

# Weekly One-liners

---

15-21 March 2023



## Weekly One Liners Updates 15 -21st March 2023

Dear readers,

**Weekly One Liners Update** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the third **week** (15-21st) of **March** 2023. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. What is the Wholesale Price-based Inflation (WPI) for February 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **3.85%**.  
**Note:**
  - It will primarily contribute to the fall in the prices of crude petroleum, food products, electronics, chemicals, and electrical equipment.
  - In February, fuel and power rose 14.82% as compared to 15.15% in January 2023.
  - While the food index stood at 2.76% (Feb 2023) against 2.95% (Jan 2023).
  - Retail inflation (Feb 2023): 6.44%
2. How many countries' foreign banks have received approval from RBI to open Vostro accounts to settle international trade in rupees \_\_\_\_\_ **18**.  
**Note:**
  - 18 Countries: Botswana, Fiji, Germany, Guyana, Israel, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Russia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, and UK
  - MoS Finance, Bhagwat Karad informed in the Rajya Sabha.
  - In July 2022, govt informed that it would set up a mechanism to settle international trade in rupees.
3. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved Reliance Industries Ltd to acquire which German firm wholesale operations in India for ₹2,850 crore \_\_\_\_\_ **Metro AG's**.  
**Note:**
  - On 22 December 2022, Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd (RRVL) signed definitive agreements to acquire a 100% equity stake in Metro Cash & Carry India Pvt Ltd.
  - Metro started operations in India in 2003 as the first company to introduce a cash-and-carry business format in the country.
4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) signed an MoU with which international bank to promote innovation in financial products and services \_\_\_\_\_ **Central Bank of the UAE**.  
**Note:**
  - Both central banks will work together to explore Central Bank Digital Currencies.
  - They will also investigate interoperability between the CBDCs of CBUAE and RBI.
  - They will conduct proof-of-concept and pilot tests of the bilateral CBDC bridge to facilitate cross-border transactions of remittances and trade.
5. According to the credit rating agency CRISIL report, what would be India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2023-24 \_\_\_\_\_ **6%**.  
**Note:**
  - Report Title: Rider in the Storm: Tracing India's Growth in a Volatile World
  - It was also estimated that the corporate revenue would continue to grow in double digits, buoyed by strong domestic demand.
  - Retail inflation will average 5% over 2023-24, lower than the 6.8% (averaged in 2022-23).
6. Which General Insurance company announced the Digit Double Wallet, Digit Infinity Wallet, and Digit Global Treatment under its Health Insurance policy \_\_\_\_\_ **Go Digit General Insurance**.  
**Note:**
  - The three plans—Digit Double Wallet, Digit Infinity Wallet, and Digit Global Treatment
  - Aim: To meet Indians' newly evolved health insurance demands following the pandemic
  - Under the Infinity Wallet and Worldwide Treatment plan for every claim-free year, the policyholders can earn 50% of the sum insured as a cumulative bonus of up to 100% of the SI.

7. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed Rs 5 lakh monetary penalty on which mortgage financier for failing to transfer matured deposits of certain depositors to designated bank accounts of such depositors during 2019-20 \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Ltd.**

**Note:**

- As per RBI, HDFC was found to be non-compliant with certain provisions of Housing Finance Companies (NHB) Directions, 2010.
- CEO of HDFC Bank: Sashidhar Jagdishan.

8. Sri Lanka's Seylan Bank has opened an Indian rupee-denominated Nostro account in which bank of India in Mumbai \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Bank.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To help in setting cross-border transactions using the Indian rupee
- It enables local customers to enter into transactions denominated in the Indian Rupee and eliminates the need to conduct Trade and Remittance transactions in US dollars.
- Nostro account: It is a bank account held in a foreign country by a domestic bank, denominated in the currency of that country.

9. Which government organization has received approval from the Union Government for listing on the Stock Exchanges \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA).**

**Note:**

- The CCEA decided to approve an Initial Public Offer (IPO) by the part sale of the Government's stake in the CPSE.
- Aim: To raise funds through the issue of fresh equity shares
- Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) will drive the listing process.

10. Which life insurance provider has launched Pru Gold plan \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Prudential Life.**

**Note:**

- It is an innovative long-term savings product designed to enable customers to create an additional income stream to meet their diverse income requirements.
- Besides receiving guaranteed lifelong income, the life cover component in the product provides financial security to the family.
- This product is available in three variants i.e. Immediate Income, Immediate Income with Booster, and Deferred Income.

11. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) executive board has approved a loan of \_\_\_\_\_ four-year extended financing arrangement for Sri Lanka \_\_\_\_\_ **\$3-billion.**

**Note:**

- It paves the way for an immediate disbursement of about \$333 million to the cash-strapped country.
- The new Extended Fund Facility (EFF) arrangement program aims to restore Sri Lanka's macroeconomic stability and debt sustainability, mitigate the economic impact on the poor and vulnerable, and safeguard financial sector stability.

12. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of 22.7 million rupees (\$274,915) on which private lender \_\_\_\_\_ **RBL Bank Ltd.**

**Note:**

- Reason: For not complying with certain directives on loan recovery agents
- The RBI has found deficiencies in regulatory compliance after it examined complaints received against RBL's recovery agents during the financial years 2018-19 to 2021-22.
- RBL Headquarters: Mumbai; MD & CEO: R. Subramaniakumar

13. The gross NPA ratio was declining from 14.6% in March 2018 to \_\_\_\_\_ in December 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **5.53%.**

**Note:**

- All PSBs are in profit with aggregate profit being Rs 66,543 crore in 2021-22 and that further increased to Rs 70,167 crore in the first nine months of the current financial year.
- At the same time, resilience has increased with the provision coverage ratio of PSBs rising from 46% to 89.9% in December 2022.
- The capital adequacy ratio improved from 11.5% to 14.5% in December 2022.

14. India and the World Bank have signed a loan agreement to construct the Green National Highway Corridors Project in how many States \_\_\_\_\_ **Four.**

**Note:**

- Four states: HP, Rajasthan, UP, and Andhra Pradesh
- The agreement has been signed to construct 781 kilometers, with loan assistance of 500 million dollars.
- The total project cost is over 7,662 crore rupees.

- Objective: To demonstrate safe and green highways keeping in view climate resilience and the use of green technologies
15. Which Qatar bank has announced to launch of a Unified Payment Interface (UPI) remittance service to India \_\_\_\_\_  
**Commercial Bank.**

**Note:**

- With this decision, this bank becomes the first bank in Qatar to offer this service.
- Customers can use Commercial Banking digital platforms to initiate UPI payments using UPI-ID.
- The transactions can be completed within 60 seconds and are available 24/7.
- UPI is a convenient payment system that allows customers to transfer money in real time.

16. Women employees constitute over \_\_\_\_\_ of the total workforce on average in the nationalized banks in the country \_\_\_\_\_  
**25%.**

**Note:**

- The largest Public Sector Bank-- the State Bank of India (SBI), has 26.7% women employees in their total staff strength.
- While Indian Overseas Bank has a maximum of 36% women staff and the Punjab National Bank has the least 24% women staff strength.
- This data was provided by the Ministry of Finance in the Lok Sabha.

### Obituaries

1. Sameer Khakhar has died at 71 due to respiratory and other medical problems, was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor.**

**Note:**

- He rose to fame with his roles in TV shows 'Nukkad' and 'Circus'.
- He was also featured in 'Shrimaan Shrimati', and 'Adaalat'.
- He also played vital roles in films, including 'Hasee Toh Phasee', 'Jai Ho', and 'Patel Ki Punjabi Shaadi'.

### Important Days

1. World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated on which date every year to raise awareness about consumer rights and promote consumer protection \_\_\_\_\_ **March 15.**

**Note:**

- 2023 Theme: Empowering Consumers Through Clean Energy Transitions
- This day was first observed on March 15, 1983, which was inspired by US President John Fitzgerald Kennedy's US Congress address on March 15, 1962.
- He addressed the issue of consumer rights and laid emphasis on its importance.

2. National Vaccination Day is observed every year on which date to spread awareness about the importance of vaccinations for human health \_\_\_\_\_ **March 16.**

**Note:**

- The theme for 2023 has not been announced by the Ministry of Health.
- The day was first observed in 1995 when the Indian government started the Pulse Polio Immunisation program.
- It focuses on the relevance of vaccinations in the battle against deadly diseases and appreciates the hard work of healthcare professionals.

3. Global Recycling Day is observed every year on which date to help recognise, and celebrate, the importance recycling plays in preserving our precious primary resources and securing the future of our planet \_\_\_\_\_ **18th March.**

**Note:**

- It is a day for the world to come together and put the planet first and was created in 2018.
- Theme of 2023: Creative Innovation

4. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has organized which edition of Poshan Pakhwada from 20th March to 3rd April 2023 with various activities nationwide \_\_\_\_\_ **Fifth.**

**Note:**

- Theme 2023: "Nutrition for All: Together Towards a Healthy India"
- Aim: To raise awareness about the importance of nutrition and promote healthy eating habits through Jan Andolan and Jan Bhagidari
- Poshan Abhiyaan was launched by PM Narendra Modi on 8th March 2018 to improve nutritional outcomes in a holistic manner.



