



# Bi-weekly Current Affairs for Govt Exams 16-31 Aug (English PDF)

## **Bi-Weekly One Liner Updates**

### **16-31st August 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 wholly-owned subsidiary of the RBI has launched the Pilot Project for Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit \_\_\_\_\_ **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To enable delivery of frictionless credit by facilitating a seamless flow of required digital information to lenders.
- Objectives: To encourages various stakeholders, including banks, non-banking financial companies, FinTech firms, and startups, and other financial services

2. Which stock broking orgnaization has received final approval from the regulator Sebi to launch the mutual fund product \_\_\_\_\_ **Zerodha**.

**Note:**

- The motivation to launch the mutual fund business was two-fold -- the shallow participation in Indian markets wherein lies the challenge and an opportunity and creating simple products for investors.
- Zerodha started its journey in 2010 as a 'Rs 20 per order broker' and gained popularity as a no-frills, low-cost player among traders.

3. Which international bank has approved a USD 40.5 million loan for integrated early childhood development and maternal mental health in Meghalaya \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank**.

**Note:**

- The Meghalaya government is contributing USD 15.27 million to the project.
- Aims: To improve access to nurturing care, including a component of maternal mental health care to enable the inclusion of fathers in caregiving.
- Objective: To strengthen home-based childcare and center-based childcare through daycare centers

4. Which bank has introduced Jeevan Dhara, a special savings bank account for pensioners, and prospective pensioners \_\_\_\_\_ **Canara Bank**.

**Note:**

- The primary benefit of this account for senior citizens is that it is a zero-balance savings account.
- With this savings account, senior citizens do not have to maintain a minimum balance and there are no maintenance charges.
- The interest rate per annum is 4% for deposits for senior citizens holding the Canara Jeevan Dhara Savings account.

5. Which Indian IT services company introduced the launch of a new Center of Excellence on Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in partnership with IIT Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Wipro**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To foster accelerated innovation in some of the most exciting emerging areas of technology.
- Objective: To enhance our research & development capabilities in emerging regions, such as generative AI.
- Teams will jointly work on building innovative solutions using AI, ML, and other technologies.



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6. The Reserve Bank of India launched a centralized Web portal, UDGM, for searching unclaimed deposits across multiple banks. What is the full form of UDGM \_\_\_\_\_ **Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Access Information.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To identify their unclaimed deposits and accounts and enable them to either claim the deposit amount or make their deposit accounts operational at their respective banks.
- The 7 banks include State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Central Bank of India, South Indian Bank and Dhanlaxmi Bank

7. What rating has been affirmed by the rating agency Moody's on India and maintained a 'stable' outlook on the Indian economy \_\_\_\_\_ **BAA3.**

**Note:**

- The Baa3 rating and stable outlook also take into account a curtailment of civil society and political dissent, compounded by rising domestic political risk.
- India's long-term local and foreign-currency issuer ratings and the local-currency senior unsecured rating remain at Baa3.
- While the other short-term local-currency rating stands at P-3.

8. Which bank announced the launch of two lending products powered by the Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit, introduced by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub \_\_\_\_\_ **Axis Bank.**

**Note:**

- Objective: To offer Kisan Credit Card (KCC) and unsecured MSME loans to customers powered by the platform.
- KCC will be offered in Madhya Pradesh and will be available to customers for up to Rs 1.6 Lakh to start with.
- MSME loans will be available across the country and will offer loans upto Rs. 10 Lakh

9. The National Health Authority (NHA) and which regulatory body jointly organized an exclusive three-day Accelerator Workshop \_\_\_\_\_ **IRDAI.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To help insurance companies complete their Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) integration and to facilitate adoption of Health Claims Exchange (HCX) specifications
- IRDAI also issued a circular advising the insurers and providers get on-boarded to the National Health Claims Exchange (NHCE).

10. Which bank has introduced its mobile banking app, iris by YES BANK, which aims to reform India's digital banking landscape \_\_\_\_\_ **YES BANK.**

**Note:**

- The app allows flexibility and personalization, enabling customers to access over 100 features on a single platform.
- It also ensures the utmost safety of the customers' financial data by incorporating safety features like Biometric Authentication, Sim-Binding, and a 2-factor Verification.
- Managing Director & CEO of YES BANK is Prashant Kumar.

11. Which bank became the First Public Sector Bank to extend facility of execution of on-line locker agreement through Digital Document Execution (DDE) Platform of National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Bank.**

**Note:**

- On-line locker agreement, which is available round the clock will enhance customer convenience and will reduce the turn-around time of the agreement execution.
- DDE is a fully automated contract execution platform with paperless e-stamp and e-Sign facility.

12. Which banking group launched new life insurance and asset management services at International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in Gujarat \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Group.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To offer services to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and the global Indian diaspora.



- HDFC Life unveils HDFC International Life and Re, and HDFC AMC International (IFSC) Ltd to cater to the financial needs of the worldwide Indian community to make world-class foreign currency denominated insurance solutions available for NRIs.

13. Which bank launched the UPI Interoperable Digital Rupee mobile application \_\_\_\_\_ **Canara Bank**.

**Note:**

- It becomes the first bank in both the public and commercial sectors to offer this feature via its CBDC mobile app called the Canara Digital Rupee.
- Aim: To empower merchants to accept digital currency payments using their existing UPI QR codes in addition to UPI-based payments without the requirement of a separate onboarding process for CBDC.
- CEO of Canara Bank is K. Satyanarayana Raju

14. Which insurance organization has acquired a 6.66 per cent stake in Jio Financial Services owing to the de-merger action by Reliance Industries \_\_\_\_\_ **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)**.

**Note:**

- According to the LIC the cost of acquisition is equivalent to 4.68 per cent of the pre de-merged cost of Reliance Industries.
- The country's largest insurer held a 6.49 per cent stake in RIL at the end of June 2023.
- JFS shares hit its lower circuit limits for the second straight session on August 21.

15. Which bank has partnered with Marriott Bonvoy to unveil the 'Marriott Bonvoy \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card' \_\_\_\_\_ **HDFC Bank**.

**Note:**

- This pioneering co-branded hotel credit card, the first of its kind in India, operates on Diners Club platform, a part of the Discover Global Network, and aspires to set new standards for rewarding travel cards in the country.
- This card brings together the strengths of these two prominent brands, presenting consumers with an unparalleled selection of travel benefits.

16. Which institution has reconstituted the Advisory Board on Banking and Financial Frauds (ABBFF) which conducts the first-level examination of bank frauds before recommendations or references are made to investigative by agencies such as CBI \_\_\_\_\_ **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)**.

**Note:**

- The reconstituted APBFF will be chaired by former CVC Suresh N Patel.
- There are four Members and the tenure of the Chairman/ Members would be for two years.

17. Which bank has partnered with commodities trader Maptrusco, and announced the completion of the first "live" transaction of electronic Bills of Lading (eBL) for shipments between Singapore and India \_\_\_\_\_ **DBS**.

**Note:**

- This landmark first shipment marks a pivotal moment for businesses operating in both Singapore and India.
- It grants them the opportunity to engage with the TradeTrust network through their preferred TradeTrust-enabled platforms.

18. India in partnership with which International bank to open a climate change and health hub in Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank**.

