

# Weekly One-liners

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15-21 April 2023



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

Dear readers,

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

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. According to the annual Banking on Climate Chaos report, the world's 60 largest banks have spent how much amount on financing fossil fuel projects since 2016 \_\_\_\_\_ **\$5.5 trillion (Rs 4,49,36,265 crore)**.  
**Note:**
  - Released by: Rainforest Action Network, BankTrack, Indigenous Environmental Network, Oil Change International, Reclaim Finance, Sierra Club and Urgewald.
  - JPMorgan Chase & Co has spent \$434.15 billion, followed by Citibank NA, Wells Fargo & Company, and Bank of America Corporation
2. Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) has collaborated with which bank for the National Common Mobility Card or Singara Chennai Card as part of the multimodal and ticket integration plan \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India**.  
**Note:**
  - It can be used on metro trains and on MTC buses and suburban trains later, and can also be used in other metros.
  - The option to link the card to an SBI bank account will be available soon.
  - It can be preloaded with cash from 100 to 2,000 with a 1.8% commission charged by SBI.
3. Which bank has launched a pilot scheme for better financing terms in the electric vehicle space and strengthening the whole ecosystem \_\_\_\_\_ **SIDBI**.  
**Note:**
  - The pilot phase of 'Mission 50K-EV4ECO' aims to strengthen the EV ecosystem, including uptake for two, three, and four-wheelers through direct and indirect lending.
  - Direct lending: SIDBI will directly give loans to eligible MSMEs
  - Indirect lending: Targeted at NBFCs, including small unrated focused, and emerging NBFCs.
4. Which bank has reintroduced a retail term deposit 'AMRIT KALASH', a special scheme of 400 days tenor \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India (SBI)**.  
**Note:**
  - Earlier, the bank had launched this retail term deposit scheme with a specific duration and it was valid from February 15, 2023, to March 31, 2023.
  - The Rate of Interest on this term deposit is 7.10 % w.e.f. April 12th, 2023.
  - While Senior Citizens are eligible for a rate of interest of 7.60%.
  - The Scheme will be valid till 30-June-2023.
5. Which bank of Russia has expanded its ties with banks in India to expedite trade between the two countries in national currencies, as Russia this year has become the biggest supplier of oil to India \_\_\_\_\_ **Gazprombank**.  
**Note:**
  - It is the third-largest lender of Russia by assets and a key conduit of the Russian energy trade.
  - In 2022, India implemented a broader framework to facilitate overseas trade in rupees, and since then many Russian institutions have opened vostro accounts with Indian banks.
6. According to a report by a French payment and transactional services firm, which Indian city has topped the list of Indian cities in terms of the highest digital transactions in the year 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru**.  
**Note:**
  - The city recorded 29 million transactions worth ₹6500 crore in 2022.
  - Delhi ranked second followed by Mumbai, Pune, and Chennai.
  - Report title: India Digital Payments Annual Report
  - Payment modes like UPI, Debit and Credit cards processed 87.92 billion transactions.
7. The CBIC is likely to introduce a system of publishing daily currency exchange rates on the integrated customs portal. What is the full form of CBIC \_\_\_\_\_ **Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs**.

**Note:**

- It would replace the existing system of notifying rates fortnightly.
- Aim: To capture daily exchange rate fluctuations and help importers and exporters to precisely calculate customs duties based on daily exchange rate
- Currently, CBIC manually notifies exchange rates of 22 currencies every fortnight based on rates obtained from SBI.

8. ADB will provide a loan of USD 230 million to which country to help the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in the northeastern part of the country affected by devastating floods in May-June 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Bangladesh.**

**Note:**

- The agreement between ADB and the government of Bangladesh was signed in Dhaka.
- The assistance under the Flood Reconstruction Emergency Assistance Project will help in the reconstruction, improvement of resilience, and economic recovery.

9. Which bank has become the country's first commercial bank to connect with the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) and deliver bill payment services via video banking \_\_\_\_\_ **AU Small Finance Bank.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To increase digital accessibility and economic capabilities, which will lead to greater financial inclusion
- Customers can use this platform to pay their bills without having to go to a branch, which is especially useful for senior persons and others with mobility challenges.