5. The International Day of Happiness (World Happiness Day) is celebrated every year on which date to create a kinder and happier world by urging people to adopt simple, daily practices to be happy \_\_\_\_\_ **March 20.**

**Note:**

- Theme 2023: Be Mindful. Be Grateful. Be Kind
- On 12th July 2012, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclaimed March 20 as the International Day of Happiness in its resolution 66/281.
- This day was first celebrated in 2013.

6. World Oral Health Day is observed globally on which date every year with the primary aim of creating awareness about the importance of oral health \_\_\_\_\_ **March 20.**

**Note:**

- The theme for 2023 is 'Be Proud of Your Mouth,' which is the same theme used for the past three years.
- World Oral Health Day was celebrated first on September 12, 2007, by the World Dental Federation (FDI).
- It is the birth date of Dr. Charles Godon (founder of FDI).

7. The International Day of Forests is celebrated each year on which date to raise awareness about the importance of forests and trees for the survival of humanity \_\_\_\_\_ **March 21.**

**Note:**

- 2023 theme: Forests and health
- This day can be traced back to 1971 when the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) established World Forestry Day.
- In 2011, the United Nations declared the years 2011 to 2020 as the International Decade of Forests.

### New Appointments

1. Along with M Jagannath, who has been appointed as the Managing Directors (MD) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) \_\_\_\_\_ **Tablesh Pandey.**

**Note:**

- M Jagannath took the charge as MD on March 13, 2023.
- Before this, he was working as the Zonal Manager of South Central Zone, Hyderabad and
- While Tablesh Pandey is an Executive Director at the Central office of LIC in Mumbai and will take charge on April 1, 2023.

2. Along with MC Mary Kom, who has been appointed as the brand ambassadors of the IBA Women's World Championships 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Farhan Akhtar.**

**Note:**

- BFI also unveiled the title sponsor, Mahindra Automotive for the event.
- The championship is scheduled from March 15 to 26 at the Indira Gandhi Sports Complex in New Delhi.
- India is hosting the World Championships for the third time.

3. Who has been appointed as the next US Ambassador to India \_\_\_\_\_ **Eric Garcetti.**

**Note:**

- His appointment will now fill in the key diplomatic position that had been vacant for more than two years.
- His nomination was confirmed via a 52-42 vote, which was pending before the US Congress since July 2021.

4. Who has been appointed as the chairman of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) \_\_\_\_\_ **Deepak Mohanty.**

**Note:**

- He replaced Supratim Bandyopadhyay, whose term ended in Jan 2023.
- Before this, Mohanty was a former executive director of the Reserve Bank of India.
- He was appointed PFRDA member (Economic) in August 2020 for a period of three years or till attaining the age of 62 years.

5. Who has been appointed as the MD & CEO designate as the Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) \_\_\_\_\_ **K Krithivasan.**

**Note:**

- He has replaced Rajesh Gopinathan, who resigned recently.
- Gopinathan completed his six years as CEO and was reappointed as CEO till 2027.
- He will continue with the company till September 15, 2023, and provide transition and support to K Krithivasan.
- Before this role, K Krithivasan served as President and Global Head of BFSI Business Group, TCS.

6. Who has been appointed as an MD of UCO Bank \_\_\_\_\_ **Ashwani Kumar.**

**Note:**

- Before Indian Bank, he worked as chief general manager of the Mumbai Zone of Punjab National Bank (PNB).

- He would succeed Soma Sankara Prasad, whose tenure will be completed on May 31, 2023.
  - The final decision on the FSIB recommendation would be taken by the ACC headed by PM Narendra Modi.
7. Who will take over as the CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance on June 19, 2023, subject to regulatory and statutory approvals \_\_\_\_\_ **Anup Bagchi**.

**Note:**

- He will replace the present CEO, NS Kannan, who will superannuate on June 18, 2023.
  - He has been working with the ICICI group since 1992 and was appointed as an executive director of ICICI Bank on February 1, 2017.
  - He worked as the Non-Executive Director of ICICI Prudential Life since October 2018.
8. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appointed whom as the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Tajikistan \_\_\_\_\_ **India's Kavilmadam Ramaswami Parvathy**.

