

# GENERAL AWARENESS

OCTOBER 2023

# Gyanm

6

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GK PACK



*India  
Conquers  
Moon*

**Upcoming Govt Exams (2023) Details Inside**

A Monthly Magazine by Gyanm Publications

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# GENERAL AWARENESS

Vol. 12, Issue 02

October 2023

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## FIGURES TO REMEMBER

KEY RATE	RATE	FROM
Repo Rate	6.50%	8-02-23
Standing Deposit Facility	6.25%	8-02-23
Marginal Standing Facility	6.75%	8-02-23
Bank Rate	6.75%	8-02-23
Fixed Reverse Repo	3.35%	22-05-20
CRR	4.5%	21-05-22
SLR	18%	11-04-20

## INDIA'S RANK IN

Global Firepower Index July 2023	4 <sup>th</sup>
Energy Transition Index July 2023	67 <sup>th</sup>
Global Peace Index July 2023	126 <sup>th</sup>
World Competitiveness Ranking July 2023	40 <sup>th</sup>
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## GYANM PUBLICATIONS

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# NATIONAL NEWS

AUGUST

## WORLD'S FIRST EVER LANDING ON MOON'S SOUTH POLE



India scripted history on August 23 at 6.03 pm by successfully achieving a soft landing on the south pole of the moon, becoming the first country in the world to reach that area. India became the fourth country to successfully land on the moon, after the former USSR, America and China.

The south pole is a region with water ice, or frozen water, that could be a source of oxygen, fuel and water for future moon missions or a more permanent moon colony.

The Chandrayaan-3 lander Vikram stands about 2 meters tall and weighs over 1,700 kg. After getting stable on the moon, it extended down a ramp onto the moon's surface to slide over a six wheel 26-kg lunar rover named Pragyan onto the moon's surface.

*The rover Pragyan will move around with a speed of just 1 cm/second. It will remain functional for two weeks, running a series of experiments including a spectrometer analysis of the mineral composition of the lunar surface. Vikram's Landing point on the Moon has been named as 'Shiv Shakti' point. Further, the date of landing, August 23, has been declared as 'National Space Day'.*

## SHRI MODI ATTENDS BRICS SUMMIT IN JOHANNESBURG

Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a four-day trip from August 22 to 25 to visit South Africa and Greece. He participated in the 15th BRICS Summit on August 22, till August 24, in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Later, he travelled to Greece on August 25 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Greece, Kyriakos Mitsotakis. He was given a ceremonial welcome in Athens, capital of Greece. The President of Greece Katerina Sakellariopoulou conferred him with "The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour", the country's top civilian honour.

He interacted with business leaders from both countries, as well as with the Indian community in Greece. This was the first visit of an Indian Prime Minister to Greece in the last 40 years.



### INDIA'S FIRST HYDROGEN CELL BUS LAUNCHED



With the aim of achieving a carbon neutral Ladakh, India's state-run power giant, NTPC started a trial run of India's first ever hydrogen bus on a public road in Leh on August 18.

As part of the plan, NTPC is setting up a hydrogen fueling station, solar plant and providing five fuel cell buses for operation on intracity routes of Leh.

In a first-of-its-kind mission, NTPC's Green Hydrogen Mobility Project at 11,562 ft. is co-located with 1.7 MW of dedicated solar power for providing renewable power.

The hydrogen fuel cell buses are designed for operation in sub-zero temperature in rarefied atmosphere, typical to such altitude locations which is a unique feature of this project.

### BRO TO CONSTRUCT WORLD'S HIGHEST ROAD

The Border Roads Organisation has started a prestigious challenging project for construction of the world's highest motorable road, at an altitude of approximately 19,400 feet, surpassing the previous record held by Umling La Pass at 19300 feet.

The 64 km long 'Likaru-Mig La-Fukche' road is being constructed in the Demchok sector of Ladakh. It will connect crucial military outposts in the sensitive Fukche sector which is just three kilometres away from the contested Line of Actual Control (LAC).



### G20 FILM FESTIVAL HELD IN NEW DELHI

The G20 Film Festival began in New Delhi on August 16 with the screening of Satyajit Ray's iconic film Pather Panchali. The festival featured films from various participating countries, including the US, South Korea, Turkey, and the UK.

The festival was organised by the India International Centre, New Delhi and the G20 Secretariat of the Ministry of External Affairs.

### G20 MEET ON GREEN & SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

NITI Aayog hosted a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy on July 28-29 in New Delhi.

The conference aimed to examine prospects and challenges for green and sustainable growth globally. More than 40 leading thinkers from G20 nations attended the conference.

### TIGER POPULATION UP BY 6.1%



Latest data released by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on the Global Tiger Day, July 29 puts the Tiger population estimates at 3,925.

As per the detailed analysis of data done by the Wildlife Institute of India, from both camera-trapped and non-camera-trapped tiger presence areas, the upper limit of the tiger population is estimated to be 3,925 and the average number is 3,682 tigers, reflecting a commendable annual growth rate of 6.1% per annum.

Among states, Madhya Pradesh reported the largest number of Tigers at 785, followed by Karnataka at 563 and Uttarakhand at 560. Amongst Tiger Reserves, the largest number of Tigers, 260, are in Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand.

Last year, during the celebration of 50 years of the Project Tiger at Mysuru, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had declared the minimum tiger population of 3,167, which is the population estimated from the camera-trapped area.

**PRIME MINISTER MODI VISITS FRANCE & UAE**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Paris on July 13 at the official invitation of the President of France, Emmanuel Macron. In a historic moment, the President bestowed the highest French honour in military or civilian orders, "*The Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour*" on the Prime Minister. With this, PM Modi became the first Indian PM to receive this honour.

On July 14, he was the Guest of Honour at the Bastille Day Parade, where a tri-services Indian armed forces contingent participated in the Parade, which is almost like our country's Republic Day Parade. This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the India – France Strategic Partnership.

India finalised a deal to buy 26 French Rafale-M jets for its navy and three Scorpene-class submarines, at an estimated cost of around \$9.75 billion. India and France also agreed to use UPI in France, enabling Indians to make local payments in rupees.

On the second leg of his visit, the Prime Minister visited Abu Dhabi on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July to hold bilateral talks with the UAE President and Ruler of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

The Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of the UAE signed two path breaking MoUs, one for the Local Currency Settlement (LCS) system and other for linking their Fast Payment Systems (FPSs), UPI of India with the IPP (Instant Payment Platform) of UAE. The LCS system allows for the use of the Indian Rupee and UAE Dirham in bilateral trade, marking India's first-ever LCS arrangement. UAE is among the top three trading partners of India. The two countries also agreed to open the local campus of IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi.

**SRI LANKAN PRESIDENT VISITS INDIA**

Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe reached New Delhi on July 20 for a two-day official visit to India. Both the countries are celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. The two countries exchanged five agreements covering crucial areas of economic cooperation. Sri Lanka also agreed to link their LankaPay payment system with India's UPI for operations in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is an important partner in India's Neighbourhood First Policy and Vision SAGAR: "Security and Growth for All in the Region".

**INDIA'S LARGEST IECC OPENS IN NEW DELHI**

The International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex named 'Bharat Mandapam' and developed by the ITPO (India Trade Promotion Organisation) at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi was dedicated to the nation on July 26.

The fully redeveloped and renovated old Pragati Maidan Complex (PCO) is an ultra-modern world class infrastructure offering the best facilities for hosting meetings, conferences, and exhibitions in the country.

It will host India's G20 leaders' summit in September this year. The PCO was developed in 1972 for the first time hosting the International Trade Fair called Asia 72.

With a campus area of approximately 123 acres, the IECC complex has been developed as India's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) destination, costing over Rs. 2700 crore.

The main Convention Centre has been developed as the centerpiece of the IECC. Its majestic multi-purpose hall and plenary hall have a combined capacity of 7,000 people.

The IECC complex features seven exhibition halls, each serving as a versatile space for hosting exhibitions, trade fairs, and business events. There is also provision for parking of over 5,500 vehicles.

The development of this new complex at Pragati Maidan will help promote India as a global business destination.

**INDIA UPLIFTS 41.5 Cr. OUT OF POVERTY**

The latest update of the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) covering 110 countries, was released on July 11 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) at the University of Oxford in Britain. India saw a remarkable reduction in poverty, with 415 million people exiting poverty within a span of just 15 years (2005/6–19/21). The report noted that deprivation in all indicators declined in India, and the poorest states and groups had the fastest absolute progress.

*The UN said, 25 countries, including India, successfully halved their global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) values within 15 years, showing that rapid progress is attainable. These 25 countries include Cambodia, China, Congo, Honduras, Indonesia, Morocco, Serbia, and Vietnam besides India.*





## ITALY PAYS TRIBUTE TO INDIAN SOLDIERS



Remembering the supreme sacrifices of the Indian Soldiers, the Commune of Monotone (in Italy) and Italian Military historians inaugurated on July 22 the "V.C. Yeshwant Ghadge Sundial Memorial" at Montone (Perugia, Italy) as a tribute to the Indian troops who fought during Italian Campaign in July 1944 during the Second World War.

The memorial is in the form of a live operational sundial. It also honours Naik Yeshwant Ghadge, Victoria Cross winner, for the exemplary courage shown by him in neutralising an enemy post single handed on July 10, 1944.

*Indian Soldiers played a central role in the Italian Campaign during the Second World War, wherein more than 50,000 Indian Army soldiers took part. Out of the 20 Victoria Crosses awarded in Italy, six were won by Indian soldiers. More than 5700 Indian soldiers sacrificed their lives during the war.*

## INDIA'S FIRST ELEVATED CROSS TAXIWAY

India's first ECT-elevated cross taxiway (runway) was inaugurated on July 14 at Delhi International Airport, making it the first Indian airport to have four runways. Elevated taxiway enables highways to pass under it. The ECT is 2.1-km long and 202-m wide and can accommodate two aircraft at the same time, including big aircraft such as A-380 and B-777. It will reduce 55,000 tonnes of carbon emissions annually. This will also result in saving costly jet fuel and enhance operational efficiency of the airport.

The Cross Taxiway connects Terminal 1 to Terminal 3, reducing the present distance of 9 km by about 7 km. It will also help in reducing the tarmac time (time spent inside the aircraft before actual takeoff or after landing) by 15-20 minutes for passengers.



## JOINT INDO-US OPERATION AGAINST DRUGS

Operation "Broader Sword", a joint multi-agency operation carried out in June 2023 by the law enforcement agencies of the US and India, more than 500 shipments of "illicit and unapproved prescription drugs" were stopped from reaching US consumers. The operation targeted shipments of illicit, potentially dangerous, unapproved prescription drugs, combination medical devices, and synthetic drug precursors shipped through International Mail Facilities (IMF).

## INDIA JOINS GLOBAL CRISIS RESPONSE GROUP

India has joined the Champions Group of the Global Crisis Response Group (GCRG), accepting an invitation from the United Nations. The decision to join the Group reflects India's increasing global leadership and commitment for addressing contemporary global challenges.

India's participation will further boost the efforts of the United Nations in finding result-oriented solutions on developmental issues that impact the world, particularly developing countries.

*The GCRG was set up by the UNO in March 2022 to address urgent and critical global issues pertaining to interlinked crises in food security, energy, and finance and to coordinate a global response. The GCRG is overseen by the Champions Group composed of Bangladesh, Barbados, Denmark, Germany, Indonesia and Senegal.*

## IIT BOMBAY JUMPS TO 149<sup>th</sup> RANK



Rising to new heights, The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, for the first time, has breached into the top 150 rankings, securing 149<sup>th</sup> rank in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2023, released on June 27. Last year, IIT Bombay was ranked at 172<sup>nd</sup> spot.

IIT Delhi slipped to 197<sup>th</sup> place, from 174<sup>th</sup> last year while IISC Bangalore, last year's country leader, slipped to 225.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA and University of Cambridge and University of Oxford, both from the UK, secured the top three positions, in descending order.

*The 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the QS World University Rankings featured 1,500 institutions across 104 locations in the world and is the only ranking of its kind to emphasise employability and sustainability.*

## SUMMIT OF SCO COUNCIL OF HEADS OF STATE



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Summit of the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) Council of Heads of State was chaired by Prime Minister Modi on July 4 under India's presidency of SCO. All the 8 SCO Member States (including India) viz. China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan attended the Summit that was held in virtual mode. Iran, Belarus, and Mongolia were invited as Observer States. Iran was added as the 9<sup>th</sup> full member during the summit.

Leaders of the SCO adopted the New Delhi Declaration according to which the Member States will seek to develop common principles and approaches to form a unified list of terrorists, separatist and extremist organisations whose activities are prohibited on the territories of the SCO Member States.

India took over the presidency of the SCO in September 2022 for one year. In Sep 2023, the presidency will be handed over to Kazakhstan.

Founded on 15 June 2001, the SCO is a Eurasian political, economic, international security and defence organisation, which is based in Beijing and has eight members at present. It is the world's largest regional body in terms of geographic scope and population, and it largely focuses on regional security issues, its fight against regional terrorism, ethnic separatism and religious extremism.

## STARTUP20 SHIKHAR SUMMIT IN GURUGRAM

The Startup20 Shikhar Summit under India's G20 presidency was held on July 3-4 in Gurugram, Haryana. The summit was hosted by the Startup20 Engagement Group. The summit aimed to create a conducive business environment across G20 nations and assist new talents from diverse backgrounds to commercialise, scale up and innovate new ideas. Over 600 stakeholders from different countries participated in the summit.



## WB FUNDING FOR LOW CARBON ENERGY

The World Bank approved \$1.5 billion funding to help India promote low-carbon energy by scaling up renewable energy, developing green hydrogen, and stimulating climate finance for low-carbon energy investments.

*The program will support the successful implementation of the National Green Hydrogen Mission that aims to stimulate \$100 billion investment in the private sector by 2030.*

## INDIA: 4<sup>th</sup> MOST POWERFUL MILITARY FORCE

Global Firepower, a prominent data website specialising in defence-related information, released its Power Index for 145 countries in the second week of July. As per its findings, the United States possesses the most powerful military force worldwide. Russia and China follow closely at second and third spot, while India is ranked at the fourth position.

The index, which evaluates the military strength of countries over 60 factors, also highlights nations with comparatively weaker military forces such as Bhutan and Iceland.



*The assessment by Global Firepower takes into account various criteria, including the number of military units, financial resources, logistical capabilities, and geographical considerations, to determine each nation's overall score.*

## INDIA FARES WELL IN ENERGY TRANSITION

The World Economic Forum released on June 28 a report titled 'Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2023'. It contained the 'Energy Transition Index' (ETI) for 120 countries. ETI benchmarks the countries on the performance of their energy systems, and also their readiness to secure sustainable energy systems.

With significant improvement in key parameters of energy equity and security, and environmental sustainability, India jumped 20 places (from 87<sup>th</sup> in last year) to the 67<sup>th</sup> position among 120 countries. The report said that India is the only major economy with energy transition momentum accelerating across all dimensions.

*Achieving universal access to electricity, replacing solid fuels with clean cooking options and increasing renewable energy deployment have been primary contributors to the improvement of India's performance.*

*Sweden topped the list, followed by Denmark, Norway, Finland and Switzerland in the top 5 on the index.*



## INDIA 126<sup>th</sup> IN PEACEFULNESS



According to the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the Global Peace Index 2023 released on June 28 by international think-tank, the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), Sydney, India jumped to 126<sup>th</sup> position by climbing nine positions from 2022. The list is topped by Iceland, followed by Denmark, Ireland. At the bottom was Afghanistan, preceded by Yemen and Syria.

The Index is the world's leading measure of global peacefulness and offers comprehensive data-driven analysis on trends in peace, its economic value, and how to develop peaceful societies.

*The Global Peace Index (GPI) ranks 163 independent states and territories (covering 99.7% of the world's population), according to their level of peacefulness. The rankings are calculated using 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators from highly respected sources, that measure the state of peace across three domains:*

- 1. the level of societal safety and security,*
- 2. the extent of ongoing domestic and international conflict,*
- 3. and the degree of militarisation.*

## INDIA SLIPS 3 SPOTS IN COMPETITIVENESS

In the 2023 IMD World Competitiveness Ranking for 64 economies, published by the World Competitiveness Center of the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) on June 26, India was ranked at 40<sup>th</sup> spot, three ranks down from last year's 37<sup>th</sup> rank. According to the IMD's report, the government's efficiency has increased but still lagging in business efficiency, infrastructure and economic performance.

Denmark, Ireland and Switzerland have been named the top three countries (in descending order) in terms of their global competitiveness level. The report highlights the unique approaches taken by these countries to achieve competitiveness and highlights the long-term value creation done by them. At the bottom of the ranking were two Latin-American economies, Argentina (63<sup>rd</sup>) and Venezuela (64<sup>th</sup>).

*The rankings are based on 164 competitiveness criteria selected as a result of comprehensive research using economic literature, international, national, and regional sources, plus feedback from the business community, government agencies, and academics – and 92 survey questions answered by 6,400 senior executives.*

# NEWS FROM STATES

## AUGUST

### INDORE NUMBER ONE IN AIR QUALITY

In the category of cities with a population of more than 10 lakhs in the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan -2023 conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board, Indore has secured the first position, followed by Agra and Thane.

In the category of cities with population between 3 to 10 lakh, Sagar from MP topped the list while Dewas, also from MP, secured top position in the category of cities with population below 3 lakh.

### INDIA'S 1<sup>st</sup> 3D PRINTED POST OFFICE BUILDING

India's first 3D printed post office building was inaugurated on August 18 in Bengaluru. The building was built by using 3D printing technology with technical know-how from IIT Madras and L&T.

The 3D printed concrete building is cost effective, reduces wastage of construction material, is environment friendly and speeds up construction with unique design possibilities.

### THREE LOANS GRANTED BY THE ADB

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) granted 3 loans to Indian states as under:

A \$200 million loan to the Rajasthan government for its ongoing Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project for expanding water supply and sanitation systems in selected towns.

A \$295-million loan for improving the infrastructure in Bihar. The project aims to upgrade approximately 265 km of state highways in Bihar.

A \$ 40.5 million loan to Meghalaya for improving early childhood development and maternal mental health in the state. The project includes upgrading of 1,800 existing Anganwadi centers and construction of approximately 600 new centers.



## SRINAGAR TOPS IN JAL JEEVAN SURVEKSHAN



District Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir secured the top spot in the "Front Runners" category of the Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023 conducted by the union ministry of jal shakti. It outshined 114 Har Ghar Jal certified districts across India.

The survey conducted from October 2022 to June 2023, evaluated various districts across the country on the effectiveness of their water supply and management systems.

## JULY

## WORLD'S LARGEST OFFICE BUILDING IN SURAT

Surat, the diamond capital of India, has surpassed Arlington, USA, home to iconic office building Pentagon (US Defence Headquarters), by laying its claim to the world's largest office building – the 'Surat Diamond Bourse.' It has been promoted and developed by the Surat Diamond Bourse, a not-for-profit company. Over 4200 diamond merchants have their offices in the complex.

*This interconnected office structure spread across 35.54 acres, features nine 15 storied rectangular buildings emanating from a central "spine." Boasting a vast floor space of 6.6 million square feet, against 6.5 million sq ft in Pentagon, it now holds the crown as the largest office building globally, dethroning the Pentagon, which held this title for almost 80 years.*



## TAMIL NADU TOPS IN EXPORT PREPAREDNESS

The Niti Aayog released its Export Preparedness Index (EPI) for 2022 on July 17 in New Delhi. The EPI aims to assess the export performance and potential of the Indian States and UTs. It also aims to identify the direct and indirect factors that promote and support the export environment throughout the region.

Index has placed Tamil Nadu at number one spot. It is followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka. Tamil Nadu has long been an export leader in sectors such as automobiles, leather and textiles, and recently became the No. 1 exporter of electronic goods.

## INDIA'S 1<sup>st</sup> INCUBATION CENTRE IN FISHERIES

The NITI Aayog approved a grant of ₹10 crore to the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Kochi for establishing India's first Atal Incubation Centre in fisheries. The center will promote research, technological advancement, and entrepreneurship in fisheries and allied sectors.



It will boost progress in the fisheries industry by providing a nurturing environment for start-ups and innovative projects. It will serve as a hub for encouraging innovation, promoting development of cutting-edge technologies and solutions for the challenges faced by the local fishing communities. The centre is expected to have a big impact on the entire region's economic development.

## MUMBAI TO GET ITS FIRST IIM

National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) in Mumbai is set to become an Indian Institute of Management (IIM). The union cabinet approved a bill on July 19 for amending the IIM Act to upgrade the NITIE as the 21<sup>st</sup> IIM in the country.

After the final approval by the Parliament, Mumbai will get its first IIM and Maharashtra will become the first state to have two IIMs, first being IIM Nagpur.





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**CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**ਕੀ ਤੈਧਾਰੀ ਜਲਦੀ ਕੈਸੇ ਕਰੇ?**

**PUNJAB PATWARI CUT OFF 2023 OUT**

**Follow for More!**

**Diksha Dagar, 22 year old hearing impaired pro golfer from Haryana won her second Ladies European Tour at the \_\_\_\_\_ Ladies Open on June 25:**

**A) Rome B) Venice C) Homburg D) Czech**

**ਪਹਿਲੀ ਅਤੇ ਆਖਰੀ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਜਿਸ ਦਾ ਨਾਂ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਗ੍ਰੰਥ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਜ ਹੈ ?**

**(A) ਬੀਬੀ ਭਾਨੀ ਜੀ (B) ਬੀਬੀ ਪੀਵੀ ਜੀ (C) ਬੀਬੀ ਨਾਨਕੀ ਜੀ (D) ਮਾਤਾ ਗੁਜਰੀ ਜੀ**



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## NATIONAL MARITIME HERITAGE COMPLEX



The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is developing a National Maritime Heritage Complex (NHMC), a world-class facility at Lothal, Gujarat. NMHC is being developed under the Sagarmala programme as an international tourist destination, where the maritime heritage of India from ancient to modern times would be showcased and an edutainment approach using the latest technology would be adopted to spread awareness about India's maritime heritage.

The NHMC project will cost around Rs 4,500 crore. It will include world's highest lighthouse museum, world's largest open aquatic gallery, India's largest naval museum and many other world-class attractions.

It will also have a recreated version of Lothal town of Harrappan era; Climate theme park and Adventure and Amusement theme park; fourteen exhibition galleries highlighting India's maritime heritage starting from the Harappan times till now and many more.

## CHENNAI GETS INDIA'S 1<sup>st</sup> DRONE POLICE UNIT

The Greater Chennai Police launched a 'Drone Police Unit' on June 29 to assist cops in aerial surveillance. It has been reported as the first of its kind initiative in India. The unit will be particularly helpful in case of large gatherings, real-time checking of vehicle registration data and spotting of suspects.

Established at the cost of ₹3.6 crore, it is equipped with a total of nine drones under three categories namely — Quick response surveillance drones; heavy lift multirotor Drone and long-range survey wing plane. All drones have built-in artificial intelligence capabilities and can be operated up to a distance of 5-10 kilometres from the ground station.



## MICRON TO BOOST CHIP BUSINESS IN GUJARAT

The Gujarat government signed a MoU on June 28 with America's largest chipmaker firm Micron Technology for establishing India's first semiconductor assembly and test facility at Sanand in Ahmedabad district. Micron Technology will invest \$ 2.5 billion (Rs 20,463 crore) to establish the facility.

The central government will provide 50 per cent fiscal support for the total project cost while the state government will provide incentives representing 20 percent of the total cost. The project is expected to create five thousand direct and 15,000 indirect employment opportunities in the state.

The MoU is a watershed moment for India as it will give a boost to the domestic semiconductor ecosystem and other associated industries for raw materials and finished products will be drawn to Gujarat.

## INDIA'S FIRST 700 MW REACTOR

India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Kakrapar, near Mandvi in Gujarat started commercial operations on June 30.

The reactor is currently operating at 90 per cent of its total power capacity. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is building two 700 MW pressurised heavy water reactors (PHWRs) in Kakrapar of which this is the first one.



## INDIA'S LARGEST RAIL COACH PLANT

India's largest rail coach plant in the private sector was inaugurated on June 22 in Hyderabad. Medha Servo Drives Pvt Ltd has established this plant in collaboration with Swiss railway rolling stock maker Stadler Rail. With an investment of over Rs 805 crore, the first phase of the factory has been set up in about 100 acres. It has an annual production capacity of 500 coaches and 50 locomotives.

The World Bank approved a \$391 million loan on June 26 to Assam and Tripura to improve access to high-quality healthcare services and to economic opportunities for people of the state. Of the loan amount, \$ 251 million will go to Assam and \$ 140 million will go to Tripura.



# GOVT. INITIATIVES

AUGUST

## TELE-LAW - 2.0 FOR BETTER LEGAL HELP



Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State for Law and Justice, launched the Tele-Law - 2.0 app on August 25 in New Delhi. The new app integrates Tele-Law and Nyaya Bandhu App to ensure easy access to justice.

It will enable the common citizen to access legal advice, legal assistance and legal representation through a single registration and single gateway of Tele-Law.

The app is a big step towards realising the government's vision to strengthen the legal aid ecosystem and to ensure "Justice for All".

## STANDARD NOTIFIED FOR GREEN HYDROGEN

In a significant move for the progress of the National Green Hydrogen Mission, the government has notified the Green Hydrogen Standard for India.

The standard issued by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) on August 18 outlines the emission thresholds of 2 kg CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per kg of Hydrogen produced as a 12-month average emission threshold.

*Green hydrogen emerges via water electrolysis using renewable sources like wind, solar, and hydroelectric power.*



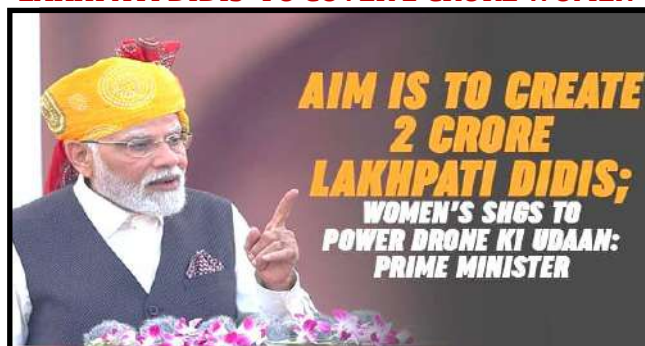
## 'PM-EBUS SEWA' SCHEME APPROVED

The union cabinet approved the 'PM-eBus Sewa' scheme on August 16 for augmenting city bus operations across the country. Under the scheme, 10,000 e-buses will be deployed across cities having a population of three lakh and above.

Priority will be given to the cities without organised bus service. It will also lead to cleaner and more efficient transport as well as generate several jobs.

The scheme has been allocated a total funding of Rs 57,613 crore. States/Cities shall be responsible for running the bus services and making payments to the bus operators. The Central Government will support these bus operations by providing prescribed subsidies.

## 'LAKHPATI DIDIS' TO COVER 2 CRORE WOMEN



During his recent Independence Day address, the Prime Minister announced the 'Lakhpati Didis' scheme for providing vocational training to two crore women in rural areas across the country.

The scheme aims to empower women and stimulate economic growth. The scheme, previously implemented in select states, now seeks to expand its reach and impact on a national scale.

Under the scheme, women will undergo training in a range of practical skills that align with emerging industry demands. These skills may include diverse skills like plumbing, LED bulb making, and the operation and repair of drones, among others.

## PM VISHWAKARMA YOJANA LAUNCHED

The union cabinet approved on August 16 Rs 13,000 crore funding for a five-year period for the PM Vishwakarma Yojana. The scheme aims at strengthening the family-based practice of traditional skills by artisans and craftspeople across the country.

A total of 18 trades such as Carpenter, Blacksmith, Goldsmith, Potter, Cobbler, Weaver, Barber, Washerman, Tailor etc. will be covered under the scheme.

*Credit support up to Rs. 1 lakh (First Tranche) and Rs. 2 lakh (Second Tranche) will be provided to the beneficiaries at a concessional interest rate of 5%. Artisans and craftsmen will be given a PM Vishwakarma certificate and an ID card each. The scheme is expected to cover over 30 lakh families across the country.*

### APP FLOODWATCH FOR FLOOD FORECASTING



The Central Water Commission launched a mobile app 'FloodWatch' on August 17 in New Delhi. It will provide real time flood forecast situations, up to seven days on a real-time basis, across the country.

The app utilises advanced technologies such as satellite data analysis and real-time monitoring to deliver accurate and timely flood forecasts.

### 'MERI MATI MERA DESH' CAMPAIGN

To make the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence memorable, another unique campaign, 'Meri Mati Mera Desh' (my soil, my country) was launched on August 9 to honour the heroes who sacrificed their lives for the country.

A war memorial will be built in every gram panchayat, block, town, city, municipality in the memory of martyrs. Names of all the heroes of that area will be inscribed on a plaque, named 'Shilafalakam'. The campaign will conclude on August 30.

Under the campaign, a sample of the soil of each village will be collected and brought to Delhi in the form of Amrit Kalash Yatra. Soil collected from 7,500 kalash will be used to create an 'Amrit Vatika' in Delhi.

### BHARTIYA VASTRA EVAM SHILP KOSH

The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in collaboration with the Ministry of Textiles launched an e-portal, "भारतीय वस्त्र एवं शिल्प कोष" (Treasure of Indian Clothing and Crafts), a Repository of Textiles and Crafts, on the occasion of the National Handloom Day, Aug 7.

It is an attempt to create a comprehensive catalogue of India's diverse clothing on a single platform. It has a craft atlas, a cultural artefact display, and a visual museum, among other things.



### 'RAJMARG YATRA' APP FOR HIGHWAY USERS

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) introduced a new mobile application 'Rajmarg Yatra' to enhance the highway users experience.

\It provides real-time weather updates, timely broadcast notifications, and details about nearby toll plazas, petrol stations, hospitals, hotels, and other vital services, ensuring a secure and seamless journey on National Highways.

The app incorporates an integrated complaint redressal system and enables users to monitor the progress of their grievances for transparency. The app includes features like over-speeding notifications and voice assistance, aimed at encouraging safer and more responsible driving practices.

### JAN VISHWAS BILL PASSED IN PARLIAMENT

The Parliament passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023 on August 02. The Bill seeks to amend certain enactments for decriminalising and rationalising offences



to further enhance trust-based governance for ease of living and doing business.

The legislation proposes to amend 183 provisions to be decriminalised in 42 Central Acts administered by 19 Ministries and Departments.

The Amendment Bill will contribute to rationalising criminal provisions and ensuring that citizens, businesses and government departments operate without fear of imprisonment for minor, technical or procedural defaults.

This Bill establishes a balance between the severity of the offence or violation committed and the gravity of the prescribed punishment.

### ULLAS APP TO PROMOTE FUNCTIONAL LITERACY

The Union Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, on July 30, launched the mobile app ULLAS in New Delhi. The ULLAS (Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society) initiative is poised to revolutionise education and literacy across the nation.

It aims at harnessing the potential of technology to facilitate widespread access to basic functional literacy. Besides basic education, it imparts digital and financial literacy and critical life skills to citizens aged 15 and above who lost the opportunity to go to school.

It will focus on promoting functional literacy, vocational skills, and many important life skills like financial literacy, legal literacy, digital literacy, and empowerment of citizens to involve them actively in nation-building exercise.



### 'SAGAR SAMPARK' FOR SAFER NAVIGATION



The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways launched the indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) named 'SAGAR SAMPARK'. It is a terrestrial based enhancement system which corrects the errors and inaccuracies in the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) allowing for more accurate positioning information.

It will help mariners to navigate safely and will reduce the risk of collisions, groundings, and accidents in the port and harbour areas. This will also help in safe and efficient movement of vessels.

### 6G- NEXT-GEN COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Government announced the introduction of the Bharat 6G Alliance on July 3 as a groundbreaking initiative aimed at launching the next-generation communication technology in India.

The Bharat 6G Alliance will bring together key stakeholders from the public and private sectors, as well as other departments, with a common objective of advancing telecommunications technology and supporting the development of 6G in the country.

*The 6G technology is expected to revolutionise communication by providing speeds up to 100 Gbps, nearly 100 times faster than 5G which is capable of going up to 1Gbps. The effects of 6G will largely be seen in three areas: connected intelligent machines, Internet of senses, and connected sustainable world.*



### CREDIT GUARANTEE SCHEME FOR LIVESTOCK

The Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying launched on July 20 India's first credit guarantee scheme to facilitate inflow of funds to MSMEs engaged in the livestock sector; without hassles of collateral security.

For operationalising the scheme, the ministry has established a Credit Guarantee fund Trust of Rs 750 crore, which will provide credit guarantee coverage up to 25 per cent of the credit facilities extended to the MSMEs by the eligible lending institutions.

### CARBON CREDIT TRADING SCHEME, 2023

The Government issued a notification on June 30 for the formation of India's first domestic regulated carbon market. The 'Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023' first announced under the Energy Conservation Act, aims to set up a carbon credit trading market in the country. Drafted by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency, a wholly owned subsidiary of the ministry of power, the scheme would entail formation of various committees to ensure smooth implementation of the scheme.



*Any project or entity which saves on emissions can issue carbon credit against their savings. One credit is equivalent to one ton of carbon dioxide or the equivalent in other greenhouse gases. These carbon credits are usually generated by energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable agriculture projects. These credits can be bought by an entity which is a carbon emitter. A carbon credit allows its owner to emit that certain amount of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases.*

### PRANAM YOJANA TO PUSH NATURAL FARMING

The Union Cabinet approved the PM-PRANAM Yojana for the farmers on June 28.

Announcement for this scheme was made in 2023-24 Budget Speech for the promotion of alternative fertilisers and balanced use of chemical fertilisers.

The PRANAM Yojana stands for Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother earth (PRANAM). The scheme aims to incentivise states and UTs to promote.

*It expects to cover 1 crore farmers for adopting natural farming over the next 3 years. The scheme will not have a separate budget and will be financed by the "savings of existing fertiliser subsidy" under schemes run by the Department of Fertilisers.*

## NANDI PORTAL TO EASE PROCESS OF NOC



The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying launched on June 26 the Nandi Portal aimed at facilitating the process of granting No Objection Certificates (NOC) for veterinary drugs and vaccines. The portal has been developed by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) in collaboration with the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO),

*It is a significant step towards streamlining the regulatory approval process for veterinary drugs and vaccines. It will enhance transparency and efficiency in assessing and examining proposals for veterinary drugs and vaccines.*

## ECONOMY & INDUSTRY

### AUGUST

### OIL INDIA BECOMES 'MAHARATNA' COMPANY

The Finance Ministry approved the upgradation of the Oil India Ltd (OIL) from 'Navratna' category to the 'Maharatna'. The petroleum major of Assam has become India's 13<sup>th</sup> Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE). This will impart enhanced powers to the OIL Board while taking financial decisions.

*To become a Maharatna company, it should have an average annual net profit exceeding Rs.5000 crore during the last three years; should have annual turnover of more than Rs.25,000 crore and average net worth of more than 15,000 crore.*

*Oil India Private Limited was incorporated on February 18, 1959, to expand and develop the newly discovered oilfields of Naharkatia and Moran in Assam.*



### JULY

### IMF PROJECTS GDP GROWTH @ 6.1%

The latest World Economic Outlook report released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on July 25, raised India's GDP growth forecast to 6.1 percent in the current fiscal, up from the 5.9 percent projected in April this year. "The upward revision of 0.2 percentage points is reflective of the momentum from stronger-than-expected growth in the fourth quarter of 2022 as a result of stronger domestic investment", said the report.

### META TO TRAIN 10 MILLION INDIAN TRADERS

In an effort to empower small businesses across the country, social media giant Meta joined hands with the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) to digitally train and upskill 10 million local traders through the 'WhatsApp Se Wyapaar' program on the WhatsApp Business App.



CAIT has a network of 40,000 trade associations and 80 million traders across India. It will conduct a series of workshops for traders to train them in building their 'digital dukaan' on the WhatsApp Business App. The training will be available in 11 Indian languages across all 29 Indian states. It will make it easier for small businesses to connect with their customers efficiently.

### ADB PUTS INDIA'S GDP GROWTH AT 6.4%

In an update to its Asian Development Outlook released on July 19, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) retained India's economic growth forecast at 6.4 per cent for the current financial year, saying robust domestic demand will continue to support the region's recovery. The ADB further said that inflation is expected to continue to fall, approaching pre-pandemic levels as fuel and food prices are expected to decline.



## ONGC GETS ANTI BRIBERY CERTIFICATION



Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), a public sector Maharatna enterprise, has become the first Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) in India to get certified for its Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS) by an international accredited certification body, M/s InterCert, USA.

*The ABMS has been implemented as per ISO 37001:2016 International Standard after complete assessment and validation by InterCert. An international consultancy firm Digital Age, guided implementation of the first phase across 10 departments of ONGC's Corporate Office in Delhi.*

## BSE MARKET CAP BREACHES 300 TRN MARK

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms hit a lifetime peak of Rs 301.10 lakh crore (trillion) in morning trade on July 6, driven by a positive trend in domestic equities. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 185.37 points or 0.28 percent to 65,631.41 in the same session.

The market capitalisation of listed companies on the BSE had crossed Rs 200 lakh crore in February 2021. It took over six years to rise from its earlier peak level of Rs. 100 lakh crore.

Despite high valuations, Indian equities remained a favoured destination for investors as the country's robust macroeconomic fundamentals and strong corporate earnings supported the investor sentiment.



## MARUTI ENTERS PREMIUM MPV SEGMENT

Country's largest automaker, Maruti Suzuki India, for the first time made its entry into the premium MPV (Multi-Purpose Vehicle) segment on July 5. The new car, named 'Invicto', has a starting price of Rs 24.8 lakh. It comes powered by a 2-litre petrol engine mated with strong hybrid technology and delivers a mileage of 23.24 km per litre. Maruti will source this strong hybrid model from the Toyota company.

## SEBI CUTS LISTING TIME TO 3 DAYS

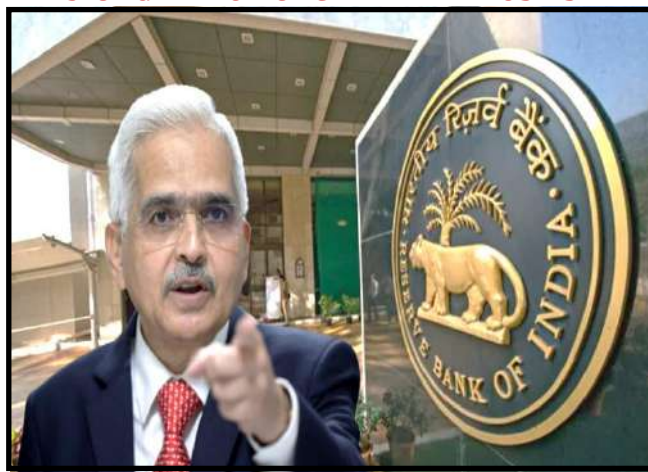
Markets regulator SEBI approved reducing the time period for the listing of shares in a public issue from the existing 6 days to 3 days from the date of closure (T Day) of issue.

The revised timeline of T 3 days shall be made applicable in two phases i.e. voluntary for all public issues opening on or after September 01, 2023, and mandatory for issues opening on or after Dec. 01, 2023.

# BANKING & FINANCE

AUGUST

## RBI's 'UDGAM' FOR UNCLAIMED DEPOSITS



The Reserve Bank of India launched a centralised web portal UDGAM (Unclaimed Deposits - Gateway to Access inforMation) on August 17 to help people search and claim unclaimed deposits, across the banking sector.

It will facilitate and make it easier for the public to search their unclaimed deposits across multiple banks, at one place.

To begin with, customers would be able to access the details of their unclaimed deposits in respect of seven banks presently available on the portal. The search facility for remaining banks would be made available in a phased manner by October 15, 2023.

*As of February 2023, about Rs 35,000 crore unclaimed deposits were transferred to the RBI by public sector banks. Unclaimed deposits are those which have not operated for 10 years or more.*

## RBI RETAINS REPO RATE AT 6.5%



The RBI Monetary Policy Committee in its review meeting ended on August 10 kept the key policy repo rate unchanged at 6.5%. Consequently, there was no change in the Standing Deposit Facility rate (6.25%) and Marginal Standing Facility Rate (6.75%) and Bank Rate (6.75%).

RBI pegged inflation for FY24 at 5.4% and Indian GDP's growth rate was projected at 6.5% in FY24.

## BoB UAE COMPLETES 50 YEARS IN UAE

In a momentous celebration, Bank of Baroda UAE, the sole licensed Indian bank in the UAE offering comprehensive banking services, commemorated its golden jubilee in UAE on August 22, marking its 50<sup>th</sup> year of glorious presence in the UAE.

Bank of Baroda UAE has five branches, 40 ATMs, 9 Electronic Banking Service Units in UAE.

## INDIA'S FIRST 24x7 VIDEO BANKING SERVICE

AU Small Finance Bank, India's largest SFB launched 24x7 video banking service on August 7. The bank claims to be the pioneer in India to introduce video assisted branch-like experience, delivering a seamless banking experience at customers' fingertips, regardless of time or location (seven days a week).

This service provides a virtual platform where customers can communicate with a video banker in real-time via video calls, like video conferencing.



JULY

## NONGHYUP BECOMES A SCHEDULED BANK

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a notification on July 18 that the Korean "NongHyup Bank" has been included in the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934. This is a big recognition for the foreign bank based in Jung-gu, Seoul, South Korea. The bank has been active in India since 2016.

Getting listed in the second schedule, the bank gains access to various facilities provided by the RBI, including liquidity support (Repo facilities), clearing services, and access to government securities auctions. It will boost the bank's contribution in agricultural finance and rural development.

*With its roots deeply embedded in the agricultural sector, the bank has been serving the financial needs of farmers and the rural community in South Korea.*

## PNB LAUNCHES FIRST OF ITS KIND METAVERSE



The Punjab National Bank launched on July 6 a virtual branch, PNB Metaverse. It will deliver a unique experience of banking to existing and new customers who can now explore the bank's products and services such as bank deposits, retail and MSME loans, digital products in virtual mode.

The customers will get exclusive access to its virtual environment from the comfort of their home or office through their mobile phones and laptops. The bank will offer an immersive 3D experience to customers while they perform traditional banking activities through their digital avatars.

## RBI'S CIMS TO UPGRADE DATA MANAGEMENT

With a view to upgrade its information management framework for handling the massive data flow, aggregation, analysis, public dissemination and data governance needs, RBI launched its Centralised Information Management System (CIMS) on June 30.

The CIMS uses state-of-the-art technology to manage big data and will serve as a platform for power users to carry out data mining, text mining, visual analytics and advanced statistical analysis connecting data from multiple domains, such as, financial, external, fiscal, corporate and real sectors as well as prices.

Very soon, it would lead to a paradigm shift in the Reserve Bank's economic analysis as well as supervision, monitoring and enforcement across multiple domains.