10. RBI has approved the AU Small Finance Bank and which bank to deal in foreign exchange \_\_\_\_\_ **Equitas Bank.**

**Note:**

- AU SFB informed that RBI has granted the Licence to act as Authorized Dealer Category-I (AD-I) under section 10 of FEMA, 1999 to deal in foreign exchange.
- The permission is subject to compliance with applicable regulations.
- Equitas Small Finance Bank has also received Authorized Dealer Category-I (AD-I) License from RBI.
- AU Small Finance Bank CEO: Sanjay Agarwal

11. Which bank has introduced SIB SEAFARER and SIB PULSE, two flexible saving accounts, for NRI customers \_\_\_\_\_ **South Indian Bank.**

**Note:**

- SEAFARER: Flexibility to maintain a minimum balance of Rs.10,000/- in linked accounts. No minimum balance is required for the maintenance of the NRI Term Deposit of Rs.2 lakh and above
- PULSE: Flexibility to maintain a minimum balance of Rs.10,000/- in linked accounts. NR Term Deposit above Rs.2 Lakh or RD with minimum monthly installment above Rs.20,000/-

12. Which bank has signed with an agri fintech start-up, KiVi as Banking Correspondent \_\_\_\_\_ **Federal Bank.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To scale and expand its agri-lending portfolio in Tamil Nadu.
- Federal Bank launched the instant KCC platform in September 2022 and claimed to be the first of its kind in agriculture lending, it offers farmers convenience and turnaround time.
- Aim: At providing small loans to small and marginal farmers, and to facilitate efficient credit flow to underserved rural populations

13. Which general insurance provider has introduced three add-on covers for its vehicle insurance policies - Smart Save, Roadside assistance, and Return-to-invoice \_\_\_\_\_ **Royal Sundaram General Insurance Co. Ltd.**

**Note:**

- Smart Save: This is for private cars, comes at a zero cost and will help the customer to get an upfront discount in OD insurance premium, for repairing their vehicles at Royal Sundaram's identified repair shops.
- Roadside Assistance: It is for two-wheeler policies and will cover 11 emergency services.

### Obituaries

1. An actor and comedian Allu Ramesh passed away due to cardiac arrest in Visakhapatnam, was associated with which regional cinema \_\_\_\_\_ **Telugu.**

**Note:**

- Allu Ramesh started off his career as an actor by doing theatre performances.
- He made his debut in Tollywood with Tarun's Chirujallu and starred in almost 50 films.
- Allu Ramesh acted in movies like Napoleon, Tholubommallata, Madhura Wines, and Ravana Desam.

### Important Days



1. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is celebrating the National Panchayat Awards Week from \_\_\_\_\_ as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav 2.0 \_\_\_\_\_ **17th – 21st April 2023.**

**Note:**

- The ministry has conceptualized a series of Thematic Conferences for the National Panchayat Awards Week on the theme “Panchayat ke Sankalpon ki Siddhi ka Utsav”.
- Union Minister of Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh has released a booklet on ‘Best Practices on Works of Awardee Panchayats’.

2. World Hemophilia Day is celebrated every year on which date to honor the birth anniversary of Frank Schnabel, who established the World Federation of Hemophilia \_\_\_\_\_ **April 17th.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To raise awareness and provide information about hemophilia and other bleeding disorders
- It is a rare medical condition where the blood fails to clot correctly due to the lack of specific clotting factors.
- Theme 2023: Access for All: Prevention of Bleeds as the Global Standard of Care

3. World Heritage Day (or International Day for Monuments and Sites) is celebrated on which date to raise awareness about the importance of cultural heritage and the need to preserve it for future generations \_\_\_\_\_ **April 18.**

**Note:**

- Theme 2023: Heritage Changes
- It was established by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and was approved by the 22nd UNESCO General Conference in 1983.
- UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India (As of April 18, 2023): 40

4. World Liver Day is observed annually on which date to raise awareness about liver-related diseases \_\_\_\_\_ **April 19.**

**Note:**

- Theme 2023: Be vigilant, do a regular liver check-up, fatty liver can affect anyone
- This day educates the public on lifestyle modifications that can help prevent liver diseases, such as maintaining a healthy diet, exercising regularly, and getting vaccinated against hepatitis.
- As per the WHO, liver ailments amount to the 10th most common reason for death in India.