**Note:**

- She has served in leading roles at the World Food Programme in Turkey and Afghanistan.
  - She has more than 30 years of experience in the development and humanitarian sectors, focusing on strategic planning, performance, risk management, people management, conflict analysis, and humanitarian access negotiations.
9. Who has been appointed as the Luxor Writing Instruments Private Limited new brand ambassador \_\_\_\_\_ **Virat Kohli**.

**Note:**

- He will represent Luxor's stationery products and help the company increase its appeal among young writers.
  - He will also help to enhance the market position in the country.
  - Luxor International Private Limited is a well-known Indian stationery manufacturer.
10. Who has been appointed as CMD of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), with effect from the date of his assumption of charge of the post for a period of five years \_\_\_\_\_ **Lalit Kumar Gupta**.

**Note:**

- He was recommended for the post of CMD of CCI by the PESB panel.
- Presently, he is serving as Director (Finance) in the same organization.
- He joined CCI in August 1994 and has a very long association with Cotton Corporation of about 25 years.

**Important News - India**

1. Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) - NITI Aayog launched \_\_\_\_\_ to strengthen the ecosystem of Atal Tinkering Labs \_\_\_\_\_ **ATL Sarthi**.

**Note:**

- Atal Innovation Mission has established Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL) in schools to foster curiosity, creativity, and imagination in young minds.
  - ATL Sarthi is a charioteer and will enable the Atal Tinkering Labs to be efficient and effective.
2. Which Indian organization has launched the 'Learning Science via Standards' series for students \_\_\_\_\_ **Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)**.

**Note:**

- Focus: Aimed to use scientific concepts, principles, and laws to help students understand their practical applications in manufacturing, functioning, and testing of quality characteristics of different products
  - This series is in a continuum with an earlier BIS initiative under which 'Standards Clubs' are being established in educational institutions.
3. Union Minister of Agriculture Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated a 5-day cultural program "AgriUnifest" in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru**.

**Note:**

- This program was organized by Bangalore Agricultural University in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
  - It was participated by students from 60 State Agricultural Universities/Deemed Universities/Central Universities participated.
  - Aim: To integrate Indian agriculture by connecting various Indian cultures
4. MoS (I/C) Earth Sciences Dr. Jitendra Singh has informed in Lok Sabha that REACHOUT is being implemented by the which ministry \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Earth Sciences**.

**Note:**

- REACHOUT: Research, Education, and Training Outreach.

- It is an umbrella scheme of the following six sub-schemes: R&D in Earth System Science; International Training; Centre for Operational Oceanography; Program for Development of Skilled manpower in Earth System Sciences; Outreach and awareness; KRCNet; BCWC
5. Union Minister Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying has unveiled the department's annual publication, the 'Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2022'. Who is the Union Minister Fisheries \_\_\_\_\_ **Parshottam Rupala**.

**Note:**

- Total milk production in the country during 2021-22 is 221.06 million tonnes.
  - Top 5 Producing States:
  - Milk: Rajasthan (15.05%), UP (14.93%), MP (8.06%), Gujarat (7.56%) and Andhra Pradesh (6.97%).
  - Egg: Andhra Pradesh (20.41%), TN (16.08%), Telangana (12.86%), WB (8.84%) and Karnataka (6.38%)
6. Union Minister of Renewable Energy & Power, R. K. Singh informed in the Lok Sabha, that Solar projects of an aggregate capacity of \_\_\_\_\_ have been installed in the country (as of 28.02.2023) \_\_\_\_\_ **64,380 MW**.

**Note:**

- India's solar capacity has increased from 21,651 MW to 64,380 MW, an increase of 197% in the last 5 years.
  - The Government has set a target of achieving 500 GW of installed capacity from non-fossil fuels (including around 270 GW of solar capacity) by 2030.
7. Japan's PM is on a two-day visit to India from 20th March 2023. Who is he \_\_\_\_\_ **Kishida Fumio**.

**Note:**

- He will hold talks with PM Modi and also hold discussions on regional issues of mutual interest and priorities for their respective Presidencies of the G7 and G20.
  - Japan is the fifth largest investor in India
  - The bilateral trade stood at 20.75 billion dollars in 2022 (largest ever)
  - Defense and security cooperation has emerged as one of the most important pillars of the Special Strategic
8. Who has released the Women and Men in India 2022 report \_\_\_\_\_ **Mos (IC) for MoSPI, Rao Inderjit Singh**.