## BANKS TO OPEN MAHILA SAMMAN ACCOUNTS



A Government notification on June 28 has permitted all Public Sector Banks and eligible Private Sector Banks (in addition to post offices) to implement and operationalise the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate Scheme, 2023. The scheme already has deposits of about Rs 6,000 crore in April-May 2023 period from 1.03 million accounts in post offices.

*Under this scheme, an account can be opened till March 31, 2025 for a tenure of two years. A minimum of one thousand rupees and any sum in multiple of 100 can be deposited within the maximum limit of two lakh rupees. The deposits will bear interest at the rate of 7.5 per cent per annum, compounded quarterly.*

## DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### AUGUST

#### COMMITTEE FORMED TO TRANSFORM DRDO

The Ministry of Defence has formed a nine-member committee to undertake a comprehensive revamp of the DRDO. It will be headed by K. Vijay Raghavan, former Principal Scientific Advisor to the government.

The committee will propose a revamped structure for the DRDO that aligns with contemporary defence research needs along with organisation's priorities, resource allocation, and operational processes.



## ARMY INDUCTS SWATHI MOUNTAINS RADAR

The Indian Army has inducted a lighter and compact version of indigenously developed Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) called Swathi Mountains.

Developed by Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru, it is an advanced, electronically scanned phased array radar, specifically designed for operations in mountainous and high-altitude areas.

## INDIGENOUS REVOLVER 'PRABAL' LAUNCHED

India's first long range revolver, 'Prabal', manufactured by state-owned company Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWEIL), Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh was launched on August 18.

This lightweight 32 bore revolver can meet its target up to 50 metres, more than double the range of the other revolvers being manufactured. It is only 700 grams (without cartridges) in weight and its barrel length is 76 mm, while its overall length is 177.6 mm.

## IAF INDUCTS HERON MARK 2 DRONES



Taking another step in capacity boosting, the Indian Air Force inducted Heron Mark 2 drones at a forward air base in the northern sector. These drones have been procured from Israel.

The Heron Mark-2 is a medium-altitude long-endurance drone, with a maximum range of 3,000 kilometres and an endurance of 24 hours. It is equipped with a variety of sensors, including a synthetic aperture radar (SAR), an electro-optical/infrared (EO/IR) camera, and a laser designator.

These drones are equipped with satellite communication links and are the most advanced drones in the Indian armed forces. These have strike capability and can carry out surveillance along the borders with both China and Pakistan in a single sortie itself.

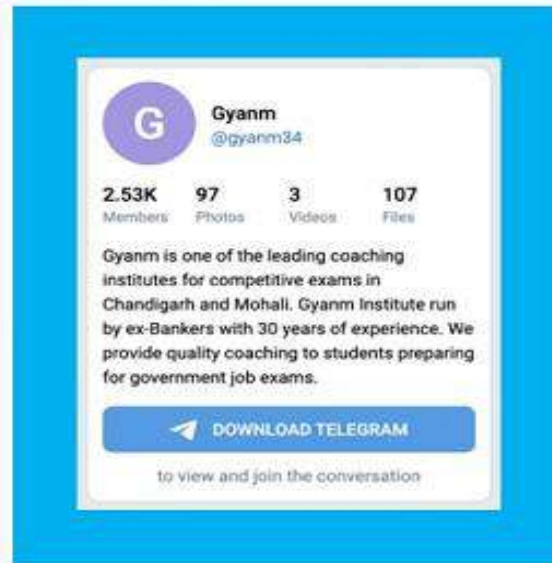
**Warship 'Vindhyagiri':** The advanced stealth frigate, sixth ship of the Project 17A Frigates was launched on August 17 at Kidderpore in Kolkata on the banks of Hooghly River.

It has been built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd. The state-of-the-art ship will be fitted with the latest gadgets and undergo extensive trials before being handed over to the Indian Navy for commissioning into service.



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## INDIA GETS SPIKE MISSILES FROM ISRAEL



The Indian Air Force (IAF) received the Spike Non-Line of Sight (NLOS) anti-tank guided missiles from Israel to strengthen its capabilities to destroy enemy targets hidden behind mountains.

It is an anti-tank guided missile developed and designed by the Israeli company Rafael Advanced Defense Systems. It is a fire-and-forget missile with lock-on before launch and automatic self-guidance and can hit targets up to 30 km.

It is particularly effective against enemy targets and assets hidden behind mountains or hills. It is available in man-portable, vehicle-launched, and helicopter-launched variants.

## 'NEERAKSHI'- INDIA'S FIRST AUV LAUNCHED

An autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) designed to detect mines and a first of its kind in the country was launched on July 28 in Kolkata.

The AUV named 'Neerakshi' is a 2.1-metre-long cylindrical unmanned vehicle, about a foot in diameter and weighing around 45 kg.

It has been developed by Kolkata-based warship maker Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd. It can be used for a variety of functions ranging from mine detection to mine disposal to underwater survey.

**SEACAT 2023:** INS Kulish of the Indian Navy participated in the 22nd edition of Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) Exercise on August 14 in Singapore. Marine forces from 20 Indo-Pacific partner nations, including the U.S. Navy took part in the exercise.



**Exercise Zayed Talwar:** Indian Navy held this bilateral Naval Maritime Partnership Exercise with the Navy of UAE, near Dubai in the Persian Gulf on August 11. Two warships, INS Visakhapatnam and INS Trikanth took part in this exercise.

**Exercise Malabar 2023:** The 11 day multilateral naval exercise started on August 11 off the Sydney coast in Australia. Indian Navy's warships INS Sahyadri and INS Kolkata participated in the event. Ships and aircrafts from the US Navy, Japan Maritime Self Defence Force and the Royal Australian Navy also participated in the exercise.

## MATSYA-6000 TO EXPLORE DEEP OCEANS

The Union Minister of Earth Sciences, Kiren Rijiju announced in the Rajya Sabha on August 10 that the country has developed a manned scientific submersible named MATSYA-6000. It can carry three humans for a period of 12 hours up to a depth of 6,000 meters in the ocean for deep sea mining and exploration.



It will enable scientific personnel to observe and understand unexplored deep-sea areas through direct intervention. It has been developed under the Samudrayaan project by the National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai.

## ISRO LAUNCHES 7 SINGAPORE SATELLITES

ISRO successfully launched Singapore's DS-SAR satellite and six co-passenger payloads onboard its PSLV-C56 rocket on July 30 from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

DS-SAR (SAR-Synthetic Aperture Radar) is a Radar Imaging Earth Observation satellite. In addition to this, there were six co-passenger customer satellites also, all belonging to Singapore. All the satellites were placed into a 535 km high circular orbit.

**JULY**

**Nomadic Elephant:** An Indian Army contingent participated in the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of bilateral joint military exercise hosted by Mongolia at Ulaanbaatar from 17 to 31 July.

**JIMEX 23:** The bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) was hosted by the Indian Navy from 5 to 10 July in Bay of Bengal, near Visakhapatnam.



**SALVEX-23:** The navies of India and the US carried out a 11-day military exercise from June 26 to July 6 in Arabian Sea near Kochi, Kerala. It focused on boosting interoperability and operational coordination in the Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD).

**Indo-French MPX:** Indian and French Naval warships undertook a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) on June 30 near Visakhapatnam in the Bay of Bengal.

**Exercise Ranvijay:** The Central Air Command of the Indian Air Force conducted this field operation exercise in its area of responsibility and in the UB Hills area in Dharwad, Karnataka, from June 16-23. The Air Force tested its full spectrum of operations by all its combat assets in a day and night mode.

### CHINA LAUNCHED ITS OWN OS

China launched the country's first open-source desktop operating system (OS) named OpenKylin 1.0, marking a breakthrough in building an independent operating system (OS) software. It is an open-source desktop programme created by a consortium of Chinese enterprises led by China Electronic Corp.

The move, part of the nation's broader efforts to stand on its own feet on technology and science, aims to minimise the country's dependence on foreign technologies in the sector.



### ISRO LAUNCHES CHANDRAYAAN 3

The Indian Space Research Organisation successfully launched the LVM3 (Launch Vehicle Mark 3) M4 rocket carrying Chandrayaan 3 on July 14 from Sriharikota. The 642-ton heavy, 43.5-meter-high rocket is fondly called 'Bahubali' or 'Fatboy'. The Propulsion Module is expected to reach within 100 km orbit of the Moon around August 22.

*The mission will be completed on August 23 when the Lander Module named Vikram is ejected from the Propulsion Module for slow descent on to the Moon's surface. Once the lander reaches the lunar surface and parks there with the help of its four mechanical legs, the rover named 'Pragyan' will roll out from inside it through a ramp and explore the Moon's surface.*

*Till now only the US, former Soviet Union and China have been able to achieve soft-landing on the moon.*

### ESA LAUNCHES EUCLID SPACECRAFT



The European Space Agency (ESA) launched its spacecraft Euclid on July 1 onboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral in the USA. World's most advanced space telescope, it was placed at the Earth-sun L-2 Lagrange point. The two-ton heavy Euclid spacecraft will spend a month travelling to the L-2 point, 1.5 million kilometres away from the Earth.

*Euclid will make observations with unprecedented precision, of millions of galaxies and scientists will use this data to test the validity of various models for dark matter and dark energy, which together comprise 95% of the universe.*

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### AUGUST

#### BRICS ADMITS SIX NEW MEMBERS

The 15th BRICS Annual Summit was held in Johannesburg, the largest metropolitan of South Africa, from August 22 to 24, under the chairmanship of President of South Africa, Cyril Ramaphosa.

The Group decided to admit six countries as the new members including Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and UAE. The membership will come into effect on the 1st of January 2024.

The expansion of the group is part of its plan to build dominance and reshape global governance into a "multipolar" world order that puts voices of the Global South at the centre of the world agenda.



## BHUTAN BECOMES A CARBON SINK



A recent report from the World Economic Forum revealed that eight countries including Bhutan have attained an impressive feat of net zero emissions. Bhutan has not only curbed its carbon footprints, but has also transformed itself into a carbon sink, absorbing more carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) than what it releases.

Bhutan's unique success as the first nation to achieve net zero emissions is rooted in its population of 8 lakh and its remarkable forest coverage of 70%.

*The nation prioritises sustainable organic farming and forestry practices, accentuated by the reliance on hydropower and the prudent management of its main economic driver, tourism.*

## THIS JULY WAS HOTTEST SINCE 1880

According to scientists at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) in New York, July 2023 was hotter than any other month in the global temperature record since 1880. Overall, July 2023 was 0.24 degrees Celsius warmer than any other July in NASA's record, and it was 1.18 degrees Celsius warmer than the average July temperature between 1951 and 1980.

High sea surface temperatures contributed to July's record warmth. NASA's analysis shows that especially warm ocean temperatures in the eastern tropical Pacific, led to the development of El Nino that started around May 2023.

The record-breaking July continues a long-term trend of human-driven warming driven primarily by greenhouse gas emissions that has become evident over the past four decades.



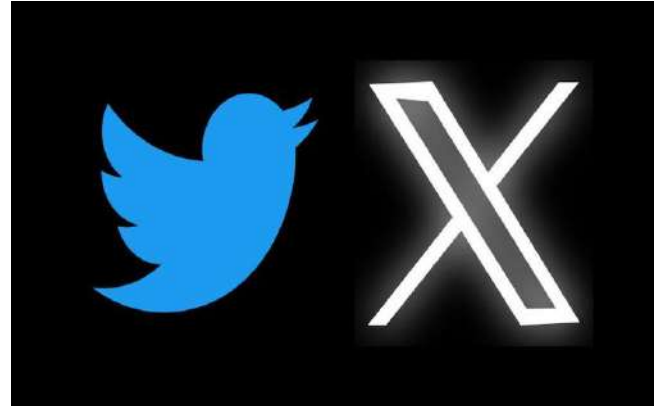
## OCEAN TEMPERATURES RECORD A NEW HIGH

According to the European Union's climate change service, Copernicus, the average daily global sea surface temperature reached 20.96C, in the first week of August, beating a 2016 record. That is far above the average for this time of year. The oceans have hit their hottest ever recorded temperature as they soak up warmth from climate change.

*Oceans are a vital climate regulator. They soak up heat, produce half of Earth's Oxygen and drive weather patterns. Warmer temperatures can negatively affect these abilities.*

**JULY**

## TWITTER KILLS THE BLUE BIRD WITH 'X'



Social Media platform Twitter has launched its new logo on July 24, dropping the blue bird on its website for an X as part of a wider rebranding. The social media network's site now shows the company's new logo, a white X on a black background. "Tweets" will also be replaced and the same will now be called "X's".

*Mr Musk, owner of Twitter, plans to create a "super app" called X – his vision for a new kind of social media platform that he has been talking about creating for months. The original Twitter logo was designed in 2012 by a team of three persons.*

## SINGAPORE – MOST POWERFUL PASSPORT

According to the latest Henley Passport Index released on July 18, Singapore's passport now is the world's most powerful passport, enabling visa-free entry to 192 of 227 worldwide travel destinations. Three European countries, namely Germany, Italy, and Spain, have moved up one rank to share the second position, with visa-free access to 190 destinations.

Japan has slipped from the earlier top position to the third position. India has advanced significantly in the Index, moving up 5 ranks from the previous year, to 80<sup>th</sup> spot, allowing visa-free access to 57 countries. At the last rung is Afghanistan, having visa free access to only 27 countries.

*Henley & Partners is an investment migration consultancy based in London. It is one of the most reliable passport rankings based on data sourced from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).*

## WHO LISTS ASPARTAME AS 'CARCINOGENIC'



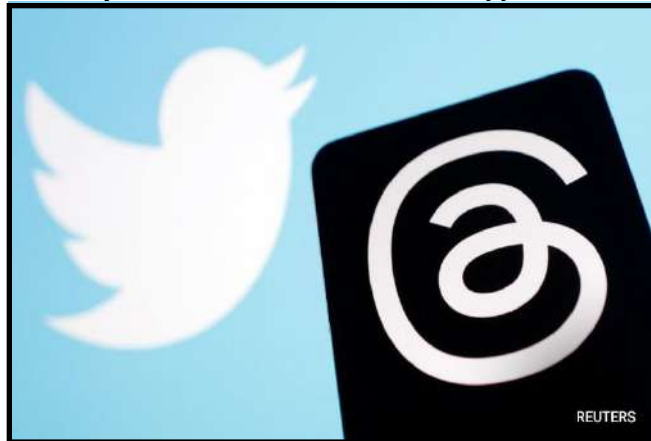
The World Health Organization's cancer agency has deemed the artificial sweetener Aspartame — found in diet soda and countless other foods — as a “possible” cause of cancer (carcinogenic). “We’re not advising consumers to stop consuming (aspartame) altogether,” said WHO’s nutrition director Dr. Francesco Branca. “We’re just advising a bit of moderation.”

*Aspartame is a low-calorie artificial sweetener that is about 200 times sweeter than sugar. It is a white, odourless powder and the world’s most widely used artificial sweetener. Some popular Aspartame based tabletop sweeteners sold in the market include Equal, Sugar Twin, and NutraSweet.*

## META LAUNCHES TWITTER RIVAL – ‘THREADS’

To ward off the competition from Twitter, rival company Meta, known for Facebook and Instagram, launched on June 6 its new microblogging platform Threads. The platform is very similar to Twitter, allowing users to post text, images, or videos, as well as like, share, or repost content. Within a day of its launch, over 50 million subscribers joined Threads.

Accounts of Threads are synched to Instagram at the outset, allowing users to keep their usernames and retain followers. Posts can be up to 500 characters long. Currently, Threads is a free to download app.



## NEW ZEALAND BANS PLASTIC BAGS

Taking a path breaking step towards reducing plastic waste, New Zealand has become the first country in the world to enforce a complete ban on thin plastic bags, commonly used in supermarkets for fruit and vegetable purchases.

Starting from July 01, a ban has also been extended on the circulation and use of single-use plastic drinking straws, single-use plastic tableware and cutlery, as well as plastic produce labels.

## JULY 4 – HOTTEST DAY RECORDED GLOBALLY

According to data released by the U.S. National Centers for Environmental Prediction, July 4<sup>th</sup> was the hottest day ever recorded globally. The average global temperature on July 4 reached 17.18 degrees Celsius. This new record temperature surpassed the August 2016 record of 16.92 degrees Celsius, as heat waves sizzled around the world.

This record rise in temperature was the result of climate change, caused by burning of fossil fuels and other human activities, combined with the emerging El Nino weather pattern. The El Niño is a climate pattern that describes the unusual warming of surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

## PERSONS IN NEWS

AUGUST



**Rajiv Gauba:** Union Cabinet Secretary, a 1982-batch IAS officer of the Jharkhand cadre, has been officially granted a one-year extension by the Central government, making him the longest-serving cabinet secretary in India’s history.

He assumed the position of Cabinet Secretary on 30-08-19. The latest extension will allow him to stay in the office during the general elections due early next year.

JULY

**Admiral Lisa Franchetti:** She has become first woman in history to serve as the Chief of Naval Operations and member of Joint Chiefs of Staff in the USA. Franchetti currently is the vice chief of naval operations, USA.



# APPOINTMENTS

AUGUST



**Sachin Tendulkar:** The Election Commission of India appointed the cricketing legend as a "national icon" of the poll panel on August 23 to encourage greater voter participation in the forthcoming elections. The move is aimed at countering the urban and youth apathy towards voting.

**Justice Prakash Shrivastava:** Appointed as the Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT).

**R. Doraiswamy:** Appointed as the Managing Director of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

**Sanjay Kumar Agarwal:** Senior IRS officer of 1988 batch took over as the Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

**Srettha Thavisin:** Elected as the Prime Minister of Thailand by the country's parliament.

JULY

**Tushar Mehta:** Senior advocate has been re-appointed as the Solicitor General of India for three more years. He has been serving this office since October 2018.

**Sat Pal Bhanoo:** Appointed as the new Managing Director of the LIC of India. LIC presently has four managing directors.



**Manoj Yadava:** Senior IPS officer from the Haryana cadre, was designated as the new Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF).

**Ms. S Phangnon Konyak:** In a historic move, the lone Nagaland MP in the Upper House, was nominated as one of the vice chairpersons of the Rajya Sabha.

**Rakesh Pal:** Appointed as the 25<sup>th</sup> Director General of the Indian Coast Guard on July 19.

**Debadatta Chand:** Assumed charge as MD & CEO of the Bank of Baroda.

**Kyriakos Mitsotakis:** Re-elected second time as the Prime Minister of Greece.

**Shavkat Mirziyoyev:** Leader of the Liberal Democratic Party was re-elected as the President of Uzbekistan.

# AWARDS & HONOURS

AUGUST

## 69<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards Announced

The winners of the 69<sup>th</sup> National Film Awards for the films released in the year 2021, were announced on August 24. The awards were announced by noted director, Ketan Mehta, Chairperson, Feature Films Jury.



<b>Best Feature Film:</b>	Rocketry: The Nambi Effect, by R Madhavan
<b>Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment:</b>	RRR by S. S. Rajamouli
<b>Nargis Dutt Award for Best Film on National Integration:</b>	The Kashmir Files by Vivek Agnihotri
<b>Best Hindi Film:</b>	Sardar Udham by Shoojit Sircar
<b>Best Director:</b>	Nikhil Mahajan for Godavari (Marathi)
<b>Best Actor:</b>	Allu Arjun for Pushpa: The Rise
<b>Best Actress:</b>	Alia Bhatt for Gangubai Kathiawadi and Kriti Sanon for Mimi

JULY

**Chevalier De L'orde Des Arts Et Des Lettres:** Carnatic vocalist Aruna Sairam and flautist Shashank Subramanyam from Tamil Nadu were conferred with this prestigious French title on July 15 at Chennai.

# BOOKS & AUTHORS

AUGUST

**Because He Is** by Meghna Gulzar  
**Western Lane** by Chetna Maroo  
**Monsoon: A Poem of Love and Longing** by Abhay Kumar, Deputy Director General of Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR).  
**None of This Is True** by Lisa Jewell  
**Good Bad Girl** by Alice Feeney  
**In the Likely Event** by Rebecca Yarros  
**Tom Lake** by Ann Patchett  
**The Heaven & Earth Grocery Story** by James McBride  
**After That Night** by Karin Slaughter  
**The Connellys of County Down** by Tracey Lange

JULY

**Through the Broken Glass:** Autobiography of T N Seshan, former CEC of India, known for introduction of voter cards in India.  
**The Perfumist of Paris** by Alka Joshi  
**Smoke and Ashes** by Amitav Ghosh  
**Nothing Special** by Nicole Flattery  
**Immortal Longings** by Chloe Gong  
**Silver Nitrate** by Silvia Moreno-Garcia  
**The Stolen Coast** by Dwyer Murphy  
**Crook Manifesto** by Colson Whitehead  
**Her Little Flowers** by Shannon Morgan  
**One of Us Is Back** by Karen M. McManus  
**Hello Stranger** by Katherine Center

# OBITUARY

AUGUST



**C Radhakrishnan Rao:** One of the world's most eminent statisticians, who spent nearly all of his professional career in India, died on August 23 at the ripe age of 103 years, in the USA. Dr. Rao pioneered several fundamental

statistical concepts such as the Cramer-Rao inequality and Rao-Blackwellization, concepts that appear in undergraduate textbooks on statistics and econometrics.

*He was awarded the Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan in 1969 and 2001, respectively. He was conferred the National Medal of Science in the USA.*



**Bindeshwar Pathak:** Founder of 'Sulabh International', a pioneer of public toilets in India, popularly known as the "Toilet Man of India", passed away on August 15 in New Delhi, due to cardiac arrest. He was 80.

He established the Sulabh International Social Service in 1970 and it became synonymous with public toilets. He campaigned extensively against manual scavenging. Now Sulabh is operating and maintaining more than 9,000 community public toilet complexes in 1,600 towns.

*A Padma Bhushan awardee, Pathak was also the recipient of the Energy Globe Award, the Dubai International Award for Best Practices, the Stockholm Water Prize, the Legend of Planet award from the French senate in Paris, among others.*

JULY

**Oommen Chandy:** Veteran Congress leader and former Chief Minister of Kerala, breathed his last on July 18 in a Bengaluru clinic. He was 80 years old. He was elected MLA of Puthuppally 12 times from 1970 to 2021.

# PLACES IN NEWS

AUGUST

**Dholpur-Karauli Tiger**

**Reserve:** The National Tiger Conservation Authority accorded its approval for the 54th tiger reserve in the country. Located in the Dholpur-Karauli districts of Rajasthan, it is the fifth Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan. India is home to approximately 75 percent of the world's tiger population.



**Tulip Garden, Srinagar:** The Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden in Srinagar entered its name in the annals of the World Book of Records as Asia's largest and most spectacular garden of its kind.

Spread over 74 acres in the foothills of Zabarwan Mountains, it has an enchanting variety of 1.5 million blooming Tulip flowers in 68 varieties.

**Mayem Village, Goa:** This village in Goa became the first Indian village to compile its own "Biodiversity Atlas". This unprecedented atlas of 250 pages offers a comprehensive socio-cultural history that goes back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, making it a remarkable repository of historical and ecological knowledge.



**Bengaluru:** London based World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF) has recently made Bengaluru 41st member of its global network of cities, for its commitment to an “inclusive and globalised culture”.



The forum primarily focuses on incorporating culture in rapidly growing urban centres.

*WCCF principally works on the premise that culture is an essential ingredient in the success of cities, to bring together communities and help to drive economies.*

**British Columbia:** The western Canadian province declared a state of emergency on August 18 after an out-of-control fire in southern British Columbia almost doubled in 24 hours. More than 2,400 properties were forced to be evacuated.

The fire was centred around Kelowna, a city with a population of about 150,000. The province accounted for over a third of Canada's 1,062 active fires.

**Northwest Territories, Canada:** The government of Northwest Territories province of Canada declared a state of emergency on August 15 due to devastating wildfires. More than 130,000 square kilometres of land were scorched and nearly 168,000 people were forced to evacuate. City of Yellowknife turned into a virtual ghost town due to forced evacuations.

*Since a vast area of the province is remote, untouched wilderness, it's very difficult to manage wildfires in those areas as there is no road access or any other infrastructure needed to support firefighting activity.*

**Maui Island:** The island in the Hawaii state of USA was in the news as the catastrophic wildfires there claimed at least 115 lives in the second week of August. Strong winds and dry weather helped fuel destructive wildfires on Hawaii's second-largest island. More than 1,700 buildings were destroyed in the fire.

**Typhoon Doksuri:** China's capital, Beijing, experienced a historic deluge, recording extremely heavy rainfall of over 75 cm in just five days, from July 29 to Aug 02.

This torrential downpour, the highest in 140 years, was triggered by the remnants of Typhoon Doksuri. It caused extensive damage to infrastructure, posing a serious challenge to rescue operations.

### Byculla Railway Station

The Byculla railway station of the Central Railway in Mumbai received UNESCO's Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award, plaque and certificate on July 24 for its outstanding efforts in restoration of bygone heritage architecture. The 169-year-old railway station is one of the oldest living railway stations in India. The award was announced in November, 2022.

### India's Biggest Natural Arch

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has declared India's biggest “Natural Arch” in Odisha as a Geo Heritage Site. The Natural Arch was found in the dense Chhengapahar reserve forest near Brahmani village in the Kanika range of Sundargarh district.

Scientists say that the natural arch dates back to about 184 to 160 million years in the lower to middle Jurassic age. Surrounded by cliffs and steep sloped hills from almost all sides, the arch is difficult to approach. Geometrically, the arch is oval shaped and has a width of 30 metre at the base and height of 12 metre.

**Mexico:** At least 100 people lost their lives in the second half of June in Mexico due to heat stroke related causes as temperatures climbed close to 50 degrees Celsius in parts of the country. Around 64 percent of the deaths occurred in the northern state of Nuevo Leon bordering Texas.

## SPORTS WORLD

AUGUST

**Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra** scripted history once again on August 27 as he became the first Indian to win a gold medal in the World Athletics Championships with a big throw of 88.17m in the men's javelin final in Budapest, Hungary.



**Anahat Singh**, 15-year-old girl from Delhi, clinched the gold medal in the U-17 category of the Asian Junior Squash Individual Championships, held in Dalian, China from August 16-20.

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**Shooters Esha Singh and Shiva Narwal** clinched the 10m air pistol mixed team gold on 18<sup>th</sup> August by defeating Turkey in the final of the ISSF World Championship at Baku, Azerbaijan.



**Priya Malik** made history in women's wrestling by emerging as world champion in the 76 kg category in the 2023 U20 World Championships on August 17 at Amman city, Jordan. The 18-year-old from Jind district of Haryana defeated Laura Celine Kuehn of Germany 6-0 on points.

Earlier, **Mohit Kumar** too, won the gold in men's 61 Kg freestyle category. **Antim Panghal** created history on August 18 by becoming the first Indian woman wrestler to win back-to-back U20 world titles as she defended her 53 kg crown. **Savita** also won gold in the 62 kg category.

**Indian women's team** of V. Jyothi Surekha, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur created history by clinching their first ever gold medal in the World Archery Championships on August 4 in Berlin, Germany by beating the top-ranked Mexico team in compound women's team final. Later, on Aug 5, **Aditi Swami** became the first Indian to become the senior world champion in the compound women's final by beating Andrea Becerra of Mexico.

**Ojas Pravin Deotale** became the first-ever male Archery World Champion from India as he too won the gold in the individual compound event.

**Aditya Samant, 17-year-old boy** from Pune, Maharashtra, achieved the title of India's 83rd Grandmaster by obtaining his third GM norm on July 26 and crossing the 2500 Elo rating points at the Master Tournament in Biel International Chess Festival in Switzerland.

**Asmita Dey (48kg)**, Unnati Sharma (63kg) and Arun Kumar (73kg) won the individual gold medals on July 23 in their respective categories at the Junior Asia Cup Judo Championship in Macau, China.

**Hero Asian Hockey Championship (Men):** Indian team led by captain Harmanpreet Singh, defeated Malaysia 4-3 in a high-octane final played at Chennai on August 12 to lift the Trophy for the fourth time.

**Deodhar Trophy:** South Zone lifted the trophy on August 3 by defeating East zone at the Siechem Ground, Puducherry. This tournament is played in the 50 overs format.

**World Cadet Wrestling Championships 2023:** Indian wrestlers concluded their campaign with a total of 11 medals, including one gold, at Istanbul, Turkey. The event meant for wrestlers below 17 years, was held from July 31 to 6th August.

#### **D. Gukesh becomes highest rated Grandmaster**

D. Gukesh, the 17-year-old Grandmaster dethroned Viswanathan Anand as India's top-ranked chess player in the live world rankings.

Gukesh achieved this feat by defeating Mistradin Iskandarov in the second round of the FIDE World Cup, reaching a live rating of 2755.9 and climbing to the 9<sup>th</sup> position in the world classic open category.

In contrast, Anand's rating of 2754.0 caused him to drop to the 10<sup>th</sup> spot. Magnus Carlsen, Norway, with a rating of 2838, is the world's highest rated Grandmaster.

### **INTERNATIONAL**

**FIDE Chess World Cup 2023:** Magnus Carlsen of Norway beat India's R. Praggnanandhaa in tie-breaks to become the world champion on August 24 at Baku in Azerbaijan.

While Carlsen got Gold, Praggnanandhaa bagged silver. Pragg, who turned 18 during the World Cup, is the youngest World Cup finalist ever.

**9<sup>th</sup> FIFA Women's World Cup:** Spain made history by defeating England 1-0 to lift the title for the first time, in Sydney on 20th August. The tournament was hosted jointly by Australia and New Zealand.

- ✓ Aitana Bonmati of Spain won the Golden Ball for the "Best Player".
- ✓ Hinata Miyazawa of Japan clinched the Golden Boot for being the highest (5) goal scorer.
- ✓ Mary A Earps of England won the Golden Glove for being the Best Goalkeeper.



**BWF Japan Open 2023, Tokyo:** World no. one, Viktor Axelsen of Denmark, won the men's singles title on July 30 while An Se Young of the Republic of Korea claimed the women's singles title.

## JULY

**Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** and Chirag Shetty won the Korea Open Badminton men's doubles title on July 23 by defeating world no one doubles pair of Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto of Indonesia at Yeosu, port city in S Korea. This was Satwik and Chirag's seventh title on the BWF World Tour.



**R Praggnanandhaa**, 17-year-old Indian GM won the V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM chess tournament 2023 on July 19 in Budapest, Hungary.

**Sumit Antil** scripted a world record in F64 javelin throw with a best attempt of 70.83m on July 13 at the World Para-Athletics Championship in Paris. Ajeet Singh clinched the gold in F46 javelin throw category.

**Rudransh Khandelwal**, 19-year-old para-shooter won the gold and created a new world record on July 10 in the P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 category at the ISSF World Shooting Cup in Osijek (Croatia).

**Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen** clinched the Men's Singles title of the Canada Open 2023 badminton tournament defeating Li Shi Feng of China on July 09 in Calgary, Canada.



**Parth Salunkhe**, 19-year-old archer from Satara, Maharashtra, became the first Indian male archer to win a gold in the recurve category on July 9 at the Youth World Championships at Limerick, Ireland. The Indian team finished second in the medal tally with 6 gold, one silver and four bronze.

**Neeraj Chopra** clinched the Lausanne Diamond League 2023 title on June 30 in Switzerland with the best throw of 87.66 meters.

**India's Dipika Pallikal** and Harinder Pal Sandhu won the gold medal on June 30 at the Asian Mixed Doubles Squash Tournament in Hangzhou, China.

**Diksha Dagar**, 22-year-old hearing impaired pro golfer from Haryana won her second Ladies European Tour at the Czech Ladies Open on June 25 at Beroun in Czech Republic.

**India finished 2<sup>nd</sup>** on the medals tally at the ISSF Junior Shooting World Championships that concluded on July 25 in Changwon, South Korea. Indian shooters bagged 17 medals, which include 6 Gold, 6 Silver, and 5 Bronze.

**Duleep Trophy:** South Zone defeated the West Zone by 75 runs to lift the trophy on July 16 in Bengaluru. The trophy is named after Kumar Shri Duleepsinhji of Nawanagar, Gujarat (also known as 'Duleep'), famous cricketer who played for England.



**The Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships** concluded on July 16 at the Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida. India ended the campaign with a rich haul of 20 medals which included 9 gold, 9 silver and 2 bronze medals.

**SAFF Football Championship:** India lifted the trophy for the ninth time, beating Kuwait 5-4 in the penalty shoot-out in the final played on July 4 in Sree Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru. SAFF stands for South Asian Football Federation.

**Asian Kabaddi Championship:** Indian team led by Pawan Sehrawat defeated Iran 42-32 in the final played on June 30 in Busan, S. Korea.



**AIFF Footballer of the Year 2022-23:** Lallianzuala Chhangte from Mizoram won the men's title while Manisha Kalyan from Punjab won the women's title. AIFF, All India Football Federation is the national governing body of football in India.



**Special Olympics World Games 2023:** India ended its campaign in Berlin, Germany on June 25 by winning 202 medals (76 gold, 75 silver and 51 bronze). No final medal tally was released as the games are non-competitive in nature.

*The Special Olympics World Games is an event held to promote the recognition and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities. It is held every two years.*

**Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** secured a Guinness world record for the fastest shot by a male player in badminton, achieving a speed of 565 kmph with his smash played on April 14 this year in a controlled environment at the Yonex factory gymnasium at Soka, Saitama in Japan.

**Ajit Agarkar**, the former Indian fast bowler and a veteran cricketer was appointed as chairman of the Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee on July 4 by the BCCI.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Tour de France 2023:** The 110<sup>th</sup> edition of one of the toughest and prestigious most cycle races in the world was won by the defending champion Jonas Vingegaard of Denmark.

The 3,405 km long race across 8 mountain stages, started in Bilbao, Spain, on July 01 and ended with the final stage at Champs-Élysées, Paris, on July 23. The event has a total prize money of Euro 25 lakh of which the winner gets Euro 5 lakh.



## Wimbledon Tennis Tournament, London

World number one Carlos Alcaraz, 20, (Spain) ended Novak Djokovic's long reign at the Wimbledon by beating him to win his first Wimbledon trophy on July 16 in London. Earlier, unseeded Marketa Vondrousova from the Czech Republic defeated 6<sup>th</sup> seed Ons Jabeur (Tunisia) on July 15 to win Women's singles title.

**Asian Athletics Championships** concluded on July 16 in Bangkok, Thailand. India ended its campaign with 27 medals, including 6 gold, 12 silver and 9 bronze, securing third place in the medal tally. Japan topped the tally with 37 medals, followed by China.

**FIH Hockey Pro League 2022-23:** Netherlands won the men's championship by defeating Belgium on July 4 in the finals held in Antwerp, Belgium.

# DAYS & DATES

## SEPTEMBER

Date	IMPORTANT DAYS
<b>Sep 02</b>	World Coconut Day; International Vulture Awareness Day
<b>Sep 05</b>	Teachers' Day; International Day of Charity
<b>Sep 07</b>	International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies; Krishna Janmashtmi
<b>Sep 08</b>	International Literacy Day
<b>Sep 09</b>	Himalaya Day; World EV Day 2022; World First Aid Day
<b>Sep 10</b>	World Suicide Prevention Day
<b>Sep 11</b>	The National Forest Martyrs Day
<b>Sep 14</b>	Hindi Divas / Raj Bhasha Divas; Amavasya
<b>Sep 15</b>	Engineer's Day; International Day of Democracy
<b>Sep 16</b>	World Ozone Day
<b>Sep 17</b>	The World Patient Safety Day; The International Coastal Clean-up Day; Vishwakarma Puja
<b>Sep 18</b>	International Equal Pay Day; World Bamboo Day; Hartalika Teej
<b>Sep 19</b>	Ganesh Chaturthi
<b>Sep 21</b>	International Day of Peace; The World Alzheimer's Day
<b>Sep 22</b>	World Rose Day; World Rhino Day
<b>Sep 23</b>	International Day of Sign Languages; Shri Radha Ashtmi
<b>Sep 25</b>	World Pharmacist Day; Antyodaya Diwas; Happy Daughters' Day; World Rivers Day
<b>Sep 26</b>	World Environmental Health Day
<b>Sep 27</b>	World Tourism Day
<b>Sep 28</b>	World Rabies Day; World Maritime Day
<b>Sep 29</b>	World Heart Day; Purnima
<b>Sep 30</b>	International Translation Day

## August 01: World Wide Web Day



The day is marked to celebrate the browsing of a wide variety of information freely through the World Wide Web by people around the world. This system is used every moment by billions across the globe to interact with the global system of interconnected computer systems that is the Internet.

All the web browsers, search engines, and websites are connected to the World Wide Web and that's how we can find any information in the world via the Internet.

*The WWW was created by an English computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee in 1989, while he was working for the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland.*

## August 01: World Lung Cancer Day

This day is observed to raise awareness about the causes and treatment of lung cancer and highlight the issues of lack of sufficient research funding for the ailment. It aims to inform people about the leading causes of lung cancer, such as, smoking, air pollution and exposure to asbestos, arsenic, uranium, etc.

The day was first observed in 2012 by the Forum of International Respiratory Societies, the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (IASLC), and the American College of Chest Physicians.

This year, the theme for the Day is "Close the care gap", which aims at recognising the difficulties faced by cancer patients and providing them ease of care that they require.



## August 01: Muslim Women's Rights Day

Supported by the Union Ministry of Minority Affairs, it is observed across the country to celebrate the enactment of the law against Triple Talaq on this day in 2019.

The law declared the social malpractice of Triple Talaq a criminal offence. The legislation, which outlaws instant triple talaq, sets forth imprisonment up to three years for violations and also makes the violator liable to pay a fine as decided by the magistrate.

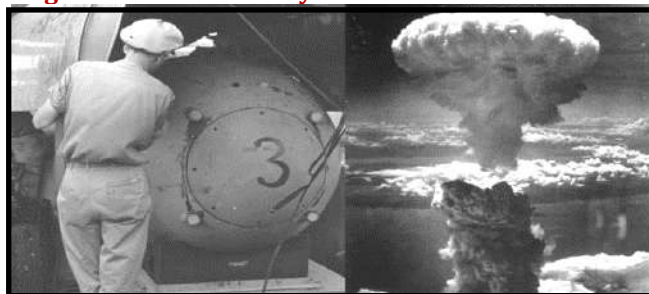
## August 4: National Bone & Joint Day

This country-wide health campaign was started by the Indian Orthopaedic Association (IOA) in 2021 to highlight the importance of strong bones and joints in people of all age groups.

It aims to educate people about the signs and symptoms of bone and joint issues, to facilitate early detection and timely intervention.

A diet comprising calcium-rich foods (dairy products, leafy greens) and vitamin D sources (sunlight, fatty fish) is good for supporting bone health.

## August 6: Hiroshima Day



The day highlights the horrific effects of nuclear wars and pays respect to those who got killed in those wars.

In 1945, the United States detonated two nuclear bombs, nicknamed "Little Boy" and "Fat Man" over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, respectively, killing lakhs of people instantly and paralysing several lakhs for times to come.

*Japan surrendered two weeks later, ending World War II, though at a terrible historic cost. These are the only two nuclear bombs that have ever been used till date.*

## August 7: National Handloom Day

Celebrated to honour the handloom weavers in the country and to highlight their outstanding skills and craftsmanship. Supported by the Union Textiles Ministry, the day aims to generate awareness about the handloom industry among the public and its contribution to socio-economic development.

On this day in 1905, the Swadeshi Movement was launched from Town Hall in Kolkata to promote indigenous craftsmen and to protest partition of Bengal announced by then Viceroy, Lord Curzon.

*On this occasion, artisans and weavers are honoured at the national level with 'Sant Kabir' awards for excellence in handicrafts and handloom products.*



### August 7: Javelin Throw Day



This day is celebrated with support from the Athletics Federation of India to commemorate one of the greatest moments in India's sporting history, earning India's first track and field gold medal in the Olympic Games, by Neeraj Chopra in javelin throw on this day in the Tokyo Olympics 2021.

### August 8: August Kranti Diwas

On this date in 1942, Mahatma Gandhi gave a clarion call of "Do or Die" at the Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee to end the British rule and launched the Quit India Movement against Britishers. It was a civil disobedience movement. The day is regarded as one of the most important milestones in the history of the freedom struggle of our country.

### August 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

Also called the World Tribal Day, it is observed every year with UN support to promote and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population and acknowledge their achievements and contributions.

This day recognizes the first meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations held in Geneva on this date in 1982.

*The theme for the year 2023 is "Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-determination". There are more than 476 million indigenous people spread across 90 countries, accounting for 6.2 percent of the global population.*



### August 10: National Deworming Day

This day is observed twice every year, on August 10 and on February 10. The event is organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare through the National Health Mission across the country.

*It aims to tackle worm infections, targeting more than 11 crore children in the age group of 1 to 19 years. The children are orally administered anti worm tablets Albendazole, free of cost.*

### August 10: World Lion Day

This day is observed to raise awareness about lions and to mobilise support for their protection and conservation. Lion is known as the "King of beasts" or "King of the jungle".

They are the second largest cats in the world after Tigers. In 2020, the population of Asiatic lions increased by almost 29% to 674 in Gujarat's Gir forests.

*Lions have been designated as a vulnerable species on the Red List of Threatened Species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).*

### August 10: World Biofuel Day



Observed every year to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels. Three major types of Biofuels are -- Ethanol, Biodiesel and Biogas.

On this day in 1893, Sir Rudolph Diesel, inventor of the diesel engine, for the first time successfully ran a mechanical engine with Peanut Oil, marking the beginning of biofuels.

In India, the Day has been supported by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas since 2015.

### August 12: World Elephant Day

The day focuses on bringing the world together to help elephants and also inform people and organisations about the threat that elephants face.

The day is dedicated to the preservation and protection of elephants. The African elephant is the largest land animal in the world, weighing up to 9,900 kg.

*Although elephants are loved all around the world, yet they are also on the verge of extinction due to their illegal poaching for their tusks (ivory).*

*Currently, Botswana has the largest number of elephants, over 1,30,000 and India has an elephant population of over 29,000. According to a report on Asian Elephant Population and Demography 2023, Karnataka has the largest (6,395) population of elephants.*

### August 12: International Youth Day



Observed across the world to recognize the role of young people in bringing about change and to raise awareness regarding the problems and challenges faced by them.

In 1999, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth that 12th August be declared International Youth Day.

The theme for this year is “Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World”.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports confers the National Youth Awards on this occasion on individuals aged between 15 to 29 years and organisations for excellent work and contribution in different fields of social service.

**Remember!!** India celebrates National Youth Day on January 12.

### August 13: World Organ Donation Day

This day strives to motivate people to donate their healthy and precious organs after death to save other lives.

*Organ donation refers to retrieving a donor's organs like heart, liver, kidneys, eyes, intestines, lungs, pancreas, etc. after his death and then transplanting these into another person who is in need of an organ.*

**Remember!!** India celebrates National Organ Donation Day on November 27.



### August 14: Partition Horrors Remembrance Day

The Government of India on August 15, 2021 declared August 14 to be observed as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day (विभाजन विभीषिका स्मृति दिवस), to remind the present and future generations of Indians of the pain and suffering faced by the people of India during the partition.

