



Bi-weekly Current Affairs (16-31) July (English PDF)

Bi-Weekly One Liner Updates **16-31st July 2023**

Dear readers,

Bi-Weekly One-Liners Updates is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **two weeks** (16-30th) of **June 2023**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which bank has raised Rs 3,101 crore of funds via additional tier-1, or perpetual, bonds at a coupon of 8.10% _____ **State Bank of India**.

Note:

- The AT-1 bonds had a base issue of ₹3,000 crore and received total bids worth ₹5,920 crore and also include a call option after 10 years.
- Perpetual bonds (AT-1 bonds) are considered riskier than other debt instruments, as they can be written down before equity, leading to losses for investors.

2. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has selected Tata AIG General Insurance as the lead non-life insurer for which Indian state _____ **Maharashtra**.

Note:

- As lead insurer the company will collaborate with all non-life and health insurance companies in the state to increase insurance penetration.
- The concept of a lead insurer to increase insurance penetration in the states was developed by the regulator in line with its vision of "Insurance for all by 2047."

3. In July 2023, India and which country are working on a real-time payment mechanism and trading in local currencies _____ **Indonesia**.

Note:

- Both countries have also discussed the possibility of cooperation in digital technology, payments systems under central banks, and using local currency.
- The two countries launched an Economic and Financial Dialogue that will focus on enhancing bilateral trade and investment, financial services, and infrastructure development, among others.

4. An article published by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in its July 2023 bulletin stated that India could become a developed country by which year with an average annual real GDP growth of 7.6% over the next 25 years _____ **2047**.

Note:

- India must rebalance its economic structure by strengthening its industrial sector
- Agriculture and services would have to grow at 4.9% and 13% per annum, respectively
- Collaboration between the government, private sector, civil society and citizens is essential.

5. Which fintech organization launched the health insurance plans that will for the first time in India offer monthly subscriptions _____ **PhonePe Insurance Broking Services**.

Note:

- Aim: To reduce the burden by breaking down the premium payments into manageable monthly installments



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- These insurance plans come with coverage up to one crore rupees, allow users to choose any hospital room.
 - Only platform in the country where customers can pay for Insurance in easy installments through UPI on the PhonePe app
6. Which bank would set up a new trustee company as its wholly-owned subsidiary for managing the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund _____ **SBI**.
- Note:**
- SBI has a 62.53 percent stake in SBI Funds Management Ltd.
 - The fund will act as a safety net to buy high-quality corporate debts when the bond market gets stress.
 - This will make investors feel more secure.
 - It will also improve the trading of these debts by setting up a system that can step in and help during tough market situations.
7. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), what would be India's GDP growth for the FY 2023-24 _____ **6.4%**.
- Note:**
8. The Asian Development Bank retained India's economic growth forecast at 6.7 per cent for the next FY (2024-25)
- The ADB noted that the inflation is expected to continue to fall, and is expected to approach its pre-pandemic levels as fuel and food prices decline
 - The bank forecasted 3.6% inflation this year for developing economies in Asia, and 3.4% in 2024
 - India's economy grew by 7.2% in the 2022-23 fiscal ended in March 2023
9. The license of United India Co-operative Bank Limited has been revoked by the Reserve Bank of India, located in which Indian city _____ **Bijnor**.
- Note:**
- The bank is not allowed to continue its banking operations, which include taking deposits and returning deposits.
 - Result: The bank will stop functioning, and all depositors will be eligible to receive up to Rs 5 lakh as a deposit insurance claim from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation.
10. Cognizant Technology Solutions in collaboration with which life insurance organization to launch an innovation and development centre in Chennai _____ **Max Life Insurance Co. Ltd.**
- Note:**
- Aims: To drive product innovations, enhance customer experiences, and lead operational excellence for Max Life.
 - Cognizant will use expertise in consulting and emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, automation, and cloud transformation to further enhance the digital experience for customers, as per a release.
11. The government approved the interest rate of what percent recommended by the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation for 2022-23 _____ **8.15%**.
- Note:**
- The Ministry of Labour and Employment has conveyed the approval of the Central Government under para 60(1) of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 to credit interest@ 8.15 % for



the year 2022-23 to the account of each member of the EPF Scheme as per the provision under para 60 of EPF Scheme, 1952.

12. Which fintech firm has launched an 'Income Tax Payment' feature on its app _____ **PhonePe**.

Note:

- Aim: To allow taxpayers to pay self-assessment and advance tax directly from the app using UPI or credit card payments
- To enable this feature, the company has partnered with PayMate, a B2B payments and service provider.
- Users can get a 45-day interest-free period and earn reward points on their tax payments, depending on their bank

13. Which bank has been added to the Second Schedule of the RBI Act, 1934 _____ **NongHyup Bank**.

Note:

- According to the RBI, NongHyup Bank has been officially included in the regulated list through a prior notification issued on June 20, 2023, and published in the Gazette of India.
- It is an agricultural bank headquartered in South Korea.
- The bank was established in 2012 owned by the NACF.

14. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed Parliament that during the fiscal year 2022-23, Public Sector Banks (PSBs) extended loans amounting to what amount to state-backed corporations and public sector undertakings _____ **₹4.12 trillion**.

Note:

- Canara Bank took the lead in lending ₹187,813 crore to government-backed entities.
- The top five PSBs – Canara Bank, State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank and Union Bank of India.

15. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed business restrictions on The National Co-operative Bank Ltd and capped deposit withdrawal of what amount per account in July 2023 _____ **Rs 50,000**.

Note:

- According to the RBI, the bank is not allowed to issue fresh loans or accept fresh deposits without prior approval from the central bank.
- Depositors will be entitled to receive deposit insurance claim amount up to Rs 5 lakh from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation.

16. According to the RBI's data during the financial year 2022-23, banks wrote off bad loans amounting to over what amount, contributing to a total loan write-off of Rs 10.57 lakh crore by the banking sector over the past five years _____ **Rs 2.09 lakh crore**.

Note:

- This loan write-off to bring down gross non-performing assets or defaulted loans to a 10-year low of 3.9 percent of advances by March 2023
- According to RBI, banks have written off a total of Rs 15,31,453 crore since FY2012-13.

17. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) increased its projection for India's GDP growth in the current fiscal year from 5.9% to what percent _____ **6.1%**.

Note:

- As per World Economic Outlook, In 2023 the growth rate of India's economy is estimated to be 6.1 percent, which is 0.2 percentage points higher than what was predicted in April 2023
- According to Danish Leigh, the division chief of the Research department at IMF, India contributes one-sixth of the total global growth this year.



18. Which organization has entered into a co-lending partnership with HDFC Bank to provide business capital to micro business units operating primarily in rural areas and the unorganized sector across 10 States _____ **Dvara KGFS.**

Note:

- Dvara KGFS unveiled the enterprise loans vertical in 2020 with focus on three primary value chains – grocery, dairy and agriculture
- This engagement will enhance our capabilities in empowering micro businesses operating in rural areas.

19. Which bank has overtaken State Bank of India (SBI) to earn top spot on the list of 2023 CRISIL's Greenwich market share Leaders in Large Corporate Banking _____ **HDFC Bank.**

Note:

- According to Coalition Greenwich many of the gains for large private sector and foreign banks came at the expense of the smaller banks.
- Indian companies are joining forces with the country's largest banks to help fuel their drive to become bigger, more international and more efficient.

20. The Reserve Bank has permitted how many banks operating in the country to open 92 Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) of partner banks from 22 countries _____ **20.**

Note:

- Aim: To promote bilateral trade in local currencies.
- Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Som Parkash informed that an MoU has been signed between the RBI and the Central Bank of UAE in July 2023

21. Which organization has finalized a definitive agreement with Aegon India Holding and Bennett, Coleman & Company Limited to acquire the complete shareholding of the two entities in Aegon Life Insurance Company Limited _____ **Bandhan Financial Holdings Limited.**

Note:

- Upon completion, this strategic move will not only expand Bandhan Financial Holdings' presence in the banking and mutual fund sectors but also mark its entry into the country's life insurance sector, according to the company's statement

22. Which fintech organization has introduced the MoneySaver Export Account(MSEA), catering specifically to Indian exporters _____ **Razorpay.**

Note:

- The account enables Indian exporters to open a smart account in their preferred foreign country, facilitating local receipt of payments through bank transfers on the Razorpay platform.
- Aims: To alleviate the burden of high transfer costs, chargebacks, and payment failures, making it a valuable asset for exporters.

23. According to the RBI's index measuring the adoption of online transactions, digital payments in the country witnessed a year-on-year growth of what percent until March 2023 _____ **13.24%.**

Note:

- The RBI's Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) showed a rise from 377.46 in September 2022 and 349.30 in March 2022 to 395.57 by the end of March 2023.
- The increase in the RBI-DPI index across all parameters indicates substantial growth in payment infrastructure.



