

# Weekly One-liners

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8-14 March 2023



## Weekly One Liners Updates 8 -14th March 2023

Dear readers,

**Weekly One Liners Update** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the second week (8-14th) of March 2023. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which stock exchange and UN Women India launched a new program named 'FinEMPOWER' on 8th March 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)**.  
**Note:**
  - It is a year-long joint capacity-building program between BSE and UN Women to empower women toward financial security.
  - BSE and UN Women India collaboratively organized the 'Ring the Bell for Gender Equality' ceremony to accelerate investment in women leaders and entrepreneurs at BSE.
  - MD and CEO of BSE: Sundararaman Ramamurthy
2. Max Life Insurance and which SFB have partnered to offer life insurance offerings to SFB's customers \_\_\_\_\_ **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank**.  
**Note:**
  - Through this partnership, both will offer a range of savings, protection, retirement, and group life insurance plans to Ujjivan SFB customers.
  - Max Life Insurance Company Limited is a joint venture between Max Financial Services Limited and Axis Bank Limited.
  - Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited began its operations in February 2017.
3. As per the Finance Ministry notification, the exchange between virtual digital assets and fiat currencies, the exchange between one or more forms of virtual digital assets, and the transfer of virtual digital assets will be covered under which act \_\_\_\_\_ **Money Laundering Act**.  
**Note:**
  - The safekeeping or administration of virtual digital assets and the participation in financial services related to the offer and sale of virtual digital assets will also come under the preview of the Act.
4. SEBI has imposed restrictions on the placement of bids, price, and volume for the companies undertaking \_\_\_\_\_ through the stock exchange route, effective on March 9, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Share buyback**.  
**Note:**
  - A company will not be able to purchase more than 25% of the average daily trading volume of its shares in the 10 trading days preceding the day in which such purchases are made.
  - The company will not place bids in the first 30 minutes and the last 30 minutes of the regular trading session.
5. On International Women's Day 2023, which Asset Management Company (AMC) launched a digital campaign called 'DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality' \_\_\_\_\_ **Kotak Mahindra**.  
**Note:**
  - Aim: To drive the culture of digital literacy among the women's fraternity
  - The campaign calls for the digital inclusion of all with the hashtag, #IncludeAll.
  - The digital campaign showcases Kotak group's women employees sharing their stories about supporting and empowering other women in their lives.
6. Which bank and ITC (FMCG) joined hands to offer lending products and services to farmers who are a part of ITC's agriculture ecosystem \_\_\_\_\_ **Axis Bank**.  
**Note:**
  - Aim: To enable the bank to reach out to the unserved and under-served farmers across rural regions.
  - The bank will offer credit facilities for rural lending products like Farmer Funding loans & Gold Loans.
  - The bank will also leverage ITC-MAARS (Meta Market for Advanced Agricultural Rural Services) to address farmers' financial needs.

7. In an exchange filing, the Bank of Baroda has informed that the bank's board has approved divesting up to \_\_\_\_\_ stake in subsidiary BoB Financial Solutions Ltd \_\_\_\_\_ **49%**.

**Note:**

- Currently, BOB holds 100% of the total equity share capital of BFSL.
- BFSL, a registered non-banking financial institution, is primarily involved in credit cards and merchant-acquiring businesses.

8. The FinMin has tightened the definition of \_\_\_\_\_ under the anti-money laundering law, mandating reporting entities to collect information from their clients \_\_\_\_\_ **Beneficial Owners**.

**Note:**

- Beneficial Owners: Any individual or group holding 10% ownership (earlier 25%) in the client of a reporting entity
- The reporting entities are banks and financial institutions engaged in real estate and jewellery sectors.
- They also include intermediaries in casinos and crypto or virtual digital assets.

9. Stock exchanges BSE and NSE have designated how many trading platforms as Qualified Stock Brokers (QSBs) with effect from July 1, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **15**.

**Note:**

- These shortlisted stock brokers are required to meet enhanced obligations and discharge additional responsibilities.
- Some of the notable stock brokers in the QSB list are Zerodha Broking, 5Paisa Capital, HDFC Securities, IIFL Securities, ICICI Securities, Motilal Financial Services, Kotak Securities, and Sharekhan among others.