*Pakistan was carved out as a separate country after the Partition in 1947 on August 14-15. The partition caused one of the largest migrations in human history, affecting about 20 million people. Millions of families from both the countries had to abandon their ancestral villages /towns /cities and were forced to find a new life as refugees. Lakhs of them lost their lives in the communal violence that followed.*

### August 19: World Humanitarian Day



Observed across the world with UN support to pay tribute to workers who risk their lives in humanitarian services and to gather support for people affected by crises around the world.

This is a day to say 'thank you' to those humanitarian workers who gave their lives or were injured while providing life-saving support and protection to people in need.

*The celebrations are supported by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - OCHA, a part of the UN Secretariat. This year's theme for the Day “No Matter What,” encapsulates the steadfast dedication of humanitarians worldwide.*

### August 19: World Photography Day

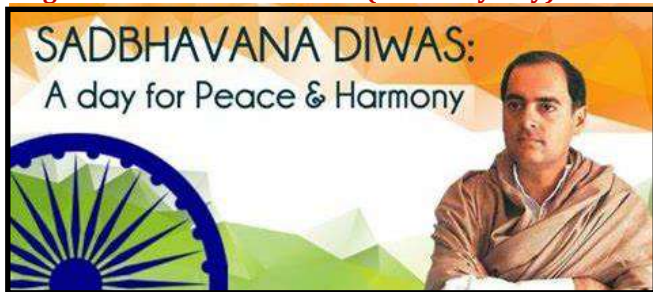
The day is dedicated to the art, craft, science and history of photography. It aims to inspire photographers across the planet to share their photos with a simple purpose of sharing their world with the world.

This day commemorates the invention of the daguerreotype, an early photographic process developed by Louis Daguerre in 1837, which paved the way for modern photography.

*A photograph has the power to capture a place or an area, an experience, an emotion, a flash in time. That is why it is said that “a picture is worth a thousand words”.*



### August 20: Sadbhavna Diwas (Harmony Day)



Observed across India to promote national integration and communal harmony among people of all religions and languages. It commemorates the birthday of Shri Rajiv Gandhi who served as Prime Minister of India from Oct 31, 84 to Dec 02, 89.

*Becoming the Prime Minister of India at the age of 40, he was the youngest incumbent of this office. He was a very ardent advocate of communal harmony, peace, and national integrity in India and was known as a goodwill ambassador to the world.*

### August 20: Akshay Urja Diwas

The day is devoted to raising awareness about the developments of renewable energy in India. It has been observed since 2004, supported by the Ministry for New & Renewable Energy.

Renewable energy is the energy that is generated from renewable resources, which are naturally replenished on a regular basis, such as water, sunlight, wind, tides, waves, and geothermal heat.

*Interestingly, India is the only country in the entire world to have a separate ministry for the development of renewable energy resources. Currently it is headed by Sh. Raj Kumar Singh.*

### August 20: World Mosquito Day

Observed annually to raise awareness about the causes of malaria and how it can be prevented. The day commemorates the discovery made by British doctor Sir Ronald Ross in 1897 that female mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans. He received the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1902.

*According to the National Health Portal of India, Aedes, Anopheles, and Culex mosquitoes act as vectors (living organisms that can transmit infectious diseases among humans or from animals to humans) and spread many diseases.*



### August 21: World Senior Citizens Day

Supported by the UNO, it is observed to raise awareness about the condition of older people and to support them throughout the ageing process.

It's a day to remember and celebrate the elderly persons and thank them for their contributions to enhance their inclusiveness in the society.

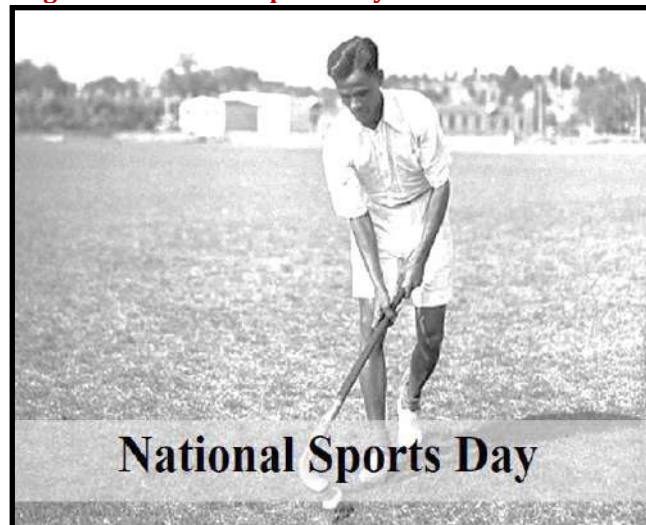
### August 26: Women's Equality Day

Observed every year to celebrate the passage of the 19th Amendment in the United States of America in 1878 that provided voting rights to women.

The Day celebrates the achievements of women's rights activists and reminds us of the unique daily struggles that women face across the globe.

**Remember!!** International Women's Day is celebrated on March 8.

### August 29: National Sports Day



The day is celebrated every year to mark the birthday of Major Dhyan Chand, wizard of Hockey. He won gold medals in Olympics for India successively in the years 1928, 1932 and 1936. On this day, the National Sports Awards are announced by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

*He is the only Hockey player to be honoured with Padma Bhushan (1956). In 2021, the highest national sports award, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, was renamed in his honour as the "Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award".*

### August 29: International Day against Nuclear Tests

Supported by the UNO, the Day raises public awareness and education about the ill effects of global nuclear weapon tests. The day aims to end nuclear testing and tends to promote peace and security.

The history of nuclear testing began on July 16, 1945, when an atomic bomb was tested by the USA at a desert test site in Alamogordo, New Mexico, USA.

### August 30: National Small Industry Day



The day is observed to encourage the rise and development of small-scale businesses for the economic development of the country.

Small industries focus on the manufacturing and production of the services provided by the small and micro-scale industries.

These businesses are the backbone of the Indian economy providing employment opportunities for millions of people and driving economic growth through innovation and entrepreneurship.

### August 30: International Whale Shark Day

It is observed to raise awareness about the value of whale sharks and the need for their conservation. The whale shark (Rhincodon typus) is the largest fish on Earth.

It can grow to a length of approximately 18 meters and weigh as much as 21 tonnes. (It may be noted that Blue Whale, the largest living animal, is NOT a fish. It is a mammal sea animal.)

They can live up to 150 years provided they survive to that age as more than 90% of all whale sharks are killed before they reach the 150-year mark. Found widely across tropical and warm temperate seas, they are distributed all along the Indian coast, particularly along the Gujarat coast.

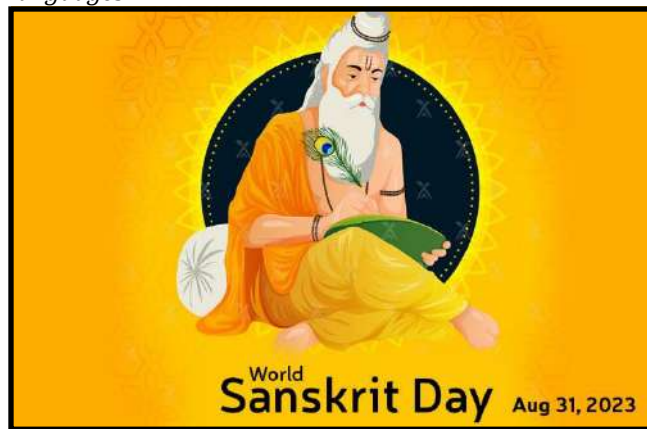


### August (31): World Sanskrit Day

This day is observed annually on the Poonima of the Shravana (Sawan) month, as per the Hindu calendar. Instructions to celebrate Sanskrit Day at the central and state level were issued on this day in the year 1969 by the Government of India.

*In ancient India, teaching sessions and Veda recitations used to start on this day. Sanskrit is one of the earliest written languages in the world.*

*It was used to compose the Vedas and other Hindu religious texts. Many Indian languages have their roots in Sanskrit. It is also one of the most computer friendly languages.*



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Accept your **past** without regret, handle your **present** with confidence, and face your **future** without fear.

— A.P.J. ABDUL KALAM —





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# Bullet News

(March 2023 – June 2023)

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## NATIONAL NEWS

### JUNE

- PM Modi made a five-day foreign visit of USA and Egypt from June 21 to 25. He led the celebrations of the International Day of Yoga at the UN Headquarters in New York.
  - ✓ *The event set a Guinness World Record for participation by the largest number of nationalities in a single yoga session.*
  - ✓ *On June 24 Prime Minister reached Cairo on his first visit to Egypt. On June 25 the Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi honoured Sh. Modi with Egypt's highest state honour, the Order of the Nile.*
- President Droupadi Murmu visited Suriname from June 4 to 6 on an official invitation from the President of the Republic of Suriname, Chandrikapersad Santokhi.
  - ✓ *She was conferred highest civilian award of Suriname - Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star.*
  - ✓ *Later, the President visited Serbia from 7 to 9 June, at the invitation of President Aleksandar Vučić.*
- Prime Minister of Nepal Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda arrived in New Delhi on May 31 on a four-day official visit to India.
  - ✓ *He inaugurated first Land Port of Uttar Pradesh at Rupaidiha on Nepal border in Bahraich district of UP.*
- Norodom Sihamoni, the King of Cambodia, arrived in New Delhi on May 29 on a three-day official visit to

India to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Cambodia.

- India's first mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine booster dose was launched on June 24 in New Delhi. Named GEMCOVAC-OM, it has been developed and manufactured by Pune based Gennova Biopharmaceuticals.
- The Science-20 conference under the G-20 Presidency of India was hosted by Bhopal on June 16-17 under the theme "Connecting Science to Society and Culture".
- A new WHO report presented to NITI Aayog has estimated that India's ongoing 'Har Ghar Jal' campaign has the potential to avert nearly four lakh diarrhoeal deaths, caused due to unclean drinking water.
- The National Dam Safety Authority under the Jal Shakti ministry, signed a MoU with the Malaviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur for designating it as the National Centre for Earthquake Safety of Dams, the first centre of its kind in the country.
- The Ministry of Education announced on June 5 the ranking of educational institutes by National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) for the year 2023.
  - ✓ Toppers among various categories were as under:
  - ✓ Best Overall Ranking - IIT Madras
  - ✓ Best Engineering Institute - IIT-Madras
  - ✓ Best University - IISc-Bangalore
  - ✓ Best Management Institute - IIM-Ahmedabad
  - ✓ Best Medical Institute - AIIMS-Delhi
  - ✓ Best College - Miranda House, Delhi



## MAY

- India's new Parliament building was dedicated to the nation on May 28 in a grand formal ceremony.
  - ✓ *The New Parliament Building has a total area of 64,500 sq mt with a seating capacity of 1272 seats, 888 for Lok Sabha and 384 for Rajya Sabha.*
  - ✓ *A grand Constitution Hall has been made in the centre for showcasing India's democratic heritage.*
  - ✓ *Bimal Patel is the chief architect and the construction was done by Tata Projects Limited.*
  - ✓ *A historical sceptre called "Sengol" has also been installed near the Lok Sabha Speaker's seat.*
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi left New Delhi on May 19 for a six-day tour of three nations, Japan, Papua New Guinea, and Australia.
  - ✓ *On May 20, he participated in the G7 Summit and in QUAD summit in Hiroshima, Japan. Next, he moved to Papua New Guinea where he was conferred their highest civilian award, the Grand Companion of the Order of Logohu.*
  - ✓ *He was also honoured with Fiji's highest civilian honour "The Companion of the Order of Fiji" for his global leadership.*
  - ✓ *On May 23, he reached Australia to have a bilateral meeting with Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. He left for India on the night of 24<sup>th</sup> May.*
- The third G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting was held in the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre at Srinagar, J&K on May 22-24.
- The Engagement Group meeting on Universal Holistic Health under India's G20 Presidency was held on May 01-02 at Bangaram Island in Lakshadweep. The two-day event focused on improved agricultural practices.
- The Y20 (youth-20) Pre-Summit under India's G20 Presidency was held on April 26-27-28 in Ladakh.
- India launched 'Operation Karuna' on May 18 to provide emergency assistance to Myanmar which has been devastated by Cyclone Mocha.
- The President, on the advice of the Prime Minister, reallocated 3 portfolios in the union cabinet on June 18.
  - ✓ *Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs & Culture was made Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice, in addition to his existing portfolios.*
  - ✓ *Kiren Rijju was shifted from law ministry to the Ministry of Earth Sciences as Minister of state.*

- ✓ *Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, Minister of State in the Law Ministry was shifted as Minister of State in the Health and Family Welfare Ministry.*

- MIT-World Peace University, Pune has built Asia's first-ever subsea research lab, with an aim to foster multi-disciplinary talent for the global oil and gas industry.
  - ✓ *Called the Centre for Subsea Engineering Research (CSER), the lab showcases a working prototype of deep-water offshore petroleum operations.*
- The Sittwe Port in Myanmar, developed by Indian funding, was inaugurated on May 9. This port will reduce cost and time of transportation of goods between Kolkata and Agartala and Aizawl by up to 50 percent.
- A meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation was held in Benaulim, Goa on May 4-5 under India's presidency of SCO.
- The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Defence Ministers Meeting was held on April 28 in New Delhi.
- The construction of India's first and the highest cable-stayed rail bridge, the Anji Khad rail bridge in J&K was completed on April 26 with the fixing of the last cable.
  - ✓ *The 473.25 m bridge over the river Anji is supported by 96 cables extending both ways from the main pylon that reaches a height of 331 mt from the river bed.*
- India and the UK have decided to jointly create an "India-UK 'Net Zero' Innovation Virtual Centre" to bring stakeholders from both the countries together to work in some of the focus areas such as industrial decarbonisation and Green Hydrogen.

## APRIL

- Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuk visited India for 3 days, April 3-4-5. Bhutan sought India's cooperation on hydropower electricity generation and assistance for its 13<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (2023-2028).
- The UN Population Fund's "State of World Population Report, 2023" estimated India's population at 1.43 billion against 1.42 billion for China, as of February 2023.
- India launched a rescue mission – Operation Kaveri – on April 24 to evacuate its stranded citizens from civil war-torn Sudan.

- India has become the first country in the world to estimate the tuberculosis (TB) burden in-country and launch its own dynamic mathematical system to estimate the disease burden.
  - ✓ *It has decided to part ways with the global estimates drawn up each year by the WHO.*
- The Y20 Pre-Summit under India's G20 Presidency was held on April 26-27-28 in Ladakh.
- A two-day conference of the G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering was held on April 19-20 in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh.
- A two-day Women 20 meeting was organised under G-20 on April 13-14 in Jaipur. Elaborate discussions were made in the meeting on topics related to gender equality and women empowerment.
- The two-day Science-20 conference under India's G20 presidency was held on April 3-4 in Agartala, capital city of Tripura.
- The first G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meeting under India's G20 Presidency was held in Gandhinagar in Gujarat from March 30 to April 01.
- The second Sherpa meeting of the G20 Summit under India's Presidency began on March 30 at the idyllic village of Kumarakom in Kerala.
- The first meeting of the G20 roundtable conference of Chief Science Advisors was held on March 29 at the G20 summit in Ramnagar in Nainital district of Uttarakhand.
- A two-day meeting of the G-20 Infrastructure Working Group was held in Visakhapatnam on March 28-29.
- The first Global Buddhist Summit was held in New Delhi on April 20-21 by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with its grantee body International Buddhist Confederation.
  - ✓ *The theme of the Summit was "Responses to Contemporary Challenges: Philosophy to Praxis".*
- India hosted a meeting of the National Security Advisers (NSAs) of member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on March 29 in New Delhi.
- India has been elected as a member of the UN Statistical Commission; the Commission on Narcotic Drugs; and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).
  - ✓ *These 3 are important subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UNO.*
- In the Hurun's Global Unicorn Index 2023 released on April 18, India retained its position as the country

with the world's third-largest number of unicorns after the US and China.

- ✓ *India bagged 3<sup>rd</sup> spot with 68 unicorns (14 more than 2022), which is third only to the US' 666 unicorns (up 179) and China's 316 (up 15).*

## MARCH

- Prime Minister of Japan, Kishida Fumio, arrived in New Delhi on March 20 for a two-day visit to participate in the Japan India Summit Meeting with Prime Minister Modi.
  - ✓ *Japan is holding the presidency of the G-7 group for 2023. Mr Kishida invited Mr Modi to the G-7 summit 2023 to be held in Hiroshima in May, 2023.*
- Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese arrived in Ahmedabad on March 8 on a four-day visit to the country. He attended the India-Australia Annual Summit.
- G-20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering Conference was held on March 24-25 in Dibrugarh, Assam.
- The Civil20 India (C-20) Inception meeting was held on March 20-21 in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- The first Labour 20 (L20) meeting was held in Amritsar on March 19-20 under the G-20 presidency of India.
- Gangtok, capital of Sikkim hosted the B-20 Conference on March 16 under India's G-20 presidency.
- The first Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) meeting of the G-20 was held on March 1-3 in Gurugram.
- Mizoram hosted a G-20 Business Conference from March 1-3 at the Mizoram University, Aizawl.
- The G-20 Foreign Ministers meeting was held on March 1-2 in New Delhi under India's presidency.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the Raisina Dialogue was held from March 2 to 4 in New Delhi. Prime Minister of Italy Giorgia Meloni was the Chief Guest at the inaugural session.
  - ✓ *The theme of the 2023 Edition of Dialogue was "Provocation, Uncertainty, Turbulence: Lighthouse in the Tempest."*
- The first cross-border energy pipeline between India and Bangladesh, the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline was inaugurated on March 18.
  - ✓ *The pipeline runs from Numaligarh Refinery, Siliguri in West Bengal to the Parbatipur depot of Bangladesh Petroleum Corp. in Dinajpur in North Bangladesh.*



- The Asia's longest cycle race was flagged off on March 01 from Srinagar, J&K. It culminated at Kanyakumari, after covering a distance of 3,655 kilometers.
- A report by SIPRI for 2018-2022 shows that India is the world's largest importer of weapons and military equipment, accounting for 11% of all such imports.
- *Russia supplied 45% of Indian imports while France and the USA accounted for 29 and 11 percent share.*
  - ✓ *The US, Russia and France are the world's three biggest exporters of arms and ammunition, accounting for 40, 16 and 11 per cent global share, respectively.*
- India and the US agreed to launch a Strategic Trade Dialogue (STD). The decision to launch the new framework of dialogue was taken on March 09.
- In a historic judgement the Supreme Court ruled on March 02 that appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and Elections Commissioners will be done by the President on the advice of a committee comprising the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Chief Justice of India.
- Sydney based Institute for Economics & Peace released its Global Terrorism Index on March 14 covering 163 countries, forming 99.7% of the world's population.
  - ✓ *Afghanistan remained the country most impacted by terrorism, despite attacks and deaths falling by 75% and 58%, respectively.*

## NEWS FROM STATES

### JUNE

- A "Lavender Festival" was held on June 4-5 in Bhaderwah Valley, the Lavender capital of J&K. This initiative is also popular as the "Purple Revolution".
- The AIIMS, Nagpur has become the first of all AIIMSS to receive the prestigious NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers) accreditation, which is at par with the world's leading hospital accreditation standards.
- The ADB approved a \$295 million loan to Bihar state for widening and upgrading 265 km of state highways, improving transport connectivity and road safety in the state.
- The World Bank approved a \$148 million loan to support West Bengal in harnessing surface and ground water through better irrigation practices.

- The ADB sanctioned a \$130 million loan to Himachal Pradesh to increase agricultural productivity, improve access to irrigation and promote horticulture to raise farmers' income.

### MAY

- Kerala declared herself as India's first "total e-governed state", thanks to its strides towards achieving 100% digital literacy.
  - ✓ *The achievement enables online delivery of more than 800 government services through a single-window service-delivery mechanism called e-Sevanam.*
- Madhya Pradesh became the first state in the country to launch a free air travel facility to its senior citizens for pilgrimage.
  - ✓ *The first batch of 32 pilgrims, over the age of 65 years, took off from the Bhopal airport on 21 May to visit Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh.*
- In a first in the country, the Kerala government on May 15 launched a social welfare fund for Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGA) workers in the State.
  - ✓ *The fund offers benefits such as pension, marriage allowance, assistance for education, medical needs to ensure welfare of the workers and their families.*
- Kerala made history by becoming the first state to introduce on May 3 its own ranking system for higher education institutions.
- India's first-ever water metro service, the Kochi Water Metro, was inaugurated on April 25 in Kochi, Kerala.
  - ✓ *The metro project will start with eight electric hybrid boats to connect ten islands in and around the port city of Kochi with 38 terminals.*
- Punjab became first state to implement the 'right to walk' by making it mandatory for all road-owning agencies, including the NHAI, to provide footpath/cycle tracks in all roads to be constructed in future.
- In a big development, the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has found massive Lithium reserve deposits in Degana region in central Rajasthan.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> land port between India and Bangladesh was inaugurated on May 4 at Dawki in south eastern Meghalaya on Bangladesh border at Tamabil in Sylhet.

## APRIL

- In a first for the country, Kolkata Metro touched a milestone on April 12 by running through the 520-metre tunnel built under Hooghly River.
- The National Capital Regional Transportation Corp. announced on April 11 that the country's first semi-high-speed regional rapid rail service, between Delhi and Meerut, will be called RapidX.
- The world's first vulture conservation and breeding centre for the conservation of Asian king vulture, has been built in Uttar Pradesh.
- *Named Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre, it is spread over 1.5 hectares in Gorakhpur Forest division.*
- The Union Ministry of Jal Shakti launched the "Irrigation Census" to collect data about all the water bodies in the country.
- *India has 24.24 lakh water bodies like ponds, tanks, lakes, with Bengal accounting for the most (7.47 lakh).*
- *Of the total 24,24,540 water bodies in the country, 97.1% are in rural areas and 2.9% are in urban areas.*
- Karnataka achieved the top rank among the 18 large and mid-sized States with populations over one crore, as per the India Justice Report (IJR) 2022, released on April 4.
- Mumbai has been included in the World Tree City 2022 list for promoting best practices in urban forestry for the second time.
- First Dogri version of the Indian Constitution was released on April 08 at the University of Jammu. Dogri is a language spoken in J&K and is one of the 22 official languages recognized by the Indian Constitution.
- Assam and Arunachal Pradesh signed a historic agreement on April 20 for the settlement of an over five decades old inter-state boundary dispute.
- The exquisite Ladakh wood carving, also known as 'Ladakh Shingskos', has become the first handicraft from the UT to be granted a GI tag.
- Indian Railways completed the electrification of the entire railway network in Haryana state, making it the first state to achieve 100% electrification.
- The picturesque Gandhamardan hills spread over Bolangir and Bargarh districts in Odisha, have been declared the 'biodiversity heritage site' in accordance with the provisions of the Biodiversity Act.

## MARCH

- The Kerala govt launched a robot scavenger named Bandicoot on Feb 24 to clean sewage in Guruvayur.

- ✓ *Kerala became the first state to use robots to clean all its operational manholes in the state, putting an end to the practice of manual scavenging.*
- Bengaluru received a prestigious \$150,000 Partnership for Healthy Cities award in London on March 15 from the WHO for its tobacco control efforts, particularly reduction of smoking in public places.
- Odisha's Mayurbhanj district and the UT of Ladakh are the two locations from India which have found place in TIME Magazine's World's Greatest Places – 2023 list of 50 extraordinary destinations to explore.
- The 'Landslide Atlas' by ISRO's National Remote Sensing Centre, shows that districts of Rudrapur and Tehri in Uttarakhand had the "maximum exposure to landslide risk in the country" as per data collected between 1998-2022.
- ✓ *In terms of number of landslides in states, the highest, 12,385, were recorded in Mizoram during 1998- 2022. Uttarakhand followed it at 11,219.*
- Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in India to begin the commercial cultivation of the popular herb Mulethi (liquorice).
- The 8-day duration of mass nesting of endangered Olive Ridley turtles concluded on March 2 at the mouth of Rushikulya river in Odisha's Ganjam district.
- ✓ *A record number of over 6.37 lakh turtles laid eggs on the 3-km long beach from Podampeta to Bateswar area near the river mouth from Feb 23 to March 2.*
- The Tamil Nadu notified the 18<sup>th</sup> wildlife sanctuary in the state. Christened as Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, in district Erode.

## GOVT INITIATIVES

## JUNE

- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) released its new standard "IS 18267:2023" on June 16 for 'Food Serving Utensils Made from Agri By-Products'.
- ✓ *The standard covers making of biodegradable disposable utensils such as plates, cups, bowls, cutlery etc.*
- The Central Government introduced a new collection of professional learning courses called "DAKSHTA" on the iGOT Karmayogi platform of the Ministry of Personnel.



- ✓ *DAKSHTA (Development of Attitude, Knowledge, Skills for Holistic Change in Administration), aims at enhancing the skills of young professionals.*
- On the World Environment Day (June 5), two schemes were launched for conserving India's wetlands and mangroves through public participation.
  - ✓ *Amrit Dharohar aims to develop Ramsar sites (wetlands) as centres of eco-tourism and a source of green jobs.*
  - ✓ *MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes) aims to promote mangrove plantation along the coastline and on salt pan land.*
- MAHIR- Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research to be launched to identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them locally for deployment within and outside the country.
- The Union Cabinet on May 31 approved a one lakh crore rupee scheme to increase grain storage capacity in the cooperative sector.
  - ✓ *It will be the "World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in the Cooperative Sector" aimed at reducing crop damages and preventing distress sales by farmers.*
- The Union Cabinet approved the City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain-CITIIS 2.0 for integrated urban management.
  - ✓ *It is a program conceived by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in partnership with the German development agency "Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau", European Union, and National Institute of Urban Affairs.*

## MAY

- The finance ministry on May 24 hiked the tax exemption limit for leave encashment on retirement, to Rs 25 lakh, from Rs. 3 lakh at present.
- The UGC announced 'NEP SAARTHI (Student Ambassador for Academic Reforms in Transforming Higher Education in India)' to involve students in the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- UGC launched portal 'UTSAH' (Undertaking Transformative Strategies and Actions in Higher Education) for providing information about various UGC's initiatives for reforms in higher education.
- UGC launched "Professors of Practice" –PoP portal to make it easier for higher educational institutions

hiring of experienced professionals in various fields, bridging the gap between academia and industry.

- Government launched a citizen centric portal named 'Sanchar Saathi' on May 16 to enable mobile users to track and block their lost mobile phones. It is an initiative of the Department of Telecommunications.
- The Union Health Ministry launched digital platform SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management) on May 10 for providing online training and medical education to all the health professionals in the country.
- The Union Ministry for Fisheries, Animal husbandry and Dairying launched the nationwide Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries (AHDF) KCC Campaign from 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024.
  - ✓ *The campaign aims to extend benefits of the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to all eligible animal husbandry, dairy, and fishery farmers in the country.*
- The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, launched a scheme, "Vivad se Vishwas I: Relief to MSMEs" to provide relief to MSMEs during the COVID-19.
  - ✓ *All ministries have been instructed to refund performance security, bid security and liquidated damages forfeited or deducted during the pandemic.*
- The Housing & Urban Affairs Ministry activated the 'City Beauty Competition' portal on April 27 to encourage and recognize the transformational efforts made by cities to create beautiful, innovative and inclusive public spaces.

## APRIL

- The Union Cabinet approved the National Quantum Mission on April 19 to accelerate Quantum Technology-led economic growth and leverage India into a leading nation in this segment.
  - ✓ *The Mission will be implemented by the Department of Science and Technology in partnership with other departments.*
- Govt launched the SATHI (Seed Traceability, Authentic- cation and Holistic Inventory) Portal and Mobile App for providing seed traceability, authentication and inventory, seed production, quality seed certification.
- The Ministry of Finance has set up a four-member committee headed by Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan to review the National Pension Scheme (NPS).

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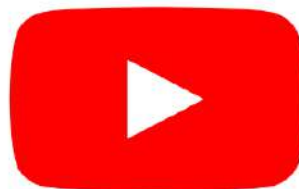


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- The Union Ministry for Rural Development has launched a unique initiative named 'CAPTIVE EMPLOYMENT' under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY).
  - ✓ *The scheme aims to connect job seekers and job providers wherein job providers will train the youth as per their requirements to make them job ready.*
- The government launched the App Version of National Logistics Portal (Marine) 'Sagar-Setu' on March 31.
  - ✓ *The app will have features like Service Catalogue, Common Application Format, Letter of Credit, Bank Guarantee, Certification, Track and Trace etc.*
- A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme named New India Literacy Programme aims to cover a target of five crore non-literates in the age group of 15 years and above.
- Government launched the Aravalli Green Wall Project on March 25 from Tikli Village in Gurgaon district of Haryana.
  - ✓ *It aims to green the 5 km buffer area around the Aravalli Hill Range in four states of Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Delhi.*

## MARCH

- The Union ministry of culture launched the Vedic Heritage portal on March 23. The portal has audio-visual recordings of all four Vedas, covering over 18,000 mantras with a total duration of over 550 hours.
  - ✓ *The primary aim of the portal is to communicate the messages enshrined in the Vedas and make it more accessible to the common people.*
- The Income Tax Department launched a mobile app named AIS to enable taxpayers to view their information as available in the Annual Information Statement (AIS) and Taxpayer Information Summary (TIS).
- Government declared on March 17 setting up of seven PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel) textile parks in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh to give a big push to the sagging textiles sector.
- The Atal Innovation Mission under NITI Aayog launched a comprehensive self-monitoring framework named ATL Sarthi on March 14 to strengthen the ecosystem of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs).
- From April 1, each piece of gold jewellery in India will have three marks – a BIS hallmark, a purity of gold mark (for example, 22K916), and a 6-digit alphanumeric HUID (Hallmark Unique Identification) embossed on it.

- ✓ *Sale of gold jewellery without a HUID number will not be allowed from April 1 onwards. Anyone can get existing jewellery hallmarked to know the true value.*
- Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture under ministry of agriculture approved establishment of three Centers of Excellence (CoE) for research in horticulture.
  - ✓ *The approved CoEs include for Kamlam (Dragon Fruit) at Bengaluru, for Mango and Vegetables in Odisha and for Vegetables and Flowers in Ponda, South Goa.*
- Department of Social Justice and Empowerment signed an MoU with the Prajapati Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Mount Abu (Rajasthan) on March 4 for spreading the message of Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan, NMBA, among youth, women and students.
- The government unveiled a fellowship named 'Vaibhav' on Feb 28 to attract Indian-origin researchers from abroad to higher educational institutions in the country.
  - ✓ *Researchers from only institutions featuring in the top 500 QS World University Rankings will be eligible for the fellowship.*

## ECONOMY

## JUNE

- India's GDP is pegged to grow at 7.2% during the fiscal year 2022-23 as per the Statistics Ministry's provisional estimates released on June 1.
  - ✓ *The unexpected surge in growth is a result of a better-than-expected performance in the last quarter (Jan-Mar), powered by services, exports, and agriculture.*
- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting on June 7, approved the increase in MSP for all mandated kharif crops for the 2023-24 crop year.

Crops	Rs per Qtl.	Crops	Rs. per Qtl.
Paddy	2183	Tur /Arhar	7000
Jowar	3225	Moong	8558
Bajra	2500	Urad	6950
Maize	2090	Groundnut	6377
Cotton(medium)	6620	Sunflower Seed	6760

## MAY

- As per the 3<sup>rd</sup> advance estimate of production of major crops for the agri year 2022-23, foodgrain production is estimated to be over 3,305 lakh tonnes in 2022-23, highest ever, 149.18 lakh tonnes more than last year.
- India's first commercial passenger flight using an indigenously produced Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) blend was successfully flown on May 19.
  - ✓ *An AirAsia flight from Pune to Delhi was powered by SAF supplied by Indian Oil Corporation.*
- The Finance Ministry gave its approval on April 26 to upgrade Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) to 'Navratna' Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE).

## APRIL

- Backed by improved economic ties, America emerged as India's biggest trading partner in 2022-23. Bilateral trade between India and the US increased by 7.65 per cent to \$128.55 billion in 2022-23.
- Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd., a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, was given the status of Miniratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprise on April 10.
- NSE Indices Ltd, an arm of the National Stock Exchange (NSE), launched the country's first Real Estate Investment Trusts and Infrastructure Investment Trusts index — Nifty REITs and InvITs Index, respectively.
- The Foreign Trade Policy 2023 was released on March 31 stating that it is dynamic and has been kept open ended to accommodate the emerging needs of the time. The Policy aims at raising the exports to \$2 trillion by 2030.

## MARCH

- As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on March 05, the annual per capita income (net national income) at current prices is estimated at Rs 1,72,000 in 2022-23, up from Rs 86,647 in 2014-15.
- Jindal Steel and Power Ltd (JSPL) became the first steel company to receive BIS certification to manufacture India's first fire-resistant steel structures at its rail mill in Raigarh, Chhattisgarh.

## BANKING & FINANCE

### JUNE

- The RBI launched the '100 Days 100 Pays' campaign on June 01 to trace and settle the top 100 unclaimed deposits of every bank in every district within 100 days.
  - ✓ *The public sector banks transferred over Rs. 35,000 crore of unclaimed deposits to RBI by February 2023.*
- SIDBI launched mission EVOLVE (Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem) in association with NITI Aayog, World Bank, Korean-World Bank and Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund, to finance MSMEs engaged with electric vehicles.
  - ✓ *SIDBI aims to support India's target for 30 per cent EV penetration by 2030 or EV30@30.*

### MAY

- The RBI board approved on May 19 a transfer of Rs 87,416 crore as the dividend to the government for the FY ending 31 March, 2023.
  - ✓ *The RBI board also decided to raise the Contingency Risk Buffer to 6% from 5.50% held previously.*
- RBI announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes on May 19 from circulation under the "Clean Note Policy". However, they will continue to be legal tender till September 30, 2023.
- RBI has asked banks to ensure a complete transition from the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) or the Mumbai Interbank Forward Outright Rate (MIFOR) from July 1, 2023.
  - ✓ *Banks should use widely accepted Alternative Reference Rates, such as the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR).*
- The RBI in collaboration with the Bank for International Settlements, Switzerland, launched G20 TechSprint, a global technology competition for developing innovative solutions to improve cross-border payments.

### APRIL

- RBI launched a framework for acceptance of Green Deposits by banks, from their customers.



- ✓ *Proceeds of these shall be used for green projects such as renewable energy, promoting climate resilience, and improvement of natural ecosystems.*
- RBI plans to develop a web-based centralised portal named as 'PRAVAAH' (Platform for Regulatory Application, Validation And Authorisation).
  - ✓ *The portal will display the timeframes for deciding on various applications and approvals, leading to greater effectiveness in regulatory processes.*
- The Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro & Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) announced a revamped credit guarantee scheme for the micro and small enterprises.
  - ✓ *Effective from April 1, 2023, it will provide guarantee cover to banks to cover loans up to Rs 5 crore to Micro & Small Enterprises, without asking for any collateral or third party guarantee from them.*

## MARCH

- RBI granted an "Infrastructure Finance Company (IFC)" status to Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) on March 13. It was earlier classified as 'Investment and Credit Company (ICC)'.
- The Finance Ministry notified on March 7 that the exchange and transfer of virtual digital assets (VDA) will be covered under provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002. VDA dealers will now be required to perform KYC of their client/users of the platform.
- Axis Bank completed the acquisition of Citibank's retail business in India on March 01 for Rs 11,603 crore in cash.

# DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## JUNE

- US aerospace major, GE Aerospace, signed a MoU on June 22 with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. to produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force.
  - ✓ *GE Aerospace's F414 engines will be co-produced in India to power the Indian Air Force's Tejas Mk2.*

- Mahindra Defence Systems, started delivering 'Armado', India's first Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV) to the Indian armed forces.
  - ✓ *It has ballistic protection of high level that can easily withstand direct sniper shots or grenade attacks.*
- 'Anjadip', the ASW (Anti-Submarine Warfare) Shallow Water Craft (SWC) built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders, was launched on June 13 at Kattupalli, near Chennai.
- Sanshodhak, the last of the four ships of Survey Vessels (Large) Project, being built by L&T/ GRSE for the Indian Navy, was launched on June 13 at Kattupalli, Chennai.
- Varunastra: The Indian Navy carried out a successful test on June 6 to destroy an underwater target using a Made in India heavyweight Torpedo named Varunastra.
- Ex Khaan Quest 2023: The Indian Army participated in the 14 day multinational peacekeeping joint exercise held in Mongolia, from June 19.
- Agneyastra-1: The Indian Army's Northern Command concluded a massive military exercise on June 19 in eastern Ladakh to showcase India's fire power supremacy.
- Ex Ekuverin: Hosted by India with Maldives's army from June 11 to 24 in Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- Maritime Partnership Exercise: India, France, UAE's joint exercise was held on June 7-8 in the Gulf of Oman.
- Exercise Komodo: Indonesia hosted this multilateral naval exercise from June 5 to 8 near the port town of Makassar in which Indian Navy also participated.
- Exercise Ekatha: Maldives hosted this exercise with the Indian Navy's Marine Commandos (MARCOS) from June 4 to July 3 in Maldives.
- Sudarshan Shakti : The Sapta Shakti Command of the Indian Army conducted this exercise along the western borders in Rajasthan and Punjab from May 22 to 25.
- The Indian government made a gift of an indigenously-built in-service Missile Corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam.
- The Indian Navy collected over 78,000 kg of plastic waste in the last year from 58 beaches and over 2,000 km of coastline, under the Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan.

- ISRO launched its NVS-01 satellite onboard its heavy launch vehicle GSLV-F12 on May 29 from Sriharikota.
  - ✓ *The satellite is the first of the second-generation satellites envisaged for the NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) system.*
  - ✓ *For the first time, the NVS-01 will use an indigenously developed Rubidium atomic clock to know the spacecraft's position within a meter space.*

## MAY

- INSV Tarini, with a six-member crew, including two women officers, returned to Indian shores at Goa on May 23 after a 17,000 nautical miles long trans-ocean inter-continental voyage in seven months. INSV stands for Indian Naval Sailing Vessel.
- The Indian Navy's sixth and final Kalvari class submarine, Vaghsheer, began its sea trial on May 18.
- A first of its kind Indian Air Force Heritage Centre was inaugurated on May 8 in Chandigarh. Spread over 17,000 sqft, it depicts IAF's role in 1965, 1971, Kargil wars and the Balakot air strike through murals and scale models.
- INS Magar, Landing Ship Tank, amphibious assault ship of the Indian Navy was decommissioned on May 6 at Kochi, after 36 years of glorious service to the nation.
- 'Al-Mohed-Al Hindi-23': Naval exercise between Indian and Saudi Navies was held from May 21- 25 off the port Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia, in the Persian Gulf.
- Samudra Shakti-23: India-Indonesia naval exercise held from May 14 to 19 near Batam Island, Indonesia.
- Indo-Thai CORPAT: India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol held from May 3 to 10 in the Andaman Sea.
- AIME-2023: INS Satpura and INS Delhi participated in the inaugural ASEAN India Maritime Exercise (AIME) hosted by Singapore from May 02 to 08 in South China Sea near Changi Naval base of Singapore.
- Ajeya Warrior 2023: A two-week joint military exercise of India and UK started on April 27 at UK's Salisbury Plains in the county of Wiltshire.
- Exercise Buland Bharat: The Indian Armed Forces conducted this joint exercise in Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh for testing their integrated surveillance and firepower capabilities.
- ISRO successfully conducted its first integrated test of the 2000 kN semi cryogenic engine on May 10 at

the newly commissioned Semi Cryogenic Integrated Engine & Stage Test facility at the ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu.

## APRIL

- Bharat Dynamics Ltd, Hyderabad, successfully tested its latest 3<sup>rd</sup> generation man-portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM), Amogha-III on March 26.
- Wing Commander Deepika Misra: First Air Force woman officer to receive a Vayu Seva Medal.
- Iniochos 23: Indian fighter jets participated in the annual Greek exercise held in Greece from April 18 to 28.
- Exercise Orion: An Indian Air Force contingent participated in the multi-nation air exercise hosted by France from April 17 to May 5.
- Exercise Cope India 23: 11-day joint exercise of Indian and US Air Force at Panagarh and Kalaikunda Air Force Stations in West Bengal and Agra Air Force Station.
- Ex-KAVACH: Joint military exercise of India's only tri-services joint unit, Andaman & Nicobar Command, conducted a on April 5 in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- SLINEX-2023: Indian and Sri Lanka Navies annual exercise held at Colombo from April 3 to 8.
- Exercise Prasthan: Indian Navy, other defence units, state and civilian agencies conducted this exercise on the Greatdrill Chaaya platform near Mumbai harbour.
- ISRO launched two satellites of Singapore into space onboard its PSLV on April 22 into their intended 586 km circular orbit.
- *The two satellites were TeLEOS-2, a radar satellite and the Lumelite-4, a nano-satellite.*
- An advanced gravitational-wave detector in Hingoli, Maharashtra is to be built at an estimated cost of Rs 2,600 crore.
- *It is a twin Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO), made to international standards.*
- ISRO successfully carried out the Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) Autonomous Landing Mission on April 2. A Chinook helicopter carried the RLV up in the sky and released it for making landing on the air strip at the Aeronautical Test Range in Chitradurga, Karnataka.
- *In a first in the world, a winged body has been carried to an altitude of 4.5 km by a helicopter and released for carrying out an autonomous landing on a runway.*



- Ingenuity, the micro helicopter of NASA on Mars, created two new records; reaching the highest top speed of 23.3 kph and a maximum altitude of 16 metres.

## MARCH

- E-Warfare System 'Project Himshakti': The Defence Ministry signed a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Hyderabad on March 24 for the procurement of two Integrated Electronic Warfare Systems 'Project Himshakti'.
- INS Androth: Indian Navy's second anti-submarine warfare (ASW) warship INS 'Androth' was launched at Kolkata on March 21 for its first touch with water.
- The President of India awarded the prestigious President's Colours to the Indian Navy's gunnery school INS Dronacharya on March 16 at Fort Kochi, Kerala.
- Army Chief General Manoj Pande presented the prestigious President's Standard or 'Nishan' to four Armoured Regiments of the Army on March 25 at an event in Suratgarh, Rajasthan.
- The DRDO conducted two consecutive successful flight tests of Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missiles on March 14 at the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference of 2023 was held on 06 Mar onboard the aircraft carrier INS Vikrant.
- The Ministry of Defence signed a contract for procurement of six Dornier-228 aircraft for the Indian Air Force from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bengaluru.
- *The aircraft is used by IAF for transport and communication duties and also for training of pilots.*
- The Union Cabinet approved the acquisition of 70 HTT-40 basic trainer aircrafts from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) for a whopping ₹6,828.36 crore.
- Yard 75 (LSAM 7), a Missile cum Ammunition Barge, was launched on Feb 24 at Visakhapatnam for the Indian Navy.
- Colonel Geeta Rana: For the first time a woman officer has taken over the command of an independent unit in the sensitive Ladakh sector.
- Group Captain Shaliza Dhami became the first woman officer in the Indian Air Force to command a front-line combat unit, a missile squadron in the Western sector.

