

Bi-Weekly Current Affairs (1-15 Feb 2023) English PDF



Bi-Weekly One Liners Updates

1st -15th February 2023

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liners Update is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **first two weeks** (1-15th) of **February 2023**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. How much GST was collected by the Indian government in January 2023 _____ **Rs 1,55,922 crore.**

Note:

- The CGST is Rs 28,963 crore, SGST is Rs 36,730 crore, IGST is Rs 79,599 crore, and cess is Rs 10,630 crore.
- The GST collection in January 2023 is the second highest, after the Rs 1.68 lakh crore gross mop-up reported in April 2022.
- The revenues in the current financial year up to January 2023 are 24% higher than the GST revenues in January 2022.

2. Which insurance organization has launched “Pay as You Drive” policy for vehicles _____ **New India Assurance.**

Note:

- It is a comprehensive motor insurance policy that charges premiums based on the usage of the vehicle.
- The policy has two components - third-party cover and own-damage cover.
- This policy offered features like discounts on renewals, coverage beyond the distance limit, and enhanced protections.
- The discount will be applied to the basic own damage premium.
- NIA Chairman: Neerja Kapur

3. According to data, released by the RBI, as of December 2022, what is the total number of micro ATMs across the country _____ **14.19 lakh.**

Note:

- But, there has been no significant surge in the value of money withdrawn through these devices since June 2022
- There were just about 3.56 lakh micro ATMs in India in 2020
- The cash withdrawal in Dec 2021 was ₹25.2-lakh crore.
- It grew to only about ₹25.5-lakh crore by November 2022

4. Which country's Reserve bank has announced that it will remove the portrait of the British monarchy, Queen Elizabeth II from its \$5 banknotes _____ **Reserve Bank of Australia.**

Note:

- The new currency notes of the \$5 would feature an Indigenous design rather than an image of King Charles III.
- The other side of the note will continue to feature the Australian Parliament.



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- King Charles III, who became British monarch, is the head of state in Australia, NZ, and 12 other Commonwealth realms outside the UK.

5. Who presented Union Budget for 2023-24 in Parliament on 1st Feb 2023 _____ **Nirmala Sitharaman.**

Note:

- Seven priorities: Inclusive development, Reaching the last mile, Infrastructure and investment, Unleashing the potential, Green growth, Youth power, and financial sector
- Funds allocated (in lakh crore rupees):
- Defence Ministry: 5.94
- Road and highways Ministry: 2.7
- Railways: 2.41
- Home Affairs: 1.96
- Agriculture and Farmer Welfare: 1.25
- Communications: 1.23

6. According to the Reserve Bank of India – Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI), released by RBI, the digitization of payments across the country has increased to _____ in September 2022 from 349.30 in March 2022 _____ **377.46.**

Note:

- RBI introduced the composite Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) on January 1, 2021.
- Base year: March 2018
- As per the Economic Survey 2022-23, India has the highest fintech adoption rate of 87% among the public compared to the global average of 64%.

7. Which debt collection organization has launched the industry's first Asset Repossession Solution for banks and NBFCs named 'mCollect Repossession module' _____ **Mobicule.**

Note:

- Asset Repossession Solution: It is a comprehension solution that maps all the complex processes in the repossession of an asset, as a part of its debt collection and recovery product.
- The repossession module will encompass and cater to filling gaps in the end-to-end process, such as identification, digitization, and automation of the repo kit

8. Which retailer has become the first Indian retailer to introduce Central Bank Digital Currency, also known as the digital rupee _____ **Reliance Retail.**

Note:

- The company has piloted the use of the Digital Rupee in one store in Mumbai.
- The launch of this facility was in collaboration with Innoviti Technologies, ICICI Bank, and Kotak Mahindra Bank.
- The Digital Rupees was first introduced by the RBI on December 1, 2022.
- Initially, It is limited to Mumbai, New Delhi, Bengaluru, and Bhubaneswar

9. Which organization has received Rs. 253.35 crore project from the State Bank of India (SBI) for providing 4G LTE connectivity to 15,000 offsite ATMs across the country _____ **RailTel Corporation.**

Note:

- It will also take care of the operation and maintenance of the entire network for a period of five years.



- The project includes the set-up of a Network Operations Centre (NOC), backhaul connectivity to the Data centre & Disaster Recovery centre of SBI, a live dashboard for SLA monitoring, etc.

10. SEBI strengthened the framework for which bond by introducing the concept of 'blue' and 'yellow' bonds as new modes of sustainable finance _____ **Green bonds**.

Note:

- Blue bonds: related to water management, and marine sector
- Yellow bonds: pertaining to solar energy
- For this, SEBI amended norms governing the issue and listing of non-convertible securities.
- Green Debt Securities: Debt securities are issued for raising funds that are to be utilized for projects falling under certain categories.

11. In February 2023, the Reserve Bank of India increased its repo rate by 25 basis points (bps) to how much percentage _____ **6.5%**.

Note:

- The repo rate has now been increased by 250 (225 + 25) bps since May 2022 by the panel.
- RBI predicted the real GDP growth for FY24 at 6.4%, while growth for FY23 has been pegged at 7%.
- RBI projected retail inflation at 6.5% (FY23) from 6.7% and 5.3% for the next fiscal year.
- Other rates:- SDF: 6.25%; MSF: 6.75%; Bank Rate: 6.75%

12. Which bank has launched a wealth management platform in partnership with Geojit Financial Services Ltd _____ **South Indian Bank**.

Note:

- SIB Wealth is an exclusive value-added service.
- It will help the bank's high net worth (HNI) customers to invest their money in the best financial instruments available in the market.
- Under this platform, SIB will be offering: Portfolio management services; Alternative investment fund; Systematic investment plan; Mutual funds, Bonds, and Real estate funds

13. Which fintech mobile application has launched a service that will allow the fintech firm's Indian users traveling abroad to pay foreign merchants using Unified Payments Interface (UPI) _____ **PhonePe**.

Note:

- UPI international' support merchant outlets in UAE, Singapore, Mauritius, Nepal, and Bhutan that have a local QR (quick response) code.
- Users will be able to make direct payments in a foreign currency from their Indian bank.
- Walmart-backed PhonePe claimed it is the first Indian fintech app to launch the service.

14. Which Payments Bank launched its current account "BizKhata" which offers unlimited transactions and instant activation for account holders across the country _____ **Airtel Payments Bank**.

Note:

- This account was designed specifically for small merchants and business owners.
- It brings all business transactions to one platform and allows them to maintain clear records while enjoying multiple banking benefits, like Zero Minimum Balance, Secure, hassle-free payments, Auto Sweep Out etc.

15. Which fintech application has become the first fintech application to support RuPay Credit Cards on UPI _____ **MobiKwik**.

Note:

- The RuPay Credit Cards are now linked directly to UPI IDs.



- MobiKwik's customers can easily make payments to merchants by scanning the UPI QR code and using UPI PIN for payment authentication.
- Aim: To make financial services accessible and lead the way to financial inclusion
- The integration of RuPay Credit Cards with UPI is in line with the NPCI.

16. Which Small Finance Bank launched a mobile banking application named 'Hello Ujjivan' with three Vs (voice, visual, and vernacular) _____ **Ujjivan SFB.**

Note:

- Aim: To provide banking access to individuals who have limited reading and writing skills
- This application was co-created with Navana.AI.
- It is accessible by voice in eight languages (Hindi, Marathi, Bengali, Tamil, Gujarati, Kannada, Odia, and Assamese).
- Customers can perform banking transactions, and access services in their native language.

17. The Reserve Bank of India will launch QCVM in collaboration with a few leading banks. What is the full form of QCVM _____ **QR Code-based Coin Vending Machine.**

Note:

- Aim: To improve the distribution of coins
- This pilot project will be launched in 19 locations in 12 cities across the country.
- QCVM is a cashless coin dispensation machine.
- It will dispense coins against debit to the customer's bank account using UPI.
- It would eliminate the need for physical tendering of banknotes and their authentication.

18. The 'Digital Payments Utsav' was launched by which minister in New Delhi on February 9, 2023 _____ **Ashwini Vaishnaw (Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology and Communications).**

Note:

- Aim: To promote Digital Payments across the nation
- This campaign particularly focuses on G-20 Digital Economy Working Group event cities - Lucknow, Hyderabad, Pune, and Bengaluru.
- It also witnesses the flagging off of the Digital Payment Sandesh Yatra.

19. Which General Insurance has rebranded itself as Zuno General Insurance _____ **Edelweiss General Insurance.**

Note:

- Aim: To make insurance easy, friendly, and transparent.
- Zuno GI also launched the findings of its survey "'Usage Based Insurance: Decoding Awareness, Perception, and Behaviour".
- It was conducted in collaboration with Crownit.
- The Zuno GI conducted the survey in eight cities – Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Pune, and Ahmedabad
- MD & CEO, Zuno GI: Shanai Ghosh

20. Which Finance organization has launched an 'Insurance Mall' portal for its customers to ensure an Easy-buy experience _____ **Bajaj Finance.**

Note:

- This new portal offers a plethora of policies, plans in the core insurance segment, and Pocket Insurance and Subscription.



