

# Bi-Weekly Current Affairs (1-15 June 2023) English PDF



## **Bi-Weekly One Liners Updates**

### **1st -15<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Dear readers,

**Weekly One Liners Update** is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **first two weeks** (1-15th) of **June 2023**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

### **Banking & Financial Awareness**

1. Which life insurance company has launched an exclusive term insurance plan for Type 2 diabetic and pre-diabetic individual \_\_\_\_\_ **Bajaj Allianz Life**.

**Note:**

- The Bajaj Allianz Life Diabetic Term Plan Sub 8 HbA1c is first of its kind protection plan in the Indian life insurance industry.
- The insurer offers a 10% premium reduction for individuals trying to achieve health goals and other health management services.
- The policy term ranges from five to 25 years and premiums can be paid monthly/annually.

2. Which life insurance provider has become the first insurance company to launch a policy that covers surrogate mothers and egg donors \_\_\_\_\_ **Aegon Life**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To support the financial well-being of surrogate mothers and egg donors
- The new cover aligns with the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 and the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021, introduced by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- It provides a three-year life cover for surrogate mothers and a one-year cover for egg donors

3. Reserve Bank Innovation Hub has partnered with which IIT Research Park and Incubation Cell to launch voice-banking solutions to eliminate language barriers \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Madras**.

**Note:**

- It will assist the illiterate and the visually impaired in their banking needs.
- Aim: To conduct the basic banking transactions through voice controls in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, and English, in the initial stage
- SBI, Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra, and IDFC First conducted a code fest on voice banking called 'Vaulted Voice'

4. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 2.2 crore on which bank for violating various norms \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Overseas Bank**.

**Note:**

- The RBI said it fined the bank under the powers vested by the Banking Regulation Act 1949.
- The RBI imposed this monetary penalty after finding contraventions of banking regulations and non-compliance with specific RBI directions related to income recognition, asset classification, provisioning, interest rates on deposits, and ATM security

5. Which bank has committed to donating Rs 1,200 crore towards Tata Memorial Centre (TMC), from its CSR funds \_\_\_\_\_ **ICICI Bank**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To set up three new buildings spanning over a combined area of 7.5 lakh square feet at TMC's centers at Navi Mumbai (Maharashtra), Mullanpur (Punjab), and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
- ICICI Foundation for Inclusive Growth (ICICI Foundation), the CSR arm of ICICI Bank, will implement the initiative, which is likely to be completed by 2027.

6. SEBI released guidelines for transactions in corporate bonds through the Request for Quote (RFQ) platform by stock brokers in order to increase liquidity on the platform, from which date \_\_\_\_\_ **July 1, 2023**.



**Note:**

- For all the trades in a proprietary capacity, stock brokers will have to undertake at least 10% of their total secondary market trades by value in corporate bonds in that month by placing quotes through one-to-one or one-to-many mode
  - In April 2024, the percentage will increase to 25%
7. Which organization has launched a mobile-based expense management card for businesses and individuals wherein it offers its users uncapped cashback of upto 1% \_\_\_\_\_ **Karbon Card.**

**Note:**

- Card ++ differentiates itself by providing interesting cashback offers, incentivizing people their spending.
  - The unique feature adds value to the card, making it an option for users.
  - Its features include the ability to make payments on various platforms such as Google, Amazon, Swiggy, and Ola.
8. Which bank's Bengaluru Circle has launched 'Project Kuber', which will have four Transaction Banking Hubs and One Corporate Salary Package Hub \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To increase the market share in liability products of SBI
  - Location: SBI Administrative Building, KG Road, and Sampige Road in Malleswaram.
  - Transaction Banking Hubs: It will offer services to corporate/non-corporate clients, from account opening to onboarding them on SBI's digital platforms
9. Who has launched a Financial Inclusion Dashboard 'ANTARDRIHSTI' \_\_\_\_\_ **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To provide the required insight to assess and monitor the progress of financial inclusion by capturing relevant parameters.
  - It will enable the ability to gauge extent of financial exclusion at granular levels across the country.
  - Presently, the dashboard is intended for internal use in the RBI.
  - It will further facilitate greater financial inclusion through a multi-stakeholder approach.
10. RBI has set up a committee for Review of Customer Service Standards in RBI Regulated Entities, under the chairmanship of whom \_\_\_\_\_ **BP Kanungo.**

**Note:**

- The operations of accounts should not be stopped pending periodic KYC updates
  - The committee has also suggested measures for the benefit of pensioners
  - There should be a time limit for the return of property documents to borrowers after the closure of the loan account, failing which a penalty should be imposed on the lender.
11. Which bank has launched Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) facility, in which a customer can withdraw cash using UPI from the bank's ATMs \_\_\_\_\_ **Bank of Baroda.**

**Note:**

- It would be the first public sector bank to launch this service.
  - BoB customers as well as customers of other participating issuer banks that use BHIM UPI, Bob World UPI, or any other UPI application enabled for ICCW on their mobile phone can withdraw cash from a Bank of Baroda ATM without using their debit card.
12. BSE and which stock exchange have introduced an enhanced surveillance mechanism (ESM) for companies that have a market cap of less than ₹500 crore, which came into force on June 5 \_\_\_\_\_ **NSE.**

**Note:**

- SEBI and exchanges in a joint meeting have decided to introduce the ESM framework for "micro-small" companies.
  - Aim: To curb volatility in small-cap counters
  - The parameters for shortlisting the securities under the ESM framework include high-low price variation and close-to-close price variation.
13. According to the World Bank's latest report, what would be India's growth outlook in FY2023/24 \_\_\_\_\_ **6.3%.**



**Note:**

- The bank has also raised the 2023 global growth forecast, highlighting that the U.S. and other major economies have proven more resilient than forecast.
- The global Real GDP would climb 2.1% in 2023, up from a 1.7% forecast issued in January 2023 but below 3.1% (2022 growth rate).

14. Which organization has collaborated with Microsoft to launch the Wipro Industry Innovation Experience for Financial Services \_\_\_\_\_ **Wipro.**

**Note:**

- It will feature a new suite of banking and financial services solutions built on Microsoft Cloud.
- Aim: To help financial services clients accelerate growth and deepen client relationships
- It would bring together Microsoft Cloud capabilities with Wipro FullStride Cloud, as well as leverage Wipro's and Capco's deep domain expertise in financial services

15. Which bank unveiled a Savings Programme named 'Réserve', curated exclusively for UHNIs and HNIs \_\_\_\_\_ **Kotak Private Banking.**

**Note:**

- This by-invite program extends beyond banking services, offering a range of exclusive amenities to provide clients with an unparalleled luxury banking experience.
- Aim: To deliver a premium banking experience by offering exclusive lifestyle benefits

16. Which organization has partnered with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions to healthcare professionals through the 'Wellth- Where Investments and Health Unite' program \_\_\_\_\_ **YES SECURITIES.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To help the healthcare community start their investment journey for successful wealth creation and achieving long-term financial goals
- It will also provide free-of-cost demat and trading accounts, monthly stock research recommendations, and tailor-made product offerings based on needs.

17. Which bank has introduced a new credit card 'Millennia', that comes with contactless technology allowing customers to 'tap and pay' via POS machine \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank.**

**Note:**

- It offers cashback and reward points on Amazon, Flipkart, and other e-commerce platforms.
- It also offers 1% cash back on offline purchases, smart EMI, and lounge access for free.
- It is applicable to both self-employed and salaried persons.
- People earning a maximum of ₹35,000 gross salary can apply for the card.

18. The RBI's Monetary Policy Committee in its second bi-monthly monetary policy FY24 has kept the repo rate unchanged at what percent \_\_\_\_\_ **6.5%.**

**Note:**

- Aim: Focus remains on withdrawal of accommodation
- The RBI also retained FY24 GDP growth forecast at 6.5%, while expects FY24 CPI inflation to be at 5.1% (from 5.2%).
- Standing Deposit Facility Rate: 6.25%
- Marginal Standing Facility Rate: 6.75%
- Bank Rate: 6.75%
- Foreign exchange reserves(as on June 2): \$595.1 billion

19. The World Bank and which bank signed two financing agreements totaling USD 858 million to enhance climate-resilient agricultural growth, and improve road safety \_\_\_\_\_ **Bangladesh.**

**Note:**

- The World Bank will provide USD 500 million to Bangladesh for Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship, and Resilience.
- USD 358 million will be provided to Bangladesh for Road Safety Project, a first dedicated road safety project in South Asia supported by the World Bank

20. SIDBI has signed an MoU with which bank for providing financial solutions to MSMEs \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank.**





**Note:**

- Under the MoU, SIDBI and HDFC Bank will work together to provide complete financial product and services to the customers under MSMEs.
- Aim: To facilitate providing complete financial solutions to MSMEs in a seamless manner
- This arrangement will enable MSMEs to avail financial products and services of both the banks.