**Note:**

- Objective: To facilitate knowledge sharing, promote partnerships and innovations, and also help countries beyond the G-20, especially developing countries.
- Climate change affects all of us and this centre will give us the opportunity to have different partners discussing this important issue and learning from each other.

19. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the merger of which bank with the Akola Merchant Co-operative Bank \_\_\_\_\_ **Jalgaon Peoples Co-operative Bank**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To streamline operations and services for customers under a unified entity.





- The Akola Merchant Co-operative Bank branches would operate as branches of The Jalgaon Peoples Co-operative Bank.
  - The merger of Twin Cities Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd and Kranti Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd was also given the go-ahead by the central bank
20. Which payment bank has joined hands with the Frontier Markets, and the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth have announced the launch of 'She Leads Bharat: Udyam', a first-of-its-kind initiative \_\_\_\_\_ **Airtel Payments Bank.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To elevate women-owned small businesses(WOSB) with resources, tools, and opportunities to grow and diversify their incomes.
  - Objective: To bring together the private sector, and social enterprise, to demonstrate a digital-first model designed to unlock ways for WOSB to increase their incomes.
21. RBI has announced to enhance transaction limits for small value digital payments in offline mode to what amount from the earlier cap of ₹200 \_\_\_\_\_ **₹500.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To enable faster, more reliable, and contactless payments for everyday small value purchases, transit payments, and so on by eliminating the need for two-factor verification for small value transactions.
  - This effectively means that transacting parties can carry out digital transactions amounting to ₹500 each in the offline mode.
22. Which bank has launched a co-branded Corporate Credit Card in collaboration with the spend management platform Zaggie to provide businesses with direct control over company expenditures \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes Bank.**
- Note:**
- Objective: To empower businesses to reimagine their payment processes, streamline reconciliation, and efficiently manage company expenditures.
  - This includes the ability to set individual spending limits, apply merchant category restrictions, and implement diverse controls.
23. Which Insurance organization has recently tied up with Saraswat Cooperative Bank Ltd in its effort to increase the penetration of life insurance through the Bancassurance channel in Mumbai \_\_\_\_\_ **Life Insurance Corporation of India.**
- Note:**
- Saraswat Cooperative Bank is the India's largest Urban Cooperative Bank.
  - Citizens in general and customers of Saraswat Bank, in particular, will now have the opportunity to fulfill their life insurance protection needs through the Bank itself by purchasing insurance products LIC.
24. Which International Bank has joined hands with the Fourth Partner Energy Private Limited signed a long-term loan of up to 1.2 billion Rs to construct and operate a 25-megawatt solar photovoltaic-based power plant \_\_\_\_\_ **Asian Development Bank.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To increase clean and low-cost energy supply to commercial and industrial customers.
  - The power plant, located in Tamil Nadu in India, is expected to generate about 50.7 gigawatt-hours of electricity annually and will directly sell power to commercial and industrial users.
25. Which bank launched a new savings account variant – 'Infinity Savings Account' to cater to digitally savvy customers who are frequent adopters of subscription-based models \_\_\_\_\_ **Axis Bank.**
- Note:**
- Objective: To offer Axis Bank's customers exclusive privileges, such as waived Average Monthly Balance (AMB) requirement, complimentary debit cards, and waiver of all the domestic charges against a small monthly recurring fee of Rs 150 or annual fee of Rs 1,650.

### Obituaries



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1. Bindeshwar Pathak, who passed away was a founder of which nonprofit organization \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sulabh International.**

**Note:**

- He was a pioneer in building public toilets.
- He founded Sulabh International, a social service organization that works to promote human rights, environmental sanitation, waste management
- In 1991, He was awarded the Padma Bhushan for his work for liberating and rehabilitating manual scavengers and also for preventing environmental pollution by providing pour-flush toilet technology

2. Manchanahalli Rangaswamy Satyanarayana Rao, popularly known as MRS Rao, an eminent \_\_\_\_\_  
**Scientist.**

**Note:**

- He was well known for his discipline, scientific knowledge, patience, soft-spoken nature and mentorship of PhD students.
- He was honored with the Padma Shri award in 2010 for his contributions to the field of science and engineering.
- He was the first scientist to initiate Chromatin Biology research in India.

3. Former John Warnock, who passed away, was a co-founder of which system \_\_\_\_\_  
**Adobe Systems.**

**Note:**

- He worked for Xerox before he and colleague Charles Geschke created a company around a rejected idea in 1982.
- Later, he outlined an early version of the Portable Document Format, or PDF, transforming the way documents are exchanged.
- In 1964, he solved the Jacobson radical, an abstract algebra problem that had been a mystery since it was posed eight years before.

4. Raju Punjabi, who passed away, was veteran \_\_\_\_\_  
**Singer.**

**Note:**

- A well-established name in the Haryanvi music industry, he had charted out several hit songs as “Desi desi na bolya kar”, “Solid Body”, “Sandal”, “Aacha lage Se”, “Tu Cheez Lajawab”, “Bhang Mere Yaara Ne”, and “Last Peg” among others.
- Born Raja Kumar at village of Rawtsar in Rajasthan’s Hunamangarh district.

5. Terry Funk, who passed away at 79, was related to which sports \_\_\_\_\_  
**Wrestler.**

**Note:**

- He had an intriguing and remarkable career over five decades (1965 to 2017).
- He was known for his hardcore style, his charisma, and his passion for the business.
- He was inducted into the WWE Hall of Fame in 2009 by his longtime friend and rival, Dusty Rhodes.
- In 2021, he also received recognition from the International Professional Wrestling Hall of Fame.

6. Dev Kohli, who passed away in Mumbai, was veteran \_\_\_\_\_  
**Poet.**

**Note:**

- He had penned over a hundred songs for Bollywood films such as Baazigar, Hum Aapke Hain Koun, Maine Pyaar Kiya, Shoot Out At Lokhandwala, among many others.
- He last wrote songs for the Kangana Ranaut-starrer Rajjo, which had music by Uttam Singh.
- From Shankar-Jaikishan to Vishal-Shekhar, Dev Kohli worked with different generations of composers in a career that spanned from 1969 to 2013.

7. Jayanta Mahapatra, who passed away at the age of 95, was a famous \_\_\_\_\_  
**Eminent littérateur and poet.**

**Note:**

- He was the first Indian poet to win a Sahitya Akademi award for English poetry.
- He was also conferred with the Padma Shri award in 2009. However, he returned it in 2015 to protest against “rising intolerance in India”.



- He is best known for authoring poems such as “Indian Summer” and “Hunger”, regarded as classics in modern Indian English literature.

### Important Days

1. India is celebrating its \_\_\_\_\_ Independence Day on August 15, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **77th**.

**Note:**

- PM Narendra Modi addressed the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort in Delhi and unfurled the national flag.
- This year, the theme is 'Nation First, Always First' under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebration.
- This year, around 1,800 special guests from various sections of society were invited to witness the ceremony.
- The G20 logo made from flowers is displayed on the ground.

2. Navroz observed on August 16, 2023, is a new year of which community \_\_\_\_\_ **Parsi**.

**Note:**

- This day marks the beginning of the Zoroastrian calendar.
- The Parsi New Year, also known as the festival of Navroz or Nowruz, falls between July and August in India.
- Derived from the Persian words 'Nav' and 'Roz' which literally translates to 'new day', the tradition of celebrating Parsi New Year is believed to have been observed by Iranians and Zoroastrians for the past 3,000 years.

