation of ten Southeast Asian countries.
- ✓ It was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration (Bangkok Declaration).
- ✓ Member States (10) : Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia and Vietnam.
- ✓ It promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and sociocultural integration between its members and other countries in Asia.
- ✓ Secretariat: The ASEAN Secretariat, located in Jakarta, Indonesia, and led by a secretary-general, coordinates the work of ASEAN member states and their associated bodies.

**Q. Which country has launched a new interactive map to restore a minimum of 15 percent local biodiversity within every catchment in the next nearly 100 years?**

- A) New Zealand                      B) Australia  
C) Egypt                                D) Germany

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ New Zealand launched a new interactive map to restore a minimum of 15 percent local biodiversity within every catchment in the next nearly 100 years.
- ✓ The interactive map from Eco-index includes information on the type of habitat that existed there historically and targets for restoring 15 per cent of biodiversity in each area.
- ✓ The free, open access-resourced tool will help community groups, businesses, government and land managers to set restoration priorities for areas where local biodiversity is most at risk, said Eco-index, a program aiming at tackling the challenge of biodiversity decline in New Zealand
- ✓ The launch of the ecosystem restoration map provides a tool for those seeking to make strategically significant investment decisions on biodiversity redress, said Bruce Burns, associate professor of the School of Biological Sciences of the University of Auckland.

**Q. Who has been chosen for the 19th 'Kalakar Puraskar' presented by Mandd Sobhann, in association with 'Carval Ghorane'?**

- A) Vumlunmang Vualnam                      B) Raghu Srinivasan  
C) Apolinaris D'Souza                        D) Christopher Luxon

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Singer, songwriter and composer Apolinaris D'Souza has been chosen for the 19th 'Kalakar Puraskar' presented by Mandd Sobhann, in association with 'Carval Ghorane'.
- ✓ This honour, comprising of Rs 50,000 cash, a shawl, fruits, flowers, citation of honour and a memento will be presented on November 5, during the 263rd monthly theatre at Kalaangann, Shakthinagar.
- ✓ Apolinaris D'Souza, born in 1953, embarked on a journey of artistic excellence from a young age. After completing his education at St Aloysius College, Mangalore, he ventured to Oman in search of better opportunities.
- ✓ The 'Kalakar Puraskar' was established in 2005 by linguist Pratap Naik, SJ, and his Carvalho Household of Kundapura.

**Q. Gurkeerat Singh Mann has announced retirement. He was related to which sport?**

- A) Cricket    B) Football  
C) Hockey     D) Badminton

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Gurkeerat Singh Mann, who played three ODIs on the 2016 tour of Australia, has announced his retirement from international and Indian cricket
- ✓ Besides batting in the middle-order for India, the 33-year-old also bowled 10 overs of off-spin in the ODI series against Australia.
- ✓ He first attracted attention on the domestic circuit in 2011 when his fiery batting helped Punjab win the CK Nayudu Trophy.
- ✓ He was also in brilliant form during the Ranji Trophy in 2015-16, when he slammed a double century.
- ✓ Before making his ODI debut, he earned a call-up to India's Test team for the home series against South Africa but could not make his debut.

**Q. Prithvi Raj Singh aka 'Biki' passed away recently at the age of 94. He was the former chairman of which group?**

- A) Lemon Tree Hotels                      B) Oberoi Group  
C) Taj Hotels                                      D) Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi aka 'Biki', the doyen of Indian hospitality and Chairman Emeritus of the Oberoi Group passed away at the age of 94.
- ✓ He was the Executive Chairman of EIH Limited, the Flagship Company of The Oberoi Group, and the Chairman of Oberoi Hotels Private Limited, the major shareholder of EIH Limited.
- ✓ Popularly known as the man who changed the outlook of the hotel business in India
- ✓ PRS Oberoi received numerous awards including the Padma Vibhushan (India's second highest civilian honor) in January 2008 for his exceptional service to the country, the Lifetime Achievement Award at ILTM, the '2010 Corporate Hotelier of the World award, the Lifetime Achievement Award, the Businessman of the Year 2008, the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards, the Lifetime Achievement Award for Management, and others.

**Q. When is National Press Day celebrated every year?**

- A) 14 November                                      B) 15 November  
C) 16 November                                      D) 17 November

**Answer : C**

- ✓ National Press Day is celebrated every year on 16 November in India.



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- ✓ This day was started by the Press Council of India. It was started in the year 1977.
- ✓ The theme of National Press Day 2023 is "Media in the Era of Artificial Intelligence".

**Q. The International Day for Tolerance is observed annually on which day?**

- A) 13 November                      B) 15 November  
C) 14 November                      D) 16 November

**Answer : D**

- ✓ The International Day for Tolerance is observed annually on 16 November.
- ✓ The day was declared by UNESCO in 1995, on its fiftieth anniversary, to generate public awareness of the dangers of intolerance

**Q. India is expected to overtake Japan and Germany to emerge as the third largest economy in the world by which year?**

- A) 2040                                  B) 2047  
C) 2027                                  D) 2037

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman , India is expected to overtake Japan and Germany to emerge as the third largest economy in the world by 2027.
- ✓ Addressing the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue here, Ms Sitharaman said India's economic growth is estimated to be just under 7 per cent during the year, the highest among major economies, despite global headwinds.
- ✓ The Indian economy is therefore on the right track and is heading towards a bright future.
- ✓ Even according to the usually conservative estimates of the IMF, the Indian economy is set to emerge as the world's third largest economy by 2027, hopping over Japan and Germany, as its GDP crosses the USD 5 trillion level. By 2047, India aspires to be a developed economy
- ✓ Talking about India's 'Blue economy', she said, it accounts for roughly 4 per cent of the GDP and represents a sea of opportunities.
- ✓ According to the UNCTAD, India was the 2nd largest exporter of ocean-based goods and services among developing countries in 2020.



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**Q. Which Limited has successfully executed the world's first ship-to-ship liquefied natural gas (LNG) Transfer?**

A) NTPC Limited

B) Vedanta Limited

C) Gas Authority of India Limited

D) Larsen & Toubro Limited

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), the country's leading gas firm, has successfully executed the world's first ship-to-ship liquefied natural gas (LNG) transfer.
- ✓ This innovative approach aims to reduce shipping costs and cut emissions significantly, marking a pivotal moment for GAIL as it explores unconventional methods to enhance its business operations.
- ✓ GAIL has secured contracts for 5.8 million tonnes per annum of LNG from the United States
- ✓ About Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL)
- ✓ Founded : 1984
- ✓ Headquarters : New Delhi
- ✓ Chairman : Sandeep Kumar Gupta

**Q. Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri has launched the City Investments to Innovate, Integrate, and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0) challenge in which city?**

A) Hyderabad

B) New Delhi

C) Chennai

D) Bengaluru

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri has launched the City Investments to Innovate, Integrate, and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0) challenge in New Delhi.
- ✓ CITIIS 2.0 aims to advance climate action through the promotion of a circular economy with a focus on integrated waste management.
- ✓ This program has a demonstrative effect which will lay the basis for the commercialization of the technology. He further called on support for innovative, technology-based interventions like CITIIS 2.0.
- ✓ The first phase of the program was able to introduce 1000 new electric vehicles, 100 km of non-motorized transport corridors, 750 acres of green open spaces, 1400 affordable housing units, and 35 education facilities.



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- ✓ The government has already set up 112 Biomethanation plants, 2,391 waste-to-compost plants, 55 waste-to-energy plants, 2,281 material recovery facilities, 972 construction and demolition waste management plants, and 35 solid and liquid resource management plants

**Q. Which company has won two prestigious awards at the Asian Oil and Gas Awards event held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ GAIL (India) Limited has won two prestigious awards at the Asian Oil and Gas Awards event held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- ✓ “The Innovation Award – India” was given to GAIL for the reduction in LNG shipping cost and emissions through Ship-to-Ship (STS) transfer of LNG with backhauling.
- ✓ Another top-notch award “Midstream Project of the Year – India” has been given for the installation of the first floating Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) station at Varanasi.
- ✓ The award recognizes the outstanding players in Asia’s oil and gas sector.

**Q. Which company has signed a Transfer of Technology agreement with CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories for the manufacturing of BMI Engine Production of LCA – Tejas Mk1A?**

- A) Reliance Industries Limited  
B) Bharat Electronics Limited  
C) Tata Advanced Systems  
D) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd has signed a Transfer of Technology agreement with CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories for the manufacturing of BMI Engine Bay Door for the series production of LCA – Tejas Mk1A.
- ✓ The LCA — Tejas Mk1A is an indigenous 4.5 generation, all-weather, multi-role fighter aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- ✓ CSIR-NAL has developed technologies for composite parts for the Light Combat Aircraft — Tejas, including fin and rudder, wing spars, and wing-fuselage fairings.