- Bajaj Finance also partnered with some of India's leading insurers to provide the best products to customers.

21. The RBI decided to expand the scope of the TReDS platform allowing the use of insurance facilities. What is the full form of TReDS _____ **Trade Receivable Discounting System.**

Note:

- The RBI has permitted the eligible entities to undertake factoring businesses to participate as financiers on TReDS and allow secondary market operations on the platform.
- Aim: To boost trade of receivables increasing cash flows to MSMEs
- TReDS is an electronic platform to facilitate the financing of trade receivables of MSMEs.

22. The provisional figures of Direct Tax collections up to 10th February 2023 continue to register steady growth with gross collections are at _____ which is 24.09% higher than the gross collections for the corresponding period of last year _____ **Rs. 15.67 lakh crore.**

Note:

- Direct Tax collection, net of refunds, stands at Rs. 12.98 lakh crore which is 18.40% higher than the net collections for 2022.
- It is 91.39% of the total Budget Estimates of Direct Taxes for F.Y. 2022-23.

23. Which bank has launched its own private cloud platform, 'MAHABANK NAKSHATRA', to strengthen its digital infrastructure at the 88th Business Commencement Day _____ **Bank of Maharashtra (BoM).**

Note:

- Aim: To facilitate the High-Performance Cloud Capabilities for Digital Infrastructure and hosting applications of the Bank.
- The bank has also launched a portal named Suvidha.
- Suvidha is an automated Decease Claim Settlement System (DCSS)

24. Which private lender has announced that it will acquire 100% equity shares of Sonata Finance (SFPL) for Rs 537 crore _____ **Kotak Mahindra Bank.**

Note:

- Sonata Finance is a non-banking finance company, which is engaged in microfinance.
- Impact: This acquisition will provide Kotak Mahindra Bank access to 502 branches across the ten states.
- The SFPL will become a wholly owned subsidiary of the bank after receiving regulatory and other approvals.
- MD & CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank: Uday Kotak

25. Which bank has launched a pilot project, 'OfflinePay', to test offline digital payments for merchants and customers enabling payment transactions even when there is no mobile network _____ **HDFC Bank.**

Note:

- HDFC bank claimed that it has launched the first-of-its-kind digital payment solution.
- This project was launched in partnership with Sweden-based Crunchfish Digital Cash AB.
- Vision: To boost the adoption of digital payments in smaller towns and rural areas with poor network connectivity



Obituaries

1. Shanti Bhushan, who passed away at the age of 97 in New Delhi, was veteran _____ **Lawyer**.

Note:

- He served as the law minister of India under the Morarji Desai government from 1977 to 1979.
- He was best known for successfully arguing for setting aside the election of Indira Gandhi in 1975.
- In his political career, he was a member of Congress and later joined the Janata Party.
- He also served as a Rajya Sabha member from 14 July 1977 to 2 April 1980.

2. K. Viswanath, fondly known as Kalatapasvi, passed away at 92 in Hyderabad, Telangana, was a legendary _____ **Filmmaker**.

Note:s

- He was born in 1930 in Andhra Pradesh and gained popularity in Telugu, Tamil and Hindi films.
- He has made 50 movies since 1965 and was a celebrated filmmaker.
- He was awarded the highest recognition in Indian Cinema, the Dadasaheb Phalke award in 2016 and Padma Shri in 1992.

3. Vani Jayaram, who passed away at 78 in Chennai, was a veteran _____ **Singer**.

Note:

- The Government announced the Padma Bhushan award for the late singer this year.
- She did playback for over one thousand Indian movies and recorded over 10 thousand songs.
- She sang in Tamil, Kannada, Marathi, Odia, Gujarati, Haryanvi, Assamese, Tulu, and Bengali languages.
- She had won National Film Awards three times and also was honoured with a lifetime achievement award by Filmfare (2013).

4. Pervez Musharraf, who passed away at the age of 79 in Dubai, was a former President of which country _____ **Pakistan**.

Note:

- He ruled Pakistan from 1999 to 2008.
- He has been declared a fugitive in the former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto murder case and Red Mosque cleric killing case.
- In March 2014, he was indicted for suspending the Constitution on November 3, 2007.
- In December 2019, a special court handed Musharraf a death sentence in the high treason case against him.

5. BKS Varma, who passed away at the age of 74 in Bangalore, Karnataka, was a noted _____ **Painter**.

Note:

- The subject of his paintings was mainly environmental and social issues presented in a surreal form.
- He was trained in art by the legendary art teacher A.N. Subbarao at the art and culture institution.
- He was honoured with the Karnataka Rajya Puruskar (2001), Rajyothsava award (2001), and Honorary Doctorate by Bangalore University (2011).



6. Burt Bacharach, who passed away at the age of 94, was associated with which field _____ **Pop composer.**

Note:

- He has won various awards including eight Grammys and three Oscars, two Golden Globes, and a lifetime achievement prize.
- He wrote more than 500 songs from the late 1950s to the 1980s.
- His greatest creations include melodies like 'I'll Never Fall in Love Again,' 'I Say a Little Prayer' and 'Walk on By,' 'Alfie'.

7. Lalitha Lajmi, who passed away at the age of 90, was a veteran _____ **Painter.**

Note:

- She was born to a poet father and a poly-linguist writer-mother in Kolkata on October 17 in 1932.
- She was the sister of legendary filmmaker Guru Dutt and mother to director Kalpana Lajmi.
- Her works are held in the collection of the National Gallery of Modern Art, the British Museum, and CSMVS Museum Bombay.

Important Days

1. World Wetlands Day is observed every year on which date to raise global awareness about the crucial role of wetlands for people and the planet _____ **February 2.**

Note:

- Theme 2023: It's Time for Wetlands Restoration
- This theme highlighted the urgent need to prioritize wetland restoration.
- The UN General Assembly adopted resolution 75/317 for World Wetlands Day on 30 August 2021.

2. World Cancer Day is observed on which date each year to create awareness about cancer and to encourage its identification, prevention, and treatment _____ **February 4.**

Note:

- It is being observed with the slogan "close the care gap" -- a call for equitable access to cancer care.
- Blue and Orange are the official colors for world cancer day 2023.
- This day originated on 4th February 2000 at the first World Summit Against Cancer, which was held in Paris.

3. International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is observed on which date every year _____ **February 6.**

Note:

- Aim: To amplify and direct efforts on the elimination of this cruel practice
- It also aimed to promote the elimination of female genital mutilation.
- Theme 2023: Partnership with Men and Boys to transform Social and gender Norms to End FGM

4. The International Day of Human Fraternity is observed every year on which date _____ **February 4.**

Note:

- It was established by the United Nations General Assembly on December 21, 2020.
- Motto: Harmony in difference



5. World Pulses Day is observed every year on which date to spread awareness about the nutritional and environmental benefits of pulses as part of sustainable food production_____ **February 10.**

Note:

- Theme 2023: Pulses for a Sustainable Future
- The UN General Assembly recognized the value of pulses in 2013.
- The UN has also adopted the year 2016 as the International Year of Pulses (IYP).

6. World Radio Day is observed annually on which date to spread awareness of the importance of radio and how it has helped people to stay updated with the news _____ **13 February.**

Note:

- The 12th edition of World Radio Day (2023) theme is 'Radio and Peace'.
- The focus of the theme: On the rapid changes and advancements in the technology of radio
- February 13 was chosen as World Radio Day as it was the day of the establishment of the United Nations Radio in 1946.

7. International Epilepsy Day is celebrated on the second Monday of February every year, and this year (2023), this day falls on which date _____ **13th of February.**

Note:

- Aim: to spread awareness of the Epilepsy disease
- The celebrations are to focus on “STIGMA” which means fear or feeling adverse reactions.
- Epilepsy is a nervous disorder that affects brain activity.
- This day is observed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and other countries.

8. The ‘Financial Literacy Week’ of the Reserve Bank of India started on 13 February and continues till February 17, 2023. What is the theme of Financial Literacy Week 2023 _____ **Good Financial Behaviour – Your Saviour.**

Note:

- The theme aligned with the strategic objectives of the National Strategy for Financial Education: 2020-2025.
- The RBI has been conducting this week every year since 2016 to create financial education awareness.

9. World Unani Day is observed on which date every year to celebrate the birth anniversary of social reformer and renowned Unani scholar Hakim Ajmal Khan _____ **February 11.**

Note:

- Hakim Ajmal Khan was born on February 11, 1868.
- He was an educator, an Unani physician, and the founder of scientific study in the Unani system of medicine.
- The Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, Ministry of AYUSH, hosted an international conference on Unani medicine with the theme “Unani Medicine for Public Health” in Delhi.

10. National Productivity Day is observed on which date to promote awareness towards increasing the country's productivity _____ **February 12.**

Note:

- It is coordinated by the National Productivity Council (NPC).
- 2023 theme: Productivity, Green Growth, and Sustainability: Celebrating India's G20 Presidency



11. National Deworming Day is observed on which date every year _____ **February 10.**

Note:

- Aim: To deworm all the children across the country in the age group of 1 to 19.
- Worms are parasites, which live in human intestines for food and survival.
- The worms consume nutrients meant for the human body and cause blood loss, poor nutrition, and stunt growth.