5. India has observed National Civil Services Day every year on which date to honour the contributions of the officers who work for the nation’s numerous public service departments \_\_\_\_\_ **April 21.**

**Note:**

- On this day, the PM will award the officers from the central and state governments for their outstanding contributions to public administration
- On April 21, 1947, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel (Home Minister) gave a speech to the first group of civil servants in Independent India at the Metcalf House

### New Appointments

1. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Sekhar Rao as interim managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of which bank with effect from April 15, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka Bank.**

**Note:**

- He has been appointed for a period of three months or till the appointment of regular MD and CEO whichever is earlier.
- He has replaced Mahabaleshwara M S, whose term ended on April 14, 2023.
- Prior to this role, he was serving as an executive director of the bank.

2. Who has assumed charge as Controller of Personnel Services on April 17, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan.**

**Note:**

- He was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 1, 1987, and is a specialist in Communication and Electronic Warfare.
- Earlier, he served as the Chief of Staff of the Western Naval Command, Flag Officer Defence Advisory Group, and Flag Officer Sea Training.
- He was the second Commanding Officer of the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya.

3. Who has been confirmed as the new chief judge of the Court of Appeals, the state’s highest court \_\_\_\_\_ **Judge Rowan Wilson.**

**Note:**

- He is also New York’s first Black chief judge.
- He was appointed by the 57th governor of New York, Kathy Hochul.

- Since 2017, he has been an associate judge of the Court of Appeals, New York's highest court.
  - He studied at Harvard College, and graduated from Harvard Law School in 1984.
4. Miguel Diaz-Canel has become the president of which country for second term \_\_\_\_ **Cuba**.
- Note:**
- His bid was confirmed by 97.66% of votes cast in the Communist Party of Cuba-aligned National Assembly.
  - He took over the reins in 2018 as the first civilian leader of Cuba.
  - His first five years in office were marked by the worst economic crisis in three decades.
  - Cuba Capital: Havana; Currency: Cuban Peso
5. Tata Group has appointed whom as the CEO and managing director of Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd (TEPL) \_\_\_\_\_ **Dr. Randhir Thakur**.
- Note:**
- Before this, he was associated with the global electronic chip and circuits manufacturing giant Intel.
  - He has also held leadership and technical positions at Applied Materials Inc., SanDisk Corp, and Micron Technology Inc.
  - TEPL was founded in 2020 as a greenfield venture of the Tata Group with expertise in manufacturing precision components.
6. Who has been appointed as the brand influencer of HSBC India \_\_\_\_\_ **Virat Kohli**.
- Note:**
- HSBC India is also set to launch a multimedia campaign featuring Kohli, aimed at re-establishing the value proposition of banking with the company.
  - Virat Kohli will help to amplify HSBC's purpose of opening up a world of opportunity as it strives to support the ambitions of an aspirational India going global.
  - HSBC India CEO: Hitendra Dave

### Important News - India

1. PM Modi has launched a series of railway projects across the Northeast, a methanol plant, and laid the foundation stone for a bridge over which river \_\_\_\_\_ **Brahmaputra river**.
- Note:**
- He commissioned a methanol plant at Namrup in Dibrugarh by Assam Petrochemicals Ltd (APL) with 500 tonnes per day (TPD) capacity.
  - He has also witnessed a mega-Bihu dance performance, which has made it to the Guinness World Records, at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium, Assam.
2. National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has signed an MoU with which Tiger Reserve, spread across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem**.
- Note:**
- Reason: To facilitate a seamless and efficient entry process for vehicles entering into the forest area.
  - It will provide FASTag based payment system at Forest entry points
  - It will extend the benefit of a collection of Ecosystem Management Coordination fees through FASTag at various entrance points of the Tiger Reserve
3. PM Modi has inaugurated the All Indian Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) in which North-Eastern state \_\_\_\_\_ **Guwahati, Assam**.
- Note:**
- The foundation stone was laid in May 2017 and was built at a cost of over Rs 1,120 crore.
  - It has a total capacity of 750 beds, including 30 AYUSH beds, and also has an intake capacity of 100 MBBS students per year.
  - He also laid the foundation of the Rs 546 crore Assam Advanced Healthcare Innovation Institute, a joint initiative of the state government and IIT Guwahati.
4. Which oil company is planning to set up a joint venture with US-based clean energy technology company LanzaJet Inc and multiple domestic airlines \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)**.
- Note:**
- Reason: For the production of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF)
  - The proposed venture will set up a plant to make SAF with alcohol-to-jet technology at the state-run company's Panipat refinery in Haryana at a cost of Rs 3,000 crore.
  - IOC will possess a 50% share, while LanzaJet Inc will hold a 25% share.
5. According to the provisional data, released by the commerce ministry, the bilateral trade between India and which country increased by 7.65% to USD 128.55 billion in 2022-23 as against USD 119.5 billion in 2021-22 \_\_\_\_\_ **The US**.