21. Which bank has launched a campaign named 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' \_\_\_\_\_ **Federal Bank.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To celebrate people and their culture by transforming an entire bank branch into a museum of local stories.
- The campaign has handpicked 40 compelling stories of individuals, which are showcased in an exclusive exhibition at the Adyar branch of Federal Bank.
- This art exhibition will run for two weeks.
- The campaign is a first-of-its-kind micro-marketing initiative in the banking industry.

22. According to the rating agency ICRA, bond issuances by banks may fall below at what amount in FY24 due to easing liquidity conditions \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs 90,000 crore.**

**Note:**

- Banks issued a record Rs 1.1 trillion bonds in FY23.
- Stronger foreign institutional investor (FII)/foreign portfolio investment (FPI) inflows, as seen recently, the derecognition of the Rs 2,000 note and an anticipated dividend by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) could ease liquidity conditions in the interim.

23. According to the new rankings released by Brand Finance, which organization has retained its position as the most valued brand in India \_\_\_\_\_ **Tata Group.**

**Note:**

- With a value growth of 10.3% in 2023 as compared to 2022.
- Notably, Tata Group is the only Indian brand to feature in the top 100 of the Brand Finance Global 500 2023.
- While Infosys retained the second spot in the rankings with a brand value of \$13 billion, followed by LIC with a value of \$9.7 billion.

24. RBI has notified four key measures to strengthen how many Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) in the country \_\_\_\_\_ **1,514.**

**Note:**

- UCBs can now open new branches up to 10% of the number of branches in the previous financial year without prior approval of RBI in their approved area of operation.
- UCBs have to get the policy approved by their board and comply with the Financially Sound and Well Managed Norms.
- The deadline to achieve PSL target of 60% also extended to March 31, 2024.

25. According to the MyGovIndia govt data, which country has topped the global rankings in digital payments for the year 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**

**Note:**

- During the year under review, there were 5 million digital transactions in the country.
- India accounted for 46% of the global real-time payments in 2022, which was more than the combined digital payments the next four top countries.
- This shows the robustness of India's payment ecosystem as well as the country's acceptance of the digital.

26. Which bank has received board approval to raise ₹50,000 crore through debt instruments \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India (SBI).**

**Note:**

- These debt instruments could include long-term bonds, Long Term Bonds, Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 Bonds and Basel III compliant Tier 2 Bonds.
- The resources will be raised through private placement mode to Indian and/or overseas investors during FY24, subject to the government's approval wherever required.

27. The central government and which international bank signed a loan agreement worth \$130 million to boost agricultural productivity and horticulture agribusinesses \_\_\_\_\_ **ADB.**



**Note:**

- The deal aims to increase farmers' income and improve access to irrigation in Himachal Pradesh
- The project interventions will help increase the income and resilience to the effects of climate change of at least 15,000 farm households across seven districts in the state: Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Kangra, Mandi, Sirmour, Solan, and Una.

28. Which bank in partnership with NGO Dhruvansh has organised a lake cleaning drive, 'Cleanathon', in Hyderabad \_\_\_\_\_ **Axis Bank.**

**Note:**

- This initiative was recorded in the Asia Book of Record as it was the largest cleaning drive conducted across the country.
- In Hyderabad, over 100 volunteers participated in cleaning Mushki Cheruvu and Nekkampur Lake to restore these water bodies.
- The campaign aligned with the United Nations' theme for World Environment Day 2023, 'Beat Plastic Pollution'.

29. Which organization has received the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's approval to commence life insurance operations \_\_\_\_\_ **Go Digit.**

**Note:**

- In 2022, HDFC Bank and Axis Bank announced that they will both acquire up to 9.94% stake each in Go Digit-Life Insurance through the investment of ₹50-70 crore, possibly in tranches, subject to executive of certain terms and agreements.
- Digit Insurance already has general insurance operations through Go Digit General Insurance.

30. Which bank has launched a Unique feature named 'My Account My Name' for IOB SB HNI and IOB SB MAX account holders \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Overseas Bank.**

**Note:**

- This feature allows customers to choose any name as their account number.
- The account name can only be a numeric, alphabetic, or alphanumeric combination of seven characters.
- For example, a customer's account number can be 'Jackson' or '1234567' or 'Jack123'.

31. RBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 60.20 lakh on which co-operative bank for a slew of shortcomings and violations \_\_\_\_\_ **Bihar State Co-operative Bank Limited, Patna.**

**Note:**

- A statutory inspection of the Patna-based bank by Nabard after FY20 revealed that it failed to put in robust software for identifying and reporting suspicious transactions and submit statutory returns within prescribed timelines.
- The RBI also imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 6 lakh on Jowai Cooperative Urban Bank Limited, Meghalaya.

32. Which organization became the first Indian stock to touch the rupee one lakh per share mark on June 13, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **MRF.**

**Note:**

- The stock opened at ₹99,500 on BSE against the previous close of ₹98,939.70 and touched an all-time high of ₹1,00,300 in morning trade.
- The stock has witnessed strong gains in the last one year.
- It is up 45% in the last one year against a 19% gain in the benchmark Sensex.
- MRF shares hit their 52-week low of ₹65,900.05 on BSE on June 17, 2022.

33. Which organization has surrendered its NBFC licence and accordingly, its registration has been cancelled \_\_\_\_\_ **Equitas Holdings.**

**Note:**

- The RBI, in the exercise of powers conferred on it under Section 45-IA (6) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, has therefore cancelled its CoR (certificate of registration).
- Reason: The company does not hold public funds
- Therefore, it may have voluntarily surrendered its certificate of registration.

34. Hubble has joined hands with which payment bank for introducing India's first spending account \_\_\_\_\_ **Fino Payments Bank.**



**Note:**

- Depositors can save money in the account and earn up to 10% cash back on all purchases they make from the account.
- They can track expenses over 50 partnered brands and potentially save up to Rs. 20,000 annually.
- Users earn an interest rate of 2.75% annually on their parked funds.
- It will be integrated with Fino Payments Bank's digital savings account.

35. SEBI has introduced a regulatory framework for online investment platforms that facilitate investments in commission-free \_\_\_\_\_ schemes \_\_\_\_\_ **Mutual fund.**

**Note:**

- It also addresses investor concerns about associated risks and introduces a grievance redressal mechanism.
- Platforms providing MF investment services in direct (commission-free) plans will have to apply for an 'execution only platform' licence through Sebi or AMFI within three months of the regulation coming into force.

36. Which bank has launched a new deposit scheme 'Vikas Ashadeep 400 days' \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB).**

**Note:**

- The scheme is of a tenor of 400 days with an interest rate of 7.5% for senior citizens and 7% for the general public.
- Prospective customers of the scheme will earn higher interest for a shorter period (almost 13 months).
- Under the scheme, a minimum of Rs 10,000 and a maximum of Rs 2 crore can be deposited.
- KVGB chairman: Shreekanth Bhandiwad

37. Which digital credit platform has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India to add its newly launched UPI plug-in functionality to RING's pre-existing suite of digital services \_\_\_\_\_ **RING.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To help RING offer 'scan & pay' options to its existing customers and acquire new customers who use UPI as a preferred mode of payment
- It will become a one-stop integrated payment and credit solution where a customer can avail credit and pay merchants across the country.

**Obituaries**

1. Dr. Ved Kumari Ghai, who passed away at 91, was a noted scholar in which language \_\_\_\_\_ **Sanskrit.**

**Note:**

- She was an Indian Sanskrit scholar from Jammu City, J&K, and was head of the Sanskrit department at Jammu University.
- She was awarded the Padma Shri (India's fourth highest civilian award), a Certificate for her scholarship in Sanskrit, and President's Award for Sanskrit.
- She was also awarded Gold Medal by Jammu and Kashmir Government for social work and the Dogra Ratan award.

2. Amir Raza Husain, who passed away at 66, was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor.**

**Note:**

- He was known for his large outdoor stage productions such as "The Fifty Day War" based on the Kargil War and "The Legend of Ram".
- He was also the Creative Director of the Stagedoor Theatre Company, established in 1974, which has presented over 91 productions and more than 1,100 performances.
- He was honoured with the Padma Shri (2001) by the government for his contribution to theatre.

3. Sulochana, who passed away at 94, was veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Actor (female).**

**Note:**

- She was featured in more than 250 Hindi and 50 Marathi films.