12. The UNGA has designated which date as the International Day of Women and Girls in Science _____ **February 11.**

Note:

- Aim: To recognize the important contribution that women make to the fields of science and technology.
- The UN SDGs 2030 also lays out gender equality in science as an essential component of the agenda.
- The theme for the 8th International Day of Women and Girls in Science is Innovate. Demonstrate. Elevate. Advance (IDEA): Bringing communities Forward for sustainable and equitable development.

New Appointments

1. Who was recommended by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) as the new Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) _____ **Dr Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi.**

Note:

- The recommendation will be approved by the Health Ministry, followed by approval of the Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) led by PM Narendra Modi.
- He will replace Dr. V G Somani, whose extended tenure will be ended in February 2023.
- Dr. Somani was appointed DCGI for three years on August 14, 2019.

2. Who has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force _____ **Air Marshal A P Singh.**

Note:

- He has succeeded Air Marshal Sandeep Singh, who retired from service on 1st February 2023.
- He served as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Central Air Command.
- He was commissioned into the fighter stream of the IAF on December 21, 1984.
- He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College and National Defence College.

3. President of Equatorial Guinea, Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo has appointed whom as the first female prime minister of the country _____ **Manuela Roka Botey.**

Note:

- She replaced former premier Francisco Pascual Obama Asue, who has been in the position since 2016.
- Before this, she served as the education minister and joined the government in 2020.
- President Teodoro Obiang was re-elected for a sixth term in office in November 2022.

4. Who has been appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Gujarat Maritime Cluster (GMC) by the Gujarat Ports Infrastructure Company Limited _____ **Madhvendra Singh.**



Note:

- GMC is the first of its kind Commercial Maritime Cluster in the country aimed at creating a hub for maritime services of international standards.
- Gujarat Maritime Board established GMC through its subsidiary, Gujarat Ports Infrastructure Company Limited.

5. Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd's Board of Directors appointed whom as managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) designate _____ **Raul Rebello**.

Note:

- He will replace Ramesh Iyer, who will be retiring on April 29, 2023.
- Currently, he is serving as the chief operating officer (COO) of the company.
- Before to joining Mahindra Financial, he worked as the executive vice president and head of rural lending and financial inclusion at Axis Bank Ltd.

6. After receiving the approval for the appointment of five new Supreme Court judges by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, what is the current strength of Supreme Court _____ **32**.

Note:

- Sanctioned strength: 34
- They will take oath on 6th February by CJI DY Chandrachud.
- Five appointed judges are:
 - (1) Pankaj Mithal (CJ of Rajasthan)
 - (2) Sanjay Karol, (CJ of Patna)
 - (3) PV Sanjay Kumar, (CJ of Manipur)
 - (4) Ahsanuddin Amanullah (judge, Patna HC)
 - (5) Manoj Misra (judge, Allahabad HC)

7. Who has been appointed as the new managing director and CEO of Canara bank, with effect from February 7, 2023 _____ **K Satyanarayana Raju**.

Note:

- He has replaced L V Prabhakar, who resigned on 31 December 2022.
- He has 33 years of experience in all banking segments, like branch banking, corporate credit, etc.
- He also served as the executive director of Canara bank.
- He joined the Vijaya Bank in 1988 and has risen to the level of chief GM at the Bank of Baroda.

8. With the appointment of two new judges of the Supreme Court - Justices Rajesh Bindal and Aravind Kumar, what is the current strength of the Supreme Court of India _____ **34**.

Note:

- Rajesh Bindal: He was the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court.
- Aravind Kumar: He was Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court.
- Earlier, the government also appointed five judges - Justices Pankaj Mithal, Sanjay Karol, PV Sanjay Kumar, Ahsanuddin Amanullah, and Manoj Misra

9. Who has been elected as the new president of Cyprus _____ **Nikos Christodoulides**.

Note:

- He defeated his rival Andreas Mavroyiannis.
- He won nearly 52 percent of the votes, and his rival Mavroyiannis won only 48 percent.
- He was expelled from the ruling DISY party after announcing his candidacy and ran as an independent.
- He was appointed as the government's spokesman in 2014 and foreign minister in 2018.



10. The President of India, Droupadi Murmu has appointed Ramesh Bais as the new governor of which state of India _____ **Maharashtra.**

Note:

- He has replaced Bhagat Singh Koshyari, who resigned from his post.
- Other appointments (Governor):
 - Arunachal Pradesh: Lt. General Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik (Retired)
 - Sikkim: Lakshman Prasad Acharya
 - Jharkhand: C.P. Radhakrishnan
 - HP: Shiv Pratap Shukla
 - Assam: Gulab Chand Kataria
 - Andhra Pradesh: Justice (Retd.) S. Abdul Nazeer
 - Ladakh: Brigadier (Dr.) B.D. Mishra
 - Manipur: Sushri Anusuiya Uikye (Former Governor of Chhattisgarh)
 - Chhattisgarh: Biswa Bhusan Harichandan (Former Governor of Andhra Pradesh)
 - Nagaland: La Ganesan (Former Governor of Manipur)
 - Meghalaya: Phagu Chauhan (Former Governor of Bihar)
 - Bihar: Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar (Former Governor of HP)

11. Who has been elected as the 22nd President of Bangladesh _____ **Mohammad Shahabuddin Choppu.**

Note:

- He was nominated for the post by the ruling Awami League.
- No other party or individual filed a nomination for the post.
- He will replace President Mohammad Abdul Hamid, whose tenure will be ended on April 23, 2023.
- Abdul Hamid served as President for two consecutive terms of five years.
- The Bangladesh constitution does not allow any person to hold the President's post beyond two terms.

12. Who has been elected as the new President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) for the 2023-24 tenure, with effect from February 12, 2023 _____ **Aniket Sunil Talati.**

Note:

- While Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal has been elected as Vice President of the institute.
- Prior to this role, Aniket Sunil Talati worked as the Director of ICAI ARF, Indian Institute of Insolvency Professionals of India (IIPI), and Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL) India.

13. Who has been appointed as the acting chief justice of the Gujarat High Court _____ **Justice Sonia G Gokani.**

Note:

- The Ministry of Law and Justice has cleared the appointment of four chief justices of high courts including - Justice Sonia G Gokani, Justice Sandeep Mehta, Justice Jaswant Singh, and Justice N Kotiswar Singh.
- Chief justice of the Gauhati HC: Justice Sandeep Mehta
- Chief justice of Tripura HC: Justice Jaswant Singh
- Chief justice J&K and Ladakh HC: Justice N Kotiswar Singh.



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- Other appointments (Governor):
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 - Sikkim: Lakshman Prasad Acharya
 - Jharkhand: C.P. Radhakrishnan
 - HP: Shiv Pratap Shukla
 - Assam: Gulab Chand Kataria
 - Andhra Pradesh: Justice (Retd.) S. Abdul Nazeer
 - Ladakh: Brigadier (Dr.) B.D. Mishra
 - Manipur: Sushri Anusuiya Uikye (Former Governor of Chhattisgarh)
 - Chhattisgarh: Biswa Bhusan Harichandan (Former Governor of Andhra Pradesh)
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 - Meghalaya: Phagu Chauhan (Former Governor of Bihar)
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- Chief justice of Tripura HC: Justice Jaswant Singh
- Chief justice J&K and Ladakh HC: Justice N Kotiswar Singh

Important News – India

1. Which Indian organization has acquired the strategic Israeli port of Haifa for USD 1.2 billion _____ **Adani Group.**

Note:

- The deal was signed by Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani in presence of Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu.
- The Haifa Port is the second largest port in Israel in terms of shipping containers and the biggest in shipping tourist cruise ships.
- The Adani group will also develop real estate at the port to transform the Haifa skyline.

2. According to the latest data from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the normalized Night Time Light (NTL) radiance in India has jumped to _____(%) in 2021 as compared to 2012 _____ **43%.**

Note:

- The night light is used by economists to track the economic growth of regions across the globe.
- Bihar (474%), Manipur (441%), Ladakh (280%), and Kerala (119%) have shown significant growth.
- While a good increase was observed in Arunachal Pradesh, MP, UP, and Gujarat.

3. According to the research firm, Mercom Capital, the solar module manufacturing capacity of India would reach approximately 95 GW by the end of which year _____ **2025.**

Note:

- The solar module manufacturing capacity as of September last year was 39 gigawatts (GW).



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- Report title: State of Solar PV Manufacturing in India
 - Indian PV manufacturers are strategically poised to expand their production capacities and adopt new technologies
4. Union Railway minister, Ashwini Vaishnaw has informed that India will receive its first hydrogen train by the end of which year _____ **December 2023**.

Note:

- It will run on heritage circuits like Kalka-Shimla and later it will be expanded to other places.
 - The Vande Metro (mini version of Vande Bharat Express) is also being developed
 - Vande Metro Aim: To help people living around big cities to travel to and fro in comfort between their place of work and hometowns.
 - Railway Budget (2023-24): Rs 2.4 lakh crore
5. Which ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, NABARD, and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited to enable Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) to provide services offered by Common Service Centers _____ **Ministry of Cooperation**.