24. Which bank has joined forces with IBM India Pvt Ltd to embark on a comprehensive digital transformation and to revolutionize the way customers interact with their financial services _____
Union Bank of India.

Note:

- Aims: To establish a Digital Bank equipped with state-of-the-art capabilities, focusing on omni-channel experiences and data-driven hyper-personalization
- Objective: To enable smooth digital journeys, offering customers unmatched convenience and efficiency.

25. Which bank's report predicts that India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy by FY28 _____ **SBI Ecowrap.**

Note:

- There is a growing agreement among experts that India's GDP in Q1FY24 is set to exceed 8%, leading to a GDP growth rate surpassing 6.5% in FY24.
- The incremental increase in India's economy between 2022 and 2027 is greater than the entire current size of Australia's economy, which stands at \$1.8 trillion.

26. Name the world's largest asset manager that teaming up with Mukesh Ambani-led Jio Financial Services (JFS) to enter India's asset management sector _____ **BlackRock.**

Note:

- This collaboration represents BlackRock's return to the domestic market, and it will serve as a strong foothold for JFS, which is a recently separated division of Reliance Industries.
- This marks BlackRock's second attempt at tapping into the rapidly expanding domestic asset management space.

27. Which organization has acquired a 3.5% stake in RBL Bank for Rs 417 crore _____ **Mahindra & Mahindra.**

Note:

- The company might consider making further investments, but it will be subject to a ceiling of 9.9%.
- As per RBI norms, any entity looking to acquire over 5 per cent stake in a bank needs to seek prior approval from the regulator.
- The Mahindra group is in the financial services sector primarily through its arm Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services – a non-banking finance company.

28. The first Rupee trade shipment from West Bengal's Petrapole border to which country in July 2023 _____ **Bangladesh.**

Note:

- Petrapole is the major land port for bilateral trade with the neighboring country.
- The Indian government has been promoting Rupee trade with several countries to reduce dependence on the US Dollar and strengthen regional currency and trade.
- According to Kamlesh Saini, the manager of the Land Ports Authority of India the value of the shipment is Rs 1.23 crore.

29. Which bank announced the introduction of a unique NR savings account plan designed exclusively for Non-Resident Indian (NRI) women in July 2023 _____ **Federal Bank.**

Note:

- This scheme, known as NRE Eve+, has been designed to meet the specific financial needs of NRI women by



- Objective: To provide a variety of advantages that are geared at enhancing their financial journeys.
- With NRE Eve+, account customers get free access to domestic and international airport lounges.

30. Govt of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$200 million loan as additional financing in which Indian state _____ **Rajasthan**.

Note:

- Objective: For the ongoing Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project to expand water supply and sanitation systems and enhance urban resilience and heritage living in towns
- A new feature in ADB's support is the water facility development for urban resilience improvement and heritage-sensitive urban development in eight heritage towns

Obituaries

1. Ravindra Mahajani, who has passed away, was a veteran actor of which regional cinema _____ **Marathi**.

Note:

- He has mainly acted in Marathi, Hindi, and Gujarati films.
- He made his film debut with a 1975 Marathi film Zunj, directed by veteran director V. Shantaram.
- His other popular films included Lakshmi, Duniya Kari Salaam, Gondhalat Gondhal, and Mumbaicha Faujdaar.
- Mahajani also Directed and produced the 1997 film Sattesathi kahihi.

2. Dr Mangala Narlikar, who passed away, was a well-known _____ **Mathematician**.

Note:

- She is the wife of Dr Jayant Narlikar, who is the founder and director of the Pune-based Inter-z Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA).
- She initially worked at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) in Mumbai before joining as a lecturer at Bombay and Pune universities.
- Her core fields of interest were real and complex analysis, analytic geometry, and topology.

3. Oommen Chandy, who passed away, was a former chief minister of which Indian state _____ **Kerala**.

Note:

- He served as the Kerala chief minister twice from 2004-06 and 2011-16.
- The veteran leader began his stint as a legislator by winning the 1970 state assembly elections at the age of 27.
- He later went on to win 11 consecutive polls.
- He represented the Puthupally assembly constituency and was the longest-serving MLA in the state assembly.

4. Brian Taber, who passed away, was associated with which sports _____ **Cricketer**.

Note:

- He played 16 Test matches for Australia between 1966 and 1970. Taber made his Test debut in Johannesburg against South Africa, where he took seven catches and a stumping.
- He also played against England, India, and West Indies



- His highest Test score of 48 was achieved against West Indies at Sydney in 1969, in a match won by Australia with a 382-run margin.
- 5. Bishnu Pada Roy, who passed away, was a famous _____ **Politician**.

Note:

- He was elected as Member of Parliament in 13th, 15th and 16th Lok Sabha representing Andaman and Nicobar Islands constituency in the years 1999, 2009 and 2014, respectively.
- He was a hardworking legislator who made many efforts to fulfil people's aspirations. He also worked hard to strengthen @BJP4Bengal.

Important Days

1. World Youth Skills Day is celebrated on which date every year to emphasize the need for imparting the right skills to youth for employment and entrepreneurship _____ **July 15**.

Note:

- Theme 2023: Skilling teachers, trainers, and youth for a transformative future
- United Nations General Assembly declared 15 July as World Youth Skills Day in 2014 to celebrate the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.

2. The Day of International Criminal Justice is celebrated every year on which date _____ **17 July**.

Note:

- Aim: To commemorate the adoption of the Rome Statute on 17 July 1998, which established the International Criminal Court.
- The ICC is a permanent international court that prosecutes individuals responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.
- ICC cannot be a substitute for the national courts but is available when a country cannot perform investigations.

3. World Brain Day is celebrated globally on which date every year to promote education, research, and support for individuals affected by brain-related conditions _____ **July 22**.

Note:

- World Brain Day's 2023 theme is "Brain Health and Disability: Leave No One Behind."
- The World Federation of Neurology (WFN) was founded on July 22, 1957.
- This international movement strives to close the information gap and increase public awareness of impairments to brain health.

4. The Nation celebrates the Kargil Vijay Diwas on which date, remembering the sacrifice made by soldiers of the Indian Army _____ **July 26**.

Note:

- The nation celebrates the victory of the Indian Army over Pakistani troops in Kargil, Ladakh, in 1999, following more than 60 days of intense battle.
- The main event was held at Kargil War Memorial in Drass.
- Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan, attended the ceremony at Drass

5. In July 2023, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), India's largest Central Armed Police Force, is observing its '84th Raising Day' on which date _____ **27 July**.

Note:

- CRPF is organizing its Raising Day Parade for the first time in Chhattisgarh's Bastar, the epicenter of Left Wing Extremism, and it is a matter of pride for the entire nation.
- The day celebrates the immense and unparalleled contribution of the force in upholding the unity, integrity, and sovereignty of the nation.

6. International Tiger Day is observed annually on which date _____ **July 29.**

Note:

- Aim: To promote tiger conservation worldwide.
- Goal: To safeguard tigers and preserve their natural habitat on a global scale.
- As an endangered species in various regions across the world, tigers confront multiple threats to their existence, including habitat loss and poaching.
- International Tiger Day serves as an encouragement for humans and tigers to peacefully coexist.

7. World Hepatitis Day is observed annually on which date to raise awareness about viral hepatitis and its impact on global health _____ **July 28.**

Note:

- 2023 theme: One life, one liver
- Objective: To promote prevention, testing, and treatment while showing support for those affected by hepatitis.
- Aims: To increase public awareness about the issue and the necessary steps to enhance efforts in the prevention, screening, and control of viral hepatitis.

8. World Day against Trafficking is observed on which date to raise awareness about human trafficking trends as identified by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) _____ **July 30.**

Note:

- The theme of World Day against Trafficking in Persons 2023 is 'Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind'.
- It seeks to exert pressure on governments, law enforcement agencies, and civil society to strengthen their efforts in preventing trafficking and supporting victims.

9. World Ranger Day is celebrated worldwide on which date to commemorate Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty and to celebrate the work Rangers do to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage _____ **July 31.**

Note:

- 2023 Theme: '30 by 30'.
- A Ranger is a person who is charged with preserving and protecting parklands and natural protected areas.
- World Ranger Day is an International Ranger Federation initiative promoted together with The Thin Green Line.

New Appointments

1. Who has been appointed as the first woman to lead Australia's Central Bank since it was founded in 1960 _____ **Michele Bullock.**

Note:

- She will succeed Philip Lowe, who is coming to the end of a seven-year term as governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA).



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- Her appointment comes as the country has been battling rising prices and the RBA is facing a major shakeup.
- She is currently the RBA's deputy governor and is due to start her seven-year term as governor on Sept 18, 2023.