- She started her career with Marathi films in the early 1940s and soon moved to Hindi films, where she portrayed several mother roles in movies like Shammi Kapoor's Dil Dekhe Dekho, Dilip Kumar's Aadmi, Dev Anand's Jhonny Mera Naam, Muqaddar Ka Sikandar, Himmatwala, and Andar Baahar.
  - She was honoured with Padma Shri in 1999.
4. Gitanjali Aiyar, who passed away, was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Journalist**.
- Note:**
- Aiyar joined Doordarshan in 1971 and was awarded the best anchor four times.
  - She also won the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for Outstanding Women in 1989.
  - She was a diploma holder from the National School of Drama (NSD).
  - She had also been a popular face in several print advertisements and even acted in Sridhar Kshirsagar's TV drama "Khandaan".
5. Silvio Berlusconi, who passed away at 86, was a former PM of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Italy**.
- Note:**
- Berlusconi founded Forza Italia, a center-right party, in 1994 with the aim of defeating the 'communists'.
  - His party introduced a populist style of politics in Italy, propelling him to the upper ranks of the political establishment.
  - He was also known as 'Il Cavaliere' (The Knight) and remained a flamboyant and influential figure in Italian politics.
6. Cormac McCarthy passed away at 89 in the USA, was a veteran \_\_\_\_\_ **Novelist**.
- Note:**
- "All the Pretty Horses," "The Road" and "No Country for Old Men" were among his acclaimed books that explore a bleak world of violence and outsiders.
  - He was awarded the National Book Award in 1992 for his novel 'All the Pretty Horses'.
  - He also won a Pulitzer Prize in 2007 for 'The Road'.
  - Other novels: Suttree, Blood Meridian, The Border Trilogy, No Country for Old Men

### Important Days

1. World Bicycle Day 2023 is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **3rd June**.
- Note:**
- Aim: To promote the importance of bicycles as a means of transportation, fostering sustainability, health, and well-being.
  - The day was declared by the United Nations General Assembly in April 2018 to recognize the uniqueness, versatility and sustainability of the bicycle and its positive impact on society.
  - The initiative to establish this Day was led by Turkmenistan, with the support of numerous other countries.
2. World Environment Day is observed annually on which date to create awareness about the protection of the environment and the earth's well-being \_\_\_\_\_ **June 5**.
- Note:**
- The theme for World Environment Day 2023 is 'Solutions to plastic pollution', under the campaign #BeatPlasticPollution.
  - The day is hosted by Côte d'Ivoire and supported by the Netherlands.
  - This year marks the 50th anniversary of World Environment Day, which will focus on solutions to plastic pollution.
3. The fifth World Food Safety Day is celebrated on which date to draw attention to help prevent, detect, and manage foodborne risks, contributing to food security, human health, agriculture, and sustainable development \_\_\_\_\_ **7 June 2023**.
- Note:**
- 2023 theme: Food Standards Save Live
  - The 2023 theme emphasizes that how important food standards are to protecting public health.
  - This day was established by the WHO and FAO in 2018.
  - On June 7, 2019, the first World Food Safety Day was observed.





4. The International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression was observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **June 4.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To bring attention to children who experience various forms of aggression
- It serves as a solemn reminder of the suffering endured by countless children globally, regardless of the specific type of abuse they endure.

5. International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing is celebrated on which date every year \_\_\_\_\_ **June 5.**

**Note:**

- The day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2017 to raise awareness of the problem of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- IUU fishing is a major threat to global fish stocks and the marine environment.

6. World Milk Day is observed every year on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **1st June.**

**Note:**

- This day was created in the year 2001 by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations (UN).
- Aim: To promote the consumption and benefits of milk around the world.
- The goal of this day is to provide us with a chance to raise awareness of and support in any manner possible initiatives related to the dairy industry.
- For 2023, the theme for World Milk Day will focus on the importance of dairy in the reduction of carbon footprints as well as providing nutritious foods and livelihoods.

7. The Global Day of Parents is observed every year on which date to recognize the critical role parents play in the lives of their children and the well-being of society as a whole \_\_\_\_\_ **June 1.**

**Note:**

- This day serves as an opportunity to honor and appreciate the dedication, love, and sacrifices of parents worldwide.
- The day emphasizes the importance of parental guidance in shaping the lives of children and promoting their overall well-being.

8. World Oceans Day is observed every year on which date to create awareness about the significance of oceans, and importance of preserving and conserving oceanic resources \_\_\_\_\_ **8 June.**

**Note:**

- 2023 theme: Planet Ocean: Tides are Changing
- The concept was originally proposed by Canada's International Centre for Ocean Development and the Ocean Institute of Canada at the Earth Summit in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- This day was officially recognised by the United Nations in 2008.

9. World Brain Tumor Day is celebrated annually on which date for creating awareness about brain tumors \_\_\_\_\_ **June 8.**

**Note:**

- Theme 2023: Protect yourself – keep away from stress
- Brain tumor is characterised by abnormal growth of cells in the brain, it can be grown in any part of the brain or skull including the underside of the brain, brainstem and nasal cavity among others
- Researchers have identified more than 120 types of brain tumors which are based on the brain tissue that it impacts

10. World Accreditation Day is an annual global observance held on which date to recognize and promote the role of accreditation across various sectors \_\_\_\_\_ **June 9.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To raise awareness about the value and benefits of accreditation in ensuring competence, reliability, and credibility in industries such as healthcare, laboratories, certification bodies, and conformity assessment services
- 2023 theme: Accreditation: Supporting the Future of Global Trade

11. The World Day against Child Labour is observed annually on which date to support the expanding anti-child labour movement \_\_\_\_\_ **June 12.**



**Note:**

- ILO declared June 12 to be the World Day Against Child Labour in 2002 to raise awareness of this problem.
- "Week of Action against Child Labour" is the theme for the 2023 World Day Against Child Labour.
- The ILO intends to start a week-long campaign to raise public awareness of the injustice of child labour and inspire people to take action.

12. International Albinism Awareness Day is observed annually on which date to ensure the inclusion of the voices of persons with albinism in all sectors of life \_\_\_\_\_ **June 13.**

**Note:**

- 2023 theme: Inclusion is Strength
- Albinism is a genetic condition that can lead to the absence of melanin production in the human body.
- In 2013, the United Nations Human Rights Commission passed a resolution called Attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism.

13. World Blood Donor Day is celebrated every year on which date to raise awareness for the necessity of blood donation and thank the altruistic acts of selflessness of voluntary blood donors and celebrate life and humanity \_\_\_\_\_ **June 14.**

**Note:**

- 2023 theme: Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often
- This day was first distinguished by the WHO in 2004.
- At the 58th World Health Assembly (2005), it was declared an annual global event on June 14 (the birthday of Karl Landsteiner).

**New Appointments**

1. Who has been appointed as MD and CEO of UCO Bank \_\_\_\_\_ **Ashwani Kumar.**

**Note:**

- He has replaced Soma Sankara Prasad, who superannuated on May 31, 2023.
- Prior to this, he served as an Executive Director at Indian Bank.
- He would lead the public sector bank for a period of three years from June 1, 2023.
- He would also be eligible for an extension of the term of office, after a review of his performance.

2. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director of Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) \_\_\_\_\_ **Ajay Yadav.**

**Note:**

- He is a 2005 batch IAS officer of the Bihar cadre.
- SECI is a Miniratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE).
- It was incorporated in the year 2011.
- It is the primary implementing agency of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for Renewable Energy schemes/projects towards the fulfillment of India's international commitments.

3. Who assumed charge as Director General of Naval Armament (DGONA) on June 1, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **INAS, P Upadhyay.**

**Note:**

- He has replaced KSC Iyer, who superannuated on 31 May 2023.
- He is an alumnus of the Naval Defence College of NDC-53.
- He belongs to the 1987 batch of the Indian Naval Armament Service.
- He joined the Naval Armament Organization of the Indian Navy in 1989.
- He is specialized in Missile and Torpedo Maintenance besides having vast knowledge of the disposal of ammunition.

4. Who has taken charge as a Chairman of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) on May 31, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Amarendu Prakash.**

**Note:**

- Prior to this, he was Director in charge at Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL).



- He is a metallurgical engineer from BIT Sindhri and joined SAIL in 1991 as a Management Trainee (Technical).
  - He also took on additional charge as Director In-Charge of the Rourkela Steel Plant, IISCO, and Durgapur Steel Plant.
5. Who will be sworn in as the President of Turkish \_\_\_\_\_ **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**
- Note:**
- Ambassador Virander Paul will be representing India at the ceremony
  - The inauguration ceremony in Parliament will be followed by an elaborate ceremony at Erdogan's palace in Ankara
  - He won the presidential run-off election by securing 52.18% of the vote, defeating his opponent Kemal Kilicdaroglu, who received 47.82% votes.
6. Who has been elected as the new President of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for a 4-year term from 2023 to 2027 \_\_\_\_\_ **Abdulla Al Mandous.**
- Note:**
- He emerged as the official candidate of the UAE and secured 95 votes out of the representatives from WMO's 193 member states and territories.
  - He succeeded Prof Gerhard Adrian.
  - WMO is an authoritative body within the UN system that focuses on weather, climate, environment, etc.
7. Who has assumed charge as the President of the World Bank, after replacing David Malpass, who stepped down on June 1, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Ajay Banga.**
- Note:**
- He has been appointed as the 14th President of the World Bank for a five-year term.
  - In February 2023, US President Joe Biden nominated Ajay Banga to lead the World Bank.
  - He has become the first-ever Indian-American to head the World Bank.
  - Prior to this role, he served as Vice Chairman at General Atlantic.
8. TransUnion CIBIL has appointed whom as a new non-executive chairman \_\_\_\_\_ **V Anantharaman.**
- Note:**
- He replaced M V Nair, who has stepped down from his post, after eleven years.
  - He has worked in the banking industry to lead corporate and investment banking teams in Standard Chartered Bank, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and Bank of America.
  - He also served on the boards of The Indian Hotels Company Limited, Axis Asset Management Company, IIFL Home Finance Ltd and Ecom Express Ltd.
9. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) \_\_\_\_\_ **Amit Agrawal.**
- Note:**
- While Subodh Kumar Singh has been appointed as director general of the National Testing Agency.
  - Both Agrawal and Singh are Indian Administrative Service officers of the Chhattisgarh cadre.
  - Rashmi Chowdhary, additional secretary in the Department of Personnel and Training, has been appointed as secretary in the Central Information Commission.
10. Who has been appointed as the new director general of the Border Security Force (BSF) \_\_\_\_\_ **Nitin Agarwal.**
- Note:**
- This appointment comes after a vacancy of over five months in the position.
  - Presently, he is serving as the Additional DG of operations at the headquarters of the CRPF in Delhi.
  - The additional charge of the BSF has been held by Sujoy Lal Thaosen, the Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).
11. The government of India has appointed whom as the new Power Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ **Pankaj Agrawal.**
- Note:**
- He would replace present Secretary Alok Kumar, who will retire on June 30.