Note:

- Now, PACS will be able to work as Common Service Centres.
 - This will help increase PACS's business activities and help them become self-sustaining economic entities.
6. The unemployment rate of India declined to _____ in January 2023 (the lowest in four months) from 8.30% in December 2022 _____ **7.14%**.

Note:

- This data was released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
 - The urban unemployment rate declined to 8.55% in January from 10.09% (December 2022).
 - While the rural unemployment rate slipped to 6.48% from 7.44%.
 - Unemployment was the highest in J&K at 21.8% followed by Haryana (21.7%) and Rajasthan (21.1%).
7. Which ministry signed an MoU with Engineers India Limited to develop Waste to Energy and bio-methanation projects in cities with a population of millions plus _____ **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**.

Note:

- These two projects will integrate the concept of circularity in waste management by producing green energy from municipal solid waste (dry and wet waste).
 - The by-products, such as electricity will also help in achieving the sustainability of waste management operations.
8. Which edition of the Surajkund International Crafts Mela commenced in Faridabad, Haryana on February 3, 2023, and will continue till February 19, 2023 _____ **36th**.

Note:

- It was organized by the Surajkund Mela Authority and Haryana Tourism in association with the Ministry of Tourism, Textiles, Culture, and External Affairs.
- It was inaugurated by the Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar.
- Theme state 2023: North-East region
- Partner nation: Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)



9. Union Minister for Environment, Bhupender Yadav launched the 'Save Wetlands Campaign' in which state _____ **Goa.**

Note:

- It is structured on a "whole of society" approach to wetlands conservation.
- It enables affirmative actions for wetlands conservation at all levels of society and involves all strata of society.
- He also released two publications - 'India's 75 Amrit Dharohar- India's Ramsar Sites Factbook' and 'Managing Climate Risks in Wetlands – A Practitioner's Guide'.

10. Which organization hosted G20 international seminar on Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage (CCUS) on 5 February 2023 in Bengaluru _____ **NTPC.**

Note:

- This seminar will be attended by industries, policymakers, scientists, and academicians from different countries.
- Focus: Achieving clean energy transition and subsequently moving towards net zero
- CCUS is a technology that can capture and make effective use of the high concentrations of carbon dioxide emitted by industrial activities.

11. Which organization has introduced drone technology through a web-based portal 'VIHANGAM' along with a drone and ground control system in coal mines _____ **MCL (Coal India Arm).**

Note:

- Aim: For environmental monitoring, volume measurement, and photogrammetric mapping of mines for digitalization of the mining process.
- It allows an authorized person to access real-time drone video from the mine.
- This pilot project is at present operational at Bhubaneswari and Lingraj opencast mines, Talcher Coalfields.

12. Union HM, Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of a ₹ 450-crore nano urea plant and township of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) in which city of India _____ **Deoghar, Jharkhand.**

Note:

- It will be the fifth nano urea plant in India.
- In 2022, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi inaugurated the world's first nano urea plant in Gujarat.
- Nano urea improves crop productivity, soil health, and the nutritional quality of produce.

13. Under which scheme, the Indian Railways has introduced Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC Tourist Train _____ **Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat' Scheme.**

Note:

- This "Garvi Gujarat" tour will depart on 28th February from Delhi Safdarjung Station.
- Aim: To showcase the heritage of vibrant Gujarat
- Major attractions: The Statue of Unity, Champaner, Somnath, Dwarka, Nageshwar, Beyt Dwarka, Ahmedabad, Modhera, and Patan

14. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a helicopter manufacturing plant of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in which city of India _____ **Tumakuru (Karnataka).**

Note:

- The 'Greenfield Helicopter factory' will manufacture the Light Utility Helicopters.
- It has Heli-runway, flight hangar, final assembly hangar, structure assembly hangar, air traffic control, and support services.



- It complies fully with Industry 4.0 standard tools and techniques for its operations.
- Area: 615 acres

15. Which department of Agriculture ministry signed an MoU with the Development Innovation Lab (DIL) at the University of Chicago to explore the opportunities to harness innovation to improve food security, address climate change, and allow farmers to increase their incomes _____
Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (DA&FW).

Note:

- It will look into innovation opportunities related to agriculture and food security in the context of climate change.

16. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, the Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers Bhagwant Khuba informed that the government has set up a task force under the aegis of the Fertiliser Association of India to improve the quality of SSP fertilizer. What is the full form of SSP _____ **Single Super Phosphate.**

Note:

- Aim: To promote its use as an alternative to Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP)
- The government is promoting the combination of SSP and urea in a ratio of 3:1 in order to encourage its use among farmers

17. Which FMCG organization has signed a strategic partnership with Sri Lanka's Maliban Biscuit Manufactories to bring the unique and highly sought-after taste of Maliban to Indian consumers _____ **Reliance Consumer Products Limited (RPCL).**

Note:

- With this partnership, both organizations will develop unique value propositions that RPCL will utilize to strengthen their portfolio in the biscuit segment.

18. Which state signed an MoU with Patanjali Foods Ltd for the development and area expansion of palm oil cultivation and processing for Zone-II of Nagaland under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) _____ **Nagaland.**

Note:

- Zone II includes the Mokokchung, Longleng, and Mon districts of Nagaland.
- Aim: To give a boost to the oil palm growers in the state of Nagaland and the region.
- Patanjali is already working in Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, and Tripura.

19. The Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) has signed an MoU with which Indian trade association to collaborate on Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes _____ **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).**

Note:

- It will focus on Australian training standards.
- Focus area: Automotive, allied health, mining, IT, cyber security, renewable energy, logistics, supply chain, and water management
- Austrade's Australia-India Future Skills Initiative team in India will execute with CII.
-

20. India, France, and which country announced a formal trilateral cooperation initiative in the areas of defense, nuclear energy, and technology _____ **The UAE.**

Note:

- The Foreign Ministers of the three countries held a telephonic meeting to adopt a roadmap for the implementation of this initiative.



- Aim: To promote the design and execution of cooperation projects in the fields of energy
- The countries will discuss further collaboration and training between their defense forces.

21. The first G20 Education working group meeting is being organized in which city of India on 1st Feb 2023 _____ **Chennai**.

Note:

- The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Dr. L. Murugan inaugurated the session.
- Discussion topic: K-12 education, tech-enabled learning, and skill development
- A seminar on the 'Role of Digital Technology in Education' – a unique initiative under India's Presidency was organized at the IIT Madras Research Park.

22. Which edition of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) Leaders' Meeting is being hosted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) in Lucknow on 6th February 2023 _____ **6th**.

Note:

- The meeting was inaugurated by the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Anandiben Patel.
- Theme: 'Integrating Emerging Technologies in Audit'
- Discussions topics: Artificial Intelligence and Cyber Security, and concerns of digital technology.

23. The first meeting of the Youth -20 engagement group under India's G20 presidency is being organized in which state of India _____ **Assam**.

Note:

- Aim: Provide an opportunity for the students to voice their opinions to the audience worldwide.
- More than 150 Youth delegates from G20 countries are set to participate in the meetings.
- Over 12000 college and university students also participated in these events.

24. The government has extended Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme by which year _____ **March 2026**.

Note:

- Reason: It could not bear the desired result till now due to the COVID uncertainty.
- PM-KUSUM was launched in 2019.
- Aim: To add a solar capacity of 30,800 MW by 2022 with a total central financial support of Rs 34,422 crore.
- PM-KUSUM consists of three main components.
- Minister of New and Renewable Energy: R K Singh

25. Union Minister of Education, Skill Development, and Entrepreneurship has launched the Yuva Sangam registration portal in New Delhi. Who is he _____ **Dharmendra Pradhan**.

Note:

- Aim: To build close ties between the youth of the North East Region (NER) and the rest of India under the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.
- It aims to provide an immersive, multidimensional experience of various facets-under four broad areas - Paryatan, Parampara, Pragati, and Paraspar Sampark.

26. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare signed an MoU with which organization under public-private partnership framework to build a national-level digital extension platform _____ **Digital Green**.



Note:

- It will host a digital library of curated multi-format multi-lingual content, deliver curated content to farmers, and help extension workers to access it.
- It also upskills the vast network of extension workers for agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, and rural livelihood missions.

27. According to a report by the International Energy Agency (IEA), the 'LiFE' initiative of India for the adoption of energy-efficient behavior can save the world \$440 billion in 2030. What is the full form of LiFE _____ **Lifestyle for Environment.**

Note:

- About 1/5th of the emission cut is required by 2030 to put the world on a pathway to net zero emissions.
- PM Modi introduced the LiFE initiative at COP26 in Glasgow in Nov 2021.
- Aim: To tackle the challenges of environmental degradation and climate change.

28. Who announced a Global Climate Resilience Fund of 50 million dollars for women to fight climate change _____ **Hillary Clinton (Former US secretary of state).**

Note:

- This fund will also help to provide new livelihood resources and education.
- She addressed the salt pan workers near Kuda village in Gujarat's Surendranagar district.
- She also attended a programme in Ahmedabad to mark 50 years of SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association) as a trade union.
- SEWA was founded in 1972.