**Note:**

- The US has emerged as India's biggest trading partner in 2022-23.
- During 2022-23, India's two-way commerce with China declined by about 1.5% to USD 113.83 billion.
- In 2022-23, the UAE (USD 76.16 billion) was the third largest trading partner, followed by Saudi Arabia.

6. According to the government data, India's annual Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation has declined to a 29-month low of how much percent in March 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **1.34%**.

**Note:**

- This is the 10th straight month of decline in WPI-based inflation.
- The WPI inflation data was 3.85% in February, 4.73% in January 2023, and 14.63% in March 2022.
- While the food index inflation eased to 2.32% in March 2023 from 2.76% in February 2023.

7. How many projects worth ₹638 crore (approx) were approved in the 48th meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) \_\_\_\_\_ **Eight projects.**

**Note:**

- Chaired by: Director General, G Asok Kumar
- In an initiative to clean River Hindon, four projects worth Rs 407.39 crore were approved for pollution abatement in the Shamli district.
- As part of preparations for the Mahakumbh in Prayagraj in 2025, one project for the development of seven ghats was approved.

8. Agriculture Minister, Narendra Singh Tomar launched which portal to deal with the challenges of seed production, quality seed identification, and seed certification \_\_\_\_\_ **SATHI Portal.**

**Note:**

- SATHI refers to Seed Traceability, Authentication, and Holistic Inventory.
- It has been developed on the theme of Uttam Beej - Samridhd Kisan.
- The minister highlighted that the government is constantly trying to overcome the challenges and difficulties faced by farmers.

9. Which organization is working towards the development of around 10,000 km of Optic Fibre Cables (OFC) infrastructure across the country by FY2024-25 \_\_\_\_\_ **NHAI.**

**Note:**

- The network of Digital Highways will be implemented by the National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML), a fully owned SPV of NHAI.
- Under the pilot routes for the Digital Highway development, around 1,367 km on Delhi - Mumbai Expressway and 512 km on Hyderabad - Bangalore Corridor have been identified.

10. ACC is an apex-level biannual event, is scheduled from 17 to 21 April 2023. What is the fullform of ACC \_\_\_\_\_ **Army Commanders' Conference.**

**Note:**

- It is an institutional platform for conceptual-level deliberations, culminating in making important policy decisions for the Indian Army.
- For the first time, it is being conducted in Hybrid format exploiting available technology for secure communication.
- Army Commanders will meet virtually on the first day and then travel to Delhi for balance physical meetings.

11. IFGE- CBG Producers Forum will organize a two-day Global Conference on Compressed Biogas in which city from 17 April 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi.**

**Note:**

- Theme: Towards Progressive Policy Framework for a Robust CBG Foundation and Growth.
- Aim: To apprise the industry regarding the initiatives taken for the development of the compressed biogas industry and to identify the areas where policy modifications are required
- Union Minister for Petroleum, Hardeep Singh Puri will also attend the event.

12. A three-day Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists (MACS) under India's G20 presidency has been started on April 17, 2023, in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- They will discuss sustainable agriculture and food systems for healthy people and the planet, Agriculture research and development, including food security and nutrition, public-private partnership etc.
- The 'Millets And Other Ancient GRains International ReSearch Initiative (MAHARISHI)' is also proposed.

13. Which organization has co-organized a Digital Health Summit 2023 with the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare on April 16, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Confederate of Indian Industry.**

**Note:**



- The theme of the event was 'Building One Health Together – Improving Health Equity'.
  - Objective: To bring together the policy makers, industry leaders, and global healthcare experts and thought leaders to deliberate upon key issues confronting the digital health space
14. PM Modi will inaugurate the first Global Buddhist Summit in which city on April 20, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi**.