- While Rajat Mishra will be the new Fertiliser Secretary, and Chanchal Kumar to join the Civil Aviation Ministry as Secretary.
- Sudhansh Pant will move from the Ports, Shipping and Waterways Ministry to Health Ministry.
- Subhas Chandra Lal Das will move to the Ministry of MSME as Secretary.

### Important News – India

1. Which ministry has launched the Electronics Repair Services Outsourcing (ERSO) Pilot initiative \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity).**

**Note:**

- Aim: To validate certain transformational policy and process changes to make India the Repair Capital of the World
- The pilot project is being conducted in Bengaluru and will run for three months.
- The government has supported this project to make India a world leader in a hitherto untapped domain.

2. Which ministry will implement a pilot project of the World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector in at least ten selected districts \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Cooperation.**

**Note:**

- The Cabinet has approved the constitution and empowerment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee for the facilitation of the "World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector".
- This will be done by the convergence of various schemes of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- Ministry of Cooperation will implement a pilot project in at least ten selected districts.

3. According to the Statistics Ministry's provisional estimate, India's GDP is pegged to grow at what percent during the fiscal year 2022-23 \_\_\_\_\_ **7.2%.**

**Note:**

- The data is 20 basis points higher than the government's second advance estimate of 7%.
- The GDP registered a growth of 6.1% in January-March 2023.
- Quarterly terms in 2022-23: 13.1% growth (Q1), 6.2% (Q2), and 4.5% (Q3)
- In the fourth quarter, the agricultural growth was estimated at 5.5% and Manufacturing growth at 4.5 %.

4. Which ministry has amended the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act, 2004, to mandate the display of anti-tobacco warnings and disclaimers on over-the-top (OTT) platforms \_\_\_\_\_ **Union health ministry.**

**Note:**

- India has become the first country to make it mandatory for OTT platforms
- To display anti-tobacco health spots of a minimum of 30 seconds each at the beginning and middle of a program
- An audio-visual disclaimer of a minimum of 20 seconds on the ill effects of tobacco use

5. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has introduced how many Indian standards related to Ayush \_\_\_\_\_ **31.**

**Note:**

- It encompassing 30 herbs and one product, the stainless steel neti pot.
- BIS has established an additional department with a dedicated focus on Ayush for strengthening its standardization framework.
- A Working Group on 'Traditional Medicine' established within the ISO/TC-215 'Health Informatics'.
- BIS also initiated efforts to formulate international standards in collaboration with ISO

6. Which country is set to remain United Arab Emirates' (UAE) largest export destination by 2030, according to a new report by Standard Chartered titled 'Future of Trade: New opportunities in high-growth corridors' \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**





**Note:**

- The report forecasts that the UAE's exports will reach around USD 543 billion by 2030, showcasing a robust annual growth rate of 5.5%
- It also highlights that trade corridors anchored in Asia, Africa, Middle East are expected to outpace the global trade growth rate by 4%.

7. Who has released the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023 in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.**

**Note:**

- These regulations will facilitate the creation of many more quality-focused deemed to be universities in an objective and transparent manner.
- It will encourage universities to focus on quality and excellence and strengthen the research ecosystem and have a long-term impact in transforming the higher education landscape.

8. What is the name of maiden International Cruise Vessel that was flagged off from Chennai to Sri Lanka in Chennai on June 5, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **MV Empress.**

**Note:**

- It was built at a cost of 17.21 crore rupees.
- This marks the beginning of the international cruise tourism terminal in Chennai.
- For this cruise service, an MoU was signed in 2022 between Chennai Port and M/S Waterways Leisure Tourism Pvt Ltd to start domestic and international cruise services.

9. Who has released NHA's first 'Sustainability Report for FY2021-22' \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Minister Nitin Gadkari.**

**Note:**

- This report will cover NHA's governance structure, stakeholders, environment, and social responsibility initiatives.
- From FY2019-20 to 2021-22, direct emissions were reduced by 18.44% and 9.49% due to less fuel consumption
- Green House Gas Emissions saw a decline of 9.7% in FY2020-21 and 2% in FY2021-22
- Similarly in operations, energy intensity in Giga Joules/km reduced by 27% in FY2021-22

10. Which organizations and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVUNL) signed an MoU in Lucknow \_\_\_\_\_ **NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL).**

**Note:**

- Aim: To collaborate in the development of Renewable Energy Parks and Projects
- Signed by: Mohit Bhargava (CEO, NGEL) and Nidhi Kumar Narang (Director (Finance) UPRVUNL)
- NTPC is India's largest Power Utility, with a total installed capacity of about 72 GW.
- UPRVUNL was constituted to set up and operate Power-generating stations in UP.

11. Which IIT and HCLTech signed an MoU for collaboration in the field of petroleum engineering and earth sciences \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Kharagpur.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To develop innovative and sustainable solutions to address critical challenges of the petroleum industry, which include reduction of carbon footprint, and provide significant sustainable solutions towards net zero
- HCLTech will provide opportunities to IIT-Kharagpur students and research scholars to undertake projects and internships at the company.

12. Which corporation and Vidhyut Utpadan Company Limited (VUCL), Nepal signed an MoU in New Delhi for the development of the Phukot Karnali Hydro Electric Project (480MW) in Nepal \_\_\_\_\_ **NHPC Limited.**

**Note:**

- The MoU was signed in the presence of PM Modi and Nepal PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'.
- The project will use the flow from the Karnali River for power generation and the generated power will be fed into the integrated power system of Nepal.
- The installed capacity of the project shall be 480 MW.

13. Tata Group has signed an MoU with which state government to set up a first-ever lithium-ion cell manufacturing gigafactory \_\_\_\_\_ **Gujarat government.**



**Note:**

- This MOU is an outcome of the newly formulated Electronics Policy.
- Estimated initial investment: 130 billion rupees
- Production capacity: 20 GWh
- The state government is committed to increasing carbon-free, energy-efficient, and clean energy production by boosting the production of electric vehicles and reducing carbon emissions.

14. The India-EU Connectivity Conference is being organized in which state on June 1, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Meghalaya.**

**Note:**

- It is jointly organized by the Ministry of External Affairs, EU Delegation to India, and the Asian Confluence.
- Aim: To explore possibilities of boosting connectivity investments in India's North Eastern States and with India's neighbours -- Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh
- It was inaugurated by Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma, and MoS for External Affairs Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh.

15. India G20 - South Centre Event on International Taxation has been concluded successfully in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Nagpur.**

**Note:**

- It was a two-day event on International Taxation was organized on the 1st and 2nd June at the National Academy of Direct Taxes, Nagpur in collaboration with South Centre, a Geneva-based intergovernmental policy research think-tank of 55 developing countries, including India.
- It was an initiative of the Indian Presidency to bolster capacity building for Indian tax officials.

16. Which country will host the 2025 World Conservation Congress (WCC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) from October 10-21, 2025 \_\_\_\_\_ **UAE.**

**Note:**

- WCC: It is the world's largest and most important gathering of conservationists, and it is expected to draw more than 10,000 delegates from over 160 countries.
- It is expected to bring an estimated 10,000-15,000 delegates from over 160 countries across the globe

17. The City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0) has been approved for how many year \_\_\_\_\_ **Four years (2023-2027).**

**Note:**

- Conceived by: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in partnership with the French Development Agency, Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, the European Union (EU), and National Institute of Urban Affairs.
- Funding: A loan of Rs.1760 crore (EUR 200 million) from AFD and KfW and a technical assistance grant of Rs.106 cr. (EUR 12 million) from the EU.

18. Who has launched the Unified Registration Portal for GOBARDhan \_\_\_\_\_ **Minister for Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.**

**Note:**

- Aim: One-stop repository to assess investment and participation in the Biogas/CBG sector at the pan India level and streamline the process of setting up CBG/Biogas plants
- GOBARDhan refers to Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan.
- It is an initiative of the Government of India, that aims to convert waste to wealth towards promoting a circular economy.