2. Who has been appointed as the MD of Michelin India _____ **Shantanu Deshpande**.

Note:

- He will be based out of Pune, India.
- During his career, he held various leadership roles in sales and marketing in India, North America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.
- He joined Michelin India in 1999 as an Area Sales Manager.
- He was appointed India Marketing Director in 2007 and also served as VP of Marketing with a Michelin subsidiary in North America.

3. Who has been appointed as the 25th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard _____ **DG Rakesh Pal**.

Note:

- He was conferred with Tatrakshak Medal in 2013 and President Tatrakshak Medal in 2018 for his successful service and also holds the recognition of being the First Gunner of ICG.
- He has commanded all classes of ICG ships namely; ICGS Samarth, ICGS Vijit, ICGS Sucheta Kriplani, ICGS Ahalyabai, and ICGS C-03, two Coast Guard bases of the forward area in Gujarat - Okha & Vadinar.

4. Who has been elected as the new President of the Cement Manufacturers' Association (CMA) the apex body of India's large cement manufacturers _____ **Neeraj Akhoury**.

Note:

- While Parth Jindal has been appointed as Vice President of CMA.
- Both were unanimously elected at the Extraordinary General Meeting of CMA.
- ICI will reiterate its commitment to being India's partner in nation-building for creating business value chains, supporting infrastructure growth and a sustainability agenda.

5. Who joined as the Managing Director & CEO of Invest India on July 2023 _____ **Nivruti Rai**.

Note:

- She has received a special award called the "Nari Shakti Puraskar" for her outstanding achievements in the field of technology.
- The Board of Invest India is chaired by Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, Secretary, DPIIT.
- Invest India is well acknowledged for its contributions and instrumental role in executing the Government's flagship initiatives like Make in India, Startup India.

6. Who has been appointed as chairman-elect of the Board of Directors of the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) _____ **S. Vincent Rajkumar**.

Note:

- He takes over from the current chairman, Brian G.M. Durie, who is not seeking re-election to the post.
- Dr. Rajkumar has also served as principal investigator of several clinical trials for the treatment of myeloma.
- He awarded the Jan Waldenstrom Lifetime Achievement Award (2021).

7. Prime Minister Hun Sen resigned and handed power to his eldest son Hun Manet after almost four decades of hardline rule in 2023, was a PM of which country _____ **Cambodia**.



Note:

- His Cambodian People's Party (CPP) won a landslide victory in an election on Sunday with no meaningful opposition, taking 82 percent of the vote.
- Cambodia ranks 150th out of 180 in Transparency International's corruption perception index.
- In Asia, only Myanmar and North Korea rank lower.

8. Reserve Bank of India has granted approval for the appointment of whom as the non-executive chairman of Axis Bank for a three-year term _____ **NS Vishwanathan**.

Note:

- With a career spanning nearly four decades at the central bank, Vishwanathan joined the Reserve Bank of India in 1981 and retired in March 2020 as the deputy governor.
- He showcased expertise in various areas, such as, banking, and non-banking regulation, demonstrating extensive knowledge in central banking.

9. Who has been appointed as the Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the globally authoritative UN body on climate change science _____ **Professor Jim Skea**.

Note:

- He is exceptionally well-qualified to serve in this prestigious role and also contributed to the work of the IPCC for nearly thirty years.
- He was Co-Chair of the IPCC's Working Group III on Climate Change Mitigation and co-led the IPCC's seminal Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.

10. Who has been designated as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of a US finance agency _____ **Nisha Biswal**.

Note:

- She has a career of over over 30 years of experience in US foreign policy and international development programs, within the White House
- She holds the position of Senior Vice President for International Strategy and Global Initiatives at the US Chamber of Commerce and oversees the US-India Business Council and US-Bangladesh Business Council.

11. Who has been designated as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Engineering Projects (India) Ltd _____ **Shivendra Nath**.

Note:

- Currently, he holds the position of Senior General Manager at Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), which is also a PSU under the Department of Telecommunications.
- The Public Enterprises Selection Board panel has endorsed his appointment for the CMD position.

12. Who has been appointed as the chairman and managing director at Bharat Dynamics Limited _____ **A Madhavarao**.

Note:

- He held the position of General Manager Technical at Naval Dockyard Visakhapatnam, where he was in charge of creating a long-term perspective plan for modernizing the dockyard.
- He actively participated in the Kargil and Pakistan operations and played a vital role in establishing the Nuclear and Safety field organization in Visakhapatnam.

13. Who has been elected as the chair of the 13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation held to take place in Abu Dhabi _____ **Thani Al Zeyoudi**.



Note:

- The announcement was made during a meeting with WTO director-general Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala at the WTO General Council in Geneva
- The conference will be attended by representatives from 164 countries and will involve reviewing the trading system's performance and making decisions on future work.

14. Who has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court _____ **Dhiraj Singh Thakur.**

Note:

- In 1989, he became a registered advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi, and later with the Bar Council of Jammu & Kashmir (JK).
- He became a Senior Advocate in 2011, and in 2013, he was appointed as a permanent judge of the High Court of JK
- The Andhra Pradesh High Court which has a sanctioned strength of 37 judges is currently functioning with 30 judges

Important News – India

1. Which minister has launched AI for India 2.0, a free online training programme on Artificial Intelligence on World Youth Skills' Day _____ **Dharmendra Pradhan.**

Note:

- It is a joint initiative of Skill India and GUVI, NCVET and IIT Madras accredited online programme will equip youth with frontier skills.
- GUVI, an IIT Madras incubated startup is a tech platform that enables tech learning in vernacular languages and has been curated in 9 Indian languages.

2. A rare and globally endangered bird species named 'Jerdon's Babbler' was spotted in the buffer zone of the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR), located in which Indian state _____ **Uttar Pradesh.**

Note:

- Jerdon's Babbler lives in small flocks in pairs in high/long grasslands and is a globally threatened bird
- It has been listed in the 'Vulnerable' category of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 1994.

3. Who has inaugurated the National Mega Conclave on Farmers Producer Organization (FPO) in the cooperative sector _____ **Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah.**

Note:

- He also released the action plan for the formation of 1,100 new FPOs by Primary Agricultural Credit Societies in New Delhi.
- The move is taken in the backdrop of government's announcement to set up ten thousand FPOs by 2027 and has allocated 6,900 crore rupees to achieve this goal.

4. Coal Ministry has set a target to achieve coal gasification of 100 Million Tonnes of coal by which FY to harness the power of coal gasification _____ **FY 2030.**

Note:

- The proposal incorporates comprehensive measures that capitalize on natural resources and demonstrate coal gasification's financial and technical feasibility.



- Adopting gasification technology in India will revolutionize the coal sector, reducing reliance on imports of Natural Gas, Methanol, and other products.
- 5. India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in June 2023 are estimated to be at what amount _____ **USD 60.09 Billion.**

Note:

- It is exhibiting a negative growth of (-)13.16% over June 2022.
- Overall imports are estimated to be USD 68.98 Billion.
- **Merchandise Trade:**
 - Merchandise exports: USD 32.97 Billion
 - Merchandise imports: USD 53.10 Billion
- **Service Trade:**
 - Estimated value of export: USD 27.12 Billion
 - Estimated value of services: USD 15.88 Billion
- 6. Which organization has released the third edition of the Export Preparedness Index 2022 report in New Delhi _____ **NITI Aayog.**

Note:

- Prepared by: NITI Aayog and Institute for Competitiveness
 - Evaluate 4 pillars: Policy, Business Ecosystem, Export Ecosystem, and Export Performance
 - Top Performers: (1) TN, (2) Maharashtra, (3) Karnataka, and (4) Gujarat
 - The higher average of coastal states represents their better preparedness and higher contribution to national export.
 - 7. Who has launched the 'CRCS-Sahara Refund Portal' _____ **Cooperation Minister Amit Shah.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To strengthen the cooperative movement in the country and to protect the interests of the members of the cooperatives
 - SC directed that 5000 crore rupees be transferred out of the 'Sahara-SEBI Refund Account' to the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies for disbursement against the legitimate dues of the genuine depositors of the Sahara Group of Cooperative Societies.
8. Which organization has launched the Oil 2023 medium-term market report, titled 'IEA Oil 2023 – Supply and demand dynamics to 2028' in New Delhi _____ **International Energy Agency (IEA).**

Note:

- It was launched in collaboration with the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).
- As per the report, biofuel production expands by nearly 600 kb/d from 2022 to 2028, with Brazil, Indonesia, and India combined accounting for 70% of this increase.
- 9. Which organization released the 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress of Review 2023' in New Delhi _____ **NITI Aayog.**

Note:

- As per the report, India witnessed 13.5 crore people moving out of multidimensional poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21 with the fastest reduction in UP, Bihar, MP, Odisha, and Rajasthan.
- The National MPI measures deprivations across three equally weighted dimensions of health, education, and standard of living that are represented by 12 SDG-aligned indicators.



