

Weekly One-liners

22-30 September 2023



Weekly One Liners Updates 22-30th September 2023

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liners Update is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **fourth week** (22-30th) of **September 2023**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which insurance organization selected as one of the official partners for the BCCI Domestic and International Season 2023-2026 _____ **SBI Life**.
Note:
 - SBI Life has signed a 3-year deal with the BCCI and their partnership will begin with the upcoming three-match ODI series against Australia, starting September 22.
 - This collaboration reflects our commitment to promoting and supporting the sport of cricket at all levels.
2. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced lenders would have to examine all aspects relating to wilful default on accounts with outstanding dues of what amount _____ **Rs 25 lakh or more**.
Note:
 - Identify wilful defaulters within six months of a loan becoming a non-performing asset (NPA).
 - It has allowed non-banking finance companies and cooperative banks to identify them.
 - A large defaulter is one whose amount in default is Rs 1 crore and above.
3. Which organization has entered into a partnership with BankID BankAxept AS, the provider of Norway's national payment and electronic identity systems _____ **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)**.
Note:
 - Aim: To establish and manage an operations command center.
 - BankAxept, the dominant national payment system in Norway, facilitates 80 per cent of card payments in the country.
 - BankID serves as Norway's primary eID verification solution, relied upon by over 90 per cent of the population.
4. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) revised India's growth forecast for FY24 to what percent _____ **6.3 per cent**.
Note:
 - India Ratings and Research has increased its FY24 growth estimate for India to 6.2 per cent, up by 30 basis points.
 - Citing factors such as sustained government capital expenditure (capex), deleveraged corporate and banking balance sheets.
5. Which bank has launched a transaction banking platform for the Indian MSMEs called NEO for Business _____ **Axis Bank**.
Note:
 - Aim: To cater to the "real, current, and emerging" transaction needs of Indian MSMEs.
 - The NEO for Business platform offers features like digital self on-boarding, bulk payments, GST compliance invoicing, payment gateway integration, end-to-end transaction tracking, auto reconciliation, cash flow reports, and recurring collections, among others.
6. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and which state organization have signed two MoUs to make direct financing options available for MSMEs _____ **Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA)**.
Note:
 - The first one is a structured arrangement for solarisation of residential units at Ayodhya.
 - The second one is for bio-energy and renewable project financing.
 - Aim: To disseminate information about solar and green projects to MSMEs.
7. Which SFB launched an Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) Using UPI on ATMs _____ **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank (USFB) Limited**.
Note:

- It is an innovative service, set to revolutionize cash withdrawal experiences.
 - Aim: To offer process-centric, technology-driven, and customer-oriented services that lead to a reliable, scalable, and sustainable institution, driving socio-economic change.
 - ICCW's advantage is Elimination of skimming, cloning, and other card-related frauds.
8. Which bank has inked an agreement with the Digital Lenders Association of India (DLAI) to boost the country's fintech sector _____ **Small Industries Development Bank of India.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To collaborate with SIDBI to develop standard protocols to expedite the adoption of digital lending partnerships including alliances between banks and Lending Service Providers
 - It also provides resource support to eligible DLAI member NBFCs and also explores Assignment and Securitisation transactions
9. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that the Regulated Entities (REs) that are secured creditors as per the Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, will display information in respect of the borrowers. This act was passed in which year _____ **2002.**
- Note:**
- The SARFAESI Act is a law that allows banks and financial institutions to recover bad loans effectively.
 - The bank can recover the loan by taking possession of the security and selling it to recover the dues.
10. Power PSU REC Ltd and which bank inked an agreement to co-finance projects in power, infrastructure and logistics projects _____ **Punjab National Bank.**
- Note:**
- The two entities will jointly finance loans worth Rs 55,000 crore.
 - Under the Ministry of Power, REC Limited provides long-term loans and other finance products for the power infrastructure sector, comprising generation, transmission and renewable energy, among others.
 - The company has a loan book of over Rs 4,54,393 crore.
11. The Reserve Bank of India has cancelled licence of which co-operative bank over inadequate capital and earning prospects _____ **Kapol Co-operative Bank.**
- Note:**
- Consequent to the cancellation of the licence, the cooperative bank has been prohibited from conducting the business of 'banking'
 - It includes, among other things, acceptance of deposits and repayment of deposits with immediate effect, the Reserve Bank said in a statement.
 - Govt has also been requested to issue an order for winding up the bank
12. Reserve Bank of India approved which NBFC, to issue a co-branded credit card with IndusInd Bank _____ **Poonawalla Fincorp.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To enable Poonawalla Fincorp to usher in a new age of flexible and versatile retail credit
 - The company envisages to launch this credit card within three months,
 - The co-branded credit card is primarily designed to cater to customers who possess a favorable credit history.
13. Which mutual fund organization launched an investor education and awareness initiative called 'Seekho Paiso ki Bhasha' in partnership with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) _____ **Kotak Mutual Fund.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To improve financial literacy by conducting an extensive series of education and awareness programs aimed at empowering teachers across India
 - Objective: To educate and create awareness, to around 75,000 educators with an aim to empower them and foster their growth of financial understanding.
14. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted approval to the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to acquire what percent of stake in Federal Bank _____ **9.7%.**
- Note:**
- Earlier this year, the Kerala-based private sector lender had raised ₹959 crore via preferential issue of shares to the World Bank Group member.
 - 'The Federal Bank Ltd has received an intimation from the Reserve Bank of India on September 28, 2023.
 - After RBI, the stake holding is subject to compliance by other regulatory bodies.