19. Which state government has launched Asia's largest, ambitious and historic cluster development scheme in \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- This scheme was conceptualized for the collective redevelopment of unauthorized and official dangerous buildings after the collapse of the Sairaj Building in Thane.
- The redeveloped township plan includes well-equipped health, educational, sports, recreational, parking, mandi, and civic facilities.
- The project will be executed by the CIDCO.



20. Who has launched two schemes 'Amrit Dharohar' and 'MISHTI' to revive the country's wetlands and mangroves \_\_\_\_\_ **PM Modi.**

**Note:**

- Amrit Dharohar: To ensure the conservation of the existing Ramsar sites through public participation. These sites will become the center of eco-tourism and a source of green jobs for thousands of people
- MISHTI: It refers to Mangrove Initiative for Shoresline Habitats and Tangible Incomes. It will help revive and protect the mangrove ecosystem in the country

21. The Ministry of Power and the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy joined hands to launch a National Mission titled MAHIR. What is the expanded form of MAHIR \_\_\_\_\_ **Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To quickly identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously, at scale, for deployment within and outside India
- Funded by: Ministry of Power, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, and CPSEs under the two Ministries
- Tenure: Five years, 2023-24 to 2027-28.

22. Who has unveiled the 5th State Food Safety Index on the occasion of World Food Safety Day 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Health Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.**

**Note:**

- Among the larger states, Kerala secured the top ranking, followed by Punjab and Tamil Nadu.
- Smaller states: Goa, Manipur and Sikkim
- UTs: J&K, Delhi and Chandigarh
- The index has evaluated the performance of states and UTs across six different aspects of food safety.
- He has also unveiled Rapid Food Testing Kit (RAFT) portal.

23. Union Cabinet has approved the third revival package for BSNL with a total outlay of what amount, includes an allotment of 4G/5G spectrum through equity infusion \_\_\_\_\_ **89,047 crore rupees.**

**Note:**

- The authorised capital of BSNL will be increased from 1,50,000 crore rupees to 2,10,000 crore rupees.
- BSNL will emerge as a stable telecom service provider focused on providing connectivity to the remotest parts of India.
- First revival package approved in 2019, amounting to 69,000 crore rupees.

24. The union cabinet has approved the continuation of the Central Sector Scheme of "Exploration of Coal and Lignite scheme" with an estimated expenditure of what amount \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs. 2980 crore.**

**Note:**

- It has been approved with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 2980 crore from 2021-22 to 2025-26 co-terminus with the 15th Finance Commission cycle.
- Two broad stages conducted under this scheme: (i) Promotional (Regional) Exploration (Outlay: Rs.1650 crore), (ii) Detailed Exploration in Non-Coal India Limited blocks (Outlay: Rs.1330 crore)

25. Which government organization has launched the Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM)-2023, a four-week residential workshop program for 40 underprivileged rural girls \_\_\_\_\_ **NTPC Kanti.**

**Note:**

- This is the first time NTPC Kanti is organizing the GEM program.
- The participants will receive academic training and development skill sets such as soft skills, life skill training, sports, meditation, yoga, self-defence, computer application, communication skills, and other extra-curricular activities.

26. Researchers at which IITs have developed smart biodegradable microgels to make agricultural practices more sustainable and minimize the adverse impact caused by the use of insecticides and agrochemicals \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Mandi.**



**Note:**

- The research has been published in the "Carbohydrate Polymers" journal.
- Modern agriculture relies heavily on the application of various agrochemicals such as insecticides, herbicides, and fertilizers on crops to meet the demand for food for the growing population.

27. According to data released by the private economic think tank CMIE, the unemployment rate in India fell to what percent in May due to a decline in labor participation at 441.9 million \_\_\_\_\_ **7.7%.**

**Note:**

- The unemployment rate in India among people aged 15 years and above fell to 7.7% in May 2023, from 8.5% in the previous month.
- The urban labour market recorded a fall in the number of employed as well as unemployed people.
- The rural labour force reduced to 299.4 million in May.

28. According to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation data, the index of industrial production (IIP) in India has increased to what percentage on an annual basis in April 2023 from 1.1% in March 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **4.2%.**

**Note:**

- Manufacturing sector output rose to 4.9% in April 2023 against 5.6% and Power generation declined by 1.1% in April 2023 against a growth of 11.8%
- Mining output rose by 5.1% during the month under review compared to a growth of 8.4% in the year-ago period

29. The Union Government has released the third instalment of tax devolution to State governments amounting to what amount, as against the normal monthly devolution of 59,140 crores \_\_\_\_\_ **1,18,280 crore rupees.**

**Note:**

- One advance instalment in addition to the regular instalment due in June is being released to States.
- Reason: To speed up capital spending and finance their development and welfare-related expenditure
- UP received the highest share of Rs 21,218 crore and Goa the least at Rs 457 crore

30. Vigyan -Vidushi – 2023 has been commenced at the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE), in which Indian state \_\_\_\_\_ **Mumbai.**

**Note:**

- It is an initiative to address the gender balance in the discipline of Physics at the doctorate level.
- 40 women students from forty different institutes all over India have attended this program which gave them exposure to advanced physics courses.
- This program is an initiative of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), through its HBCSE.

31. Which IT giant and AirJaldi network signed a three-year MoU to provide internet access for underserved communities in 12 states \_\_\_\_\_ **Microsoft.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To advance access to high-speed internet and meaningful connectivity, build solutions for broadband adoption and digital transformation
- The program will expand AirJaldi Networks into three new states namely, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha, with an increase in the number of network locations from 40 to 62 in 12 states.

32. Which organization has signed a MoU with Amazon Kisan to combine strengths and create synergy between the two organizations \_\_\_\_\_ **ICAR.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To guide the farmers on scientific cultivation of different crops for optimum yield and income
- ICAR will provide technological backstopping to the farmers through Amazon's network
- It will improve farmers' livelihood and boost crop yield.





- This MoU will help ensuring access to high quality fresh produce for consumers across India.
33. Which organization and Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) signed an MoU for academic and research collaboration \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To synergise the professional capabilities towards capacity building, education, research and consulting in the domain of Internal Security, Financial Crimes, Law Enforcement, Corporate Frauds and other subject matters common to their mandate and objectives
  - It provides for exchange of knowledge and resources
34. Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) under the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare signed an MoU with which life insurance organization to generate employment \_\_\_\_\_ **Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Limited**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To bring the corporate companies and Ex-Servicemen on a common platform to generate employment opportunities for the esteemed Ex-Servicemen of the Defence Services
- This partnership would bring in more visibility of our Ex-servicemen to the industry and corporates.

### Important News – State

1. Which state government has signed an MoU with Bajaj Finserv to invest 5,000 crore rupees in Pune which is expected to create 40,000 jobs \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra**.

**Note:**

- The MoU was signed by Harshdeep Kamble (Industry Secretary, Maharashtra) and S Sreenivasan (Chief Financial Officer, Bajaj Finserv).
  - The development will have a positive impact as it will create new jobs and business opportunities for partners, vendors, suppliers, and contractors in and around Pune, as well as globally.
2. Union MoS Jitendra Singh has inaugurated a two-day lavender festival in which state/UTs \_\_\_\_\_ **Bhaderwah, Jammu & Kashmir**.

**Note:**

- He also highlighted that Bhaderwah has emerged as the Lavender capital of India and agri StartUp destination.
  - CSIR, Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu had organized the event as part of its 'One Week One Lab Campaign'
  - The CSIR-Aroma Mission is a flagship project of CSIR under which Lavender cultivation is being promoted in the temperate regions of J&K
3. Which state government launched the KFON \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.

**Note:**

- KFON: Kerala Fibre Optic Network (KFON)
  - Aim: To ensure internet facilities for all at affordable rates in the State
  - This project will bridge the digital divide in the society.
  - During the first phase of the KFON initiative, Internet facilities will be provided to thirty thousand government institutions and fourteen thousand houses in the State.
4. Which state government has launched Chief Minister's Learn and Earn scheme to teach employable skills to the youth \_\_\_\_\_ **MP government**.

**Note:**

- The youth will also be given an allowance of Rs 8,000 to 10,000. 703 work areas have been identified for training
- At least one lakh youth would be trained. The registration of establishments providing training to youth will start on June 7
- The registration of youth willing to learn work will start on 15th June. The youth will start working from 1st August.



5. Which state government has launched the Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme at a cost of Rs 1,000 crore \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To provide milk producers the facility of selling their milk at a reasonable price in villages through dairy cooperative societies
- Under this mission, it is proposed to form a Dairy farmer producer organization (Dairy FPO) in order to facilitate the sale of milk in producers' villages itself.
- UP is a leading state in the field of milk development and milk production.