## EXERCISES

- **AFINDEX 2023:** The 10-day Africa-India Field Training Exercise was conducted in Pune, from March 21-30.
- **Konkan 2023:** The Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of Britain conducted a joint maritime exercise from March 20 to 22, off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea.
- **Exercise Cobra Warrior:** An Indian Air Force contingent comprising 145 Air Warriors participated in the multilateral air exercise at the Waddington Air Force Base in the United Kingdom.
- **Exercise Sea Dragon 23:** Indian Navy participated in the multi-lateral anti-submarine warfare exercise conducted by the US Navy off the coast of Guam Island.
- **The Indian Coast Guard** conducted a three-day exercise on March 14-16 with five nations under the aegis of the Colombo Security Conclave off the Kolkata coast.
- **Exercise La Perouse:** A multilateral naval exercise between navies of India, Australia, Japan, France and USA was hosted by the French Navy in the Indian Ocean area on March 13 and 14.
- **Maritime Partnership Exercise:** Indian Navy participated in joint naval exercise with the French Navy in the Arabian Sea on March 10-11.
- **Vayu Prahar:** The Indian Army and the Indian Air force conducted a multi-domain air-land exercise in the eastern theatre to validate plans to execute a joint operation.
- **Exercise Desert Flag VIII:** An Indian Air Force contingent participated in the multilateral air exercise at Al Dahfra air base of UAE, from Feb 27 to March 17.
- **FRINJEX-23:** Joint military exercise between Indian and French Army on March 7-8 at Pangode Military Station, Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala.
- **Operation Bold Kurukshetra:** The Singapore and Indian Army conducted a bilateral armour training exercise from 6 to 13 March, in Jodhpur Military Station in Rajasthan.
- **Exercise Shinyuu Maitri:** The Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self Defence Force conducted the joint air exercise on March 01 and 02 at Komatsu, Japan.
- **TROPEX 2023:** Indian Navy's major operational level exercise for the year 2023, conducted across the Indian Ocean from Nov. 2022 – Mar 2023, culminated on March 08 in the Arabian Sea.

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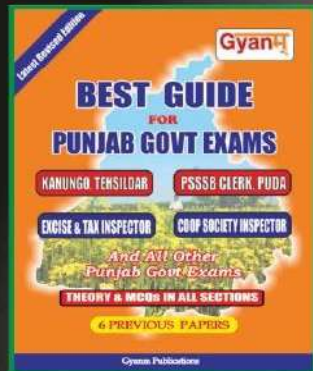
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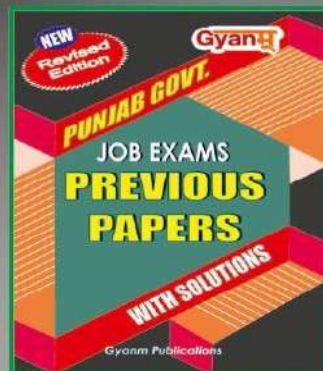


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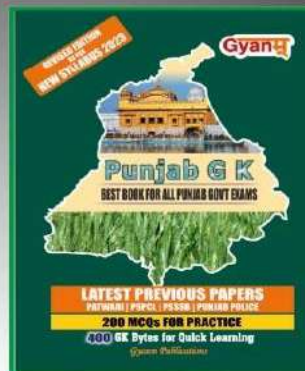
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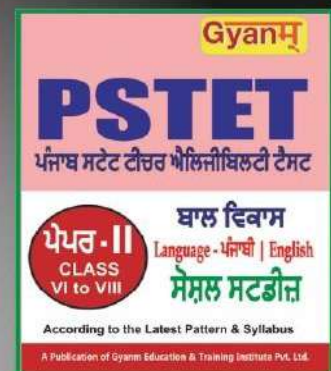
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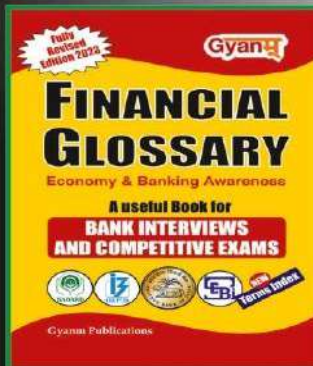
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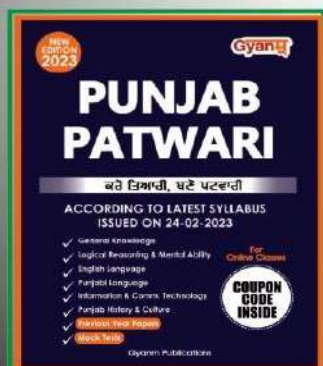
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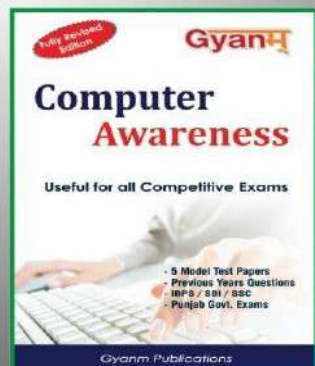
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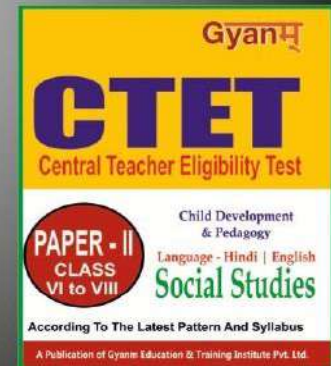
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## TECHNOLOGY

- India's LVM-3 (launch vehicle mark III) lifted off successfully with 36 satellites of the One Web India-2 mission from Sriharikota on March 26.
- Asia's largest Liquid Mirror Telescope (ILMT) with 4-metre diameter, was inaugurated on March 21 at Devasthal Observatory near Nainital, Uttarakhand.
- The ISRO received from NASA the NISAR – NASA-ISRO SAR (Synthetic Aperture Radar) satellite in Bengaluru on March 8. It is a Low Earth Orbit observatory jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.
- The Technology Innovation Institute, a leading global scientific research centre in Abu Dhabi, UAE launched on March 14 the "Falcon LLM," a foundational "large language model" (LLM) with 40 billion parameters.
- San Francisco based American AI company, OpenAI, in its effort to scale up deep learning, released GPT-4 on March 14, the latest version of its hugely popular artificial intelligence chatbot ChatGPT.
- Researchers from Microsoft have unveiled "Kosmos-1", a multimodal large language model (MLLM) which can analyse images for content, solve visual puzzles, pass visual IQ tests, and understand natural language instructions.
- Social media giant Meta released its own version of ChatGPT by the name of LLaMA (Large Language Model Meta AI) on Feb 24.
- *Unlike ChatGPT, Bard, or Bing, Meta's new LLaMA is not a conversation chatbot. It is a state-of-the-art foundational large language model that is aimed to help researchers advance their work.*
- The researchers, in a new study, have confirmed the existence of a fifth new layer of the Earth. Seismologists from the Australian National University believe they have documented evidence of the fifth layer – a solid metallic ball that sits within the inner core.

## INTERNATIONAL

### JUNE

- France hosted a Summit for a New Global Financing Pact on June 22-23 in Paris. Besides the IMF and World Bank, more than 300 participants from various countries, including India, attended the summit.

- The Economist Intelligence Unit, London, ranked 173 cities around the world on a number of significant factors, to compile the Global Liveability Index 2023 which was released on June 21. Vienna in Austria topped the ranking.
  - ✓ *From India, 5 cities found a place in the Index. New Delhi, Mumbai secured 141<sup>st</sup> spot while Bengaluru, Ahmedabad and Chennai were next nearby.*
- The United Nations adopted a first-ever treaty on June 19 to protect marine life in the high seas. The 193 member nations approved the treaty unanimously.
  - ✓ *The treaty named "Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Treaty" or "High Seas Treaty" in short, has been made under U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea.*
- The 193-member UN General Assembly held elections on June 8 to elect the five non-permanent members of the UN Security Council for the two-year term 2023-24.
  - ✓ *The new members are Mozambique, Switzerland, Malta, Ecuador, Japan. Their term will start from Jan 1, 2023.*
- Germany, Europe's largest economy, slipped into recession as last year's high energy prices pinched the consumer spending, slowing down the economy.
- Parts of Western Canada were ravaged by "one of its worst wildfire seasons" in the first half of June, triggered by the "abnormally high temperatures and dry conditions".

### MAY

- The 42<sup>nd</sup> Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was held May 10-11 at Labuan Bajo in Indonesia. This year's theme for the meeting was "ASEAN Affairs: Epicentrum of Growth".
- In a key historical event, King Charles III was crowned at his Coronation on May 6 in Westminster Abbey, London. The Archbishop of Canterbury placed the St Edward's 360-year-old Crown on the King's head in a special ceremony, after which his wife Camilla was crowned as Queen with the Queen Mary's Crown.
- In western Canada thousands of people were forced to evacuate their homes, as wildfires raged in parts of Alberta and consequent rapid snow melt triggered flooding across interior British Columbia.

## APRIL

- In the USA, Virginia became the 17<sup>th</sup> state to include Sikhi, or the Sikh faith, in their school curriculum. The new standards will give more than a million students an opportunity to learn about the Sikh community.
- Germany finally switched off its last three nuclear power reactors on April 15, completely exiting nuclear power. These three plants provided just six percent of Germany's energy last year.
- In an alarming statement on April 6, the IMF said that the world economy is expected to grow less than 3% this year, down from 3.4% last year, increasing the risk of hunger and poverty globally.
- The WTO revised its global trade growth outlook for 2023 upwards to 1.7% from last October's estimate of 1% even as the war in Ukraine, high inflation and financial uncertainty continue to be a worry.
- Finland became the 31<sup>st</sup> member of NATO, thanks to Turkey's unanimous vote on March 30. Finland was admitted into NATO on April 4.
- The WHO has certified Azerbaijan and Tajikistan as malaria-free for eliminating the Anopheles mosquito-borne disease in their territories.

## MARCH

- Credit Suisse, second biggest bank in Switzerland, next only to UBS Group AG, succumbed to the financial crisis in 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March. The Swiss regulators negotiated a deal with the rival UBS Group AG to take over the ailing bank.
- California based Silicon Valley Bank, the 16<sup>th</sup> largest in the USA, collapsed on March 10, marking the largest failure of a U.S. financial institution since the 2008 financial crisis.
- Bhutan was recently removed from the list of LDCs (Least Developed Countries), becoming only the seventh country to do so.
- *The decision was taken at the UN LDC Summit, which concluded on March 9 in Doha, Qatar. Bhutan was included in the first group of LDCs in 1971.*
- The UN Members finalized the High Seas Treaty in New York, aimed at enforcing the 30x30 pledge made by countries on Dec 19, 2022 at the UN Biodiversity Conference in Montreal, to protect a third of the sea (and land) by 2030.
- The Financial Action Task Force, Paris based international anti-money laundering body, suspended Russia's membership, strongly condemning the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine.

- Egypt joined the BRICS New Development Bank as an official member, completing all the necessary procedures to become an eligible member on Feb 20, 2023.

## PERSONS IN NEWS

### JUNE

**Mukesh Ambani:** CMD, Reliance Industries, was appointed as the member of Advisory Committee to the President of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the UNFCCC.

**Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus:** Director-General of the WHO, was honoured by the International Olympic Committee with the 'Olympic Order' for his role in success of Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

### MAY

**Kami Rita Sherpa:** The 53-year-old Nepalese mountain guide scaled Mt Everest for a record 28<sup>th</sup> time on May 23, beating his own record of the highest number (27) of ascents on the world's highest (8,848.86 m) peak.

**Cristiano Ronaldo:** Forbes list of top 10 highest paid athletes, released on May 03, was topped by Footballer Cristiano Ronaldo (\$136 million).

**Ajay Banga:** Indian origin finance/development expert was confirmed as the next President of the World Bank.

### APRIL

**Smt. Droupadi Murmu:** The President of India took a historic sortie in a Sukhoi 30 MKI fighter aircraft on April 8 at the Tezpur Air Force Station in Assam.

### MARCH

**Surekha Yadav:** Asia's first woman loco pilot, became the first female to operate the Vande Bharat Express train on March 13 between Solapur station and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai.

## APPOINTMENTS

### JUNE

**Swaminathan Janakiraman:** SBI managing director has been appointed as the Deputy Governor in RBI for a period of three years, from the date of joining.



**Ravi Sinha:** A 1988 IPS officer was appointed as the new Secretary (Head) of the Research & Analysis Wing (RAW). It is the foreign intelligence agency of India.

**Nitin Agarwal:** A 1989-batch IPS officer of Kerala cadre, was appointed as the new Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF).

**Amit Agrawal:** 1993 batch IAS officer appointed as the CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India

**Subodh Kumar Singh:** An IAS officer of 1997 batch appointed as the CEO of the National Testing Agency

**Girish Chandra Murmu:** The Comptroller and Auditor General of India has been re-elected as External Auditor of the WHO for a four-year term from 2024 to 2027.

**Praveen Kumar Srivastava:** A 1988-batch IAS officer (retired) was sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner by the President of India on May 29.

**K Krithivasan:** Appointed as the new CEO and MD of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

**Ashwani Kumar:** Appointed as CEO cum MD of UCO Bank, as per a notification from the Ministry of Finance.

**Petteri Orpo:** The leader of the conservative party in Finland, has been elected as the country's prime minister by the parliament.

**Recep Tayyip Erdogan:** President of Türkiye was re-elected for the third successive five-year term.

**Dennis Francis:** Trinidad and Tobago's Ambassador to UNO was elected as the President of the 78<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly on June 01.

**Bola Tinubu:** Sworn in as the new President of Nigeria.

## MAY

**R Dinesh:** Elected as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2023-24. He is executive vice-chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solutions.

**Siddaramaiah:** Veteran Congress leader formally took charge as Karnataka's new Chief Minister on May 20.

**Manoj Soni:** Veteran educationist was appointed as the chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

**Praveen Sood:** Senior IPS officer has been appointed as the next Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for a period of two years.

**Siddhartha Mohanty:** Appointed as the new chairman of LIC by the central government.

**Anant Maheshwari:** President of Microsoft India, has been appointed as the Chairperson of NASSCOM for the period 2023-24.

**Ajit Kumar Mohanty:** Appointed as the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

**Debadatta Chand:** Appointed as the MD & CEO of the Bank of Baroda.

**Rajneesh Karnatak:** Appointed as the MD & CEO of the Bank of India.

**Ms. Linda Yaccarino:** Appointed as the new CEO of Twitter. She will focus primarily on business operations, while Musk will focus on product design and technology.

**Santiago Peña:** Elected as the President of Paraguay as a candidate of the ruling conservative Colorado Party.

## APRIL

**Ajay Singh:** Elected as the President of the ASSOCHAM (Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India). He is CEO of SpiceJet.

**Miguel Díaz-Canel:** Cuba's National Assembly re-elected him as President for a second five-year term.

## MARCH

**Deepak Mohanty:** Appointed as the new Chairperson of the PFRDA by the central government.

**Rashmi Shukla:** Senior IPS officer appointed as the Director-General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

**Eric Garcetti:** Appointed as the new US Ambassador to India.

**Mrs. Dilma Rousseff:** Elected as the President of the New Development Bank (NDB), by the Board of Governors of the Bank.

**Xi Jinping:** Elected for the third term of five years as China's President after he was endorsed by a unanimous vote from the 2977-member National People's Congress.

**Li Qiang:** A close ally of Chinese leader Xi Jinping, elected as the Premier (prime minister) of China by a unanimous vote in the National People's Congress on March 11.

**Ram Chandra Paudel:** Senior Nepali Congress leader was elected as the new President of Nepal on March 09.

**Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani:** Appointed as the new prime minister of Qatar.

**Vo Van Thuong:** Elected as the President of Vietnam by its National Assembly on March 02.

**Bola Tinubu:** Sworn in as President of Nigeria, Africa's most populous country.

## AWARDS & HONOURS

### JUNE

**The Gandhi Peace Prize-2021:** Conferred on Gita Press, Gorakhpur (UP) for their commendable work over the last 100 years towards furthering social and cultural transformations among the people, through low priced socially useful books.

**Jnanpith Award:** Goan writer Damodar Mauzo received the country's highest literary honour on May 28 from the Governor of Goa.

**IIFA Awards** announced on May 27 in Abu Dhabi, UAE.  
Best Picture: Drishyam 2 by Abhishek Pathak  
Best Director: R Madhavan for Rocketry: The Nambi Effect  
Best Actor: Hrithik Roshan for Vikram Vedha  
Best Actress: Alia Bhatt for Gangubai Kathiawadi

**Palme d'Or:** The coveted award for the Best Film at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival in Paris was won by French Director Ms. Justine Triet for her crime drama "Anatomy of a Fall".

### MAY

**Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur:** France's highest civilian award was conferred upon Tata Group Chairman N Chandrasekaran for his contributions to strengthen the trade relationship between India and France.

**Dag Hammarskjöld Medal:** UN Peacekeeping Force honoured posthumously three Indian soldiers by this UN award for their meritorious services.

**Global Gold Award:** The Green Organization, USA has awarded Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), a Maharatna CPSU of the Ministry of Power, for their outstanding work under the CSR scheme.

#### Filmfare Awards 2023 announced

The 68<sup>th</sup> Hyundai Filmfare Awards ceremony was held at the Jio Convention Centre, Mumbai on April 28.

**Best Film:** Gangubai Kathiawadi

**Best Director:** Sanjay Leela Bhansali for Gangubai Kathiawadi

**Best Actor (Male):** Rajkummar Rao for Badhaai Do

**Best Actor (Female):** Alia Bhatt, Gangubai Kathiawadi

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Prem Chopra, veteran negative role artist

**2023 International Booker Prize:** Georgi Gospodinov (Bulgarian writer) and Angela Rodel (translator) from USA bagged this prestigious prize on May 23 for their book 'Time Shelter'.

### APRIL

**Nandini Gupta,** beauty queen from Rajasthan was crowned Femina Miss India World 2023. Along with her, Delhi's Shreya Poonja became the first runner-up, while Manipur's Thounaojam Strela Luwang was crowned the 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up.

**2023 International Prize in Statistics:** Regarded as Nobel of Statistics, conferred on C. Radhakrishna Rao, a prominent Indian-American mathematician and statistician, for his monumental work 75 years ago that revolutionised statistical thinking.

**Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur:** Conferred on philanthropist and art collector Kiran Nadar, (wife of Shiv Nadar, the founder of HCL Technologies).

### MARCH

**Saraswati Samman, 2022:** Awarded to noted Tamil writer Sivasankari for her 2019 memoir, Surya Vamsam.

**Governor of the Year 2023 Award:** The International Journal of Central Banking selected RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das for this prestigious award for steering the financial markets through multiple global crises.

**Vyas Samman 2022:** Won by renowned Hindi author, Dr. Gyan Chaturvedi for his satirical novel "Pagalkhana" (Mental Asylum).

#### Two Oscars for Indians

'Naatu Naatu song' from SS Rajamouli's film RRR made history on March 12 by becoming the first Indian entry to win an Oscar for the Best Original Song.

Another Indian won an Oscar for Best Documentary Short Film for the documentary 'The Elephant Whisperers'.



## OSCARS AWARDS 2023

The 95<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards (Oscars Awards 2023) were announced on March 12 in Los Angeles, USA.

Best Picture: Everything Everywhere All at Once (EEAO)

Best Actress: Michelle Yeoh (EEAO)

Best Actor: Brendan Fraser (The Whale)

Best Director: Daniel Kwan and Daniel Schienert (EEAO)

**2023 Abel Prize:** Regarded as the Nobel of Mathematics, won by Prof. Luis Caffarelli, 74, "for his seminal contributions to regularity theory for nonlinear partial differential equations including free-boundary problems and the Monge-Ampère equation". Prof. Caffarelli teaches at the University of Texas, USA.

**The Pritzker Architecture Prize-2023:** Won by the British architect and urban planner, Sir David Alan Chipperfield.

**2023 Marconi Prize:** Won by computer scientist Hari Balakrishnan "for fundamental contributions to wired and wireless networking, mobile sensing, and distributed systems".

**Porter Prize 2023:** Awarded to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in recognition of their outstanding work in the health sector and COVID management.

**PEN/Nabokov Award-2023:** (*For Lifetime Achievement in International Literature*) Won by Hindi short story writer, novelist and poet Vinod Kumar Shukla.

## OBITUARY

### JUNE

**Gitanjali Aiyar:** One of India's first English female news presenters on Doordarshan (DD), passed away on June 7 at the age of 71. She served DD for over 30 years.

**Gufi Paintal:** Best known for playing 'Shakuni Mama' in the epic TV serial "Mahabharat", he passed away on June 5. He was 79. His real name was Sarabjeet Singh Paintal.

### MAY

**Nitesh Pandey:** Popular Television character artist, passed away on May 24 at the age of 51.

**Srichand Hinduja:** The Indian-born billionaire, leader of a global business empire and the patriarch of Britain's wealthiest family, died on May 17, aged 87.

**Tina Turner:** The pioneering rock'n'roll star who became a pop behemoth in the 1980s, died on May 24, aged 83, at her home in Zurich, Switzerland.

### APRIL

**Sardar Parkash Singh Badal:** The 95-year-old towering politician from Punjab breathed his last on April 25 in Mohali, Punjab. He was elected as MLA 11 times. Badal became the Chief Minister of Punjab for five terms. He was honoured with Padma Vibhushan in 2015.

**Uttara Baokar:** Noted film and TV actor and theatre artist died at the age of 79 in Pune on April 11 following a prolonged illness. She came in the limelight following her role in Govind Nihlani's movie Tamas.

**Keshub Mahindra:** Mahindra & Mahindra Chairman Emeritus breathed his last on April 12 at the age of 99 in Mumbai. With a reported net worth of \$1.2 billion as per Forbes, he was regarded as India's oldest billionaire.

### MARCH

**Satish Kaushik:** The veteran actor-writer-director, died in Delhi at the age of 67. He is best known for his comedic roles as Calendar in Mr. India and as Pappu Pager in Deewana Mastana.

## PLACES IN NEWS

### JUNE

**Cyclone Biparjoy:** The Super Cyclone made landfall on coastal districts of Kutch and Saurashtra in northwest Gujarat on June 15, causing widespread devastation due to heavy rains and high-speed winds of over 100 to 140 kmph lashing the area.

**Balasore, Bhanaga Rail Accident:** In one of the worst rail accidents in the country, around 300 people lost their lives and over 900 passengers were injured critically.

### MAY

**Cyclone Mocha:** Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm Mocha made a landfall along the western coastline of Myanmar near Sittwe on May 14.

### APRIL

**Village Mana:** The village on the India-China border in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, which was earlier recognised as the last Indian village, will now be known as the 'first Indian village'.

## MARCH

**Hubballi:** The city in Karnataka secured its place in the Guinness Book of World Records for having the longest railway platform in the world.

- ✓ *The 1,507-metre-long platform at Shri Siddharoodha Swami station in Hubballi was inaugurated on Mar 12.*

**Attukal:** A town near Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, witnessed one of the largest gatherings of women in the world on the occasion of "Attukal Pongala" on March 07.

- ✓ *Over 25 to 30 lakh women gathered here to pay obeisance to Goddess Bhadrakali in the famous Attukal Bhagavathy Temple for the prosperity of their family.*

**California:** The south western US state, California was struck by a very low-pressure system that developed a "bomb cyclone," on March 21-22.

**Cyclone Freddy:** More than 300 people were killed in Malawi and Mozambique in Southern Africa after a strong cyclone Freddy, packing powerful winds and torrential rains, struck the mainland on March 12-13.

## SPORTS WORLD

### JUNE

**Doubles pair of Sutirtha Mukherjee** and Ayhika Mukherjee won the doubles title in the World Table Tennis Contender tournament on June 25 in Tunis, capital city of Tunisia.

**Olympian C A Bhavani Devi** from Chennai created history on June 19 by securing India's first-ever medal at the Asian Fencing Championships—a bronze -- in the women's sabre event in Wuxi, China.

**Amlan Borgohain,** bagged two gold medals on June 4, in the men's 100 and 200-meter races at the Flanders Cup 2023 athletics meet, known as the International Antwerp Athletics Gala, in Merksem, Belgium.

**H S Prannoy,** India's ace shuttler clinched the Malaysia Masters singles badminton title on May 28 by defeating Weng Hong Yang of China in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Intercontinental Football Cup:** Indian men's senior football team led by the captain Sunil Chhetri lifted the cup with a 2-0 victory over Lebanon in the final played on June 18 at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar in Odisha.

**Indonesia Open (Badminton):** Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty scripted history by becoming India's first ever doubles pair to win this prestigious tournament on June 18, in Jakarta, Indonesia.

**Women's Junior Hockey Asia Cup:** India defeated four-time champions South Korea 2-1 to win their first Asia cup on June 11 in Kakamigahara, Japan.

**FIH Pro League 2022-23:** Indian hockey team led by Harmanpreet Singh defeated Argentina 2-1 in its final match in Eindhoven, the Netherlands on June 11.

**Third Khelo India University Games** concluded in Varanasi on June 04 at the IIT BHU campus. Panjab University, Chandigarh emerged the champion with an overall tally of 69 medals.

**Asia Cup Hockey:** India's junior men's hockey team won the cup for the fourth time by beating Pakistan 2-1 in the finals played on June 01 at Salalah, Oman.

**16th IPL Tournament:** Chennai Super Kings, led by M S Dhoni, won its 5<sup>th</sup> IPL title by defeating defending champions Gujarat Titans by 5 wickets in the finals played on May 29 in Ahmedabad.

**First Janjatiya Khel Mahotsav** was held in Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar, June 9 to 12.

**37th National Games:** The mascot for the games was unveiled on June 18 in Goa. Named 'Moga', it represents Goa's state animal Bison, a kind of wild buffalo.

### INTERNATIONAL

**Cristiano Ronaldo,** the charismatic Football star was awarded a Guinness World Record on June 21 for making the highest number, 200, international appearances for Portugal.

**World Squash Championship:** Egypt won the championship by beating Malaysia 2-1 in the final played on June 17 in Chennai.

**First FIFA U-20 World Cup 2023:** Uruguay beat Italy 1-0 to win its first FIFA U-20 cup on June 11 in La Plata, Argentina.

**ICC World Test Championship:** Australia defeated India by 209 runs on June 11 in the final played at Oval, in England.

**French Open 2023:** The second grand slam of tennis concluded on June 11 in Paris.



**Novak Djokovic of Serbia** created history by becoming the first man to reach the coveted 23 grand slam title by defeating Casper Ruud (Norway) in the men's singles final on June 11.

**Iga Swiatek of Poland** won the Women's Singles crown by defeating Czech Karolina Muchova.

## MAY

**Murali Sreeshankar and Jeswin Aldrin**, long jumpers from India, won gold and silver, respectively, on May 24 at the International Jumping Meet at Kallithea in Greece.

**Neeraj Chopra**, India's Tokyo Olympics gold medallist, reached the top of the latest men's javelin throw rankings issued by the World Athletics.

**Divya TS and Sarabjot Singh** won gold in the 10m air pistol mixed team event at the ISSF World Cup at Baku in Azerbaijan.

**V. Praneeth**, 15-year-old Chess player from Telangana became India's 82nd Grandmaster on May 11 by winning his third GM norm at the Baku Open 2023.

**Pair of Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Ms. Ganemat Sekhon** won gold on April 30 in the skeet mixed team event at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Cairo, Egypt.

**Sumit Nagal** won the Rome Challenger (ATP Roma Garden Open) tennis tournament beating Jesper De Jong of Netherlands on April 30 in Rome, Italy.

**South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023** was held in Itanagar, capital of Arunachal Pradesh from May 15 to 17. Indian boys and girls made a clean sweep by winning gold in all the 10 categories in under 15 and under 19 age groups.

**Asia Cup-World Ranking Tournament, Stage II:** Indian archery men and women teams emerged at the top of the medal tally with 7 Gold medals, 5 Silver and 2 bronze in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The tournament ended on May 5.

**Indian girls bagged 10 gold**, 4 silver and 3 bronze medals in various categories in the Moscow Wushu Stars Championship held in Moscow in the first week of May.

**2023 Badminton Asia Championship:** Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy pair scripted history by winning the men's doubles title on April 30, in Dubai. This was India's first doubles title after 1965.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Khelo India University Games** were inaugurated on May 25 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh for the under-27 category. Game's mascot was Jitu, the Barasingha.

**The BCCI** signed a new partnership deal with global sportswear brand Adidas, which will run till March 2028, for being the sole supplier of all "match, training and travel wear" for the men's, women's and youth teams.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Luca Brecel**, 28-year-old Belgian snooker player, won the World Snooker Championship for the first time on May 01 at the Crucible in Sheffield, England.

### Ding Liren : New world Chess Champion

China's Ding Liren was crowned as the 17<sup>th</sup> world rapid chess champion on April 30 in FIDE World Championship 2023 in Astana, Kazakhstan.

**Italian Open Tennis Tournament:** Daniil Medvedev of Russia clinched his maiden clay court title while Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan won the women's singles title.

**The Annual Laureus Sports Awards 2022** announced on May 8 in Paris.

**World Sportsman of the Year Award:** Lionel Messi

**World Sportswoman of the Year:** Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, ace sprinter from Jamaica

**World Team of the Year Award:** Argentina Men's Football Team, winner of 2022 FIFA World Cup

**World Breakthrough of the Year Award:** Carlos Alcaraz, 20-year-old tennis champion from Spain, winner of 2022 US Open, reached top rank on Sep 12, 2022

## APRIL

**Jyothi Surekha Vennam** won two gold medals in archery on April 22 at the Archery World Cup 2023 Stage 1 in Antalya, Turkey.

**D Gukesh** won the World Chess Armageddon Asia & Oceania event on April 9 in Berlin, Germany.

**Priyanshu Rajawat** won the Orleans Masters Super 300 badminton tournament on April 9 in Orleans, France.

**Indian batter Suryakumar** was named Wisden Almanack's top T20I cricketer, while Harmanpreet Kaur became the first Indian woman to be named Cricketer of the Year award.

**Rohit Sharma** has been selected by the BCCI to captain the test squad for the World Test Championship final against Australia.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Kim Cotton**, 48-year-old umpire from New Zealand became the first woman on-field umpire in a full-member men's T20I match that was played on April 5 between New Zealand and Sri Lanka in Dunedin in New Zealand.

## MARCH

**IBA Women's World Boxing Championship:** Lovlina Borgohain, Nikhat Zareen, Nitu Ghanghas and Saweety Boora brought 4 gold medals for the country at the World Championship held in Delhi, that concluded on March 26.

**Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty**, India's top men's doubles badminton pair, won their first title of the 2023 season in the Swiss Open 2023 on March 26 in the finals held at Basel, Switzerland.

**Pankaj Advani**, veteran cueist, retained his Asian Billiards title for the 8<sup>th</sup> time, in the final held at Qatar Billiards and Snooker Federation Academy in Doha, Qatar on March 19.

**Rohan Bopanna**, 43 year old tennis star became the oldest tennis player on March 18 to win an ATP Masters 1000 title after winning the doubles title in the Indian Wells Masters tournament in California, USA.

**'BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year' 2022:** Tokyo Olympic Games silver-medalist weightlifter Mirabai Chanu was selected for the award through a public vote.

**D Gukesh**, 16-year-old Indian Grandmaster from Chennai was honoured with "Player-of-the-Year" award by the Asian Chess Federation on March 1 at the Asian chess Summit in Abu Dhabi.

**Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam** won gold in men's doubles on Feb 26 at the Spanish Para-Badminton International tournament in Victoria, Spain. Tarun defeated Kadam to secure singles gold in the finals.

**84<sup>th</sup> Senior National Badminton Championship:** Anupama Upadhyaya and Mithun Manjunath won the women's and men's singles titles, respectively, in Pune in the last week of February.

**Women's Premier League (WPL):** Mumbai Indians led by Harmanpreet Kaur won the inaugural Women's Premier League on March 26 in the Summit Clash with Delhi Capitals in Mumbai.

**Asian Kho Kho Championship:** Indian teams won in both, men and women categories in the finals held on March 23 at Tamulpur in Assam.

## Khelo India Dus Ka Dum tournament

The Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry organised the "Khelo India Dus Ka Dum" tournament from the 10 to 31 March to promote participation of those women in sports who were unable to participate in national or state-level competitions.

"Hai dum to Badhao kadam" was the tagline of the tournament which featured 10 sports.

**Irani Cup:** Team Rest of India won the cup by thrashing current Ranji trophy champion Madhya Pradesh by 238 runs on March 5 in Gwalior.

**Santosh Trophy:** The biggest trophy in senior national football was lifted by Karnataka after beating Meghalaya in the finals played on March 4 in King Fahd Stadium, Riyadh in Saudi Arabia.

**Craig Fulton**, Hockey veteran from South Africa with nearly 25 years of coaching experience, was appointed as new chief coach of the Indian men's hockey team, by Hockey India.

**ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship** was hosted by Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from March 20 to 27.

**IBA Women's World Boxing Championship 2023** was inaugurated at Indira Gandhi Sports Complex in New Delhi on March 15.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Max Verstappen** (of Netherland) led the team Red Bull to victory in the season-opening Bahrain Grand Prix at Sakhir on March 05.

**Indian Wells Masters** (also called BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament): **Carlos Alcaraz** won the men's singles title on March 19 while Elena Rybakina won women's title in Indian Wells, California, USA.

**Novak Djokovic** of Serbia achieved another historic milestone in his career on Feb 27 by overtaking Steffi Graf's record for most weeks (377) by a tennis player, male or female, as World No 1, beginning his 378<sup>th</sup> week on top of tennis rankings.

**ICC T20 World Cup (women) Trophy:** Australia led by Meg Lanning lifted the prestigious cup for the sixth time by beating South Africa by 19 runs in the final match played on Feb 26 in Cape Town, South Africa.



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# Model Test For General / Economy / Banking Awareness



## AUGUST GK TEST - 01

- In which state web portal and mobile app "Amrit Brikshya Andolan" was launched on August 2, aimed at planting one crore commercially viable plants in the state?  
a. Bihar                      b. Assam  
c. Odisha                    d. Tripura  
e. West Bengal
- V S \_\_\_\_\_, a prominent scientist and instrumental figure in India's nuclear program, died at the age of 87:  
a. Viswanathan              b. Bharti  
c. Sheshadri                d. Arunachalam  
e. Thiagarajan
- Myra Grover, noted author and secretary of the New Delhi Social Workers Association (NDSWA), was honoured with the esteemed "Women Icon Award" by the parliament of which country?  
A. Sweeden                b. Norway  
c. Britain                    d. France  
e. Spain
- The union cabinet approved which scheme on August 16 for strengthening the family-based practice of traditional skills by artisans and craftspeople?  
a. PM Kaarigar Yojana  
b. PM Hastshilp Yojana  
c. PM Kutir Udyog Yojana  
d. PM Vishwakarma Yojana  
e. PM Gramodyog Yojana
- What is the name of the indigenously developed Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) recently inducted by the Indian Army?  
a. Him Prabha              b. Swathi Mountains  
c. Netra Hills                d. Mount Drill  
e. Giri Shikhar
- Who dethroned Viswanathan Anand as India's top-ranked chess player in the live world rankings?  
a. Nihal Sarin                b. D Gukesh  
c. V S Gujrathi              d. Arjun Erigaisi  
e. P Harikrishna
- In a historic move, the lone Rajya Sabha woman MP from \_\_\_\_\_, was nominated as one of the vice chairpersons of the Rajya Sabha:  
a. Manipur                    b. Meghalaya  
c. Tripura                    d. Mizoram  
e. Nagaland
- Treasury bills in India are issued by the  
a. Government of India  
b. Reserve Bank of India  
c. Commercial banks  
d. Development finance institutions  
e. Ministry of Finance
- Bonalu is the "state festival" of which state?  
a. Andhra Pradesh        b. Karnataka  
c. Kerala                    d. Telangana  
e. Tripura
- National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) is set to become an Indian Institute of Management (IIM). It is in which city?  
a. Bhopal                    b. Gwalior  
c. Mysore                    d. Panaji  
e. Mumbai
- An exquisite mango breed called the Miyazaki mango, astonishingly costs nearly Rs. 2.5 to 3 lakh per kg. It is associated with which country?  
a. Thailand                    b. Japan  
c. China                      d. Afghanistan  
e. Iran



12. **August 19 is observed as World Humanitarian Day. What is the theme selected for this year?**  
a. We all are humans  
b. Humanity First  
c. No Matter What  
d. Humanity, Life matters  
e. Humanity, it matters!
13. **In which country Admiral Lisa Franchetti made news as she became the first woman in history to serve as the Chief of Naval Operations and member of Joint Chiefs of Staff in that country?**  
a. Britain  
b. USA  
c. France  
d. Australia  
e. Japan
14. **Sat Pal Bhanoo has been appointed as the new Managing Director of which of the following corporations?**  
a. NTPC  
b. BHEL  
c. NPCI  
d. BEML  
e. LIC
15. **Private banks in India are allowed to have FDI up to \_\_\_\_ of their total capital:**  
a. 49%  
b. 74%  
c. 26%  
d. 100%  
e. 51%
16. **Which state is the largest producer of Uranium in India?**  
a) Odisha  
b) Andhra Pradesh  
c) Jharkhand  
d) Telangana  
e) Rajasthan
17. **In which European country a war memorial, "V.C Yeshwant Ghadge Sundial Memorial" was inaugurated on July 22 honouring the supreme sacrifices of the Indian soldiers?**  
a. France  
b. Portugal  
c. Italy  
d. Britain  
e. Greece
18. **What is the name of India's first indigenously developed autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) designed to detect underwater mines and neutralise them, launched on July 28 in Kolkata?**  
a. Minaxee  
b. Neerakshi  
c. Jaldristi  
d. Jalnashak  
e. Ripunashak
19. **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has included "NongHyup Bank", a foreign bank, in the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934. It is based in which country?**  
a. Vietnam  
b. Japan  
c. Thailand  
d. S Korea  
e. Indonesia
20. **India's largest International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex was dedicated to the nation on July 26 in which city?**  
a. Mumbai  
b. Gandhinagar  
c. New Delhi  
d. Hyderabad  
e. Bengaluru
21. **Which tech company joined hands with the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) to digitally train and upskill 10 million local traders?**  
a. Google  
b. Microsoft  
c. Amazon  
d. Meta  
e. IBM
22. **What are the three broad parameters of the RBI's Financial Inclusion Index?**  
a. Availability, Quantity and Acceptability  
b. Access, Usage and Quality  
c. Access, Level and Quality  
d. Level, Usage and Quality  
e. Availability, Quantity and Usage
23. **The Rohingyas community, which has been in news of late, for the hardships being faced by them, belongs to which country?**  
a. Nepal  
b. Sri Lanka  
c. Pakistan  
d. Indonesia  
e. Myanmar
24. **The NITI Aayog approved a grant of ₹10 crore to the \_\_\_\_\_ University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, for establishing India's first Atal Incubation Centre in fisheries:**  
a. Pune  
b. Madurai  
c. Kerala  
d. Puri  
e. Anna
25. **Jonas Vingegaard, winner of the 110th edition of the Tour de France 2023, hails from which country?**  
a. Spain  
b. Mexico  
c. Denmark  
d. Poland  
e. Hungary
26. **As per the 2023 Tiger Census, released in April 2023, which of the following is the closest to the number of Tigers in India?**  
a. 2300  
b. 2600  
c. 2900  
d. 3200  
e. 3600

27. The Byculla railway station received UNESCO's Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award on July 24 for its outstanding efforts in restoration of bygone heritage architecture. It is in which city?  
a. Hyderabad      b. Bengaluru  
c. Surat      d. Mumbai  
e. Pune
28. What is the title of the recently published autobiography of T N Seshan, former CEC of India?  
a. Tryst with Indian Voters  
b. Looking Through the Glass  
c. Roses are not all the way  
d. Treading the Uncharted Paths  
e. Through the Broken Glass
29. NITI Aayog hosted a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy on July 28-29 in which city?  
a. Dehradun      b. New Delhi  
c. Lucknow      d. Srinagar  
e. Varanasi
30. London based World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF) has recently made which Indian city 41st member of its global network of cities, for its commitment to an "inclusive and globalised culture"?  
a. Prayagraj      b. Patna  
c. Guwahati      d. Bengaluru  
e. Chennai
31. Which of the following categories of banks are NOT operational in India?  
1. Payment Banks  
2. Co-operative Banks  
3. Commercial Banks  
4. Commodity Banks  
5. Land Mortgage Banks
32. Select the mismatched pair:  
a) NGT: Environmental protection  
b) CSIR: Education  
c) TRAI: Telecommunications  
d) NASSCOM: Software companies  
e) BCSBI: Service levels in banks
33. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$295-million loan to which Indian state for improving the highways infrastructure in the state?  
a. Assam      b. Bihar  
c. Rajasthan      d. Punjab      e. Haryana
34. ISRO successfully launched which country's DS-SAR satellite and six co-passenger payloads onboard its PSLV-C56 rocket on July 30?  
a. Vietnam      b. UAE  
c. Saudi Arabia      d. Singapore  
e. Philippines
35. Government has launched the ULLAS app to promote functional literacy for which target group?  
a. School students in 12 to 18 age group  
b. Rural women in 18 and above age group  
c. School dropouts in rural areas  
d. Slum children in 15 to 21 age group  
e. Persons aged 15 and above who missed formal school education
36. From which country the Indian Air Force (IAF) recently received the Spike Non-Line of Sight (NLOS) anti-tank guided missiles?  
a. Sweden      b. Israel  
c. France      d. USA  
e. Russia
37. What is the name of the bill passed by the Parliament on 02 August that seeks to amend certain enactments for decriminalising and rationalising offences to further enhance trust-based governance for ease of living and doing business.  
a. Jan Vishwas Bill      b. Jan Sahayak Bill  
c. Nagrik Sanhita Bill  
d. Jan Suraksha Bill      e. Nagrik Kalyan Bill
38. SEBI has introduced the concept of '\_\_\_\_\_ investors' in the Indian securities market, representing sophisticated knowledgeable investors.  
a. Angel      b. Accredited  
c. Qualified      d. Smart  
e. Preferred
39. Pick the odd one out:  
a. Durand Cup: Hockey  
b. Wimbeldon: Lawn Tennis  
c. Agha Khan Cup: Hockey  
d. The Ashes: Cricket  
e. Vijay Hazare Trophy: Cricket
40. In which city of China Typhoon Doksuri triggered extremely heavy rainfall of over 75 cm in just five days, from July 29 to Aug 02, causing widespread deluge and devastation?  
a. Guangzhou      b. Shanghai  
c. Qingdao      d. Beijing      e. Hangzhou