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- ✓ It has developed the manufacturing process technology of high temperature-resistant co-cured composite structures using carbon-BMI prepreg (composite materials impregnated with resins) for the engine bay door, to withstand the temperature of about 200 degrees Celsius

## HAL IN NEWS 2023

- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd has signed a Transfer of Technology agreement with CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories for the manufacturing of BMI Engine Bay Door for the series production of LCA – Tejas Mk1A.
- Guyana to the purchase of two Dornier 228 aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Argentina to acquire light and medium utility helicopters from HAL.
- Ministry of Defence has recently signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the procurement of two Dornier Aircraft, aimed at enhancing the aerial surveillance capabilities of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). With an overall cost of Rs 458 crore.
- United States, General Electric (GE) Aerospace has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), a state-run Indian aerospace company. The MoU paves the way for the joint production of fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force (IAF) and signifies a new era in the India-US partnership.
- HAL received approval from DGCA for indigenously developed 'black boxes'.
- The defence ministry sealed a deal with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to procure six Dornier aircraft at a cost of Rs 667 crore for the Indian Air Force.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has unveiled the Hindustan Lead-in Fighter Trainer (HLFT-42) design of the scale model at the 14th edition of Aero India 2023 held in Bengaluru.
- Union Cabinet approved the procurement of 70 HTT-40 basic trainer aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). The approval was given to the Indian Air Force (IAF). The procurement would cost around Rs 6,828 crore.
- Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL), an aerospace company in India, and EDGE, the top defence company in the UAE, inked a Memorandum of Understanding at the International Defense Exhibition and Conference (IDEX).
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL):
- Establishment: 23 December 1940 (Aircraft manufacturing started from 1942).





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- Founder: Incorporated as Hindustan Aircraft Limited in Bangalore by Walchand Hirachand.
- It was formed on 1 October 1964 as Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Headquarters: Bangalore
- Management: by a Board of Directors appointed by the President of India through the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
- The HAL HF-24 Marut fighter-bomber was the first indigenously built fighter aircraft in India.

**Q. Which Indian has been shortlisted for men's 'World Athlete of the Year' award?**

- A) Virat Kohli                      B) Neeraj Chopra  
C) Satwik Reddy                  D) R Praggnanandhaa

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Olympic and world champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra was shortlisted for men's 'World Athlete of the Year' award.
- ✓ The 25-year-old Indian was one of the five athletes shortlisted for the prestigious honour. The other male athletes in the final list are USA's Ryan Crouser (shot put), Sweden's Mondo Duplantis (Pole vault), Kenya's Kelvin Kiptum (marathon) and USA's Noah Lyles (100m/200m)

## NEERAJ CHOPRA IN NEWS 2023

- Olympic and world champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra was shortlisted for men's 'World Athlete of the Year' award.
- Neeraj Chopra, India's star javelin thrower, won a gold medal in the Asian Games with a massive throw of 88.88m.
- Neeraj Chopra finishes second in Eugene Diamond League with a throw of 83.80m, failing to defend his title. Jakub Vadlejch becomes champion.
- Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra won the first gold medal for India at the World Athletics Championships in Budapest, Hungary with a throw of 88.17 meters.
- Neeraj Chopra, will lead the country's challenge at the World Athletics Championships from August 19 to 27, 2023 in Budapest.
- India observes 3rd 'Javelin Throw Day' on August 07, 2023.



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- Neeraj Chopra wins second straight Diamond League title in Lausanne, Switzerland with 87.66m throw.
- Olympic gold medal winner Neeraj Chopra has secured victory with 88.67 m throw at Doha Diamond League 2023.
- Neeraj Chopra makes history, becomes World No 1 in men's javelin throw.
- Neeraj Chopra is on top with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Anderson Peters of Granada.
- The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) accepted Neeraj Chopra's proposal to train in Kuortane, Finland.
- The men's javelin must weigh at least 800g and be 2.6m-2.7m long while the women's javelin must weigh 600g and be 2.2m-2.3m long.
- Neeraj Chopra presently holds the rank of Subedar in the Indian Army.
- Neeraj Chopra is from Khandra village, Panipat district, Haryana

**Q. Which institution released the 'Towards Eliminating Plastic Pollution by 2040: A Policy Scenario Analysis'?**

A) NITI Aayog

B) World Bank

C) UNEP

D) OECD

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Towards Eliminating Plastic Pollution by 2040: A Policy Scenario Analysis' was released recently by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ahead of the third session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution (INC3).
- ✓ In 2022, a recent interim report reveals that approximately 21 million metric tonnes (MT) of plastic entered the global environment

**Q. Which state implements the 'Nanaji Deshmukh Krushi Sanjivani Prakalp'?**

A) Maharashtra

B) Gujarat

C) Assam

D) West Bengal

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Project on Climate Resilient Agriculture (POCRA), also named Nanaji Deshmukh Krushi Sanjivani Prakalp, is being implemented by Maharashtra government.



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✓ It seeks to assist farmers to shift to climate-resilient structures and practices. Department of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra in association with World Bank launched the project.

**Q. Which city's airport has recently introduced special services 'Sunflower Initiative' to facilitate people with hidden disabilities?**

A) Kolkata

B) New Delhi

C) Chennai

D) Bengaluru

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Delhi airport operator DIAL has introduced special services to enhance the travel experience for individuals with hidden disabilities.
- ✓ Under the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative, DIAL has introduced a variety of merchandise options, including sunflower Lanyards, pin badges, and wristbands.
- ✓ These discreet, yet identifiable items allow passengers to signal their need for assistance from airport staff. The sunflower merchandise is available for collection at the help desks and information counters located within the terminals.

**Q. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) Development Mission in which state?**

A) Bihar

B) Chhattisgarh

C) Uttar Pradesh

D) Jharkhand

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) Development Mission, a 24,000 crore rupees scheme on the occasion of the third Janjaatiya Gaurav Diwas from Khunti district in Jharkhand.
- ✓ The mission will benefit 75 PVTGs in 18 states and UTs, living in 22,544 villages in 220 districts having a population of around 28 lakhs.
- ✓ Modi has also launched 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' to ensure saturation of flagship government schemes.
- ✓ Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra will inform educate and aware to all beneficiaries. We had also started Gram Swaraj Yojna a few years ago. The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra will reach all the villages and ensure benefits of all government schemes reaching to all targeted beneficiaries.



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- ✓ Modi has also dedicated to nation and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth around 7200 crore rupees in Jharkhand

**Q. Who has been appointed as an advisor to the US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF) Board?**

- A) Ajay Kumar  
B) Mahesh Kumar  
C) Rajnish Kumar  
D) Rajiv Dixit

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Former Indian Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar has been appointed as an advisor to the board of the US-India Strategic and Partnership Forum (USISPF).
- ✓ Kumar served as the defence secretary between August 2019 and October 2022.
- ✓ Kumar is the longest-serving secretary in the Ministry of Defence, having also served as Secretary in the Department of Defence Production.
- ✓ President and CEO of USISPF – Mukesh Aghi

**Q. Who has been awarded the first-ever ‘Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award’ by the Vaclav Havel Center?**

- A) Salman Rushdie  
B) Amitav Ghosh  
C) Chetan Bhagat  
D) Aravind Adiga

**Answer : A**

- ✓ World-renowned author Salman Rushdie has been awarded the first-ever ‘Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award’ by the Vaclav Havel Center.
- ✓ This was Rushdie’s surprise public appearance since he was stabbed during a literary festival in New York in August 2022.
- ✓ At 76, Rushdie, recipient of the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade last month, found himself receiving another accolade, reflecting on the irony of being awarded for “disturbing the peace.” He pondered which side of “the fence” this placed him on.

**Q. Which country has signed a contract to supply Igla-S hand-held anti-aircraft missiles to India?**

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

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ Russia has signed a contract to supply Igla-S hand-held anti-aircraft missiles to India and allow production of the Igla there under licence.
- ✓ The Igla-S is a man-portable air defence system (MANPADS) that can be fired by an individual or crew to bring down an enemy aircraft.
- ✓ India is the world's largest arms importer and Russia remains its largest supplier despite the damage to the reputation of its army and weaponry from the war in Ukraine.
- ✓ According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), Russia accounted for 45% of India's arms imports between 2018 and 2022, with France providing 29% and the United States 11%

**Q. Which country is the host of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Meeting 2023?**

- A) India
- B) Japan
- C) USA
- D) Australia

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is currently convening in San Francisco, USA, for Leaders' Week, which commenced on November 11 and will culminate with the Economic Leaders' Retreat on November 17.
- ✓ U.S. President Joe Biden met Chinese leader Xi Jinping for the first time in a year during the meeting and discussed US-China relationship and economic issues.

**Q. Mount Etna, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?**

- A) Philippines
- B) Italy
- C) Indonesia
- D) Japan

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Mount Etna in Italy, renowned as one of the world's most active volcanoes, had raised public concerns due to its eruption the previous year.
- ✓ This volcanic activity has a long history, with recorded eruptions dating back to 1500 B.C., totaling over 200 eruptions since then



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**Q. Which city is the host of ‘Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD)’?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Indian Navy’s annual top-tier international conference, known as the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD), is scheduled to take place in New Delhi.
- ✓ This event comes shortly after the Goa Maritime Conclave 2023, which was organized by the Indian Navy and took place in Goa.

**Q. SHAKTI Policy, which was seen in the news, is associated with which Union Ministry?**

- A) Ministry of Coal
- B) Ministry of MSME
- C) Ministry of Science and Technology
- D) Ministry of Power

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Ministry of Coal has announced an amendment to the SHAKTI Policy (Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala (Coal) Transparently in India).
- ✓ It allows power plants, including private generators without Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs), to be granted coal linkage for a minimum of three months and up to a maximum of 1 year.