Obituaries

1. Malini Rajurkar, who passed away at 82 is a veteran _____ **Hindustani classical vocalist.**

Note:

- Noted Hindustani classical vocalist Malini Rajurkar, who epitomised simplicity and depth, passed away in Hyderabad at age the 82
- As one of the foremost exponents of Gwalior gharana, she forged a special connection with the audience in Pune at the annual Sawai Gandharva festival for nearly five decades.
- They were spellbound by her tappa recital, her khayal renditions and her natya sangeet and many recalled her unforgettable "Yaa Bhavanatil Geet Purane".

2. Giorgio Napolitano, who passed away at the age of 98, was a former president of which country _____ **Italy.**

Note:

- The former president, who served from 2006 until 2015, was the first president in the country's history to be reelected to the office.
- He was the longest-serving and longest-lived president in the history of the modern Italian Republic.
- He was also the first official from the Italian Communist Party to visit the United States.

3. M S Swaminathan, who passed away, was hailed as the father of which revolution _____ **Green Revolution.**

Note:

- He was instrumental in developing high-yielding varieties of paddy that helped ensure India's low-income farmers produce more yield.
- He was awarded the first World Food Prize in 1987 following which he set up the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai.
- He has been conferred with the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and the Padma Vibhushan also the recipient of the H K Firodia award.

Important Days

1. The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) is celebrating which day from 18th to 24th September 2023 _____ **International Week of the Deaf (IWDeaf).**

Note:

- Aim: To be aware of the Declaration of the Rights of the Deaf Child, Building Capacity across the globe
- Theme 2023: A World where Deaf People Everywhere Can Sign Anywhere.
- Motto: "Nothing without us"
- Agenda: To achieve sign language rights for all and focus on building inclusive deaf communities.

2. The Welfare of Cancer Patients Day, also known as World Rose Day, is observed annually on which date _____ **September 22.**

Note:

- The day is dedicated to individuals who are suffering from cancer across the globe.
- Aim: To support the brave hearts who are going through mental and physical struggles every moment against the deadly disease.
- The day commemorates the 12-year-old Canadian cancer patient Melinda Rose, who suffered from cancer and died in 1996.

3. World Rhino Day is celebrated on which date _____ **September 22.**

Note:

- Aim: To provide the opportunity for cause-related organizations, NGOs, zoos, and members of the public to celebrate rhinos in their own unique ways.
- The activities vary from one participant to the next.
- Donors and partners are able to contribute to the organizations and initiatives of their choosing.
- Peaceful demonstrations, classroom projects, fundraising dinners, auctions and poster displays are just a few examples.

4. World Rivers Day is celebrated on which date _____ **24th September.**

Note:

- The celebration of the world's waterways on World Rivers Day highlights the many values of our rivers and strives to increase public awareness about all rivers in the world and their importance.
- The annual global event also promotes the conservation and sustainable management of these vital natural resources.
- The theme chosen for this year's World Rivers Day is "Rights of Rivers,"

5. World Pharmacist Day is celebrated on which date as a dedicated occasion to recognize and honor pharmacists for their significant contributions to improving global health _____ **September 25.**

Note:

- The theme of 2023 is Pharmacy Strengthening Health Systems.
 - Objective: To promote and support initiatives that raise awareness of and advocate for the vital contributions made by pharmacists worldwide.
 - This special day emphasizes the vital role that pharmacists play in enhancing human life.
6. World Contraception Day is an annual observation that falls on which date _____ **September 26.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To spread awareness around the importance of contraception and to empower couples.
 - The World Contraception Day 2023 theme is "The Power of Options,"
 - It is important to make women aware of how they can avoid unplanned motherhood.
 - In addition to family planning, contraception also prevents HIV AIDS, and other sexually transmitted infections.
7. World Environmental Health Day is celebrated on which date _____ **September 26.**
- Note:**
- Objective: To foster healthy and safer communities which can help both human beings and the environment to thrive. It also helps in promoting the importance of human health and their well-being
 - Aim: To focus on creating awareness about environmental health.
 - The theme of World Environmental Health Day 2023 is "Global Environmental Public Health: Standing up to protect everyone's Health each and every day."
8. World Tourism Day is being observed on which date _____ **September 27.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To promote tourism all over the globe.
 - Objective: To foster awareness among the international community on the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political, and economic value.
 - The theme for this year's World Tourism Day is 'Tourism and Green Investments'.
 - Tourism helps provide employment to millions of people to the extent that few countries are completely dependent on the tourism sector
9. World Rabies Day is celebrated on which date to raise awareness of rabies prevention and the progress being made in the fight against this terrible disease _____ **September 28.**
- Note:**
- Theme 2023: "All for 1, One Health for All".
 - Aim: To bring together all groups, organizations, and stakeholders in the fight against rabies.
 - A contagious viral disease, rabies is almost always fatal once clinical symptoms appear.
 - It is also the anniversary of the death of Louis Pasteur.

New Appointments

1. Tata Sons has appointed whom as the new chairman of the group's aerospace and defense solutions unit Tata Advanced Systems (TASL) _____ **Banmali Agarwal.**
- Note:**
- He has been appointed in place of Vijay Singh, Who have retired.
 - He is also a senior advisor to Tata Sons and chairman of Tata Electronics.
 - Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Sons, is the strategic aerospace and defense arm of the Tata Group. TASL is both an operating and holding company.
2. The central government extended the term of whom as the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Deputy Governor by one year _____ **M Rajeshwar Rao.**
- Note:**
- The re-appointment has been approved by the Cabinet's Appointments Committee.
 - RBI has four deputy governors – two from within the ranks, one commercial banker and another an economist to head the monetary policy department.
 - Currently, those 4 Deputy Governors are BP Kanungo, Dr. M.D. Patra, M Rajeshwar Rao, and MK Jain.
3. The RBI appointed KN Madhusoodanan as a part-time chairman of which bank _____ **Dhanlaxmi Bank.**
- Note:**
- He will be part-time chairman of the Kerala-based bank for a period of three years with effect from September 26, 2023.
 - Madhusoodanan has been an independent director with the bank since 2022.
 - This appointment also follows the RBI's rejection of a proposal to appoint G Rajagopalan Nair as its part-time chairman.

- Nair has also been an independent director with the bank since August 2020.
- 4. Japanese apparel retailer Uniqlo has appointed which Bollywood actress as its first brand ambassador in India and attempts to woo affluent shoppers and plans to add to more stores _____ **Katrina Kaif**.

Note:

- The 40-year-old actor will be seen in Uniqlo's campaign films across digital and offline channels.
- Kaif joins the ranks of tennis star Roger Federer, who was appointed as Uniqlo's global brand ambassador in 2018.
- Uniqlo is part of Japan's largest fashion group Fast Retailing.
- 5. Intel has appointed whom as its India President _____ **Gokul Subramaniam**.

Note:

- He replaced Nivruti Rai, who resigned as the Intel India country head in June 2023.
- He will be responsible for Intel's overall engineering and design operations in India, including driving innovation, cross-group efficiencies, and executing Intel products from the country.
- He is currently a vice president in the Client Computing Group (CCG) at Intel, and general manager of Client Platforms and Systems.
- 6. The Union government has extended the tenure of the incumbent chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) till June 30, 2024. Who is he _____ **Nitin Gupta**.

Note:

- The nine-month extension for Gupta came on the day when he was scheduled to retire and demit from office.
- As per the Centre's notification, his service period has been extended "on a contract basis".
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the reappointment of Gupta as the CBDT Chairman.
- 7. Who took over as the 28th Director General Border Roads (DGBR) on September 30, 2023 _____ **Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan**.

Note:

- He assumed the charge following the superannuation of Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry.
- Prior to his appointment as the DGBR, the General Officer was holding the appointment of Commandant, College of Military Engineering, Pune.
- Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, and the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun.