41. Indian women's team of V. Jyothi Surekha, Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur created history by clinching their first ever gold medal in the World \_\_\_\_\_ Championships on August 4 in Berlin, Germany:
- Archery
  - Fencing
  - Judoka
  - Taekwondo
  - None of these
42. The Finance Ministry approved the upgradation of the \_\_\_\_\_ India Ltd from 'Navratna' category to the 'Maharatna' category:
- Minerals
  - Mines
  - Coal
  - Oil
  - Steel
43. Government launched a nation-wide movement - 'Meri Mati Mera Desh' (my soil, my country) on 9th August for what purpose?
- To promote farming of local products
  - To spread awareness about the Soil Card Scheme
  - To promote local rural artisans and their handicrafts
  - To develop war memorials in every village, town and city
  - To promote local products at national level
44. "Smoke and Ashes" is the title of a recent novel by which Indian author?
- Amitav Ghosh
  - Amish Tripathi
  - Sudha Krishnamurthi
  - Vikram Seth
  - Alka Joshi
45. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal took over as the Chairman of which national level apex body?
- CBDT
  - CBIC
  - GST Commission
  - Railway Board
  - None of these
46. Accounts in the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana recently crossed the historic 50 crore mark. It was launched in which year?
- 2012
  - 2016
  - 2010
  - 2014
  - 2018
47. How many Indian wetland sites in total have been recognised as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention?
- 43
  - 57
  - 66
  - 75
  - 84

48. The RBI Monetary Policy Committee in its review meeting ended on August 10, did NOT change which of its policy rates?
- Repo Rate
  - Standing Deposit Facility Rate
  - Marginal Standing Facility Rate
  - Bank Rate
  - All of these
49. The Indian Air Force inducted Heron Mark 2 drones at a forward air base in the northern sector. These drones have been procured from which country?
- Argentina
  - Israel
  - Japan
  - France
  - USA
50. Bikash Sinha, a recipient of Padma Shri in 2001 and Padma Bhushan in 2010, died in Kolkata on August 10 at the age of 78. He was a renowned \_\_\_\_\_:
- Nuclear physicist
  - Space scientist
  - Educationist
  - Bangla author
  - Historian

#### AUGUST GK TEST - 02

1. \_\_\_\_\_ has become the fastest major port to handle 50 million metric ton cargo in the current fiscal year.
- Mundra
  - Paradip
  - Kandla
  - Haldia
  - Mumbai
2. Cabinet Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ has been officially granted a one-year extension by the Central government, making him the longest-serving cabinet secretary in India's history:
- Nripendra Mishra
  - Ajit Kumar Seth
  - Rajiv Gauba
  - Amitabh Kant
  - R K Mathur
3. National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai has developed India's first manned scientific submersible. What is its name?
- MATSYA-6000
  - Mariner-6000
  - Sagarika-7000
  - Jalnetri-9000
  - Neerakshi-5000
4. Manoj Yadava, senior IPS officer from the Haryana cadre, has been appointed as the new Director General of which armed police force?
- BSF
  - CRPF
  - RPF
  - ITBP
  - CISF



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5. **For a bank, a Savings Bank Deposits represent a kind of \_\_\_\_\_ :**
  - a. Time liability
  - b. Short term Asset
  - c. Demand liability
  - d. Both A and C
  - e. Only B
6. **The oldest Stock Exchange in Asia is located in**
  - a. Beijing
  - b. Istanbul
  - c. Cairo
  - d. Tokyo
  - e. Mumbai
7. **Maui Island was in the news as the catastrophic wildfires there claimed at least 115 lives in the second week of August. It is in which country?**
  - a. Japan
  - b. Philippines
  - c. Britain
  - d. USA
  - e. Mexico
8. **Which district in Jammu & Kashmir secured the top spot in the "Front Runners" category of the Jal Jeevan Survekshan 2023 conducted in 114 districts of the country by the union ministry of Jal Shakti?**
  - a. Jammu
  - b. Kathua
  - c. Poonch
  - d. Rajouri
  - e. Srinagar
9. **Which Small Finance Bank (SFB) became the first bank in India to launch a 24x7 video banking service on August 7?**
  - a. AU Small Finance Bank
  - b. Capital Small Finance Bank
  - c. Suryoday Small Finance Bank
  - d. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
  - e. Utkarsh Small Finance Bank
10. **India won the Hero Asian Hockey Championship (Men) on August 12 in Chennai by defeating which country?**
  - a. Japan
  - b. Pakistan
  - c. Malaysia
  - d. Indonesia
  - e. S Korea
11. **Bindeshwar \_\_\_\_\_, founder of 'Sulabh International', a pioneer of public toilets in India, popularly known as the "Toilet Man of India", passed away on August 15 in New Delhi:**
  - a. Tyagi
  - b. Dubey
  - c. Pathak
  - d. Yadav
  - e. Choubey
12. **R. Doraiswamy has been appointed as the Managing Director of which public sector insurance company?**
  - a. LIC
  - b. GIC
  - c. UIIC
  - d. NIC
  - e. OIC
13. **As per RBI guidelines, banks should not take any collateral security in case of loans up to Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ lakh extended to SHGs under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM):**
  - a. 10
  - b. 15
  - c. 20
  - d. 23
  - e. 25
14. **As per the RBI guidelines, cash-out at any ATM for more than ten hours in a month, will attract a penalty of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ per ATM:**
  - a. 5,000
  - b. 10,000
  - c. 15,000
  - d. 20,000
  - e. 30,000
15. **As per the National Automobile Scrappage Policy, all private and commercial vehicles are required to undergo 'fitness tests' as soon as they age \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ years, respectively:**
  - a. 10 and 15
  - b. 15 and 10
  - c. 20 and 15
  - d. 15 and 20
  - e. 25 and 15
16. **What is the name of the advanced stealth frigate that was launched on August 17 at Kidderpore in Kolkata on the banks of Hooghly River?**
  - a. Satpura
  - b. Nilgiri
  - c. Vindhyagiri
  - d. Aravali
  - e. Vindhya
17. **What is the name of India's first long range revolver manufactured by state-owned company Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWEIL), Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh that was launched on August 18?**
  - a. Vikat
  - b. Prabal
  - c. Vighrah
  - d. Achook
  - e. Nishank
18. **The union cabinet approved the 'PM-eBus Sewa' scheme on August 16 for augmenting city bus operations across the country. Initially, it will be launched in cities having population of \_\_\_\_\_ lakh and above:**
  - a. One
  - b. Two
  - c. Three
  - d. Four
  - e. Five



19. The G20 Film Festival began in \_\_\_\_\_ on August 16 with the screening of Satyajit Ray's iconic film 'Pathar Panchali':  
 a. Shillong                      b. Puri  
 c. Kochi                         d. New Delhi  
 e. Srinagar
20. Who made history in women's wrestling by emerging as world champion in the 76 kg category in the 2023 U20 World Championships on August 17 at Amman city, Jordan?  
 a. Priya Malik                  b. Sarita Mor  
 c. Alka Tomar                 d. Divya Kakran  
 e. Anshu Malik
21. Which of the following is NOT a primary function of a Bank in India?  
 a. Granting Loans  
 b. Collecting Cheques/Drafts of customers  
 c. Financing import - export of goods  
 d. Remittance of funds  
 e. Selling Gold/Silver Coins
22. The PMGSY is a government scheme related to which of the following?  
 a. Primary education  
 b. Drinking water  
 c. Pregnant women  
 d. Rural electrification  
 e. Rural roads
23. The Reserve Bank of India launched a centralised web portal UDGM on August 17 for what purpose?  
 a. For faster disposal of complaints  
 b. To promote research in data management  
 c. To push innovations in online banking  
 d. To facilitate disposal of unclaimed deposits  
 e. To promote research in digital payments
24. Oil India Ltd., a Maharatna company, is based in which state?  
 a. Odisha                        b. West Bengal  
 c. Andhra Pradesh  
 d. Gujarat                      e. Assam
25. The Prime Minister announced the 'Lakshmi Didis' scheme on Independence Day for what purpose?  
 a. To provide digital transaction training to women  
 b. To impart financial literacy to women  
 c. To provide vocational training to women  
 d. To raise financial status of rural women  
 e. None of these
26. A depreciation in exchange rate of the Indian rupee will NOT  
 A. Encourage exports  
 B. Encourage imports  
 C. Encourage both exports and imports  
 D. Discourage both, exports and imports  
 E. Stabilize the exchange value of the domestic currency
27. Match the following countries with their respective currencies:  
 1. Indonesia                  P. Dirham  
 2. China                        Q. Euro  
 3. UAE                         R. Rupiah  
 4. Bangladesh               S. Renminbi  
 5. Vatican                      T. Taka
- |    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| a. | P | R | S | Q | T |
| b. | T | S | P | R | Q |
| c. | R | S | P | T | Q |
| d. | R | S | P | Q | T |
| e. | S | P | R | T | Q |
28. Name the scheme according to which the poor migrant workers are able to buy subsidised rice and wheat from any ration shop in the country as long as their ration card is linked to Aadhaar.  
 a. National Ration Card Scheme  
 b. Antyodaya Anna Yojana  
 c. One Nation One Ration Card  
 d. Ration Card Integration Scheme  
 e. National Food Subsidy Scheme
29. As per a recent report from the World Economic Forum, which of India's neighbouring countries has attained an impressive feat of net zero emissions?  
 a. Sri Lanka                    b. Bhutan  
 c. Nepal                        d. Bangladesh  
 e. Myanmar
30. India's first 3D printed post office building was inaugurated on August 18 in which city?  
 a. Chennai                    b. Vadodara  
 c. Vellore                     d. Tirupati  
 e. Bengaluru
31. Which village in Goa became the first Indian village to compile its own "Biodiversity Atlas"?  
 a. Siolim                        b. Baga  
 c. Mayem                      d. Agonda  
 e. Porvorim



32. **Sadbhavna Diwas on August 20 marks the birthday of which great Indian personality?**  
 a. Indira Gandhi                      b. Rajiv Gandhi  
 c. Atal Behari Vajpayee              d. Sardar Patel  
 e. I K Gujral
33. **State Bank of India reported an extraordinary rise of 178 percent in net profit to Rs 16,884 crore for the April-June FY24 quarter. Who is the present chairman of State Bank of India?**  
 a. Dinesh Kumar Khara  
 b. Rajnish Kumar  
 c. Atanu Chakraborty  
 d. Ashwini K Tewari  
 e. Sashidhar Jagdishan
34. **The office of Banking Ombudsman appointed by the Reserve Bank can be considered similar to ..... in terms of functions and powers.**  
 a. Labour Court              b. CBI  
 c. Police                      d. Lok Adalat  
 e. Civil Court
35. **In which year did the United States detonate two nuclear bombs over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9, respectively?**  
 a. 1932                      b. 1937  
 c. 1942                      d. 1945  
 e. 1948
36. **Consider the following statements:**  
 1. The Rajya Sabha enjoys practically no powers as regards a Money Bill sent to it by Lok Sabha.  
 2. A Joint Sitting of Parliament is called by the Prime Minister to resolve a deadlock over a bill.  
 3. A Money Bill requires the prior approval of the President before its introduction in Lok Sabha.  
 Which of the above are correct?  
 a. 2 and 3                      b. 1 and 3  
 c. 1, 2                      d. All are correct  
 e. None is correct
37. **India is the only country in the entire world to have a separate ministry for the development of renewable energy resources. Currently it is headed by which minister?**  
 a. Raj Kumar Singh  
 b. Ashwini Vaishnaw  
 c. Piyush Goyal  
 d. Kiren Rijiju  
 e. Giriraj Singh
38. **Spain won the 9th FIFA Women's World Cup on August 20 in Sydney by defeating which country?**  
 a. Germany                      b. England  
 c. Argentina                      d. Brazil  
 e. Italy
39. **Name the share, which referred to as ordinary share also represents the form of fractional ownership in which a shareholder, as a fractional owner, undertakes the maximum entrepreneurial risk associated with a business venture.**  
 a. Preference shares  
 b. Equity share  
 c. Cumulative Preference Shares  
 d. Participating Preference Share  
 e. No such share
40. **Which of these is/are NOT Quantitative Money Control measure(s) used in India?**  
 1. SLR                      2. CRR  
 3. Margin Requirement  
 4. Interest rates on Deposits  
 Select the right option:  
 a. Only 1                      b. Only 2  
 c. Only 3                      d. Both 1 and 2  
 e. 3 and 4
41. **The BRO has constructed the world's highest motorable tarmac road at the height of 19,300 feet, through which mountain pass?**  
 a. Khardung La              b. Karakoram Pass  
 c. Chang La                      d. Umling La  
 e. Zoji La
42. **Under whose chairmanship was the 15th Finance Commission been constituted by the Union Government?**  
 a. Arvind Mehta              b. Ramesh Chand  
 c. NK Singh                      d. Shaktikanta Das  
 e. AM Khusro
43. **The Indian Navy participated in the 22nd edition of Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) Exercise. It was hosted by which country?**  
 a. Japan                      b. Thailand  
 c. Singapore                      d. Indonesia  
 e. Malaysia
44. **Tulip Garden in Srinagar entered its name in the World Book of Records as Asia's largest and most spectacular garden of its kind. What is its formal name?**  
 a. Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden

- b. Jawahar Tulip Garden  
c. Sher-A-Kashmir Tulip Garden  
d. Shaan-e-Kashmir Tulip Garden  
e. Rajiv Gandhi Tulip Smriti Upvan
45. **India has procured Harpoon weapons from USA. What is it?**  
a. Mini submarine  
b. Anti-aircraft gun  
c. Mini attack helicopter  
d. Anti-ship Missile  
e. Anti-submarine Torpedo
46. **What does 'I' stand for in the acronym BIMSTEC?**  
a. Interim  
b. International  
c. Inspection  
d. Internal  
e. Initiative
47. **The all-weather 8.5 km tunnel between Jammu and Kashmir's Qazigund and Banihal has been made across which range of Himalayas?**  
a. Karakoram                      b. Pir Panjal  
c. Dhauladhar                    d. Zaskar  
e. Ladakh hills
48. **The lack of access to financial services is technically known as**  
a. Financial instability  
b. Financial inversion  
c. Financial seclusion  
d. Financial exclusion  
e. Financial isolation
49. **Core Banking refers to**  
a. Networking of bank branches on a centralized server  
b. The banking operations of the Reserve Bank  
c. Banking operations by World Bank  
d. Routine operations in retail banking  
e. Banking operations by Central Government
50. **As per the RBI guidelines, in the case of locker operations, bank's liability in case of incidents like fire, robbery or fraud committed by an employee, will be limited to \_\_\_\_\_ times the prevailing annual rent of the locker:**  
a. Ten  
b. Twenty  
c. Fifty  
d. Seventy-five  
e. One hundred

#### ANSWER KEY | AUGUST | GK TEST | 1

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	B	2	D	3	C	4	D	5	B
6	B	7	E	8	A	9	D	10	E
11	B	12	C	13	B	14	E	15	B
16	B	17	C	18	B	19	D	20	C
21	D	22	B	23	E	24	C	25	C
26	D	27	D	28	E	29	B	30	D
31	D	32	B	33	B	34	D	35	E
36	B	37	A	38	B	39	A	40	D
41	A	42	D	43	D	44	A	45	B
46	D	47	D	48	E	49	B	50	A

#### ANSWER KEY | AUGUST | GK TEST | 2

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	B	2	C	3	A	4	C	5	C
6	E	7	D	8	E	9	A	10	C
11	C	12	A	13	C	14	B	15	C
16	C	17	B	18	C	19	D	20	A
21	E	22	E	23	D	24	E	25	C
26	B	27	C	28	C	29	B	30	E
31	C	32	B	33	A	34	E	35	D
36	B	37	A	38	B	39	B	40	E
41	D	42	C	43	C	44	A	45	D
46	E	47	B	48	D	49	A	50	E

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### AUGUST 2023

1. Purnima of Shravan month is celebrated as World Sanskrit Day. It fell on which day in 2023? **August 31**
2. August 30 is celebrated as the International Whale Shark Day. Which is the largest fish alive on the Earth? **Whale Shark**
3. India celebrates National Small Industry Day on which day of August? **30<sup>th</sup>**
4. National Sports Day on August 29 commemorates the birthday of which great sportsperson? **Major Dhyan Chand**

5. Which new app has been launched on Aug 25 that integrates Tele-Law and Nyaya Bandhu App? **Tele-Law - 2.0**
6. The President of Greece on August 25, conferred PM Modi with "The Grand Cross of the \_\_\_\_ of Honour", the country's top civilian honour? **Order**
7. The 15<sup>th</sup> BRICS Annual Summit admitted how many new members on its concluding day, Aug 24? **Six**
8. Out of the six countries--Argentina, Egypt, Kenya, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and UAE, which one has not been admitted to BRICS group? **Kenya**



9.	Indian prime minister attended the 15 <sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit on August 22, till August 24, in which city in South Africa? <b>Johannesburg</b>
10.	President of South Africa hosted the 15 <sup>th</sup> BRICS Annual Summit in Johannesburg. Who is he? <b>Cyril Ramaphosa</b>
11.	What is the title of the recent book written by Meghna Gulzar about her father, Gulzar? <b>Because He Is</b>
12.	In the 69 <sup>th</sup> National Film Awards declared on Aug 24, which film was declared the overall Best Feature Film? Rocketry: <b>The Nambi Effect</b>
13.	Which film won the national award for the Best Feature Film in Hindi? <b>Sardar Udham</b>
14.	Magnus Carlsen of Norway beat which Indian GrandMaster in tie-breaks to become the World Champion on August 24? <b>R. Praggnanandhaa</b>
15.	FIDE Chess World Cup 2023 was held in which city? <b>Baku, Azerbaijan</b>
16.	C Radhakrishnan _____, one of the world's most eminent statisticians, died on August 23 at the ripe age of 103 years: <b>Rao</b>
17.	The National Tiger Conservation Authority accorded its approval for the Dholpur-Karauli Tiger Reserve as 54 <sup>th</sup> Tiger reserve in the country. It is in which state? <b>Rajasthan</b>
18.	The Ministry of Defence has formed a nine-member committee headed by K. Vijay Raghavan, for what purpose? <b>To propose a revamped futuristic structure for the DRDO</b>
19.	In the category of cities with a population of more than 10 lakhs, which city topped the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan -2023 conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board? <b>Indore, Madhya Pradesh</b>
20.	The Election Commission of India appointed which cricket legend as a "national icon" of the poll panel on August 23? <b>Sachin Tendulkar</b>
21.	On August 23, India became the first country to land its space vehicle Vikram in the _____ area of moon: <b>South Pole</b>
22.	What is the name of the rover that came out of the lander Vikram? <b>Pragyan</b>
23.	Which Indian bank celebrated golden jubilee of its operations on August 22 in UAE? <b>Bank of Baroda</b>
24.	NTPC started a trial run of India's first ever hydrogen bus on a public road in which place? <b>Leh</b>

25.	Which union ministry has, for the first time, notified the Green Hydrogen Standard for India? <b>Ministry of New and Renewable Energy</b>
26.	Which is the common process for generating green hydrogen? <b>Water electrolysis</b>
27.	The Border Roads Organisation has started construction of the world's highest motorable road in which area of Ladakh? <b>Demchok sector</b>
28.	Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of National Green Tribunal (NGT)? <b>Justice Prakash Shrivastava</b>
29.	Anahat Singh, 15 year old girl from Delhi, clinched the gold medal on August 20 in the U-17 category of the Asian Junior _____ Individual Championships: <b>Squash</b>
30.	Which country won the 9 <sup>th</sup> FIFA Women's World Cup on August 20? <b>Spain</b>
31.	Which city hosted the final match of 9 <sup>th</sup> FIFA Women's World Cup? <b>Sydney</b>
32.	Sadbhavna Diwas on August 20 marks the birthday of which noted leader of India? <b>Sh. Rajiv Gandhi</b>
33.	During which period Sh. Rajiv Gandhi served as the Prime Minister of India? <b>1984-89</b>
34.	August 20 is celebrated as World Mosquito Day. Out of male and female mosquitos, which one transmit malaria between humans? <b>Female</b>
35.	India observes Akshay Urja Diwas on August 20. Who is the current head of the union ministry of New & Renewable Energy? <b>Sh. Raj Kumar Singh</b>
36.	Which UN Office actively supports celebration of World Humanitarian Day on August 19? <b>UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - OCHA</b>
37.	In which country state of British Columbia declared a state of emergency on August 18 to handle devastating wildfires? <b>Canada</b>
38.	Which village in Goa became the first Indian village to compile its own "Biodiversity Atlas"? <b>Mayem</b>
39.	India's first 3D printed post office building was inaugurated in which city on August 18? <b>Bengaluru</b>
40.	What is common between Priya Malik, Antim Panghal, Savita and Mohit Kumar in context of 2023 U20 World Wrestling Championships? <b>All four won the individual gold medal</b>

41.	What is the name of India's first long range revolver launched on August 18? <b>Prabal</b>
42.	What is the effective firing range of the Prabal revolver? <b>50 meters</b>
43.	What type of ship is 'Vindhyagiri' which was launched on August 17 in Kolkata? <b>Advanced stealth frigate</b>
44.	Which apex national organisation launched a mobile app 'FloodWatch' on August 17 for providing real time flood forecasts? <b>Central Water Commission</b>
45.	For what reason Northwest Territories Province of Canada was in news in mid-August? <b>It was devastated by widespread wildfires</b>
46.	R. Doraiswamy has been appointed as the Managing Director of which national insurance company? <b>Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)</b>
47.	The Indira Gandhi Memorial Tulip Garden entered the World Book of Records as Asia's largest Tulip Garden. It is at which place? <b>Srinagar, J&amp;K</b>
48.	The Indian Air Force recently inducted Heron Mark 2 at a forward air base in the northern sector. What is it? <b>Advanced long range drone</b>
49.	The RBI launched a centralised web portal UDGM on August 17 for what purpose? <b>To facilitate search and claim of unclaimed deposits, across the banking sector</b>
50.	What is the expansion of the acronym UDGM? Unclaimed Deposits - <b>Gateway to Access inforMation</b>
51.	A recent report from the World Economic Forum revealed that Bhutan has transformed itself into a carbon____; absorbing more CO2 than what it releases: <b>Sink</b>
52.	The G20 Film Festival was inaugurated on August 16 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
53.	The union cabinet approved which scheme on August 16 for strengthening the traditional skills of artisans and craftsmen across the country? <b>PM Vishwakarma Yojana</b>
54.	Beneficiaries under the PM Vishwakarma Yojana are eligible to get credit support up to Rs. ____ lakh at just 5% interest: <b>Two</b>
55.	The union cabinet approved which scheme on August 16 for augmenting city bus operations across the country? <b>PM-eBus Sewa</b>

56.	PM-eBus Sewa will be started initially in the cities having a population of ____ lakh and above: <b>Three</b>
57.	The Prime Minister announced which scheme on Independence Day for providing vocational training to two crore women in rural areas? <b>Lakshpati Didis Scheme</b>
58.	Founder of 'Sulabh International', popularly known as the "Toilet Man of India", passed away on August 15 in New Delhi. Who was he? <b>Bindeshwar Pathak</b>
59.	Which country hosted the Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) Exercise in mid-August? <b>Singapore</b>
60.	The Asian Development Bank sanctioned a \$ 40.5 million loan to which state for improving early childhood development and maternal mental health in the state? <b>Meghalaya</b>
61.	Which national day is observed on August 14 to mark the partition of India in 1947? <b>Partition Horrors Remembrance Day</b>
62.	World Organ Donation Day is observed on August 13. When does India celebrate National Organ Donation Day? <b>November 27</b>
63.	Indian team defeated which country on August 12 to win the Hero Asian Hockey Championship (Men)? <b>Malaysia</b>
64.	August 12 is observed as World Elephant Day. Which country claims to have largest elephant population? <b>Botswana, over 1,30,000</b>
65.	Which Indian state is home to largest number of elephants? <b>Karnataka, 6,395</b>
66.	With which country Indian Navy participated in Exercise Zayed Talwar on August 11? <b>UAE</b>
67.	Exercise Zayed Talwar was held in which area? <b>Persian Gulf</b>
68.	Which island in the Hawaii state of USA was in the news as the catastrophic wildfires there claimed at least 110 lives in the second week of August? <b>Maui Island</b>
69.	Which country hosted the 11-day multilateral naval exercise Malabar 2023 that started on August 11? <b>Australia</b>
70.	The National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, has developed a manned scientific submersible named MATSYA-6000, for what purpose? <b>To enable scientists to explore deep-sea areas through direct intervention</b>

71.	The RBI Monetary Policy Committee in its review meeting ended on August 10, did not change which policy rate? <b>None</b>
72.	Which day of August is observed as World Lion Day? <b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
73.	In which state other than Gujarat, can we see Asian Lions? <b>None</b>
74.	Which anti worm tablets are given free of cost to children in the age group of 1 to 19 years, on National Deworming Day on August 10? <b>Albendazole</b>
75.	Sanjay Kumar Agarwal took over as the Chairman of the Central Board of _____ Taxes and _____: <b>Indirect; Customs</b>
76.	What was the main objective of the 'Meri Mati Mera Desh' campaign launched on August 9? <b>To honour the heroes who sacrificed their lives for the country</b>
77.	Which national movement was launched on August 8, August Kranti Diwas in 1942? <b>Quit India Movement</b>
78.	Javelin Throw Day August 7 commemorates the achievement of which sportsperson? <b>Neeraj Chopra</b>
79.	Which apex institute launched an e-portal, “भारतीय वस्त्र एवं शिल्प कोष” (Treasure of Indian Clothing and Crafts), on August 7? <b>National Institute of Fashion Technology</b>
80.	Which bank, for the first time in India, launched 24x7 video banking service on August 7? <b>AU Small Finance Bank</b>
81.	What is the name of the indigenously developed Weapon Locating Radar (WLR) recently inducted in the Indian Army? <b>Swathi Mountains</b>
82.	India celebrates National _____ Day on August 7: <b>Handloom</b>
83.	Which national movement was launched from Kolkata on August 7 in 1905? <b>Swadeshi Movement</b>
84.	On the National Handloom Day artisans and weavers are honoured with which award for their excellence in handicrafts and handloom products? <b>Sant Kabir Awards</b>
85.	On which date in 1945, world's first Atom Bomb was dropped by the USA on Japanese city Hiroshima? <b>August 6</b>
86.	What was the name of the Atom Bomb dropped on Hiroshima? <b>Little Boy</b>

87.	India celebrates National Bone & Joint Day on which date? <b>August 4</b>
88.	Which Indian Grandmaster recently dethroned Viswanathan Anand as India's top-rated chess player in the live world rankings? <b>D Gukesh</b>
89.	Which apex national agency recently launched the 'Rajmarg Yatra' app for highway users? <b>National Highways Authority of India</b>
90.	From which country the Indian Air Force recently received the Spike Non-Line of Sight (NLOS) anti-tank guided missiles? <b>Israel</b>
91.	The Finance Ministry approved the upgradation of which Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) from 'Navratna' to 'Maharatna' category? <b>Oil India Ltd.</b>
92.	Oil India Ltd. is based in which state? <b>Assam</b>
93.	Aditi Swami became the first Indian to become the senior world champion on August 5 in which event? <b>Compound archery at World Archery Championship in Berlin, Germany</b>
94.	Deodhar Trophy is associated with which sports? <b>Cricket</b>
95.	Who was the winner of 2023 season of Deodhar Trophy? <b>South Zone</b>
96.	Typhoon Doksuri recently devastated which big metropolitan city of China? <b>Beijing</b>
97.	The Parliament passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023 on August 02, mainly for what objective? <b>For decriminalising and rationalising number of minor offences in several acts</b>
98.	The Asian Development Bank granted a \$200 million loan to which Indian state for expanding water supply and sanitation systems in selected towns? <b>Rajasthan</b>
99.	Government launched the mobile app ULLAS on July 30 for what purpose? <b>To facilitate technology-based access to basic functional literacy</b>
100.	What is the full form of the acronym ULLAS? <b>Understanding Lifelong Learning for All in Society</b>
101.	Muslim Women's Rights Day on August 01 marks which important event? <b>Enactment of the law against Triple Talaq on this day in 2019</b>
102.	August 01 is observed as World Lung Cancer Day. Which are the two most common factors causing lung cancer? <b>Smoking and air pollution</b>



<b>103.</b>	Name the English computer scientist who is credited with the creation of World Wide Web: <b>Tim Berners-Lee</b>
<b>104.</b>	Latest data released by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on the Global Tiger Day, July 29 puts the Tiger population estimates at 3,925. Which Indian state is home to largest number of tigers? <b>Madhya Pradesh, 785</b>
<b>105.</b>	Amongst Tiger Reserves, the largest number of Tigers, 260, are in which reserve? <b>Jim Corbett National Park, Uttarakhand</b>
<b>106.</b>	ISRO successfully launched Singapore's DS-SAR satellite on July 30. What is SAR? <b>Synthetic Aperture Radar</b>
<b>107.</b>	The Asian Development Bank approved a \$295-million loan for improving the road infrastructure in which Indian state? <b>Bihar</b>
<b>108.</b>	London based World Cities Culture Forum has recently made which Indian city 41st member of its global network of cities? <b>Bengaluru</b>
<b>109.</b>	Aditya Samant, 17-year-old boy achieved the title of India's 83rd Grandmaster on July 26. He hails from which state? <b>Maharashtra</b>
<b>110.</b>	NITI Aayog hosted a two-day G20 conference on the Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy on July 28-29 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
<b>111.</b>	What is the name of India's first of its kind autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) designed to detect mines, launched on July 28? <b>Neerakshi</b>
<b>JULY 2023</b>	
<b>1.</b>	Which day of July is celebrated as World Rangers Day? <b>31<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>2.</b>	July 29 is designated as the Global Tiger Day. Which country has the largest population of Tigers? <b>India</b>
<b>3.</b>	World Hepatitis Day falls on July 28. Hepatitis primarily affects which organ of body? <b>Liver</b>
<b>4.</b>	India's most modern and the largest International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex was inaugurated on July 26 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
<b>5.</b>	What is the formal name of the IECC inaugurated on July 26? <b>Bharat Mandapam</b>
<b>6.</b>	Kargil Vijay Diwas on July 26 marks the success of which operation conducted on this day in 1999? <b>Operation Vijay</b>

<b>7.</b>	India finished 2 <sup>nd</sup> on the medals tally at the ISSF Junior Shooting World Championships that concluded on July 25. It was held in which place? <b>Changwon, South Korea</b>
<b>8.</b>	The Byculla railway station received UNESCO's Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award on July 24 for its outstanding efforts in restoration of bygone heritage architecture. It is in which city? <b>Mumbai</b>
<b>9.</b>	What is the new logo of the social media platform Twitter, launched on July 24? <b>'X'</b>
<b>10.</b>	July 24 is celebrated as the Income Tax Day in India. Which is the regulatory apex body for regulation of income tax in India? <b>Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)</b>
<b>11.</b>	Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and _____ won the Korea Open Badminton men's doubles title on July 23: <b>Chirag Shetty</b>
<b>12.</b>	Jonas Vingegaard, winner of Tour de France 2023, hails from which country? <b>Denmark</b>
<b>13.</b>	Which social media giant joined hands with the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) to digitally train and upskill 10 million Indian traders? <b>Meta</b>
<b>14.</b>	India's first Atal Incubation Centre in fisheries is being set up in which city? <b>Kochi, Kerala</b>
<b>15.</b>	National Broadcasting Day on July 23 marks the day on which first radio broadcast was made public in 1927. It was made from which radio station? <b>Bombay Station</b>
<b>16.</b>	In which country a war memorial was dedicated to the Indian Soldiers on July 22 in honour of their supreme sacrifices? <b>Italy</b>
<b>17.</b>	Italy dedicated a war memorial commending the supreme sacrifice of Indian soldiers in ____ war: <b>World War II</b>
<b>18.</b>	July 22 is observed as the National Flag Day. Who designed the National Flag? <b>Pingali Venkayya</b>
<b>19.</b>	India celebrates National Mango Day on which day of July? <b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>
<b>20.</b>	Sri Lankan President _____ Wickremesinghe reached New Delhi on July 20 for a two-day official visit: <b>Ranil</b>
<b>21.</b>	India and Sri Lanka are celebrating the ____ anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations: <b>75<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>22.</b>	Sri Lanka has agreed to link their _____ payment system with India's UPI: <b>LankaPay</b>

23.	Sri Lanka is an important factor in the Vision SAGAR followed by India. Expand the acronym SAGAR: <b>Security and Growth for All in the Region</b>
24.	July 20 is observed as World Chess Day. Which country is regarded as the birth place of chess? <b>India</b>
25.	National Moon Day on July 20 marks the very first landing of human being on the Moon's surface on this day in the year____: <b>1969</b>
26.	_____ was the first human being to step down on the Moon's surface? <b>Neil Armstrong</b>
27.	India's first credit guarantee scheme to facilitate inflow of funds to MSMEs engaged in the _____sector was launched July 20: <b>Livestock</b>
28.	In which country R Praggnanandhaa won the V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM chess tournament 2023 on July 19? <b>Hungary</b>
29.	The union cabinet approved a bill on July 19 for designating the NITIE- National Institute of Industrial Engineering as the 21 <sup>st</sup> IIM in the country. It is in which city? <b>Mumbai</b>
30.	Sat Pal Bhanoo has been appointed as the new Managing Director of which apex financial institution? <b>LIC of India</b>
31.	Who has been appointed as the 25 <sup>th</sup> Director General of the Indian Coast Guard on July 19? <b>Rakesh Pal</b>
32.	In the history of which country Admiral Lisa Franchetti became the first woman to serve as the Chief of Naval Operations? <b>USA</b>
33.	The "NongHyup Bank" was included in the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934 on July 18. It is based in which country? <b>South Korea</b>
34.	Manoj Yadava, senior IPS officer has been appointed the Director General of which Central Armed Police Force? <b>Railway Protection Force (RPF)</b>
35.	What is the name of the world's largest office building that has been built in Surat? <b>Surat Diamond Bourse</b>
36.	Name the veteran Congress leader and former Chief Minister of Kerala, who breathed his last on July 18: <b>Oommen Chandy</b>
37.	July 18 is celebrated as International Nelson Mandela Day. Indian government honoured him with which civil award in 1990? <b>Bharat Ratna</b>

38.	According to the latest Henley Passport Index released on July 18, which country's passport was placed at number one rank? <b>Singapore</b>
39.	What was Indian passport's rank in the latest Henley Passport Index? <b>80<sup>th</sup></b>
40.	Which apex organisation released the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) for 2022 on July 17 in New Delhi? <b>Nitin Aayog</b>
41.	Which state secured number one position in the Export Preparedness Index? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
42.	July 17 is observed as World Day for International Justice. Where is the International Criminal Court? <b>The Hague</b>
43.	What was the name of the bilateral joint military exercise in which India participated with Mongolia at Ulaanbaatar from 17 to 31 July? <b>Nomadic Elephant</b>
44.	Who secured a Guinness world record for the fastest shot by a male player in badminton, achieving a speed of 565 kmph with his smash hit? <b>Satwiksairaj Rankireddy</b>
45.	Which team lifted the Duleep Trophy on July 16 at Bengaluru? <b>South Zone</b>
46.	Which Indian university hosted the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships that concluded on July 16? <b>Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida</b>
47.	Asian Athletics Championships which concluded on July 16, were held in which city? <b>Bangkok</b>
48.	Wimbledon Tennis Tournament is held in which city? <b>London</b>
49.	Who won this year's men's singles title at the Wimbledon? <b>Carlos Alcaraz</b>
50.	Carlos Alcaraz hails from which country? <b>Spain</b>
51.	Name the unseeded tennis player who clinched this year's Wimbledon's women's singles title? <b>Marketa Vondrousova</b>
52.	Vondrousova plays tennis for which country? <b>Czech Republic</b>
53.	Which day of June is celebrated as World Youth Skills Day? <b>15<sup>th</sup></b>
54.	Which UN agency provides active support for celebration of World Youth Skills Day? <b>UNESCO</b>
55.	The WHO's cancer agency has deemed which artificial sweetener as a "possible" cause of cancer (carcinogenic)? <b>Aspartame</b>
56.	Headquarters of WHO are located in which city? <b>Geneva</b>

57.	Who is the current chief of the WHO? <b>Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus</b>
58.	Prime Minister Modi visited which city in UAE on July 15 during his official visit? <b>Abu Dhabi</b>
59.	The Power Index for 145 countries released in the second week of July, ranked India at which spot in terms of its military power? <b>Fourth</b>
60.	Which Indian IIT plans to open a local campus in Abu Dhabi? <b>IIT Delhi</b>
61.	The RBI signed an MoU with the Central Bank of UAE for execution of the LCS system. What is LCS? <b>Local Currency Settlement</b>
62.	India finalised a deal to buy which 26 fighter jets from France for its navy? <b>Rafale-M jets</b>
63.	ISRO successfully launched the LVM3 M4 rocket carrying Chandrayaan 3 on July 14. What is expansion of LVM3? <b>Launch Vehicle Mark 3</b>
64.	What is the name of the Lander Module carried by the propulsion module? <b>Vikram</b>
65.	Lander Vikram carried the rover named _____ on to the Moon's surface: <b>Pragyan</b>
66.	India's first ECT-elevated cross taxiway (runway) was inaugurated on July 14 at which international airport? <b>Delhi International Airport</b>
67.	July 14 is observed as the Shark Awareness Day. Sharks do not have bones. Their skeletons are made up of ____: <b>Cartilages</b>
68.	At which national military parade of France, Prime Minister Modi was the guest of honour? <b>Bastille Day Parade</b>
69.	Who scripted a new world record on July 13 in F64 javelin throw in World Para-Athletics Championship in Paris: <b>Sumit Antil</b>
70.	What is the name of the indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System launched recently by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways? <b>Sagar Sampark</b>
71.	What is the main objective of Sagar Sampark system? <b>To enhance safe navigation of ships by providing more accurate positioning information</b>
72.	Who is the current union minister of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways? <b>Sh. Sarbananda Sonowal</b>
73.	Prime Minister Modi was honoured with France's highest civil/military order on July 13. What is its name? <b>The Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour</b>

74.	_____ became the first Indian CPSE to get certified for its Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS) by InterCert, USA: <b>ONGC</b>
75.	July 12 is observed as World Malala Day. What is her full name? <b>Malala Yousafzai</b>
76.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of World Population Day on July 11? <b>U N Fund for Population Activities</b>
77.	India celebrates National Fish Farmers' Day on which day of July? <b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
78.	Who is the current union minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying? <b>Sh. Parshottam Rupala</b>
79.	What was the name of the joint multi-agency operation carried out in June 2023 by the law enforcement agencies of the US and India to prevent drugs supply in USA? <b>Broader Swords</b>
80.	Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been re-elected as the President of which Central Asian country? <b>Uzbekistan</b>
81.	Which UN agency released the latest Multi - dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) for 110 countries, jointly with Oxford University? <b>UNDP - United Nations Development Programme</b>
82.	Rudransh Khandelwal, 19-year-old boy won the gold and created a new world record on July 10 in which event? <b>P4 mixed 50m pistol SH1 category in World Shooting Para Sports</b>
83.	On July 9, Parth _____ became the first Indian male archer to win a gold in the recurve category at the Youth World Championships: <b>Salunkhe</b>
84.	Which country recently launched its first open-source desktop operating system (OS) named OpenKylin 1.0? <b>China</b>
85.	India recently joined the Champions Group of the Global _____ Response Group: <b>Crisis</b>
86.	Which global organisation has set up the Global Crisis Response Group? <b>UNO</b>
87.	Which Indian shuttler clinched the Men's Singles title of the Canada Open 2023 badminton tournament on July 09? <b>Lakshya Sen</b>
88.	Which Bank launched on July 6 a virtual branch, Metaverse? <b>PNB</b>
89.	Which country won the FIH Hockey Pro League 2022-23? <b>Netherlands</b>
90.	India hosted the Salvex-23 naval exercise with which country? <b>USA</b>



91.	What was the name of the bilateral Maritime Exercise 2023 that was hosted by the Indian Navy from 5 to 10 July with Japanese Naval Force? <b>JIMEX 23</b>
92.	JIMEX 23 was held in Bay of Bengal, near which place? <b>Visakhapatnam</b>
93.	RBI launched its information management framework on June 30 for handling its massive data flow. What is its name? <b>Centralised Information Management System</b>
94.	Maruti Suzuki India, for the first time made its entry into the premium MPV segment on July 5. What is its name? <b>Invicto</b>
95.	Meta, known for Facebook and Instagram, launched its new microblogging platform on June 6 with what name? <b>Threads</b>
96.	Police force of which city launched a 'Drone Police Unit' on June 29 to assist cops in aerial surveillance? <b>Greater Chennai Police</b>
97.	Government launched _____ 6G Alliance on July 3 for the next-generation communication technology in India: <b>Bharat</b>
98.	The market capitalisation of listed firms which stock exchange hit a lifetime peak of Rs 301.10 lakh crore (trillion) on July 6? <b>BSE – Bombay Stock Exchange</b>
99.	World Zoonoses Day is observed on July 6 for raising awareness on which issue? <b>Infectious diseases that can spread from animals to humans, and vice versa</b>
100.	Debadatta Chand assumed charge as MD & CEO of which bank? <b>Bank of Baroda</b>
101.	Who has been selected as the AIFF Footballer of the Year 2022-23 in men's category? <b>Lallianzuala Chhangte</b>
102.	Manisha Kalyan, winner of AIFF Footballer of the Year 2022-23 in women's category, hails from which state? <b>Punjab</b>
103.	Which country has enforced a complete ban on thin plastic bags, commonly used in supermarkets for fruit and vegetable purchases? <b>New Zealand</b>
104.	Who has been appointed as chairman of the Senior Men's Cricket Selection Committee by the BCCI? <b>Ajit Agarkar</b>
105.	Which country won the SAFF Football Championship on July 4? <b>India</b>
106.	Which Indian city hosted the finals of SAFF Football Championship? <b>Bengaluru</b>

107.	According to data released by the U.S. National Centers for Environmental Prediction, which was the hottest day ever recorded globally, recently? <b>July 4</b>
108.	Which city hosted the 23 <sup>rd</sup> Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State on July 4? <b>None, it was held in virtual mode</b>
109.	Which country was added as the 9 <sup>th</sup> full member of the SCO during the summit? <b>Iran</b>
110.	India will handover the presidency of SCO for 2023-24 to which country? <b>Kazakhstan</b>
111.	What is the name of the world's most advanced space telescope launched on July 01? <b>Euclid</b>
112.	Which space agency launched the space telescope Euclid? <b>European Space Agency</b>
113.	Euclid will be stationed some 1.5 million kilometers away from the Earth at L-2_____ Point: <b>Lagrange</b>
114.	The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is developing a National Maritime Heritage Complex at which place in Gujarat? <b>Lothal</b>
115.	Indian and French Naval warships undertook a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) on June 30 at which place? <b>In the Bay of Bengal</b>
116.	Which senior advocate has been re-appointed as the Solicitor General of India for three more years? <b>Tushar Mehta</b>
117.	Which global bank approved \$1.5 billion funding to help India promote low-carbon energy by scaling up renewable energy and green hydrogen? <b>World Bank</b>
118.	According to the 17 <sup>th</sup> edition of the Global Peace Index 2023 released on June 28, India was placed at which rank? <b>126<sup>th</sup></b>
119.	Which country was declared as the most peaceful country of the world by the Global Peace Index 2023? <b>Iceland</b>
120.	India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor started its commercial operations on June 30 at which nuclear power project? <b>Kakrapar Atomic Power Project</b>
121.	Kakrapar Atomic Power Project is located in which state? <b>Gujarat, at Kakrapar</b>
122.	The 'Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023' has been launched by which union ministry? <b>Ministry of Power</b>
123.	Any project or entity which saves on emissions can issue carbon _____ against their savings: <b>Credit</b>

