

Weekly One-liners

1-7 March 2023



Weekly One Liners Updates 1st -7th March 2023

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liners Update is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **first week** (1-7th) of **March 2023**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. According to the Union ministry of statistics, what is the India's Gross Domestic Production (GDP) growth has been registered in the October-December third quarter of the current fiscal (2022-23) _____ **4.4%**.
Note:
 - GDP in the third quarter of 2022-23 is estimated at Rs 40.19 lakh crore, as against Rs 38.51 lakh crore in the third quarter of 2021-22.
 - The real GDP is estimated to grow at 7% for the current FY compared to 9.1% in 2021-22.
 - While Nominal GDP is estimated to grow at 15.9 percent.
2. According to the data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the credit growth of Indian banks has doubled to what percent in the October-December quarter (2022-23) from a year earlier _____ **16.8%**.
Note:
 - Bank credit had expanded by 8.4% in the quarter that ended December 2021 and 17.2% in the quarter that ended September 2022.
 - The aggregate deposits of banks increased by 10.3% year-on-year in the December quarter.
 - Banks' credit-deposit ratio rose further to 75.9% in the December quarter.
3. Which financial service provider has received the final registration from SEBI to commence its mutual fund operations _____ **Bajaj Finserv Ltd.**
Note:
 - Bajaj Finserv Mutual Fund, with Bajaj Finserv Asset Management Ltd (BFAML) as the Investment Manager, will soon offer a range of mutual fund products.
 - The products include equity, debt, and hybrid funds, both in the active and passive segments, for investors.
4. Global rating firm Moody's Investors Services, what would be the India's growth rate has been projected for 2023 _____ **5.5%**.
Note:
 - Moody's also projected the growth of India at 6.5% in 2024.
 - According to Moody's projection, India's growth rate in 2023 is the highest among G20 countries.
 - It is followed by China (5 %) and Indonesia (4.8%).
 - The US is expected to grow by 0.9%, the Euro area by 0.5%, Japan by 1.5%, and the UK (-0.4%).
5. According to the Finance Ministry, what amount has been collected as gross goods and service tax (GST) revenue in the month of February 2023 _____ **Rs 1,49,577 crore.**
Note:
 - This amount was increased by around 12% on an annual basis (YoY).
 - India's GST revenue in February 2022 was Rs 1,33,026 crore.
 - Of the total revenue collected, CGST is Rs 27,662 crore, SGST is Rs 34,915 crore, IGST is Rs 75,069 crore while cess is Rs 11,931 crore (including Rs 792 crore collected on import of goods).
6. Which Indian stock exchange has received the approval from Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch the rupee-denominated NYMEX WTI Crude Oil and Natural Gas (Henry Hub) futures contracts in its commodity derivatives segment _____ **National Stock Exchange (NSE).**
Note:
 - Earlier, NSE had signed a data licensing agreement with CME Group allowing NSE to list, trade and settle rupee-denominated NYMEX WTI Crude Oil and Natural Gas derivatives on its platform.
 - NSE MD: Ashishkumar Chauhan
7. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) has partnered with which bank to launch a co-branded travel credit card - IRCTC _____ Bank Credit Card _____ **HDFC Bank.**

Note:

- It is a co-branded card, in a single variant, and is available on NPCI's Rupay network.
- This is the third tie-up of IRCTC after the State Bank of India and Bank of Baroda.
- The card will provide exclusive benefits and maximum savings on bookings of train tickets.
- Chairman & MD, IRCTC: Rajni Hasija

8. Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has launched Unified Payment Interface (UPI) and 'Swadhan-e-pension-Gov' services for which co-operative bank _____ **Kangra Central Cooperative Bank.**

Note:

- Aim: To make bank transactions easier and quicker, especially for the elderly and those living in remote areas
- These services would benefit thousands of account holders of the bank.
- He also released the bank's annual calendar on this occasion.

9. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of three crore six lakh sixty-six thousand rupees on which online payment service provider _____ **Amazon Pay (India) Private Limited.**

Note:

- Reason: For non-compliance with certain directions related to Prepaid Payment Instruments and Know Your Customer.
- The action was based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the entity with its customers.

10. RBI has imposed a cap of _____ on withdrawals by individual customers from Tamil Nadu-based Musiri Urban Co-operative Bank _____ **Rs 5,000.**

Note:

- Reason: It is a part of several restrictions imposed on the lender due to its deteriorating financial condition.
- The restrictions on the lender will remain in force for six months from the close of business on March 3, 2023.
- Without the approval of the RBI, the cooperative bank cannot grant loans, make any investments, or disburse any payments.