29. Which government agency signed an MoU with the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) to set up digital forensic laboratories, collaborate in research and training programs, and provide technical assistance _____ **Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI).**

Note:

- DGGI is an apex intelligence organization under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- DGGI collects and disseminates information and takes necessary steps to check evasion of GST.

30. Secretary (Telecom) and Chairman of the Digital Communications Commission launched the 'IEEE C-DOT Certified Telecom Expert Program (ICCTEP)'. Who is he _____ **K. Rajaraman.**

Note:

- Aim: To bring learning in the areas of Telecom, including 5G, Cyber Security, and Quantum Communication
- It was collaborated by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT).
- C-DOT is the R&D center of the Department of Telecommunications.

31. Which ministry signed a Statement of Intent with the International Energy Agency (IEA) to strengthen cooperation in data and research in the energy sector to enhance global energy security _____ **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.**

Note:

- It will initiate cooperation in the energy sector between Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell PPAC and IEA
- The govt is also planning to provide training and internships by IEA experts to develop the skills.
- Minister of Petroleum: Hardeep S Puri



32. Which organization has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Joint Business Council (IMT-GT JBC), Malaysia to promote the adoption of energy efficiency and sustainable practices in the region _____ **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL).**

Note:

- Under this partnership, EESL will implement Rooftop Solar, Electric Mobility, UJALA, and Building Energy Efficiency Programme in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand.
- CEO, EESL: Vishal Kapoor

33. The government has formed a 16-member committee to draft the Digital Competition Act within three months, after studying anti-competitive practices. Who is the head of this panel _____ **Manoj Govil (secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs).**

Note:

- The panel will study the existing provisions of the Competition Act 2002, and related regulations to deal with the challenges in the digital economy.
- CCI will provide secretarial and research assistance and logistic support to the panel.

34. Reliance Jio and which mobile network operator launched a digital skills programme initiative to train rural women in India _____ **GSMA.**

Note:

- Aim: To provide need-based training to rural women and individuals from marginalized/low-income groups to help them make meaningful use of digital access.
- According to the GSMA's 'Mobile Gender Gap Report 2022', women in India are 41% less likely than men to use mobile internet
- While 330 million women in India still do not use mobile internet, compared to 248 million men

35. Which mobility solution provider has launched E20 petrol and became one of the first fuel retailers in India to make E20 blended petrol available _____ **Jio-bp.**

Note:

- E20 petrol: 20% blend of ethanol and 80% of fossil-based fuel
- E20 blending in petrol is being introduced in the country by the government of India.
- Aim: To reduce the country's oil import cost, energy security, lower carbon emission, and better air quality, among others.
- The government had advanced the target of E20 fuel from 2030 to 2025.

36. Which organization released the report on "Making India a Global Power House on Farm Machinery Industry" _____ **National Council of Applied Economic Research.**

Note:

- It was released by the Union MoS for Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Shobha Karandlaje
- This study was sponsored by Mahendra & Mahendra.
- Purpose: To analyze the non-tractor farm machinery industry from both demand and supply side perspectives.
- India's farm power availability is at 2.49 Kw/ha in 2018-19.

37. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has found which mineral inferred resources (G3) of 5.9 million tonnes in the Salal-Haimana area of the Reasi District of Jammu and Kashmir _____ **Lithium.**



Note:

- The ministry has handed over the 51 mineral blocks, including Lithium and Gold to the state governments.
- Out of these 51 mineral blocks, 5 blocks pertain to gold, and other blocks pertain to commodities like potash, molybdenum, base metals, etc.
- Lithium is a Non-ferrous metal.

38. Geological Survey of India (GSI) will be taking up how many public health and public good geoscience activities during 2023-24 _____ **111.**

Note:

- A total of 966 standard programmes have been finalized by GSI across 5 Missions for 2023-24.
- This session's focus is on baseline data generation and mineral exploration programmes with special emphasis on strategic-critical and fertilizer minerals exploration.
- Besides this, GSI will be taking up 115 courses for training and capacity building.

39. The Ministry of Shipping has formed a committee to draft revised Guidelines for the operationalization of Roll-on-Roll off (Ro-Ro) and Roll-on-Passenger (Ro-Pax) ferry service. Who is the head of this committee _____ **Chairman of the Deendayal Port Authority.**

Note:

- Aim: To promote coastal shipping through the PPP route
- Other purposes:
- It would also draft the Model Concession Agreement for Ro-Ro or Ro-Pax Terminal Operator.
- Model License Agreement for the Operation of the ferry services in the country.

40. The government has launched a 'Khanan Prahari' mobile application and CMSMS web app. What is the full form of CMSMS _____ **Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System.**

Note:

- Aim: To report the unauthorized coal mining activities
- CMSMS has been developed to curb illegal mining and take transparent action as an e-Governance initiative of the government on the use of Space Technology.
- Minister of Coal, Pralhad Joshi informed in Rajya Sabha, that 462 cases have been reported on the Apps till January 2023.

41. Union Tribal Affairs Minister informed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate a 15-day 'Aadi Mahotsav' at the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi on February 16, 2023. Who is the minister of Tribal Affairs _____ **Arjun Munda.**

Note:

- TRIFED, an organization of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, will organize the "Aadi Mahotsav – National Tribal Festival".
- Aim: To provide direct market access to the tribal master craftsmen and women in large metros and State capitals.

42. Which Indian airlines has signed agreements with Airbus SE and Boeing Co. for the largest purchase of jetliners in commercial aviation history _____ **Air India.**

Note:

- Aim: To reinvent itself with a fuel-efficient fleet that can take on local low-cost rivals and powerful Gulf airlines like Emirates.
- The airline and the two plane makers have agreed on the broad strokes of the agreement.



- Airbus is in line to receive 250 orders (approx) and is made up of 210 aircraft from the A320 single-aisle.

43. The first G20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting under India's presidency was started in which city of India from February 9 to 11, 2023 _____ **Bengaluru.**

Note:

- Hosted by: MoEFCC
- Chaired by: Leena Nandan (Secretary)
- Theme: LiFE is an "important and cross-cutting"
- Focus:
 - Arresting land degradation, Accelerating ecosystem restoration, and Enriching biodiversity
 - Promoting a sustainable and climate-resilient blue economy
 - Encouraging resource efficiency and circular economy

44. The Gender Balance Forum and the Women in Government Forum organized at the World Government Summit, which is organized in which country from 13-15 February 2023 _____ **Dubai, UAE.**

Note:

- Theme:
 - Women in Government Forum: Ready for Leadership: Shaping the Agenda for the Future
 - World Government Summit 2023: Shaping Future Governments
- Aim: To bring together thoughts of leaders from around the region and the world.
- The leaders will also discuss new ways to advance gender equality and women's participation.

45. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the three-day-long Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 in which city of the state on 10th February 2023 _____ **Lucknow.**

Note:

- He has also inaugurated Global Trade Show and launched Invest UP 2.0.
- It is the flagship investment summit of the Uttar Pradesh Government.
- Aim: To bring together policymakers, industry leaders, academia, think tanks, and leaders from across the world to collectively explore business opportunities and forge partnerships

46. Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology has inaugurated AMRPTEX 2023 - National Philatelic Exhibition at Pragati Maidan, Delhi. Who is he _____ **Ashwini Vaishnav.**

Note:

- It is a 5-day Mahakumbh of Stamps, which is to be held from 11th to 15th February, 2023.
- It displays more than 20,000 exhibits under 13 competitive categories and invitees and is the national platform to highlight and display the 5000 years old rich history and culture of this great nation.

47. Secretary of MeitY has inaugurated 1st International Conference on Communication, Electronics and Digital Technologies – NICE-DT 2023 and Digital Skilling, which is the lead event of G20. Who is he _____ **Alkesh Kumar Sharma**

Note:

- It was organized by National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT)
- NIELIT: It is an autonomous Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and is engaged in Capacity Building and Skill Development



48. The 12th World Hindi Conference will be held in which country from the 15th of February 2023 _____ **Fiji.**

Note:

- It is a 3-day long event and is being organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in association with the Government of Fiji.
- Main theme of the conference: "Hindi - Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence".
- The conference will be attended by representatives from 50 countries.
- The 11th World Hindi Conference was held in Mauritius.

49. Which edition of the Indian Rice Congress was inaugurated by President of India, Droupadi Murmu at ICAR-National Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, on February 11, 2023 _____ **Second.**

Note:

- ICAR-NRRI has developed India's first high protein rice, called CR Dhan 310 and NRRI has also released a high-zinc rice variety, called CR Dhan 315.
- Rice is the basic food crop and is mainly grown in rain-fed areas that receive heavy annual rainfall and is a kharif crop in India.

50. Which edition of the ASEAN Digital Ministers meeting approved the India-ASEAN Digital Work Plan 2023 in New Delhi _____ **Third.**

Note:

- The theme of the meeting: Synergy Towards a Sustainable Digital Future
- Aim: To strengthen India-ASEAN relations in the field of Information and Communication Technologies.
- The work plan includes capacity building and knowledge sharing in emerging areas in the field of Information and Communication Technologies such as AI in Cyber Security.