Important News - India

1. Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has inked a MoU with which state-owned hydro power firm for its commitment to finance the latter's renewable energy and thermal power projects _____ **SJVN Ltd**.

Note:

- The deal is valued at Rs 1.18 trillion and aims to set up 12 Gw of power generation capacity, from renewable sources such as solar, wind along with a 660 mw thermal power project.
- Aim: To meet the specific needs of the renewable projects, highlighting the flexibility of the partnership.
- 2. Which country has become the world's third-largest startup ecosystem _____ **India**.

Note:

- Startup India initiative has witnessed remarkable growth from four fifty startups in 2016 to over one lakh currently 2023
- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal emphasized the crucial role of the country's youth as the foundation for India's development in the Amrit Kaal.
- He expressed confidence that by 2047, India's economy would experience exponential growth.
- 3. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has recently recognized which animal as a 'food animal,' opening doors for its commercial use found in Arunachal Pradesh _____ **Mithun**.

Note:

- Aim: To promote its meat as a commercial product can indeed have significant economic and cultural implications for the region.
- It is a captivating and culturally significant bovine species found in Northeast India.
- Its role in the livelihoods of indigenous communities, ecological balance.
- 4. India and which organization launched a joint capacity-building initiative for the Global South _____ **United Nations**.

Note:

- Aim: To share India's development experiences, best practices, and expertise with partner countries in the Global South through capacity building and training programs.
 - The initiative was announced at the India-UN for the Global South in New York.
 - It also complements the India-UN partnership in the form of the "India-UN Development Partnership Fund"
5. Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri flagged off India's first green hydrogen fuel cell bus in which city _____ **Delhi**.

Note:

- The success of this project can catapult India from being a net importer of fossil energy to becoming a net exporter of clean hydrogen energy.
 - Aim: To provide global leadership to other countries in terms of technology transfer, while becoming a large green hydrogen producer and supplier of manufacturing parts.
6. According to Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat what percent of India's villages have achieved the open defecation free-plus status _____ **75 per cent**.

Note:

- An 'ODF Plus' village is one that has sustained its Open Defecation Free (ODF) status along with implementing either solid or liquid waste management systems.
 - The top performing states and UTs which have 100 per cent ODF Plus villages are Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Goa, Gujarat etc.
7. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently attended a special event in Ahmedabad, Gujarat to commemorate which edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit _____ **20th**.

Note:

- It has played a significant role in transforming Gujarat into an attractive investment destination.
 - Over the past two decades, the summit has attracted numerous national and international companies, creating opportunities for collaboration and strategic partnerships.
8. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan launched Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav and Technology and Bharatiya Bhasha Summit in which city _____ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The two-day summit aims to set a course for a technologically enriched future for Bharatiya languages in education.
 - The summit encompassed 3 pivotal thematic sessions with a special focus on the integration of technology in promoting Bharatiya Bhasha, including its role in teaching, training, examination, and translating educational materials.
9. An MoU between Indian Navy (IN) and which institution signed at New Delhi for technical collaboration and joint research & development _____ **Indian institute of Science , Bengaluru**.

Note:

- Aim: To promote academic cooperation in the varied field of Engineering, enhance scientific understanding of technologies related to the defence sector and undertake new developments
 - Objective: To provide a broader framework and enable both sides to enhance capacity building, solution to field level issues.
10. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has unveiled a transformative scheme with an aim to bolster the self-reliance of the state's youth. What is the name of the scheme _____ **Mukhya Mantri Atmanirbhar Asom**.

Note:

- Objective: To foster self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship among the youth of Assam.
 - Under this initiative, a generous financial aid of Rs. 2 lakh will be provided to each eligible young person, empowering them to pursue self-employment opportunities and chart their own path to success.
11. Who launched PM KISAN AI-Chatbot (Kisan e-Mitra) in New Delhi _____ **Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Kailash Choudhary**.

Note:

- Aim: To help in accessing scheme information and resolving grievances.
 - This is the first AI Chatbot integrated with a major flagship scheme of the Union government.
 - The AI Chatbot acts as a comprehensive guide for the beneficiaries, providing them with timely and accurate responses to their queries related to the scheme.
12. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched a unique week-long programme for aspirational blocks in the country named _____ at the Bharat Mandapam on 30 September 2023 _____ **Sankalp Saptah**.

Note:

- It is being implemented in 500 aspirational blocks across 329 districts in the country.