10. Which bank has partnered with Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd to offer home loans at competitive interest rates to customers from lower and middle-income groups \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes Bank**.

**Note:**

- This partnership is in accordance with the co-lending framework of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Under this framework, the RBI enables banks and non-banking companies to jointly bring forth financial solutions that cater to the requirements of unserved and underserved sections of society.

11. Which Small Finance Bank has launched the 'Unpause Initiative' to assist women who have taken a career break and are now ready to return to the workforce \_\_\_\_\_ **Ujjivan SFB**.

**Note:**

- The initiative is part of the bank's commitment to promoting workplace diversity and inclusion.
- The bank's employees participated in a 3 km walk from its registered headquarters in Koramangala to support an initiative.
- Ujjivan SFB has also announced a special Hiring Drive and Employee referral program for women.

12. Central government has released how much amount as a monthly instalment for March towards tax devolution to states, which is much more than the normal monthly devolution of Rs 70,159 crore made for states \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 1,40,318 crores**.

**Note:**

- This is in line with the commitment to strengthen the hands of states to accelerate their capital and developmental expenditure, an official statement said.
- Uttar Pradesh has received the highest instalment of Rs 24,783 crore among all states.

13. Which Mutual Fund has been rebranded itself as Bandhan Mutual Fund and its schemes will reflect the new name with effect from March 13, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **IDFC Mutual Fund**.

**Note:**

- IDFC Mutual Fund has also unveiled a new logo as the company was acquired by Bandhan Financial Holdings-led consortium in April 2022
- Scheme of the fund house will be renamed to replace the word 'IDFC' with 'Bandhan'.
- Unitholders of IDFC MF would continue to benefit from the same high-quality investment approach.

14. Which bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Warehousing Corporation to facilitate financing under e-NWR (Electronic Negotiable Warehousing Receipt) \_\_\_\_\_ **Punjab National Bank**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To provide easy access to finance to farmers/ food processors/ traders against the pledge of agriculture commodities stored in CWC warehouses
- CWC is a statutory body under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

15. According to the report, released by PhonePe and Boston Consulting Group, India's digital payments market will more than triple from \$3 trillion to \$10 trillion by which year \_\_\_\_\_ **2026**.

**Note:**

- In 2015, the Indian government launched its Digital India program, with the objective to achieve a “faceless, paperless and cashless” status for financial transactions at the grass-root level.
  - NPCI launched UPI in 2016, which enables inter-bank transactions through mobile devices instantly.
16. In an initiative to promote Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), which metro has started accepting digital currency in its parking facilities \_\_\_\_\_ **Kochi Metro**.

**Note:**

- With this, Kochi Metro is the first Metro in the country to accept CBDC.
  - The program was inaugurated at the parking facility in Thykoodam and system would be introduced in all other parking areas of the Metro soon
  - The program was introduced in association with IDFC FIRST Bank partnered with Anantham Online, a technology startup
17. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) granted an ‘Infrastructure Finance Company (IFC)’ status to which government organization \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)**.

**Note:**

- Earlier, it was classified as an Investment and Credit Company (ICC).
  - With the IFC status, IREDA will be able to take higher exposure in RE financing.
  - It will also help the company to access a wider investor base for fund mobilization, resulting in competitive rates for fundraising.
18. According to the Mudra portal (as of 27.01.2023), more than 38.58 crore loans have been extended since the inception of the Scheme. This scheme was launched in which year \_\_\_\_\_ **April 2015**.

**Note:**

- Out of this, over 26.35 crore loans have been extended to Women Entrepreneurs (68%).
  - SC/ST/OBC category borrowers received 19.84 crore loans (51%).
  - As per the Ministry of Labour survey, PMMY helped in generating 1.12 crore net additional employment in the country from 2015 to 2018.
19. Which Small Finance Bank has launched a new savings account for women customers called the Blossom Women’s savings account \_\_\_\_\_ **Suryoday SFB**.

**Note:**

- Women can earn up to 7% interest rate per annum
  - An exclusive and free Rupay Platinum Debit Card that rewards women customers with discounts and cashback.
  - Monthly Interest Pay-out in the account
  - One complementary account for child (Savings Aditya Account)
  - Average Monthly Balance (AMB) of ₹10,000
20. According to the data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), what is India's retail inflation in February 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **6.44%**.