11. Which insurance company has become the second domestic insurance company to launch surety insurance bonds _____ **New India Assurance.**

Note:

- Surety bond insurance acts as a security arrangement for infrastructure projects and will insulate the contractor as well as the principal.
- These bonds are legally enforceable tripartite contracts that guarantee compliance, payment, and performance.
- The issuing insurer provides a guarantee, for a premium, in case of a default in the execution of a project.

12. The board of directors of which bank has recommended the reappointment of Sashidhar Jagdishan as managing director and CEO for three years, with effect from 27 October 2023 _____ **HDFC Bank.**

Note:

- The Bank also informed that it is subject to the approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the shareholders.
- Sashidhar Jagdishan joined the Bank in 1996 and was appointed as a chief financial officer in 2008, after which he was appointed as the MD and CEO.

13. According to National Statistical Office (NSO), what is the estimated annual per capita (net national income) at current prices for 2022-23, showing a growth of around 99% from Rs 86,647 in 2014-15 _____ **Rs 1,72,000.**

Note:

- However, after adjusting for inflation (constant prices), the per capita income has risen by approximately 35% from Rs 72,805 in 2014-15 to Rs 98,118 in 2022-23.
- The average growth of India's per-capita income in real terms from 2014 to 2019 was 5.6 percent per annum.

14. The World Bank will lend up to \$1 billion to India to strengthen which sector _____ **health infrastructure.**

Note:

- The lending will be divided into two complementary loans of \$500 million each.
- The bank will support India's flagship Pradhan Mantri-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) which was launched in October 2021.
- The loans will prioritize health service delivery in seven States - Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Meghalaya, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

15. MoS, personnel, public grievances, and pensions informed that the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare will integrate all the pension portals - Pension Disbursing Bank portals, ANUBHAV, CPENGRAMS, CGHS, etc into a single portal. Who is he _____ **Dr. Jitendra Singh.**

Note:

- These portals will be integrated into the form of the newly created “Integrated Pensioners’ Portal” (<https://ipension.nic.in>).
 - Aim: To ensure the ease of living for the elder citizens
16. The All India Home Price Index (HPI), released by the RBI, has recorded a growth (year-on-year) of what percent to 302 in the third quarter (ended December) of 2022-23 as compared with 293.8, despite the rise in interest rates 2.79%.

Note:

- On a quarter-on-quarter sequential basis, the index rose from 298, an increase of 1.34%, from September 2022.
 - The Y-o-Y movements in HPI varied widely across the cities, ranging from a growth of 7.1% (Kochi) to a contraction of 9% (Jaipur).
17. According to the CRIF High Mark, the total of which loan outstanding was Rs 100.28 lakh crore in Dec 2022, up from Rs 81.91 lakh crore a year ago Retail.

Note:

- The share of female borrowers in the retail loans outstanding has gone up to 26% at Rs 26.07 lakh crore as of Dec 2022 from 25% (Rs 20.47 lakh crore) in Dec 2021.
 - Major retail loan products availed by female borrowers in India: Gold loans (42% share), Education loans (35%), Home loans (32%), and Loans against property (29%)
18. The RBI Governor, Shaktikanta Das has launched which mission during the Digital Payments Awareness Week 2023, which is being observed from March 6 to 12, 2023 ‘Har Payment Digital’.

Note:

- Campaign theme: Digital Payment Apnao, Auron ko bhi Sikhao (Adopt digital payments and Also teach others)
- RBI has launched a program to adopt 75 villages and convert them into digital payment-enabled villages.
- Payment system operators (PSOs) will adopt these villages across the country.

Obituaries

1. A M Ahmadi passed away at 90 due to a brief illness, was a Former Chief Justice of India.

Note:

- He was the 26th Chief Justice of India from October 1994 to March 1997.
- In 1964, he was appointed a civil and sessions judge in Ahmedabad and become the state’s law secretary.
- In 1976, he was appointed a judge of the Gujarat High Court and was elevated to the Supreme Court in 1988.

2. Sasthipada Chattopadhyay passed away in Howrah, West Bengal, was a Writer.

Note:

- He was known for his famous ‘Pandav Goenda’ (five detectives) series.
- He joined Anandabazar Patrika and also worked for its ‘Rabibasoryo’ supplement before joining the Indian Railways.
- He created two more detective series — ‘Detective Ambar Chatterjee’ and ‘Goenda Tatar’.