**Note:**

- Theme 2023: Responses to Contemporary Challenges: Philosophy to Praxis
  - This two-day summit will be hosted by the Ministry of Culture and its grantee body International Buddhist Confederation.
  - It will be attended by scholars, Sangha leaders, and Dharma practitioners from all over the world.
  - It will also enhance the cultural and diplomatic relationships with other countries.
15. The Union Minister of State for Steel, Fagga Singh Kulaste will inaugurate India Steel 2023, organized in which city from 19-21 April 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Mumbai**.

**Note:**

- The event will be conducted by the steel ministry, Department of Commerce, and FICCI.
  - Aim: To bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and experts to discuss the latest developments, challenges, and opportunities in the steel industry.
  - It will showcase advance technologies, products, and solutions from the Indian steel industry.
16. Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda has launched the Marketing and Logistics Development for Promotion of Tribal Products from North-Eastern Region (PTP-NER) scheme in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Manipur**.

**Note:**

- This scheme has been introduced for the benefit of Scheduled Tribes of the North-Eastern Region.
  - Vision: To strengthen the livelihood opportunities for tribal artisans through increased efficiency in procurement, logistics and marketing of tribal products from North Eastern States.
17. Union Minister of Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched a YUVA PORTAL for which purpose \_\_\_\_\_

**For connecting and identifying potential young Start-Ups in the country.**

**Note:**

- He has also launched the One Week -One Lab program.
  - This program will offer the opportunity to the CSIR labs to showcase the work being done by them so that others can avail of it.
  - During the launch event, he also hailed the launching of the astronomy lab that has come up in Karnal, Haryana.
18. Which ministry has launched the 'Sangathan Se Samridhi' campaign to empower marginalized rural households by bringing all eligible rural women into the fold of Self Help Groups (SHGs) \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Minister of Rural Development**.

**Note:**

- The govt is targeting to bring 10 crore women under the purview of SHGs (existing nine crores).
- The govt has also set a target that every woman associated with SHGs should be able to earn 1 lakh rupees per annum.
- He also urged women to produce millet.

**Important News – State**

1. India's tallest statue of Ambedkar, a 125-ft tall bronze statue of BR Ambedkar in which city of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Hyderabad**.

**Note:**

- Reason: To mark the 132nd birth anniversary of the architect of the Indian Constitution.
  - It stands next to the State Secretariat on the banks of Hyderabad's famous Hussain Sagar Lake.
  - It was built using 360 tonnes of stainless steel and 114 tonnes of bronze, at a cost of Rs 146.50 crore.
2. Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu has inaugurated the Shar Nyima Tsho Sum Namyig Lhakhang (Gonpa) at Gyangkhar village, located in which district of Arunachal Pradesh \_\_\_\_\_ **Tawang**.

**Note:**

- The Gonpa has great historical importance for the well-being and betterment of humans, particularly for the people of Shar Nyima Tsho Sum and all Buddhists in general.
- The 11- 12th-century Gonpa was on the verge of collapse but it has been restored with a new structure.

3. Which state government has renamed the proposed Bhavanapadu port in the Srikakulam district as Mulapeta port at the request of the locals \_\_\_\_\_ **Andhra Pradesh**.

**Note:**

- CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy will lay a foundation stone for this nearly Rs 4,000 crore project on April 19, 2023.
- This decision was taken as farmers from Mulapeta and Vishnuchakram villages requested the name change.

- The state govt also issued an order notifying Bhavanapadu Port as Mulapeta Port with the same limits.
4. Which state has become the first state to adopt a water budget in a bid to come up with a solution to water scarcity in certain regions \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.

**Note:**

- The first phase would cover 94-gram panchayats and 15-block panchayats.
  - CM Pinarayi Vijayan released Public Water Budget.
  - The third phase of the Ini Njan Ozhukatte (Let me flow now) project for the rehabilitation of irrigation networks in the Western Ghats was also launched.
  - The idea of a water budget was first mooted by the state in 2019.
5. The first-ever census of which bird was conducted by the Odisha forest officials in the Bhitarkanika wildlife sanctuary \_\_\_\_\_ **Mangrove Pitta Bird**.