**Q. Which institution releases the ‘World Energy Employment 2023 report’?**

- A) FAO
- B) WEF
- C) IEA
- D) UNEP

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The World Energy Employment 2023 report was released by the International Energy Agency. As per the report, with 35 million jobs worldwide, clean energy has exceeded the number of jobs available in the traditional fossil fuel sector (32 million) for the first time in 2021.
- ✓ The report shows that clean energy jobs are steadily maintaining the lead and are also growing at more than 3.6 times the rate of fossil fuel jobs.
- ✓ International Energy Agency (IEA)
- ✓ Founded : 1974
- ✓ Headquarters : Paris, France



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- ✓ Executive Director : Fatih Birol
- ✓ Membership : 30

**Q. The Dhillio festival, which was seen in the news, is celebrated in which state?**

- A) Odisha
- B) Goa
- C) Telangana
- D) Chennai

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Dhillio is an ecofeminist festival celebrated in the Western Ghats of Goa. The festival's fervour is also felt in the forested villages of Joida in Karnataka.
- ✓ These villages are home to the Goan Kunbi community members, whose ancestors had migrated to Joida during the Portuguese era to escape persecution.

**Q. 'LuPEX' is the joint effort between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and \_?**

- A) NASA
- B) ESA
- C) JAXA
- D) CNA

**Answer : C**

- ✓ LuPEX is the fourth moon mission to try a 90° landing with a 350 kg rover.
- ✓ The mission is a joint effort between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Japanese space agency JAXA.
- ✓ LuPEX will land the rover on the dark side of the moon, which is rarely explored.
- ✓ The rover will explore a 1 km x 1 km area for about 100 Earth days.
- ✓ LuPEX aims to land a large 350 kg rover on the moon's 90-degree area with precise landing technology. Chandrayaan-3 included a 30 kg rover.
- ✓ About Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (LUPEX):
- ✓ It is a collaborative venture between Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- ✓ The mission is scheduled to launch in 2025.
- ✓ LUPEX will use a rover and lander to study the possibility of establishing a base on the Moon, the availability of water ice, and surface exploration technologies.
- ✓ JAXA and ISRO are developing the rover and lander, respectively.



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- ✓ The rover will carry not only the instruments of ISRO and JAXA but also those of the US space agency NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA).

**Q. Which state has signed CSIR and DRDO as knowledge partners for the proposed Bulk Drugs Park?**

- A) Assam                                      B) Uttar Pradesh  
C) Tamil Nadu                                D) Odisha

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Uttar Pradesh government has linked big institutions like the CSIR and DRDO with the Bulk Drug Park and made them its knowledge partners.
- ✓ Adani Gas has been chosen as the PNG supply partner to create a nature-friendly zone for Bulk Drugs Park, while THDC has been selected as the solar power partner. CONCOR has been made the logistics partner.

**Q. Which country hosted the 'APEC Informal Leader's Dialogue'?**

- A) India                                        B) China  
C) USA                                         D) UAE

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, participated in the Investor Forum of the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) and Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF).
- ✓ The Forum was also attended by Ministers and senior officials from IPEF partner countries.
- ✓ The Minister participated at the APEC Informal Leader's Dialogue in San Francisco, in the United States.
- ✓ Recently, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Summit 2023 took place in San Francisco, United States.
- ✓ The APEC 2023 summit's theme is "Creating a Resilient and Sustainable Future for All".
- ✓ APEC reaffirmed their commitment to free, fair, and open trade and investment, and to advancing inclusive and sustainable growth in the region.
- ✓ The summit concluded with the adoption of the Golden Gate Declaration.
- ✓ What is Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation?
- ✓ About:
- ✓ The APEC is a regional economic forum established in 1989 to leverage the growing interdependence of the Asia-Pacific.







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- ✓ Objectives of the Summit: Disseminating outcomes of the G20 summit hosted by India and ensuring sustained momentum for effective implementation of G20 decisions, with a specific focus on the interests of developing countries.
- ✓ Global South Center of Excellence 'DAKSHIN': Indian PM inaugurated this initiative, aimed at fostering collaboration among developing nations by serving as a knowledge repository and think tank.
- ✓ Thematic Discussions: Ministerial sessions delved into a wide array of topics, including Sustainable Development Goals, energy transition, climate finance, digital transformation, women-led development, counter-terrorism, and global institution reforms.
- ✓ Call for Restraint Amid Israel-Hamas Conflict: India articulated deep concern regarding the plight of civilians affected by the Israel-Hamas conflict.
- ✓ 5 'Cs' for Global South: India also called for 5 'Cs' for the Global South: consultation, cooperation, communication, creativity and capacity building.
- ✓ The term 'global South' was first used by Carl Oglesky, a leftist American author and political activist in 1969, which gathered currency in the later decades

**Q. Which country is the host of 'Ukrainian Defense Industrial Base Conference'?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The U.S. government is hosting a two-day Ukrainian Defense Industrial Base Conference next month.
- ✓ The conference aims to connect industry representatives.
- ✓ The conference will be held in December with US and Ukrainian industry and government representatives to explore opportunities for co-production and other industrial cooperation in Ukraine.

**Q. What is the rank of India in the Hotspot Map, which shoes the level of climate change threat faced by women working in agricultural sectors?**

- A) 15    B) 12  
C) 35                                         D) 42

**Answer : B**



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- ✓ Women engaged in agri-food systems in Africa and Asia, including in India, face the highest climate risks such as droughts, floods or shortened crop-growing season, a new hotspot map developed by an international team of researchers has identified.
- ✓ It ranked 87 countries based on the level of climate change threat faced by women working in agricultural sectors.
- ✓ The study covered nations in Latin America, Asia and Africa. India stood 12th on the risk index while people living in low-and middle-income countries (LMIC) are at heightened risk.

**Q. Who is the first recipient of Manohar Parrikar Yuva Scientist Award?**

- A) Dr Mathavaraj S    B) P Veeramuthu Vel  
C) Ritu Karidhal     D) Kalpana Kalahasti

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Dr Mathavaraj S of the UR Rao Satellite Centre of ISRO has become the first recipient of Manohar Parrikar Yuva Scientist Award.
- ✓ The award comprises a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh, which is currently the highest cash prize in science and technology, and a citation. He designed the powered descent trajectory of Chandrayaan-3 mission. The award was instituted by the Goa government.

**Q. Which is the Cambridge Dictionary's Word of the Year for 2023?**

- A) Hallucinate     B) Manipulate  
C) Backfire     D) Depression

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The Cambridge Dictionary team chose hallucinate as its Word of the Year 2023 as it recognized that the new meaning gets to the heart of why people are talking about AI.
- ✓ The Cambridge Dictionary added new AI-related definitions to the dictionary, including large language model (or LLM), generative AI (or GenAI), and GPT.
- ✓ Many existing words, such as hallucinate, have adopted additional AI-related meanings this year.
- ✓ The abbreviation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been named the Collins Word of the Year for 2023.



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**Q. As per a CDC-WHO Report, around 11 lakh children in India missed their first dose of the measles vaccine?**

- A) COVID  
B) Measles  
C) Pneumonia  
D) Rubella

**Answer : B**

- ✓ In 2022, an estimated 11 lakh children in India missed their vital first dose of the measles vaccine: CDC-WHO Report.
- ✓ India is among the 37 countries that witnessed large or disruptive outbreaks, reporting 40,967 measles cases in 2022, according to the report.
- ✓ This puts India among 10 countries with the highest number of children who did not receive the first shot

**Q. ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter Mission is associated with which space agency?**

- A) NASA  
B) ESA  
C) ISRO  
D) JAXA

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Scientists have detected a soft green glow in the night sky of Mars that can be seen with our human eyes.
- ✓ The European Space Agency's (ESA) ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter mission while orbiting around Mars spotted the Martian night sky filled with light in the optical spectrum.
- ✓ As per the scientists, the light is so bright in the polar regions that there is a possibility of human explorers seeing it if the night sky is clear of clouds.

**Q. Which country is the world's biggest polluter?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Recently, the United States and China unveiled an agreement aimed at boosting clean energy, reducing reliance on fossil fuels, and curbing emissions contributing to global warming.
- ✓ This announcement is of great significance as it involves the United States, historically the largest contributor to climate pollution, and China, which presently holds the title of the world's biggest polluter. Combined, they are responsible for approximately 38% of global greenhouse gas emissions.



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- ✓ Top 5 most polluting countries
- ✓ China The world's most populated country has an enormous export market, which has seen its industry grow to become a serious danger to the planet. ...
- ✓ United States The world's biggest industrial and commercial power. ...
- ✓ India
- ✓ Russia
- ✓ Japan

**Q. Which organisation has released the report titled ‘Sand and Dust Storms: A Guide to Mitigation, Adaptation, Policy, and Risk Management Measures in Agriculture’?**

- A) FAO**    **B) UNEP**  
**C) World Bank**    **D) UNESCO**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ According to a report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) titled “Sand and dust storms: A Guide to Mitigation, Adaptation, Policy, and Risk Management Measures in Agriculture,” sand and dust storms pose a significant obstacle to achieving 11 out of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
- ✓ Sand and dust storms are meteorological events involving powerful and turbulent winds that lift numerous small particles to significant altitudes.