6. Which state government has launched 'Ladli Bahna' scheme to make women financially independent \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- In this scheme, each woman will be given 1000 rupees per month.
- MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan has deposited the first month's amount of this scheme in the bank accounts of about 1.25 crore women at a State-level function in Jabalpur.
- The State government has also issued a phone number 181 for the help of women.
- Ladli Bahna Army also formed for women empowerment and security.

7. The central government has agreed to sanction Rs 12,911 crore to which state for completing the first phase of Polavaram Project \_\_\_\_\_ **Andhra Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- The sanctioned amount of Rs 12,911 crore also includes Rs 2,000 crore for the construction of the diaphragm wall, which was washed away due to flood.
- Polavaram Project is an under construction multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari River in Andhra Pradesh.

8. Haryana CM Manohar Lal has launched an integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under Amrit Jal Kranti in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Chandigarh.**

**Note:**

- A two-day water conservation seminar was organized in Panchkula in April, 2023, in which many departments of Haryana, including experts from India and abroad doing research on water conservation participated.
- Several initiatives like Mera Pani-Meri Virasat Yojana, have been taken towards water conservation which have drawn significant results.

9. Which state government has launched a new scheme to reward for reporting illegal waste dumping on roads \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala.**

**Note:**

- This scheme is a part of the 'Malinya Muktham Nava Keralam' campaign to make the state garbage-free.
- Under this scheme, citizens would report about the littering/dumping (solid and liquid waste) in public spaces, private property and water bodies.
- The person who informs authorities of such violations will be given Rs 2,500 (maximum) or 25% of the fine imposed.

10. Which state government has decided to gift GI-tagged Gulabi meenakari handicrafts for the visiting delegates from G20 nations \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- A group of more than 100 trained artisans were mobilized to fulfil the order of Gulabi meenakari peacocks for the G20 delegates.
- Gulabi meenakari is one of the rarest crafts in India that is practised in the by lanes of Varanasi, near Gai Ghat.
- The GI certification and ODOP initiative have got new recognition all over the world.

11. Which state government has rolled out its first of the five poll guarantees, the 'Shakti' scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To offer free travel to women and transgender people in government-run buses in the state
- The scheme was launched by Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah, deputy CM DK Shivakumar and transport minister Ramalinga Reddy.



- They have also issued smart cards to five beneficiaries at an event on the steps of the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru.

### Important News- World

1. According to a report released by 'fDi Markets', which country has emerged as a key source country for FDI in Dubai, one of the wealthiest of the seven emirates in UAE \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.

**Note:**

- The top sectors by FDI projects from India into Dubai in 2022 were software & IT services (32%), business services (19%), consumer products, real estate, and financial services.
- The top sectors by FDI capital from India into Dubai in 2022 were consumer products (28%).

2. According to the UN's Hunger Hotspots – FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity report, along with Afghanistan and Myanmar, which Indian neighboring country is listed in the hunger hotspots in the world \_\_\_\_\_ **Pakistan**.

**Note:**

- Globally Hunger is set to worsen in 18 'hotspots' comprising a total of 22 countries.
- Highest Concern Nations: Afghanistan, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen
- Very High Concern Nations: Pakistan, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Congo, and Syria

3. Which country named the cyclone 'Biparjoy', that would be intensified into a very severe storm as it moved nearly northwards with a speed of 2 kmph in the last 6 hours \_\_\_\_\_ **Bangladesh**.

**Note:**

- The cyclonic storms in the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea have been intensifying rapidly and retaining their intensity for a longer duration due to climate change.
- The name Biparjoy was given to the cyclone by Bangladesh, which means "Disaster" in Bengali.

4. According to the report titled "GCC 4.0 – India Redefining the Globalization Blueprint", released by NASSCOM – Zinnov, India's Global Capability Centre (GCC) ecosystem will expand with over 1,900 GCCs and a market size of \$60 billion by which year \_\_\_\_\_ **2025**.

**Note:**

- As of FY23, India is home to 1,580 unique GCCs, with several global MNCs opting to establish their first global center outside of their headquarters in India.
- The GCC market size in FY 23 was \$46 billion.

5. According to the 'The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2023', which Indian university has emerged as India's highest-placed university \_\_\_\_\_ **Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore**.

**Note:**

- The university is ranked at 52nd rank globally out of 1,591 universities.
- Topped by: Western Sydney University followed by the University of Manchester (UK), Queen's University (Canada), Universiti Sains Malaysia, and the University of Tasmania
- Amrita Vishwa stood out for its efforts toward meeting the UNSDGs.

6. Which organization has released its annual compendium, titled 'State of India's Environment 2023' \_\_\_\_\_ **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)**.

**Note:**

- It is based on four parameters i.e. environment, agriculture, public health, and infrastructure.
- Telangana was ranked at the top in terms of overall environmental performance and in terms of increasing forest cover.
- In agriculture, MP takes the top slot and Delhi leads in public health.
- Gujarat leads the rankings in public infrastructure.

7. Who released the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Rankings 2023 on June 5, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **MoS for Education and External Affairs Rajkumar Ranjan Singh**.



**Note:**

- IIT Madras has emerged as the top college under the overall category for the fifth consecutive year and the best engineering institute for the eighth consecutive year.
  - Research category: IISc Bengaluru has earned the top spot
  - Agriculture and Allied Sectors: IARI, New Delhi
  - Medical category: AIIMS Delhi
8. According to a report titled 'The e-Conomy of a Billion Connected Indians' published by Google, Temasek and Bain & Company, India's internet economy is expected to grow six-fold to \$1 trillion by which year from \$175 billion in 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **2030**.

**Note:**

- The contribution of the Internet economy to India's technology sector would expand, from 48% to 62% in 2030.
  - The report emphasizes that the growth will be spearheaded by the B2C e-commerce segment, followed by B2B, and SaaS providers.
9. According to Mercer's Cost of Living survey 2023, which city has ranked the most expensive city in India for expatriates \_\_\_\_\_ **Mumbai**.

**Note:**

- After Mumbai, cities like New Delhi and Bengaluru fall on the second and third place in the most expensive list for ex-pats list in India.
  - In the global ranking, Mumbai has been positioned at 147, New Delhi (169), Chennai (184), Bengaluru (189), and Pune (213).
  - Hong Kong and Singapore are the most expensive cities for international employees this year.
10. According to a report, \_\_\_\_\_ people around the world are still using polluting fuels to cook and 675 million don't have electricity \_\_\_\_\_ **Up to 2.3 billion**.

**Note:**

- Report by: IEA, International Renewable Energy Agency, U.N. Statistics Division, World Bank, and WHO
  - The report also highlighted that 1.9 billion won't have clean cooking opportunities by 2030.
  - The global access to electricity increased from 84% in 2010 to 91% (2021), but the pace of growth slowed in 2019-2021.
11. India and which country have agreed to set a target for bilateral trade from the present 320 million euros to one billion euros by the end of the decade \_\_\_\_\_ **Serbia**.

**Note:**

- Indian President is on a three-day State visit to Serbia from the 7th to the 9th of June.
  - President of Serbia, Aleksandar Vucic also promised simplification of the issue of Visa to Indians and also hoped that direct flights between the two countries will begin soon.
12. Which International organization report has highlighted significant impacts of 'Har Ghar Jal' Programme on public health and economic savings \_\_\_\_\_ **World Health Organisation (WHO)**.

**Note:**

- The report on 'Har Ghar Jal' estimates that ensuring safely managed drinking water for all households in the country.
  - The 'Har Ghar Jal' report focuses on diarrheal diseases as they contribute significantly to the overall disease burden related to water, sanitation, and hygiene issues.
13. Which country and the United States have backed a new "Atlantic Declaration" \_\_\_\_\_ **Britain**.

**Note:**

- Aim: Greater cooperation on pressing economic challenges in areas like clean energy, critical minerals and artificial intelligence
  - The joint declaration described the partnership covering the broad spectrum of the two countries' economic, technological, commercial and trade relations.
  - They will strengthen their supply chains, develop technologies of the future and invest in one another's industries.
14. Which international organization and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria signed a new Strategic Framework \_\_\_\_\_ **WHO**.





**Note:**

- Reason: For Collaboration to build stronger and more resilient health systems and maximize collaboration and impact in support of country, regional and global responses to major communicable diseases.
- The new five-year framework builds on the previous agreement signed in 2018.
- It aligns with the 2023-2028 Global Fund Strategy and the WHO General Programme of Work.

15. Which IT giant has launched a new 'voice chat' feature to its AI-powered Bing Chat on the desktop \_\_\_\_\_ **Microsoft.**

**Note:**

- Aim: It will help users to talk to the AI chatbot by clicking on the microphone icon in the Bing Chat box
- Currently, the voice chat feature supports five languages- English, Japanese, French, German, and Mandarin.
- More languages will be added soon.
- Bing Chat supports text-to-speech answers, which will respond to your questions in its own voice.