**Note:**

- But it remained above the upper band of the 4+/- 2 percent medium-term target of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the second consecutive month.
  - While food inflation eased marginally to 5.95 percent in February 2023 from 6% in January 2023, inflation for cereals, milk, and fruits picked up.
21. Which US based bank has become the second bank in the country after Silicon Valley Bank to shut down \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature Bank**.

**Note:**

- The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has been appointed as a receiver, which typically means it will liquidate the bank’s assets to pay back its customers, including depositors and others.
- The standard insurance amount from FDIC is \$250,000 per depositor, per bank, for each account ownership category.

**Obituaries**

1. Satish Kaushik passed away at the age of 66 in Delhi due to cardiac arrest. He was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor**.

**Note:**

- Kaushik was an alumnus of the National School of Drama (NSD) and the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII).
- He was known for his iconic roles in Mr. India, Tere Naam, Roop Ki Rani Choron Ka Raja, Deewana Mastana, Brick Lane, Saajan Chale Sasural among others.

2. Pat McCormick died at 92 in California due to health-related problems and dementia, was associated with which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Athlete (Diving).**

**Note:**

- She won the women's 3-meter springboard and 10-meter platform competitions at the 1952 Olympics in Finland.
- She was honored by the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) with the James E. Sullivan Award - amateur athlete of the year in 1956.
- She was the 2nd woman to win the award after Swimmer Ann Curtis (1944).

3. Kenzaburo Oe passed away at the age of 88 on March 3, 2023, due to age-related issues, was a famous \_\_\_\_\_ **Novelist.**

**Note:**

- He was known for his pacifist and anti-nuclear views.
- He was honoured with the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1994 for creating "an imagined world, where life and myth condense to form a disconcerting picture of the human predicament today".
- His notable works are 'A Personal Matter' and 'The Silent Cry'.

### Important Days

1. International Women's Day is observed every year on which date to raise awareness about gender equality and create a better society free of gender bias \_\_\_\_\_ **March 8.**

**Note:**

- The day celebrates women and addresses issues such as women's equal rights, violence and abuse against women, and reproductive rights.
- 2023 Theme: DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality
- This theme emphasizes the importance of technology in bringing gender issues to light.

2. No Smoking Day is observed on which Wednesday of March \_\_\_\_\_ **Second.**

**Note:**

- In 2023, No Smoking Day falls on March 8.
- Aim: To encourage people to quit smoking and raise awareness about its harmful effects on their health
- This year's theme is: "Stopping smoking improves your brain health".
- The United Kingdom witnessed that people in the country are getting addicted to smoking.

3. The International Day of Women Judges is observed every year on which date to honour all-female judges who have taken the lead in the fight against social injustice \_\_\_\_\_ **March 10.**

**Note:**

- This day is being observed with the campaign "Women in Justice, Women for Justice".
- It is a symbolic day for the fight for gender equality and the fight against gender-based discrimination.
- In April 2021, UNGA enacted resolution 75/274 designating March 10 as the International Day of Women Judges

4. The world observes World Kidney Day on which Thursday in March each year \_\_\_\_\_ **Second.**

**Note:**

- This year, this day falls on March 9.
- The International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations-World Kidney Alliance are working together on it (IFKF-WKA).
- Theme 2023: Kidney Health for Everyone – Preparing for the Unexpected, Supporting the Vulnerable

### New Appointments

1. Who has been sworn in as the new chief minister of Tripura for the second consecutive term \_\_\_\_\_ **Dr. Manik Saha.**

**Note:**

- Tripura governor Satyadeo Narain Arya administered the oath to him at Vivekananda Maidan in the capital city of Tripura, Agartala.
- The oath ceremony was attended by PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.
- In 2022, he was made the chief minister after replacing Biplab Deb.