**Note:**

- India's sex ratio is expected to improve from 943 in 2011 to 952 by 2036.
  - The Labor Force Participation Rate (above 15 years) has been increasing since 2017-2018.
  - However, the rate was 77.2% for males and only 32.8% for females in 2021-22.
  - It has also highlighted the gender disparity in wages, with men in rural areas earning more than women in urban areas.
9. According to the US Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, India can achieve energy independence by its 100th year of independence in which year \_\_\_\_\_ **2047**.

**Note:**

- Study title: Pathways to Atmanirbhar Bharat
  - It has been suggested that achieving this goal would result in significant economic, environmental, and energy benefits for India, including USD 2.5 trillion in consumer savings by 2047.
  - It also reduces fossil fuel import expenditure by 90% (\$240 billion) annually.
10. According to the report, published GCEW, revealed that India will face a reduction of over 16% in food supply due to water and heat stress in which year \_\_\_\_\_ **2050**.

**Note:**

- However, the report placed China at the top, where food supply would be reduced by 22.4%, followed by South America by 19.4%.
  - The water supply availability in India is between 1100-1197 billion cubic meters (bcm).
  - In contrast, the demand is expected to grow from 550-710 bcm in 2010 to 900-1,400 bcm in 2050.
11. Which edition of International SME Convention 2023 (ISC) is to be organized from 19th to 21st March 2023 in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **3rd annual**.

**Note:**

- It is jointly organized by Ministry of MSME & Ministry of External Affairs, India SME Forum, along with Govt. of Madhya Pradesh as a Key State Partner and Govt. of Uttar Pradesh as Associate State Partner.
  - International partner: International Network for SMEs and World Union of Small and Medium Enterprises
12. The Civil20 India (C-20) Inception meeting will be hosted by which Indian city from 20th to 21st March 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagpur, Maharashtra**.

**Note:**

- It is one of the empowered groups, which provides a platform for Civil Society Organisations to voice the people's aspirations to the world leaders in G20.

- The inaugural ceremony will be attended by Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi and Spiritual leader Mata Amritanandmayi.
  - Focus issues: Health, Lifestyle for Environment, Art and Crafts
- 13.** Which union minister has virtually addressed the Global Conference on Digital Health – Taking Universal Health Coverage to the Last Citizen \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.**
- Note:**
- This conference is a co-branded event under India’s G20 Presidency organized by WHO – South-East Asia Region in collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
  - The Indian government aims to launch a global initiative on digital health as an institutional framework.
- 14.** The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and which ministry signed an MoU for the skilling of rural youth and empowering women \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Ayush.**
- Note:**
- The MoU is valid for three years.
  - Under this MoU, the training program shall be funded as per Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) cost norms.
  - National Rural Livelihoods Mission and DDU-GKY will communicate to States/UTs for enlisting willing SHG members and rural poor youth
- 15.** Which Indian petroleum organization has signed MoU with Shell Energy India Private Ltd to explore prospects of importing and handling of ethane and other hydrocarbons \_\_\_\_\_ **GAIL (India).**
- Note:**
- It is primarily used as petrochemical feedstock and is separated from the other components of natural gas in most well-developed gas fields.
  - It will be transported further through 14,830 km of natural gas pipelines to different demand centres.
  - Ethane is mainly used to produce ethylene, which is used for other products.
- 16.** V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (VVGNI) signs MoU with which organization to promote professional and organizational development in labour and employment-related areas that benefit stakeholders in the sector \_\_\_\_\_ **Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).**
- Note:**
- It includes policy advocacy, with the organizations working together to advocate for policies.
- 17.** The Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry has signed an MoU with which international organization during the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference \_\_\_\_\_ **World Food Programme.**
- Note:**
- The MoU between WFP and the Government of India for cooperation between 2023 and 2027 was signed in the presence of Agriculture Minister Tomar.
  - The WFP is working towards promoting food self-sufficiency and supporting governmental and global efforts to ensure long-term solutions to the challenge of hunger.
- 18.** India and Japan signed an MoC for the renewal of the Japanese language and the exchange of notes on JICA loan for 300 billion Yen on which high-speed railway project \_\_\_\_\_ **Mumbai-Ahmedabad.**
- Note:**
- PM Kishida formally invited PM Modi to G7 Hiroshima Summit.
  - PM Modi also urged the Japanese PM to declare 2024 as the year of Youth Exchanges between the two countries.
- 19.** Which wholly-owned subsidiary of NTPC Limited has signed a Joint Venture Agreement with IOCL for setting up renewable energy projects to meet Round the Clock power requirement of IOCL Refineries \_\_\_\_\_ **NGEL.**
- Note:**
- NGEL has set a target of building a renewable generation portfolio of 60 GW over the next decade to aggressively pursue its green energy business.
- 20.** Government has announced the sites for setting up of \_\_\_\_\_ PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks for the Textile industry in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra \_\_\_\_\_ **Seven.**
- Note:**
- PM MITRA will offer the opportunity to create an Integrated Textiles Value Chain right from spinning, weaving, processing/dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing etc. at one location and will reduce logistics cost of the Industry.