3. Chandrashekhar Dasgupta passed away at the age of 82, was a Former Indian diplomat.

Note:

- He joined the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) in 1962.
- He served as the ambassador to the European Union, Belgium, Luxembourg, and China.
- He was honoured with the Padma Bhushan in 2008 for his work in Indian civil service.

Important Days

1. World Wildlife Day 2023 is marked annually on which date to celebrate the unique wild species and create awareness to help conserve them March 3.

Note:

- Theme 2023: Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation
- The 68th session of the UNGA has designated March 3 as World Wildlife Day on December 20, 2013.
- Reason: To raise awareness about the conservation of the world’s wild flora and fauna

2. Which edition of the Jan Aushadhi Diwas is being organized on 7th March 2023 across India to enhance awareness about the scheme and promote generic medicines 5th.

Note:

- Theme 2023: Jan Aushadhi – Sasti bhi Acchi bhi

- The Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), and States/UTs.
 - A week-long event is being organized in different cities all across the country from March 1-7, 2023.
3. The International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness was observed on which date _____ **5 March.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To deepen the global public's understanding of how disarmament efforts contribute to enhancing peace and security, preventing and ending armed conflicts, and curbing human suffering caused by weapons.
 - This day seeks to promote better awareness and understanding of disarmament issues among the public, especially young people.
4. World Obesity Day is observed on which date every year to promote practical solutions and maintain a healthy weight _____ **March 4.**
- Note:**
- 2023 theme: Changing Perspectives: Let's Talk About Obesity
5. India celebrates National Security Day every year on which date _____ **March 4.**
- Note:**
- The purpose of this day is to express gratitude to our nation's security forces, which include the police, paramilitary units, guards, commandos, army officers, and other units involved in preserving the safety and security of our citizens.
 - 2023 theme: Nurture young minds – Develop safety culture
6. National Safety Day is observed on which date annually to promote safe working environment and ensure the safety of people in all aspects _____ **March 4.**
- Note:**
- This year will mark the onset of the 52nd National Safety Day.
 - The theme for 2023 National Safety Day is 'Our Aim – Zero Harm'.
7. Zero Discrimination Day is observed on which date to celebrate the right of everyone to live a full and productive life and live it with dignity _____ **1 March.**
- Note:**
- Zero Discrimination Day is helping to create a global movement of solidarity to end all forms of discrimination.
 - Theme 2023: Save lives: Decriminalise
8. World Civil Defence Day is observed on which date to raise awareness about the importance of civil defence measures in protecting people _____ **1st March.**
- Note:**
- The day honours the work of several civil defence organisations.
 - 2023 theme: Uniting the world's leading specialists for the safety and security of future generations
9. World Seagrass Day is celebrated annually on which date to raise awareness about seagrass and its important functions in the marine ecosystem _____ **1st March.**
- Note:**
- The seagrasses are grass-like plants that live close to the sea.
 - They are the only flowering plant to grow in the marine environment.

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the Principal Director General of the Press Information Bureau (PIB), with effect from March 1, 2023 _____ **Rajesh Malhotra.**
- Note:**
- He succeeded Satyendra Prakash, who was superannuated on February 28, 2023.
 - He was associated with the ECI as in-charge of media and communication for 21 years (1996-2017).
 - While Priya Kumar was named the Director General of Doordarshan News (DD News).
 - She will succeed Mayank Agrawal.
2. Who has defeated vice president Atiku Abubakar to win the disputed presidential election in Nigeria _____ **Bola Tinubu.**
- Note:**
- He received 37%, Atiku Abubakar polled 29%, and Labour's candidate Peter Obi received 25% of the vote.
 - The opposition parties dismissed the poll as a sham and demanded a rerun.
 - He will become Nigeria's fifth elected president since 1999.

3. Pakistan Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif has appointed whom as the Ambassador-at-Large for Kartarpur Corridor _____ **Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora.**

Note:

- This appointment is part of efforts to attract Sikh pilgrims from across the world.
- He hails from Kartarpur in Narowal.
- He is also the central general secretary of the Pakistan Muslim League (N) minorities wing.
- This corridor links Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Pakistan with the Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district, Punjab, India.

4. Who has created history by becoming the first woman MLA of the Nagaland Assembly _____ **Hekani Jakhalu.**

Note:

- She was announced the winner from the Dimapur-III constituency in the 2023 Nagaland Assembly elections.
- She defeated Azheto Zhimomi of LJP (Ram Vilas) by 1,536 votes.
- Of 31,874 votes counted in the constituency, she received 45.16% of the votes, just ahead of the LJP (RV)'s Azheto Zhimomi who received 40.34% votes.

5. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of whom as director general of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) till her superannuation (30.06.2024) _____ **Rashmi Shukla.**

Note:

- Presently, she is serving as the Additional Director General of CRPF.
- SSB: A border protection force of India deployed along the borders with Nepal and Bhutan.
- SSB Founded: 1963; Headquarters: New Delhi

6. Who has been elected as the new President of the Vietnam _____ **Van Thuong.**

Note:

- His election comes after the sudden resignation of his predecessor Nguyen Xuan Phuc in January 2023, who the Party blamed for wrongdoing and violations.
- A total of 487 out of 488 deputies present at the National Assembly voted for him.
- He is the youngest member of the party's Politburo (the country's top decision-making body).

7. Karnataka Bank has appointed whom as a chief financial officer (CFO) on a contract basis _____ **Abhishek Sankar Bagchi.**

Note:

- He has replaced Muralidhar Krishna Rao, whose tenure has been completed on 1 March 2023.
- He has over 18 years of work experience in RBI reporting, strategic planning, fund management, financial reporting, financial planning & control, taxation, and budgeting.
- He was CFO and Head of Finance at NSDL Payments Bank since September 2017.

8. Hockey India has appointed whom as the new chief coach of the Indian men's hockey team _____ **South African Craig Fulton.**

Note:

- He will succeed Australian Graham Reid who resigned in January 2023.
- He has nearly 25 years of coaching experience and earned 195 caps over a span of 10 years for South Africa.
- He also played Atlanta and Athens Olympic Games.
- He was named the Belgium Coach of the Year after he guided his club KHC Dragons to the Belgium Hockey League title in the 2020-21 season.

9. Who has been re-appointed as the Prime Minister of Kuwait _____ **Crown prince, Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf al-Sabah.**

Note:

- This decision came more than a month after the government resigned due to increased tensions with the parliament.
- Crown Prince Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who also oversees the duties of the ruling emir has nominated Sheikh Ahmed.
- Although political parties are prohibited in Kuwait, the legislature has more power than similar bodies in other Gulf monarchies.

10. Who has taken charge as the 28th Controller General of Accounts (CGA) effective from 6th March 2023 _____ **S.S. Dubey.**

Note:

- Prior to this role, he was an Additional Controller General of Accounts, Public Financial Management System (PFMS).
- CGA is 'the Principal Advisor' on Accounting matters to the Union Government.

- CGA is also responsible for exchequer control and internal audits for the Central Government.
11. Who has taken oath as the chief minister of Meghalaya for the second consecutive term _____ **Conrad K Sangma**.

Note:

- Governor Phagu Chauhan has administered the oath of office to Sangma.
- The sworn-in ceremony was attended by PM Narendra Modi, BJP president JP Nadda and home minister Amit Shah.
- While Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP)'s Neiphiu Rio will take oath as Nagaland chief minister.

Important News - India

1. Which ministry has launched a digital platform - Grievance Appellate Committee (GAC) _____ **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)**.

Note:

- It was established by Union MoS Electronics and IT, Rajeev Chandrasekhar.
- It is a faceless dispute-resolution mechanism that would make all platforms (big and small) accountable to digital citizens.
- In accordance with the modified IT Regulations, 2021, the IT Ministry announced that three GACs must be established.

2. Union MoS (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched which Fellowship scheme for the Indian Diaspora abroad _____ **VAIBHAV**.

Note:

- Aim: To improve the research ecosystem of India's Higher Educational Institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world
- Eligible applicant:
- Should be NRI, PIO, or OCI.
- Must have obtained Ph.D/M.D/M.S degree from a recognized University.

3. Union Minister for fisheries and animal husbandry, Purushottam Rupala, has launched which phase of the National Surveillance programme _____ **Phase 2**.

Note:

- Reason: For aquatic animal diseases and genetic improvement programme
- Aim: To help the farmers to identify and report the disease and also offer solutions
- The government has allocated 33 Crore rupees for a period of three years for the implementation of the programme.
- The crop insurance scheme for shrimp-growing farmers was also launched.

4. The Indian govt has approved the signing contract with which organization for the acquisition of three Cadet Training Ships _____ **Larsen and Toubro Limited**.

Note:

- The delivery of these indigenously designed, developed, and constructed ships are scheduled to commence in 2026.
- These ships can use to train the officer cadets at sea and can be deployed for the evacuation of people.
- They can also train cadets from friendly countries to strengthen diplomatic relations.