124. One carbon credit is equivalent to avoiding or reducing emission of ____ ton of carbon dioxide or the equivalent in other greenhouse gases: <b>One</b>
125. International Plastic Bag Free Day is observed on which day of the year? <b>July 03</b>
126. In which state the Geological Survey of India has declared India's biggest "Natural Arch" as a Geo Heritage Site? <b>Odisha</b>
127. July 2 is celebrated as World ____ Journalists Day: <b>Sports</b>
128. First ____ of July is celebrated as the International Day of Cooperatives: <b>Saturday</b>
129. Neeraj Chopra clinched the Lausanne Diamond League 2023 title in which country? <b>Switzerland</b>
130. Which country won the Asian Kabaddi Championship on June 30 in Busan, S. Korea? <b>India</b>
131. Who was the captain of the Indian Kabaddi team? <b>Pawan Sehrawat</b>
132. India's ____ Pallikal and ____ Pal Sandhu won the gold medal on June 30 at the Asian Mixed Doubles Squash Tournament: <b>Dipika; Harinder</b>
133. In which country at least 100 people lost their lives in the second half of June due to heat stroke related causes? <b>Mexico</b>
134. Government has permitted Banks to implement and operationalise the Mahila ____ Savings Certificate Scheme, 2023: <b>Samman</b>
135. What is the maximum amount that can be deposited in the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate Scheme? <b>Rs. two lakh</b>
136. India celebrates Chartered Accountants Day on July 01. Which is the licensing and regulatory body of chartered accountants in India? <b>Institute of Chartered Accountants of India</b>
137. National Doctor's Day on July 01 marks the birth anniversary of which legendary doctor? <b>Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy</b>
138. For what purpose the Union Cabinet approved the PM-PRANAM Yojana for the farmers on June 28? <b>To promote use of alternative fertilisers</b>
139. What is the full form of the acronym PRANAM? <b>Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother earth</b>
140. SEBI approved reducing the time period for the listing of shares in a public issue from the existing 6 days to how many days? <b>Three</b>

141.	Which state signed a MoU on June 28 with America's largest chipmaker firm Micron Technology for establishing India's first semiconductor assembly and test facility? <b>Gujarat</b>
142.	India ended its campaign in Special Olympics World Games 2023 by winning 202 medals. Which city hosted these games? <b>Berlin, Germany</b>
143.	Which category of sportspersons participate in the Special Olympics World Games? <b>People with intellectual disabilities</b>
144.	Govt launched Nandi portal for what purpose? <b>To expedite issuance of NOC for veterinary drugs and vaccines</b>
145.	As per the 'Energy Transition Index' released on June 28, India was placed at which spot? <b>67<sup>th</sup></b>
146.	Which country secured the first rank in the Energy Transition Index? <b>Sweden</b>
147.	Which Indian institute for the first time, has breached into the top 150 rankings, securing 149th rank in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2023? <b>IIT Bombay</b>
148.	The Central Air Command of the Indian Air Force conducted Exercise _____in the UB Hills area from June 16-23: <b>Ranvijay</b>
149.	India's largest rail coach plant in the private sector was inaugurated on June 22 in which city? <b>Hyderabad</b>
150.	In dia secured which rank in the 2023 IMD World Competitiveness Ranking? <b>40<sup>th</sup></b>
151.	Which country was ranked at the top of the 2023 IMD World Competitiveness Ranking? <b>Denmark</b>
152.	Kyriakos Mitsotakis was re-elected second time as the Prime Minister of which European country? <b>Greece</b>
153.	Diksha Dagar, 22-year-old hearing impaired girl from Haryana won her second Ladies European Tour in which sports? <b>Golf</b>
<b>JUNE 2023</b>	
1.	June 30 is observed as the International Asteroid Day. The Asteroid belt is located at which place in the space? <b>Between planet Mars and Jupiter</b>
2.	World social media Day is observed on which day of June? <b>30<sup>th</sup></b>
3.	National Statistics Day on June 30 marks the birth anniversary of which legendary statistician? <b>Prof. P C Mahalanobis</b>

4.	What is the name of the popular statistical measure devised by Prof. P C Mahalanobis? <b>Mahalanobis Distance</b>
5.	Doubles pair of Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee won the doubles title in the World _____ Contender tournament on June 25: <b>Table Tennis</b>
6.	On June 25 the Egyptian President honoured Sh. Modi with Egypt's highest state honour. What is its title? <b>The Order of the Nile</b>
7.	On June 24 Prime Minister Modi reached Cairo on a two-day state visit to Egypt at the invitation of President Abdel _____ El-Sisi: <b>Fattah</b>
8.	What is the name of India's first mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine booster dose launched on June 24? <b>GEMCOVAC-OM</b>
9.	Which Indian company developed and manufactured the GEMCOVAC-OM? <b>Gennova Biopharmaceuticals, Pune</b>
10.	Prime Minister Modi addressed the Joint Session of the Parliament of USA on June 22. What is its name? <b>The Congress</b>
11.	The yoga session led by Mr Modi at the UN Headquarters which was attended by thousands of participants, created a Guinness World Record for which aspect? <b>Participation by the largest number (135) of nationalities in a single yoga session</b>
12.	With a view to improve the quality of technical education in government-run institutions in India, the _____ approved a \$255.5 million loan for India: <b>World Bank</b>
13.	The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) released its new standard "IS 18267:2023" for 'Food Serving Utensils Made from which material? <b>Agri By-Products</b>
14.	The Asian Development Bank approved a \$295 million loan to which state for widening and upgrading 265 km of state highways? <b>Bihar</b>
15.	June 25 is observed as World Vitiligo Day. Vitiligo affects which part of body? <b>Skin</b>
16.	The International Day of Women in Diplomacy was observed for the first time on which day of June in 2023? <b>24<sup>th</sup></b>
17.	Indian Olympic Association (IOA) launched the "Bharat in _____" campaign on June 23 with a short marathon at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi: <b>Paris</b>

18.	June 23 is World Olympic Day. Which one amongst Summer Olympics, Winter Olympics, Youth Olympics and Paralympics, is NOT organised by the International Olympic Committee? <b>Paralympics</b>
19.	June 22 is celebrated as World Rainforest Day. Which are the largest rainforests of the world? <b>Amazon Rainforest</b>
20.	Which country hosted a two-day Summit for a New Global Financing Pact on June 22-23? <b>France</b>
21.	Which US aerospace major signed a MoU on June 22 with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd to produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force? <b>GE Aerospace</b>
22.	Which is the most liveable city in the world as per the Global Liveability Index 2023 released on June 21? <b>Vienna, Austria</b>
23.	Name the charismatic football star who was awarded a Guinness World Record on June 21 for making the highest number, 200, international appearances: <b>Cristiano Ronaldo</b>
24.	The Global Gender Gap Index 2023 released on June 20 placed which country at the top for the least gender bias? <b>Iceland</b>
25.	India was placed at which spot in the Global Gender Gap Index? <b>127<sup>th</sup></b>
26.	Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus was honoured by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on June 20 with the 'Olympic Order'. He heads which global UN agency? <b>WHO</b>
27.	The Indian Army's Northern Command concluded a massive military exercise — Agneyastra-1 on June 19 in which area? <b>Eastern Ladakh</b>
28.	Which Indian city achieved a Guinness World Record on June 21 for the largest gathering of 1.53 lakh people for a yoga session at one place? <b>Surat, Gujarat</b>
29.	With what central theme India celebrated this year's International Yoga Day? <b>Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam</b>
30.	June 21 is observed as the World Hydrography Day. Where are the headquarters of the International Hydrographic Organisation? <b>Monte Carlo, Monaco</b>
31.	World Music Day is celebrated on which day of June? <b>21<sup>st</sup></b>
32.	June 20 is observed as the World _____ Day to respect and honour the courage and resilience of the displaced persons across the world: <b>Refugee</b>



33.	The Central Government introduced a new collection of professional learning courses called _____ on the iGOT Karmayogi platform of the Ministry of Personnel: <b>Dakshta</b>
34.	The acronym DAKSHTA stands for what? <b>Development of Attitude, Knowledge, Skills for Holistic Change in Administration</b>
35.	What is the name of the India's first Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV) supplied recently to the Indian armed forces? <b>Armado</b>
36.	ASLV Armado has been built indigenously by which company? <b>Mahindra Defence Systems</b>
37.	The United Nations adopted a first-ever treaty on June 19 to protect marine life in which area? <b>The high seas</b>
38.	C A Bhavani Devi created history on June 19 by securing India's first-ever medal at the _____ Fencing Championship: <b>Asian</b>
39.	C A Bhavani Devi hails from which state? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
40.	Which country hosted the multi-lateral military exercise Ex Khaan Quest 2023 which started on June 19? <b>Mongolia</b>
41.	Which national day is celebrated on June 19 in honour of P N Panicker, revered as the father of the library movement in Kerala? <b>National Reading Day</b>
42.	June 18 is observed as the Autistic Pride Day. Autism refers to which kind of disorder? <b>Impairment of behavioural/ communication skills</b>
43.	Celebration of Sustainable Gastronomy Day on June 18 highlights which aspect of gastronomy? <b>Growing food in nature friendly manner and avoiding wastages at every stage</b>
44.	To which country the Indian government made a gift of an indigenously-built in-service Missile Corvette? <b>Vietnam</b>
45.	What was the name of the warship that the Indian government gifted to Vietnam? <b>INS Kirpan</b>
46.	What is the name of the mascot for the 37 <sup>th</sup> National Games that was unveiled on June 18? <b>Moga</b>
47.	Mascot Moga represents which animal? <b>Bison</b>
48.	Pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty scripted history on June 18 by defeating reigning world champions in which tournament? <b>Indonesia Open (Badminton)</b>

49.	Which city hosted the Indonesia Open (Badminton) tournament? <b>Jakarta</b>
50.	Indian football team defeated which country on June 18 to lift the Intercontinental Football Cup? <b>Lebanon</b>
51.	Which Indian city hosted the Intercontinental Football Cup? <b>Bhubaneswar</b>
52.	June 18 is observed as the International Day for Countering _____: <b>Hate Speech</b>
53.	Abhishek Verma clinched a gold medal in the men's compound individual final on June 17 in which international event? <b>Archery World Cup Stage 3</b>
54.	Which day of June is observed as the World Crocodile Day? <b>17<sup>th</sup></b>
55.	Which country won the World Squash Championship on June 17 in Chennai? <b>Egypt</b>
56.	Name the winner of the Gandhi Peace Prize-2021: <b>Gita Press, Gorakhpur</b>
57.	Gita Press was honoured with the prestigious Gandhi Peace Prize for which achievement? <b>For their commendable work over the last 100 years towards furthering social and cultural interests by publishing low priced socially useful books</b>
58.	Which state won the National Water Award on June 17 for being the Best State for adopting best water practices? <b>Madhya Pradesh</b>
59.	What is the theme for this year's World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (June 17)? <b>Her Land. Her Rights</b>
60.	Which Sunday of June is celebrated as the Fathers' Day in many countries? <b>Third</b>
61.	Who has been appointed as the new Secretary (Head) of the Research & Analysis Wing (RAW)? <b>Ravi Sinha</b>
62.	What is the main function of the RAW? <b>Gathering foreign intelligence for India</b>
63.	A news item on June 15 read, "India tops in LEED Zero certifications". Term LEED Zero is associated with which aspect of life? <b>Energy conservation and environment protection</b>
64.	In the term LEED, what is denoted by the letters 'EE'? <b>Energy and Environmental</b>
65.	The official GDP data released on June 15 by which prominent island country showed that the country has slipped into recession? <b>New Zealand</b>

66.	Which international day is observed on June 15 to promote a better understanding of incidence of abuse and neglect of elderly persons? <b>World Elder Abuse Awareness Day</b>
67.	Cyclone Biparjoy made landfall on June 15 on which coastal district of Gujarat? <b>Kutch</b>
68.	Global/World Wind Day falls on which date? <b>June 15</b>
69.	June 14 is observed as the World Blood Donor Day. Which is the largest component of blood? <b>Plasma (55%)</b>
70.	The Asian Development Bank sanctioned a \$130 million loan in June to which state for promoting horticulture? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
71.	What type of ship is Sanshodhak that was launched on June 13 for the Indian Navy? <b>Survey Vessel</b>
72.	Name the ASW Shallow Water Craft that was launched on June 13 at Kattupalli, near Chennai: <b>Anjadip</b>
73.	June 12 is observed as the World Day Against ____: <b>Child Labour</b>
74.	Which military exercise took place between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force? <b>Ex Ekuverin</b>
75.	Ex Ekuverin was held at which place from June 11 to 24? <b>Chaubatia, Uttarakhand</b>
76.	India defeated which country to lift the Women's Junior Hockey Asia Cup on June 11? <b>South Korea</b>
77.	Which country hosted the Women's Junior Hockey Asia Cup? <b>Japan</b>
78.	Who won the women's singles title at the French Open 2023? <b>Iga Swiatek</b>
79.	Who created history by becoming the first man to reach the coveted 23 grand slam titles mark? <b>Novak Djokovic</b>
80.	Iga Swiatek hails from which country? <b>Poland</b>
81.	Which country won the FIH Pro League Hockey Tournament on June 11? <b>India</b>
82.	FIH Pro League Hockey Tournament was hosted by which country? <b>The Netherlands</b>
83.	First Janjatiya Khel Mahotsav was held from June 9 to 12 in which city? <b>Bhubaneswar</b>
84.	Which country won the first edition of the FIFA U-20 World Cup 2023 on June 11: <b>Uruguay</b>
85.	Which country hosted the first edition of the FIFA U-20 World Cup 2023? <b>Argentina</b>

86.	Final match of the ICC World Test Championship, 2023 was played at which cricket ground in England? <b>The Oval, London</b>
87.	The ____ Bank granted \$148 million loan on June 9 to support West Bengal in water management in rural areas: <b>World</b>
88.	Who has been appointed as the CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India? <b>Amit Agrawal</b>
89.	Subodh Kumar Singh, an IAS officer of 1997 batch has been appointed as the CEO of which apex national body? <b>National Testing Agency</b>
90.	SIDBI launched mission EVOLVE on June 05 for what purpose? <b>To finance MSMEs for electric vehicles</b>
91.	What is the expansion of the acronym EVOLVE? <b>Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem</b>
92.	Multilateral naval exercise Komodo was hosted by which country from June 5 to 8? <b>Indonesia</b>
93.	SIDBI aims to support India's target of EV30@30. What does it stand for? <b>30% electric vehicles by 2030</b>
94.	Nitin Agarwal has been appointed as the new Director General of which paramilitary force? <b>Border Security Force (BSF)</b>
95.	Parts of Western Canada were ravaged by which natural calamity in the first half of June? <b>Devastating wildfires</b>
96.	The government launched a nationwide programme Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in August in which year? <b>2019</b>
97.	A new WHO report presented to NITI Aayog on June 9 has estimated that India's ongoing 'Har Ghar Jal' campaign can save nearly ____ lakh lives: <b>Four</b>
98.	The Indian Navy's Marine Commandos and divers participated in the Ekatha Exercise with the ____ National Defence Force, from June 4 to July 3: <b>Maldives</b>
99.	Government launched Amrit Dharohar scheme on June 5 for what purpose? <b>To develop Ramsar sites (wetlands) as centers of eco-tourism</b>
100.	What is the objective of the recently launched MISHTI initiative? <b>Reviving and conserving India's wetlands and mangroves through public participation</b>
101.	What is the full form of the acronym MISHTI? <b>Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Income</b>

<b>102.</b> UN General Assembly held elections on June 8 to elect the five non-permanent members of the UN Security Council: Which country was elected from the Asian segment? <b>Japan</b>
<b>103.</b> How many countries are the members in the UN General Assembly? <b>193</b>
<b>104.</b> India topped the medals tally in the ISSF Junior World Cup 2023. It was held at which place? <b>Suhl, Germany</b>
<b>105.</b> President Droupadi Murmu made a six-day state tour from June 4 to 9 of which two countries? <b>Suriname and Serbia</b>
<b>106.</b> Which is the capital city of Suriname? <b>Paramaribo</b>
<b>107.</b> _____ is the capital and the also the largest city of Serbia? <b>Belgrade</b>
<b>108.</b> Which country conferred her highest civilian award "Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star" on our President on June 5? <b>Suriname</b>
<b>109.</b> Rezoana Mallick Heena, Bharatpreet Singh, Siddharth Choudhary and Sunil Kumar are the promising sportspersons from which sport? <b>Athletics</b>
<b>110.</b> The DRDO successfully flight-tested its New Generation Ballistic Missile Agni Prime on June 7. What is its maximum range? <b>2,000 km</b>
<b>111.</b> The first edition of India, France, and UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise was held on June 7-8 in which area? <b>Gulf of Oman</b>
<b>112.</b> RBI changed which policy rate in its second bi-monthly policy review announced on June 8? <b>No rate was changed</b>
<b>113.</b> World Brain Tumour Day is observed on which day of June? <b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>114.</b> Which major European economy was in news recently as it slipped into recession? <b>Germany</b>
<b>115.</b> Among the pulses, _____ enjoyed the highest MSP of Rs. 8558 per quintal? <b>Moong</b>
<b>116.</b> Which government committee approves the hike in the MSP of crops? <b>The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)</b>
<b>117.</b> Who heads the CCEA? <b>Prime Minister</b>
<b>118.</b> Kharif crops are sown in which season? <b>Rainy season</b>
<b>119.</b> Government plans to launch a Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR), to quickly identify emerging technologies in which sector? <b>Power generation</b>

<b>120.</b> What is the name of the heavyweight Torpedo that was recently tested successfully by the Indian Navy? <b>Varunastra</b>
<b>121.</b> Who supports the celebration of the World _____ Safety Day on June 7: <b>Food</b>
<b>122.</b> June ____ is observed as the World Pest Day: <b>6</b>
<b>123.</b> Grandmaster _____ Chithambaram won the 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dubai Open Chess Tournament on June 4: <b>Aravindh</b>
<b>124.</b> A two-day "Lavender Festival" was held on June 4-5 in Bhaderwah Valley in which area? <b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>
<b>125.</b> Recent surge in the Lavender farming in J&K is also popularly known as _____ revolution: <b>Purple</b>
<b>126.</b> The National Dam Safety Authority has designated Malaviya National Institute of Technology as the National Centre for Earthquake Safety of Dams. It is in which place? <b>Jaipur</b>
<b>127.</b> Which institute secured the "Best Overall Ranking" in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023? <b>IIT Madras</b>
<b>128.</b> Which university secured the highest ranking in the NIRF 2023? <b>IISc-Bangalore</b>
<b>129.</b> Which medical institute was declared the best in the NIRF 2023? <b>AIIMS-Delhi</b>
<b>130.</b> Under which mission the Indian Navy collected over 78,000 Kilograms of plastic waste in the last year from the Indian coastline? <b>Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan</b>
<b>131.</b> Which state hosted the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Khelo India University Games? <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
<b>132.</b> Which university topped the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Khelo India University Games? <b>Panjab University, Chandigarh</b>
<b>133.</b> Amlan Borgohain, Indian _____ bagged two gold medals on June 4, in the men's 100 and 200-meter races at the Flanders Cup 2023: <b>Sprinter</b>
<b>134.</b> June 5 is celebrated as the World Environment Day. Which is this year's host country for the Day? <b>Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)</b>
<b>135.</b> On June 01, Dennis Francis was elected as the President of the 78 <sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly. He hails from which country? <b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>
<b>136.</b> RBI launched the '100 Days 100 Pays' campaign on June 01 to trace and settle the top 100



_____deposits of every bank in every district within 100 days: <b>Unclaimed</b>
<b>137.</b> An unclaimed deposit is one in which there are no operation for ____ years or more? <b>Ten</b>
<b>138.</b> Banks are required to transfer the unclaimed deposits to the “Depositor _____and Awareness” Fund maintained by the RBI: <b>Education</b>
<b>139.</b> Recep _____ Erdogan has been re-elected as the President of Turkiye for the third successive five-year term: <b>Tayyip</b>
<b>140.</b> One of the worst rail accidents that the country has witnessed in the last 15 years, in which around 300 people lost their lives, occurred near which place? <b>Bahanaga, near Balasore</b>
<b>141.</b> World Bicycle Day is observed on the ____ day of June: <b>Third</b>
<b>142.</b> K Krithivasan has been appointed as the new CEO and MD of which major IOT company? <b>Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)</b>
<b>143.</b> Which All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) became the first of all AIIMSs to receive the prestigious NABH accreditation? <b>AIIMS, Nagpur</b>
<b>144.</b> Which international day on June 01 celebrates the importance of parenthood and its role in providing protection to children? <b>The Global Day of Parents</b>
<b>145.</b> June 1 is marked as the World Milk Day. On which date we observe the National Milk Day? <b>November 26</b>
<b>146.</b> Ashwani Kumar has been appointed as the CEO cum MD of which bank? <b>UCO Bank</b>
<b>147.</b> Bola Tinubu has been sworn in as the new President of which major African country? <b>Nigeria</b>
<b>148.</b> India’s junior men’s hockey team, led by _____, won the Asia Cup on June 01 in Salalah, Oman: <b>Uttam Singh</b>
<b>149.</b> India's GDP is pegged to grow at ____ per cent during 2022-23 as per the Statistics Ministry's provisional estimates released on June 1: <b>7.2</b>
<b>150.</b> Prime Minister of Nepal Pushpa Kamal _____ Prachanda arrived in New Delhi on May 31 on a four-day official visit to India: <b>Dahal</b>
<b>151.</b> The 23 <sup>rd</sup> season of the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards was held on May 27 in which place? <b>Abu Dhabi, UAE</b>

152.	Which film won the IIFA award for the “Best Picture”? <b>Drishyam 2</b>
153.	What is the name of the coveted award for the Best Film at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival? <b>Palme d’Or</b>
154.	Which film won the prestigious Palme d’Or award at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival? <b>Anatomy of a Fall</b>
155.	The Indian Army recently conducted this exercise along the western borders in Rajasthan and Punjab from May 22 to 25: <b>Sudarshan Shakti 2023</b>
156.	Chennai Super Kings won the 5 <sup>th</sup> IPL Tournament by defeating which team? <b>Gujarat Titans</b>
157.	Girish Chandra Murmu, the CAG of India has been re-elected as External Auditor of which global organisation? <b>World Health Organisation</b>
158.	Norodom Sihamoni, the King of _____, arrived in New Delhi on May 29 on a three-day official visit: <b>Cambodia</b>
159.	Which Indian business tycoon has been appointed as the member of Advisory Committee to the President of the 28 <sup>th</sup> Session of the COP-28 to the UNFCCC? <b>Mukesh Ambani</b>
160.	Noted writer Damodar Mauzo received the country's highest literary honour “Jnanpith Award” on May 28. He writes in which language? <b>Konkani</b>
161.	Name the India’s ace shuttler who clinched the Malaysia Masters singles badminton title on May 28 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: <b>H S Prannoy</b>
162.	ISRO successfully launched which navigational satellite on May 29 from Sriharikota? <b>NVS-01</b>
163.	For the first time, the NVS-01 will use an indigenously developed _____atomic clock: <b>Rubidium</b>
164.	Who was sworn in as the Central Vigilance Commissioner by the President of India on May 29? <b>Praveen Kumar Srivastava</b>
<b>MAY 2023</b>	
1.	Which international day is observed on May 31 to educate people about the harmful effect of tobacco consumption? <b>No Tobacco Day</b>
2.	May 29 is celebrated as International Everest Day to mark the first conquering of this highest peak on this day in 1953 by whom? <b>Edmund Hillary</b>
3.	Edmund Hillary hailed from which country? <b>New Zealand</b>

4. In Nepal, Mt Everest is locally known as ____: <b>Sagarmatha</b>
5. On the Chinese side, Mt Everest is known by which name? <b>Qololangma</b>
6. The New building of Parliament has how many seats in Lok Sabha and in Rajya Sabha, respectively? <b>888 and 384</b>
7. What is the name of the grand Exhibition Hall built in the center of the new parliament for showcasing India's democratic heritage? <b>Constitution Hall</b>
8. A historical sceptre called "Sengol" has been installed at which place in the new parliament? <b>Next to Lok Sabha Speaker's seat</b>
9. May 28 is observed as the Amnesty International Day. NGO Amnesty International is based in which city? <b>London, UK</b>
10. Which global organisation awards the Dag Hammarskjold Medal for supreme acts of valour and sacrifice? <b>UN Peacekeeping Force</b>
11. The Asian Development Bank approved a \$141.12 million loan for the development of infrastructure in three industrial clusters in which state? <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>
12. The book titled "The Golden Years" is the memoirs of which veteran author? <b>Ruskin Bond</b>
13. Smoke and Ashes is a recent novel authored by whom? <b>Amitav Ghosh</b>
14. May 25 is observed as World Thyroid Day. Thyroid gland is found in which part of body? <b>Around neck</b>
15. On May 25, which state declared herself to be India's first "total e-governed state"? <b>Kerala</b>
16. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Khelo India University Games were inaugurated on May 25 in which city of Uttar Pradesh? <b>Lucknow</b>
17. Who is the chief minister of Kerala? <b>Pinarayi Vijayan</b>
18. The finance ministry on May 24 hiked the tax exemption limit for leave encashment on retirement, to Rs ____lakh, from Rs. 3 lakh at present: <b>25</b>
19. R Dinesh has been elected as the President of the Confederation of Indian _____ on May 24 for 2023-24: <b>Industry</b>
20. Murali Sreeshankar and Jeswin Aldrin, won gold and silver, respectively, on May 24 at an International Meet in which event? <b>Long jump</b>
21. Georgi Gospodinov and Angela Rodel (translator) bagged the prestigious 2023 International Booker

Prize on May 23. Mr Gospodinov hails from which country? <b>Bulgaria</b>
22. Mr Gospodinov won the Booker Prize for which of his novels? <b>Time Shelter</b>
23. What is the prize money given with the International Booker Prize? <b>50,000 British Pounds</b>
24. After Rice and Wheat, which is the third single major crop of India? <b>Maize</b>
25. The BCCI signed a new partnership deal with which global sportswear brand for being the sole supplier of all "match, training and travel wear" for its players? <b>Adidas</b>
26. INSV Tarini, with a six-member crew, was received ceremoniously at INS Mandovi in Goa on May 23 for which achievement? <b>It returned after completing a 17,000 nautical miles (31,500 km) long trans-ocean inter-continental voyage</b>
27. For the first time, a G20 Working Group Meeting was held in Srinagar, J&K on May 22-24. Name the working group: <b>G20 Tourism Working Group</b>
28. With which country India participated in a bilateral naval exercise 'Al-Mohed-Al Hindi-23' from May 21 to 25? <b>Saudi Arabia</b>
29. Exercise 'Al-Mohed-Al Hindi-23' was conducted in which area? <b>Persian Gulf</b>
30. PM Narendra Modi landed in which Japanese city on May 19 on way to his three-nation tour? <b>Hiroshima</b>
31. Sh Modi participated in which two multi-nation summits in Hiroshima? <b>G-7 and Quad</b>
32. Which two countries honoured Sh Modi on May 22 with their highest civilian honours? <b>Papua New Guinea and Fiji</b>
33. Kami Rita Sherpa, the 53-year-old record-holding Nepalese mountain guide scaled Mt Everest for a record ____time on May 23: <b>28<sup>th</sup></b>
34. Neeraj Chopra reached the top of the latest men's javelin throw world rankings, issued by ____? <b>World Athletics</b>
35. What is the theme of this year's World Turtle Day (May 23)? <b>I love Turtles</b>
36. Which day of May is observed as the International Day for Biodiversity? <b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>
37. May 21 is observed as the International Tea Day. Which Indian city is popularly known as the Tea Capital of India? <b>Jorhat, Assam</b>
38. Anti-Terrorism Day on May 21 marks the martyrdom of which national leader? <b>Sh. Rajiv Gandhi</b>

39.	Sh. Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister of India during which period? <b>1984-89</b>
40.	What is the name of the memorial built in honour of Rajiv Gandhi? <b>Veer Bhumi, New Delhi</b>
41.	Who won the men's singles title of the Italian Open Tennis Tournament on May 21? <b>Daniil Medvedev</b>
42.	Daniil Medvedev hails from which country? <b>Russia</b>
43.	Name the veteran Congress leader who formally took charge as Karnataka's new Chief Minister on May 20: <b>Siddaramaiah</b>
44.	World Metrology Day is observed globally every year on May 20 to create awareness about ____ : <b>Importance of weights and measurements</b>
45.	When do we celebrate the World Meteorological Day? <b>March 23</b>
46.	The University Grants Commission (UGC) announced a new initiative titled 'NEP SAARTHI on May 19 with what objective? <b>To involve students in the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.</b>
47.	What is the full form of SAARTHI? <b>Student Ambassador for Academic Reforms in Transforming Higher Education in India</b>
48.	Who is the current Chairman of UGC? <b>Prof M Jagadesh Kumar</b>
49.	_____ became the first state in the country to launch a free air travel facility to senior citizens for pilgrimage: <b>Madhya Pradesh</b>
50.	Whom is the current Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh? <b>Shivraj Singh Chouhan</b>
51.	Country's first commercial passenger flight using an indigenously produced SAF blend was successfully flown on May 19. What is SAF? <b>Sustainable Aviation Fuel</b>
52.	RBI announced the withdrawal of the 2,000 rupees denomination banknotes from circulation on May 19 under which policy? <b>Clean Note Policy</b>
53.	RBI board approved on May 19 a transfer of Rs 87,416 crore as the _____ to the government for the FY ending 31 March, 2023: <b>Dividend</b>
54.	Two new judges joined the Supreme Court on May 19. What is the total sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court? <b>34 (including the CJI)</b>
55.	India celebrates the third Friday of May every year as the National _____ Species Day: <b>Endangered</b>
56.	According to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communique on May 18, who was assigned the independent

	charge as Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice, in addition to his existing portfolios? <b>Arjun Ram Meghwal</b>
57.	Former Law Minister, Kiren Rijju has been shifted to the Ministry of _____ as Minister of state: <b>Earth Sciences</b>
58.	International Museum Day is celebrated on May 18. Study of museums is known as ____ : <b>Museology</b>
59.	May 18 is observed as the World _____ Vaccine Day: <b>AIDS</b>
60.	What is full form of AIDS? <b>Acquired ImmunoDeficiency Syndrome</b>
61.	AIDS is the advanced stage of infection caused by which virus? <b>HIV - Human Immunodeficiency Virus</b>
62.	India launched 'Operation Karuna' on May 18 to provide emergency assistance to which country? <b>Myanmar</b>
63.	The Indian Navy's sixth and final Kalvari class submarine named _____, began its sea trial on May 18: <b>Vaghsheer</b>
64.	May 17 is observed as the World _____ Day to promote public awareness of ill-effects of high blood pressure (BP): <b>Hypertension</b>
65.	Who has been appointed as the new chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)? <b>Manoj Soni</b>
66.	India celebrates National _____ Day on May 16 to raise awareness about this mosquito-borne disease? <b>Dengue</b>
67.	Which state capital hosted the South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship 2023 from May 15 to 17? <b>Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh</b>
68.	UGC launched a newly redesigned website UTSAH on May 16 for what purpose? <b>For sharing UGC's initiatives for qualitative reforms in higher education</b>
69.	What is the full form of UTSAH? <b>Undertaking Transformative Strategies and Actions in Higher education</b>
70.	UGC launched which portal on May 16 to facilitate the universities in hiring of experienced professionals in various fields? <b>"Professors of Practice" - PoP portal</b>
71.	A citizen centric portal named _____ was launched on May 16 to enable mobile users to track and block their lost mobile phones: <b>Sanchar Saathi</b>



72.	Which global organisation brings out the “World Economic Situation and Prospects” report? <b>United Nations, UNCTAD</b>
73.	In a first in the country, which state launched on May 15 a social welfare fund for MNREGA workers in the State? <b>Kerala</b>
74.	Name the Tata Group Chairman who was honoured with <i>Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur</i> -- France's highest civilian award: <b>N Chandrasekaran</b>
75.	MIT-World Peace University has built Asia's first-ever subsea research lab in which city? <b>Pune</b>
76.	What was the name of the India-Indonesia bilateral naval exercise that was held from May 14 to 19? <b>Samudra Shakti-23</b>
77.	Samudra Shakti-23 was held in which area? <b>Near Batam Island in Indonesia</b>
78.	Which super strong cyclone devastated parts of Myanmar on May 14? <b>Cyclone Mocha</b>
79.	Pair of Divya TS and Sarabjot Singh won gold in mixed team category in an international event in which sport? <b>Shooting</b>
80.	Praveen Sood, Senior IPS officer has been appointed as the next Director of which apex national organisation? <b>Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)</b>
81.	Which state is the first one to implement the ‘right to walk’ by making it mandatory for all road-owning agencies to provide footpath and cycle tracks in all future expansion of roads? <b>Punjab</b>
82.	RBI has asked banks to completely de-link from LIBOR/MIFOR wef which date? <b>July 01, 2023</b>
83.	International Nurses Day on May 12 marks the birthday of Florence Nightingale. She hailed from which country? <b>Britain</b>
84.	National Technology Day on May 11 commemorates which major technological breakthrough that was achieved in 1998? <b>Successful testing of India's first nuclear bombs</b>
85.	What was the code name of the operation that tested India's first nuclear bombs? <b>Operation Shakti</b>
86.	V. Praneeth, 15-year-old Chess player from _____ became India's 82 <sup>nd</sup> Grandmaster on May 11: <b>Telangana</b>
87.	Ms. _____ Yaccarino has been appointed as the new CEO of Twitter: <b>Linda</b>

88.	Which country hosted the 42 <sup>nd</sup> Summit of ASEAN on May 10-11 at Labuan Bajo? <b>Indonesia</b>
89.	What was the theme of this year's ASEAN Summit? ASEAN Affairs: <b>Epicentrum of Growth</b>
90.	Who is the current President of Indonesia? <b>Joko Widodo</b>
91.	What is the full form of ASEAN? <b>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</b>
92.	In a big development, the Geological Survey of India has found massive Lithium deposits in which region in central Rajasthan? <b>Degana</b>
93.	The Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy conducted the 35 <sup>th</sup> edition of the India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol from May 3 to 10 in which place? <b>Andaman Sea</b>
94.	The Union Health Ministry launched a learning management information digital platform SAKSHAM on May 10 for what purpose? <b>For providing online training and medical education to all the health professionals</b>
95.	What is the full expansion of the acronym SAKSHAM? <b>Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management</b>
96.	ISRO successfully conducted its first integrated test of the 2000 kN semi cryogenic engine on May 10 at which place? <b>Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu</b>
97.	World Migratory Bird Day celebrated twice in a year on ____ Saturday of May and October: <b>Second</b>
98.	Indian girls bagged 10 gold, 4 silver and 3 bronze medals in various categories in the Moscow ____ Stars Championship: <b>Wushu</b>
99.	The World Bank approved a \$82 million loan to India to prevent, detect, and respond to which type of endemic and emerging infectious diseases? <b>Zoonotic</b>
100.	May 8 is celebrated as the World Thalassemia Day. Thalassemia affects which part of body? <b>Red blood cells, it destroys them</b>
101.	Which day of May is celebrated as the World Red Cross Day? <b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
102.	Who is credited with the foundation of the Red Cross movement in 1863? <b>Henri Dunant</b>
103.	First ____ of May is celebrated as the World Laughter Day every year: <b>Sunday</b>
104.	A first of its kind Indian Air Force Heritage Centre was inaugurated on May 8 in which city? <b>Chandigarh</b>

<b>105.</b> The Annual Laureus Sports Awards ceremony was held on May 8 in which city? <b>Paris, France</b>
<b>106.</b> Who was declared Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year? <b>Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce</b>
<b>107.</b> Who won the Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award 2022? <b>Carlos Alcaraz</b>
<b>108.</b> Alcaraz achieved number one ranking on Sep 12, 2022 at the age of 19 in which sport? <b>Tennis</b>
<b>109.</b> Carlos Alcaraz hails from which country? <b>Spain</b>
<b>110.</b> Pryce excels in which sport? <b>Athletics, mainly 100 m sprint</b>
<b>111.</b> Pryce hails from which country? <b>Jamaica</b>
<b>112.</b> Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Myanmar's Deputy Prime Minister Admiral Tin Aung San jointly inaugurated which Port on May 9 in Myanmar? <b>Sittwe</b>
<b>113.</b> World Athletics celebrates May 07 as the World Athletics Day. <b>It is based in which country? Monaco</b>
<b>114.</b> Which part of Canada was ravaged by fire & floods in the first week of May? <b>Western</b>
<b>115.</b> In a key historical event, King Charles III was crowned at his Coronation on May 6 in which Abbey in London? <b>Westminster</b>
<b>116.</b> Along with King Charles's coronation, who was crowned as the Queen of Britain? <b>Queen Camilla</b>
<b>117.</b> Which Landing Ship Tank, amphibious assault ship of the Indian Navy was decommissioned on May 6? <b>INS Magar</b>
<b>118.</b> India emerged at the top of the medal tally on May 5 in the ____ Cup-World Ranking Tournament, Stage II, held in Tashkent: <b>Asia</b>
<b>119.</b> Neeraj Chopra won the ____ Diamond League in Qatar on May 5: <b>Doha</b>
<b>120.</b> UNESCO celebrates May 5 as ____ World Heritage Day? <b>African</b>
<b>121.</b> What was the theme for this year's Hand Hygiene Day observed on May 5? Save Lives: <b>Clean Your Hands</b>
<b>122.</b> The full moon day in May is celebrated as which popular festival? <b>Buddha Purnima</b>
<b>123.</b> In Hinduism, Buddha is considered as the ____ avatar (incarnation) of Lord Vishnu: <b>Ninth</b>
<b>124.</b> Lord Buddha attained <i>Mahaparinirvana</i> at which place? <b>Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh</b>
<b>125.</b> Sarnath, near Varanasi, is associated with which event in the life of Lord buddha? <b>His first sermon</b>

<b>126.</b> A two-day meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was held at which place in Goa on May 4-5? <b>Benaulim</b>
<b>127.</b> Before joining the World Bank as President, Mr. Ajay Banga was the CEO of which global financial giant? <b>Mastercard</b>
<b>128.</b> The 10 <sup>th</sup> Landport between India and Bangladesh was inaugurated on May 4 at which place in Meghalaya? <b>Dawki</b>
<b>129.</b> Which day of May is observed as the Coal Miners Day? <b>Fourth</b>
<b>130.</b> ____ is the largest coal producing state in India: <b>Jharkhand</b>
<b>131.</b> India is the second largest producer of coal, next only to ____: <b>China</b>
<b>132.</b> In India, the coal mining began in 1774 at which place? <b>Asansol, West Bengal</b>
<b>133.</b> May 04 is observed as the International ____ Day to show our support and appreciation for the firefighters: <b>Firefighters'</b>
<b>134.</b> The RBI launched the G20 TechSprint, a global technology competition, in collaboration with which global organisation? <b>The Bank for International Settlements, BIS</b>
<b>135.</b> The BIS is based in which city? <b>Basel, Switzerland</b>
<b>136.</b> Which state made history on May 3 by becoming the first state to introduce its own ranking system for higher education institutions? <b>Kerala</b>
<b>137.</b> What is the objective of launching G20 TechSprint? <b>To improve cross-border payments</b>
<b>138.</b> Who topped the latest Forbes list of top 10 highest paid athletes, released on May 03? <b>Cristiano Ronaldo</b>
<b>139.</b> International Leopard Day is celebrated on which day of May? <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>140.</b> Which country secured the top rank in the World Press Freedom Index 2023, released on May 03? <b>Norway</b>
<b>141.</b> What was India's rank in the World Press Freedom Index? <b>161<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>142.</b> May 3 is celebrated as the World Press Freedom Day. In India, which article of the Indian Constitution ensures the freedom of press? <b>Article 19(1)(a)</b>
<b>143.</b> Press or media is regarded as the ____ pillar of democracy? <b>Fourth</b>

<b>144.</b> The Ministry of Finance launched a scheme, “Vivad se Vishwas I for providing financial relief to which segment of enterprises? <b>MSMEs</b>
<b>145.</b> Luca Brecel, 28 year old snooker champ from _____ won the World Snooker Championship for the first time on May 01: <b>Belgium</b>
<b>146.</b> A nationwide Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries (AHDF) KCC Campaign was launched from 1st May, 2023 to 31st March, 2024. What is full form of KCC? <b>Kisan Credit Card</b>
<b>147.</b> Who can apply for a Kisan Credit Card? <b>Any land-owning farmer or tenant farmer or share cropper in the age group of 18 to 75 years</b>
<b>148.</b> What is the maximum amount of loan that can be given under KCC scheme? <b>No upper limit; it is need based</b>
<b>149.</b> The Indian Armed Forces conducted exercise “Buland Bharat” at which place in Arunachal Pradesh for testing their integrated surveillance and firepower capabilities? <b>Tawang</b>
<b>150.</b> Indian Navy participated in the inaugural ASEAN India Maritime Exercise from 02 to 08 May. It was hosted by which country? <b>Singapore</b>
<b>151.</b> Singapore hosted ASEAN India Maritime Exercise at which place? <b>South China Sea</b>
<b>152.</b> May 2 is observed as World Tuna Day. Tuna is a rich source of _____ fat: <b>Omega-3</b>
<b>153.</b> World Asthma Day is observed every year on the first _____ of May: <b>Tuesday</b>
<b>154.</b> What is the permanent cure for getting rid of Asthma? <b>It's not curable</b>
<b>155.</b> The Engagement Group meeting on Universal Holistic Health was held on May 01-02 on which island? <b>Bangaram, Lakshadweep</b>
<b>156.</b> International Labour Day on May 01 commemorates the tragic incident of the Haymarket massacre in 1886 that took place in _____: <b>Chicago, USA</b>
<b>157.</b> Who has been appointed as the MD & CEO of the Bank of India? <b>Rajneesh Karnatak</b>
<b>158.</b> Debadatta Chand has been appointed as the MD & CEO of which public sector bank? <b>Bank of Baroda</b>
<b>159.</b> Pair of Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Ms. _____ Sekhon won gold on April 30 in ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Cairo, Egypt: <b>Ganemat</b>
<b>160.</b> Which is the official authority for recommending persons for the post of heads of public sector banks? <b>Financial Services Institutions Bureau</b>