3. Chingam 1 is the first day of the new year of the traditional Malayalam calendar used in which Indian state \_\_\_\_\_ **Kerala**.

**Note:**

- In 2023, it's being celebrated on August 17.
- Chingam 1 is also known as Chingam Month or Chingam Masam and it's followed by the Onam festival.
- The Malayam Calendar is based on the solar calendar system and every year, the date of Chingam 1 varies.
- Chingam 1 marks the beginning of the harvest season in Kerala and is considered an auspicious day.

4. World Humanitarian Day is observed on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **19th August**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To bring partners from across the humanitarian system together and work collectively for survival, well-being and dignity of people affected by crises.
- World Humanitarian Day 2023 theme is: NoMatterWhat.
- It is the day when 22 colleagues were killed at the United Nations Office in Baghdad,
- It is an opportunity to pay tribute to colleagues who have lost their lives in humanitarian service

5. The World Mosquito Day is commemorated on which date globally \_\_\_\_\_ **August 20**.

**Note:**

- Aim: To mark the importance of protecting ourselves and our communities from the potentially deadly diseases transmitted by the insects that are commonly seen in homes across the world.
- Theme for World Mosquito Day 2023 is “Fighting the World's Deadliest killer -the Mosquito. “
- The mosquitoes are responsible for the spread of diseases like malaria, dengue fever, Zika virus, and West Nile virus.

6. International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition is observed annually on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **August 23**.

**Note:**



- Aim: To raises awareness about the horrifying nature of the slave trade and remind people about the transatlantic slave trade and its implications.
  - Theme of international Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition 2023 is "Fighting slavery's legacy of racism through transformative education"
7. The Prime Minister announced which date will be celebrated as the National Space Day \_\_\_\_\_  
**August 23.**  
**Note:**
- It was on this day that the ISRO Chandrayaan mission made history by landing near the south pole of the moon.
  - On this day our Scientific and technological progress will be celebrated.
  - He suggested that a National Hackathon must be organized by the Central and State Governments and Universities on ideas that will ensure good governance and find solutions to problems.
8. Women's Equality Day is celebrated on which date \_\_\_\_\_ **26th August.**  
**Note:**
- This day marks a turning point in the history of the struggle for equal treatment of women and women's rights.
  - The theme for Women's Equality Day 2023 is "Embrace Equity,"
  - Aim: To commemorate the Nineteenth Amendment being adopted in the 1920s in the United States.
  - This act stopped the federal government and states from preventing people from the right to vote based on their gender.
9. The National Sports Day in India is celebrated on which date every year \_\_\_\_\_ **29 August.**  
**Note:**
- It is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand Singh.
  - The day also serves as a reminder for all of us to recall the contributions, determination and extraordinary achievements of the athletes and their influence in shaping societies.
  - The theme for this year's National Sports Day celebration is "Sports are an enabler to an inclusive and fit society".

### New Appointments

1. PayPal appointed whom as CEO, replaced its longest-serving chief executive officer Dan Schulman in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Alex Chriss.**  
**Note:**
- He currently serves as the Executive Vice President and General Manager of Intuit's Small Business and Self-Employed Group,
  - The change of guard marks a watershed moment for digital payments giant PayPal, which has been looking to push deeper into the cryptocurrency payments space with the launch of a U.S. dollar stablecoin last week.
2. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) appointed whom as the first full-time women Chairperson and Managing Director of Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Limited \_\_\_\_\_  
**Parminder Chopra.**  
**Note:**
- Presently, she is serving as Director (Finance) of the same Maharatna Power PSU. She has also been holding the addition charge of company's CMD post.
  - She has more than 35 years of experience in power sector, serving in key power sector organizations like NHPC and Power Grid.
3. The Reserve Bank of India appointed whom as MD & CEO of South Indian Bank and he will serve for a period of three years \_\_\_\_\_ **PR Seshadri.**  
**Note:**





- He is currently mentoring businesses both at an operating level as well as at the board level at various companies.
- He has served as Managing Director & CEO of the Karur Vysya Bank Limited.
- He holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the Delhi College of Engineering and a PG Diploma in Management from the IIM Bangalore.

4. The government has approved the appointment of Kamlesh Varshney and \_\_\_\_\_ as SEBI Whole-Time Members \_\_\_\_\_ **Amarjeet Singh.**

**Note:**

- Kamlesh Varshney, a 1990-batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service, is a joint secretary at the revenue department in the Finance Ministry.
  - Amarjeet Singh is an executive director at the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
  - Both have been appointed for three years from the date of assumption of charge or until further orders.
5. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has appointed whom as BPCL latest brand ambassador \_\_\_\_\_ **Rahul David.**

**Note:**

- He will represent BPCL's Pure for Sure initiative and its range of MAK lubricants.
  - BPCL operates three refineries in Bina, Kochi and Mumbai.
  - It was ranked 309th on the 2020 Fortune list of the world's biggest Public sector undertakings in India.
6. Viacom18 has appointed whom as CEO overseeing digital business operations in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Kiran Mani.**

**Note:**

- Currently, he holds the position of General Manager and MD for Android and Google Play in the Asia Pacific region at Google.
  - He has been associated with the company for over 13 years now.
  - Mani, in his role as the head of the digital business, will have the responsibility of leading the expansion of JioCinema, according to the sources.
7. Who has become Thailand's prime minister after clinching parliamentary support \_\_\_\_\_ **Srettha Thavisin.**

**Note:**

- He co-founded Sansiri in 1988, which later became one of Thailand's largest real estate developers, leading Srettha to become a property tycoon.
  - He was the former chief executive and president of Sansiri.
  - Srettha will lead an alliance of 11 parties that includes two pro-military parties affiliated with outgoing Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha.
8. Who has been re-elected as the President of Zimbabwe, for a second and final five-year term in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Emmerson Mnangagwa.**

**Note:**

- His victory over his closest competitor, Nelson Chamisa after his first full term in office, strengthened ZANU-PF's grip on power.
  - Zimbabwe has over the past two decades suffered under disastrous economic policies that have led to soaring prices, high unemployment, and a medical system lacking basic drugs and equipment.
9. The Finance Industry Development Council has appointed whom as its new chairman \_\_\_\_\_ **Umesh Revankar.**

**Note:**

- He currently holds the position of executive vice chairman for Shriram Finance and have decades of experience and expertise in the financial services industry.
- He has risen through the ranks, assuming responsibilities and leadership roles in business operations.



- He played a pivotal role in making Shriram Transport Finance Company the largest commercial vehicle financier in India.

10. The IndianOil has been appointed whom as the brand ambassador for its Indane XTRATEJ LPG brand \_\_\_\_\_ **Chef Sanjeev Kapoor.**

**Note:**

- This announcement was made at the prestigious Indane XtraTej Hotelier Harmony Meet in Bengaluru.
- The event witnessed the unveiling of the new XTRATEJ TV commercial featuring Chef Sanjeev Kapoor, who commended IndianOil's commitment to culinary innovation and efficiency.
- Indian Oil Chairman: Shrikant Madhav Vaidya.