- 'Sankalp Saptaah' is linked to the effective implementation of the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP).
 - The ABPP was launched across the nation by the Prime Minister on 7 January, 2023.
13. Ministry of Tourism will be hosting the 46th edition of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Travel Mart 2023 in which Indian city _____ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- The Mart is scheduled to take place from October 4th to 6th 2023.
- Aim: To bring together tourism professionals and business stakeholders from across the world
- The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) was founded in 1951, with its Headquarters in Bangkok.

Important News – State

1. Newborns at government health facilities of which state will now be issued birth registration certificates immediately after delivery without the parents having to apply for same _____ **Uttar Pradesh**.

Note:

- Gov has integrated its Maa Navjaat Tracking app (MaNTrA) with the birth registration system as part of its efforts to provide 'ease of living' to the citizens using digital technology
- UP has become the first state to implement suo motu birth registration for government health institutions

2. Which state topped the list in solar water pump installations in 2023 _____ **Rajasthan**.

Note:

- More than 62,000 farmers have directly benefited from the scheme introduced by the Ashok Gehlot government four-and-a-half years ago.
- According to the gov, farmers in Rajasthan are encouraged to install solar pumps for irrigation, instead of relying on electricity connections and diesel-powered plants.
- The state government is encouraging farmers by offering 60 percent subsidy for installing solar pumps

3. Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated the New Terminal Building at Tezu Airport in which Indian state _____ **Arunachal Pradesh**.

Note:

- He termed Arunachal Pradesh as the future 'Gateway of Bharat,' where horticultural exports are poised to flourish.
- Tezu is currently connected to Imphal, Dibrugarh, and Guwahati.
- He further announced that Itanagar will soon be connected to Rupsi, Jorhat, and Delhi under the UDAAN-5 scheme of the Government of India.

4. Which state is home to the most tigers in the country, has got a new protected area for the big cats named 'Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve', the seventh in the state and 54th in the country _____ **Madhya Pradesh**.

Note:

- Veerangana Durgavati Sanctuary, recognized for their ecological significance in preserving biodiversity, including flora, fauna, geology, and zoology
- Until now, M.P. was home to six tiger reserves – Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Satpura, Pench, Panna and Sanjay-Dubri.

5. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced an increase in honorariums and retirement benefits for whom _____ **Kotwars**.

Note:

- The government would provide Rs 1 lakh to kotwars at the time of their retirement.
- Kotwars are appointed at the village level to assist revenue officials and provide them with information.
- kotwars, who do not own land, will get Rs 8,000 per month instead of the earlier Rs 4,000, while those with less than 3 acres of land will get Rs 2,000.

6. For the first time, Green Ammonia was imported through the V.O. Chidambaranar Port, which is located in which Indian state _____ **Tamil Nadu**.

Note:

- Green Ammonia is utilized for soda ash production. As a Go Green initiative, TFL has imported Green ammonia to produce Green soda Ash, on a trial basis.
- The Port successfully handled 3 x 20 ISO Green Ammonia containers, weighing 37.4 tons of Green Ammonia, from Damietta Port, Egypt, for Tuticorin Alkali Chemical and Fertilizers Limited (TFL).

7. Which state government announced 47,000 odd poor people in the state's rural areas will get houses in the first phase of the Mukhyamantri Gramin Awas NYAY Yojana _____ **Chhattisgarh**.

Note:

- The survey of 59.79 lakh families was conducted in April 2023 and its update went on until May, according to which 10,76,545 families were found living in kutcha houses.
- This comes after the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana was to be implemented by the Chhattisgarh government along with the Centre in 2021.

Important News – World

1. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and which organisation have signed a landmark Statement of Intent, in addressing global development challenges _____ **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.

Note:

- Aim: To collaborate on initiatives geared towards enhancing international standards that advance sustainability actions by both the public and private sectors
- Objective: To provide a common basis for documentation and certification, making it easier for organizations.

2. IT major Infosys is collaborating with which organization to jointly develop industry-leading solutions that leverage Infosys Topaz, Azure OpenAI Service and Azure Cognitive Services _____ **Microsoft**.

Note:

- Both organizations are bringing together their respective AI capabilities to enhance enterprise functions with AI-enabled solutions across multiple industries.
- The integrated solutions will accelerate rapid democratization of data and intelligence that will help businesses increase productivity

3. Out of 64 economies, which country has dropped four spots to rank 56th in the World Talent Ranking 2023, as per an International Institute for Management Development report _____ **India**.

Note:

- Switzerland holds the top position, followed closely by Luxembourg in second place
- India ranks 29th in future readiness but struggles with its weak educational system, ranked 63rd in quality.
- The IMD ranking evaluates various factors, including quality of life, and statutory minimum wage.