51. The G20 EMPOWER meeting was organized in which city of India from 11th to 12th February 2023 _____ **Agra, Uttar Pradesh.**

Note:

- Theme: Empowering Women to Lead across Sectors: Role of Digital Skilling and Future Skills
- Focus: To shift from women's development to women-led development
- It was attended by Smriti Zubin Irani (Minister for Women and Child Welfare).
- She also highlighted the government's steps on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and efforts for Women's empowerment.

52. The Annual Meeting of Members of the River Cities Alliance (RCA) "DHARA" is being organized in Pune from 13th - 14th February 2023. In this context, what is the full form of DHARA _____

Driving Holistic Action for Urban Rivers.

Note:

- The annual meeting of the members of RCA is being organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in association with the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).
- The event has strong synergies with the Urban20 (U20) initiative under the ambit of India's G20 Presidency.



Important News – State

1. Which lake has been proposed as Ladakh's first biodiversity heritage site (BHS) under the Biological Diversity Act _____ **Yaya Tso lake.**

Note:

- The resolution was signed by the village stakeholders and the SECURE Himalaya project.
- About Yaya Tso Lake:
 - It is known as a bird's paradise.
 - Location: at an altitude of 4,820m in Ladakh.
 - It is also one of India's highest breeding sites of the black-necked crane.
 - The Secure Himalaya project is funded by the Global Environment Facility.

2. Name the WhatsApp chatbot that was launched by the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) _____ **Bal Mitra.**

Note:

- It is an initiative to enable two-way communication between people and the child rights panel.
- It will help citizens and the commission to interact more effectively.
- Features of the chatbot: Complaint registration, searching information and tracking complaint status, and seeking information on admissions

3. Which state government has launched the 'Vision for All School Eye Health' program in partnership with OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation and Prasad Netralaya _____ **Goa.**

Note:

- The programme extends the current Vision for All Goa eye health program.
- It commenced in February 2021.
- Aim: To train 2000 teachers on basic visual acuity tests for the children in their respective schools, followed by detailed refraction by qualified professionals from Prasad Netralaya.

4. Who inaugurated the SARAS Aajeevika Mela 2023 at Aquaplex Crown at Bagh-e-Bahu, Jammu _____ **J&K LG, Manoj Sinha.**

Note:

- The fair was participated by the women's Self Help Groups from around 25 States and UTs across the country.
- Aim: To provide a platform for the rural SHG women to sell and promote their self-made products
- On this platform, the SHG will display handicrafts, handloom, and natural food items from different rural areas across the country.

5. Which state government presented announced a road map for setting up green hydrogen hubs in the coming two years _____ **Kerala.**

Note:

- Location: Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram
- The outlay for this scheme: Rs 200 crore
- Aim: To build green hydrogen plants that can produce 60 tonnes of hydrogen per day.
- It will be established with a 150 MW Electrolyser and storage infrastructure.
- The Hydrogen produced through the electrolysis of water is known as green hydrogen.



6. Which state cabinet approved new industrial and electric vehicle policies _____ **Punjab**.

Note:

- Electric Vehicles:
 - Incentives for those switching over to electric vehicles under the vehicle scrapping policy.
 - Charging stations will also be installed.
- The new industrial policy pitches Punjab as a favorite investment destination.
- Introduction of public mining sites to ensure that sand and gravel are available at reasonable rates to common people.

7. Uttar Pradesh CM, Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the VFS Global Visa Application Centre in which city of state _____ **Lucknow**.

Note:

- Aim: To enable citizens of the state to complete the formalities related to the visa application process for 10 countries with ease.
- 10 Countries: Austria, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, Germany, Italy, and Saudi Arabia
- VFS Global (Visa Facilitation Services Global) was launched in Mumbai in 2001.
- VFS Global HQ: Dubai, UAE

8. Which state government launched India's first mobility-focused cluster, TMV during the first edition of Mobility Next Hyderabad Summit 2023 _____ **Telangana**.

Note:

- Aim: To attract investments of around Rs 50,000 crore and generate more than 4 lakh jobs in the next five years in the state.
- The TMV also aimed to facilitate the companies across all segments of sustainable mobility.
- It also promotes mobility startups in Telangana.

9. Which UT government initiated a program to support their farmers and promote sustainable agriculture in the Union Territory _____ **Jammu and Kashmir**.

Note:

- Reason: Growing concern for health and increasing demand for organic food
- The 'alternate agriculture system for sustainability' project is a part of the government's efforts to create a sustainable environment for agriculture.
- Aim: To create six to seven organic clusters per district, covering a total of 2000 hectares of land.

10. Which health start-up has signed an MoU with the Uttar Pradesh government under their InvestUP program to set up a health ATM _____ **India Health Link**.

Note:

- It provides screening of various health parameters at more than 4,600 community and primary health care centers.
- It is a self-service, walk-in Health ATM.
- Individuals can get their screening done for 20+ vital health parameters including BP, weight, pulse, temperature, and ECG within 10 minutes followed by an instant report.



11. The Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav- 2023 (RSM) was inaugurated in which of the following city _____ **Mumbai.**

Note:

- Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav conveys the enduring message of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, which signifies that despite numerous diversities in language and cultural expressions, India is united and one.
- This 9-day event is organized by the Ministry every year in different states of India and will go on till 19th February.

12. Which UTs Legal Services Authority has organized first National Lok Adalat of 2023 throughout the Union Territory _____ **Jammu & Kashmir.**

Note:

- During the day-long National Lok Adalat, out of a total 88,723 cases taken up by 142 Benches at various courts across the UT, 75,250 Cases were disposed off and an amount of Rs. 45,05,14,697/- was awarded as compensation/settlement amount in Motor Accident Claims, civil, criminal, labour disputes, Electricity and Water Bills cases, etc.

13. Strictest Anti-Copying Law of India has come into force in which state of India _____ **Uttarakhand.**

Note:

- It is termed as Uttarakhand Competitive Examination (Measures for Prevention and Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Ordinance 2023.
- Under this, a provision to impose a fine of 10 crores rupees along with life imprisonment or 10 years in jail for the copycat mafia is there.

14. Finance Minister, Harish Rao has informed, that the state government is planning to enact the Clinical Establishment Act. He is a Finance Minister of which state of India _____ **Telangana.**

Note:

- Reason: To regulate the private hospitals in state
- Concern: Related to the private hospitals over irregularities and imposing hefty charges for treatment
- Aim: To improve facilities and provide corporate healthcare for the poor through government hospitals
- The State government was establishing a government medical college in each district.

15. Which state government has finally launched the portal for the Family ID - 'One Family One Identity' _____ **Uttar Pradesh.**

Note:

- Aim: To identify families as a unit for implementing the 'one job per family' proposal.
- A unique identity will be issued to each family under the One Family One Identity scheme.
- It will establish a live comprehensive database of family units of the state.
- This database will be helpful in better management of beneficiary schemes and transparent operation.

16. India's first "frozen-lake marathon" will be organized in which state/UT on February 20, 2023 _____ **Pangong Tso, Ladakh.**

Note:

- The Indian army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police have been roped in to implement a "proper action plan" for the event.
- The 21-kilometer marathon will be started from Lukung and ended at Maan village.
- The event will be participated by 75 selected athletes from India and abroad.
- The marathon is being called the "Last Run" to highlight the issue of climate change



Important News – World

1. National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and his US counterpart Jake Sullivan launched the US-India iCET and Innovation Bridge. What is the full form of iCET _____ **Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology.**

Note:

- The iCET was announced by US President Joe Biden and PM Narendra Modi in May 2022.
- Aim: To elevate and expand strategic technology partnerships and defense industrial cooperation between governments and businesses
- Innovation Bridge will connect both countries' defense startups.

2. The global business firm, BioAsia has selected which country as its country partner for the 20th edition of the largest event in the biotechnological industry of Asia _____ **United Kingdom (UK).**

Note:

- Theme 2023: Advancing for ONE: Shaping the next generation of humanized healthcare.
 - 'O' in ONE stands for One Health
 - 'N' in ONE stands for Next Generation Health
 - 'E' in ONE stands for Equity
- BioAsia 2023 will be organized from February 24 to 26 in Hyderabad, Telangana.

3. For which year, India was invited as the focal country at the Madrid International Book Fair _____ **2025.**

Note:

- Spain is the theme country at the 46th International Kolkata Book Fair, organized in Kolkata from 31st Jan 2023 to 12th Feb 2023.
- Aim: To have a direct relationship with Indian authors
- They will expand the horizon to Indian publishers, cinema, and music.

4. Who has inaugurated the biggest book fair of Bangladesh 'Ekushey Boi Mela' in Dhaka _____ **Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina.**

Note:

- Theme 2023: Poro Boi, Goro Desh: Bangbandhur Bangladesh" (Read books, build the country, a country of Bangabandhu's dream)
- The month-long book fair is being organized on the grounds of the historic Suhrawardy Udyan and the Bangla Academy.
- She has also distributed the Bangla Academy Award 2022 in recognition of literary works in Bangla.