2. Name the Indian-American has been confirmed as the first South Asian District Judge for the Southern District of New York \_\_\_\_\_ **Arun Subramaniam.**

**Note:**

- His nomination was confirmed by Senate Majority Leader Senator Chuck Schumer by a vote of 58-37.
  - He received his Juris Doctor (J.D) from Columbia Law School in 2004 and his BA from Case Western Reserve University in 2001.
  - South District New York notably has one of the largest South Asian-American populations in the country.
3. Who has been selected by the Indian Air Force to take over a frontline combat unit's command in the western sector \_\_\_\_\_ **Group Captain Shaliza Dhami (Ludhiana).**

**Note:**

- She becomes the first woman officer in the history of the IAF to be given the frontline combat unit command.
  - Currently, she is posted in the operations branch of a frontline command headquarters.
  - She also served as flight commander of a Chetak unit at the Hindon air base— both firsts for an IAF woman officer.
4. Who has been elected the third President of Nepal \_\_\_\_\_ **Ram Chandra Paudel.**

**Note:**

- He defeated CPN-UML Vice-chair Subash Chandra Nembang.
  - He won the presidential elections with 33,802 votes, while his opponent received 15,518 votes.
  - The President is elected by an Electoral College consisting of the members of the Federal Parliament and the Provincial Assembly.
  - The tenure of Bidya Devi Bhandari as Nepal's President will be ended on March 12.
5. Who has been named by the Citi group as the head of Citi Commercial Bank (CCB) business in India \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhanu Vohra.**

**Note:**

- He has replaced Tushar Vikram, who is now the global head of healthcare for CCB.
  - He will report to Ashu Khullar (Citi India CEO) and Rajat Madhok (head of Citi Commercial Bank Asia Pacific).
6. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Axis Mutual Fund \_\_\_\_\_ **B Gopkumar.**

**Note:**

- He would replace Chandresh Nigam who has stepped down as the CEO.
  - Nigam's tenure will be ended April 30, 2023, and Gopkumar will take over on May 1, 2023, for a 3-year term.
  - Gopkumar has been in charge of Axis Securities since October 2019.
7. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) with effect from 27th June 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Rohit Jawa.**

**Note:**

- He is presently the Chief of Transformation for Unilever and has been appointed for 5-year.
  - He will succeed Sanjiv Mehta, who was the part of Hindustan Unilever since 2013.
  - He will also join Unilever Leadership Executive (ULE).
8. Who has secured an unprecedented third term as the President of China and has been re-elected as the General Secretary of the Communist Party for five-year \_\_\_\_\_ **Xi Jinping.**

**Note:**

- Nearly 3,000 members of China's rubber-stamp parliament, National People's Congress (NPC), voted unanimously for Xi Jinping to be president.
  - Apart from him, Zhao Leji has been elected as the new parliament chair and Han Zheng as the new vice president.
9. Who has been appointed as the interim chairman of Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) for three months with effect from March 14, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Siddhartha Mohanty.**

**Note:**

- He is presently a managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of LIC Housing Finance.
  - Currently, Bishnu Charan Patnaik, Ipe Mini, Siddhartha Mohanty, and Raj Kumar are the Managing Director of LIC.
10. RBI has approved the appointment of whom as MD and CEO of IndusInd Bank for two years from 24 March 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Sumant Kathpalia.**

**Note:**

- RBI's confirmation comes nearly six months after the bank's board of directors had cleared another term for Kathpalia.
  - He has been an MD & CEO of the bank since March 2020.
  - Before this role, he served as Head of the Consumer Bank at IndusInd Bank.
11. Asia's first female locomotive pilot is operating the Vande Bharat Express. Who is she \_\_\_\_\_ **Surekha Yadav.**

**Note:**

- She operated Vande Bharat Express from Solapur to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal (CSMT) in Maharashtra.
- She hails from Stara, Maharashtra, and become the country's first female train driver in 1988.

### Important News – India

1. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has installed a 200-meter-long Bamboo Crash Barrier on the Vani-Warora Highway in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra**.

**Note:**

- The highway connects the Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts of the state.
- This Bamboo Crash Barrier has been christened as 'Bahu Balli'.
- Bahu Bali: The bamboo species used in the making of this barrier is Bambusa Balcoa.
- It is treated with creosote oil and coated with recycled High-Density Poly Ethylene (HDPE).

2. PM Anthony Albanese arrived in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on a state visit to India on March 8, 2023. He is a PM of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia**.