4. The city that has the most green office space in India is _____ **Bengaluru**.

Note:

- 104.5 million square feet of green offices, accounting for about 30 percent of the country's total.
- From 2019 to 2023, the area covered by green office buildings in the top six Indian cities increased by over 36 percent to 342 million square feet.
- The top Six Indian Cities are: Bengaluru, National Capital Region, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, and Pune

5. India has maintained what rank in the latest Global Innovation Index 2023 released by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) _____ **40th**.

Note:

- The top 4 countries are: Switzerland, Sweden, United States, United Kingdom
- The GII tracks the innovation ecosystem performance of 132 global economies and the most recent global innovation trends.
- India ranked first among the 37 lower-middle group income and first among the 10 economies in Central and South America

6. Which organization announced an Android Earthquake Alerts System to provide early warning alerts to users about earthquakes in their area _____ **Google**.

Note:

- This System is already deployed in many countries but Google is now bringing it to India in consultation with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the National Seismology Center (NSC).
- According to Google, this system works by turning your phone into a mini earthquake detector, using the accelerometer as a seismograph.

7. Which country has dethroned Hong Kong to become the world's freest economy in 2023 _____ **Singapore**.

Note:

- For the first time since the Economic Freedom of the World Index started in 1970, Hong Kong slipped to second place from the number one spot.
- Some of the tenets used to gauge the economic freedom index are measured based on ease of international trade, freedom to enter and compete in markets, as well as business regulations, amongst other yardsticks.

8. Meta CEO announced a significant expansion of WhatsApp's payment feature in India during the Meta Conversations event. Who is the CEO of Meta _____ **Mark Zuckerberg**.

Note:

- Users in India will now have the option to make payments to businesses via WhatsApp Business using various payment methods, including UPI, credit/debit cards, net banking, Google Pay, PhonePe, Paytm, and more.
 - Initially, Meta partnered with RazorPay and PayU for this payment service.
9. Which city of the US is set to host the world's second-largest Hindu temple outside India, to be formally inaugurated on October 8 _____ **New Jersey in the US.**

Note:

- Hailed as the world's largest Hindu temple outside India "in the modern era", the Akshardham temple was built by the BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham organization.
- It is dedicated to Bhagwan Swaminarayan, a Hindu spiritual leader of the 19th century, and was inspired by his 5th spiritual successor Pramukh Swami Maharaj

Honor & Awards

1. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that which place has been selected as the Best Tourism Village of India 2023 by the Ministry of Tourism _____ **Biswanath Ghat.**

Note:

- Located on the banks of the Brahmaputra River, Biswanath Ghat is also popularly known as 'Gupta Kashi' and is named after the ancient Biswanath Mandir.
- The village is located towards the south of Biswanath Charialii Town.
- The ghat boasts a cluster of temples of different gods.

2. Name the veteran actor has been chosen for Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award 2022 _____ **Waheeda Rehman.**

Note:

- The actress has been critically acclaimed for her roles in Hindi films like Pyaasa, Kaagaz ke Phool and several others
- A Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awardee, she has exemplified dedication, commitment and the strength of a Bharatiya Nari who can achieve the highest level of professional excellence

3. Which state received three national awards for its outstanding execution of the Ayushman Bharat scheme under the 'big states' category _____ **Chhattisgarh.**

Note:

- CM Bhupesh Baghel said that Chhattisgarh has introduced several innovative schemes to enhance access to high-quality healthcare services in the past five years.
- One such initiative is the Mukhyamantri Haat Bazar Clinic Yojana, which extends free healthcare services to residents in remote forest areas of the state.

4. Who became the third Indian agriculture scientist to win the prestigious Norman Borlaug Field Award 2023 _____ **Indian agricultural scientist Swati Nayak.**

Note:

- The Norman Borlaug Field Award 2023 is presented by the World Food Prize Foundation for outstanding achievements in international agriculture and food production by individuals under 40.
- Nayak speaks to businessline about the importance of the award, her work with the agricultural community and more.

5. Which Indian city has bagged the top spot for the 'Best Smart City' 2022 in India at the National Smart Cities Conclave 2023 held in the city _____ **Indore.**

Note:

- Gujarat's Surat came in second, while Agra in UP secured the third position among the smart cities of India.
- Madhya Pradesh bagged the Best State in the country, followed by Tamil Nadu.
- Rajasthan and UP together bagged the third position.
- President felicitated the winners of the fourth edition of the India Smart Cities Award Contest 2022.

