

Weekly One-liners

22-31st July 2023



Weekly One Liners Updates 22- 31st July 2023

Dear readers,

Weekly One Liners Update is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the **fourth week** (22-31st) of **June 2023**. This file is important for, **Banking, SSC, Railway & Insurance** exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

- 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.

- 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

- 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.

- 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.

- 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.

- 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.

- 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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
11. 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
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. 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.

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. 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.

19. 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.

20. 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. 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.

2. 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 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.

2. 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

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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 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).

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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 become 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

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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

8. 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.

9. 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

10. 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

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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

14. 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'

15. 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.

16. 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.
- 17.** 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”.
- 18.** 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.
- 19.** 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
- 20.** 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.
- 21.** 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.
- 22.** 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.
- 23.** 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.
- 24.** 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 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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. 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: Omnes Sub Eodem Sole (Translates to 'We all live under the same sun')

2. 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.
3. 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.
4. The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) and which organization expanded their 'WhatsApp Se Vyapaar' 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'
5. 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.
6. 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 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.
2. 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.
3. 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

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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, Tiyaana Phogat won the silver, one point behind Khanna Aliyeva of Azerbaijan.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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 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.

2. 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

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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:

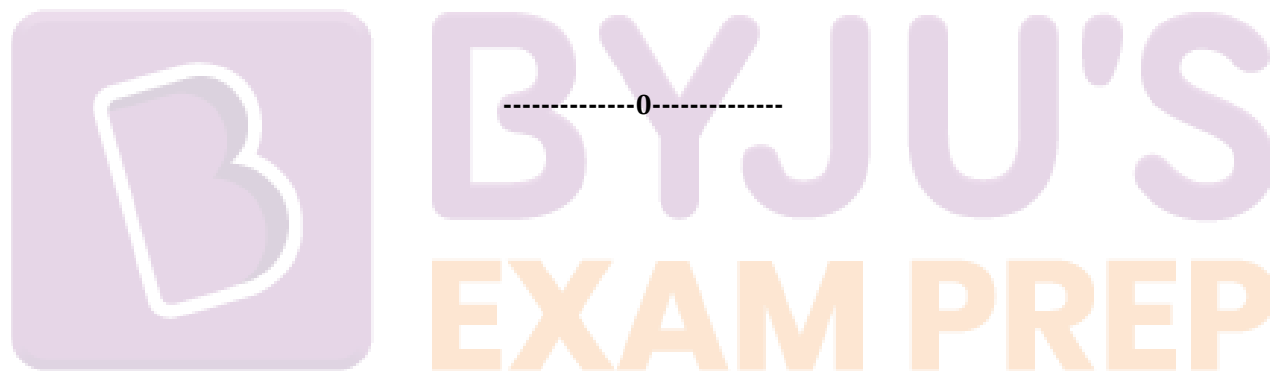
- MERS-CoV is a viral respiratory infection caused by a coronavirus known as MERS
 - The infection is transmitted to humans through direct or indirect contact with dromedary camels, which are the natural host and zoonotic source of the MERS-CoV infection.
 - The symptoms include: Fever, Cough, Shortness of breath
4. The Ministry of Earth Sciences celebrated its _____ Foundation Day 2023 at its Prithvi Bhavan headquarters in New Delhi _____ **17th**.

Note:

- Union Minister Kiren Rijiju 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.
5. 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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