10. The government has set up a new oversight mechanism for official data has replaced the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES) with which committee _____ **Standing Committee on Statistics (SCoS).**

Note:

- The SCES was tasked with examining economic indicators pertaining to the industrial sector, the services sector, and the labor force statistics.
- The former Chairman of the National Statistical Commission, Pronab Sen has been named the new chair of the committee.

11. Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal has launched the sale of subsidized which pulse under the brand name 'Bharat Dal' _____ **Chana Dal.**

Note:

- This would be available at the rate of 60 rupees/Kg for one-kilogram-pack and 55 rupees/Kg for a 30-kilogram pack.
- Aim: To make pulses available to consumers at affordable prices
- The retail outlets of the NAFED in Delhi-NCR are selling the chana dal.
- The milling and packaging of the Chana Dal has been undertaken by NAFED for distribution through its retail outlets in Delhi-NCR

12. Who would inaugurate the 'Festival of Libraries 2023', to be held on 5th - 6th August 2023 in New Delhi _____ **President Droupadi Murmu.**

Note:

- Aims: To facilitate the formulation of action-oriented policies for the development of Model Libraries in India, right down to the village and community levels
- The launch of a crowd-sourced Directory of Libraries, the signing of a Tripartite MoU between 3 libraries, and the release of Cursive Writing Books in the 22 vernacular languages

13. The Regional Office of Universal Postal Union (UPU) was inaugurated in which Indian metropolitan city _____ **New Delhi.**

Note:

- India would undertake UPU's technical assistance activities in the South Asia region.
- India announced a contribution of USD 2,00,000 for four years towards the UPU's Development and Technical Assistance activities.
- Aims: To support capacity building, infrastructure development, and other essential activities to strengthen the postal sector in the region.

14. The Indian Navy signed an MoU with which ministry to revive the 'stitched shipbuilding method' _____ **Ministry of Culture.**

Note:

- Aims: To revive the maritime memory and instill a sense of pride in India's rich maritime heritage among its citizens and to promote cultural memories among the Indian Ocean littoral countries.
- Construction: By stitching wooden planks together rather than using nails, offered flexibility and durability, making them less susceptible to damage from shoals and sandbars.

15. Minister of Fisheries inaugurated an International Symposium on Sustainable Livestock Transformation at NDDB, Anand. Who is the minister of Fisheries _____ **Parshottam Rupala.**

Note:



- Aims: To promote insightful discussions and collaborations to ensure a more efficient and sustainable future for the global livestock sector.
- “Vasudaiva Kutumbakam” is the signature theme of India’s G20 Presidency.

16. Name the building, which has surpassed the Pentagon (headquarters of the US Army) to become the world’s largest office _____ **Surat Diamond Bourse.**

Note:

- Surat is known as the world’s diamond capital, where 90% of the precious stones are cut.
- Diamond Bourse was designed by Delhi-based Morphogenesis and is based on the concept of Panchtatva, the five elements of nature – water, fire, air, earth, and sky.
- The building will be officially inaugurated by Narendra Modi in November 2023.

17. India has signed MoU with which country on the Local Currency Settlement (LCS) system to revolutionize cross-border transactions between the two nations _____ **United Arab Emirates.**

Note:

- LCS system allows the use of the Indian Rupee and UAE Dirham in bilateral trade, marking India's first-ever LCS arrangement.
- It will reduce dependence on international currencies and further strengthen economic cooperation between India and the UAE.

18. In which foreign city, IIT- Delhi would set up its first foreign campus _____ **Abu Dhabi.**

Note:

- Ministry of Education has signed MoU with Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK), and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) to establish 1st campus of IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi.
- IIT Delhi campus in Abu Dhabi will set a brand-new template for leveraging the power of knowledge for mutual prosperity and global good and unfolds a new chapter in internationalization of India’s education.
- It is expected to launch its academic programs in 2024.

19. India and which country signed an MoU to fabricate submarine and surface combatants and parts in Mumbai and Kolkata respectively for export _____ **France.**

Note:

- Aim: To boost the Make in India initiative
- Mazagon Dockyards Limited will jointly develop and manufacture Scorpene class submarines with the French Naval Group for a third country.
- In addition, GRSE and Naval Group France also signed an MoU to collaborate in the field of the surface ship

20. Nokia joined hands with Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) to establish a 5G skill development CoE at Kaushalya - The Skills University, located in which Indian state _____ **Gujarat.**

Note:

- The Center of Excellence (CoE) at ITI Kubernagar would establish a skill Lab dedicated to training individuals in 5G technology skills.
- Aim: To offer job placements to at least 70% of learners within 4-6 weeks after completing the course
- President and CEO of Nokia: Pekka Lundmark

21. Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde inaugurated the PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel Park (PM MITRA Park) at which city _____ **Amravati.**



Note:

- The event was also attended by Piyush Goyal (Union Textiles Minister) and Darshana Jardosh (Minister of State of Textiles).
- The Government of India aims to set up 7 PM MITRA Parks for the Textile industry.
- The PM MITRA Parks was inspired by the 5F (Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign) vision of PM Modi.

22. Who has chaired the Regional Conference on Drugs Smuggling and National Security in New Delhi _____ **Union Home Minister Amit Shah.**

Note:

- During the Conference, over 1,44,000 kilograms of drugs worth 2,416 rupees crore, were destroyed in various parts of the country by Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in coordination with Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTFs) of all states.
- The Government has adopted a Zero Tolerance policy against narcotics to create a drugs-free India.

23. Minister of Ports, Sarbananda Sonowal has launched the Curtain Raiser of Global Maritime India Summit 2023 event in which Indian cities _____ **Mumbai, Maharashtra.**

Note:

- Objective: To create an international forum for key decision makers and industry leaders; to provide an opportunity platform for start-ups, researchers, and incubators
- The official brochure for the Maritime India Summit was also unveiled.
- The Global Summit event is scheduled on 17-19th October 2023.

24. The 4th G20 Energy Transitions Working Group meeting chaired by Pankaj Agarwal, the secretary of the Union Ministry of Power, is being held in which Indian state _____ **Goa.**

Note:

- The Priority Areas focus on healing our 'One Earth', creating harmony within our 'One Family', and giving hope for our 'One Future'.
- Highlights: 'Enabling policies to accelerate e-mobility', 'Promoting solar energy for universal energy access' and 'DRE applications for achieving SDG7 goals'.

25. Which country would host the ASEAN Countries Conference 2023 on Traditional Medicines _____ **India.**

Note:

- In this conference, 10 ASEAN countries including Cambodia, and Vietnam will participate in it.
- Aims: To strengthen the platform between India and ASEAN countries to share their best practices and draw a roadmap for future cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicines.
- AYUSH has the potential for expansion of 'Act East Policy' in traditional systems of medicine.

26. Under India's G-20 presidency, who will deliver a video message addressing the meeting of Labour and Employment Ministers _____ **PM Narendra Modi.**

Note:

- The meeting is being held in Indore where the draft from the Employment Working Group will also be presented.
- A minister-level meeting will take place, attended by a total of 165 representatives, including 24 ministers from G-20 and invited countries.
- The meeting will be presided over by (ULEM) Bhupendra Yadav.



27. India and which country have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation aimed at fostering a robust semiconductor supply chain ____ **Japan**.

Note:

- According to Mr. Vaishnaw, the Electronics and IT Minister, this MoU reflects the global belief in India's competence and dedication to establishing a comprehensive semiconductor ecosystem in the country.
- Japan is an important semiconductor producer and technology developer.
- There will be cooperation on Manufacturing, Equipment Research and Design.

28. The DAHD has launched a "Credit Guarantee Scheme" specifically designed for which sector ____ **Livestock Sector**.

Note:

- Objective: To ensure that the credit facility from the lender is solely secured based on the primary security of the financed assets.
- Scheme: Access to financial resources for the un-served and under-served livestock sector, this makes financial assistance from lenders accessible to primarily first-generation entrepreneurs and underprivileged segments of society.

29. Which organization has introduced the Heat Index on an experimental basis across the entire country including the State of Andhra Pradesh ____ **India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.

Note:

- Kiren Rijju, the Union Minister of Earth Sciences, shared that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has recently introduced the Heat Index on an experimental basis across the entire country including the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- It provides information about the impact of humidity on the high temperatures and thus provides a feel-like temperature for human beings which can be used as an indication for human discomfort.

30. Ministry of Culture and which bank signed an MoU to provide financial assistance to selected beneficiaries under the Scheme for Financial Assistance for Veteran Artists ____ **Canara Bank**.