5. Government eMarketplace (GeM) has commemorated the success of "SWAYATT" initiative. What is the full form of SWAYATT _____ **Startups, Women, and Youth Advantage Through eTransactions**.

Note:

- This initiative aims to promote Startups, Women, and Youth Advantage Through eTransactions (SWAYATT) on GeM.
- It was established by GeM in February 2019.
- Goal: To stimulate the inclusion of diverse categories of sellers and service providers on the portal.
- It was achieved by taking aggressive measures to simplify their training and registrations.

6. Which organization has commissioned India's first air-cooled condenser at the North Karanpura supercritical thermal plant in Jharkhand _____ **NTPC**.

Note:

- It would help in water conservation.
- This project has been envisaged with Air Cooled Condenser (ACC) which has almost 1/3rd water footprint as compared to a conventional Water Cooled Condenser (WCC).
- NTPC started commercial operation of 1st unit of 660 MW at North Karanpura (3X660 MW) on March 1, 2023.

7. Youth Affairs and Sports and Information and Broadcasting Minister, Anurag Singh Thakur has launched Yuva Utsava - India@2047 in which state _____ **Ropar, Punjab.**

Note:

- He has also launched the Dashboard of Yuva Utsav.
- Aim: To promote youth power
- In the first phase, Yuva Utsav is being organized in 150 districts across the country till the 31st of March, 2023.
- Youth Affairs Ministry is conducting 'Yuva Utsav India @2047' under its flagship youth organization Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.

8. Union Home Minister, Amit Shah has launched the first phase of the Safe City project in which city _____ **Bengaluru, Karnataka.**

Note:

- The project is an initiative to ensure the safety and security of residents in Bengaluru, especially women.
- Phase-1 of the project features high-resolution cameras, forensic vans, safety islands, and much more.
- The city police must maintain maximum reach and speed in addressing emergency situations while using the right technological intervention.

9. During the Indian Seed Congress event, organized by the National Seed Association of India, Agriculture Minister said that the government would soon launch a seed traceability system. Who is he _____ **Narendra Singh Tomar.**

Note:

- Reason: To ensure the availability of good quality seeds to the farmers
- This system will help to curb the pilferage in the seed trade sector.
- India is in the leading position in agriculture but needs to be self-sufficient in oilseeds and cotton areas.

10. Which university has become the first foreign university to receive the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)'s approval to set up an International Branch Campus in GIFT City _____ **Deakin University (Australia).**

Note:

- During Budget 2023-24, Finance Minister announced that the World Class Foreign Universities and Institutions would be allowed in GIFT City.
- The in-principle approval was based on the recommendation of the Committee of Experts set up by GIFT City Company Ltd.

11. President Droupadi Murmu has launched the 'Catch the Rain-2023' as part of efforts to turn the conservation of water into a mass campaign in the run-up to the monsoon season. What is the theme of this campaign for 2023 _____ **Source Sustainability for Drinking Water.**

Note:

- The president also conferred 18 awards under Swachh Bharat Mission – Grameen, Jal Jeevan Mission, and National Water Mission.

12. The SWAMIH Investment Fund has completed 20,557 homes worth ₹12,000 crore since its inception in 2019. What is the full form of SWAMIH _____ **Special Window for Affordable and Mid-Income Housing.**

Note:

- About SWAMIH Investment Fund:
- It was launched in November 2019.
- Aim: To complete stressed and brownfield properties registered under Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA).
- SWAMIH investment fund is a government-funded initiative and it is managed by the State Bank Group's SBICAP Ventures Limited.

13. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has prohibited sale of hallmarked gold jewellery or gold artefacts without the _____ digit alphanumeric hallmark unique identification number (HUID) after March 31, 2023 _____ **Six-digit.**

Note:

- Aim: To protect consumers and enhance their confidence in the purchase of hallmarked gold jewellery.
- It would ensure traceability and assure quality in gold jewellery.
- The six-digit HUID number was introduced on July 1, 2021.

14. Which edition of the Raisina Dialogue will be organized from 2-4 March 2023 in New Delhi _____ **8th.**

Note:

- The Dialogue will be inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi and joined by the PM of Italy, Giorgia Meloni as the Chief Guest.
- Theme 2023: Provocation, Uncertainty, Turbulence: Lighthouse in the Tempest
- It is a flagship conference of India on geopolitics and geo-strategy.