**Q. China recently signed a ‘Bilateral Currency Swap Agreement’ with which country?**

- A) Saudi Arabia**    **B) UAE**  
**C) Israel**    **D) Russia**

**Answer : A**

- ✓ The People’s Bank of China and the Central bank of Saudi Arabia recently inked a local currency swap deal.
- ✓ The agreement, valid for three years and subject to extension by mutual consent, involves a sum of 50 billion yuan (\$6.93 billion) or 26 billion Saudi riyals.
- ✓ This bilateral currency swap arrangement is anticipated to bolster financial collaboration between the two nations, enhance the utilization of local currencies, and foster increased trade and investment, as stated in the official announcement.
- ✓ What is the Currency Swap Arrangement?



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- ✓ The word swap means exchange. A currency swap between two countries is an agreement or contract to exchange currencies with predetermined terms and conditions.
- ✓ In the present context, the facility is to provide swap support as an alternative source of funding for short-term foreign exchange liquidity requirements.
- ✓ Central banks and Governments engage in currency swaps with foreign counterparts to meet short-term foreign exchange liquidity requirements or to ensure adequate foreign currency to avoid the Balance of Payments (BOP) crisis till longer arrangements can be made.

**Q. World Heritage Week is observed every year during which month?**

- A) January
- B) April
- C) September
- D) November

**Answer : D**

- ✓ World Heritage Week is observed every year from November 19 to November 25.
- ✓ The week aims to promote the conservation of culture and heritage across the globe.
- ✓ It celebrates the heritage sites recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- ✓ In India, the festival is observed by the Archaeological Survey of India.
- ✓ World Heritage Day, also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, is celebrated annually on April 18th.
- ✓ The theme of World Heritage Day 2023 is "Heritage Changes".

**Q. Brijinder Nath Goswamy passed away recently at the age of 90. Who was he?**

- A) Social Worker
- B) Historian
- C) Politician
- D) Writer

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Indian art historian and a world authority on miniature paintings, Brijinder Nath Goswamy passed away at the age of 90.
- ✓ Born in August 1933, the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awardee BNG, as he was lovingly known in art circles, often called himself an "accidental art historian".



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- ✓ Best known for his path-breaking work on the Pahari style of paintings, Prof Goswamy is the author of more than 26 books.
- ✓ In 1958, he quit the prestigious civil services after less than three years to pursue a career in academics and research, a decision that caused a stir in his family

**Q. World Toilet Day is observed every year on which day?**

- A) 17 November                      B) 16 November  
C) 18 November                      D) 19 November

**Answer : D**

- ✓ World Toilet Day is observed every year on 19 November.
- ✓ The main objective of celebrating this day is to make people aware of the cleanliness of toilets.
- ✓ On this day people are told about the importance of using toilets and cleanliness. This day is also used to create awareness about the cleanliness of toilets and also to stop people from defecating in the open.

**Q. The Sea Buckthorn of which state/UT recently got its Geographical Indication (GI) tag?**

- A) Jammu and Kashmir              B) Karnataka  
C) Kerala                                D) Ladakh

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Ladakh secures 4th GI tag for Sea Buckthorn
- ✓ Ladakh Sea Buckthorn and Kerala Onattukara Sesame.
- ✓ Recently, the Geographical Indication (GI) Registry, operating under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, has awarded the GI tag to the Department of Industries & Commerce, Ladakh, for 'Ladakh Sea Buckthorn'.
- ✓ This recognition follows the previously granted GI tags for Ladakh Apricot (Raktsey Karpo), Ladakh Pashmina, and Ladakhi Wood Carving.
- ✓ In another region, the Onattukara Vikasana Agency (OVA) , the registered owner of the GI-tagged Onattukara sesame in Kerala, is actively working to expand the cultivation of this unique sesame variety.
- ✓ Sea Buckthorn (*Hippophae L*) a shrub which produces an orange-yellow coloured edible berry is sour in taste but rich in vitamins, especially Vitamin C.



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- ✓ Ladakh Sea Buckthorn is a vital crop in Union Territory Ladakh, with 90% of its production originating from the region.
- ✓ It is also popularly known as 'Wonder Plant', "Ladakh Gold", "Golden Bush" or "Gold Mine".
- ✓ In India, it is found above the tree line in the Himalayan region, generally in dry areas such as the cold deserts of Ladakh and Spiti.
- ✓ Onattukara sesame is a type of sesame grown in Kerala, India

**Q. Tamil writer Perumal Murugan has won the JCB Prize for Literature for which novel?**

- A) The Paradoxical Prime Minister      B) An Era of Darkness  
C) Fire Bird      D) Why I Am a Hindu

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Tamil writer Perumal Murugan won the coveted JCB Prize for Literature for his novel, Fire Bird, an English translation of his Tamil novel Aalanda Patchi.
- ✓ The award carries ₹25 lakh cash prize. The translator is Janani Kannan and the work was published by Penguin.
- ✓ The prize aims to celebrate Indian writing and to help readers across the world discover the very best of contemporary Indian literature.
- ✓ It makes significant awards also to translators; without whose work no reader can appreciate the scale and diversity of literature written in over 20 languages.
- ✓ JCB Prize for Literature is an Indian literary award established in 2018.
- ✓ It is awarded annually with ₹2,500,000 (US\$31,000) prize to a distinguished work of fiction by an Indian writer working in English or translated fiction by an Indian writer.
- ✓ The winners will be announced each November with shortlists in October and longlists in September. It has been called "India's most valuable literature prize".
- ✓ Rana Dasgupta is the founding Literary Director of the JCB Prize

**Q. Which was the opening film at the 54th International Film Festival of India?**

- A) Cinderella Man      B) Big George Foreman  
C) Catching Dust      D) The Featherweight

**Answer : C**





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- ✓ The 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) begins in Goa. The opening ceremony was held at Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Bambolim.
- ✓ Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur has inaugurated the 9-day event, which will showcase 270 films.
- ✓ While the British film 'Catching Dust' is the opening movie, 'The Featherweight' from the US will be the closing film of the festival this year.
- ✓ Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award will be given to legendary Hollywood actor and producer Michael Douglas.
- ✓ The IFFI has started OTT Awards from this year, to recognise excellence in OTT series and films.
- ✓ Participation of Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board in 54th International Film Festival of India
- ✓ The 54th IFFI showcases over 270 films from 105 countries across four venues.
- ✓ It features a competition with 15 films contending for the prestigious Golden Peacock Award.
- ✓ The introduction of the Best Web Series (OTT) award acknowledges and encourages India's burgeoning streaming sector.
- ✓ Hollywood legend Michael Douglas will receive the IFFI Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ✓ Madhuri Dixit Nene was honored with the 'Special Recognition for Contribution to Bharatiya Cinema' award.
- ✓ The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) is a significant cinematic event established in 1952 and stands among the prominent film festivals in Asia.
- ✓ Held annually in the coastal state of Goa, it serves as a global platform to showcase the artistry of films from around the world.
- ✓ Vision and Objectives:
- ✓ The festival's vision, rooted in the Vedic scripture Maha Upanishad, emphasizes the belief that the entire world is one big family (Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam).

**Q. Which of the following has signed with the World Health Organization for 'Project Collaboration' on Traditional and Complementary Medicine?**

A) Ministry of Ayush

B) Ministry of Corporate Affairs

C) Ministry of Home Affairs

D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ The Ministry of Ayush and World Health Organization (WHO) have signed the Traditional and Complementary Medicine 'Project Collaboration Agreement' in Geneva.
- ✓ The main objective of this agreement is to standardize Traditional and Complementary Medical Systems, integrate their quality and safety aspects into the National Health System, and disseminate them at the international level.
- ✓ Through this cooperation agreement, efforts will be made to connect Traditional and Complementary Medical Systems with the mainstream of the National Health System.
- ✓ To fulfil this objective, Traditional Medicine Global Strategy 2025-34 will be prepared by WHO with the support of the Ministry of Ayush.