**Note:**

- In the first census, 179 mangrove pitta birds were sighted.
  - The habitats of these beautiful birds are confined to mangrove forest areas in Odisha's Bhitarkanika and Sundarban in West Bengal.
  - Mangrove pitta is a colorful bird that has a black head with a brown crown.
  - It feeds on crustaceans, mollusks, and insects.
6. Which state government has signed an MoU with the Arunachal Pradesh government to resolve the long pending border dispute between both states \_\_\_\_\_ **Assam**.

**Note:**

- The MoU was signed in presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi on April 20.
  - The Assam cabinet has approved the recommendations of 12 Regional Committees formed by the state government to resolve the decades-long border dispute issues with Arunachal Pradesh.
  - Assam shares an 804 km long boundary with Arunachal Pradesh.
7. Manohar Lal Khattar has launched three online services to digitally empower people, is a CM of which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Haryana**.

**Note:**

- These online services are Pro-active Divyang Pension Service, 'Tau se Poochho' WhatsApp chatbot, and online booking of government rest houses.
  - The Pro-active Divyang Pension Service for the physically challenged is committed to delivering all services for them at their doorsteps.
  - The Haryana Parivar Pehchan Authority has created a WhatsApp Chatbot Tau Se Poochho.
8. Which state government has launched a project 'One Panchayat, One Playground' project to revive the sports culture in the State by opening quality playgrounds in every panchayat \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.

**Note:**

- It was inaugurated by Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan at Kallikkad.
- For the first phase of the project, the state government has prepared a list of 113 panchayats.
- Each playground would cost around Rs 1 crore, half will be paid by the Sports department and the rest would be raised from other sources

**Important News - World**

1. Japan, India, and which country have announced a common platform for talks among bilateral creditors to coordinate the restructuring of Sri Lanka's debt \_\_\_\_\_ **France**.

**Note:**

- This move is expected to serve as a model for solving the debt woes.
  - Sri Lanka has secured a 2.9 billion dollar programme from IMF to tackle its huge debt burden.
  - But, the middle-income economy could not apply for relief under the G-20's common framework for debt treatment, which targets only low-income countries.
2. Which country has become the world's foremost narco-state, as its economic survival now depends heavily on the production and export of Captagon \_\_\_\_\_ **Syria**.

**Note:**

- Captagon is a banned illicit drug recognized by the UNODC (2021) and is a synthetic stimulant that combines amphetamine and caffeine.
- According to the Collins Dictionary, "narco-state" refers to a nation where a significant portion of the economy is reliant on the illicit trade of narcotic drugs.



3. A World Trade Organisation (WTO) panel has ruled that India has violated global trading rules in a dispute against the European Union, Japan, and which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Taiwan**.

**Note:**

- The case pertains to import duties for a wide range of products.
- In 2019, the EU, Japan, and Taiwan challenged the import duties on certain IT products.
- The EU had challenged India's introduction of import duties between 7.5% and 20% for products such as mobile phones, mobile phone components, and accessories.

4. Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, Ruchira Kamboj has handed over the cheque of \_\_\_\_\_ to the UN Women - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women \_\_\_\_\_ **USD 500,000 (Rs 4.09 crore)**.

**Note:**

- The cheque was received by Sima Sami Bahous, Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN Women.
- The Indian government is committed to the goals of gender equality, the empowerment of women, and gender mainstreaming.

### Honor & Awards

1. Who has received the AIMA's Business Leader of the Decade Award 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Chairman of Aditya Birla Group, Kumar Mangalam Birla**.

**Note:**

- Union Minister of Civil Aviation and Steel, Jyotiraditya M Scindia has presented the 13th AIMA Managing India Awards.
- AIMA JRD Tata Corporate Leadership: TV Narendran, CEO and MD of Tata Steel
- Transformational Business Leader: Sanjiv Bajaj, MD of Bajaj Finserv
- Outstanding Institution Builder: Venu Srinivasan, Chairman Emeritus, TVS Motor

2. Union HM Amit Shah has presented the Maharashtra Bhushan Award for 2022 to which person at Raigarh, Maharashtra \_\_\_\_\_ **Dr. Appasaheb Dharmadhikari**.