### Important News – State

1. Which state government has cancelled 813-gun licenses in the state to clamp down on the gun culture, along with a review of all licenses issued within 3 months \_\_\_\_\_ **Punjab**.

**Note:**

- The new rule will also bar the issuance of new licenses for the next 3 months, except in extraordinary circumstances.
- The ban is on carrying and displaying weapons in public functions, religious places, marriage ceremonies, or any other events in Punjab.

2. An Agri Legal Aid Clinic has been inaugurated in which district of Telangana to provide benefits to the farmer community \_\_\_\_\_ **Jangaon District**.

**Note:**

- It was inaugurated by Supreme Court Judge Justice V. Ramasubramanian.
- It is a Joint initiative of Telangana Legal Services Authority with technical support from NALSAR University of Law, and an NGO, Legal Empowerment and Assistance for Farmers Society.
- Aim: To educate farmers on various agricultural legislations, Welfare Schemes, rights etc.

3. J&K LG, Manoj Sinha laid the foundation stone for a ₹250-crore mega shopping mall at which area of Srinagar \_\_\_\_\_ **Sempora area**.

**Note:**

- This shopping mall will be constructed by Dubai-based Emaar Group.
- It is the first “foreign direct investment” in the Union territory.
- It will be constructed over an area of 10 lakh sq. ft. and is expected to be completed by 2026.

### Important News – World

1. Which country has formally recognized the McMahon Line as the international boundary between India’s Arunachal Pradesh and China \_\_\_\_\_ **The US**.

**Note:**

- The US has also rejected Beijing’s claim that the northeastern state falls under Chinese territory.
- A bipartisan resolution acknowledged Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India.
- The resolution, titled ‘Reaffirming the state of Arunachal Pradesh as Indian territory and condemning the People’s Republic of China’s provocations in South Asia’.

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated the India-Bangladesh friendship diesel pipeline. The foundation stone for the construction of this pipeline was laid in which year \_\_\_\_\_ **September 2018**.

**Note:**

- Since 2015, Numaligarh Refinery Limited has been supplying petroleum products to Bangladesh.
- IBFP is the first cross-border energy pipeline between India and Bangladesh with a capacity to transport 1 MMTPA of High-Speed Diesel to Bangladesh.

3. TIME Magazine has released its annual list of the \_\_\_\_ greatest places in the world for 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **50**.

**Note:**

- Among the chosen destinations are two locations from India: Ladakh and Mayurbhanj.
- Ladakh is a high-altitude region, which is famous for its breathtaking landscapes, crystal-clear lakes, and snow-capped mountains.
- On the other hand, Mayurbhanj is a lesser-known destination located in the eastern state of Odisha.
- The list also includes Willamette Valley; Río Grande etc.

4. According to the tenth Global Terrorism Index (GTI) report, which country remains most impacted by terrorism for the fourth consecutive year, despite the attacks and deaths falling by 75% and 58%, respectively \_\_\_\_\_ **Afghanistan**.

**Note:**

- Afghanistan followed by Burkina Faso, Somalia, Mali, and Syria.
- Pakistan has climbed four spots to rank sixth on the index.
- While India ranked 13th on the index.
- South Asia remains the region with the worst average GTI score.

5. According to the World Happiness Report 2023, published by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, What is the rank of India \_\_\_\_\_ **125**.

**Note:**

- India's neighboring countries such as Nepal, China, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka have a higher ranking than India.
- Finland tops the ranking for the sixth consecutive year with a score of 7.8 followed by Denmark and Iceland.
- Out of the 137 countries, Afghanistan has ranked last.

### Honor & Awards

1. Name the writer whose novel 'Pyre' has been selected for the International Booker prize longlist for 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil writer Perumal Murugan.**

**Note:**

- This book is a translation of his original Tamil book 'Pukkuli' which tells the story of an inter-caste couple who elope, setting in motion a story of terrifying foreboding.
- Aniruddhan Vasudevan translated this novel into the English language in 2016.
- Prize money: £50,000, will be split equally between the author and translator.