**Q. Union Fisheries Minister Parshottam Rupala has inaugurated the two-day Global Fisheries Conference India 2023 in which city?**

- A) Gandhinagar                                      B) Ahmedabad  
C) Gwalior    D) Bengaluru

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Union Fisheries Minister Parshottam Rupala has inaugurated the two-day Global Fisheries Conference India 2023 in Ahmedabad.
- ✓ Theme 2023 – Celebrating Fisheries and Aquaculture Wealth
- ✓ The conference aims to bring together key stakeholders on one platform for fruitful discussions, market insights and networking and serve as a platform to forge partnerships with national and international stakeholders and chalk out a roadmap for sustainable growth of India's fisheries sector.
- ✓ Delegations from more than 10 countries, including France, Norway, Australia, Russia, Brazil, Greece, Spain, New Zealand and Zimbabwe, have confirmed they will physically participate in the conference. In addition, more than 50 other foreign diplomats are anticipated to join the meet virtually.
- ✓ China is the ruler of the world's largest fish producer.
- ✓ India stands third in world in terms of fish production, contributing 8 percent to the global fish production and ranks second in aquaculture production.
- ✓ Andhra Pradesh is the largest producer of fish in India followed by West Bengal



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**Q. Which of the following has launched a new Commission on Social Connection, to address loneliness as a pressing health threat, promote social connection as a priority, and accelerate the scaling up of solutions in countries of all incomes?**

- A) World Economic Forum (WEF)      B) World Health Organization (WHO)  
C) World Trade organization (WTO)      D) United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA)

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The World Health Organization has announced a new Commission on Social Connection, to address loneliness as a pressing health threat, promote social connection as a priority and accelerate the scaling up of solutions in countries of all incomes.
- ✓ The Commission will consider how connection enhances the well-being of our communities and helps foster economic progress and social development.
- ✓ Running for three years, it will analyse the central role social connection plays in improving health for people of all ages and outline solutions to build social connections at scale.
- ✓ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ✓ Formation : 7 April 1948
- ✓ Headquarters : Geneva, Switzerland
- ✓ First President : Andrija Štampar
- ✓ Director General : Tedros Adhanom (Ethiopia)
- ✓ Deputy Director General : Soumya Swaminathan (Indian)
- ✓ Member Countries : 194.

**Q. Which country has successfully test-fired an 'M51.3' long-range ballistic missile?**

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

**Answer : A**

- ✓ France has successfully test-fired an M51.3 long-range ballistic missile, boosting the credibility of France's nuclear deterrence capabilities.
- ✓ The missile, which did not carry a nuclear weapon, was fired from the French army's Biscarosse missile testing site in southwest France and landed in the North Atlantic, "hundreds of kilometres from any coastline.



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- ✓ The M51.3 missile is an upgraded version of the M51, a three-stage sea-land strategic ballistic missile designed to be launched from French Navy submarines.
- ✓ The M51 was first test-fired from a ground base in 2006 and from a submarine in 2010, the year it was commissioned
- ✓ The new M51.3 missile, which is expected to enter service around 2025, is developed by aerospace firm ArianeGroup, a joint venture between Arbus (AIR.PA) and French defence group Safran (SAF.PA)
- ✓ FRANCE
- ✓ Capital : Paris
- ✓ Currency : Euro
- ✓ President : Emmanuel Macron
- ✓ Prime Minister : Élisabeth Borne

**Q. S Venkitaramanan passed away recently at the age of 92. Who was he?**

- A) Former ISRO Chief                      B) Former DRDO Chief  
C) Former RBI Governor                  D) Former Planning Commission Head

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), S Venkitaramanan passed away recently at the age of 92.
- ✓ Venkitaramanan managed the affairs at the central bank when the country faced two major crisis – balance of payment crisis that led to the pledging of gold and the securities scam triggered by Harshad Mehta – in the 1990-92 period.
- ✓ He served as Finance Secretary in the Ministry of Finance for a period of four years from 1985 to 1989 when Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister of the country.
- ✓ Venkitaramanan, who had finished his civil service career by 1990, moved on to Karnataka as an adviser to the Governor during President's rule there, before taking over as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India in December 1990 — an appointment that came on the back of Rajiv Gandhi's support whose backing was critical for the survival of the then Chandra Shekhar government.
- ✓ About Reserve Bank of India
- ✓ It was established on April 1, 1935 as per the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- ✓ Sir Osborne Smith was made the first Governor of RBI.



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- ✓ The central office of the Reserve Bank was established in Kolkata which was permanently shifted to Mumbai in the year 1937.
- ✓ It was nationalized in 1949 and now the Government of India owns the RBI.
- ✓ It has the power to regulate banks under the Banking Regulation Act 1949.
- ✓ It has the power to regulate Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) under the RBI Act 1934.
- ✓ RESERVE BANK OF INDIA (RBI)
- ✓ Founded : 1 April 1935
- ✓ RBI Nationalised : 1 January 1949
- ✓ HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ✓ RBI set up : Hilton Young Commission
- ✓ 1st Governor : Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)
- ✓ 1st Indian Governor : CD Deshmukh
- ✓ 25th Governor : Shaktikanta Das
- ✓ RBI Deputy Governor (4)
- ✓ 1. Tavana Rabi Sankar
- ✓ 2. Michael D Patra
- ✓ 3. M Rajeshwar Rao
- ✓ 4. Swaminathan Janakiraman
- ✓ FIVE SUBSIDIARIES OF RBI :
- ✓ 1. Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation of India (DICGC)
- ✓ 2. Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited (BRBNMPL)
- ✓ 3. Reserve Bank Information Technology Private Limited (ReBIT)
- ✓ 4. Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS).
- ✓ 5. Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)
- ✓ India has four currency note printing presses.
- ✓ Nashik in Maharashtra and Dewas in Madhya Pradesh owned by govt of India.
- ✓ Mysuru in Karnataka and Salboni in West Bengal owned by RBI.
- ✓ Coins are minted in four mints owned by the Government of India.
- ✓ Mumbai, Hyderabad, Calcutta and Noida



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**Q. Which place has been listed as one of the best places to visit in Asia in 2024 by London-based Luxury travel magazine Conde Nast?**

- A) Chennai  
B) Kochi  
C) Pondicherry  
D) Kanyakumari

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Kochi In Conde Nast List of Best Places To Visit In 2024
- ✓ London-based luxury travel magazine Conde Nast has listed Kochi as one of the best places to visit in Asia in 2024.
- ✓ Heaping praise on the city for its sustainable initiatives and local festivals, the magazine also highlights the city's tourist attractions such as waterways, lagoons and rivers.
- ✓ The magazine referred to the renovation that is underway at Kochi's 150-year-old Ernakulam Market.
- ✓ The recognition is a nod to the city's commitment to providing enriching experiences for travelers while embracing eco-friendly practices and preserving its cultural heritage.
- ✓ Kochi International Airport (CIAL) stands out as the world's first airport to operate solely on solar energy. This eco-friendly initiative underscores Kerala's commitment to sustainable practices.

**Q. Which bank has launched UPI Lite to power small-value digital transactions in India?**

- A) Kotak Mahindra Bank  
B) Yes Bank  
C) Federal Bank  
D) Bank of Baroda

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Federal Bank has launched UPI Lite to power small-value digital transactions in India.
- ✓ NPCI introduced UPI Lite a simplified version of the Unified Payments Interface system to cater to the growing demand for faster and more efficient small-value payments.
- ✓ Benefits of UPI Lite for customers include reduction in transaction time, a ready-to-access bank statement, higher payment success rate and enhanced security.
- ✓ UPI lite account can be created within the existing UPI app without downloading a new app.
- ✓ FEDERAL BANK
- ✓ Founded : 1931
- ✓ Headquarters : Aluva, Kerala
- ✓ MD & CEO: Shyam Srinivasan



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✓ Tagline: Your Perfect Banking Partner

**Q. Who has been appointed as the Director of Jio Financial Services?**

A) Nita Ambani

B) Akash Ambani

C) Isha Ambani

D) Anant Ambani

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Isha Ambani, Anshuman Thakur, and Hitesh Kumar Sethia as directors of Jio Financial Services.
- ✓ Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, doing business as Jio, is an Indian telecommunications company and a subsidiary of Jio Platforms, headquartered in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- ✓ Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited
- ✓ Founded : 15 February 2007
- ✓ Founder : Mukesh Ambani
- ✓ Headquarters : Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra
- ✓ Chairman : Akash Ambani
- ✓ Managing Director : Sandip Das

**Q. Who has been appointed as Indian envoy to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and High Commissioner to the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis and Antigua and Barbuda?**

A) Ajay Kumar Singh

B) Amit S Telang

C) Sunil Kumar Trivedi

D) Bijaya Kumar Nayak

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Ministry of External Affairs has announced that Amit S Telang has been concurrently accredited as the Indian Ambassador to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and High Commissioner to the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis and Antigua and Barbuda.
- ✓ Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Anil Kumar Rai has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

**Q. Who has been appointed as Director of Special Protection Group (SPG)?**

A) Alok Sharma

B) Deepak Singh

C) Rajnish Kumar

D) Rahul Kumar

**Answer : A**



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- ✓ Alok Sharma has been appointed the director of the Special Protection Group (SPG), the elite security unit responsible for the security of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

**Q. Who expressed gratitude on receiving the 'Order of British Columbia', the province's highest form of recognition?**

- A) Rob McElhenney                      B) Ryan Reynolds  
C) Jeff Reynolds                         D) Ryan Gosling

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Canadian-American actor and film producer Ryan Reynolds expressed gratitude on receiving the 'Order of British Columbia', the province's highest form of recognition.
- ✓ Reynolds was among 14 people appointed to the 'Order of British Columbia' this year.
- ✓ 224 citizens of the Canadian province were nominated for the honor

**Q. Who will be honored with Maharashtra's Lata Mangeshkar Award 2023?**

- A) Suresh Wadkar                         B) Narayan Rane  
C) Vilasrao Deshmukh                    D) Manohar Joshi

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Suresh Wadkar named for Maharashtra's Lata Mangeshkar Award 2023
- ✓ The Maharashtra government has chosen the esteemed playback singer and National Award winner, Suresh Ishwar Wadkar, as the recipient of the prestigious 'Gansamragini Lata Mangeshkar Award' for 2023.
- ✓ The announcement was made by Cultural Affairs Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar, recognizing Wadkar's remarkable contribution to the world of music.
- ✓ A Sangeet Natak Akademi laureate, Wadkar, 68, will be presented with a cash prize, a commendation, and a memento as part of the award at a ceremony later.
- ✓ What is the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award?
- ✓ The Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award was instituted in the memory and honor of legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar, who had passed away at the age of 92 in February 2022.
- ✓ The award will be given every year to only one individual who has made path-breaking, spectacular and exemplary contributions to the nation, its people, and the society, as per the statement by the Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan Charitable Trust.
- ✓ Who was Lata Mangeshkar?