- It is organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with Observer Research Foundation.
15. The first Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) meeting of the G20 is being organized in which city of India from 1st - 3rd March 2023 _____ **Gurugram, Haryana.**

Note:

- The ACWG was joined by over 90 delegates from 20 member countries, 10 Invitee countries, and 9 International Organizations.
- Aim: To strengthen International Anti-corruption mechanisms
- G 20 ACWG meetings have one Chair (Presidency country) and one co-chair country.
- The co-chair for the G20 ACWG 2023 is Italy.

16. Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the three-day-long Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela in which city _____ **New Delhi.**

Note:

- It is being organized with the theme Nutrition, Food, and Environmental Protection with Shree Anna.
- The event also conducts technical sessions on contemporary issues in Agriculture, including the development of Shree Anna-based value chain, Smart Farming Model, Sustainable Agriculture, and Farmer Producer Organisations.

17. India hosted the Quad Foreign Ministers in which city on March 3, 2023 _____ **New Delhi.**

Note:

- External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar chaired the meeting.
- The Foreign Ministers of Australia and Japan and the Secretary of State of the US participated in the meeting.
- It is an opportunity for the Ministers to continue their discussions held at their last meeting in New York in September 2022.

18. President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 7th International Dharma-Dhamma Conference in which city of India _____ **Bhopal (MP).**

Note:

- Theme: Eastern Humanism for the New Era
- Aim: To bring together religious, political, and thought leaders from Dharma-Dhamma traditions to ponder over building a philosophical framework for the emerging new world order
- Organized by: India Foundation in collaboration with Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies

19. Governor of Goa, P.S. Sreedharan Pillai has inaugurated which edition of the Commonwealth Law Conference in Goa, which is being held from March 5-9, 2023 _____ **23rd.**

Note:

- The event was also attended by Union Minister for Law, Kiren Rijiju, and Goa CM Pramod Sawant.
- Minister also informed that the government had started eCourts phase III to make Indian Judiciary completely paperless.
- 500 delegates from 52 countries attended the Conference.
- It is a platform for open discussions on critical issues.

20. India and which country have agreed to work in the areas of deep tech startups and forge lasting ties in the manufacturing of semiconductor chips _____ **Lithuania.**

Note:

- Minister Jitendra Singh and Economy and Innovation Vice Minister of Lithuania, Karolis Aemaitis discussed ways and means to revive the 2010 agreement in the area of science and tech.
- In 2010, a revised Indian counter-draft with a few modifications was formally submitted to the Lithuanian and its formal response is still awaited.

21. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has signed two MoUs with _____ and Lamrin Tech Skill University _____ **HTMi.**

Note:

- NSDC and HTMi: It aims to provide certificates, diplomas, advanced diplomas, and certification courses in hospitality trades to aspiring students.
- NSDC, HTMi, and LTSU: LTSU as an implementation partner for the first phase of this partnership, NSDC & HTMi envisage similar such partnerships as the program gets scaled up.

22. The flagship company of the Godrej Group, Godrej & Boyce has partnered with which organization to collaborate on Machinery & Plant (M&P) projects for Railways and Metro Rail, offering 'Made in India' world-class equipment _____ **Renmakch.**

Note:

- With the help of this partnership, Godrej & Boyce will be able to offer a complete value chain ranging from design to building for the Railways.
 - The Company has been a trusted partner of the Indian Railways for over 15 years.
23. India has signed an MoU with which country on research, technology, and innovation collaborations in New Delhi _____ **Mexico**.

Note:

- Focus: Key technology areas including Aerospace, Electronics, Earth and Ocean Sciences and Water, Minerals, Clean Energy, Biotech, and Healthcare
 - Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh has assured Mexican Foreign Minister, Marcelo Ebrard that India with CSIR and sister Organizations will provide tangible results in the three priority areas of Water, Lithium and Vaccines.
24. After having comprehensive talks between Indian PM Modi and Giorgia Meloni, both countries are ready to elevate their bilateral ties to a strategic partnership. Giorgia Meloni is a PM of which country _____ **Italy**.

Note:

- Both countries signed an MoU on defense cooperation and announced the establishment of a 'Startup Bridge' between India and Italy.
- Both nations also decided to hold joint exercises and training courses between the armed forces.
- Italian PM also attended the 8th Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi.

Important News – State

1. Irinjadappilly Sree Krishna Temple (Thrissur district), has introduced a life-size motorized model of an elephant for performing rituals such as carrying processional deities. This temple is located in which state _____ **Kerala**.