16. According to the Global Slavery Index 2023, which country has the lowest prevalence of modern slavery \_\_\_\_\_ **Switzerland.**

**Note:**

- Produced by: ILO, Walk Free, and International Organisation for Migration
- Walk Free has reported that 49.6 million people are living in modern slavery, out of which, India is home to 11 million.
- Countries with the highest prevalence: North Korea, Eritrea, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey
- Countries with the lowest prevalence: Switzerland, Norway, and Germany

**Honor & Awards**

1. Which AIIMS has become the first of all AIIMS to receive National Accreditation Board for Hospitals(NABH) accreditation \_\_\_\_\_ **AIIMS Nagpur.**

**Note:**

- The NABH accreditation is a globally recognized standard for healthcare quality.
- It assesses the performance of hospitals in various areas including patient care, safety, and organizational efficiency.
- AIIMS Nagpur achieved this accreditation by demonstrating its commitment to excellence in all areas.

2. Which organization was honored with the prestigious 'Climate And Health' award at the UITP Awards 2023, Barcelona \_\_\_\_\_ **Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) Undertaking.**

**Note:**

- Additionally, BEST Undertaking was recognized as one of the top three finalists in the 'Public And Urban Transport Strategy' category.
- UITP Awards are highly sought-after prizes in the field of public transport.
- Recently, the BEST was also awarded for 'Smart Mobility' category by FICCI.

3. Who has conferred Suriname's highest civilian honor, The Grand Order of the Chain of Yellow Star, to President of India Droupadi Murmu \_\_\_\_\_ **Suriname President, Chandrikapersad Santokhi.**

**Note:**

- She is the first Indian to receive this award.
- During her visit to Suriname, both countries signed MoUs in the fields of health, agriculture, and capacity building.
- These MoUs include a Joint Work Plan for Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors for the period of 2023-2027.

4. Who has won the 2023 Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management from UNESCO \_\_\_\_\_ **Jagdish Bakan.**



**Note:**

- The 2017 batch officer of the IFS is currently the director of the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve.
  - The USD 12,000 award is given in memory of Dr. Michel Batisse for outstanding achievement in the management of biosphere reserves.
  - He will receive the award from Unesco in Paris on June 14, 2023.
5. Who was conferred with the 2023 Royal Society of Literature Christopher Bland Prize for his debut novel 'The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho' \_\_\_\_\_ **Author Paterson Joseph.**

**Note:**

- This book is a historical fiction novel that tells the story of Charles Ignatius Sancho, who was the first Black man to vote in England
  - RSL Christopher Bland Prize:
    - It is an annual award that is awarded to a debut writer for their work of fiction or non-fiction.
    - Cash Prize: £10,000
6. Name the book which has won the £5,000 Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023 for Historical Biography \_\_\_\_\_ **Rebels Against the Raj: Western Fighters for India's Freedom.**

**Note:**

- This book was authored by Ramachandra Guha.
  - This book tells the story of seven foreigners (4 British, 2 American, and 1 Irish) who joined India's freedom struggle.
  - The list includes Annie Besant, B.G. Horniman, Philip Spratt, Richard Ralph Keithahn, Samuel Stokes, Madeline Slade, and Catherine Mary Heilemann.
  - Prize money: £5,000
7. Which institution has been awarded accreditation as 'A+ Grade' by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training (NABET) \_\_\_\_\_ **Geological Survey of India Training Institute.**

**Note:**

- The assessment was made on the basis of the inspection of all standard operating procedures and methodologies.
  - The team of the Capacity Building Commission (CBC), NABET, and Quality Control of India conducted the on-site assessment.
  - GSITI was established in 1976 and its headquarters located in Hyderabad.
8. Which organization will gain access to professional guidelines, expert knowledge, services, and support from the International Social Security Association (ISSA) \_\_\_\_\_ **EPFO.**

**Note:**

- The move comes after the central board of trustees of EPFO gave its approval to change its membership status with ISSA from associate member to affiliate member now.
- The organization became an associate member in 1962.
- Other than EPFO, the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation is the only ISSA affiliate member from India.

**Sports News**

1. Which country's hockey team defeated Pakistan in the final of the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023, held at the Sultan Qaboos Youth Complex Stadium in Salalah, Oman \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Hockey Team.**

**Note:**

- This was India's fourth title at Men's Junior Asia Cup, after winning in 2004, 2008, and 2015.
- With this title win, India has become the most successful country in the history of the Men's Junior Asia Cup.
- While Pakistan is the second-most successful team in the tournament with three titles.



2. Name the Indian cyclist, who has bagged the bronze medal in the elite men's keirin event at a UCI Class 1 Event-Finale Bahnen-Tournee 2023 cycling competition in Germany \_\_\_\_\_ **Esow Alben.**

**Note:**

- He has also listed himself in being the first cyclist from India to participate in the UCI Champions League.
- Alben was also the first Indian who won a medal in a cycling world championship.
- Apart from Alben, Indian cyclist Ronaldo Singh Laitonjam finished 10th in the men's sprint event at Germany meet.

3. Third khelo India University games has been concluded at IIT BHU campus in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Varanasi.**

**Note:**

- Punjab University, Chandigarh regain champions crown as Guru Nanak Dev University fall short despite Fencing sweep on final day, after a gap of one edition of the Khelo India University Games.
- PUC finished with an overall tally of 69 medals including 26 gold, 17 silver and 26 bronze medals
- As many as 131 of the 203 Universities who finally participated at the Games.

4. Name the Indian sprinter, who has bagged two gold medals in the men's 100 and 200-meter races category at the Flanders Cup 2023 athletics in Merksem, Belgium \_\_\_\_\_ **Amlan Borgohain.**

**Note:**

- He clocked 10.70 seconds to emerge as the fastest man of the meet.
- He holds the 100-meter national record of 10.25 seconds and holds 20.96 seconds in the 200-meter.
- Meanwhile, Sapna Kumari finished behind Belgium's Amber Vanden Bosch in the women's 100m hurdles after clocking 14.10.

5. Indian shooters Abhinav Shaw and \_\_\_\_\_ have bagged gold in the final of 10 meter Air Rifle Mixed Team event at the ISSF World Cup Junior 2023 in Suhl, Germany \_\_\_\_\_ **Gautami Bhanot.**

**Note:**

- The Indian team of Shaw and Bhanot registered a 17-7 win over the French pairing of Oceanne Mueller and Romain Aufrere in the gold medal match.
- With this, India now has two gold medals, one silver, and one bronze from the World Cup after two days of competition.

6. On the opening day, India won three medals (including two gold) at the 2023 Asian Under 20 Athletics Championships campaign, which is being held in which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Yecheon, South Korea.**

**Note:**

- Rezoana Mallick Heena and Bharatpreet Singh kicked off clinched gold medals in women's 400-meter race and men's discus throw respectively.
- Henna clocked 53.31 seconds to take the top position on the podium.
- Antima Pal won the third medal for India, a bronze, in the women's 5,000-meter race.

7. Who has clinched the pole position at the Spanish Grand Prix 2023 extending his lead in the Formula One championship by 53 points \_\_\_\_\_ **Max Verstappen (Red Bull Driver).**

**Note:**

- Red Bull's dominance continued as they celebrated their seventh consecutive triumph of the season.
- While Mercedes driver, Lewis Hamilton (seven-time world champion) has secured the second spot for Mercedes, followed by George Russell (Mercedes driver).

8. Who won the 23rd Dubai Open 2023 for the second consecutive year, at the 23rd edition of the Dubai Chess Open, organized by Dubai Chess & Culture Club \_\_\_\_\_ **GM Aravindh Chithambaram (India).**

**Note:**

- A total of 172 participants (in category A) from more than 46 different countries participated in this tournament.
- A total of 9 rounds were played in Swiss format.



- He became one of only two players to win back-to-back championships in the history of the Dubai Open Chess Tournament.
9. Who has clinched the gold medal in the men's shot put with a personal best throw of 19.52 metres at the Under 20 Asian Athletics Championships in Yecheon, South Korea \_\_\_\_\_ **Siddharth Choudhary**.

**Note:**

- Three other players Sharuk Khan (3000-metre steeplechase), Shivam Lohakare (Javelin), and Susmita (Long Jump) have also clinched the silver medals in their respective events.
- While Shakeel (800 metres) and the mixed relay team won the bronze medal.
10. Union Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur send off how many special athletes to the Special Olympics World Summer Games 2023 to be held in Berlin \_\_\_\_\_ **198**.

**Note:**

- The Government spent 450 crore rupees in the current Olympic cycle on training, equipment, and facilities
- It will provide more assistance if needed to ensure India makes a new record in the Paris Olympics 2024.
- India has given the best-ever performance at the last Olympics with improvements in facilities.
11. Who has defeated top-ranked Alfie Hewett from Britain 6-1, 6-4 to win the 2023 French Open wheelchair Men's singles title \_\_\_\_\_ **Japan's Tokito Oda**.