<b>161.</b> Ajit Kumar Mohanty, renowned physicist has been was appointed as the Chairman of which apex scientific organisation? <b>Atomic Energy Commission</b>
<b>162.</b> Atomic Energy Commission is situated in which city? <b>Mumbai</b>
<b>163.</b> Santiago Peña has been elected as the President of which South American country? <b>Paraguay</b>
<b>164.</b> Sergio Pérez of Mexico won the Baku Grand Prix Formula-1 Championship for team Red Bull on April 30, in which country? <b>Azerbaijan</b>
<b>165.</b> Ding Liren of _____ was crowned world rapid chess champion on April 30 in FIDE World Championship: <b>China</b>
<b>166.</b> Which city hosted the FIDE World Championship? <b>Astana, Kazakhstan</b>
<b>167.</b> Chirag _____ and Satwiksairaj _____ pair scripted history by winning the men's doubles title on April 30, in the Badminton Asia Championship in Dubai: <b>Shetty; Rankireddy</b>
<b>168.</b> Commander Abhilash Tomy, the 44-year-old seasoned sailor of Indian Navy completed the round of earth in a yacht on April 29. What is one word for this journey? <b>Circumnavigation</b>
<b>169.</b> What was the name of the circumnavigation completed by Cdr Tomy? <b>Golden Globe Race</b>
<b>170.</b> Which state secured first rank in the National Manufacturing Innovation Survey 2021-22 that evaluated the innovation performance of manufacturing firms in India? <b>Karnataka</b>
<b>171.</b> Who is the Minister of the union ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises? <b>Sh. Narayan Rane</b>
<b>172.</b> Who was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 68 <sup>th</sup> Hyundai Filmfare Awards ceremony? <b>Prem Chopra, veteran negative character artist</b>
<b>173.</b> Which film won the Filmfare Award for the Best Film? <b>Gangubai Kathiawadi</b>
<b>174.</b> The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers Meeting was held on April 28 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
<b>175.</b> Who chaired the SCO Defence Ministers Meeting in New Delhi? <b>Rajnath Singh, Defence Minister</b>
<b>176.</b> India and the UK have decided to jointly create an “India-UK 'Net Zero' Innovation Virtual Centre” for what objective? <b>Reduction in Carbon emissions in manufacturing and transport sector</b>



177.	Who has been appointed as the new chairman of LIC? <b>Siddhartha Mohanty</b>
178.	What was the name of the joint military exercise of India and Britain that started on April 27? <b>Ajeya Warrior 2023</b>
179.	Exercise Ajeya Warrior 2023 was hosted by Britain at which place? <b>Salisbury Plains</b>
180.	The Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry activated the 'City ____ Competition' portal on April 27: <b>Beauty</b>
181.	The construction of India's first and the highest cable-stayed rail bridge in J&K was completed on April 26. What is its name? <b>Anji Khad rail bridge</b>
182.	The Finance Ministry gave its approval on April 26 to upgrade which Central Public Sector Enterprise to 'Navratna' category? <b>Rail Vikas Nigam Limited</b>
183.	The Green Organization, USA has awarded Global Gold Award to which Indian PSU for its outstanding work under the Corporate Social Responsibility scheme? <b>Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.</b>
184.	The Index of Economic Freedom 2023, released recently placed India at which rank? <b>131<sup>st</sup></b>
185.	Which country secured the top spot in the Index of Economic Freedom 2023? <b>Singapore</b>
186.	Who has been selected as the Chairperson of NASSCOM for the period 2023-24? <b>Anant Maheshwari</b>
187.	Anant Maheshwari heads which corporate entity? <b>Microsoft India</b>
188.	What is the full form of the acronym NASSCOM? <b>National Association of Software and Service Companies</b>
<b>APRIL 2023</b>	
1.	Ayushman Bharat Diwas on April 30 marks the launch of which health scheme of the government? <b>Ayushman Bharat Yojana</b>
2.	World Veterinary Day is observed on the ____ Saturday of April: <b>Last</b>
3.	World Intellectual Property Day on April 26 is supported by World Intellectual Property Office – WIPO. Where are the headquarters of WIPO? <b>Geneva, Switzerland</b>
4.	Which UT hosted the Y20 (youth-20) Pre-Summit under India's G20 Presidency on April 26-27-28? <b>Ladakh</b>

5.	Who has been selected by the BCCI to captain the test squad for the World Test Championship final against Australia? <b>Rohit Sharma</b>
6.	The World Test Championship final match will be played at which venue? <b>The Oval, London</b>
7.	April 25 is observed as World Malaria Day. Malaria can spread to humans through the bites of which infected female mosquitoes? <b>Anopheles</b>
8.	The 95 year old towering Akali Dal politician from Punjab breathed his last on April 25 in Mohali, Punjab. His native village Badal lies in which district of Punjab? <b>Muktsar</b>
9.	April 25 is observed as World Penguin Day. Penguins are mammals or birds? <b>Birds</b>
10.	According to the Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2022, released by SIPRI on April 24, ranked India at which spot on the basis of amount of its military expenditure? <b>Fourth</b>
11.	The village Mana on the India-China border in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, was in news recently for what reason? <b>It has been recognised as the 'first Indian village'</b>
12.	What is the name of the rescue mission launched by India on April 24 to evacuate its stranded citizens from civil war torn Sudan? <b>Operation Kaveri</b>
13.	What is the title of the autobiography of veteran politician Ghulam Nabi Azad, released recently? <b>Azad</b>
14.	Who is the author of the recently published popular novel "The Soulmate"? <b>Emily Henry</b>
15.	April 24 is observed as the National Panchayati Raj Day. Which amendment of the Constitution is associated with the Panchayati Raj Act? <b>73<sup>rd</sup></b>
16.	Panchayati Raj Act came in to force in which year? <b>1993</b>
17.	Which multilateral organisation released its 2023 Logistics Performance Index report on April 23? <b>The World Bank</b>
18.	Which country topped the 2023 Logistics Performance Index (LPI)? <b>Singapore</b>
19.	What was India's rank in the LPI 2023? <b>38<sup>th</sup></b>
20.	Which country was placed at the bottom of the LPI 2023? <b>Libiya</b>
21.	April 23 is observed as World ____ and Copyright Day: <b>Book</b>
22.	Which city has been selected as the "World Book Capital" for the year 2023? <b>Accra, Ghana</b>

23.	Which UN agency actively supports the celebration of World Book and Copyright Day on April 23? <b>UNESCO</b>
24.	Jyothi _____ Vennam won two gold medals in archery on April 22, at the Archery World Cup 2023 in Antalya: <b>Surekha</b>
25.	Which country hosted the Archery World Cup 2023? <b>Türkiye</b>
26.	Which Union Ministry launched the "Irrigation Census" to collect data about all the water bodies in the country? <b>Jal Shakti Ministry</b>
27.	As per the "Irrigation Census" data, which state has the largest number of water bodies? <b>West Bengal</b>
28.	ISRO launched two satellites of _____ into space on April 22: <b>Singapore</b>
29.	What is the main objective of celebrating the Earth Day on April 22? <b>To create awareness about hazards of pollution</b>
30.	The Civil Services Day on April 21 commemorates which historical event that took place on this day in 1947? <b>Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel's address to the first batch of Indian Administrative Services (IAS) officers</b>
31.	Sardar Patel referred to civil servants as the '_____ of India': <b>Steel Frame</b>
32.	Wing Commander Deepika Misra was in news recently for which achievement? <b>Becoming the first woman Air Force officer to receive a gallantry medal, Vayu Seva Medal</b>
33.	Which Caribbean country re-elected Miguel Díaz-Canel as President for a second five-year term? <b>Cuba</b>
34.	The first Global Buddhist Summit was held in which city on April 20-21? <b>New Delhi</b>
35.	Assam state signed a historic agreement on April 20 with which other state for the settlement of an over five-decade old inter-state boundary dispute? <b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>
36.	Which city in India recorded the highest number of digital payment transactions in 2022, with 29 million transactions worth \$65 billion? <b>Bengaluru</b>
37.	Which city hosted the Conference of the G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) on April 19-20? <b>Dharamshala, HP</b>
38.	In which country Virginia became the 17 <sup>th</sup> state to include Sikhi, or the Sikh faith, in their school curriculum? <b>USA</b>

39.	World Liver Day is observed on April 19. Liver is the second largest organ of human body. Which is the first one? <b>Skin</b>
40.	Which is a very common liver ailment caused by different viruses, classified as A, B and C? <b>Hepatitis</b>
41.	The Union Cabinet approved the National Quantum Mission on April 19 with what main objective? <b>To accelerate Quantum Technology-led economic growth</b>
42.	Quantum Technology is based on usage of Qubits. What is a Qubit? <b>Short for Quantum bit, it is the basic unit of information in quantum computing</b>
43.	Indian Air Force's fighter jets participated in the annual Greek exercise named _____ held in Greece from April 18 to 28: <b>Iniochos 23</b>
44.	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh _____ launched the SATHI Portal and Mobile App on April 19: <b>Tomar</b>
45.	What is the main objective of the SATHI app? <b>Ensuring easy availability of certified quality seeds to the farmers</b>
46.	What is the full form of the acronym SATHI? <b>Seed Traceability, Authentication and Holistic Inventory</b>
47.	State of World Population Report, 2023 released on April 19, estimates India's population at 1.43 billion. Which is the third most populous country? <b>USA (340 million)</b>
48.	In the Hurun's Global Unicorn Index 2023 released on April 18, India retained its position at which rank? <b>Third</b>
49.	Which is the top ranked unicorn in India, having a reported valuation of \$22billion? <b>Byju's</b>
50.	April 18 is observed as World Heritage Day. How many UNESCO recognised World Heritage Sites are there in India? <b>40</b>
51.	Which country emerged as India's biggest trading partner in 2022-23 as per the provisional data released by the Ministry of Commerce? <b>USA</b>
52.	Indian Navy, other defence units, state and civilian agencies conducted exercise _____ at the Greatdrill Chaaya platform: <b>Prasthan</b>
53.	What is the Greatdrill Chaaya platform? <b>A deep-sea floating oil drilling rig</b>
54.	Who has been named Wisden Almanack's top T20I cricketer: <b>Suryakumar</b>

55.	April 17 is observed as World _____ Day to raise awareness for Haemophilia and other similar bleeding disorders: <b>Haemophilia</b>
56.	An Indian Air Force contingent participated in the multi-nation air exercise hosted by _____ from April 17 to May 5: <b>France</b>
57.	April 16 is observed as the _____ the Elephant Day to raise awareness about the threats faced by elephants: <b>Save</b>
58.	Who was crowned Femina Miss India World 2023 on April 15? <b>Ms. Nandini Gupta</b>
59.	Ms. Nandini Gupta hails from which state? <b>Rajasthan</b>
60.	World Art Day on April 15 commemorates the birthday of which multi-talented painter? <b>Leonardo da Vinci</b>
61.	Which major European country finally switched off its last three nuclear power reactors on April 15, completely exiting atomic power? <b>Germany</b>
62.	A two-day Women 20 meeting was organised under G-20 on April 13-14 in which city? <b>Jaipur</b>
63.	April 14 is celebrated as Ambedkar Jayanti. He was the first _____ Minister of the country after the independence: <b>Law and Justice</b>
64.	India celebrates National Fire Service Day on which day of April? <b>14<sup>th</sup></b>
65.	Which Indian state celebrates Baisakhi in the form of Puthandu festival? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
66.	In which year Sri Guru Gobind Singh ji laid the foundation of the Khalsa Panth on the Baisakhi day? <b>1699</b>
67.	April 13 is observed as the Siachen Day. Siachen glacier is located in which range of Himalayas? <b>Karakoram</b>
68.	Who was the first man to fly in to space on April 12, 1961? <b>Yuri Gagarin</b>
69.	World's first vulture conservation and breeding centre has been built in Maharajganj district of which state? <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
70.	What is the formal name of this centre? <b>Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre</b>
71.	Which Metro Line created history on April 12 by running through the 520-metre tunnel built under a river? <b>Kolkata Metro</b>
72.	This 520-metre tunnel has been built under which river? <b>Hooghly River</b>

73.	Who clinched India's first ever gold medal in men's 57 kg freestyle category at the Asian Wrestling Championships 2023? <b>Aman Sehrawat</b>
74.	Which city hosted the Asian Wrestling Championships 2023? <b>Astana</b>
75.	Astana is the capital city of which country? <b>Kazakhstan</b>
76.	Name the Chairman Emeritus of Mahindra & Mahindra group who breathed his last on April 12? <b>Keshub Mahindra</b>
77.	Country's first semi-high-speed regional rapid rail service has been started between Delhi and _____: <b>Meerut, UP</b>
78.	What name has been given to this new rapid rail service? <b>RapidX</b>
79.	Which multi nation body released its annual World Economic Outlook on April 11? <b>IMF-International Monetary Fund</b>
80.	RBI has put in place on April 11 a framework for acceptance of _____ Deposits: <b>Green</b>
81.	What is the objective of issuing green deposits? <b>To develop a green (eco-friendly) finance eco-system in India</b>
82.	Uttara Baokar, a noted film and TV personality died at the age of 79 in Pune on April 11. She was an acclaimed _____? <b>Actress</b>
83.	Which stock exchange launched on April 11 the country's first-ever Nifty REITs and InvITs Index? <b>National Stock Exchange</b>
84.	What is the full form of REITs and InvITs? <b>Real Estate Investment Trusts and Infrastructure Investment Trusts</b>
85.	Which PSU under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, was given the status of Mini Ratna Category-I on April 10? <b>Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd</b>
86.	With which country Indian Air Force started the 11-day Exercise Cope India 23 on April 10? <b>USA</b>
87.	April 11 is observed as World Parkinson's Day. Who is given credit for discovery of Parkinson disease in 1817? <b>Dr James Parkinson</b>
88.	National Safe Motherhood Day on April 11 coincides with the birthday of which great woman? <b>Kasturba Gandhi</b>
89.	According to Stanford University's annual AI Index report, India saw the _____ highest investments in 2022 in startups offering AI based products and services: <b>Fifth</b>



90.	World Homoeopathy Day on April 10 marks the birth day of which great physician and scientist? <b>Dr. Samuel Hahnemann</b>
91.	What is the basic principle on which Homoeopathy functions? <b>Like cures like</b>
92.	Which Indian GrandMaster won the World Chess Armageddon Asia & Oceania event on April 9 in Berlin, Germany? <b>D Gukesh</b>
93.	First Dogri version of the Indian Constitution, released on April 08, was compiled with the help of which university? <b>University of Jammu</b>
94.	'Ladakh Shingskos' has become the first handicraft from Ladakh to be granted a GI tag. What is it? <b>Exquisite wood carving</b>
95.	Which Central Armed Police Force celebrates April 9 as Shaurya Diwas? <b>Central Reserve Police Force</b>
96.	Priyanshu Rajawat, emerging badminton player, won the Orleans Masters Super 300 badminton tournament on April 9 in which country? <b>France</b>
97.	As per the latest national tiger census estimate report released on April 9, India is now home to at least _____ tigers: <b>3,167</b>
98.	The President of India took a historic sortie in which fighter aircraft on April 8? <b>Sukhoi 30 MKI</b>
99.	This historic sortie took place at which Air Force station? <b>Tezpur Air Force Station in Assam</b>
100.	The Ministry of Finance has set up a four-member committee headed by _____ to review the National Pension Scheme? <b>T.V. Somanathan</b>
101.	The Union Cabinet approved a project on April 6 to build an advanced gravitational-wave detector in which state? <b>Maharashtra</b>
102.	The formal name for this project is LIGO. What is its full form? <b>Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatories</b>
103.	Which apex organisation has decided to develop a secured web-based centralised portal named 'PRAVAAH'? <b>RBI</b>
104.	What is the full form of PRAVAAH? <b>Platform for Regulatory Application, Validation And Authorisation</b>
105.	What is the theme for this year's World Health Day observed on April 7? <b>Health for All</b>
106.	Who has been declared as the winner of the 2023 International Prize in Statistics? <b>Prof. C. Radhakrishna Rao</b>

107.	What was the name of the joint military exercise conducted by Andaman & Nicobar Command on April 5? <b>Ex KAVACH</b>
108.	Ex KAVACH was conducted at which place? <b>In Andaman-Nicobar Islands</b>
109.	National Maritime Day is observed on April 5. When is World Maritime Day celebrated? <b>Sep 28</b>
110.	The CGTMSE announced a revamped credit guarantee scheme for the micro and small enterprises. It came into effect from which date? <b>April 1, 2023</b>
111.	The CGTMSE enhanced its credit guarantee cover to banks for loans up to Rs _____ crore: <b>Five</b>
112.	What is the full form of CGTMSE? <b>Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro &amp; Small Enterprises</b>
113.	CGTMSE is a joint venture of the MSME Ministry with which apex financial institution? <b>Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)</b>
114.	Kim Cotton, 48 year old umpire from _____ became the first woman on-field umpire in a full-member men's T20I match: <b>New Zealand</b>
115.	Which state achieved the top rank among the 18 large and mid-sized States in the India Justice Report 2022? <b>Karnataka</b>
116.	The World Trade Organisation revised on April 5 its global trade growth outlook for 2023 upwards to _____: <b>1.7%</b>
117.	India has been elected as a member of the UN Statistical Commission, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS. These three are subsidiary bodies of which UN organ? <b>Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)</b>
118.	What is the theme of this year's National Maritime Day? <b>Amrit Kaal in Shipping</b>
119.	International Day of Mine Awareness is observed on which date? <b>April 4</b>
120.	Kiran Nadar was conferred the highest French civil honour - Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur. Who is she? <b>Noted art collector and philanthropist from the HCL group</b>
121.	The Union Ministry for Rural Development launched a unique initiative named 'CAPTIVE EMPLOYMENT' for what purpose? <b>To provide skill training and job to rural youth</b>
122.	Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar _____ Wangchuk began his three-day visit to India on April 03: <b>Namgyal</b>

<b>123.</b> What is the name of the micro helicopter of NASA on Mars that created two new records for a flying object over a planet? <b>Ingenuity</b>
<b>124.</b> The 10 <sup>th</sup> edition of Indian and Sri Lanka Navies annual bilateral maritime exercise SLINEX-2023 was held at which place? <b>Colombo, Sri Lanka</b>
<b>125.</b> Bharat Dynamics Ltd successfully conducted a field firing test of its latest 3 <sup>rd</sup> generation man-portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile. What is its name? <b>Amogha III</b>
<b>126.</b> The government launched the 'Sagar-Setu' app on March 31 for which section of business class? <b>All people linked with marine trade</b>
<b>127.</b> In which state the Indian Railways achieved a major milestone by completing electrification of the entire railway network in the state? <b>Haryana</b>
<b>128.</b> The two-day Science-20 conference under India's G20 presidency was held on April 3-4 in which city? <b>Agartala</b>
<b>129.</b> ISRO successfully carried out the RLV Autonomous Landing Mission on April 2. What is RLV? <b>Reusable Launch Vehicle</b>
<b>130.</b> Which is the sponsoring country for this year's International Children's Book Day? <b>Greece</b>
<b>131.</b> Which Indian city has been included in the World Tree City 2022 list? <b>Mumbai</b>
<b>132.</b> The World Bank approved a \$100 million loan to which state to help it strengthen its early forecasting systems for improved response to disasters? <b>Odisha</b>
<b>133.</b> The WHO has certified which two countries as malaria-free for eliminating the Anopheles mosquito-borne disease in their territories? <b>Azerbaijan and Tajikistan</b>
<b>134.</b> Which country recently joined NATO as its 31 <sup>st</sup> member? <b>Finland</b>
<b>135.</b> Which is the capital of Finland? <b>Helsinki</b>
<b>136.</b> Where are the headquarters of NATO? <b>Brussels, Belgium</b>
<b>137.</b> Which global financial body approved a \$363 million loan to Karnataka for funding provision of clean drinking water? <b>World Bank</b>
<b>138.</b> Which country topped the Passport Index 2023 released on March 26 by financial advisory services firm Arton Capital? <b>UAE</b>
<b>139.</b> India was placed at which spot in the Arton Capital's Passport Index 2023? <b>144<sup>th</sup></b>

140.	The Foreign Trade Policy 2023 released on March 31 aims to attain country's outward shipments to ____ level by 2030: <b>\$2 trillion</b>
141.	What is the tenure of the Foreign Trade Policy 2023? <b>Not fixed, it is open ended</b>
142.	The picturesque Gandhamardan hills in ____ have been declared as the 'biodiversity heritage site': <b>Odisha</b>
143.	Who has been elected as the President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)? <b>Ajay Singh</b>
144.	The first meeting of the G20 roundtable conference of Chief Science ____ was held on March 29 in Ramnagar, near Nainital: <b>Advisors</b>
145.	The Government launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely, New India Literacy Programme, for which section of population? <b>Non-literates in the age group of 15 years and above</b>
146.	The second Sherpa meeting of the G20 Summit was held on March 30 at which place in Kerala? <b>Kumarakom</b>
147.	Which city hosted the first G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group meeting from March 30 to April 01? <b>Gandhinagar, Gujarat</b>
148.	The World Bank approved a \$108 million loan on March 24 to help ____ improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting in the state: <b>Assam</b>
149.	Government launched the Aravalli Green Wall Project on March 25 from Tikli Village in Haryana. Which is the highest peak of Aravali range? <b>Guru Shikhar</b>
150.	Guru Shikhar peak is located at which place? <b>Mount Abu</b>
151.	Visakhapatnam hosted the G-20 ____ Working Group meeting on March 28-29: <b>Infrastructure</b>
152.	Government plans to set up 7,432 public fast charging stations across the country under FAME Scheme. Expand the acronym FAME? <b>Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles</b>
153.	Meeting of the National Security Advisers (NSAs) of member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was held on March 29 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
<b>MARCH 2023</b>	
1.	March 31 is celebrated as the International Day of ____ Checking: <b>Drug</b>

2.	Theatre lovers all over the world celebrate which day of March as the World Theatre Day? <b>27<sup>th</sup></b>
3.	Mumbai Indians won the Women's Premier League (WPL) on March 26 by beating which team? <b>Delhi Capitals</b>
4.	India's LVM-3 lifted off successfully on March 26 from Sriharikota with 36 satellites of which UK based company? <b>One Web</b>
5.	Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are the top seeded player of which sports? <b>Badminton</b>
6.	Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won the doubles title on March 26 at which Super 300 event? <b>Swiss Open 2023</b>
7.	How many Indian women won the gold medal at the World Boxing Championship held in Delhi, which concluded on March 26? <b>Four</b>
8.	Mrs. Dilma Rousseff, 2-time former President of Brazil, has been elected as the President of which multination financial body? <b>New Development Bank (NDB)</b>
9.	Which country formally joined the New Development Bank in last week of March? <b>Egypt</b>
10.	Headquarters of the New Development Bank are located in which city? <b>Shanghai</b>
11.	Army Chief presented the prestigious President's Standard or 'Nishan' to four ____regiments of the Army on March 25: <b>Armoured</b>
12.	Isha Ambani, the chairperson of Reliance ____, won the 'Gennext Entrepreneur' award at the Forbes India Leadership Awards on March 24: <b>Retail</b>
13.	Who was honoured with the Lifetime achievement Award at the Forbes India Leadership Awards? <b>A M Naik, group chairman of L&amp;T</b>
14.	Which city hosted the G-20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering Conference on March 24-25? <b>Dibrugarh, Assam</b>
15.	The Defence Ministry signed a contract on March 24 with which company for procurement of two Integrated Electronic Warfare Systems? <b>Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Hyderabad</b>
16.	What is the formal name given to these Integrated Electronic Warfare Systems? <b>Project Himshakti</b>
17.	Which country hosted the multi nation Exercise Cobra Warrior that concluded on March 24? <b>Britain</b>

18.	What is the theme of this year's World Tuberculosis Day observed on March 24? <b>Yes! We can end TB!</b>
19.	Who is credited with the discovery of T B Bacteria? <b>Dr Robert Koch</b>
20.	Which team won both, men's and women's categories on March 23 at the Asian Kho Kho Championship? <b>India</b>
21.	Which city in assam hosted the Asian Kho Kho Championship? <b>Tamulpur</b>
22.	Which union ministry launched the Vedic Heritage portal in New Delhi for providing one stop solution to all information related to Vedas? <b>Ministry of culture</b>
23.	The Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of ____ conducted a joint maritime exercise from March 20 to 22 in Arabian Sea: <b>Britain</b>
24.	What was the name of the naval exercise of Indian and British navies held in Arabian Sea? <b>Konkan 2023</b>
25.	Which prestigious prize is regarded as the Nobel of Mathematics? <b>Abel Prize</b>
26.	Who is the winner of 2023 Abel Prize? <b>Prof. Luis Caffarelli, USA</b>
27.	What is the amount of cash given with the Abel Prize? <b>Kroner 7.5 million</b>
28.	The Indian Army conducted the exercise Vayu Prahar with ____ in the eastern theatre in second week of March: <b>Indian Air force</b>
29.	The 10-day Africa-India Field Training Exercise AFINDEX 2023 that concluded on March 30, was held at which place? <b>Pune, Maharashtra</b>
30.	India celebrates March 23 as Shaheed Diwas. A National Martyrs Memorial has been built at which place in Punjab in the honour of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev? <b>Hussainiwala, near Pakistan border in district Ferozepur</b>
31.	Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev were awarded death sentence for which offence? <b>For shooting down Assistant Police Superintendent John P. Saunders, in December 1928 in Lahore</b>
32.	March 23 is observed as the World Meteorological Day to mark which historical event? <b>Foundation of World Meteorological Organisation on this day in 1950</b>
33.	Where are the headquarters of the World Meteorological Organisation? <b>Geneva, Switzerland</b>



34.	The first day of which month of the Hindu calendar marks the beginning of Hindu calendar Vikram Samvat? <b>Chaitra</b>
35.	Which year of Vikram Samvat started on March 22, 2023? <b>2080</b>
36.	Gudi Padwa is a popular festival of which state? <b>Maharashtra</b>
37.	First day of Chitra is celebrated as Cheti Chand by which community? <b>Sindhis</b>
38.	Kashmiri Pandits celebrate Hindu New Year Day as ____ festival? <b>Navreh</b>
39.	Which international day is observed on March 22 to achieve the UN's sixth Sustainable Development Goal -Clean Water and Sanitation for all by 2030? <b>World Water Day</b>
40.	World Poetry Day is observed on which day of March? <b>21<sup>st</sup></b>
41.	Which UN agency is associated with promotion of World Poetry Day? <b>UNESCO</b>
42.	Asia's largest 4-metre International ____ Telescope (ILMT) was inaugurated on March 21 at Devasthal Observatory: <b>Liquid Mirror</b>
43.	Devasthal Observatory is located at which place? <b>Near Nainital, Uttarakhand</b>
44.	What is the name of the Indian Navy's second ASW warship launched at Kolkata on March 21? <b>INS Androth</b>
45.	What is the full form of ASW? <b>Anti-Submarine Warfare</b>
46.	Which US state was struck by a very low-pressure "bomb cyclone" on March 21-22, causing widespread devastation and sudden flooding of vast areas? <b>California</b>
47.	Which city hosted the ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship from March 20 to 27? <b>Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh</b>
48.	What is the full form of ISSF? <b>International Shooting Sports Federation</b>
49.	The Civil20 India (C-20) Inception meeting was held on March 20-21 in which place? <b>Nagpur, Maharashtra</b>
50.	Prime Minister of Japan, _____, arrived in New Delhi on March 20 for a two-day visit to India: <b>Kishida Fumio</b>
51.	Japan and India are celebrating 2023 as the Tourism Exchange Year with the theme

	"Connecting the Himalayas with _____": <b>Mount Fuji</b>
52.	Mr Kishida invited Mr Modi to the G-7 summit 2023 to be held in _____ in May, 2023: <b>Hiroshima</b>
53.	What was the theme of the World Sparrow Day celebrated on March 20? <b>I Love Sparrows</b>
54.	Which day of March is celebrated as the International Day of Happiness? <b>20<sup>th</sup></b>
55.	Which country was ranked at first position in the World Happiness Report released on March 20? <b>Finland</b>
56.	What was India's rank in the World Happiness Report? <b>125<sup>th</sup></b>
57.	The first Labour 20 (L20) meeting was held in _____ on March 19-20 under the G-20 presidency of India: <b>Amritsar</b>
58.	Which two locations from India found place in TIME Magazine's World's Greatest Places - 2023 list of 50 extraordinary destinations to explore? <b>Odisha's Mayurbhanj district and the UT of Ladakh</b>
59.	Which is the popular local folk dance of Mayurbhanj? <b>Chhau</b>
60.	Which big bank in Switzerland succumbed to financial pressures on March 18? <b>Credit Suisse</b>
61.	Credit Suisse was taken over by which bank after its reported failure? <b>UBS Group AG</b>
62.	What is the name of the mobile app recently launched by the Income Tax Department? <b>Annual Information Statement (AIS)</b>
63.	On March 19, _____ retained his Asian Billiards title for the 8 <sup>th</sup> time, at Qatar Billiards and Snooker Federation Academy in Doha, Qatar: <b>Pankaj Advani</b>
64.	Indian Wells Masters, also called BNP Paribas Open Tennis Tournament, concluded at which place on March 19? <b>Indian Wells, California</b>
65.	Which global organisation supports the celebration of the Global Recycling Day on March 18? <b>Global Recycling Foundation</b>
66.	India celebrates March 18 as the Ordnance Factory Day to mark the foundation of the first Ordnance Factory by the British in 1801 in which place? <b>Cossipore near Kolkata</b>
67.	From Oct 1, 2021, the 41 ordnance factories were reorganised into how many Defence Public Sector Units? <b>Seven</b>

68.	Deepak Mohanty has been appointed as the new Chairperson of which all India regulatory body? <b>PFRDA - Pension Fund Regulatory &amp; Development Authority</b>
69.	What is the name of the first cross-border energy pipeline between India and Bangladesh that was inaugurated on March 18? <b>India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline</b>
70.	The India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline starts from which place in India? <b>Siliguri, West Bengal</b>
71.	Which refinery in India will supply high speed diesel to Bangladesh through pipeline? <b>Numaligarh Refinery Limited</b>
72.	Exercise Desert Flag VIII which concluded on March 17 was held at which place? <b>Al Dahfra air base, UAE</b>
73.	Name the 43-year-old Indian tennis star who became the oldest tennis player to win an ATP Masters 1000 title (doubles): <b>Rohan Bopanna</b>
74.	Name the winner of this year's Saraswati Samman? <b>Ms. Sivasankari</b>
75.	Ms. Sivasankari is a noted author of which language? <b>Tamil</b>
76.	What is the amount of cash award given with the Saraswati Samman? <b>Rs. 15 lakh</b>
77.	_____ became the first steel company to receive BIS certification to manufacture India's first fire-resistant steel structures: <b>Jindal Steel and Power Ltd.</b>
78.	Which state notified its 18th wildlife sanctuary named as Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
79.	Government declared on March 17 setting up of hoe many PM MITRA textile parks? <b>Seven</b>
80.	What is the expansion of the acronym MITRA? <b>Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel</b>
81.	The President of India awarded the prestigious President's Colours to the Indian Navy's gunnery school on March 16. What is its name? <b>INS Dronacharya</b>
82.	INS Dronacharya is located at which place? <b>Fort Kochi, Kerala</b>
83.	National Vaccination Day on March 16 marks the first delivery of which vaccine on this day in 1995? <b>Oral Polio drops</b>
84.	In which year was India declared free from Polio by WHO: <b>2014</b>

85.	Gianni Infantino was re-elected as FIFA president on March 16 for the third successive term, until which year? <b>2027</b>
86.	Who has been appointed as the new US Ambassador to India? <b>Eric Garcetti</b>
87.	Which city in northeast hosted the B-20 Conference on March 16 under India's G20 presidency? <b>Gangtok</b>
88.	Which organisation awarded Governor of the Year 2023 Award to RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das? <b>The International Journal of Central Banking</b>
89.	In the "World Air Quality" report, prepared by Swiss firm, IQAir and released on March 15, India was ranked at which spot? <b>8<sup>th</sup></b>
90.	World Air Quality report ranked which country as the most polluted in world? <b>Chad</b>
91.	Which country hosted the 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition of the coordinated multi-lateral anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise near Guam in West Pacific Ocean? <b>USA</b>
92.	IBA Women's World Boxing Championship 2023 was inaugurated on March 15 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
93.	Which was the most polluted metropolitan area of 2022, with PM2.5 level of 97.4? <b>Lahore</b>
94.	World Consumer Rights Day is observed on March 15. In which year India passed the current Consumer Protection Act? <b>2019</b>
95.	Which Indian city received a prestigious \$150,000 Partnership for Healthy Cities award in London on March 15 for its tobacco control efforts? <b>Bengaluru</b>
96.	The Atal Innovation Mission launched ATL Sarthi on March 14 for what purpose? <b>To strengthen the ecosystem of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs)</b>
97.	What is the name of the most recent advanced version of the chatbot ChatGPT, released on March 14? <b>GPT-4</b>
98.	Global Terrorism Index (GTI) released on March 14, ranked which country as the worst affected by terrorism? <b>Afghanistan</b>
99.	As per the Global Terrorism Index 2022, which was the deadliest terrorist group in the world in 2022? <b>Islamic State (IS) and its affiliates</b>
100.	The Indian Coast Guard conducted a three-day exercise on March 14-16 with five nations, at which place? <b>Off the Kolkata coast</b>

<b>101.</b> The World Bank approved a \$500 million (Rs 4130 crore) loan for part funding of the construction of the Green National _____ Corridors Project in four States: <b>Highway</b>
<b>102.</b> In which country its Technology Innovation Institute launched on March 14 the “Falcon LLM,” a foundational “large language model” (LLM) with 40 billion parameters? <b>UAE</b>
<b>103.</b> Operation Bold Kurukshetra which concluded on March 13, was held at which place? <b>Jodhpur Military Station in Rajasthan</b>
<b>104.</b> Which other country participated in the bilateral armour training exercise Operation Bold Kurukshetra? <b>Singapore</b>
<b>105.</b> RBI granted an “Infrastructure Finance Company (IFC)” status to IREDA on March 13. What is full form of IREDA? <b>Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency</b>
<b>106.</b> What was the theme of this year’s International Day of Action for Rivers observed on March 14? <b>Rights of Rivers</b>
<b>107.</b> International Day of Mathematics on March 14 happens to be the birthday of which eminent mathematician? <b>Albert Einstein</b>
<b>108.</b> Who became the first female to operate the newly-introduced semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express train on March 13? <b>Ms. Surekha Yadav</b>
<b>109.</b> _____ has become the first state in India to begin the commercial cultivation of the popular herb Mulethi (liquorice): <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
<b>110.</b> Colonel _____ Rana became the first woman officer to take over the command of an independent unit, in Ladakh: <b>Geeta</b>
<b>111.</b> Name the veteran architect who won the Pritzker Architecture Prize-2023: <b>Sir David Alan Chipperfield</b>
<b>112.</b> Sir Chipperfield hails from which country? <b>Britain</b>
<b>113.</b> What is the amount of the cash reward in the Pritzker Architecture Prize? <b>\$100,000/-</b>
<b>114.</b> Which national authority re-elected Xi Jinping as the President for the third term? <b>National People’s Congress</b>
<b>115.</b> What was the name of the multilateral naval exercise held between navies of India, Australia, Japan, France and USA on March 13-14 in the Indian Ocean? <b>Exercise La Perouse</b>

<b>116.</b> In which African country more than 300 people were killed on March 12-13 by the devastating cyclone Freddy? <b>Malawi</b>
<b>117.</b> A report released by the Sweden-based think-tank SIPRI on March 13 for the period 2018-22, ranked which country as the largest importer of arms and equipments? <b>India</b>
<b>118.</b> Which country contributed 45 percent of Indian imports of arms and equipments? <b>Russia</b>
<b>119.</b> SIPRI report ranked which country as the largest exporter of arms and weapons during 2018-22? <b>USA</b>
<b>120.</b> What is the full form of SIPRI? <b>Stockholm International Peace Research Institute</b>
<b>121.</b> The Academy Awards (Oscars Awards 2023) announced on March 12 in Los Angeles, were which edition of the awards? <b>95<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>122.</b> Which film won the Oscar 2023 for the Best Film? <b>Everything Everywhere All at Once</b>
<b>123.</b> The song Naatu Naatu from RRR won the prestigious Oscar award in which category? <b>Best Original Song</b>
<b>124.</b> Who is the choreographer of the superhit song Naatu Naatu? <b>Prem Rakshith</b>
<b>125.</b> Which Indian short documentary won the Oscar award 2023? <b>The Elephant Whisperers</b>
<b>126.</b> Who is the director of the short film The Elephant Whisperers? <b>Kartiki Gonsalves</b>
<b>127.</b> Which city in Karnataka secured a place in the Guinness Book of World Records for having the longest (1,507m) railway platform in the world? <b>Hubballi</b>
<b>128.</b> The longest railway platform in the world is located on which railway station? <b>Shri Siddharoodha Swami station in Hubballi</b>
<b>129.</b> World Glaucoma Day is observed on which day of March? <b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>130.</b> Who has been elected as the Premier (prime minister) of China on March 11? <b>Li Qiang</b>
<b>131.</b> With the navy of which country India hosted Maritime Partnership Exercise on March 10-11? <b>France</b>
<b>132.</b> Indo-French Maritime Partnership Exercise was held in which area? <b>Arabian Sea</b>
<b>133.</b> What was the tagline of the “Khelo India Dus Ka Dum” tournament that was held across India from March 10 to 31? <b>Hai dum to Badhao kadam</b>



<b>134.</b> Failure of which California based big bank in USA created tremors in financial world? <b>Silicon Valley Bank</b>
<b>135.</b> Name the renowned Hindi author who won the Vyas Samman 2022: <b>Dr. Gyan Chaturvedi</b>
<b>136.</b> Dr. Gyan Chaturvedi won the Vyas Samman for which of his works? <b>His satirical novel "Pagalkhana" (Mental Asylum)</b>
<b>137.</b> What is the amount of the cash prize given with the Vyas Samman? <b>Rs. 4 lakh</b>
<b>138.</b> Ram Chandra Paudel, Senior Nepali Congress leader, was elected as the new _____ of Nepal on March 09: <b>President</b>
<b>139.</b> The UN Least Developed Countries (LDCs) Summit on March 9 declared removal of which country from the LDCs? <b>Bhutan</b>
<b>140.</b> Which is the capital of Bhutan? <b>Thimphu</b>
<b>141.</b> The Ministry of Defence signed a contract for procurement of six Dornier-228 aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF) from which company? <b>Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bengaluru</b>
<b>142.</b> What type of aircraft is Dornier-228? <b>Multipurpose small transport aircraft</b>
<b>143.</b> Australian Prime Minister _____ Albanese arrived in India on March 8 on a four-day visit to the country: <b>Anthony</b>
<b>144.</b> Mr. Anthony Albanese started his Indian trip from which city? <b>Ahmedabad</b>
<b>145.</b> The ISRO received from NASA the NASA-ISRO SAR satellite in Bengaluru on March 8. What is its short name? <b>NISAR</b>
<b>146.</b> What is the full form SAR? <b>Synthetic Aperture Radar</b>
<b>147.</b> What type of satellite is NISAR? <b>Low Earth Orbit Observatory</b>
<b>148.</b> International Women's Day celebrated on March 8, marks the birthday of which great woman leader? <b>None</b>
<b>149.</b> TROPEX 2023 that culminated on March 08, was a major operational exercise of _____: <b>Indian Navy</b>
<b>150.</b> World Kidney Day is observed globally on the second _____ of March every year: <b>Thursday</b>
<b>151.</b> World over, No Smoking Day is observed on _____ Wednesday of March: <b>Second</b>
<b>152.</b> What was the name of the maiden joint military exercise between Indian and French Army that was conducted on March 7-8? <b>FRINJEX-23</b>

<b>153.</b> India hosted FRINJEX-23 at which place? <b>At Pangode Military Station, Thiruvananthapuram</b>
<b>154.</b> In a gazette notification issued March 7, the Finance Ministry said that the exchange and transfer of virtual _____ assets will be covered under provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002: <b>Digital</b>
<b>155.</b> Which town in Kerala witnessed one of the largest gatherings of women in the world on the occasion of "Attukal Pongala" on March 07? <b>Attukal</b>
<b>156.</b> India celebrates Janaushadhi Diwas on which day of March? <b>7<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>157.</b> Group Captain _____ Dhami has become the first woman officer in the Indian Air Force to command a front line combat unit: <b>Shaliza</b>
<b>158.</b> From April 1, each piece of gold jewellery in India will have a 6-digit alphanumeric HUID mark embossed on it. What is HUID? <b>Hallmark Unique Identification</b>
<b>159.</b> According to the 'Landslide Atlas' report prepared by National Remote Sensing Centre of ISRO, for 1998-2022 period, which state suffered largest number of landslides in last 24 years? <b>Mizoram</b>
<b>160.</b> According to the 'Landslide Atlas', which district of India experienced largest number of landslides during 1998 - 2022? <b>Rudraprayag in Uttarakhand</b>
<b>161.</b> As per the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on March 05, the annual per capita income at current prices is estimated at Rs _____ lakh in 2022-23: <b>1.72</b>
<b>162.</b> Max Verstappen (of Netherland) led the team Red Bull to victory in the season-opening _____ Grand Prix at Sakhir on March 05: <b>Bahrain</b>
<b>163.</b> Members of which global organisation signed the High Seas Treaty on March 4 in New York? <b>UNO</b>
<b>164.</b> What is the main objective of the High Seas Treaty? <b>To protect and conserve marine biological diversity</b>
<b>165.</b> Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture approved establishment of three CoEs for promoting horticulture. What is CoE? <b>Centers of Excellence</b>
<b>166.</b> The first edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference of 2023 was held on 06 March onboard which naval warship? <b>Aircraft carrier INS Vikrant</b>

<b>167.</b> Which country secured first rank in the Electoral Democracy Index 2023 released on March 2? <b>Denmark</b>
<b>168.</b> Anupama Upadhyaya and Mithun Manjunath won the women's and men's singles titles in which national championship? <b>National Badminton Championship</b>
<b>169.</b> World _____ Day is observed across the world on March 03: <b>Wildlife</b>
<b>170.</b> Hindi short story writer, novelist and poet Vinod Kumar Shukla won which international award for lifetime achievement? <b>PEN/Nabokov Award-2023</b>
<b>171.</b> Which company unveiled "Kosmos-1", a multimodal large language model (MLLM) that can analyse images for content? <b>Microsoft</b>
<b>172.</b> Which day of March is observed as the World Obesity Day? <b>Fourth</b>
<b>173.</b> What is the theme of this year's National Safety Day celebrated on March 4? <b>Our Aim - Zero Harm</b>
<b>174.</b> March 4 is observed in India as the National Security Day. Who is our National Security Advisor? <b>Ajit Doval</b>
<b>175.</b> Santosh trophy is associated with which sports at the national level? <b>Football</b>
<b>176.</b> Karnataka lifted the Santosh Trophy by defeating which team? <b>Meghalaya</b>
<b>177.</b> Which day of March is celebrated as the World Hearing Day? <b>Third</b>
<b>178.</b> Irani Cup is an all-India level tournament associated with which sports? <b>Cricket</b>
<b>179.</b> RAK Digital Assets Oasis, the world's first free zone dedicated to digital and virtual asset companies is being established in which country? <b>UAE - United Arab Emirates</b>
<b>180.</b> The seagrasses are grass-like plants that are found in _____ waters in many parts of the world: <b>Shallow</b>
<b>181.</b> The government unveiled which fellowship on Feb 28 to attract Indian-origin researchers to higher educational institutions in the country? <b>Vaibhav</b>
<b>182.</b> Bola Tinubu has been sworn in as the President of which big African nation? <b>Nigeria</b>
<b>183.</b> The World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2023 report released on March 2, placed which country at the top? <b>None, as 14 countries scored perfect 100</b>