Note:

- Scheme: Financial assistance of Rs 6,000 per month is provided to artists and scholars above the age of 60, who have contributed in their specialized fields of performing arts and culture in their active age or still contribute, but due to old age, they are facing difficulty and are in penury condition.

31. Which organization collaborated with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission has announced the establishment of the first-ever Atal Tinkering Lab, based on the Public-Private Partnership model in Kerala ____ **OPPO India**.

Note:

- Objective: To create an empowered future-ready workforce and nurture entrepreneurship and technological skills among the youth.
- The collaboration holds great significance to promote 'out of the box' thinking and instill community-oriented problem-solving skills in students.

32. Who inaugurated the 'GST Bhawan' at Agartala, Tripura ____ **Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman**.

Note:



- It is a project for CGST, CX, and Customs Office, Agartala, Guwahati Zone under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- The project sits at Mantri Bari Road, Agartala, and has quick and easy access to all taxpayers.
- The inauguration of the project in Amrit Kaal during the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav showcases the strength of New India.

33. Union Minister of State Science & Technology Jitendra Singh confirmed that India's first Cannabis Medicine Project is set to be pioneered in which city _____ **Jammu.**

Note:

- This project will play a vital role in Atma-Nirbhar Bharat, as it will be capable of producing export-quality drugs designed for various neuropathies etc.
- The project will spread awareness that this substance of abuse has diverse medicinal uses, especially for patients suffering from malignancies and other diseases.

34. In association with FICCI and BIS, which ministry conducted the 6th National Conclave on Standards & Regulations under the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) _____ **Ministry of Textiles.**

Note:

- The event included 5 technical sessions in specialized areas of Technical Textiles, such as Protective textiles, Geotextiles, Build tech, Oekotech.
- Bureau of Indian Standards releases four new standards in the field of Medical textiles, Geotextiles, Agro textiles, Carpet textiles

35. Who inaugurated Gujarat's first greenfield airport, situated in Hirasar village near Rajkot city in July 2023 _____ **PM Modi.**

Note:

- Aim: To reduce the time and cost related to logistics for multiple industries in the region.
- The Rajkot International Airport has been included under PM Gati Shakti Project.
- During this event, he will dedicate packages 8 and 9 of the Saurashtra Narmada Avtaran Irrigation (SAUNI) Yojana.

36. Which mini-Ratna CPSE PSU refinery has become the single largest PSU refinery in the country for the year 2022-23 _____ **Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL).**

Note:

- It processed 17.14 million metric tonnes of crude oil during the past financial year.
- It processes 10 per cent of the total crude oil refined by the PSU petroleum refineries in the country.
- MRPL can process more than 250 different types of crude from around the world.

37. Who launches a virtual platform, part of the unique initiative of 'Mera Gaon Meri Dharohar' under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' at Qutub Minar in New Delhi _____ **Home Minister Amit Shah.**

Note:

- MGMD, a pan-India project under the National Mission on Cultural Mapping in coordination with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)
- The main objective of the project is to culturally map India's 6.5 lakh villages on a comprehensive virtual platform.

38. 4th Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group meeting (ECSWG), a three-day event held in which Indian city _____ **Chennai.**

Note:



- Objective: To reach a consensus on the Ministerial Outcome and the Presidency Documents, both of which are vital in shaping policies and actions towards addressing environmental and climate challenges.
- PM Narendra Modi showcased the importance of environmental protection.
- Bhupendra Yadav is the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

39. Who laid the foundation stone for “Divine Light House” of Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya (PBKIVV) at Dasabatia _____ **President Droupadi Murmu.**

Note:

- Theme: “The Year of Positive Change”
- According to the president (PBKIVV) is paving the way for spirituality through a disciplined lifestyle.
- She appreciated Brahma Kumaris organization’s efforts for making humanity aware and helping people move forward in a positive direction.

40. Chairman of Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA) launched the revamped website of the National Pension System Trust _____ **Deepak Mohanty.**

Note:

- The new website features a sleek and intuitive design, optimized for both desktop and mobile devices.
- The key highlights of the website are:
 - Streamlined navigation and menu structure
 - Structured Information
 - Enhanced online services with new features
 - Enhanced user experience
 - Improved search functionality

41. The 10th meeting of the Sub Committee on Military Cooperation between India and Malaysia was held in which Indian city _____ **New Delhi.**

Note:

- The Indian Side was headed by, Ministry of Defence Amitabh Prasad, while the Malaysian side was headed by Assistant Chief of Staff, Khairul Anuar bin Abd Aziz
- The Indian side highlighted the potential of the Indian defense industry with capacity and capability to cooperate with the Malaysian Armed Forces in its shipbuilding and maintenance plans

42. Who organization has launched 100 Microsites Project under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) _____ **National Health Authority.**

Note:

- Aim: To establish a small ecosystem within a particular geographic area where there is complete ABDM adoption, and the entire patient journey is digitized.
- It will be a cluster of small and mid-sized health facilities that would be fully compliant with ABDM.
- It shall encompass all small and medium-scale clinics, nursing homes, and other healthcare facilities.

43. Who inaugurated the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF) and initiated the muhurat trading in the Limited Purpose Clearing Corporation mechanism — AMC Repo Clearing Limited (ARCL) _____ **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.**



Note:

- Objective: To deepen the functioning of the corporate debt markets.
- AMC Repo Clearing Limited aims to provide a settlement guarantee in the repo market, which will help eliminate the need for bilateral counterparty exposure limits.

44. Who inaugurated the 20th annual conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, India Region _____ **Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla.**

Note:

- The conference will focus on discussing natural disasters and management strategies, particularly concerning the northeast region.
- He also highlighted the importance of regional cooperation and connectivity through the Act East policy, as it can lead to enhanced regional integration at economic, and social levels in the North East

45. Which scheme has been launched for development of Railway stations on Indian Railways _____ **Amrit Bharat Station.**

Note:

- 1309 Railway Stations have been identified under this scheme including 80 no. of stations in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
- Scheme: For the development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach
- It involves the preparation like improvement of station access, toilet, lift, free Wi-Fi, and kiosks for local products through schemes like 'One Station One Product'

46. Which ministry implemented the Capacity Building Scheme for the North Eastern Region, which is carried out by the Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE) located in Guwahati, Assam _____ **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSD&E).**

Note:

- IIE has organized numerous capacity development initiatives in Assam as part of the Pradhan Mantri Vandhan Yojana (PMVDY) scheme.
- In the Sonitpur district, a total of 6 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras Clusters have been approved under the PMVDY scheme.

47. G20 Energy Transitions Ministers' Meeting held on in which Indian state _____ **Goa.**

Note:

- Union Minister of Power, R.K. Singh informed the G20 Energy Ministers have adopted the ambitious and forward-looking Outcome Document & Chair's Summary of the meeting and G20 High-Level Voluntary Principles on Hydrogen.
- Delegates also agreed on five principles and that free and open trade will be encouraged so that zero and low-carbon hydrogen is used more and more.

48. Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog concluded the 2-day Global Food Regulators Summit 2023. Who is the vice chairman of NITI Aayog _____ **Suman Berry.**

Note:

- According to Suman Berry, we must enhance food safety scientific standards and enforce regulations to stop food adulteration and counterfeiting.
- It will serve as a timely intervention in addressing global food safety challenges and achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals of zero hunger, good health and well-being".



49. Union Minister for Jal Shakti inaugurated a two-day National Conference on Rural WASH Partners' Forum (RWPF). Who is he _____ **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat**.

Note:

- Theme: 'Accelerating Progress towards a Swachh Sujal Bharat'
- Objective: To support the expeditious implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G), the flagship missions of DDWS, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt. of India.

50. Under the Indian Presidency, the inaugural session of the 3rd G20 Disaster Risk Reduction(DRR) Working Group held in which Indian city _____ **Chennai**.

Note:

- Mami Mizutori, Representative of the UN Secretary-General for DRR stated that the establishment of a Working Group is a commitment of all G20 countries to finally change from reacting to disasters to proactively addressing their root causes
- Commitments is to enhance cooperation with the private sector, capital market actors, technology providers

51. The Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Pawan Hans, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry will jointly organize the 5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit in which city of Madhya Pradesh _____ **Khajuraho**.

Note:

- Theme: "Reaching the Last Mile: Regional Connectivity through Helicopters & Small Aircraft".
- Objective: Enhance the scope of the UDAN Scheme in remote and hilly terrains and expand the country's rural to urban connectivity.

52. The national conference on "Moving Mental Health Beyond Institutions" was inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare. Who is he _____ **Bharati Pravin Pawar**.