**Note:**

- He has played a significant role in organizing several tree plantation drives, blood donation drives, free medical clinics, and job fairs.
- Award: A shawl, citation and memento, and a cheque of Rs 25 lakh
- He was also awarded the Padma Shri in 2017.
- His father Dr. Narayan Vishnu Dharmadhikari was also awarded the Maharashtra Bhushan in 2008.

3. Which organization has been accorded the status of Miniratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) \_\_\_\_\_ **Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)**.

**Note:**

- SECI was incorporated in the year 2011 and is the primary implementing agency of the ministry for renewable energy schemes/ projects towards fulfillment of India's international commitments.
- As of date, SECI has awarded RE project capacities of over 56 GW.
- Managing Director, SECI: Suman Sharma

4. Who has been crowned the 59th edition of the beauty pageant, Femina Miss India World 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Nandini Gupta**.

**Note:**

- Meanwhile, Shreya Poonja from Delhi and Thounaojam Strela Luwang from Manipur were announced as the first runner-up and second runner-up, respectively.
- She hails from Kota, Rajasthan, and holds a Business Management degree.
- Femina Miss India 2023 was held at Indoor Stadium, Khuman Lampak, Imphal, Manipur.

5. Which state has bagged the national award for the best implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in the country \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka**.

**Note:**

- The state has recorded a 47.74% increase in the enrolment of farmers under the scheme, between the Kharif season 2021 and 2022.
- While the area covered under the scheme increased by 41.80%.
- The common service centers have also seen an enrolment of 4.66 lakh non-loanee farmers over the last six years.

6. Who has been selected for the Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Utsa Patnaik**.

**Note:**

- It is granted for outstanding contributions to Development Studies.

- The award consists of a citation and a cash prize of Rs. 2 lakh.
  - The award is given every year by the Malcolm & Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust.
  - It is annually given to an outstanding social scientist selected from nominations received by a specially constituted national jury.
7. Who has received the highest Order of Merit of Germany from the President of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier \_\_\_\_\_  
**Former Chancellor Angela Merkel.**
- Note:**
- The award has only been given twice before, to former chancellors Konrad Adenauer and Helmut Kohl.
  - All three former leaders belong to the conservative Christian Democratic Union (CDU).
  - The Order of Merit entails no financial reward.
  - Merkel led Germany from 2005 to 2021, totaling four terms in office.
8. Who will be felicitated with the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar award on April 24, the Memorial Day of theatre-music veteran Deenanath Mangeshkar \_\_\_\_\_ **Legendary singer Asha Bhosle.**
- Note:**
- The family and the trust have instituted the award in memory of Lata Mangeshkar, who died on February 6, 2022.
  - This award was aimed to honor people from various fields such as music, drama, art, medicine, and social work.
  - Prime Minister Narendra Modi was its first recipient

### Sports News

1. The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has decided that the top eight participating teams in the Indian Women's League (IWL), have a minimum of 10 Indian players on a fully professional annual contract worth a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 3.2 lakhs.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To revamp and restructure women's football in the country, in line with the Strategic Roadmap Vision 2047.
  - The 2024-25 season will have 10 teams in the top division followed by two other divisions.
  - AIFF President: Kalyan Chaubey
2. Shaili Singh won a gold medal in the women's long jump at the Indian Grand Prix 4 2023 athletics meet in Bangalore, Karnataka, is associated in which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Long Jump.**
- Note:**
- She has logged a 6.76m effort, the second-best by an Indian after the legendary Anju Bobby George.
  - With this win, she has also qualified for the Asian Games 2023, scheduled in Hangzhou, China, by breaching the women's long jump qualifying standard of 6.45m set by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI).
3. Who has won two gold medals at the Brazil Para-Badminton International 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan.**
- Note:**
- In the women's singles SH6 category finals, she defeated Peru's Giuliana Poveda Flores to win the gold medal.
  - In the mixed doubles SH6 final, she combined with Sivarajan Solaimalai to beat Hong Kong's Chu Man Kai and Choi Wing Kei.
  - While Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam also won gold in the men's doubles category.
4. Vedaant Madhavan has claimed 5 gold medals for India at the Malaysian Invitational age group Championships 2023 held in Kuala Lumpur, is associated with which sports \_\_\_\_\_ **Swimming.**
- Note:**
- He won gold in the 50m, 100m, 200m, 400m, and 1500m swimming categories.
  - In 2022, he also participated in the 48th Junior National Aquatics Championships and became the first person in India to break the record of the 1500m freestyle by finishing the race within 16:01.73 seconds.
5. In the 2023 edition of the Wisden Cricketer's Almanack, Along with England wicketkeeper-batter Ben Foakes, India Women captain Harmanpreet Kaur, NZ all-rounder Daryl Mitchell and England pacer Matthew Potts, which sports person have been named Wisden's Five Cricketers of the Year \_\_\_\_\_ **New Zealand wicketkeeper-batter Tom Blundell.**
- Note:**
- Harmanpreet is the first India Women's cricketer to be named a Wisden Cricketer of the Year.
  - She was chosen primarily for her ODI century against England at Canterbury.
  - The Greco-Roman wrestlers won four medals while the women's wrestlers bagged seven.