**Note:**

- During his four-day tour, he will also visit Mumbai and Delhi as well.
- He will be accorded a ceremonial welcome at Rashtrapati Bhawan on 10th March and call on President Droupadi Murmu.
- He will hold the Annual Summit with PM Modi to discuss areas of cooperation under the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

3. The Task Force report titled "Production and Promotion of Organic and Bio-fertilizers with Special Focus on Improving Economic Viability of Gaushalas" was released by which government organization \_\_\_\_\_ **NITI**

**Aayog.**

**Note:**

- It suggested measures to make Gaushalas economically viable, address the problem of stray and abandoned cattle, and utilization of cow dung and cow urine in the agriculture and energy sector.
- It provides factual estimate of operating and fixed costs and other Gaushalas issues.

4. Which organization has issued operational guidelines, that the government will provide financial assistance to eligible agencies for undertaking initiatives for the promotion of Geographical Indications (GIs) products \_\_\_\_\_

**Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).**

**Note:**

- It can be extended to eligible agencies as 100% grants in aid for the promotion of GIs.
- DPIIT is an arm of the commerce and industry ministry.

5. PM Modi has dedicated the 10-lane Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway in Karnataka to the nation. This expressway is \_\_\_\_\_ km long \_\_\_\_\_ **118Km**.

**Note:**

- It was constructed at a cost of over 8400 crore rupees.
- It will reduce the travel time between Bengaluru and Mysuru from three hours to about 75 minutes and boost connectivity and socio-economic growth in Karnataka.
- He also laid the foundation stone for the Mysuru-Kushalnagar highway.

6. Which railway zone has achieved 100% electrification of its broad gauge network of 3,825 kilometers \_\_\_\_\_ **Central Railway**.

**Note:**

- The CSMT-headquartered zonal railway informed that the 52-kilometer Ausa Road-Latur Road stretch in the Solapur division was the last non-electrified section and its electrification was completed in March 2023.
- This move helps in reducing carbon footprints of 5.204 lakh tonnes every year as well as savings of 1670 crore rupees.

7. Which edition of 'World Food India-2023' will be organized from 3-5 November 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Second**.

**Note:**

- The event will be organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- During the event, Union Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras outlined pivotal elements of the WFI-2023 as Millets- 'Shree Anna-The Super Food of India', Innovation and Sustainability 'Green Food', White Revolution 2.0, making India an export hub and focus on technology and digitisation.

8. The Ministry of Jal Shakti had constituted a Committee to identify how many Water Heritage Structure (WHS) in reference to 75 years of India's Independence \_\_\_\_\_ **75**.

**Note:**

- A total of 421 nominations were received and out of which, Committee has recommended 75 water heritage structures.
- It includes 5 WHS from Gujarat and 4 WHS from Andhra Pradesh.
- At present, there is no central fund allocated/disbursed for the maintenance of these sites.

9. India and which country signed Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) to strengthen cooperation and promote research networking between research institutions from both countries \_\_\_\_\_ **Sweden**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To promote mobility funding opportunities in both countries
- It facilitates academic cooperation through mobility activities as well as through seminars, workshops, and conferences.
- This partnership will take forward joint Science and Technology efforts particularly in smart cities, AI, and many more.

10. India and which country signed an audio-visual co-production agreement to offer filmmakers financial incentives amounting to up to 30% of the expenditure incurred in the respective countries \_\_\_\_\_ **Australia**.

**Note:**

- The agreement was signed by I&B Secretary Apurva Chandra and Australian High Commissioner Barry O'Farrell.
- Australia is the 16th country with which India has a co-production agreement.
- It would benefit mainly small filmmakers keen on shooting movies in that country.

11. India and which country inked an initial pact on increasing private-sector cooperation in the area of semiconductors \_\_\_\_\_ **USA**.

**Note:**

- The two countries would facilitate business opportunities and develop an ecosystem with a view to reducing their dependency on China and Taiwan.
- Both sides have agreed to set up a semiconductor sub-committee, led by the Department of Commerce for the US side and MeitY and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the Indian side.

12. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 3rd Session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) in which city on March 10, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi**.

**Note:**

- Theme: Building Local Resilience in a Changing Climate
- It is jointly organized by the Home Ministry, National Disaster Management Authority, National Disaster Response Force, and National Institute of Disaster Management.
- It will comprise four Plenary Sessions, one Ministerial Session, and eight Thematic Sessions.