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- ✓ Lata Mangeshkar, also known as the 'Nightingale of India', was one of the most versatile singers of India.
- ✓ She lent her voice to over 5,000 songs in over a thousand Hindi and 36 regional films
- ✓ In 1974, she became the first Indian to perform at the Royal Albert Hall (U.K). She is the recipient of three National Film Awards, 15 Bengal Film Journalists' Association Awards, four Filmfare Best Female Playback Awards, two Filmfare Special Awards, Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award and many more.
- ✓ Lata Mangeshkar was bestowed with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1989. In 2001, she was awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour.
- ✓ The government of France conferred on her its highest civilian award (Officer of the Legion of Honour) in 2007.
- ✓ Along with these, Lata Mangeshkar held the distinction of being the most recorded artist in the history of Indian music in the Guinness Record in 1974.
- ✓ The Indian government honored her with the Daughter of the Nation award on her 90th birthday in September 2019.

**Q. Who has become the first woman to bag the Dhahan Prize for Punjabi literature?**

- A) Adesh Kanwarjit Singh Brar                      B) Kirpal Singh Badungar  
C) Karan Kaur Brar                                      D) Deepti Babuta

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Mohali-based Deepti Babuta has become the first woman to bag the Dhahan Prize, the largest international literary award for fiction books in Punjabi language.
- ✓ Babuta received the award for her short story collection, 'Bhukh Eon Sah Laindi Hai' ('Hunger Breathes Like This').
- ✓ She was presented with a cash award of \$25,000 CAD and a trophy at a ceremony held at Northview Golf and Country Club in Surrey, British Columbia, Canada.
- ✓ Alongside her, two other finalists — Lahore-based Jameel Ahmad Paul and Mohali's Balijit were awarded \$10,000 CAD each.
- ✓ This is for the first time in its 10-year history that the top prize has gone to a woman.

**Q. World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic is observed every year on which day?**

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



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**Answer : B**

- ✓ World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic was observed on 20th November 2023 to spread to a growing number of countries on every continent.
- ✓ The objectives of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims are to provide a platform for road traffic victims and their families
- ✓ Theme 2023 – Accelerating Change
- ✓ The Day has become an important tool in global efforts to reduce road casualties

**Q. Sanjay Gadhvi passed away recently at the age of 6. Who was he?**

- A) Film Director
- B) Theatre artist
- C) Social Worker
- D) Historian

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Filmmaker Sanjay Gadhvi of Dhoom fame died at the age of 56.
- ✓ He was known for directing the 2004 film Dhoom and its 2006 sequel Dhoom 2.
- ✓ Gadhvi made his directorial debut with Tere Liye in 2000.
- ✓ Kunal Kohli, director of “Hum Tum” and “Fanaa”, was one of the first film personalities to condole Gadhvi’s demise on social media.

**Q. When is World Television Day celebrated every year?**

- A) 21 November
- B) 22 November
- C) 23 November
- D) 24 November

**Answer : A**

- ✓ World Television Day is celebrated globally every year on 21 November.
- ✓ In 1996, the United Nations organized the first World Television Forum, which declared November 21 every year as World Television Day.
- ✓ National broadcasting in India began in 1982, coinciding with the introduction of color television.
- ✓ The first and longest running Indian television programme, 'Krishi Darshan' started in 1967.



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**Q. When is World Fisheries Day celebrated every year?**

A) 19 November

B) 20 November

C) 21 November

D) 22 November

**Answer : C**

- ✓ World Fisheries Day is celebrated every year on 21 November to raise awareness about the importance of fisheries and support the livelihoods of people dependent on fisheries.
- ✓ The theme of World Fisheries Day 2023 is 'Celebrating the Wealth of Fisheries and Aquaculture'.

**Q. The 'Worldwide Governance Indicators' is released every year by:**

A) International Monetary Fund

B) World Bank

C) World Economic Forum

D) Asian Development Bank

**Answer : B**

- ✓ Recently, the Chief Economic Adviser of India raised concern over the use of World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators in ratings assessment by credit ratings agencies, especially for emerging economies.
- ✓ It is released by the World Bank.
- ✓ It provides a ranking of 215 countries territories.
- ✓ It is based on six dimensions of governance:
  - ✓ 'Voice and Accountability';
  - ✓ 'Political Stability and Absence of Violence';
  - ✓ 'Government Effectiveness';
  - ✓ 'Regulatory Quality';
  - ✓ 'Rule of Law'
- ✓ Control of Corruption.'
- ✓ These indicators are designed to help researchers and analysts assess broad patterns in perceptions of governance across countries and over time.
- ✓ The World Bank compiles the Worldwide Governance Indicators using data from more than 30 think tanks, international organisations, non-governmental organisations, and private firms deemed credible.
- ✓ The WGI were developed in 1999 by two World Bank researchers, Daniel Kaufmann and Aart Kraay.
- ✓ The data are updated annually each September



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## 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.
- 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.



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- 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
- 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. Consider the following statements regarding the Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI), 2023:**

- 1. It is an annual benchmarking report published by the World Economic Forum (WEF).**
- 2. India is ranked the top country among the BRICS groups of countries.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>A) 1 only</b>       | <b>B) 2 only</b>          |
| <b>C) Both 1 and 2</b> | <b>D) Neither 1 nor 2</b> |

**Answer : D**



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- ✓ The Global Talent Competitiveness Index has seen India fall sharply from rank 83 ten years ago to rank 103 in its latest report out recently.
- ✓ About Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI):
- ✓ It measures how countries grow, attract, and retain talent.
- ✓ It is an annual benchmarking report published by the prestigious chain of business schools, INSEAD.
- ✓ It provides a unique resource for decision-makers to understand the global talent competitiveness picture and develop strategies to boost their economies.
- ✓ The index uses two sub-indices: input and output.
- ✓ The input measures regulatory and business environments, as well as steps being taken to foster talent and retain it.
- ✓ The output side evaluates the quality of talent.
- ✓ Highlights of GTCI 2023:
- ✓ The 10th edition of the report covers 134 countries around the world across all income groups.
- ✓ Singapore, Switzerland, and the United States are among the top three countries on the index.
- ✓ Denmark, the Netherlands, Finland, Norway, Australia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom make up the rest of the Top 10.
- ✓ India is ranked 103, the worst among that of the BRICS countries. China remains at the top of the BRICS group of countries at rank 40, Russia is at 52, South Africa is at 68 and Brazil is ranked at 69.
- ✓ Other countries ranking better than India are Rwanda, Paraguay, Tunisia, Namibia, Bolivia, Ghana, El Salvador, Gambia, Kenya, Morocco, and Eswatini.
- ✓ As per the report, other emerging countries have shown improvements on this index, with China, Indonesia, and Mexico being cited for special mention.

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the NEST initiative:**

- 1. It aims to promote sustainable and eco-friendly constructions in the domestic housing sector.**
- 2. It is an initiative of the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC).**

**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**



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- ✓ Recently, the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) launched a rating and certification initiative called 'Nest'.
- ✓ It is to promote sustainable and eco-friendly constructions in the domestic housing sector.
- ✓ It would help pave the way for individual house owners and the residential sector to adopt green building features in a big way to help in bringing down electricity consumption, water usage and creating a healthy living space.
- ✓ Key facts about the Indian Green Building Council
- ✓ It is part of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and was formed in the year 2001.
- ✓ It is India's Premier certification body.
- ✓ The council offers a wide array of services, which include developing new green building rating programmes, certification services and green building training programmes.
- ✓ The council also organises the Green Building Congress, its annual flagship event on green buildings.
- ✓ It is also among the 5 countries that are on the board of the World Green Building Council, discussing global issues at COP and similar global platforms.
- ✓ The rating is based on six environmental categories, which include sustainable station facility, health, hygiene and sanitation, energy efficiency, water efficiency, smart and green initiatives and innovation and development.
- ✓ Headquarter: Hyderabad

**Q. Whose name has been recently announced as the "Brand Ambassador of Bengal"?**

- A) Amitabh Bachchan
- B) Sourav Ganguly
- C) Mimi Chakraborty
- D) Amitav Ghosh

**Answer : B**

- ✓ West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has announced former cricketer and former Board of Control for Cricket in India president Sourav Ganguly as the "Brand Ambassador of Bengal" at the Bengal Global Business Summit 2023 in Kolkata.
- ✓ Bengal Global Business Summit is an annual event, this time many companies from 17 countries are participating in it.