<b>184.</b> Social media giant Meta released its own version of ChatGPT on Feb 24 by the name ____: <b>LLaMA</b>
<b>185.</b> What is the full form of LLaMA? <b>Large Language Model Meta AI</b>
<b>186.</b> The Asia's longest-ever cycle race was flagged off on March 01 from which place? <b>Srinagar</b>
<b>187.</b> Who has been selected as the 'BBC Indian Sportswoman of The Year' 2022? <b>Mirabai Chanu</b>
<b>188.</b> Mirabai Chanu is the Olympic silver medalist in which sports? <b>Weightlifting</b>
<b>189.</b> The 8 <sup>th</sup> edition of the Raisina Dialogue was held from March 2 to 4 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
<b>190.</b> Who was the chief guest at the 8 <sup>th</sup> edition of the Raisina Dialogue? <b>Giorgia Meloni</b>
<b>191.</b> Giorgia Meloni is the Prime Minister of which country? <b>Italy</b>
<b>192.</b> What was the name of the joint air exercise conducted by the Air Forces of India and Japan on March 01 and 02? <b>Exercise Shinyuu Maitri</b>
<b>193.</b> Exercise Shinyuu Maitri was conducted at which place? <b>At Komatsu, Japan</b>
<b>194.</b> Which state hosted a G20 Business Conference from March 1-3? <b>Mizoram</b>
<b>195.</b> The G20 Foreign Ministers meeting was held on March 1-2 in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
<b>196.</b> Who is the Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) of India? <b>V. Anantha Nageswaran</b>
<b>197.</b> Civil Accounts Day on March 01 commemorates which historical event on this day in 1976? <b>Creation of the Indian Civil Accounts Service</b>
<b>198.</b> The first meeting of the Anti-Corruption Working Group of the G20 was held on March 1-3 in which city? <b>Gurugram, Haryana</b>
<b>199.</b> Vo Van Thuong has been elected as the President of which south Asian country? <b>Vietnam</b>
<b>200.</b> Which Bank completed the acquisition of Citibank's retail business in India on March 01? <b>Axis Bank</b>
<b>201.</b> Who was honoured with "Player-of-the-Year" award by the Asian Chess Federation on March 1? <b>D Gukesh</b>
<b>202.</b> Which river's mouth is famous for mass nesting of endangered Olive Ridley turtles? <b>Rushikulya River</b>
<b>203.</b> Rushikulya River lies in which state? <b>Odisha</b>
<b>204.</b> On March 01, the Union Cabinet approved the acquisition of 70 HTT-40. What is it? <b>Basic Trainer Aircraft</b>

<b>205.</b> Which company will supply the HTT-40 aircrafts? <b>Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, Bengaluru</b>
<b>206.</b> Rashmi Shukla, Senior IPS officer has been appointed as the Director-General of which para military force? <b>Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)</b>
<b>207.</b> Government has tied up with Prajapati Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Mount Abu (Rajasthan) for propagating which mission? <b>Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan</b>
<b>208.</b> Alexia Putellas of _____ won the Best FIFA Women's Player 2022 award: <b>Spain</b>
<b>209.</b> Who was declared Best FIFA Men's Player for 2022? <b>Lionel Messi</b>
<b>210.</b> Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam won gold on Feb 26 at the Spanish Para-_____ International tournament in Victoria, Spain: <b>Badminton</b>
<b>211.</b> Australia won the ICC T20 World Cup (women) Trophy by defeating which team? <b>South Africa</b>
<b>212.</b> Who was the captain of the World Cup winning Australian team? <b>Meg Lanning</b>
<b>213.</b> Which country hosted the ICC T20 World Cup (women) Tournament? <b>South Africa</b>
<b>214.</b> Who has been appointed as new chief coach of the Indian men's hockey team? <b>Craig Fulton</b>
<b>215.</b> Craig Fulton, a seasoned hockey coach, hails from which country? <b>South Africa</b>
<b>216.</b> The World Bank approved two complementary loans for India, each for \$ 500 million, to support and enhance which sector in India? <b>Healthcare infrastructure</b>
<b>217.</b> What is Yard 75 (LSAM 7) that was launched on Feb 24 at Visakhapatnam for the Indian Navy? <b>A Missile cum Ammunition Barge</b>
<b>218.</b> Which Indian state became the first state to engage robotic scavengers all over the state for sewage cleaning? <b>Kerala</b>
<b>219.</b> Who became the only tennis player to enter 378 <sup>th</sup> week on top of world tennis rankings? <b>Novak Djokovic</b>
<b>220.</b> The Marconi Prize by the U.S.-based Marconi Foundation is awarded for making outstanding contribution in which field? <b>Computer science</b>
<b>221.</b> The Financial Action Task Force, Paris suspended membership of which country on Feb 24? <b>Russia</b>
<b>222.</b> Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was awarded Porter Prize in recognition of their outstanding work done in which field? <b>Health sector and COVID management</b>

<b>FEBRUARY 2023</b>	
<b>1.</b>	Which international day is observed on the last day of February to raise awareness about rare diseases? <b>World Rare Disease Day</b>
<b>2.</b>	National Science Day on Feb 28 marks the discovery of which scientific phenomenon on this date in 1928? <b>Raman Effect</b>
<b>3.</b>	Name the scientist who discovered Raman effect: <b>Sir C V Raman</b>
<b>4.</b>	National Protein Day is observed on which day of February? <b>27<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>5.</b>	The inception meeting of the Women 20 (W20), under aegis of G-20 was held on 27-28 Feb in which city? <b>Aurangabad, Maharashtra.</b>
<b>6.</b>	A powerful winter storm set record low temperatures in the south western and northern plains of which country in 4 <sup>th</sup> week of February? <b>USA</b>
<b>7.</b>	German Chancellor (Prime Minister) Olaf _____ arrived in New Delhi on Feb 25 on a two-day visit to India: <b>Scholz</b>
<b>8.</b>	Which city hosted the first G20 meeting of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) under the G20 Indian Presidency on 24-25 February? <b>Bengaluru</b>
<b>9.</b>	Dr Bharrat Jagdeo, _____ of Guyana, called on the President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Feb 24: <b>Vice President</b>
<b>10.</b>	The UN General Assembly passed a resolution on Feb 23 on the need to reach comprehensive, just and lasting peace in which country? <b>Ukraine</b>
<b>11.</b>	Chief Justice of India, D Y Chandrachud announced on Feb 23 that the Supreme Court will adopt a "neutral _____ system" for all its over 30,000 judgments: <b>Citation</b>
<b>12.</b>	Sajjan Jindal has been selected as the EY Entrepreneur of the Year-2022. He heads which industrial group? <b>JSW Group</b>
<b>13.</b>	Which power sector PSU has been ranked as the number one independent power producer globally in the S&P Global Commodity Insights Top 250 Global Energy Company Rankings-2022? <b>National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)</b>
<b>14.</b>	Which country topped the International IP (Intellectual Property) Index released on Feb 23? <b>USA</b>
<b>15.</b>	What was India's rank in the recent IP Index? <b>42<sup>nd</sup></b>



16.	Girish Chandra Murmu, Comptroller and Auditor General of India has been selected as External Auditor of which international organisation? <b>ILO-International Labour Organization in Geneva</b>
17.	Which Indo-American business executive has been nominated for the post of President of the World Bank? <b>Ajay Banga</b>
18.	Who is the current President of the World Bank? <b>David Malpass</b>
19.	Which High Court became the first high court in India to publish two of its recent judgments in regional language? <b>Kerala High Court</b>
20.	Which Municipal Corporation listed its green bonds on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) on Feb 21, becoming the first MC to be listed on NSE? <b>Indore MC</b>
21.	Name the US based Indian origin software engineer, who won the 'Pictures of The Year' Award from the National Geographic magazine: <b>Karthik Subramaniam</b>
22.	Dr. Mahendra Kumar Mishra won the International Mother Language Prize for the growth of indigenous languages in which state? <b>Odisha</b>
23.	India's first hybrid sounding rocket made by the school students from various states, was launched on Feb 19 from Pattipulam Village in Chengalpattu, in which state? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
24.	Aishwary _____ Tomar claimed the gold medal on Feb 22 in the men's individual 50m rifle 3 positions in Cairo: <b>Pratap Singh</b>
25.	The Ministry of Education has directed all states and UTs to fix the minimum age for admission in Class 1 as _____ years: <b>Six</b>
26.	Which country announced on Feb 21 that it was suspending its participation in the "New START Treaty"? <b>Russia</b>
27.	What is the full form of START? <b>Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty</b>
28.	What is the objective of START treaty? <b>It limits the number of strategic nuclear warheads that the United States and Russia can deploy</b>
29.	ICAR has developed a new variety of _____ which can overcome the challenges arising out of rising heat levels: <b>Wheat</b>
30.	Biswabhusan Harichandan took the oath of office as the ninth Governor of which state? <b>Chhattisgarh</b>

31.	India observes February 24 as the Central Excise Day to commemorate which historical event? <b>Enactment of Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 on this day</b>
32.	_____ launched India's first ever indigenously developed Train Control & Supervision System, the i-ATS (Indigenous - Automatic Train Supervision) for operations? <b>Delhi Metro</b>
33.	The Indian Air Force has developed a new data link communication solution called _____ for its fighter pilots to provide good communication even in bad weather: <b>Vayulink</b>
34.	Which country topped the Services Trade Restrictiveness Index 2022 released by the OECD? <b>Japan</b>
35.	What was India's rank in the recent Services Trade Restrictiveness Index 2022? <b>47th</b>
36.	Which two countries participated in the Dharma Guardian 2023 joint military exercise? <b>Japan and India</b>
37.	Which group of people celebrate February 22 as the World Thinking Day? <b>Girl guides and girl scouts</b>
38.	What is the theme of the RBI's second global hackathon - 'HARBINGER 2023 launched on Feb 22? <b>Inclusive Digital Services</b>
39.	Which Indian warship participated in Naval Defence Exhibition - NAVDEX 23 and International Defence Exhibition - IDEX 23 held in Abu Dhabi, UAE from Feb 20 to 24? <b>INS Sumedha</b>
40.	The Union Cabinet approved the extension of the term of the 22 <sup>nd</sup> Law Commission of India up to which date? <b>31<sup>st</sup> August, 2024</b>
41.	Who is the current chairman of the Law Commission of India? <b>Justice (retd) Rituraj Awasthi</b>
42.	The country's first ever Frozen Lake Marathon took place on _____ lake in Ladakh on Feb 20: <b>Pangong Tso</b>
43.	Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil is an accomplished national player in which sports? <b>Air Rifle shooting</b>
44.	India's first air-conditioned double-decker electric bus was launched in which city? <b>Mumbai</b>
45.	Which UN agency is associated with the promotion of International Mother Language Day on Feb 21? <b>UNESCO</b>
46.	In which city the foundation stone of the 'Divyang Anubhuti Inclusive Park', world's largest park for

	disabled people, was laid on Feb 20? <b>Nagpur, Maharashtra</b>
47.	The 69 <sup>th</sup> Dadasaheb Phalke Award ceremony was held on Feb 20? <b>Mumbai</b>
48.	Which film won the Dadasaheb Phalke Award on Feb 20 for the Best Film? <b>The Kashmir Files</b>
49.	Film RRR by SS Rajamouli won which coveted Dadasaheb Phalke Award on Feb 20? <b>Film of the Year</b>
50.	Who has been elected unopposed as Bangladesh's 22nd President? <b>Mohammad Shahabuddin</b>
51.	Vignesh NR became India's ____ Grandmaster on Feb 20 after he defeated Germany's IM Ilja Schneider: <b>80<sup>th</sup></b>
52.	Who became the first player in history on Feb 20 having played 150 T20I matches? <b>Harmanpreet Kaur</b>
53.	World's highest weather station was recently re-built near which mountain peak? <b>Mount Everest</b>
54.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of World Social Justice Day on Feb 20? <b>International Labour Organisation, Geneva</b>
55.	North India's first Nuclear Power Plant is being set up in village Gorakhpur in which state? <b>Haryana</b>
56.	Who created a world record for most sixes in Test cricket as he smashed his 108 <sup>th</sup> six recently? <b>Ben Stokes</b>
57.	The UNICEF India selected which Bollywood celebrity as its national ambassador for supporting the rights of children? <b>Ayushmann Khurrana</b>
58.	The Union Cabinet Committee approved the construction of the 4.1 km long Shinku La tunnel to ensure all-weather connectivity between which two major cities? <b>Leh and Manali</b>
59.	India established seamless connectivity of its UPI system with PayNow system of which country? <b>Singapore</b>
60.	Which film won the BAFTA Award for the Best Film? <b>All Quiet on the Western Front</b>
61.	India received first batch of 12 Cheetahs on Feb 18 from which country? <b>South Africa</b>
62.	The Indian mixed team of HS Prannoy and PV Sindhu won the ____ medal on Feb 18 at the Asia Mixed Team Badminton Championships in Dubai: <b>Bronze</b>
63.	Saurashtra defeated which team at Eden Gardens, Kolkata on Feb 19 to lift the Ranji Trophy? <b>Bengal</b>

64.	Which country won the Border Gavaskar Trophy? <b>India</b>
65.	Government launched on Feb 20 a Learning-Teaching Material called 'Jaadui Pitara' for which stage of school learning? <b>Foundational stage</b>
66.	World Pangolin Day is celebrated on the ____ Saturday of February to raise awareness about these unique mammals: <b>Third</b>
67.	Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog? <b>BVR Subrahmanyam</b>
68.	What is the name of the joint military exercise between the Indian Army and Uzbekistan Army that was held in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand in last week of February? <b>Dustlik 2023</b>
69.	Which national day is observed on Feb 19 to commemorate the launch of the Soil Health Card Scheme from Rajasthan on this day in 2015? <b>Soil Health Card Day</b>
70.	The Tata-owned airlines Air India will purchase as many as 220 planes for \$ 34 billion, from which company? <b>Boeing Inc., USA</b>
71.	Tata Sons also announced purchase of 250 aircraft from ____ : <b>European manufacturer Airbus</b>
72.	A joint counter-terrorism exercise was held between National Security Guard (NSG) and Special Operations Forces (SOF) of which country from Jan 16 to Feb 14 in Chennai? <b>USA</b>
73.	What was the name of the joint counter-terrorism exercise held between NSG and SOF? <b>Exercise Tarkash</b>
74.	The World Health Organization recently confirmed the Marburg disease outbreak in which country? <b>Equatorial Guinea.</b>
75.	The government launched a mobile app 'Khanan ____' for reporting unauthorised coal mining activities: <b>Prahari</b>
76.	Researchers from which country recently discovered a Black Galaxy or Invisible Galaxy using ALMA - Atacama Large Millimetre Array telescope complex in South America? <b>Italy</b>
77.	International Epilepsy Day is observed on second ____ of February: <b>Monday</b>
78.	National Women's Day on Feb 13 commemorates the birthday of which great Indian woman? <b>Sarojini Naidu</b>
79.	Abdul Nazeer, former SC Judge has been appointed Governor of which state? <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>

80.	Supported by UNESCO, which day of February is celebrated as the World Radio Day? <b>13<sup>th</sup></b>
81.	Cyclone Gabrielle, a strong tropical cyclone hit the northern part of which country on February 12? <b>New Zealand</b>
82.	The five-day Aero India show was held from Feb 13 to 17 at the Air Force Station in which place? <b>Yelahanka, Bengaluru</b>
83.	The Department of Posts organised the National Philatelic Exhibition, AMRITPEX 2023 from 11 to 15 February in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
84.	February 12 is observed as "Darwin Day" to mark the birthday of Charles Darwin. Who was he? British naturalist ( <b>12 Feb 1809–19 April, 1882</b> ).
85.	Charles Darwin is best known for his Theory of Evolution which established the principle of _____.: <b>Survival of Fittest</b>
86.	Which Indian city hosted the first ever FIA's Formula E race in India? <b>Hyderabad</b>
87.	Which city hosted the World Government Summit 2023 from Feb 13 to 15? <b>Dubai</b>
88.	Which national day is observed on Feb 12 to mark the establishment of the National Productivity Council-NPC on this day in 1958? <b>National Productivity Day</b>
89.	UNESCO supports the celebration of International Day of _____ and Girls in Science on Feb 11: <b>Women</b>
90.	Which union ministry is associated with the promotion and celebration of the Unani Day on Feb 11? <b>Ministry of Ayush</b>
91.	The second developmental flight of SSLV D2 placed how many satellites successfully in its precise orbit on Feb 10? <b>Three</b>
92.	What is the full form of SSLV? <b>Small satellite launch vehicle</b>
93.	What is the payload capacity of SSLV? <b>Up to 500 kg</b>
94.	The Union Ministry of Mines announced on February 10, that huge Lithium reserves had been found in the Salal-Haimana area of _____.: <b>J &amp; K</b>
95.	Which country produces 75% of the world's Lithium, mainly by doing the refining business? <b>China</b>
96.	February 10 is observed as World Pulses Day. Pulses are rich source of which major nutrient? <b>Protein</b>

97.	February 10 is observed as the National Deworming Day. Which medicine is administered free on this day to children to ward off stomach worms? <b>Albendazoles</b>
98.	India's national accreditation system under the Quality Council of India (QCI) has been ranked _____ in the world in the recent Global Quality Infrastructure Index (GQII) 2021: <b>Fifth</b>
99.	India's first Integrative Medicine Centre was inaugurated on Feb 7 in which hospital? <b>All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) at Safdarjung Hospital in New Delhi</b>
100.	India launched Operation _____ as a big relief measure to help Türkiye - Syria earthquake victims: <b>Dost</b>
101.	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition of Khelo India Winter Games was held from Feb 10 to 14 at the world-famous Ski resorts of _____ in the Baramulla district of Kashmir: <b>Gulmarg</b>
102.	Which state/UT topped the medal tally at the Khelo India Winter Games? <b>J&amp;K</b>
103.	Which Indian university is going to become world's first living heritage university certified by UNESCO? <b>Visva-Bharati University</b>
104.	Visva-Bharati University is situated at which place? <b>Santiniketan, West Bengal</b>
105.	K Satyanarayana Raju has been appointed as Managing Director and CEO of which public sector bank? <b>Canara Bank</b>
106.	The government has set up a panel headed by _____ to examine various regulatory aspects in dealing with challenges emerging from the digital economy: <b>Manoj Govil</b>
107.	Google finally launched its AI technology chatbot named 'Bard' on Feb 07 to ward off competition from which rival? <b>ChatGPT</b>
108.	What is the full form of GPT? <b>Generative Pre-trained Transformer</b>
109.	Yaya Tso, known as birds' paradise and its beautiful lake located at an altitude of 4,820 metres, is situated in which place? <b>Ladakh</b>
110.	Announcing the last bi-monthly monetary policy review of 2022-23, RBI increased the repo rate by 25 basis points to _____.: <b>6.5%</b>
111.	Safer Internet Day is observed every year on the _____ day of the second week of February: <b>Second</b>



<b>112.</b> Name the Australia's T20 World Cup-winning captain who announced his retirement on Feb 07 from the T20Is: <b>Aaron Finch</b>
<b>113.</b> Which two Fighter Aircrafts successfully performed their maiden landing and takeoff on Feb 6 from India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier INS Vikrant? <b>Tejas and MiG29K</b>
<b>114.</b> The first Tourism Working Group Meeting under India's G20 Presidency was held on Feb 7-8-9 in Dhordo Tent City in which place? <b>Rann of Kutch, Gujarat</b>
<b>115.</b> Name the American singer who secured her 32 <sup>nd</sup> Grammy award, the most in the award's history: <b>Beyoncé Knowles</b>
<b>116.</b> Which record won the Grammy for the Record of the Year? <b>About Damn Time by Lizzo</b>
<b>117.</b> The Asian Football Confederation awarded hosting rights of the 2027 Asian Nations Cup to which country? <b>Saudi Arabia</b>
<b>118.</b> A powerful earthquake of magnitude 7.9 struck central Turkey and which other country on early morning of Feb 6, killing thousands of people? <b>Northwest Syria</b>
<b>119.</b> The first meeting of the Youth-20 engagement group under India's G20 presidency was held from Feb 6 to 8 in which city? <b>Guwahati</b>
<b>120.</b> Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) opened a new helicopter-making factory on Feb 06 at which place? <b>Tumkur, Karnataka</b>
<b>121.</b> Vani Jairam, veteran singer passed away in _____ on February 4: <b>Chennai</b>
<b>122.</b> Who was rated as the world's most popular leader by Morning Consult, with an approval rating of 78 percent? <b>Narendra Modi</b>
<b>123.</b> Touted as Asia's first floating festival, Gandhi Sagar Floating Festival, was inaugurated on February 1 near which reservoir? <b>Gandhi Sagar reservoir built on Chambal River</b>
<b>124.</b> Gandhi Sagar reservoir is located in which state? <b>Madhya Pradesh</b>
<b>125.</b> Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy announced on January 31 that _____ will be the new capital of Andhra Pradesh: <b>Visakhapatnam</b>
<b>126.</b> Which country decided to replace the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II from its currency note with a new design to reflect and honour the history of its indigenous culture? <b>Australia</b>

<b>127.</b> K Viswanath, Dadasaheb Phalke awardee and renowned _____ passed away on Feb 02 at the age of 92 at Hyderabad: <b>Filmmaker</b>
<b>128.</b> ONGC's iconic drilling rig Sagar Samrat was formally re-dedicated to the nation on Jan 28 as a MOPU. Expand the term MOPU: <b>Mobile Offshore Production Unit</b>
<b>129.</b> In a strategically important move, the USA succeeded in securing expanded access to its military bases in which country in first week of February? <b>Philippines</b>
<b>130.</b> The Indian Army put up an imposing firepower display on Jan 29 in Maharashtra's Devlali. What was its name? <b>Exercise Topchi-2023</b>
<b>131.</b> The first G-20 Employment Working Group meeting was held on Feb 2-3-4 in _____, Rajasthan: <b>Jodhpur</b>
<b>132.</b> February 2 is observed as World Wetlands Day. How many Ramsar wetlands are there in India? <b>75</b>
<b>133.</b> A consortium of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) and Gadot Group took over the Port of Haifa in which country on 31 <sup>st</sup> January? <b>Israel</b>
<b>134.</b> Trishakti Prahar, a joint training exercise of the Indian Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) was held from Jan 21 to 31 in which place? <b>Siliguri, West Bengal</b>
<b>135.</b> Name the noted jurist and former Union Law Minister who passed away on Jan 31 at his residence in New Delhi: <b>Shanti Bhushan</b>
<b>136.</b> The first meeting of the G20 _____ Working Group was held in Chennai on Jan 31-Feb 01: <b>Education</b>
<b>137.</b> The Ministry of Culture announced on January 25 its plans to hand over around 1,000 historical monuments to the private sector for their upkeep under which scheme? <b>Monument Mitra Scheme</b>
<b>138.</b> Which Ministry announced on Jan 30 the awards for the best marching contingents and tableaux of the Republic Day Parade? <b>Ministry of Defence</b>
<b>139.</b> Which marching contingent among defence forces was declared the Best Marching Contingent? <b>Punjab Regiment</b>
<b>140.</b> Tableau of which state was declared best among state tableaux? <b>Uttarakhand</b>
<b>141.</b> The President Droupadi Murmu renamed the legendary Mughal Gardens of Rashtrapati Bhavan as _____ on Jan 28: <b>Amrit Udyan</b>

<b>142.</b> Germany lifted their 3 <sup>rd</sup> FIH Hockey World Cup on Jan 29 by defeating which team? <b>Belgium</b>
<b>143.</b> Year's first Grand Slam, Australian Open was held in which city? <b>Melbourne</b>
<b>144.</b> Who won the men's singles title at Australian Open for the 10 <sup>th</sup> time? <b>Novak Djokovic (Serbia)</b>
<b>145.</b> Aryna Sabalenka won her first grand slam by winning women's singles at the Australian Open. She hails from which country? <b>Belarus</b>
<b>146.</b> India won the inaugural edition of ICC Under-19 Women's T-20 Trophy on Jan 29 by beating which team? <b>England</b>
<b>147.</b> The fifth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) was inaugurated on Jan 30 in which city? <b>Bhopal</b>
<b>148.</b> Which state won the overall championship at KIYG securing a total of 161 medals? <b>Maharashtra</b>
<b>149.</b> The martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi on January 30 is observed as which national day in India? <b>Martyrs Day</b>
<b>150.</b> World Leprosy Day is observed on the ____ Sunday of January: <b>Last, Jan 29 this year</b>
<b>151.</b> Who was the Chief Guest at this year's Republic Day Parade? <b>Gen. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi</b>
<b>152.</b> With which country Indian Air Force participated in the Veer Guardian-2023 exercise? <b>Japan</b>
<b>153.</b> Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar are given by which union ministry? <b>Ministry of home affairs</b>
<b>154.</b> Odisha State Disaster Management Authority won the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for which achievement? <b>For providing effective response during various cyclones, saving thousands of lives</b>
<b>155.</b> The International Customs Day on Jan 26 marks the inauguration of the World Customs Organisation on this day in 1953. It is based in which place? <b>Brussels, Belgium</b>
<b>156.</b> Custom duty in India is defined under which Act? <b>Customs Act, 1962</b>
<b>157.</b> Name the renowned architect and educator who was honoured posthumously with the Padma Vibhushan 2023: <b>Balkrishna Doshi</b>
<b>158.</b> Who is the Abel prize winner pioneer mathematician from USA, who has been honoured with the Padma Vibhushan this year? <b>S R Srinivasa Varadhan</b>

<b>159.</b> Naat Naatu fame music composer M M Keeravaani has been honoured with which Padma award this year? <b>Padma Shri</b>
<b>160.</b> National Voters Day on Jan 25 marks which event in history? <b>Establishment of the Election Commission of India</b>
<b>161.</b> Who is the current Chief Election Commissioner of India? <b>Sh. Rajiv Kumar</b>
<b>162.</b> India observes National Tourism Day on Jan 25. When is World Tourism Day observed? <b>September 27</b>
<b>163.</b> Who won the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the ICC Cricketer of the year (men): <b>Babar Azam, Pakistan</b>
<b>164.</b> Name the veteran modern Indian architect, urban planner and educator who passed away on Jan 24 at the age of 95: <b>Balkrishna Doshi</b>
<b>165.</b> Nat Sciver, winner of Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for the ICC Cricketer of the year (women), plays for which country? <b>England</b>
<b>166.</b> What was the name of the Indian Navy's major maritime exercise that started on Jan 24 in the Indian Ocean? <b>Tropex-23</b>
<b>167.</b> Aska Police Station in Ganjam district of ____ was ranked as the "Best Police Station" in the country in 2022: <b>Odisha</b>
<b>168.</b> The RBI extended the deadline for renewal of agreements for the existing safe deposit lockers in a phased manner, maximum by ____ 2023: <b>December 31</b>
<b>169.</b> The first B20 meet as part of the G20 was held from Jan 22 to 24 in ____, Gujarat: <b>Gandhinagar</b>
<b>170.</b> President of which country arrived in New Delhi on January 24, on a three-day visit to India? <b>Egypt</b>
<b>171.</b> UNESCO has dedicated this year's International Day of Education (Jan 24) to all the girls and women in which country? <b>Afghanistan</b>
<b>172.</b> Which union ministry supports the celebration of National Girl Child Day on Jan 24? <b>Ministry of Women and Child Development</b>
<b>173.</b> What is the name of the fifth Kalvari class submarine that was commissioned into the Indian Navy on Jan 23? <b>INS Vagir</b>
<b>174.</b> Which railway station of East Coast Railway received the prestigious 'Green Railway Station Certification' with the highest Platinum rating? <b>Visakhapatnam</b>

<b>175.</b> The great freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary on Jan 23 is observed as which national day? <b>Parakram Diwas</b>
<b>176.</b> What was the name of the largest biennial Tri-Services amphibious exercise of Indian Army that was conducted from January 17 to 22? <b>AMPHEX 2023</b>
<b>177.</b> AMPHEX 2023 was held in which area? <b>In the coastal area near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh</b>
<b>178.</b> Who has been named as the new Prime Minister of New Zealand? <b>Chris Hipkins</b>
<b>179.</b> On the occasion of Parakram Diwas on Jan 23, how many unnamed islands of Andaman-Nicobar were named after the Param Vir Chakra awardees? <b>21</b>
<b>180.</b> Who was the first Param Vir Chakra awardee of India? <b>Major Somnath Sharma</b>
<b>181.</b> Who won the Men's singles title at the Yonex Sunrise India Open Badminton on Jan 22 in New Delhi? <b>Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn</b>
<b>182.</b> An Se-young of _____ won the women's singles title at the India Open Badminton? <b>South Korea</b>
<b>183.</b> A tech startup incubated by IIT Madras, JandK Operations Pvt. Ltd. developed India's own mobile operating system. What is its name? <b>BharOS</b>
<b>184.</b> Captain Harpreet Chandi from ____ set a new world record on Jan 19 for the longest solo, unsupported, and unassisted polar expedition by a woman: <b>England</b>
<b>185.</b> The first Health Working Group meeting under India's G20 presidency was held from Jan 18 to 20 in which city? <b>Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala</b>
<b>186.</b> Who became the youngest batsman at 23 years and 132 days to hit a double hundred in ODIs? <b>Shubman Gill</b>
<b>187.</b> Which U-16 team won the Vijay Merchant Trophy in cricket on Jan 19? <b>Punjab U-16</b>
<b>188.</b> The 53rd edition of the World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual meeting was held from Jan 16 to 20 in _____ in Switzerland: <b>Davos</b>
<b>189.</b> What was the name of joint operation of the Special Forces contingents of India and Egypt that was held from Jan 14 to 27? <b>Exercise Cyclone-I</b>
<b>190.</b> Exercise Cyclone-I was held at which place in Rajasthan? <b>Jaisalmer</b>
<b>191.</b> _____ became the first UT in India to completely switch to a digital method of administration: <b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>

<b>192.</b> As per the Global 500-report released on Jan 18 2023, _____ was ranked as the "most valuable brand" in the world: <b>Amazon</b>
<b>193.</b> India hosted Bilateral Naval Exercise Varuna from Jan 16 to 20 with which country? <b>France</b>
<b>194.</b> Exercise Varuna was held in which area? <b>Arabian Sea</b>
<b>195.</b> Gina Lollobrigida, legendary film actress, dubbed as "the most beautiful woman in the world" in 1950s and '60s, passed away on Jan 16. She was from which country? <b>Italy</b>
<b>196.</b> Which Indian corporate has announced to plant 10 crore trees by 2030 as part of its commitment to Paris COP 21? <b>Adani group</b>
<b>197.</b> Which ordnance factory started the production of AK-203 in India? <b>Korwa Ordnance Factory</b>
<b>198.</b> Which country has provided technical support for producing AK-203 in India? <b>Russia</b>
<b>199.</b> What is the effective strike range of AK-203 assault rifle? <b>Up to 800 metres</b>
<b>200.</b> Korwa Ordnance Factory is located in which place? <b>Korwa near Amethi</b>
<b>201.</b> India celebrates National Startup Day on which day of January? <b>16th</b>
<b>202.</b> What is the name of the India's first national assessment regulator notified by the NCERT? <b>PARAKH</b>
<b>203.</b> What is the expansion of the acronym PARAKH? <b>Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic development</b>
<b>204.</b> Indian subsidiary of which German engineering giant signed a Rs 26,000-crore contract with Indian Railways? <b>Siemens AG</b>
<b>205.</b> Siemens India signed this contract for what purpose? <b>To manufacture 1,200 electric freight locomotives in India</b>
<b>206.</b> The Global Firepower Report 2023 has ranked India as the _____ most powerful army among the 145 countries: <b>Fourth</b>
<b>207.</b> Which corporate joined hands with Ashok Leyland, and Ballard Power, Canada to develop Asia's first hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Truck (FCET) for mining operations? <b>Adani enterprises</b>
<b>208.</b> Which Indian city has been identified as the World Economic Forum's 18th Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution? <b>Hyderabad</b>



<b>209.</b> Army Day on Jan 15 marks which historical event in the history of Indian Army? <b>Taking over of command of the Indian Army by the first Indian, Lt Gen K M Cariappa</b>
<b>210.</b> Yuki Bhambri and _____ Myneni, top seeded Indian tennis champs won the Bangkok Open title on Jan 15? <b>Saketh</b>
<b>211.</b> India scripted history on Jan 15 by defeating _____ by the largest ever margin (in the world) of 317 runs: <b>Sri Lanka</b>
<b>212.</b> Festival of Makar Sankranti is celebrated in Gujarat by which popular name? <b>Uttarayan</b>
<b>213.</b> In which part of India festival of Makar Sankranti is celebrated as Pedda Panduga? <b>Andhra Pradesh, Telangana</b>
<b>214.</b> India celebrates the Armed Forces Veterans Day on January 14 to mark the retirement of one of its great generals on this day in 1953. Who was he? <b>Field Marshal KM Cariappa</b>
<b>215.</b> Which media group secured the global media rights for the upcoming Women's IPL T20 League for a whopping Rs 951 crore for five years? <b>Viacom 18</b>
<b>216.</b> Europe's first orbital launch site in the European mainland was inaugurated on Jan 13 in Esrange Space Centre near Kiruna in which country? <b>Sweden</b>
<b>217.</b> Beauty Queen of which country won the Miss Universe 2022? <b>USA</b>
<b>218.</b> Who has been crowned Miss Universe 2022? <b>R'Bonney Gabriel</b>
<b>219.</b> India hosted a special virtual summit, the Voice of Global _____ summit, on January 12 and 13: <b>South</b>
<b>220.</b> What was the theme of the Voice of Global South summit? <b>Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose</b>
<b>221.</b> World's longest river cruise 'MV Ganga Vilas' was launched from which place on Jan 13? <b>Varanasi</b>
<b>222.</b> The 51-day journey of river cruise 'MV Ganga Vilas' will end at which place? <b>Dibrugarh, Assam</b>
<b>223.</b> Name the seven-time Lok Sabha MP and a four-term Rajya Sabha MP, founder president of Janta Dal, who passed away on Jan 12: <b>Sharad Yadav</b>
<b>224.</b> Which country imposed a total ban on smoking in public places that includes parks, beaches, hotels, offices and restaurants? <b>Mexico</b>
<b>225.</b> India announced which project on Jan 13 to provide essential medical supplies to any

developing country affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crisis? <b>Aarogya Maitri</b>
<b>226.</b> Falak Mumtaz, an 11-year-old girl from _____ bagged a gold medal in the 23rd National Sqay Championship: <b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>
<b>227.</b> Who won the men's singles title in the Malaysia Open Super 1000 at Kuala Lumpur? <b>Viktor Axelsen</b>
<b>228.</b> What type of vessel is ICGS Kamla Devi that was commissioned in the Indian Coast Guard on Jan 12? <b>Fast Patrol Vessel</b>
<b>229.</b> National Youth Day on Jan 12 marks the birthday of which great person? <b>Swami Vivekananda</b>
<b>230.</b> What was the theme of this year's National Youth Day? <b>Viksit Yuva – Viksit Bharat</b>
<b>231.</b> FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2022 got off to a colourful start on Jan 11 in which stadium in Cuttack? <b>Barabati Stadium</b>
<b>232.</b> India's first and largest 3x platform wind turbine generators (WTGs) has been installed at Gadag in which state? <b>Karnataka</b>
<b>233.</b> Which film won the Golden Globe for the Best Film-Drama? <b>The Fabelmans</b>
<b>234.</b> Steven Spielberg won the Golden Globe for Best Director for which film? <b>The Fabelmans</b>
<b>235.</b> According to the latest Henley Passport Index, released on Jan 10, what was India's rank? <b>85<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>236.</b> What is the name of the new light and sound show launched on Jan 10 at the Red Fort in Delhi? <b>Jai Hind</b>
<b>237.</b> World Hindi Day is observed on Jan 10 to mark the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference which was held on this day in _____, Maharashtra in 1975: <b>Nagpur</b>
<b>238.</b> Tenure of which Deputy Governor of the RBI has been extended for one more year? <b>Dr M. Debabrata Patra</b>
<b>239.</b> Indian film RRR's super hit song "Naatu Naatu" won the prestigious Golden Globe award in which category? <b>Best Original Song</b>
<b>240.</b> According to a Nikkei Asia report published on Jan 6, India ranked as _____ largest automobile seller: <b>Third</b>
<b>241.</b> India's first 'Centre of Excellence' for online gaming is to be set up in _____, Meghalaya by March 2023: <b>Shillong</b>

242. What is the name of the India's first 5G-enabled drone developed by IG Drones from Odisha? <b>Skyhawk</b>
243. Which district in Kerala became India's first constitution literate district? <b>Kollam</b>
244. India celebrates the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on which day of January? <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>
245. _____ hosted the 17 <sup>th</sup> Pravasi Bharatiya Divas from January 8–10: <b>Indore, Madhya Pradesh</b>
246. Ms. _____ Singh, won the girls' Under-15 squash title on Jan 08 at the most prestigious British Junior Open tournament in UK: <b>Anahat</b>
247. Keshari Nath Tripathi, a former Governor of _____ (2014-19) died at his Prayagraj home in Uttar Pradesh on Jan 08: <b>West Bengal</b>
248. _____ became the first state in the country to go fully digital in its banking service: <b>Kerala</b>
249. According to an analysis of Central Pollution Control Board data, _____ was the most polluted city in India in 2022: <b>Delhi</b>
250. Torrential downpours and damaging winds left hundreds of thousands of homes and businesses without power in which state of USA in the first week of January? <b>California</b>
251. Which part of Australia was devastated by one of the worst floods in the history, in first week of January? <b>Kimberley</b>
252. The largest hockey stadium in India was inaugurated on Jan 05 in which city? <b>Rourkela</b>
253. What is the name of the India's largest hockey stadium? <b>Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium</b>
254. M Pranesh, 16 year old Chess prodigy from _____, became India's 79 <sup>th</sup> Grandmaster on Jan 06: <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
255. According to National Statistical Office (NSO) data released on Jan 06, the real GDP during FY 2022-23 is estimated to grow at what rate? <b>7%</b>
256. World's first palm-leaf manuscript museum with modern audio-visual technology has been set up at which place? <b>Thiruvananthapuram</b>
257. Which state won the UN- Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for its Jaga mission, world's largest land titling and slum upgrading programme? <b>Odisha</b>
258. India deployed a platoon of women peacekeepers to the UN Mission in which country? <b>Sudan</b>

259. World Day of War Orphans is observed on which day of January? <b>6<sup>th</sup></b>
260. The Union Cabinet approved the National Green _____ Mission on 04 Jan with an initial outlay of 19,744 crore rupees: <b>Hydrogen</b>
261. The Union Cabinet approved the Broadcasting _____ and Network Development Scheme on Jan 04 with an outlay of Rs. 2539 crore: <b>Infrastructure</b>
262. World Braille Day on Jan 04 marks the birthday of Louis Braille. He hailed from which country? <b>France</b>
263. Braille language is based on _____ convex embossed dots that form all the letters and symbols: <b>Six</b>
264. The 108 <sup>th</sup> annual session of ISC– Indian Science Congress, was inaugurated on Jan 3 in which city? <b>Nagpur</b>
265. The focal theme of this year's ISC is Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with _____ Empowerment: <b>Women</b>
266. Which Indian space startup launched its space mapping testbed Pushan-alpha successfully on Jan 03? <b>Digantara Research and Technologies</b>
267. Pushan-alpha was launched onboard which rocket? <b>Falcon 9</b>
268. Which country launched Asia's first hydrogen powered train on Dec 28 for the Urban Railways? <b>China</b>
269. ADB approved a loan of Rs 2,275 crore to Tripura government to strengthen and improve _____: <b>Power distribution</b>
270. Captain _____ Chauhan became the first lady officer to be deployed at the world's highest battlefield, Siachen: <b>Shiva</b>
271. Siachen Glacier lies in which range of Himalayas? <b>Karakoram</b>
272. Which central public sector enterprise (CPSE) was ranked number one in the services sector in the Public Enterprises Survey 2021-22? <b>Powergrid Corporation of India Ltd</b>
273. Five new non-permanent members of the UN Security Council started their _____ year term on Jan 01, 2023: <b>Two</b>
274. As per SEBI guidelines, every listed company has to allocate at least _____ % of its shares to general public: <b>25</b>
275. As per the gazette notification dt Jan 02 by the central government, _____ have been exempted

from the Minimum Public Shareholding norm of 25%: <b>Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)</b>
276. Which country has been selected to head the Asian-Pacific Postal Union (APPU)? <b>India</b>
277. Headquarters of APPU are located in which city? <b>Bangkok, Thailand</b>
278. RBI has decided to retain SBI, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank as D-SIBs for 2021. What is D-SIB? <b>Domestic Systemically Important Banks</b>
279. Ajay Kumar Srivastava was appointed as the MD and CEO of which Bank wef January 1, 2023? <b>Indian Overseas Bank</b>
280. Which union ministry launched 'SMART' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals) programme? <b>Ministry of Ayush</b>
281. RBI launched its medium-term strategy framework titled '____' on Dec 30 to enhance its effectiveness: <b>Utkarsh 2.0</b>
282. What is the time frame for the Utkarsh 2.0? <b>2023-25</b>
283. Who became the fastest Indian bowler on Jan 03 surpassing Jasprit Bumrah's record for 153.6 kph? <b>Umran Malik</b>
284. Koustav _____ became India's 78 <sup>th</sup> Grand Master on Dec 31: <b>Chatterjee</b>
285. Which country became the 20 <sup>th</sup> member of the Eurozone by adopting Euro as its currency? <b>Croatia</b>
286. _____ became the first state in the country to bring the chief minister and council of ministers under the ambit of the Lokayukta: <b>Maharashtra</b>
287. Who became the first person ever in the world to lose over \$200 billion (Rs 16.5 lakh crore) from his peak net worth, within a year? <b>Elon Musk</b>
288. Name the Supreme Catholic leader, Pope Emeritus, who breathed his last on Dec 31 at the age of 95: <b>Pope Benedict XVI</b>
289. The Islamist terror outfit declared on Dec 31 the formation of its new parallel government in Pakistan? <b>Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan</b>
290. The government launched the 'Prahari' Mobile app on Dec 29 in New Delhi for which armed police force? <b>Border Security Force (BSF)</b>
291. The Rural Development Ministry launched Prajwala Challenge on Dec 29 for inviting ideas, solutions and actions on which topic? <b>To transform the rural economy</b>

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