5. Which country celebrated its 75 years of Independence from British rule on 4th February 2023 _____ **Sri Lanka.**

Note:

- Theme: Namo Namo Matha - A step towards a century.
- The main ceremony of the National Independence Day Celebrations was held at Galle Face Green in Colombo.
- A special cultural arts festival Lankaralanka was also organized at Independence Square in Colombo.
- The event was attended by Union Minister of State for External Affairs, V. Muraleedharan.



6. Bangladesh minister, Nasrul Hamid has informed that Bangladesh would receive electricity from which power plant of Jharkhand from March 2023 _____ **Godda power plant.**

Note:

- 750MW of power will come from the first unit of the Adani power plant in Godda in March 2023.
- Another 750 MW of power will come from the second unit of the Godda power plant in April 2023.
- The Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) signed an agreement with the Adani group for importing electricity from its plant at Godda.

7. India and which international Union formed three working groups under the Trade and Technology Council (TTC) _____ **European Union (EU).**

Note:

- Reason: To deepen strategic ties with the trade bloc
- The working group will cover critical issues, such as:
 - Strategic technologies, digital governance, and connectivity
 - Green and clean energy technologies
 - Trade, investment, and resilient value chains

8. According to the recent Global Quality Infrastructure Index (GQII) 2021, what is the rank of the national accreditation system of India under the Quality Council of India (QCI) _____ **5th.**

Note:

- The GQII ranks the 184 economies in the world on the basis of quality infrastructure (QI).
- India's overall QI system ranking continues to be in the Top 10 at the 10th position (the standardization system (under BIS) at 9th and the metrology system (under NPL-CSIR) at 21st).

9. According to the DGCA, India's aviation safety oversight ranking has jumped to _____ position from 112th place in the country's score under the ICAO's coordinated validation mission _____ **55th.**

Note:

- Under the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) Continuous Monitoring Approach, an ICAO Coordinated Validation Mission was conducted in India in November 2022.
- USOAP is based on eight critical elements of a safety oversight system and is measured by a set of protocol questions.

10. According to the Financial Times (FT) Global MBA Ranking 2023, the Post Graduate Programme (PGP) of which Indian institution has been ranked the best in India _____ **Indian School of Business (ISB).**

Note:

- It is the only Indian B-school in the top 50 worldwide and has been ranked 39th globally and sixth in Asia.
- ISB is also ranked best in India in the research category.
- While IIM Bangalore has been ranked at 52nd position in the rankings.
- Columbia Business School in the United States topped the global chart.

11. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which non-profit environment organization to eliminate plastic pollution in oceans and rivers around the globe _____ **Ocean Cleanup.**



Note:

- Goal: To reduce leakages of plastics into marine ecosystems by boosting policies and behavior change, reducing overall plastic pollution.
- It also aims to accelerate the deployment of interception technologies in rivers to end marine plastic pollution.

Honor & Awards

1. Which Indian personality was conferred a Lifetime Achievement Honour by the India-UK Achievers Honours in London _____ **Former India's PM Dr Manmohan Singh.**

Note:

- He was awarded for his contribution to economic and political life.
 - It was handed over to him in New Delhi by the National Indian Students and Alumni Union (NISAU) UK.
 - Living Legend Honour: Lord Karan Bilimoria and Opposition Labour Party MP Virendra Sharma
 - Outstanding Achievers: Parineeti Chopra, Raghav Chadha, Adar Poonawalla, and Aditi Chauhan
2. Who was honoured with the FIH President's Award 2023 for his outstanding contribution to hockey _____ **VK Pandian (Secretary to the CM of Odisha).**

Note:

- He was awarded by FIH President Tayyab Ikram at the Bhubaneswar-Rourkela final of the Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023.
 - FIH President's Award: It is a recognition to individuals National Associations or other organizations for valuable services to hockey
 - Hockey India President: Dilip Tirkey
3. Name the Indian music composer, who won his third Grammy Award in the best new age album category for 'Divine Tides' at the 65th Annual Grammy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles _____ **Ricky Kej.**

Note:

- He has shared this award with Stewart Copeland, who collaborated with Kej on the album.
 - Stewart Copeland is a Drummer of the iconic British rock band The Police.
 - Record of the Year: About Damn Time by Lizzo
 - Album of the Year: Harry's House by Harry Styles
 - Song of the Year: Just Like That
4. Who has received the Hurun India's award 2022 for his remarkable achievements in the world of business _____ **VP Nandakumar (MD & CEO, Manappuram Finance Ltd).**

Note:

- He was honored with the Hurun Industry Achievement Award 2022 in Mumbai.
 - Adi Godrej (Chairman, Godrej Group), Cyrus S. Poonawalla (MD, Serum Institute of India Ltd), Kris Gopalakrishnan (co-founder, Infosys), and Sanjiv Goenka (RPG Group) were the earlier recipients of this award.
5. Which Indian university will soon receive the 'heritage' tag from UNESCO to take the distinction of world's first living heritage university _____ **Visva-Bharati University.**



Note:

- This university was founded by Rabindranath Tagore in 1921.
- It is one of India's major Central Government funded autonomous universities.
- The institution was given the status of a Central University in 1951 through a central Act.
- The Vice-chancellor of the University is appointed by the President of India.

6. Who was honoured with the ATMA Lifetime Achievement Award at the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA) Annual Conclave 2023 in New Delhi _____ **Chairman and MD of MRF, K.M. Mammen.**

Note:

- Reason: For his leadership qualities, an invaluable contribution to the Indian tyre industry
- Maruti Suzuki India MD & CEO Hisashi Takeuchi presented the award.
- He also leads the industry from the front for over 20 years.
- ATMA Headquarters: New Delhi

7. Who has been selected for the prestigious PCI's Raja Ram Mohan Roy National Award 2020 _____ **Veteran journalist Dr. Anne Bhavani Koteswara Prasad.**

Note:

- Reason: For his outstanding contribution to the field of journalism.
- The Chairperson of the Press Council of India (PCI), Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai conferred the award.
- ABK Prasad worked as the editor of mainstream journals in the State
- He was the Chairman of the Official Language Commission (2004 - 2009) in Andhra Pradesh.

8. Union HM Amit Shah presented the President's Colour Award to which state police on February 14 for their outstanding service to the nation _____ **Haryana Police.**

Note:

- The state police will be bestowed with the prestigious President's Colour Award during a ceremonial function at the Haryana Police Academy, Madhuban in Karnal.
- The "President's Colour" is bestowed on any armed forces or a police unit, in recognition of exceptional service rendered to the Nation, both in peace and in war.

9. The 'Blockbill' app team, Niyati Totala and Neel Kalpeshkumar Parikh were awarded the prestigious Global Best M-GOV Award 2023 at the World Government Summit in Dubai, UAE. They are the students of which prestigious Indian institution _____ **IIT Indore.**

Note:

- Egyptian President Abel Fattah Al-Sisi has presented the award.
- **Blockbill:**
 - It is a blockchain-based receipt generation app.
 - It generates digital receipts for all of its users' transactions.
- Silver Award: 'Don't Waste' team (Uzbekistan)
- Bronze Award: 'Farmit' team (Serbia)



Sports News

1. Name the Indian golf player, who clinched her fourth Ladies European Tour (LET) title at the Kenya Ladies Open 2023 golf tournament held at Vipingo Ridge, Kenya _____ **Aditi Ashok.**

Note:

- She last won a Ladies European Tour golf tournament in 2017.
 - She carded a 12-under to win ahead of Alice Hewson (England) and April Angurasarane (Thailand), who finished with identical final scores of 3-under.
 - Meanwhile, India's Avani Prashanth finished tied-ninth and Amandeep Drall came tied-52nd.
2. The Sports Minister, Anurag Singh Thakur, and LG of J&K, Manoj Sinha launched the Mascot, Theme Song, and Jersey for the 3rd edition of Khelo India Winter Games, which will be held in which state/UT of India _____ **Jammu & Kashmir.**

Note:

- The Winter Games are scheduled to be held from 10-14 February 2023 at Gulmarg, J&K.
 - It is supported by the Ministry of Sports and organized by the J&K Sports Council and Winter Games Association, J&K.
 - Mascot: Snow Leopard (depicts the vibrant heritage of the Himalayas)
3. Footballer, Raphael Varane has announced his retirement from international duty with which country to focus on his career with Manchester United _____ **France.**

Note:

- He was a key starter for Les Bleus as they won the World Cup in 2018 and helped Didier Deschamps guide his team to the 2022 showpiece in Qatar.
 - He began his international career almost ten years ago, on March 22, 2013.
 - He became only the fourth player in history to win both the World Cup and the Champions League in the same year.
4. The inaugural season of the Women's Premier League (WPL) 2023 will be held in which city of India from 4 - 26 March _____ **Mumbai (Maharashtra).**

Note:

- All the tournament matches will be held in the Brabourne Stadium and the DY Patil Stadium.
 - The auction of WPL players will take place on February 13 in Mumbai.
 - IPL team owners: Mumbai Indians, RCB, Delhi Capitals, Capri Global Holdings (Lucknow), and Adani Sportsline
 - IPL chairman: Arun Dhumal
 - BCCI Secretary: Jay Shah
5. Aaron Finch, who announced his retirement from international cricket, was associated with which country _____ **Australia.**

Note:

- Earlier, the opening batsman had announced retirement from the 50-over format in September 2022.
 - He made his international cricket debut in a T20I against England in 2011.
 - He made his ODI debut against Sri Lanka in 2013 and his Test debut against Pakistan in 2018.
6. Who becomes the all-time leading scorer in the National Basketball Association (NBA) _____ **LeBron James.**



Note:

- He has surpassed a record held by the great Kareem Abdul Jabbar since 1984.
- He pushed his career total to 38,388 points.
- He has won four NBA titles and competed in 10 NBA finals.
- He has a career average of 27.2 points, 7.5 rebounds, and 7.3 assists.