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## LATEST BRAND AMBASSADOR IN NEWS 2023

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





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

**Q. 'Wasp-107b', seen in the news recently, is a:**

- A) asteroid found in the Kuiper Belt      B) supernova in the Milky Way**  
**C) exoplanet in the Virgo constellation      D) moon of Jupiter**

**Answer : C**

- ✓ NASA's James Webb Telescope recently discovered a new exoplanet named 'Wasp-107b', which is the size of Jupiter.
- ✓ About Wasp-107b:
- ✓ It is a newly discovered exoplanet situated 200 light-years away in the Virgo constellation.
- ✓ The mass of WASP-107b is 30.5 Earths, and it takes only six days to orbit its home star, which is slightly cooler and less massive than our sun.
- ✓ It shares Jupiter's size but possesses the mass of Neptune, making it less dense than other gas giants.
- ✓ The planet's low density allowed astronomers to look 50 times deeper into the atmosphere of the planet compared to observations achieved for more dense planets, like Jupiter.



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- ✓ The exoplanet is scorching hot (with an outer atmosphere that's more than 900 degrees Fahrenheit).

**Q. Which one of the following best describes 'Avangard'?**

- A) A high-altitude reconnaissance satellite
- B) A ballistic missile defense system
- C) An experimental high-speed train
- D) A hypersonic boost-glide vehicle

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Russia's rocket forces loaded an intercontinental ballistic missile equipped with the nuclear-capable "Avangard" hypersonic glide vehicle into a launch silo in southern Russia recently.
- ✓ About Avangard:
- ✓ The Avangard is a nuclear-capable, hypersonic boost-glide vehicle (HGV) developed by the Russian Federation.
- ✓ It was developed as part of the top-secret Project 4202 and given the codename Yu-71.
- ✓ It was one of six "next generation" weapons described by Russian President Vladimir Putin during a speech in March 2018.
- ✓ Features:
- ✓ It has a range of over 6,000 km, weighs approximately 2,000 kg, and can carry a nuclear or conventional payload.
- ✓ It is carried on an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

**Q. In which state has President Draupadi Murmu launched the National Education Campaign named "New Education for New India"?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ President Draupadi Murmu has launched the National Education Campaign titled "New Education for New India" in Odisha.
- ✓ It is being organized by Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya, Sambalpur.
- ✓ On this occasion, he said that the new National Education Policy will play an important role in building a new India.



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## ODISHA IN NEWS 2023

- President Draupadi Murmu has launched the National Education Campaign titled "New Education for New India" in Odisha.
- 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.
- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced that the Odisha government aims to make Odisha slum-free by the end of 2023

**Q. Which one of the following is the best description of ‘Cosmic Vine’, that was in the news recently?**

- A) A cluster of dark matter formations in deep space.
- B) A massive structure that encompasses numerous galaxies.
- C) A network of wormholes connecting distant galaxies.
- D) A space-time anomaly near the Milky Way galaxy

**Answer : B**

- ✓ A team of researchers recently identified an extensive galaxy structure named "Cosmic Vine".
- ✓ About Cosmic Vine:
- ✓ It is a massive “vine-like structure” that encompasses 20 galaxies and stretches for over 13 light years.
- ✓ It’s also very ancient. The researchers pegged it at redshift 3.44, meaning it’s situated in the early universe. (Redshift refers to the way light stretches as it travels longer distances through time, with higher redshifts indicating an object is older).
- ✓ A redshift of 3.44 would mean light from the Cosmic Vine has been traveling for between 11 and 12 billion years before reaching JWST. To provide context, current methods estimate the universe's age at 13.7 billion years.
- ✓ It harbors two of the most massive galaxies ever discovered at such a high redshift—Galaxy A and Galaxy E, both in a quiescent state, indicating a reduced rate of star formation

**Q. What is the most unique feature of the new Pamban Bridge, recently seen in the news?**

- A) It is the longest railway bridge in India.
- B) It is equipped with a real-time earthquake monitoring system.
- C) It is India’s first vertical-lift railway sea bridge.
- D) It is the first bridge to connect two separate islands.

**Answer : C**



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- ✓ The new Pamban Bridge is likely to be inaugurated by the Prime Minister in a few months time.
- ✓ About New Pamban Bridge:
- ✓ It is India's first vertical-lift railway sea bridge.
- ✓ It connects Rameswaram on Pamban Island to Mandapam on the mainland in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ Bridge Length:
- ✓ The total length of the bridge is 2.078 km.
- ✓ It will have 99 spans with 18.3-meter-long girders. The navigational span will be 63 meters.
- ✓ It will replace the iconic Pamban Bridge, India's first sea bridge, which opened in 1914.
- ✓ The new bridge is being built parallel to the old Pamban Bridge by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited.

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding C-130J Super Hercules, recently seen in the news:**

- 1. It is a four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft.**
- 2. It is the US Air Force's principal tactical cargo and personnel transport aircraft.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully landed two of its C-130J-30 'Super Hercules' military transport aircraft at a rudimentary and unfeasible air strip in Uttarakhand.
- ✓ About C-130 Super Hercules:
- ✓ It is a four-engine turboprop military transport aircraft.
- ✓ It is the latest production version of the C-130 Hercules. It replaced, in production, the previous C-130H.
- ✓ The C-130J Super Hercules made its first flight in 1996.
- ✓ It is the US Air Force's principal tactical cargo and personnel transport aircraft.
- ✓ It was developed by Lockheed Martin, a US security and aerospace company.
- ✓ It has digital avionics, including Head-Up Display (HUD) for each pilot.
- ✓ Range: 6,852 km (no payload)
- ✓ Speed: 644 km/hr
- ✓ Endurance: 20+ hours
- ✓ It is capable of short takeoffs and landings from unprepared runways.



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- ✓ C-130J-30:
- ✓ It is a stretch version of the C-130J.
- ✓ The C-130J-30 adds 15 feet to the fuselage, increasing usable space (two more pallets of equipment) in the cargo compartment.

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Central Adoption Resource Authority:**

**1. It is a statutory body under the Union Ministry of Women & Child Development.**

**2. It is formed in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption.**

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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

**Answer : C**

- ✓ Recently, the Supreme Court questioned the “great delay” plaguing India’s adoption regulation body the Central Adoption Resource Authority.
- ✓ It is a statutory body of the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India.
- ✓ It is designated as the Central Authority to deal with inter-country adoptions in accordance with the provisions of the Hague Convention on Inter-country Adoption, 1993, ratified by the Government of India in 2003.
- ✓ Function:
- ✓ It is the nodal body regulating the adoption of “orphaned, surrendered and abandoned children” in India.
- ✓ It monitors and regulates bodies such as the State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA), Specialised Adoption Agency (SAA), Authorised Foreign Adoption Agency (AFAA), Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and District Child Protective Units (DPUs).
- ✓ In India, a child can be placed with a family under the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act 1956, Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 and Juvenile Justice Act, 2000.
- ✓ The mandatory registration of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and linking to CARA has been provided in Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015



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**Q. World Energy Employment 2023 report, recently in news, is published by:**

- A) United Nations Environment Programme
- B) World Economic Forum
- C) World Bank
- D) International Energy Association

**Answer : D**

- ✓ Recently, the International Energy Association released the World Energy Employment 2023 report.
- ✓ Global employment in the energy sector grew by 3.4 million over pre-pandemic levels to 67 million in 2022.
- ✓ “Clean energy sectors added 4.7 million jobs globally over the same period and stand at 35 million.
- ✓ Fossil fuels jobs recovered more slowly after layoffs in 2020 and remain around 1.3 million below pre-pandemic employment levels, at 32 million.
- ✓ Job growth in the clean energy as well as fossil fuel sector remained positive in India compared to pre-pandemic levels of 2019.
- ✓ With this, the country saw the fourth-highest number of new clean energy jobs being created in the past three years.
- ✓ The report mentioned five major sectors of the energy industry that led to maximum job creation post-pandemic.
- ✓ These sectors were solar PV, wind, electric vehicles (EVs) and battery manufacturing, heat pumps, and critical minerals mining.
- ✓ These five sectors employed around 9 million workers till now. Out of all the sectors Solar PV emerged as the largest of the sectors with around 4 million jobs.
- ✓ On the other hand, the manufacturing of EVs and their batteries was the largest source of growth

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment:**

1. It is an initiative of G20 member countries to narrow the infrastructure gap in developing countries.
2. It aims to build projects through grants and investments.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

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



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## Answer : B

- ✓ Recently, the Union Minister for Commerce and Industry participated in the Investor Forum of the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGII) & Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF).
- ✓ It is a developmental initiative aimed at narrowing the infrastructure gap in developing countries as well as help towards accelerating progress on SDGs globally.
- ✓ The infrastructure plan was first announced in June 2021 during the G7 Summit in the UK.
- ✓ Funding: It aims to build projects through grants and investments.
- ✓ The emphasis of the PGII is on building human infrastructure in the developing world, and improving the quality of education and of health care facilities.
- ✓ Key facts about G7 Group
- ✓ It is an intergovernmental organisation of leading industrialised nations formed in 1975.
- ✓ Member countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United State.
- ✓ It meets annually to discuss issues such as global economic governance, international security, and energy policy.
- ✓ The host of the G7 summit, also known as the presidency, rotates annually among member countries.
- ✓ It was formerly referred to as the G-8 until Russia was suspended from the group in 2014 after annexing Crimea

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ):**

**1. It extends up to 200 km immediately offshore from a country's coast.**

**2. The coastal country retains exclusive rights to the exploration and exploitation of natural resources within EEZ.**

**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

- ✓ Australian naval personnel allegedly sustained minor injuries recently, after an “unsafe and unprofessional” conduct by a Chinese warship in international waters off Japan’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
- ✓ About Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ):





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- ✓ The concept of an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) was adopted through the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).
- ✓ EEZ, as defined under UNCLOS, is an area of the ocean extending up to 200 nautical miles (370 km) immediately offshore from a country's land coast in which that country retains exclusive rights to the exploration and exploitation of natural resources.
- ✓ Under international law, within its defined EEZ, a coastal nation has:
- ✓ Sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring, exploiting, conserving, and managing the natural resources of the seabed, subsoil, and waters above it.

