

# Weekly One-liners

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1-7 February 2023



## Weekly One Liners Updates 1st -7th February 2023

Dear readers,

**Weekly One Liners Update** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **first week** (1-7th) 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  - But, there has been no significant surge in the value of money withdrawn through these devices since June 2022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.
  - 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.

### 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).

### 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

### 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)

### 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).
  - 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 \_\_\_\_\_ **36<sup>th</sup>.**
- 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 \_\_\_\_\_ **6<sup>th</sup>.**

**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.

### 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

**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.

**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.

### 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 Angurasanee (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.

### 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.

### 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).

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# Features :

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Live Classes by  
Top Faculty



Comprehensive Study  
Material



Daily Study Plan



Latest Pattern Test Series



Complete Doubt  
Resolution



Regular Assessments with  
Report Card