### Important News – India

1. The Union Minister for Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala has unveiled the 'A-HELP' along with an Infertility Camp in Gujarat. What is the full form of A-HELP \_\_\_\_\_ **Accredited Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production.**

**Note:**

- Gov is leading these initiatives as part of the Pashudhan Jagrati Abhiyaan under Inclusive Development.
- Objective: To mark a significant stride towards empowering women, enhancing livestock productivity, and advancing the socio-economic landscape of the region.

2. Veteran actor Victor Banerjee and Amitabh Kant (India's G20 Sherpa) have inaugurated the G20 Film Festival, which was held in which Indian city \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi.**

**Note:**

- Aims: To celebrate and showcase a vibrant and collaborative partnership existing amongst the G20 and invited countries in the field of cinema.
- It is organized by the India International Centre and the G20 Secretariat of the Ministry of External Affairs.
- The event will continue till 2nd September.

3. The G20 4th Digital Economy Working Group and Digital Economy Ministerial meetings will be held in which Indian city from August 16th to 19<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To discuss the various issues relating to digital information, service delivery to citizens and the growth of the digital economy
- There would be the Digital Innovation Alliance summit on August 17 and 18th to recognize and support innovators from various G20 member countries and Guest countries.

4. What is the name of the special scheme, that would be launched by the government of India for traditional craftsmen and workers during Vishwakarma Jayanti \_\_\_\_\_ **Vishwakarma scheme.**

**Note:**

- Objective: To benefit individuals skilled in traditional craftsmanship, particularly from the OBC community. Weavers, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, laundry workers, barbers, and their families will be empowered through the Vishwakarma Yojana
- The PM showcase the importance of capitalising on the demographic dividend and preparing a skilled workforce

5. The first-ever crude oil transaction under the newly implemented Local Currency Settlement (LCS) system took place between Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and which organization \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Oil Corporation Limited.**

**Note:**

- Both Indian Rupees and UAE Dirhams were used for the transaction,
- India and UAE have a strong oil and gas relationship and the UAE is a key partner for India's energy security.



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- UAE is the fourth largest source of crude oil and the second largest source of LNG and LPG for India.
- 6. Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari launches the Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat NCAP) to improve road safety through raising the safety standards of motor vehicles up to \_\_\_\_ tonnes in India \_\_\_\_\_ **3.5 tonnes.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To provide a tool to the car customers to make a comparative assessment of crash safety of motor vehicles available in the market.
- Under Bharat NCAP, car manufacturers can voluntarily offer their cars for testing as per the Automotive Industry Standard (AIS) 197.
- 7. India and which country have recently entered into a significant partnership by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to share the renowned INDIA STACK technology \_\_\_\_\_ **Trinidad and Tobago.**

**Note:**

- This collection of open APIs and digital public goods, pioneered by India, is designed to enhance identity, data, and payment services on a large scale.
- This move reflects India's commitment to aiding the digital transformation of nations through collaboration and technology sharing.
- 8. The union cabinet approved 'PM-eBus Sewa' for augmenting city bus operations under which \_\_\_\_\_ e-buses will be deployed across cities in the country \_\_\_\_\_ **10,000.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To improve public transport in cities and is also in line with India's objectives concerning climate change
- Rs 57,613 crores will be spent on this project and around 10,000 new electric buses will be provided across the country.
- Under this scheme, priority will be given to cities not having organized bus services.
- 9. The finance ministry will organise a two-day Chintan Shivir in which Indian state starting from August 20 2023 held at the Statue of Unity at Kevadia \_\_\_\_\_ **Gujarat.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To discuss various issues including the roadmap for India to become a developed nation by 2047.
- Objective: To review the work of the Ministry and to evolve an action plan to implement Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's "Vision 2047"
- FinMin Nirmala Sitaraman reviewed the progress of the G 20 Finance track.
- 10. Which organization has embarked on a groundbreaking project to construct the 'Likaru-Mig La-Fukche' road in Ladakh \_\_\_\_\_ **Border Roads Organisation (BRO).**

**Note:**

- Goal: To establish the world's highest motorable road, spanning an altitude of approximately 19,400 feet, surpassing the previous record held by Umling La Pass.
- The proposed road between Likaru-Migla-Fukche would provide an axis connecting Hanle to CDFD road at Fukche.
- 11. Which organization partnered with the Jio Institute for a Faculty Development Programme on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Science \_\_\_\_\_ **All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).**

**Note:**

- Aim: To empower academic leaders and senior Faculty members with a deep understanding of AI and Data Science while also emphasizing on the ethical considerations of utilizing AI tools for immersive learning.
- This is being initiated under AICTE's ATAL (AICTE Training and Learning) programme
- 12. Which organization and the G20 India presidency announced a new Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH) at the Health Minister's Meeting of the G20 Summit \_\_\_\_\_ **World Health Organization (WHO).**



**Note:**

- The new GIDH initiative will operate as a WHO-managed network and platform to support the implementation of the Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020–2025.
- WHO is committed to working with countries to strengthen their capacities and to improve access to quality-assured digital solutions.

13. Who launched the CSIR Prima ET11, the first indigenous e-Tractor developed by the Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Minister of State Science & Technology Jitendra Singh.**

**Note:**

- Jitendra Singh focused on the role of Agri StartUps in India's economy and called for the adoption of new and AI-driven technologies in Agriculture.
- An increasing number of new Startups are venturing into the Agriculture sector, focussing on niche technology.

14. The 1st Foreign Office Consultations FOC between India and which country was held in Apia \_\_\_\_\_ **Samoa.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To discuss their wide-ranging bilateral relations including their development partnership covering areas such as health, Information and Communications Technology ICT, Education, and Small and Medium Sized Enterprises SME
- They also discussed follow-up on Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation FIPIC III Summit, as well as regional and global issues

15. The 4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting will begin in which city in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Varanasi.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To arrive at actionable outcomes while positioning culture at the heart of policy-making.
- G20 Culture: Shaping the Global Narrative for Inclusive Growth". will be launched in Varanasi as a part of the Culture Ministers' Meeting.
- The CWG will also release a special stamp to commemorate the Culture Unites All' campaign to highlight India's unwavering belief in multilateralism.

16. Who has been appointed as the 'National Icon' for voter awareness and education for the election commission of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Sachin Tendulkar.**

**Note:**

- MoU will be signed with Sachin for a period of three years in the presence of Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar in New Delhi.
- Aim: To bridge the gap between citizens, especially youth and urban populations, and the electoral process thereby, trying to address the challenges of urban and youth apathy.

17. Who launched "NBRI Namoh 108", a unique variety of Lotus (Nelumbo nucifera) with 108 petals, in Lucknow \_\_\_\_\_ **Minister of Science Jitendra Singh.**

**Note:**

- It was developed by the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research- National Botanical Research Institute (CSIR-NBRI), Lucknow
- He also introduced apparel made from lotus fibre and perfume 'Frotus'.
- The perfume is extracted from lotus flowers and was developed by NBRI, and the Fragrance & Flavour Development Centre.