Note:

- The 11-foot-tall robotic elephant, weighing 800 kg and made of an iron frame and rubber coating, was donated by People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India.
- Film actor Parvathy Thiruvothu joined hands with PETA in donating the robotic elephant, which cost 5 lakh rupees.

2. Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced that Mauganj, a tehsil of Rewa district, will be the ____ district of state _____ **53rd**.

Note:

- It will be developed by joining four tehsils of Rewa district.
- Four tehsils: Mauganj, Hanumana, Nai Garhi, and Deotalab.
- Residents of Mauganj were raising the demand for a separate district for a long time.
- He has also released 605 crore in the bank accounts of 27,000 beneficiaries of the Sambal Yojana in financial distribution program.

3. Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has announced a nearly _____ increase in the monetary award under the Himachal Pradesh Mahila Vikas Protsahan Puraskar _____ **Five-fold**.

Note:

- The monetary award for the Mahila Vikas Protsahan Puraskar has been hiked to Rs 1 lakh from the current Rs 21,000.
- The allowance for district-level awards has been raised from Rs 5,000 to Rs 25,000.

Honor & Awards

1. Which country has been awarded the prestigious GSM Association (GSMA) Government Leadership Award 2023 at Mobile World Congress Barcelona on 27 February 2023 _____ **India**.

Note:

- Reason: For implementing best practices in telecom policy and regulation
- Minister for Communications, Ashwini Vaishnaw has also informed that the Right of Way (RoW) permissions which used to take more than 230 days, now get approval within 8 days.
- More than 85% of mobile tower clearances are now instantaneous.

2. Who has won the 2023 PEN America award for lifetime achievement in literature _____ **Hindi writer Vinod Kumar Shukla**.

Note:

- It is one of the most coveted literary prizes worldwide.

- His acclaimed novels like Naukar Ki Kameez (1979) and poetry collections like Sab Kuch Hona Bacha Rahega (1992).
 - He was awarded the Sahitya Akademi award in 1999 for Naukar Ki Kameez, the Atta Galatta-Bangalore Literature Festival Book Prize in 2019, and the Mathrubhumi Book of the Year award in 2020.
3. Which Indian ministry has received the Porter Prize 2023 _____ **Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry**.
- Note:**
- The ministry was honored for the government's strategy in managing COVID-19, its approach, and the involvement of various stakeholders (involvement of ASHA workers to create PPE Kits).
 - It was announced during 'The India Dialog' at Stanford University, California.
 - Porter Prize: This award was named after award-winning economist Michael E. Porter.
 - Minister for Health: Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
4. Under the Perform, Achieve, and Trade (PAT) program of the Union Ministry for Power, which organization was awarded as the top performer among all Discoms across the country for energy conservation measures _____ **Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL)**.
- Note:**
- The award ceremony was held in New Delhi on March 1.
 - During PAT cycle II, a total number of 80,686 'Energy saving certificates' (ESCerts) were issued to PSPCL.
 - PAT is a flagship scheme under the National Mission on Enhanced efficiency.
5. Which organization has been honored with the CBIP Award 2022 for Outstanding Contribution in Power Generation, attributed to its Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station (VSTPS) _____ **NTPC Limited**.
- Note:**
- VSTPS is the largest power station in the country for its efficiency and high level of generation.
 - Union Minister of Power, R.K. Singh presented the award.
 - It is conferred to institutions/individuals for their outstanding contributions to the development of water, power, and Renewable Energy Sectors.
6. Who was honored with the Player-of-the-Year award 2023 by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF) for winning the gold medal with a record-breaking score of 9/11 in the 44th Chess Olympiad at Mahabalipuram _____ **Indian GM D Gukesh**.
- Most Active Federation: All India Chess Federation
 - Man-of-the-Year: Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin
 - Best Women's team of the Year: Indian women's team
 - Men's Coach-of-the-Year: GM R B Ramesh
 - Women's Coach-of-the-Year: GM Abhijit Kunte
7. According to the Airport Council International (ACI), which Indian airport has been ranked among the cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific _____ **Delhi airport**.
- Note:**
- ACI is a trade association of global airports.
 - The airport service quality award is based on passenger surveys carried out to rate customer satisfaction on the day of travel.
 - It covers over 30 performance indicators across key elements of a passenger's airport experience such as ease of finding your way and dining offerings.
8. Who has won the 2022 BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award after a public vote _____ **Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu**.
- Note:**
- She becomes the first athlete to win the award twice in a row after winning for the year 2021.
 - At the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, she became the first Indian to win a silver medal in weightlifting.
 - Para Sportswoman: Bhavina Patel (TT Player)
 - Lifetime Achievement Award: Pritam Siwach (Women Hockey Player)
 - Emerging Player: Nitu Ghanghas (Boxer)
 - Best goal (Puskas award): Marcin Oleksy

Sports News

1. Asia's longest-ever cycle race was flagged off from Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar (J&K) and will culminate at which city _____ **Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu)**.