Books & Author

1. Who is the author of the Financial Independence Marathon _____ **Vinod V Bhat.**

Note:

- The book was published by Penguin Business.

Sports News

1. Indian wrestler Antim Panghal secured a bronze medal in the women's which category at the wrestling World Championships 2023 in Serbia ____ **53 kg**.

Note:

- She also secured the Paris Olympics 2024 quota for India.
- This is India's first medal in this edition of the tournament.
- Antim has captured India's 23rd medal in the World Championships to date, which includes one gold, five silver, and 17 bronze medals.
- Japan's Akari Fujinami won the gold in World Championships 2023.

2. PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the first international cricket stadium in which city of UP ____ **Varanasi**.

Note:

- The architecture of the cricket stadium proposed at Ganjari in Varanasi will be reminiscent of the holy city's rich heritage and things related to Lord Shiva.
- The roofs will be in the form of a crescent that crowns Lord Shiva, while the floodlights will be trident-shaped
- The stadium will be built in a 30-acre area at a cost of Rs.450 crore.

3. Which country became the number 1 ranked team in all three formats i.e. Tests, ODIs and T20Is, after their 5-wicket won against Australia ____ **India**.

Note:

- India displaced Pakistan from the top of the ODI rankings while they lead England in the T20I rankings.
- In the longest format, they are in the first place while Australia are right behind them.
- The rankings reflect the hard work put in by this team as they chase excellence on the field.

4. In Asian Games 2023, The Indian women's team comprising Mehuli Ghosh, Ramita and Ashi Chouksey bagged silver medal which shooting category ____ **10m air rifle**.

Note:

- China claimed the gold medal in women's 10m air rifle team
- In Rowing, India secured silver medal in the lightweight men's double sculls event.
- Arjun Lal jat and Arvind singh representing India finished second
- In shooting, India grabbed its first medal.

5. Which edition of the 2023 Asian Games began in Hangzhou city of China ____ **19th**.

Note:

- The two-week extravaganza was declared open in a colorful ceremony by Chinese President Xi Jinping.
- Over 12,000 competitors from 45 nations and territories are taking part in 61 disciplines.
- The impressive inauguration unfolded at the renowned Hangzhou Olympic Sports Center Stadium, often referred to as the Big Lotus.

6. Indian trio Rudranksh Patil, Divyang Panwar, and Aishwary Tomar clinched gold in the Men's shooting event in Asian Games 2023 ____ **10m air rifle**.

Note:

- India won its first medal in shooting as the trio of Ramita Jindal, Mehuli Ghosh, and Ashi Chouksey earned a Silver in the women's 10m air rifle event.
- Indian duo Arjun Lal Jat and Arvind Singh won a silver in men's lightweight double sculls in the rowing discipline.
- India has secured six medals - one gold, three silver, and two bronze

7. Indian cricketers created history and became the first team to hit the 3000 sixes mark (3007) in which cricket format ____ **ODI cricket**.

Note:

- No team has hit 3000 sixes in ODIs so far.
- West Indies (2953) is the team with the most number of sixes in ODIs after India.
- Pakistan (2566), Australia (2476), New Zealand (2387), England (2032), South Africa (1947), Sri Lanka (1779), Zimbabwe (1303) and Bangladesh (959) are in this list.

8. Who won the inaugural Indian Grand Prix 2023 with a dominant performance from start to finish ____ **Marco Bezzecchi**.

Note:

- Pramac Racing rider and sprint winner Jorge Martin, who risked a penalty by unzipping his leathers, finished second
- Ducati's Francesco Bagnaia suffered a crash that blew the world championship contest wide open.

- Pole-sitter Bezzecchi lost out on a sprint podium after a collision with teammate Luca Marini, eventually finishing fifth
9. Indian women's cricket team won their maiden gold medal in Asian Games 2023 by defeating which country by 19 runs in the final _____ **Sri Lanka**.

Note:

- This is a historic feat achieved by the Indian Women's cricket team.
 - India secured a new world record and captured the gold medal in the men's 10 air rifle team event during the Asian Games 2023.
 - The Indian contingent participating in the men's four rowing final displayed their mettle, securing a well-deserved bronze medal.
10. Who won gold in the women's 50m Rifle 3-P individual event at the Asian Games 2023 to give India its fifth gold at Hangzhou _____ **Sift Kaur Samra**.