18. Government e-Marketplace, GeM has crossed what amount Gross Merchandise Value in the current financial year 23-24 \_\_\_\_\_ **One lakh crore rupees.**

**Note:**

- The average GMV per day has also witnessed growth from INR 412 crore per day in FY 22-23 to INR 690 crore per day in FY 23-24.
- About GeM:
- It is an online platform for the procurement of goods and services by government departments, public sector units, and other agencies





- It is working towards promoting the Make in India initiative.
19. The standard issued by which ministry to outline the emission thresholds that must be met in order for hydrogen produced to be classified as 'Green', i.e., from renewable sources \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.**
- Note:**
- The scope of the definition encompasses both electrolysis-based and biomass-based hydrogen production methods.
  - The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy has decided to define Green Hydrogen as having a well-to-gate emission of not more than 2 kg CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent/kg H<sub>2</sub>.
20. India has handed over the B20 presidency to which country to host G20 in 2024 \_\_\_\_\_ **Brazil.**
- Note:**
- According to B20 India Chair N Chandrasekaran India's B20 Presidency under the its G20 Presidency worked under the theme of Vasaudeva Katumbakam (One Earth, One Family, One Future).
  - Worked on 9 themes which included the empowerment of women and youth, the transition towards an Artificial Intelligence world, building a global resilient supply chain, and financing for the global economic recovery.
21. Who launched Tele-Law- 2.0 which Integrates Tele-Law and Nyaya Bandhu App to ensure access to Justice in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Law and Justice Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To enable the common citizen to access legal advice, legal assistance, and legal representation through a single registration and single gateway of Tele-Law.
  - The Minister called upon legal professionals to contribute pro bono services to ensure that no citizen is deprived of essential legal assistance.
22. The Ministry of Education and which organization have launched the sixth edition of the Smart India Hackathon 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **All India Council of Technical Education.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To showcase the growing culture of innovation in India's education sector.
  - Objective: To bring together the creativity of India's young minds with real-world challenges faced by various government departments.
  - It has become a global model for hackathons and innovation frameworks, reflecting its dynamic evolution over time.
23. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in partnership with which Institution and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation launched HSBC India's strategic partnerships to enable innovation in green hydrogen \_\_\_\_\_ **IIT Bombay.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To provide a roadmap towards reducing carbon intensity in the economy and enable the creation of green job opportunities.
  - Green hydrogen has a pivotal role to play as we counter climate change and work towards enabling a low-carbon and self-reliant economy
24. Who launched the world's first 100 percent Ethanol-fueled car in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To reduce carbon footprint, improve sustainable mobility, and decrease the country's dependency on traditional fuel sources.
  - According to Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri with the implementation of 20 percent ethanol blending in petrol, the country will save 35 thousand crore rupees annually as import bill.
25. Which ministry will organize the first edition of the Global IndiaAI 2023 in October 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.**
- Note:**



- The leading AI players, researchers, startups, and investors in India and worldwide will participate in the event.
  - Union MoS for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Electronics & IT, Rajeev Chandrasekhar chairs the conference's steering committee which is entrusted with the task of shaping the contours of the Global IndiaAI 2023.
26. Two world-famous local specialty products of which State/UT, namely Bhaderwah Rajma and Ramban Sulai Honey have earned coveted Geographical Indication (GI) Tag \_\_\_\_\_ **Jammu and Kashmir.**
- Note:**
- The process for GI Tagging of these products was initiated by the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Jammu.
  - GI tagging will also promote the economic prosperity of locals in the geographical territory and will act as a tool for social economic growth of the producer.
27. Which organization has signed a performance-based MoU with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA).**
- Note:**
- The Ministry of Finance outlines strategic targets that IREDA aims to achieve during the fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25.
  - IREDA is a Mini Ratna (Category - I), Government of India, enterprise
  - The Gov of India has set a Revenue from Operation target of Rs 4,350 crores for the FY 2023-24 and Rs 5,220 crores for 2024-25
28. Which State-owned hydro power giant signed MoU with Rail India Technical and Economic Service to construct railway siding for a 2,880 MW Dibang multipurpose project \_\_\_\_\_ **NHPC.**
- Note:**
- NHPC's total installed capacity is 7,097.2 MW of renewable power (including wind and solar) through its 25 power stations, including 1,520 MW through its subsidiary.
  - RITES will provide comprehensive and efficient solutions for developing rail infrastructure facilities for NHPC Dibang
29. Which Indian defence agency has signed a MoU with the Philippine Coast Guard to enhance maritime cooperation in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Coast Guard.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To enhance bilateral maritime cooperation between the two nations for ensuring safe, secure, and clean seas in the region.
  - Objective: To enhance the professional linkage between the two Coast Guards in the domain of Maritime Law Enforcement, Maritime Search and Rescue, and Marine Pollution Response.
30. Which organization has signed an MoU with APGENCO for the implementation of Pumped Hydro Storage Projects and Renewable Energy Projects in Andhra Pradesh \_\_\_\_\_ **NHPC Limited.**
- Note:**
- The MoU envisages the implementation of two identified Pumped Hydro Storage Projects with a total capacity of 1,950 MW.
  - The projects will be implemented under Joint Venture mode.
  - The MoU seeks to harness Pump Storage Projects as Energy Storage Solutions to achieve the national objective of clean and green energy.
31. An MoU was signed between the Inland Waterways Authority of India and which refinery limited to use the National Waterways-2 (Brahmaputra) and Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route \_\_\_\_\_ **Numaligarh Refinery Limited.**
- Note:**
- Reason: For export of petroleum products to Bangladesh and other southeast Asian countries in Guwahati
  - Aim: To fulfill the 'Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for Northeast' by enabling inland waterways transportation via NW2 and IBPR, unveiling a new chapter of EXIM trade for the Northeast region



32. NITI Aayog and which International organization signed an MoU to formalize a cooperative framework to fast-track India's pursuit to achieve its sustainable development goals (SDGs) \_\_\_\_\_ **United Nations Development Programme.**

**Note:**

- Objective: To focus on the two organizations' cooperation in a range of areas, including SDG localization, and data-driven monitoring, among others.
- NITI Aayog is the nodal Institution for coordinating the adoption and monitoring of SDGs at the national and sub-national levels.

33. India and which country have signed a MoU to boost cooperation in civil aviation in New Delhi \_\_\_\_\_ **New Zealand.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To cover the scheduling of new routes, codeshare services, traffic rights, and capacity entitlement.
- The designated airlines of New Zealand may operate any number of services with any type of aircraft, with third and fourth freedom traffic rights to and from six points in India, namely New Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, and Kolkata.

34. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) signed an MoU for which year \_\_\_\_\_ **2023-25.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To enhance the socio-economic upliftment of Safai Karamcharis, and their dependants focusing on empowering these marginalized communities across the nation
- The MoU underscores the commitment to accelerate inclusive growth through the effective allocation and utilization of funds for targeted welfare programs.