2. Who was awarded the title 'Governor of the Year' for 2023 by Central Banking \_\_\_\_\_ **RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das.**

**Note:**

- Reason: For his leadership during difficult periods, such as the failure of a significant non-banking company, COVID-19 pandemic, and the inflationary effects caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine
- The National Bank of Ukraine was also awarded the Central Bank of the Year award.
- Central Banking is an international economic research journal.

3. Name the writer who has been selected for Saraswati Samman for the year 2022 for her book Survyva Vamsam \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil writer Sivasankari.**

**Note:**

- This is a book of memoirs in Tamil language and was published in 2019.

➤ **Saraswati Samman:**

- It was instituted by the K.K. Birla Foundation in 1991.
- It is recognized as the most prestigious and the highest literary award in the country.
- It carries an award money of 15 lakh rupees, a Citation, and a Plaque.

4. Which city won the 'Partnership for Healthy Cities' award and a cash prize of \$ 150,000 for effectively enforcing smoke-free laws at a summit held in London \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru.**

**Note:**

- The focused effort from smoke-free Bengaluru resulted in a reduction of public-place smoking from 18.2% (2017) to 13.3% (2021).
- The display of 'no-smoking' signs in the city also increased from 23.1% (2017) to 75%.
- The global summit brought together officials from over 50 cities to discuss public health concerns.

5. Who has been selected for the Sangita Kalanidhi award 2023 of the prestigious Music Academy, Chennai \_\_\_\_\_ **Carnatic vocalist, Bombay Jayashri.**

**Note:**

- Initially, she was trained under her parents and later under T R Balamani and violin maestro Lalgudi G Jayaraman.
- She was awarded the Padma Shri in 2021.
- While the Nritiya Kalanidhi award 2023 will be conferred to Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dancer, Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari.
- The awards will be conferred to awardees in January 2023.

6. Who was declared the winner of the 2022 Christopher Martin-Jenkins Spirit of Cricket Award \_\_\_\_\_ **Nepalese batsman Aasif Sheikh.**

**Note:**

- Reason: For his sporting conduct shown in a Men's T20I between Nepal and Ireland in Feb 2022.
- The Award is presented every year by the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), UK in conjunction with the BBC.
- This award was created in 2013 by MCC and the BBC in memory of former MCC President and BBC Test Match Special commentator Christopher Martin-Jenkins (CMJ).

### Sports News

1. Who has won his maiden 2023 Indian Wells title after defeating Russian Daniil Medvedev 6-3, 6-2 in the final \_\_\_\_\_ **Carlos Alcaraz.**

**Note:**

- With this feat, he has also dethroned Novak Djokovic to reclaim World No.1 spot.
- He also became the youngest world number one ever after his triumph and claimed his third Masters 1000 title.
- He joined Rafael Nadal as the only player to win at least three as a teenager.
- Nadal won six before turning 20.

### Books and Authors

1. The book "Snakes In the Ganga: Breaking India 2.0" authored by Rajiv Malhotra and \_\_\_\_\_ **Vijaya Viswanathan**.

**Note:**

- It sheds light on the various threats to India's national security from the United States, which is not typically perceived as a major risk by the average Indian.

2. Who has recently written a book called "Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform" \_\_\_\_\_ **Rachna Biswat Rawat**.

**Note:**

- The book was presented to India's Minister of Defence, Rajnath Singh, by the author.
- The book is published by Penguin Veer, a Penguin Random House imprint.
- This book focuses on the life, personality, and principles of General Bipin Rawat.

### Science and Defence

1. An apex body of the defense ministry for clearing weapons procurement, DAC met under the chairmanship of DM Rajnath Singh. What is the full form of DAC \_\_\_\_\_ **Defence Acquisition Council**.

**Note:**

- The DAC has accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for capital acquisitions worth Rs 70,500 crore under Buy Indian-IDD (Indigenously Designed, Developed, and Manufactured) — a new procurement category.
- It includes 307 Advanced Towed Artillery Gun Systems and 60 indigenous marine utility helicopters.

2. The Technology Innovation Institute in Abu Dhabi (UAE) has launched a large language model (LLM) with 40 billion parameters. What is the name of this LLM \_\_\_\_\_ **Falcon LLM**.

**Note:**

- It was trained on one trillion tokens and built by the AI and Digital Science Research Center's AI Cross-Centre Unit.
- The model outperforms GPT-3 and requires only 75% of its training compute, as well as lower percentages of other large language models' training compute.
- LLMs have a wide range of applications, including chatbots.