7. Who has won an action-packed Formula E in Hyderabad that marked a successful return of a high-profile motorsport event in India, defeating Nick Cassidy _____ **Jean Eric Vergne of DS Penske.**

Note:

- This is Eric Vergne's first win of the season.
- Antonio Felix Da Costa of Porsche secured the final third spot on the podium.
- Hyderabad ePrix is the single-seater, electrically powered Formula E race, and will be the first Formula E race to be held in the country.

8. Which edition of the Khelo India National Winter Games has begun at famous tourist destination Gulmarg in Kashmir _____ **Third.**

Note:

- Gulmarg is a Centre of Excellence for Winter Sports and sports budget of Jammu and Kashmir is enormous as compared to other states and union territories of the country.
- This edition will continue for next four days wherein more than 1500 athletes from across the country are taking part in eleven different sports categories.

9. Which edition of the Khelo India Youth Games was concluded at the Upper Lake in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh _____ **Fifth.**

Note:

- Maharashtra has topped the medals tally by winning 154 medals (53 gold, 54 silver, and 47 bronze).
- While Haryana placed second with a total of 116 medals, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.
- The 5th KIYG -2023 was hosted in the eight towns of MP - Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain, Maheshwar, Balaghat, Mandla, Jabalpur, and Gwalior.

10. Who has become the first Chinese man to win an ATP Tour title at the Dallas Open 2023 _____ **Wu Yibing.**

Note:

- He defeated John Isner (United States) by 6-7 (4/7), 7-6 (7/3), and 7-6 (14/12).
- He also becomes the second man from China to break into the top 100 of the ATP rankings.
- While the duo of Jamie Murray (United Kingdom) and Michael Venus (New Zealand) won the doubles title at the same event

11. Which football club has won the Club World Cup 2023 for a record-extending fifth time in the final held in the Abdellah stadium, Rabat, Morocco _____ **Real Madrid.**

Note:

- Real Madrid has defeated Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal by 5-3.
- Vinícius Júnior (Brazilian) scored twice and assisted Karim Benzema to lead Real Madrid.
- Real Madrid last won the tournament in 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018.



Books and Authors

1. Who is the author of Wanderers, Kings and Merchants _____ **Dr Peggy Mohan.**

Note:

- She bagged the 'Mathrubhumi Book of The Year' award at the fourth edition of the Mathrubhumi International Festival of Letters (MBIFL 2023).
- Her book 'Wanderers, Kings and Merchants,' portraying the evolution of language as the outcome of migrations.
- She won Rs two lakh as a cash prize and a sculpture.
- Nobel Laureate Abdulrazak Gurnah presented the award to Mohan at the valedictory ceremony of the four-day MBIFL 2023.

2. Who is the writer of the "Victory City" novel _____ **Salman Rushdie.**

Note:

- This novel was published by Penguin Random House.
- It is an "epic tale" of a 14th-century woman who defies a patriarchal world to rule a city.
- This novel purports to be a translation of a historical epic originally written in Sanskrit.
- Rushdie won the Booker Prize in 1981 for his second novel, Midnight's Children.
- His notable works: Grimus (1975); Shame (1983); The Satanic Verses (1988)

Science and Defence

1. Electronics and Radar Development Establishment (LRDE) has developed a major subsystem for a space radar, which holds significant potential for _____ and the military _____ **ISRO.**

Note:

- LRDE is a Bengaluru lab of the Defence Research and Development Organisation.
- LRDE has been involved in the development of space-borne imaging radar for installation on satellites and has completed the development of an UnFurlable Reflector Antenna (UFRA).
- UFRA is one of the major subsystems of a radar.

2. How many new moons were discovered around Jupiter planet by Scott Sheppard, an Astronomer of Washington's Carnegie Institution for Science _____ **12.**

Note:

- Now, Jupiter has 92 moons.
- Jupiter planet has overtaken Saturn planet, which has 83 moons at present.
- The orbits of the 12 hitherto undiscovered moons of Jupiter have been published by the Minor Planet Center (MPC).
- Of the 12 new moons, nine are particularly distant.
- The MPC estimates that these nine moons have orbits longer than 550 days.

3. NISAR, a joint satellite of NASA and ISRO, is planned to be launched in which year _____ **2024.**

Note:

- NISAR refers to NASA-ISRO SAR, is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory.
- It will also provide spatially and temporally consistent data for understanding changes in Earth's ecosystems, ice mass, vegetation biomass, sea level rise, landslides, etc.
- Radar systems in NISAR: L – Band SAR and S-Band SAR
- L-Band SAR: Designed and Created by JPL of NASA
- S-Band SAR: Designed and created by ISRO



4. Which military force has concluded the joint training exercise Trishakti Prahar, which was started in North Bengal_____ **Indian military.**

Note:

- Aim: To practice battle preparedness of the security forces, using the latest weapons and equipment in a networked, integrated environment.
- This exercise was participated by the Army, the Indian Air Force, and CAPFs.
- The exercise concluded with an Integrated Fire Power Exercise at the Teesta Field Firing Ranges.

5. Which organization launched its conversational artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot named 'Bard' _____ **Google.**

Note:

- It will be directly competing with Microsoft-backed firm OpenAI's ChatGPT.
- It will combine the world's knowledge with the power, intelligence, and creativity of language models.
- Bard is based on LaMDA, the firm's Language Model for the Dialogue Applications system.
- It helps to draw information from the web to provide high-quality responses.
- Google CEO: Sundar Pichai

6. Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) has signed an MoU with which Indian institution to build training modules for Indian Spaceflight Program, using augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), and mixed reality (MR) technologies _____ **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras.**

Note:

- The modules will be built at IIT Madras' Experiential Technology Innovation Centre (XTIC).
- It will also be used to train engineers at Isro's Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC).

7. The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with which organization for the procurement of 41 sets of Modular Bridges at an estimated cost of ₹2,585 crore for the Corps of Engineers, Indian Army _____ **Larsen & Toubro (L&T).**

Note:

- Designed and developed: DRDO
- It shall be produced by L&T as a DRDO-nominated production agency.
- Each set of bridges shall consist of seven carrier vehicles based on 8x8 heavy mobility vehicles and two launcher vehicles based on 10x10 heavy mobility vehicles.

8. The Indian Navy's Captain, Prashant Saxena AWPS (Mbi) has launched the ACTCM Barge, Yard 125 (LSAM 15). What is the full form of ACTCM _____ **Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile.**

Note:

- It was launched at M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd in Thane.
- It is equipped with auxiliary systems developed by indigenous manufacturers.
- The Barge has been constructed with a service life of 30 years.
- This Barge will help Indian Navy to fulfill its operational commitments by easing transportation and embarkation.

9. Which edition of the Aero India show was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in Bengaluru (Karnataka) on 13th February 2023 _____ **14th.**

Note:

- 2023 Theme: The Runway to a Billion Opportunities
- Purpose: To showcase indigenous defense equipment, technologies, and fighter aircraft



- It also aimed to promote indigenous production and export of air platforms to attract foreign investment.

10. Which drone start-up organization launched a drone-based traffic management system named 'Skye UTM' in India _____ **Skye Air.**

Note:

- It was unveiled by the Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India, Nitin Gadkari.
- Skye UTM is a Cloud-based aerial traffic management system.
- It integrated unmanned air traffic with manned aviation airspace.
- The software will allow drone operators to plan routes, make flight plans and assess risks before running drone-based operations in the country.

11. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the second developmental flight of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV-D2) with how many satellites on February 10, 2023, from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh _____ **Three.**

Note:

- Three satellites: EOS-07, Janus-1, and AzaadiSAT-2
- The first developmental flight of the SSLV was launched from SDSC on August 7, 2022, but it failed.
- Reason: Due to vibration disturbance for a short duration on the equipment bay deck

12. Which Indian institution and Samsung Semiconductor India Research (SSIR) have joined hands to promote research and development in the field of on-chip electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection _____ **Indian Institute of Science (IISc).**

Note:

- This partnership seeks to build cutting-edge ESD device solutions to protect ultra-high-speed serial interfaces in advanced integrated circuits and system-on-chip products.
- Solutions arising from this research will be used in Samsung's advanced process nodes



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