35. South African President and BRICS Chair Cyril Ramaphosa has announced that the group has invited Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE to become full members of the bloc from which date \_\_\_\_\_ **January 1, 2024.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To open the doors for numerous interested countries to align with a coalition committed to championing the interests of the "Global South".
- It can be an example of reforms in other global institutions that were established in the 20th century

36. Which edition of the National Conference on e-Governance is being organized in Indore to deliberate on providing better facilities to the citizens \_\_\_\_\_ **26th.**

**Note:**

- Theme: 'Developed India: Empowering Citizens'.
- Aim: To focus on 11 subjects including district level initiatives, emerging technologies for providing citizen-centric facilities and data governance.
- Organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Ministry of Electronics in collaboration with Gov of MP

37. Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the 15th BRICS Summit, which was held under chairship of which country \_\_\_\_\_ **South Africa.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To discuss global economic recovery, partnership with Africa and the Global South, and review the progress made on the BRICS agenda so far.
- During his address, the PM called for a strengthened BRICS that is:
- B - Breaking barriers
- R - Revitalising economies
- I - Inspiring Innovation
- C - Creating opportunities
- S - Shaping the future

38. The B20 Summit India 2023 has been started in which Indian city on August 25th, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **New Delhi.**



**Note:**

- The three-day Summit will be attended by Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman, Dr. S Jaishankar, G20 India Sherpa Amitabh Kant, Trade Ministers of various countries, and several business leaders.
- PM Narendra Modi will attend the special session on the 27th of August as Chief Guest.
- Theme of B20 India: R.A.I.S.E: Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable, Equitable Businesses.

39. Who has inaugurated the scheme Mukhyamantri Seekho-Kamao yojna means 'Chief Minister's Learn-Earn' scheme in Madhya Pradesh \_\_\_\_\_ **CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan.**

**Note:**

- The scheme has facilitated on-the-job training on the lines of 'learn and earn along with skill development, and has been started for the youth in the age group of 18 to 29 yrs
- Under the scheme, the selected youth will be given training according to the requirements of the industries and also get an 8 to 10 thousand rupees stipend.

40. The cabinet approved the continuation of the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) with an approved outlay of what amount \_\_\_\_\_ **Rs. 8139.50 crore.**

**Note:**

- Objective: To support infrastructure development in identified sectors including connectivity in the North Eastern States.
- For the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26, Cabinet approved two components: NESIDS-Road and NESIDS-Other Than Road Infrastructure.
- The scheme is a central sector scheme with 100% central funding.

41. Which bank introduced a facility to allow customers to enrol in social security schemes by just furnishing an Aadhaar card \_\_\_\_\_ **State Bank of India.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To make the process of enrolling in various social security schemes simpler.
- Customers visiting CSPs will need only their Aadhaar cards to enrol in schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, and the Atal Pension Yojana.

42. Which ministry released the report on the sixth census on minor irrigation schemes \_\_\_\_\_ **Ministry of Jal Shakti.**

**Note:**

- 23.14 million minor irrigation (MI) schemes have been reported in the country, out of which 21.93 million are groundwater and 1.21 million are Surface Water schemes.
- UP has the largest number of MI schemes in the country followed by Maharashtra
- For the first time, information about the gender of the owner of the MI scheme was also collected in case of individual ownership.

43. Which state government has raised the financial aid given to women in the Ladli Behna scheme from Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,250 per month \_\_\_\_\_ **Madhya Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- He also announced 35 percent reservation for them in government jobs and provided gas cylinders for Rs 450.
- Under the programme, women between the ages of 23 and 60, who do not pay income taxes and whose families make less than Rs 2.5 lakh annually, receive Rs 1,000 every month.

44. Which state government launched the expansion of the state government's breakfast scheme at Thirukkuvalai \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Nadu.**

**Note:**

- The scheme has been extended to 31,000 government schools across the state benefitting 17 lakh students.
- Initially, the scheme was devised to provide nutritious breakfast to 1,14,095 students of classes 1 to 5 studying in 1,545 government schools and an amount of Rs 33.56 crore was allocated for this scheme.





45. Government to launch a new scheme for Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma- Med Sector with a total outlay of what amount \_\_\_\_\_ **Five thousand crore rupees.**

**Note:**

- Objective: To transform the Indian Pharma Med Tech sector from cost-based competitiveness to innovation-based growth by strengthening the research infrastructure in the country.
- Aim: To promote the growth of the pharma industry in the country, enhance manufacturing of drugs and promote research and innovation in the sector.

46. Which state government launched the 'Gruha Lakshmi' women's financial aid scheme in Mysuru \_\_\_\_\_ **Karnataka.**

**Note:**

- Under this scheme, about 1.1 crore women heads of family will get ₹2,000 each at a function in Mysuru.
- 'Gruha Lakshmi' scheme is one of the five pre-poll 'guarantees' of the Congress, which ousted the BJP from power in the Karnataka Assembly election held in May.
- The government has earmarked ₹17,500 crore for 'Gruha Lakshmi' programme in the current financial year.

47. The Textiles Ministry released the guidelines of the GREAT scheme, under which they will provide a grant-in-aid of up to Rs 50 lakh for startups and individuals to promote innovation in the niche technical textiles segment. What is the full form of GREAT \_\_\_\_\_ **Grant for Research and Entrepreneurship across Aspiring Innovators in Technical Textiles.**

**Note:**

- They would grant-in-aid of up to Rs 50 lakh for up to a period of 18 months.
- Additionally, they will provide 10% of the total grant-in-aid to incubators.

48. Who has inaugurated the 'Awareness Campaign and Training of Trainers' initiative \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To educate grassroots workers and enable them to raise awareness about sickle cell anemia, particularly in tribal regions
- The government aims to eradicate the disease by 2047, under its National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Mission targets.
- PM Narendra Modi formally launched the mission on July 1 in Shahdol district, MP.

### Important News – State

1. Which state government launched the Mukhyamantri Nishulk Annapurna Food Packet Scheme on the occasion of Independence Day \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajasthan.**

**Note:**

- Under the scheme, families covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) will get the Annapurna food packets every month from the fair price shops (FPS) for free.
- Each packet will contain one kg each of gram pulses, sugar and iodized salt, one litre soybean refined edible oil, 100 gram each of chili powder and coriander powder.

2. Which state government launched the flagship scheme "Gramin Mitra" in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Goa.**

**Note:**

- Objective: To provide doorstep delivery of government services across the state and promote digital empowerment in rural areas.
- Aims: To empower rural communities with access to information and opportunities that can transform their lives and drive socio-economic growth.
- The program will help us accelerate the delivery of e-governance services to rural areas across the state.

3. Which state government launched a mobile app and WhatsApp helpline for the Chief Minister's Medical Assistance Fund \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**



**Note:**

- A helpline number 8650567567 has been started for patients and their relatives.
- More than 12 thousand 500 patients have benefited from the Chief Minister's Aid Fund in the last one year.
- On this occasion, the fifth edition of the medical aid manual and the book 'Rokhthok' based on the ideology of Balasaheb Thackeray was launched.

4. Which state government has announced a farm loan waiver of up to 99 thousand 999 in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Telangana.**

**Note:**

- It will be cleared within the next 45 days.
- The Government has released over 5,800 crore rupees towards this end which will benefit over 9 lakh farmers.
- The amount will be transferred directly into loan accounts of farmers. With the latest decision, farm loans up to 99,999, amounting to 7753.43 crore rupees, of over 16 lakh 66 thousand farmers will be cleared.