13. The Election Commission of India (ECI) hosted the 3rd International Conference in virtual format on 09 March 2023. What is the theme of this conference \_\_\_\_\_ **Inclusive Elections and Elections Integrity**.

**Note:**

- ECI is leading the Cohort on Elections Integrity which was established as a follow-up to the 'Summit for Democracy' held virtually in December 2021.
- Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioners Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goel addressed the Conference.

14. Misra Centre for Financial Markets and Economy (MCFME) at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA), along with which organization has organized 'International Research Conference on FinTech: Innovation, Inclusion, and Regulation' \_\_\_\_\_ **Centre for Advanced Financial Research and Learning (CAFRAL)**.

**Note:**

- It is a two-day conference for bringing top researchers, practitioners, and regulators from across the globe together to deliberate on key issues of FinTech.

15. Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav has inaugurated two-day G20 Flower Festival has been organized in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi**.

**Note:**

- G20 countries like Japan, Singapore, and the Netherlands are participating in it.
- Flower plants of different colours and varieties are being displayed in different forms and installations to showcase the diversity of the Indian subcontinent.



16. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioners Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goel has inaugurated Vote Fest 2023 to create awareness on the election process in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru.**

**Note:**

- They also inaugurated 'Electon 2023', which is a 30-hour hackathon for securing the electoral future.
- The fest seeks people's suggestions on improving voter turnout, ensuring the registration of new voters, and how to ensure the involvement of urban youth in the democratic process.

17. Which edition of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) has been concluded in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Third.**

**Note:**

- Organized by: Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), and National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM).
- NPDRR was comprised of 4 Plenary Sessions, 1 Ministerial Session, and 8 Thematic Sessions with more than 1200 subject experts, practitioners, academicians and delegates.

18. Who has inaugurated the exhibition titled 'Women and Nation Building: 1857 to the Republic' at National Archives of India, New Delhi on 133rd Foundation Day of National Archives of Indian \_\_\_\_\_ **Arjun Ram Meghwal.**

**Note:**

- The exhibition highlights the contributions of women in nation building and freedom struggle from 1857 in an interesting manner like Durgawati Devi and Kasturba Gandhi.
- It also presents a selection of original documents drawn from the attics of the archival repository.

19. Which launched the MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme at the NDMC Convention Centre, Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Minister Narayan Rane.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To provide a roadmap to global competitiveness for the MSMEs of India
- Under the scheme, MSMEs will implement LEAN manufacturing tools like 5S, Kaizen, KANBAN, visual workplace, and Poka Yoka.
- MSMEs can reduce wastages substantially, increase productivity, improve quality, work safely, expand their markets, and finally become competitive and profitable.

### Important News - State

1. Which iconic aircraft of legendary leader Biju Patnaik was unveiled by Odisha's CM, Naveen Patnaik at the Bhubaneswar for public viewing \_\_\_\_\_ **Dakota aircraft.**

**Note:**

- It was unveiled on the 107th birth anniversary of the former CM of Odisha.
- It was brought from Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata to Bhubaneswar on January 18, 2023.
- A 10-member team of Aerospace Research Development required has dismantled the aircraft and packed it in proper shape for public viewing

2. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw released a unique cover of the Department of Posts, 'Go Green, Go Organic' for which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Sikkim.**

**Note:**

- The special cover is a testament to the state's achievements in organic farming and progress and a reminder of the importance of sustainable development for the entire country.
- Sikkim is the first state in the world to get recognized as an Organic state by the World Book of Records (London).

3. Which state celebrated Yaoshang festival \_\_\_\_\_ **Manipur.**

**Note:**

- The festival is celebrated by the Meetei who are predominantly Hindu and it is celebrated at the same time as Holi.
- However, during the Yaoshang festival, apart from playing with colour, the festival also witnessed a number of cultural and religious activities for five days.
- The Manipur Governor and CM conveyed warm greetings to the people of Manipur.