### Books and Authors

1. A book titled, 'In Pursuit of Peace: India-Pakistan Relations Under Six Prime Ministers' is a memoir of \_\_\_\_\_ **Satinder Kumar Lambah**.

**Note:**

- It was forwarded by former PM Dr. Manmohan Singh.
- Satinder Kumar Lambah had served two tenures in Pakistan as Deputy Chief of Mission and High Commissioner and was Chairman of the National Security Advisory Board.
- He also served as a Special Representative for Afghanistan under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

2. Francois 'Faf' du Plessis's memoir 'Faf Through Fire' is all set to release in India in May 2023, is cricketer of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **South African cricketer**.

**Note:**

- The book is published by Penguin Random House India.
- Presently, he is the captain of the Indian Premier League's Royal Challengers Bangalore team.
- He is also the former Captain of the South African National Cricket team.
- In his upcoming memoir, he has shared his journey as a cricketer, love for the game, and also reveals his struggles and triumphs.

### Science and Defence

1. Which space agency has launched its flagship JUICE (JUperiter ICy moons Explorer) mission on April 14, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **South African cricketer**.

**Note:**

- The mission was carried by an Ariane 5 rocket from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana.
- It will take an eight-year journey to reach Jupiter.
- Aim: To understand whether there are habitable environments among those icy moons and around a Jupiter
- It will make detailed observations of Jupiter and its three large moons: Ganymede, Callisto, and Europa

2. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) Industry Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA-CoE) has been inaugurated at which IIT \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Technology -Hyderabad**.

**Note:**

- DRDO Chairman Dr Samir V Kamat inaugurated the facility at the campus of the IIT-Hyderabad at Sangareddy in Telangana.
- The government is taking up futuristic projects towards long-term directed research needed for DRDO.
- The DIA CoE IITH is the largest centre among all 15 CoEs in the country.

3. Which country has successfully launched its inaugural earth observation satellite, Taifa-1 using a SpaceX rocket from the United States \_\_\_\_\_ **Kenya**.

**Note:**

- The satellite was carried by the Falcon 9 rocket, launched from Vandenberg Base in California.
- It was developed over a two-year period at a cost of 50 million Kenyan shillings, with assistance from the Bulgarian aerospace firm Endurosat
- Additionally, under SpaceX's rideshare initiative, the launch rocket carried 50 payloads from other countries

4. Which IIT has signed an MoU with the National Science and Technology Centre for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), Taiwan \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Roorkee**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To develop scientific and academic cooperation and scientific research to promote relations and mutual understanding between NCDR and the Centre of Excellence in Disaster Mitigation and Management of IIT Roorkee
- The main objective is to develop a technological solution to natural hazards, including earthquakes, landslides, and compound disasters.

5. Which IIT will set up its first International campus in Zanzibar, Tanzania in October 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras**.

**Note:**

- In February 2023, a team of five professors from IIT Madras visited Tanzania and held discussions with various officials on starting the campus.
- It will be the first IIT campus in Africa and classes are to start from October.
- This information was shared by IIT Madras Director V Kamakoti at IIT Madras' 64th Institute Day.

6. Which organization and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have joined hands for global outreach activities in connection with the proposed Chandrayaan-3 \_\_\_\_\_ **Moon Village Association**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To increase the impact of Isro's lunar program at a global level and ensure further international cooperation



- It will focus on the global aspect of lunar exploration and identify communication, and encourage the youth to focus on the benefits of every lunar mission.

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# Features :

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