Note:

- The race will cover the longest highway, National Highway-44 distance of 3651 kilometers, passing through twelve major states, three major metropolitan cities, and over twenty major cities of the country.
 - It has been accorded the status of Asian Ultracycling Championship by the World Ultracycling Association.
2. Who defeated his Russian compatriot Andrey Rublev by 6-2, 6-2 to win the 2023 Dubai Tennis Championships title _____ **Daniil Medvedev.**

Note:

- With this performance, he moved to sixth in the ATP rankings, while Rublev dropped to number seven.
 - After winning the trophies in Rotterdam and Doha in February 2023, he is the third player to win three titles in as many weeks since 2021, joining Casper Ruud (July 2021) and Felix Auger-Aliassime (October 2022).
3. Which team won its 5th Santosh Trophy National Football Championship title after defeating Meghalaya by 3-2 in the final at the King Fahd International Stadium in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia _____ **Karnataka.**

Note:

- Karnataka last won the title 54 years ago.
 - Earlier, Services won third place beating Punjab 2-0 in the play-off match held before the final.
 - Most successful team: West Bengal (32 titles)
 - Santosh Trophy was founded in 1941 and organized by the All India Football Federation (AIFF).
4. Who has won the season-opening Bahrain Grand Prix 2023, held at Bahrain International Circuit _____ **Red Bull's driver, Max Verstappen.**

Note:

- He defeated Red Bull's Sergio Perez, who placed second in the race.
- It was the first time he had won in Bahrain and also the first time he had triumphed in a Formula One opener.
- Fernando Alonso (Aston Martin's driver) placed third followed by C. Sainz Jr. (Ferrari's driver).

Books and Authors

1. Who released the book 'India's Vaccine Growth Story- From Cowpox to Vaccine Maitri' at World Book Fair in New Delhi _____ **Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.**

Note:

- Additional Secretary of Finance Ministry Sajjan Singh Yadav has authored the book.
- Dr. Mandaviya also urged the writers to inculcate research-based documentation.
- The research-based documentation reflects knowledge and science that have proven exemplary in times of crisis.

Science and Defence

1. ISRO has successfully conducted the flight acceptance hot test of which engine for the Chandrayan-3 mission _____ **CE-20 cryogenic.**

Note:

- The test was successfully conducted on February 24 at the ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu.
 - The hot test was carried out for a planned duration of 25 seconds at the High Altitude Test Facility.
 - The engine will power the Cryogenic Upper Stage of the LVM3 launch vehicle of the mission.
2. The Indian government has approved the procurement of 70 HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft from which organization for the Indian Air Force _____ **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).**

Note:

- Reason: It will meet the shortage of basic trainer aircraft of IAF for the training of newly inducted pilots.
 - The HTT-40 is a turboprop aircraft designed to have good low-speed handling qualities and provide better training effectiveness.
 - The aircraft will be supplied over six years.
3. The maiden joint military exercise 'FRINJEX-23' between India and which country, will be scheduled to conduct at the Pangode military station in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala from March 7 and 8, 2023 _____ **France.**

Note:

- It is for the first time that both countries are engaging in this format with each contingent comprising a Company Group.

- The theme for the exercise is based on “Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Operations in a Contested Environment”.
4. Which INS has participated in the International Maritime Exercise/ Cutlass Express 2023 (IMX/CE-23), which is being held in the Gulf region from 26 Feb to 16 Mar 23 _____ **INS Trikand**.
- Note:**
- INS will exercise with participants from over 50 nations and international maritime agencies.
 - Common aim: To enhance maritime security and keep sea lanes in the region safe for maritime commerce.
 - IMX/CE-23 is one of the largest multinational maritime exercises in the world.
5. Which edition of the 2023 Naval Commanders' Conference has been started on March 6, 2023 _____ **First**.
- Note:**
- The first phase of the conference is held onboard India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant, in the Arabian Sea off Goa.
 - Rajnath Singh addressed the Naval Commanders onboard INS Vikrant.
 - This conference serves as a platform for Naval Commanders to discuss important security issues at the military-strategic level and interact with senior government functionaries

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