4. Which state government has announced to launch the fourth women's policy \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To give more opportunities to women
- State Government initiative:

- To introduce a rehabilitation scheme for those above 18 years old girls from the orphanage.
  - To start a Hirkani Room(Kaksha) for breastfeeding mothers at the police station.
  - Govt also proposed to provide equal and dignified positions to women in all sectors.
5. Which UT launched Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen Internship-2023 for engaging the youth, who are interested in working in rural areas \_\_\_\_\_ **Jammu and Kashmir.**
- Note:**
- It will provide an opportunity for young minds to gain valuable experience, develop their skills, and contribute meaningfully towards the implementation of the SBM (G) Phase II.
6. Which state has become India's first state to launch the Resham Keet Bima scheme for sericulturists \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttarakhand.**
- Note:**
- In the first phase of this pilot project, 200 sericulturists from five blocks of four districts -- Dehradun, Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar, and Nainital -- have been insured from the ill effects of climate change, scarcity of water, and other hazards.
  - This scheme will be run under Saral Krishi Beema.
7. According to the Landslide Atlas report, prepared by the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of ISRO, which district has the maximum exposure to landslide risk in the country \_\_\_\_\_ **Rudraprayag (Uttarakhand).**
- Note:**
- Tehri district (Uttarakhand) ranked second on the list of landslide-prone districts.
  - As per the State Emergency Operation Centre data, Uttarakhand reported 253 landslides between 2018 and 2021.
  - Kerala's Thrissur and Palakkad districts ranked 3rd and 5th respectively.
8. Which state government announced a new livelihood and income-generating scheme for the tribal people with an outlay of Rs 500 crore for 2023-24 to 2025-26 \_\_\_\_\_ **Odisha.**
- Note:**
- The livelihood cluster development initiative will be implemented by the ST & SC Development, Minorities & Backward Classes Welfare dept under Mukhya Mantri Janajati Jeebika Mission.
  - The state-funded scheme will be implemented in 119 tribal sub-plan (TSP) blocks.
9. A new initiative called 'beggar-free city' has been started in which Indian city \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagpur, Maharashtra.**
- Note:**
- Commissioner of Police of Nagpur City, Amitesh Kumar informed that notification of 144 CrPC has been issued in this regard.
  - Notices have been served to people.
  - The Nagpur police will strictly enforce this and begging will not be allowed in public places.
  - This is the joint venture of Nagpur City police and Nagpur Municipal Corporation's (NMC) social welfare department.
10. Sweden India Business Council (SIBC) has signed an MoU with which state government for cooperation in waste to energy, sustainable infrastructure & transportation, defense manufacturing, and investment \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra government.**
- Note:**
- The MoU was signed between SIBC and Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) in the presence of Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.
  - Both have also agreed to work together to explore and facilitate funding opportunities.

### Important News – World

1. According to the WHO Global Report on Sodium Intake Reduction, two million deaths can be prevented by which year and seven million by 2030 if policies recommended by WHO to reduce sodium intake are implemented \_\_\_\_\_ **2025.**
- Note:**
- The world is off-track to achieve its global target of reducing sodium intake by 30% by 2025.
  - The global average salt intake is estimated to be 10.8 grams per day (more than double the WHO recommendation of fewer than 5 grams of salt per day (one teaspoon)).

### Honor & Awards

1. Which Indian ministry has bagged a Golden & Silver Star at The International 'Golden City Gate Awards 2023' at ITB, Berlin 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Tourism of India.**

**Note:**

- Category: TV/Cinema Commercials International and Country International
- Arvind Singh, Secretary (Tourism) received awards on 8th March 2023 at ITB, Berlin.
- The Golden City Gate Tourism Multi-media Awards are given annually in various categories related to the Tourism and Hospitality sectors.

2. The Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri has launched the WINS Awards 2023. What is the full form of WINS \_\_\_\_\_ **Women Icons Leading Swachhata.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To recognize celebrate and disseminate inspiring and exemplary initiatives in urban sanitation and waste management by women-led organizations and individual women.
- The applications are open from 8th March to 5th April 2023.
- Applications for the Awards are open to SHG, Micro-enterprises, NGOs, Startups, and Individuals.

3. RRR's Naatu Naatu has created history by winning the prestigious Academy Awards 2023 in which category \_\_\_\_\_ **Best Original song.**

**Note:**

- The music of Naatu Naatu was given by M. M. Keeravani and Lyrics by Chandrabosedouble-dagger.
- While India's The Elephant Whisperers (directed by Kartiki Gonsalves) won the award for Best Documentary Short Subject.
- Best Actress: Michelle Yeoh (Everything Everywhere All at Once)
- Best Actor: Brendan Fraser (The Whale)

**Sports News**

1. Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated Khelo India Dus Ka Dum Tournament at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi.**

**Note:**

- In the run-up to the International Women's Day 2023 celebrations, the Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry organized the Khelo India Dus Ka Dum tournament from the 10th to the 31st of March.
- Nearly 15,000 women athletes participated in the contest in more than 50 cities of the country.
- The game features 10 sports.