Note:

- In women's 25m pistol shooting event, Indian team comprising of Manu Bhaker, Rhythm Sangwan and Esha Singh also claimed gold medal.
 - This brings the overall medal tally for India to 21 - 5 gold, 6 silver and 10 bronze.
 - Meanwhile, Esha Singh in an individual women's 25m pistol event won Silver, behind the china's Rui Liu.
11. India players Sarabjot Singh, Arjun Singh Cheema, and Shiva Narwal clinched gold in the men's which shooting event in the Asian Games 2023, in Hangzhou _____ **10m air pistol**.

Note:

- Naorem Roshibina Devi clinched India's first silver medal in in women's 60kg Wushu Sanda event, losing to China's Wu Xiaowei.
 - Other Winners:
 - Shooting: India clinchs GOLD in men's 10m air pistol team event
 - Sarabjot Singh ranked 4th in men's 10m air pistol final
12. Shooters Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar, Swapnil Kusale, and Akhil Sheoran clinched gold in the men's which shooting event in the Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou _____ **50m rifle 3P team**.

Note:

- **Other Winners**
 - The women's Team of Divya Thadigol, Esha Singh, and Palak won the Silver Medal in the 10m Air Pistol Women's team event
 - Anush Agarwala won the Bronze Medal in the Equestrian Dressage Individual event at the Asian Games.
 - To date, India secured 31 medals including 8 gold, 11 silver, and 11 bronze
13. The International Cricket Council (ICC) has revealed the two official ICC mascots named 'Blaze' and 'Tonk' for the 2023 Cricket World Cup, which will be held in which country _____ **India**.

Note:

- 'Blaze' is a female mascot, bowling at a rapid pace, leaving batters in sheer awe.
 - She is adorned with a belt carrying six power cricket orbs, each meticulously prepared for various game-changing tactics.
 - 'Tonk' is a male mascot, with icy-cool composure, making him a batting champion.
14. India's Sarabjot Singh, Divya TS won silver in which shooting event on Day 7 of the Asian Games 2023 _____ **10m air pistol mixed team**.

Note:

- On day 7, India's medal tally reached 38 including Gold (10); Silver (14); and Bronze (14).
- Other winners:
- Arathy Raj 5th in women's 10000m speed skating final.
- Tennis players, Rohan Bopanna, and Rutuja Bhosala clinch gold in mixed doubles final.
- Indian men's team beats Pakistan in thrilling Squash final to win gold medal.

Science and Defence

1. The Defence Acquisition Council approved procurement including the indigenous Dhruvastra short-range air-to-surface missile. This council is headed by whom _____ **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh**.

Note:

- About the Dhruvastra Missile:
- It is a helicopter-launched anti-tank guided missile (ATGM) system.

- It is a short-range air-to-surface missile.
 - It was indigenously developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation.
 - It is a third-generation, renowned for its versatility in engaging and neutralizing enemy tanks and armored vehicles.
2. Which country's Defense Ministry delivered the first models of "5th generation Merkava battle tanks" to the 52nd Armored Battalion belonging to the 401st Brigade _____ **Israel**.
- **Note:**
 - The introduction of the Barak tank marks an "extraordinary leap forward" into an innovative era for the Israeli Defense Forces.
 - Aim: To collaborate effort between Defense Ministry's Armored Vehicles Directorate and the IDF's Ground Forces and Armored Corps.
3. Which edition of YUDH ABHYAS will be conducted in Alaska, an annual exercise conducted jointly by the Indian Army and the US Army _____ **19th**.
- Note:**
- The Indian Army contingent comprising 350 personnel will participate in this edition of the exercise.
 - The lead battalion from Indian side is affiliated to MARATHA Light Infantry Regiment.
 - Objective: To practice a series of tactical drills to enhance interoperability in conducting UN peacekeeping operations.
4. Indian Air Force and which organization will co-host Bharat Drone Shakti- 2023 at the Indian Air Force airbase at Hindon in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh _____ **Drone Federation of India**.
- Note:**
- The usage of drones in India is seeing an increase- both, in the military, as well as in the civil domain.
 - The induction ceremony of the first C-295 MW transport aircraft will be held during the program.
 - India has formalized the acquisition of 56 Airbus C-295 aircraft to replace the Indian Air Force AVRO fleet.
5. Which edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) has successfully concluded in Singapore _____ **30th**.
- Note:**
- Indian Naval Ships Ranvijay, Kavaratti, submarine Sindhukesari, and a long-range Maritime Patrol Aircraft P8I participated in the exercise.
 - Combined aviation, firefighting, and damage control exercises were conducted during the period.
 - The sea phase of SIMBEX 23 was conducted from 25 to 28 of September.

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