Note:

- Objective: To address the challenges in implementing the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 and find solutions to mental health issues.
- The government is actively promoting cost-effective treatment for common mental disorders, and mental health is integrated into the flagship Ayushman Bharat scheme.

53. The Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers organized the 3rd edition of the Summit on "Global Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturing Hubs in India" (GCPMH 2023) in which Indian city _____ **New Delhi**.

Note:

- Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitaraman will inaugurate the two days Summit on Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturing Hubs 2023
- Aim: To develop possible strategies and address the challenges that will shape the Chemicals and Petrochemicals Industry in India and across the world.

54. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the Semicon India 2023 conclave at Mahatma Mandir in which Indian state _____ **Gujarat**.

Note:

- The three-day conclave is being organized by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to showcase India's semiconductor strategy and development in the field of Semiconductors.
- The theme of the Conference is 'Catalysing India's Semiconductor Ecosystem'.



- Representatives from major companies like Micron Technology, Applied Materials, Foxconn, and AMD have participated.

55. Which Indian city joined the World Cities Culture Forum (WCCF), in July 2023, and becomes the first Indian city to achieve the feat _____ **Bengaluru.**

Note:

- Aim: To curate, facilitate and catalyze activities that will enable the citizens and communities of Bangalore to engage better with their city
- WCCF is a global network of nearly 40 cities, which provides a way for policymakers in these cities to share research and intelligence, and explore the vital role of culture for their future prosperity

Important News – State

1. Which Indian state has launched a campaign named Gajah Kotha to mitigate the escalating human-elephant conflict (HEC) issue _____ **Assam.**

Note:

- Focus: On HEC-affected villages in eastern Assam, where it aims to educate residents about the behavior, ecology, and cultural significance of elephants in the region, emphasizing the importance of conservation
- It is a joint initiative of Aaranyak (wildlife NGO), British Asian Trust, and the Assam Forest Department, supported by the Darwin Initiative.

2. Which state government has designated nodal officials to assist the Ministry of Railway in the prompt execution of PM Gati Shakti - National Master Plan _____ **Haryana.**

Note:

- Aim: To establish goods sheds in every district of Haryana
- This strategic move is expected to significantly boost the State's economy, enhancing trade and logistics across the region.
- These goods sheds will have a transformative impact on Haryana's transportation network, leading to increased trade and commerce within the state.

3. Which organization has collaborated with the Government of Gujarat to inaugurate the 'One District One Product' Wall at Garvi Gujarat Bhawan in New Delhi _____ **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.**

Note:

- Aims: To select, brand, and promote at least One Product from each District of the country for enabling holistic socioeconomic growth across all regions.
- Features: 68 unique products, including traditional crafts like Gamthi Block print and Mata-ni-Pachedi to agricultural goods.

4. Which state assembly passed the Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill, 2023 to cover an adult population of the state with a guarantee of wages or pension _____ **Rajasthan.**

Note:

- All families of the state, whether urban or rural, will be able to get an employment guarantee of 125 days every year and also get a minimum pension of Rs 1,000 per month in case of aged/disabled/single women, etc.
- The pension will also be automatically increased at the rate of 15% each year.



5. Who inaugurated the Aviation Security Control Center (ASCC) of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) at the Mahipalpur campus in New Delhi _____ **Amit Shah.**

Note:

- Aviation Sector is one of the most dynamic, publicly visible, and international environment-sensitive sectors.
- The Aviation Security Control Centre have 4 components: Communication and Monitoring Centre, Incident Management Centre, Aviation Research Centre and Data Centre.

6. Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in which Indian city _____ **Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh.**

Note:

- It will be built at a cost of over 500 crore rupees and this project is spread over an area of 10 acres in Mantralayam village.
- Amit Shah stated that the statue to be erected in Mantralayam will convey the message of Sanatan Dharma to the entire world, further bolstering the Vaishnava tradition.

7. Which state cabinet has approved Mission Shakti Scooter Yojana _____ **Odisha.**

Note:

- Under this scheme, an interest subvention on bank loans up to Rs 1 lakh will be provided to beneficiaries to purchase a scooter.
- The State government has made a budgetary provision of Rs 528.55 crore for the execution of the scheme over a period of the next five years.
- The Cabinet has also approved a budget of Rs 1001.14 crore for expanding Comprehensive Cancer Services.

8. Which Indian state would introduce its maiden online gaming industry, named "_____ State Esports Academy" _____ **Madhya Pradesh.**

Note:

- Objective: To offer young esports players a platform and opportunity to elevate their skills to a professional level.
- Goal: To train and nurture aspiring gaming and esports professionals.
- Out of the available seats, 80% will be reserved for gamers from Madhya Pradesh, while the remaining seats will be open to gamers from across the country.

Important News- World

1. Pakistan launched the 1200-megawatt nuclear power plant being built with the assistance of which country in Punjab province _____ **China.**

Note:

- Earlier, PM Sharif had inked an agreement with China worth a whopping USD 3.5 billion under which Beijing would build the Chashma-V nuclear plant at Chashma in the Mianwali district of Punjab.
- Two other nuclear power plants are also operational in Pakistan. Karachi Nuclear Power Plants (KANUPP 2 & 3) have a capacity of 2,290.

2. Which country formally signed the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) trade bloc _____ **United Kingdom.**

Note:



- The UK also become the first European country to join the CPTPP.
 - Aim: To grow the country's economy and provide access for British businesses to a market of over 500 million people
 - CPTPP: It is a free trade agreement between 11 nations (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam).
3. Meta is partnering with which company to introduce AI large language model's next generation and make technology known as Llama 2 _____ **Microsoft**.

Note:

- It will be available for research and commercial use, enabling developers and businesses to hold the next generation of generative AI tools.
 - Meta had already released the first iteration of Llama(Large Language Model Meta) in February 2023.
4. According to the Henley Passport Index 2023, published by Henley & Partners, which country becomes the world's most powerful passport with visa-free access to 192 travel destinations out of 227 around the world _____ **Singapore**.

Note:

- While India ranked 80th with visa-free entry to 57 nations.
 - Germany, Italy, and Spain shared second place with 190 visa-free destinations.
 - Japan has slipped to third place as the number of destinations its passport can access without a visa fell to 189.
5. Which country has unveiled the memorial named VC Yeshwant Ghadge Sundial Memorial at Montone _____ **Italy**.

Note:

- Reason: To pay tribute to the Indian troops who fought in the Italian Campaign during the Second World War (1939-1945) and also honour Naik Yeshwant Ghadge, Victoria Cross, who was killed in action fighting on the heights of Upper Tiber Valley
 - The memorial is in the form of a live sundial.
 - Motto: Omines Sub Eodem Sole ('Translates to 'We all live under the same sun')
6. President Abdelmadjid Tebboune informed that the nation has applied to join the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) group, he is a president of which country _____ **Algeria**.

Note:

- Algeria has also submitted a request to become a shareholder member of the BRICS Bank.
 - The North African country is rich in oil and gas resources and seeking to diversify its economy.
 - BRICS nations account for more than 40% of the world's population and about 26% of the global economy.
7. What is the new logo of Twitter _____ **X**.

Note:

- The owner Elon Musk, and Chief Executive Officer Linda Yaccarino of Twitter, revealed its new logo, replacing the blue bird on its website with an X as part of a broader rebranding effort.
- The new logo now shows a white X on a black background.
- It is the latest change since Elon Musk bought the social media platform for 44 billion dollars last year.
- Twitter is a free social networking site where users broadcast short posts known as tweets.



8. The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) and which organization expanded their 'WhatsApp Se Wyapaar' program to digitally train and upskill 10 million local traders on the WhatsApp Business App _____ **Meta**.

Note:

- Goal: To localize digitization efforts to unleash growth opportunities for businesses with hyper-local digital training in 11 Indian languages across all 29 Indian states.
 - CAIT will conduct workshops to digitize their storefronts and establish their 'digital dukaan'
9. A Norwegian woman and her Nepali Sherpa guide climbed K2, the world's second tallest mountain, in Pakistan becoming the world's fastest climber to summit all 14 peaks above 8,000 meters (26,246 feet) in how many days _____ **92 days**.

Note:

- This was their 14th highest peak in just over three months.
 - Other climbers included Pakistan's Shahbaz Khan, the younger brother of renowned mountaineer Sirbaz Khan.
 - Harila and Tenjen set the fastest climbing record by beating Nirmal Purja of Nepal.
10. In July 2023, which country has announced the successful elimination of rubella _____ **Bhutan**.

Note:

- In the past 20 years, Bhutan's health workers have worked tirelessly and fought against rubella, also known as German Measles
- This infectious disease poses a threat to those infected and also causes severe complications for pregnant women, resulting in irreversible birth defects in newborns.
- Bhutan's efforts in vaccination promotion and creating awareness have resulted in commendable success.