**Books and Authors**

1. Who has released a book titled India's Struggle for Independence – Gandhian Era \_\_\_\_\_ **Supreme Court Judge Justice V. Ramasubramanian.**

**Note:**

- It was authored by a former Judge of Madras High Court, P. Jyothimani, and G. Balan, former professor of history, Pachaiyappa's College.
- It was published by Vanathi Pathipagam.
- The book covers aspects such as the relevance of Mahatma Gandhi as of the date.

2. Who has authored the book titled "As Good as My Word" \_\_\_\_\_ **KM Chandrasekhar.**

**Note:**

- He served as the Cabinet Secretary from 2007 to 2011.
- The book provides knowledge of Indian politics and bureaucracy during the UPA era.
- In his book, Chandrasekhar gives a thorough overview of the UPA administration during one of its most difficult periods and talks about his own role in navigating India through many crises.

3. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar released of the book "Mundaka Upanishad: The Gateway to Eternity". It was written by \_\_\_\_\_ **Dr. Karan Singh.**

**Note:**

- Dr. Karan Singh is a former member of parliament.
- He is a philosopher and politician from India.
- Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan initially released this book in 1987.

## Science and Defence

1. The US Air Force handed over an earth observation satellite, NISAR to ISRO on March 8, 2023. What is the full form of NISAR \_\_\_\_\_ **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar.**

**Note:**

- A US Air Force C-17 aircraft carrying the NISAR has landed in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- It was jointly developed by NASA and ISRO.
- This satellite will be used by ISRO for a variety of purposes including agricultural mapping, and landslide-prone areas.
- It is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory.
- It will map the entire globe in 12 days.

2. ISRO has successfully carried out an "extremely challenging" controlled re-entry experiment of the decommissioned orbiting satellite \_\_\_\_\_ **Megha-Tropiques-1 (MT-1).**

**Note:**

- The final impact region estimated is in the deep Pacific Ocean within the expected latitude and longitude boundaries.
- The low Earth satellite was launched on October 12, 2011.
- It is a joint satellite venture of ISRO and the French space agency, CNES for tropical weather and climate studies.

3. Which space agency has partnered with the Italian Space Agency, Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI) to build and launch MAIA (Multi-Angle Imager for Aerosols) missions \_\_\_\_\_ **NASA.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To investigate the health impacts of air pollution in the world's most populated cities.
- It is the first mission of the agency whose primary goal is to benefit societal health and will launch before the end of 2024.
- It will consist of the PLATiNO-2 satellite (provided by ASI), and a science instrument (NASA).

4. The Indian Navy successfully fired a medium-range surface-to-surface missile (MRSAM) from which INS \_\_\_\_\_ **INS Visakhapatnam.**

**Note:**

- Reason: To validate the capability of the anti-tank missiles
- MRSAM was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) and produced at Bharat Dynamics Ltd.
- The DRDO has already handed over two other versions to Indian Army and Indian Air Force to augment the country's air defense power.

5. Which edition of the multi-lateral maritime exercise La Pérouse 2023 started between the navies of India, Australia, France, Japan, and the United States in the Indian Ocean Region from 13-14 March 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Third edition.**

**Note:**

- It is a biennial exercise, conducted by the French Navy.
- Aim: To enhance maritime domain awareness and optimize maritime coordination amongst the participating navies in the Indo-Pacific Region
- India's INS Sahyadri and fleet tanker INS Jyoti have participated.

6. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report, which country remained the world's largest arms importer from 2018 to 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**

**Note:**

- Saudi Arabia is the second-largest arms importer from 2018 to 2022.
- Russia was India's largest arms supplier in the periods between 2013-17 and 2018-22.
- But Russia's share of arms imports to India fell from 64 to 45%.
- While France emerged as the second-largest arms supplier to India followed by the US.

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