5. Which state government signed MoAs with three Central Public Sector Undertakings to allot 12 'stalled' hydropower projects in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Arunachal Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- The three CPSUs are National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam Ltd (SJVN) and North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited.
- The total operational capacity of these 12 projects, withdrawn from the private players, will be to the tune of 11,523 MW.
- CM of Arunachal Pradesh is Pema Khandu

6. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is organizing Youth 20 Summit-2023 from 17th August to 20th August in which Indian city \_\_\_\_\_ **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.**

**Note:**

- The themes include Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation and 21st Century Skills, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War, and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.
- The Y20 Summit will bring together youth experts, decision-makers, and youth representatives from G20 countries.

7. Based on the FY23 revised budget estimates, which Indian state secured the top position as the best state in overall fiscal health in a report conducted by a foreign brokerage firm \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- Chhattisgarh, one of the poorest states in the country, is in 2nd position followed by Telangana, while the bottom 3 are Bengal, Punjab, and Kerala
- The report, penned by Kaushik Das, chief economist at the Deutsche Bank, was conducted to survey the fiscal health of 17 major states across the country

8. Which village has become the first village in Goa to have a biodiversity atlas, a 250-page document with maps detailing the floral and faunal biodiversity of the village \_\_\_\_\_ **Mayem.**

**Note:**

- The atlas was prepared based on the People's biodiversity register (PBR) prepared by the village Biodiversity management committee
- There are huge funds to be tapped for villages that have registered biodiversity atlases. For every lake, the government of India is ready to give Rs 10 crore to maintain it.

9. India's first 3D-printed post office is coming up at Cambridge Layout in which Indian city \_\_\_\_\_ **Bengaluru.**

**Note:**

- 3D printing is a process of making three-dimensional solid objects from a digital file.
- In this process an object is created by laying down successive layers of material until the object is created. Each of these layers can be seen as a thinly sliced cross-section of the object.



- 3D printing enables you to produce complex shapes using less material than traditional manufacturing methods.

10. Which Indian state cabinet decided to implement the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jodaraste Scheme in Maharashtra to connect all tribal villages in 17 districts of the state with main roads \_\_\_\_\_  
**Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- The project is estimated to cost Rs 5,000 crore and nearly 6,838 km of roads will be constructed as part of the scheme.
- In the Budget Session, Deputy CM and Finance Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced the implementation of the scheme to connect all the tribal padas by perennial roads

11. Which organizations has inked a pact to supply 300 MW of solar power for 25 years to Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam under the CPSU scheme \_\_\_\_\_ **NLC India (NLCIL).**

**Note:**

- NLCIL is presently having 1,421 MW of Renewable Energy Capacity.
- As per its corporate plan, it contemplates establishing a 6,031 MW capacity by 2030.
- NLC India has entered into a long-term power usage agreement with Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Limited to supply 300 MW of solar power under the CPSU Scheme in Rajasthan.

12. Which Indian state has topped the in terms of new investments in 2022-23 \_\_\_\_\_ **Uttar Pradesh (UP).**

**Note:**

- According to RBI, UP and Gujarat together accounted for 57.2% of the total investment proposals made during the year.
- In 2022-23, UP attracted the highest share of new investments, with a total project cost of Rs. 43,180 crore.
- Followed by Gujarat (Rs. 37,317 crore), Odisha (Rs. 11,810 crore), Maharashtra (Rs. 7,900 crore) and Karnataka (Rs. 7,300 crore).

1. Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International (LGBI) Airport became the first in the northeast to launch Digi Yatra for hassle-free travel, is located in which city \_\_\_\_\_ **Guwahati.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To eliminate the need for verification of tickets and IDs at various touchpoints.
- The Digi Yatra service will be available in three major areas namely - first entrance, check-in and boarding areas.
- Passengers will be able to register their documents on the 'Digi Yatra' app and enter the airport by scanning their faces.

2. Who inaugurated Kerala's first AI (Artificial intelligence) school at Santhigiri Vidyabhavan in Thiruvananthapuram \_\_\_\_\_ **Former President Ram Nath Kovind.**

**Note:**

- It is an innovative learning method that ensures international standards and quality learning opportunities for students with the help of artificial intelligence technology.
- It is designed and molded by one of the world's most advanced educational platforms iLearning Engines USA in collaboration with Vedhik eSchool.

3. National Tiger Conservation Authority approved India's \_\_\_\_\_ tiger reserve in Rajasthan's Karauli and Dholpur districts \_\_\_\_\_ **54th.**

**Note:**

- This is Rajasthan's fifth tiger reserve after Ranthambore, Sariska, Mukundra Hills, and Ramgarh Vishdhari
- The number of tigers in India has increased from 2,967 in 2018 to 3,682 in 2022, an annual rise of 6%
- The number of tigers in Rajasthan has increased from 32 in 2006 to 88 in 2022
- Madhya Pradesh has the maximum number of tigers in the country (785).



4. Which country hosted its very first Karnataka cultural festival organized by the International Cultural Council of India in collaboration with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre and M.E Global Peace Foundation \_\_\_\_\_ **Sri Lanka.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To celebrate cultural diversity and mark a significant moment in the shared cultural heritage of India and Sri Lanka
- The event showcased performances by over 30 artists from Karnataka including dances, folk songs, multi-lingual poems, and captivating puppet shows

5. The second G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Roundtable meeting officially began in which Indian city in August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Gandhinagar.**

**Note:**

- Science advisors, Scientists, researchers from G20 countries, and invited countries will participate.
- Themes Include:
  - Opportunities in One Health
  - Synergizing Global Efforts to Expand the Access to Scholarly Scientific Knowledge
  - Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility in Science & Technology
  - Institutional Mechanism for Inclusive Global S&T Policy Dialogue

6. Who chaired the 26th Western Zonal Council (WZC) meeting at Gandhinagar \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Home Minister Amit Shah.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To enhance cooperation between the states through regular dialogue and discussion.
- The meeting is being organized by the Inter-State Council Secretariat under the Ministry of Home Affairs in collaboration with the Government of Gujarat.
- The WZC comprises the states of Gujarat, Goa, Maharashtra, and the Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu

7. Keralalites across the globe are celebrating "Thirunam" on the 10th and the most auspicious day of which festival \_\_\_\_\_ **Onam.**

**Note:**

- Onam, the harvest festival of Kerala, symbolises prosperity, secularism, and harmony.
- Keralites celebrate the festival welcoming the visit of the righteous and mythical king Mahabali, in the memory of good old days.
- Thirunam is being celebrated in all its cultural and traditional glory instilling the minds with hope.

8. Which state government has signed an MoU with Germany's professional association football league, 'Bundesliga', to build a football team for players under the age of 14 \_\_\_\_\_ **Maharashtra.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To help young footballers to develop their skills and potentially compete at a high level.
- The Bundesliga is Germany's premier professional football league.
- It is one of the leading football leagues in Europe and the best football players and teams belong to the league.

9. Which state government announced a 27 percent reservation for Other Backward Classes in local bodies like panchayats, municipalities, and civic corporations \_\_\_\_\_ **Gujarat.**

**Note:**

- In the Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas notified areas, the reservation for OBCs will continue to be 10 percent to protect the interest of tribals.
- The existing quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will remain unchanged and there has been no breach of the 50 percent reservation ceiling.