Honor & Awards

1. Which organization has won the Golden Peacock Environment Management Award 2023 in the Power Transmission sector from the Institute of Directors _____ **Adani Transmission Limited**.

Note:

- Recognition: Environmental management and serves as a testament to its leadership in the industry
 - This award acknowledges ATL's steadfast dedication to minimizing its ecological footprint through programs like zero waste to landfill, single-use plastic free, etc.
 - Adani Transmission MD & CEO: Anil Sardana
2. Which organization has received the Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023 in Best Use of AI/AR/VR in Learning and Upskilling category _____ **NTPC**.

Note:

- The organization also received an award in Best Advance in Creating an Extended Enterprise Learning Programme category.
 - The award was received by Director (HR), NTPC, Dillip Kumar Patel.
 - NTPC has been adopting and institutionalizing progressive and best HR practices, which have been recognized by various prestigious fora at national and international levels.
3. Who has won the prestigious Eni Award 2023 _____ **Prof. T. Pradeep**.



Note:

- He is associated with the Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M).
- Reason: To discover advanced sustainable and affordable nano-scale materials for the removal of toxic contaminants from water
- Eni Award is considered among the top global honors for scientific research in energy and environment.
- It is given in three categories-Energy Transition, Energy Frontiers and Advanced Environmental Solutions

4. Union Minister of State for Skill Development, Rajeev Chandrasekhar Flagged off the first batch of Namda Art products for export to which country _____ **The United Kingdom.**

Note:

- The Namda craft of Kashmir has successfully been revived under Skill India's Pilot Project as part of the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).
- The project has successfully trained individuals across six districts of Kashmir - Srinagar, Baramulla, Ganderbal, Bandipora, Budgam, and Anantnag

5. Which ministry awarded "Best Engagement" for its achievements on e- procurement through GeM by the Ministry of Commerce _____ **Coal Ministry.**

Note:

- Coal Ministry sets new standards in the e-procurement ecosystem, creating a level playing field for stakeholders and fostering fair competition.
- Coal India Limited has been awarded "Rising Star" and NLC India Limited has been awarded in the "Timely Payments" category.

6. Which Indian railway station was awarded by UNESCO after its successful restoration to its original glory in July 2023 _____ **Byculla Railway station.**

Note:

- The project, launched in July 2019 by Shaina NC, Trustee of 'I Love Mumbai' and in memory of her father Nana Chudasama, aimed to revive the station's original architectural splendor.
- Minister for Railways, Ashwini Vaishnav congratulated Central Railway.

7. Who was honoured with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to the field of journalism in New Delhi _____ **Prem Prakash.**

Note:

- ANI chairman Prem Prakash has dedicated over 70 years in the world of journalism.
- Throughout his illustrious career, he has established new dimensions to journalism from time to time and emerged as a great inspiration to society.

8. The Maharashtra government has decided to confer the first 'Udyog Ratna' award 2023 to which personality _____ **Ratan Tata.**

Note:

- The award is the state's highest honor given to eminent individuals, has led the Maharashtra government to introduce Udyog Ratna Award from this year onward.
- The first recipient of this award will be the renowned industrialist, Ratan Tata.
- The award is a recognition of his outstanding achievements in the industrial sector.

Sports News**Join Our Classroom Program Now**

1. Who has won the fifth gold for India in the ongoing 2023 Asian Athletics Championships in Bangkok _____ **Parul Chaudhary (Long-distance runner)**.

Note:

- She has clinched the 3000m Steeplechase event in the women's category and left behind her Chinese counterpart Xu Shuangshuang and finished the event in 9 minutes 38.76 seconds.
- Japan's Yoshimura Reimi eclipsed her by 0.02 seconds, sealing the third place and completed her run in 9 minutes and 48.48 seconds.

2. Who has won his first 2023 Wimbledon Men's Single title, held in All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, London _____ **Carlos Alcaraz**.

Note:

- In the final, he defeated Novak Djokovic.
- Women's Single: Markéta Vondroušová (Czech Republic)
- Men's Doubles: Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands) and Neal Skupski (United Kingdom)
- Women's Doubles: Hsieh Su-wei (Chinese Taipei) and Barbora Strýcová (Czech Republic)

3. Who would lead India's men's squads in cricket for the 19th Asian Games, held in Hangzhou, China from September 23 and October 8, 2023 _____ **Ruturaj Gaikwad**.

Note:

- While Harmanpreet Kaur will lead the women's cricket competition, which will take place from September 19-28, 2023.
- Both competitions will be played in T20 formats.
- Team India (Senior Men) squad also include Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rahul Tripathi, Tilak Varma, Rinku Singh, Jitesh Sharma (wk), and many more.

4. Australia's state of Victoria has withdrawn from hosting which year's Commonwealth Games (CWG) _____ **2026**.

Note:

- Reason: Due to a significant increase in projected costs, reaching around \$7 billion, exceeding their budgetary limits
- Victoria stepped in to bid for the 2026 Games when no other countries showed interest.
- The event rotates across different host cities within the Commonwealth.
- It was first held in 1930.

5. Who managed to feature in the Guinness World Record by striking the fastest smash in the ongoing Korea Open 2023 _____ **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy**.

Note:

- He broke the record of Malaysian Tan Boon Heong by surpassing his speed by 72 kmph and registered a record-breaking speed of 565 kmph.
- He and his partner, Chirag Shetty, are the only men's doubles pair from India to win the BWF World Tour 1000 & be ranked inside the top 10 of the BWF World Ranking

6. Harmehar Singh Lally and who won a silver medal in the skeet mixed team event at ISSF Junior World Championships, in Korea _____ **Sanjana Sood**.

Note:

- Indian duo lost their match with the Italian duo of Andrea Galardini and Sara Bongini.
- China is at the top with six gold, eight silver, and four bronze medals.



- India stayed in second place on the medals table with four gold, four silver and three bronze medals.
 - Italy is in the third spot with two gold, one silver and three bronze medals.
7. The Indian Surf Team earned the bronze medal at the Asian Surfing Championship 2023 held in which country _____ **Maldives**.

Note:

- In this championship, 18 countries from Asia participated.
 - The Surfing Federation of India sent a team consisting of 4 senior male surfers and 2 surfers in the Under 18 category. 5 out of the 6 surfers representing India were from Tamil Nadu.
 - Arun Vasu: The President of the Surfing Federation of India
8. Who claimed the championship title in the V Geza Hetenyi Memorial Super GM chess tournament 2023 in Hungary _____ **R Praggnanandhaa**.

Note:

- In the 10-player event, the 17-year-old GM secured the top spot by scoring 6.5 points, finishing a clear point ahead of M Amin Tabatabaei from Iran and Russia's Sanan Sjugirov after nine rounds of play.
 - He notched five victories, drew three games, and experienced a single defeat in the fifth round at the hands of Amin Tabatabaei."
9. Name the cricketer, who has become the second pace bowler to take 600 wickets in Test cricket _____ **Stuart Broad (England)**.

Note:

- He reached the mark by removing Australia's Travis Head on day one of the fourth Ashes Test at Old Trafford.
 - England team-mate James Anderson is the only other quick bowler to achieve the feat.
 - Broad is fifth on the all-time list and Anderson third, with spinners Muttiah Muralitharan, Shane Warne and Anil Kumble completing the top five.
10. Which pair defeat Indonesian top seeds Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto in the men's doubles Korea Open final 2023 _____ **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty**.

Note:

- They have won all the four finals they played. They won the Swiss Open Super-300 tournament on March 26, became Asian champions on April 30, claimed their first Super-1000 title at the Indonesia Open on June 18 and Korean open on July 23, South Korea.
11. Name the mascot for Asian Champions Trophy 2023 hockey tournament to be held in Chennai from August 3 to 12 _____ **Bomman**.

Note:

- Tamil Nadu Youth Welfare and Sports Development Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin unveiled the trophy.
 - Six teams from the continent – India, China, Pakistan, Malaysia, Japan and Korea – will compete for the coveted trophy.
 - Tamil Nadu government has allocated Rs 17 crore for the conduct of the event.
12. Name the Indian player, who won two gold medals in the 50-meter free pistol event in the Junior World Championship 2023 in Changwon, Korea _____ **Kamaljeet**.

Note:



- In this championship, India was second on the medals table with six gold, six silver, and five bronze medals.
- China stayed on top with 12 gold, nine silver, and seven bronze medals.
- In the women's free pistol, Tiwana Phogat won the silver, one point behind Khanna Aliyeva of Azerbaijan.