3. The artificial intelligence research company, OpenAI has unveiled its new and more advanced model. What is the name of this advance version \_\_\_\_\_ **GPT-4**.

**Note:**

- The latest version is more creative and accurate in its response.
- It has better problem-solving capabilities than ChatGPT (developed by OpenAI).
- GPT-4 is a large multimodal model, which cannot outperform humans in real-world scenarios but can exhibit "human-level performance on various professional and academic benchmarks.

4. Which space agency unveiled a new generation of spacesuit for humanity's return trip to the Moon \_\_\_\_\_ **NASA**.

**Note:**

- This spacesuit comes with specialist features to support astronauts as they conduct scientific experiments on the lunar surface.
- The prototype is said to be a better fit for female space travelers.
- NASA hopes to have the updated suit ready for the Artemis III mission to the Moon in 2025.
- A well-fitting suit is crucial to prevent excessive fatigue and at worst, physical harm.

5. The government has allocated a budget of \_\_\_\_\_ towards achieving the objectives of Gaganyaan mission \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs. 9023 Crore**.

**Note:**

- Scope of Gaganyaan program: To demonstrate human spaceflight capability to Low Earth Orbit and safe return
- ISRO is also developing indigenous technologies for Human rated launch vehicle, Life Support System, Crew Escape System, Ground Station Network, Crew Training and Recovery.
- The Union MoS, S&T, Dr. Jitendra Singh informed in Lok Sabha.

6. Which organization has conducted a young scientist program named Yuva Vigyani Karyakram (YUVIKA) \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To impart basic knowledge on space technology, space science, and space applications to students of Class IX.

- Registration for the program has been started on March 20, 2023.
  - The YUVIKA program will be conducted between May 15 and 26 at seven centers.
  - Interested students studying in Class 9 as on 1 January 2023 within India are eligible to apply.
7. DRDO has successfully conducted a flight test of the PTO Shaft on Light Combat Aircraft (LCA Tejas) Limited Series Production (LSP)-3 aircraft in Bengaluru. What is the full form of PTO \_\_\_\_\_ **Power Take Off.**

**Note:**

- The PTO shaft is indigenously designed and developed by the Combat Vehicles Research & Development Establishment (CVRDE), Chennai.
  - The PTO shaft is a critical component in the aircraft.
  - It supports the requirements of future fighter aircraft and their variants and offers competitive costs.
8. Which edition of a bilateral armour exercise, EX Bold Kurukshetra, between India and Singapore was concluded on March 13, 2023, at Jodhpur Military Station, India \_\_\_\_\_ **13th edition.**

**Note:**

- The ten-day-long joint training that commenced on March 5, fostered a common understanding of mechanized warfare in emerging threats and evolving technologies.
  - It involved soldiers from the 42nd Battalion, Singapore Armoured Regiment and Armoured Brigade of the Indian Army.
9. Which edition of the Sea Dragon exercises is being started in the USA (host) from March 15-30, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Third.**

**Note:**

- It is a coordinated multilateral anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise for long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft.
  - In this exercise, Indian Navy participated with its P8I aircraft, which arrived at Guam, USA on 14 March 2023.
  - Apart from India, US Navy with P8A, Japan with P1, Canada with CP 140, and South Korea with P3C participated.
10. Which bill has been introduced in Lok Sabha to empower designated military commanders to take charge of soldiers and enforce discipline, regardless of the service they belong to \_\_\_\_\_ **Inter-Services Organization (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023.**

**Note:**

- It came ahead of the impending move to establish integrated or joint commands, where all the manpower and assets will be under the operational control of a single three-star general of the Indian Army, Navy and IAF.
11. The 10-day AFINDEX 2023 will be organized in Pune, India from March 21-30, 2023 to strengthen the military ties between the countries. It is a Joint exercise between India and which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Africa.**

**Note:**

- The India-Africa Army Chiefs Conclave will be held in Pune from March 28-29, 2023.
- The exercise will promote the idea of Africa-India Militaries for Regional Unity (AMRUT).
- A comprehensive validation exercise on the theme “Humanitarian Mine Actions and Peace Keeping Operations”.

-----0-----



# Features :

---



Live Classes by  
Top Faculty



Comprehensive Study  
Material



Daily Study Plan



Latest Pattern Test Series



Complete Doubt  
Resolution



Regular Assessments with  
Report Card