**Note:**

- With this win, he also become the sport's youngest Grand Slam champion.
- While Diede de Groot from Netherlands has secured the 2023 French Open – Wheelchair women's singles.
- Alfie Hewett and Gordon Reid (Britain) won the Men's Double title, and Yui Kamiji and Kgothatso Montjane won the Women's Double title.
12. Which Women's hockey team defeated Republic of Korea to win the Women's Junior Asia Cup 2023 title in Kakamigahara, Japan \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.

**Note:**

- This is the first time India have won the Women's Junior Asia Cup.
- Recently, India had secured a spot in the FIH Women's Junior World Cup 2023 in Chile.
- Japan beat China 2-1 to become the third team to qualify for the World Cup scheduled this year.
- For India, Annu and Neelam were on target while Seoyeon Park scored the solitary goal for Korea.
13. Which country defeated Argentina 2-1 in its final FIH Pro League 2022-23 match in Eindhoven, the Netherlands \_\_\_\_\_ **India**.

**Note:**

- Akashdeep Singh and Sukhjeet Singh scored goals for India while Lucas Toscani netted the only goal for Argentina
- India consolidated their position atop the FIH Pro League standings with 30 points from 16 matches.
- Argentina is fifth with 13 points from 14 matches
- The Indian men's hockey team finished in fourth place in their debut FIH Pro League campaign back in 2020-21.
14. The World Cup Squash championship is being organized in which Indian city \_\_\_\_\_ **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.

**Note:**

- It was formally inaugurated by the State Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Udhayanidhi Stalin.
- On the first day, India will play against Hongkong and China in the pool B matches and in another match Japan will play against South Africa.
- Each match will be played to the best of five games, each to seven points with a total of 11 points in general.





15. Which country beat Italy 1-0 to win its first FIFA U-20 World Cup 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Uruguay.**

**Note:**

- The Celeste's victory ends a streak of four consecutive wins of European teams in the tournament.
- Luciano Rodríguez scored the winning goal in the 86th minute with a header from close range, giving Uruguay a much-deserved victory after an entire match of dominance against Italy.
- Earlier, debutant Israel beat South Korea 3-1 to secure third place in the same stadium in La Plata.

16. Who has secured a third place, with a jump of 8.09m, in the 2023 Diamond League Meet at Paris, France \_\_\_\_\_ **Murali Sreeshankar.**

**Note:**

- With this, he also became the only third Indian to finish in the top three of a Diamond League after Neeraj Chopra (Javelin thrower) and Vikas Gowda (former discus thrower).
- Miltiadis Tentoglou of Greece secured Gold with a jump of 8.13m and Simon Ehammer of Switzerland won silver with a jump of 8.11m.

### Books and Authors

1. Who has authored the book titled 'Nalanda' \_\_\_\_\_ **Abhay K.**

**Note:**

- The book will be published by Penguin Random House India.
- The book delves into the history of the ancient seat of learning in Bihar.
- It is his highly anticipated book which is set to take readers on an enlightening journey through time and history.
- The book is scheduled to release in October next year in 2024 from the Vintage imprint.

2. The book titled, 'The Power of One Thought: Master Your Mind, Master Your Life' is authored by whom \_\_\_\_\_ **BK Shivani.**

**Note:**

- The book published by HarperCollins India.
- This book will bring the perfect thought booster, an empowering book that is an essential guide to unleashing the power of the mind, where it all begins from, to make that dream life happen.
- Brahma Kumari (BK) Sister Shivani, a Rajyog Meditation practitioner for over 25 years has become a household name for her refreshing and pragmatic take on life.

3. Who authored the book titled "Kathakali Dance Theatre: A Visual Narrative of Sacred Indian Mime" \_\_\_\_\_ **KK Gopalakrishnan.**

**Note:**

- The book offers a behind-the-scenes look into the world of Kathakali, focusing on the green room, artists' struggles, and the unique bonds forged during long make-up hours.

4. Who is the author of the new graphic novel for young readers titled 'Ajay to Yogi Adityanath' based on the life journey of Yogi Adityanath \_\_\_\_\_ **Shantanu Gupta.**

**Note:**

- More than 5,000 children from over 51 schools across different districts of Uttar Pradesh participated in the launch ceremony.
- Prior to this, author Shantanu Gupta has written two bestseller titles on Yogi Adityanath- The Monk Who Transformed Uttar Pradesh and The Monk Who Became Chief Minister.

5. The book titled, 'The Snow Forest', will be released in February 2024, is authored by whom \_\_\_\_\_ **Elizabeth Gilbert.**

**Note:**

- This book is published by Bloomsbury.
- The novel, "The Snow Forest", is inspired by the true story of the family of religious hermits discovered in Siberia in 1978 who had escaped early 20th century Russia for a life in one of the most inhospitable and uninhabited places on earth.
- He has also authored 'Eat, Pray, Love'.



## Science and Defence

1. Name the Hyderabad-based CSIR which has joined a global research group in the development of an algorithm along the lines of ChatGPT for genetics \_\_\_\_\_ **Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB)**.

**Note:**

- This algorithm uses genome sequencing data instead of human language to predict disease-causing genetic mutations in patients.
- The group has generated a huge catalogue of genomic information for primates that have been ever produced.

2. India successfully launched the Medium-Range Ballistic Missile, Agni-1 from the APJ Abdul Kalam Islands, which is located in which state \_\_\_\_\_ **Odisha**.

**Note:**

- It was carried out by the Strategic Forces Command, which is responsible for the management and administration of the country's tactical and nuclear assets
- Agenda: To validate all operational and technical parameters of the missile
- Agni series of missiles includes Agni-1(700km), Agni-2 (2000), Agni-3 (3000), Agni-4 (4000), and Agni-5 (5000)

3. Which country's navy has undertaken several green initiatives and shared some of the noteworthy initiatives towards a 'Clean and Green Navy' \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Navy**.

**Note:**

- It employs a number of ships, submarines, and aircraft that have high energy intensity, thus increased energy efficiency is paramount in every operation.
- It has commissioned solar power with a cumulative capacity of 15.87 MW, with the objective of fulfilling the government's 'Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission.

4. The Indian Navy and which organization have successfully engaged and destroyed an underwater target using 'Varunastra' Heavy Weight Torpedo (HWT) \_\_\_\_\_ **DRDO**.

**Note:**

- It is a significant milestone in the Indian Navy and DRDO for accurate delivery of ordnance on target in the underwater domain.
- The Indian Navy and Naval Science and Technology Laboratory (NSTL) of DRDO developed 'Varunastra', an advanced Heavy Weight anti-submarine torpedo.

5. GalaxEye is building the world's first multi-sensor earth observation satellite, is an incubated space-tech startup of which institute \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT-Madras**.

**Note:**

- It will launch its first satellite 'Drishti Mission' in 2024.
- It is being built with the help of a visible spectrum camera providing synchronised imaging that can take multiple images at the same time.
- GalaxEye is working on deploying a satellite constellation to provide the comprehensive imagery dataset from space.

6. Which organization has partnered with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) for the upcoming Gaganyaan Mission \_\_\_\_\_ **Tata Elxsi**.

**Note:**

- It has designed and developed the crew module recovery models (CMRM) for the recovery team training of the space mission.
- ISRO's Gaganyaan project envisions a demonstration of human spaceflight capability by launching the crew into a 400-kilometer orbit for a three-day mission and safely bringing them to Earth by landing in Indian sea waters.

7. Which organization has successfully flight-tested New Generation Ballistic Missile 'Agni Prime' was successfully from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha on June 07, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **DRDO**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To validate the accuracy and reliability of the system
- During the flight test, all objectives were successfully demonstrated.



- This was the first pre-induction night launch conducted by the users after three successful developmental trials of the missile.
- 8. The Ministry of Defence informed that first India-France-UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise has started in which location \_\_\_\_\_ **Gulf of Oman.**

**Note:**

- It involves the Indian Navy frigate, INS Tarkash, the French Navy ship Surcouf along with Rafale fighter jets, and UAE Navy maritime patrol aircraft.
  - The two-day exercise involve a wide range of naval operations, including helicopter cross-deck landing operations, advanced air defense exercises, and boarding operations.
9. The Indian Army has sealed a deal which organization to procure the indigenously-developed "tactical LAN radio" \_\_\_\_\_ **Astrome Tech Pvt Ltd.**

**Note:**

- Tactical LAN radio: It is a state-of-the-art high-bandwidth backhaul wireless radio equipment for the provisioning of reliable communication.
  - It is the second contract that the Army has firmed up under the framework of Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX).
  - iDEX was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2018.
10. Which edition of a joint military exercise between the Indian Army & the Maldives National Defence Force, 'Ex Ekuverin' is being commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand \_\_\_\_\_ **12th.**

**Note:**

- Ekuverin meaning 'Friends', is a bilateral annual exercise conducted alternatively in India and Maldives.
- Aim: To enhance the interoperability in Counter Insurgency/ Counter Terrorism Operations under the UN mandate
- The 11th edition of the exercise was held in Maldives in 2021.



# Buy Test Series

---

## Unlock All 650+ Mock Tests for SSC & Railway

- Unlimited Access
- All Exams covered
- Designed by Experts
- Performance Analysis