**Q. Consider the following statements regarding Chhath Puja:**

**1. It is an important Hindu festival dedicated to Ganga River.**

**2. It involves no idol worshipping unlike most of the festivals of the Hindu religion.**

**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**

- ✓ The great festival of Chhath started recently and is celebrated with great rituals and devotion.
- ✓ About Chhath Puja:
- ✓ It is an important Hindu festival celebrated in states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.
- ✓ This festival is dedicated to God Surya and his sister Shashti Devi, often referred to as Chhathi Maiya, and it involves religious rituals.
- ✓ The most unique feature of this Chhath Puja is that there is no Murti Pujan or Idol Worshipping, unlike most of the festivals of the Hindu religion.
- ✓ The festival is celebrated between the months of October and November.
- ✓ The Chhath festival begins as the Diwali festival ends.
- ✓ It is celebrated for four consecutive days and celebrated with great reverence and dedication.
- ✓ The first day of the Chhath Puja includes taking a dip in the holy river/any water body. People also take the Ganges water to their homes to perform special offerings and rituals. Houses are thoroughly cleaned on this day.



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- ✓ The second day of Chhath, also known as Kharna, involves devotees observing a day-long fast, which is broken in the late evening after performing the worship of Mother Earth. The offerings to God include rice pudding (kheer) and fruits, which is distributed among family members and friends.
- ✓ The third day of Chhath goes into the preparation of the prasad (offerings) for the evening offerings, also known as Sanjhiya Arghya. In the evening, large numbers of devotees gather on the banks of rivers and make offerings (Arghya) to the setting sun. The night of the third day witnesses a colorful event known as Kosi. A canopy is made from sugarcane sticks, and lighted earthen lamps are placed inside the canopy along with baskets filled with prasad.
- ✓ On the fourth and final day of Chhath, family members and friends go to the banks of rivers before sunrise and make offerings (Arghya) to the rising sun. After this ritual, devotees break their fast and distribute Prasad to neighbors and relatives.

**Q. With reference to Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana, consider the following:**

- 1. It is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India.**
- 2. It provides an income support of 6,000/- per year to all land-holding farmer families.**
- 3. All institutional land holders are also eligible for benefits under the scheme.**

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

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

**Answer : B**

- ✓ The Prime Minister recently distributed the 15th installment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana, totaling over Rs 18,000 crore and benefiting more than 80 million farmers.
- ✓ About PM-KISAN:
- ✓ It is a Central Sector scheme with 100% funding from the Government of India.
- ✓ Objective: The scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income.
- ✓ It has become operational from 1.12.2018.
- ✓ Under the scheme, an income support of 6,000/- per year in three equal installments will be provided to all land-holding farmer families.



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- ✓ The definition of family for the scheme is husband, wife, and minor children.
- ✓ State Government and UT administration will identify the farmer families which are eligible for support as per scheme guidelines.
- ✓ The fund will be directly transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries.
- ✓ Exclusion Categories: The following categories of beneficiaries shall not be eligible for benefits under the scheme:
  - ✓ All institutional land holders.
  - ✓ Farmer families that belong to one or more of the following categories:.
  - ✓ Former and present holders of constitutional posts
  - ✓ Former and present Ministers/ State Ministers and former/present Members of Lok Sabha/ Rajya Sabha/ State Legislative Assemblies/ State Legislative Councils, former and present Mayors of Municipal Corporations, former and present Chairpersons of District Panchayats.
  - ✓ All serving or retired officers and employees of Central/ State Government Ministries /Offices/Departments and its field units Central or State PSEs and Attached offices /Autonomous Institutions under Government as well as regular employees of the Local Bodies (Excluding Multi Tasking Staff /Class IV/Group D employees)
  - ✓ All superannuated/retired pensioners whose monthly pension is Rs.10,000/-or more (Excluding Multi Tasking Staff / Class IV/Group D employees) of above category
  - ✓ All Persons who paid Income Tax in last assessment year
  - ✓ Professionals like Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants, and Architects registered with Professional bodies and carrying out profession by undertaking practices.

**Q. With reference to the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), consider the following:**

- 1. It is India's national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents.**
- 2. It works under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.**
- 3. It provides services to organizations in the government and public sectors only.**

**How many of the above statements are correct?**

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>A) Only one</b>  | <b>B) Only two</b> |
| <b>C) All three</b> | <b>D) None</b>     |



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## Answer : A

- ✓ India's cyber security watchdog CERT-In recently found "multiple vulnerabilities" in the popular Google Chrome operating system (OS), which can even bypass security on the targeted system.
- ✓ About CERT-In:
- ✓ It is the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents as and when they occur.
- ✓ It is a functional organisation of the Ministry of Information & Electronics Technology.
- ✓ Objective: Securing Indian cyberspace.
- ✓ CERT-In has been operational since January 2004.
- ✓ Objectives:
- ✓ Preventing cyber attacks against the country's cyberspace.
- ✓ Responding to cyber attacks and minimizing damage and recovery time
- ✓ Reducing national vulnerability to cyber attacks
- ✓ Enhancing security awareness among common citizens
- ✓ The Information Technology Act 2000, designated CERT-In to serve as the national agency to perform the following functions in the area of cyber security:
- ✓ Collection, analysis, and dissemination of information on cyber incidents;
- ✓ Forecast and alerts of cyber security incidents;
- ✓ Emergency measures for handling cyber security incidents;
- ✓ Coordination of cyber incident response activities;
- ✓ Issue guidelines, advisories, vulnerability notes, and whitepapers relating to information security practices, procedures, prevention, response and reporting of cyber incidents;
- ✓ Constituency: The constituency of CERT-In is the Indian cyber community and Indian cyberspace.
- ✓ CERT-In provides services to organizations in the Government, Public, and Private sectors. In addition, CERT-In provides services to individuals and home users as well.

**Q. Joint military exercise 'Austrahind-2023' is being organized between India and which country?**

- A) Austria
- B) USA
- C) Ireland
- D) Australia

## Answer : D



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- ✓ Joint military exercise 'Austrahind-2023' is being conducted between the armed forces of India and Australia.
- ✓ The second edition of 'Austrahind-2023' is being organized in Perth, Australia from 22 November to 06 December 2023.
- ✓ The joint military exercise 'Austrahind' was started in the year 2022.
- ✓ Its first edition was held in Mahajan, Rajasthan

**Q. Saffron of which district of Jammu and Kashmir has been given the tag of Geographical Indication?**

- A) Kishtwar
- B) Samba
- C) Bandipora
- D) Kulgam

**Answer : A**

- ✓ Saffron, from Kishtwar district in Jammu and Kashmir, has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Geographical Indications Registry.
- ✓ This type of saffron is cultivated and harvested in high altitude areas.
- ✓ The famous most expensive variety of saffron is known as 'Kumkum'. It is the main cash crop of Kishtwar district.

**Q. With which country has India recently started e-Visa services again?**

- A) France
- B) Canada
- C) Argentina
- D) Italy

**Answer : B**

- ✓ India has again started e-Visa services for Canadian citizens after almost two months.
- ✓ India had suspended visa services on September 21 following Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's baseless allegations of a "possible" Indian link in the killing of Khalistani supporter Hardeep Singh Nijjar.



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NAME - PRIYADARSHINI  
KALIYAMOORTHY  
ROLL NO - 2120036944  
SELECTED IN - RRB PO  
SAPTHA GIRI GRAMEEN BANK  
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NAME - GARVITA VARSHNEY  
ROLL NO - 2603003298  
SELECTED IN - ARYAVART  
GRAMIN BANK CLERK  
STATE - UTTAR PRADESH



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



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



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



34.5 KB APARCHIT'S GADGUS  
Name: Bathina Maneesha  
Rollno: 2543024278  
Selected in : RRB clerk  
State : Telangana

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



30.3 KB APARCHIT'S GADGUS  
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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
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JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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



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STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
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NAME - GURIYA KUMARI  
ROLL NO - 1373006773  
SELECTED IN - RRB CLERK  
DAKSHIN BIHAR GRAMEEN  
BANK



17.7 KB APARCHIT'S GADGUS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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



15.7 KB APARCHIT'S GADGUS  
👏👏 MY PAID GROUP  
STUDENT GOT SELECTION IN  
IBPS RRB CLERK  
GOOD LUCK FOR YOUR FUTURE  
JOURNEY FEELING PROUD

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