13. Name the women's Indian javelin throwers, who won the women's javelin throw events at the Lebanon Athletics Championships 2023 in Beirut _____ **Annu Rani.**

Note:

- Indian javelin throwers Annu Rani and Kishore Jena bagged gold medals in the women's and men's javelin throw events, respectively, at the Lebanon Athletics Championships 2023 in Beirut
- In the women's event, Annu Rani recorded a best throw of 55.32m to top the six-woman field.
- In the men's event, Kishore Jena achieved a distance of 78.96m to clinch the gold medal.
- Tokyo Olympics champion 2022 Neeraj Chopra holds India's national record in men's javelin throw.

14. Which position was secured by India at the ISSF Junior Shooting World Championships 2023 held in Changwon, South Korea _____ **Second.**

Note:

- Indian shooters achieved a total of 17 medals, comprising 6 Gold, 6 Silver, and 5 Bronze.
- Seven Indian athletes earned more than one medal each.
- Abhinav Shaw and Kamaljeet both claimed two gold medals.
- Sainyam won three medals, including a gold in the 10m air pistol women's event, and a bronze each in the 10m air pistol mixed team and women's team events.

15. Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023 in which Indian city _____ **Greater Noida.**

Note:

- The international event will see the participation of more than 30 Indian weightlifters, including many Khelo India Athletes who won 61 medals at Weightlifting Commonwealth Championships.
- More than 15 nations from the Asian region, 200 athletes are participating.
- It will conclude on the 5th of August.

16. Who becomes India's 83rd Grandmaster after earning his third GM norm at the Master Tournament (MTO) in the Biel International Chess Festival 2023 _____ **Aditya Samant.**

Note:

- The Maharashtra player had earned his first norm to become a grandmaster at the Abu Dhabi Masters in August 2022
- To become a GM, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points and his live rating going into the ninth round game is 2525.4.

17. Which country's women's hockey won the 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation - International Tournament held in Terrassa, defeating hosts Spain with a scoreline of 3-0 _____ **India.**

Note:

- Lalremsiami showcased her remarkable skills, scoring a hat-trick for India. With this win, India took the top spot in the standings, earning five points from three matches.
- Hosts Spain came second, with four points.



18. Who won the Gold medal for India at the FISU World University Games 2023 in China _____
Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar.

Note:

- Competing in men's 50-meter rifle three positions, he achieved the top podium with a total score of 461.7 points in the final. With this, India have now a gold, silver and bronze each in shooting.
- The Indian trio of Tomar, Sartaj Singh Tiwana and Surya Pratap Singh joined forces to secure Bronze in the men's 50 meter rifle 3 position team event.

19. How many medals won by India at the Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships 2023 _____ **14 medals.**

Note:

- Indian athletes clinched six medals at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo.
- Amoj Jacob, Aishwarya Mishra, Muhammed Anas, and Himanshi Malik, in the 4x400 meter mixed relay team, earned the first gold medal of the day.
- Kishore Kumar Jena, the Indian javelin thrower who won the gold medal, received the Best Male Thrower trophy

Books and Authors

1. Who is the author of the book titled, 'Tree & Serpent: Early Buddhist Art in India' _____ **John Guy.**

Note:

- This book is published by Mapin in collaboration with The Metropolitan Museum of Art (MET) in New York.
- It is a pioneering study of the emergence of Buddhist art in southern India, featuring vibrant photography of rare works
- It will feature over 125 objects, including a series of spectacular sculptural masterpieces from southern India on public display.

2. Who unveiled a book named 'Swachhata Chronicles: Transformative Tales from India' _____
Union Minister of Jal Shakti, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

Note:

- The book features 75 ODF Plus Best Practices and was launched during the two-day National Conference of Rural WASH Partners Forum.
- Innovations: To overcome challenges, awareness-raising efforts, special campaigns, and other initiatives of States/UTs in different ODF Plus activities to achieve the goals of SBM-G Phase-II.

3. Who launched the book titled 'Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam: Memories Never Die' in Rameshwaram in July 2023 _____ **Union Home Minister Amit Shah.**

Note:

- The book is about the history of Indian rocketry, science, technology and innovation, beautiful representation of Indian politics and administrative system, and description of many incidents related to wishes and imagination of Dr. Kalam.
- Amit Shah also paid a visit to Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam House and the Mission of Life Gallery Museum.

Science and Defence



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1. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched its third lunar mission 'Chandrayaan-3' on-board the heavy lift LVM3-M4 rocket in Sriharikota on which date _____ **July 14, 2023.**

Note:

- It is planned to soft land on the surface of the South Pole region of the Moon on August 23.
- If this mission came out to be successful, India will enter an elite club of nations (US, Russia and China) achieving such a feat.
- It consists of an indigenous lander module (LM), propulsion module (PM), and a rover.

2. Which edition of the joint military exercise between India and Mongolia, 'Nomadic Elephant 2023', begins at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from 17 to 31 July 2023 _____ **15th.**

Note:

- Indian Army soldiers from the Jammu and Kashmir Light Infantry Regiment and Soldiers of the Mongolian Armed Forces Unit 084 participated in the exercise
- Aim: Counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain under United Nations mandate
- The scope of this exercise involves a Platoon level Field Training Exercise

3. A Joint Military Drills 'Northern Interaction-2023', between Chinese and Russian naval and air forces would be conducted in which location _____ **Sea of Japan.**

Note:

- It is organized by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Northern Theater Command.
- Aim: To enhance the level of strategic cooperation between both militaries, as well as strengthen the ability to jointly safeguard regional peace
- China Capital: Beijing; Russia Capital: Moscow

4. Which organization has bagged orders worth Rs 800 crore from the Indian Army _____ **Ashok Leyland.**

Note:

- Reason: To deliver specialized vehicles to the defense sector.
- These vehicles includes the Field Artillery Tractor (FAT 4x4) and the Gun Towing Vehicle (GTV 6x6).
- The FAT 4x4 and GTV 6x6 are specialized vehicles employed by the Artillery for towing light and medium guns, respectively.

5. Which Indian state will get India's first 'Satellite Network Portal Site' _____ **Gujarat.**

Note:

- London-based company OneWeb and the state gov signed MoU for the establishment of the 'Satellite Network Portal Site' in Gandhinagar
- Aims: To provide affordable, secure and high-speed internet access to villages, district panchayats, local administrative bodies and government departments
- OneWeb is setting up two 'SNPS' and one of them will be in the Mehsana district of Gujarat.

6. India's Nuclear power capacity has been set to increase from over 7000 Mega Watt to over 22480 Mega Watt by which year _____ **2031.**

Note:

- The present installed nuclear power capacity in the country is seven thousand 480 Mega Watt comprising 23 nuclear power reactors.
- The share of nuclear power in the total electricity generation in the country was about 2.8 percent in 2022-23.



7. India has gifted its in-service missile corvette INS Kirpan to which country to robust the strategic partnership between the two nations, especially in the maritime domain _____ **Vietnam**.

Note:

- The frontline warship was handed over to Vietnam, during an official visit of Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar.
- It is for the first time that India gifted a fully operational corvette to any friendly foreign country.
- INS Kirpan was an indigenously built Khukri-class missile corvette, commissioned in 1991.

8. Union Minister of State Science & Technology, Jitendra Singh, visited the Technology Showcase at the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in which Indian state _____ **Goa**.

Note:

- It was organized on the sidelines of the G20 Energy Transition Ministerial Meeting with the support of the 8th Mission Innovation and 14th Clean Energy Ministerial.
- It was organized under three parts:
 - Vehicle and Charging showcase
 - Infrastructure Showcase
 - Mission Innovation and Clean Tech Start-up presentations.

9. The World Health Organization has identified a case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) in a 28-year-old male from which country _____ **United Arab Emirates**.

Note:

- MERS-CoV is a viral respiratory infection caused by a coronavirus known as MERS
- The infection is transmitted to humans through direct or indirect contact with dromedary camels, which are the natural host and zoonotic source of the MERS-CoV infection.
- The symptoms include: Fever, Cough, Shortness of breath

10. The Ministry of Earth Sciences celebrated its _____ Foundation Day 2023 at its Prithvi Bhavan headquarters in New Delhi _____ **17th**.

Note:

- Union Minister Kiren Rijju launched several citizen-centric initiatives to mark this occasion.
- He highlighted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi envisions the country becoming a developed nation by 2047.
- Earth Sciences Ministry is mandated to provide services for weather and climate, ocean and coastal state, hydrology, seismology, and natural hazards.

11. Which organization launched the world's largest private satellite into space in July 2023 _____ **SpaceX**.

Note:

- From Launch Complex 39A in Florida, the satellite will be launched on SpaceX's Falcon Heavy rocket.
- This will be the seventh launch for SpaceX's triple-booster rocket.
- Instead of attempting a drone-ship landing at sea, SpaceX will expand its core booster in the Atlantic Ocean following the first-stage separation, which deviates from their usual practice.



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