**Important News- World**



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1. According to the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), about what percent of sitting MPs of the Rajya Sabha are billionaires with Andhra Pradesh having the highest percentage of such parliamentarians \_\_\_\_\_ **12%.**

**Note:**

- 5 (45%) out of 11 MPs are from Andhra Pradesh, 3 (43%) out of 7 MPs are from Telangana, and 3 (16%) out of 19 MPs from Maharashtra.
  - The ADR and the National Election Watch (NEW) have analyzed and updated the criminal, financial, and other details of Rajya Sabha MPs.
2. The WHO South-East Asia Region committed to further accelerate efforts to end tuberculosis by which year with member countries adopting the Gandhinagar Declaration \_\_\_\_\_ **2030.**

**Note:**

- The South-East Asia Region bears a disproportionate burden of nearly half of the global TB cases and deaths.
  - The Declaration calls for establishing a high-level multi-sectoral commission reporting to the highest political level in each country for synergy of efforts among various stakeholders.
3. Which country's Environment Ministry has launched a program to combat desertification using artificial intelligence (AI) \_\_\_\_\_ **Saudi Arabia.**

**Note:**

- Aim: To study the status of vegetative cover in the Kingdom and contribute to the goals of afforestation projects and the "Green Saudi" initiative.
- It will use AI to analyze satellite imagery to identify areas that are most vulnerable to desertification.
- Remote sensing technologies will be used to monitor vegetation cover, and track its changes over time.

### **Honor & Awards**

1. President Droupadi Murmu has conferred how many Gallantry awards to members of the Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces on the occasion of Independence Day 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **76.**

**Note:**

- Awards includes:
  - Kirti Chakra awards (awarded posthumously) - 4
  - Shaurya Chakra awards (including five posthumous) - 11
  - Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry)- 2
  - Sena Medals (Gallantry) - 52
  - Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) -3
  - Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry) - 4
2. How many personnel have been awarded Fire Service Medals on the occasion of Independence Day, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **53.**

**Note:**

- Awards Include
  - President's Fire Service Medal for Distinguished Service has been awarded to 8
  - Personnel and Fire Service Medal for Meritorious Service has been awarded to 41
  - The President's Fire Service Medal for Gallantry has been awarded to 3
  - The Personnel and Fire Service Medal for Gallantry has been awarded to 1 personnel for their acts of valour and gallantry
3. Who has been awarded Harvard University's coveted George Ledlie Prize 2023 for wielding big data to break myths about who achieves the American Dream \_\_\_\_\_ **Raj Chetty.**

**Note:**

- The award is given every two years to a member of the Harvard community who has made the most valuable contribution to science or in any way for the benefit of mankind.



- He is also director of Opportunity Insights, a group of economists based at Harvard who studies inequality.
4. The Matti banana variety, native to which district was recently granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag \_\_\_\_\_ **Kanniyakumari**.
- Note:**
- There are six known types of the Matti banana and they are indigenous to Kanniyakumari.
  - They are known as 'Baby Banana' which flourishes mainly in Kalkulam and Vilavancode taluks.
  - Its low total soluble solids content (TSSC) recommends it as a baby food.
  - This GI tag is valid for 10 years following which it can be renewed.
5. Who conferred the first-ever 'Udyog Ratna' award instituted by the Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde \_\_\_\_\_ **Ratan Tata**.
- Note:**
- The honour comprised a shawl, a citation and a memento from the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC).
  - The aim of the Maharashtra Udyog Ratna Awards is to honour those people and groups who have significantly impacted Maharashtra's business, industry, education, financial services, fashion, and other sectors.
6. Who won the Best Actor award at the 69th National Film Awards \_\_\_\_\_ **Allu Arjun**.
- Note:**
- He was awarded for his movie 'Pushpa: The Rise' (Directed by: Sukumar).
  - Alia Bhatt and Kriti Sanon won the Best Actress award for their phenomenal roles in Gangubai Kathiawadi and Mimi, respectively.
  - Other awards:
    - Best Feature Film: Rocketry
    - Best Director: Nikhil Mahajan (Godavari)
    - Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment: RRR
    - Nargis Dutt Award for Best Film on National Integration: The Kashmir Files
7. Which Indian city was awarded with the national smart city award 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ **Indore**.
- Note:**
- While MP received the state award and Chandigarh received the UT award.
  - Aim: To provide core infrastructure, clean environment and a decent quality of life to their citizens through the application of 'smart solutions'.
  - It includes 35 in Project Award, six in Innovation Award, 13 in the National/Zonal City Award, five in State/UT Award and seven in Partner Award categories.
8. Which Indian personality was awarded with 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour' award by Greek President Katerina Sakellaropoulou \_\_\_\_\_ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**.
- Note:**
- This is the second-highest civilian honour in Greece.
  - The Greek State Honours the Prime Minister of India, a statesman who has tirelessly promoted the global reach of his country and who works systematically for India's economic progress and prosperity, bringing about bold reforms.

### Sports News

1. Which Indian wrestler has become the Under 20 World Championship 2023 in the men's 61 Kg Freestyle category by defeating Russia's Eldar Akhmadudinovin in Jordan \_\_\_\_\_ **Mohit Kumar**.
- Note:**
- He is the fourth male wrestler from India to earn a gold medal in the U20 World Championships, following Palwinder Cheema in 2001, Ramesh Kumar in 2001.
  - Jaideep won the bronze in the 74kg category
  - Sagar Jaglan won the silver medal 79 kg category while Deepak Chahal won the bronze medal in 97 kg category.



2. Which Indian wrestler clinched a Gold medal at the 2023 U20 World Wrestling Championships (women's 76kg freestyle) in Jordan by defeating Laura Celine Kuehn of Germany \_\_\_\_\_ **Priya Malik.**

**Note:**

- She became just the second woman wrestler from India to be crowned U20 world championship.
- Antim Panghal had been the first woman from India to win a junior world title in wrestling at last year's edition.
- She has now won both the U17 2021 and 2022 and U20 world titles.

3. Which State government partnered with Racing Promotions Private Limited to launch India's first-ever night street racing circuit in India and South Asia that will be hosting a night race \_\_\_\_\_ **Tamil Nadu.**

**Note:**

- RRPL is also the promoter of the Indian Racing League and F4 Indian Championship
- As for the track, it is a 3.5km layout, located around the Island Grounds that resides in the heart of the city.
- Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Udhayanidhi Stalin has launched the circuit

4. Wahab Riaz announced retirement from international cricket in August 2023, is associated with which country \_\_\_\_\_ **Pakistan.**

**Note:**

- In his career of 15 years, he played 27 Tests, 91 ODIs and 36 T20Is, taking 237 wickets from 154 internationals.
- The Pakistani pacer is fondly remembered for his fiery spell in the 2015 World Cup against Shane Watson.
- He will be remembered as one of the most popular and respected players in Pakistan's recent history.

5. Name the duo of Indian shooters won the gold medal at the 10m air pistol mixed event in the final of the ISSF World Championship 2023 at Baku, Azerbaijan \_\_\_\_\_ **Esha Singh and Shiva Narwal.**

**Note:**

- The Indian duo defeated the Turkish pair of Ilayda Tarhan and Yusuf Dikec 16-10 in the final match.
- Presently, India placed second on the medals table with a gold and a bronze medal, while China is leading the tally with five gold and two bronze medals.

6. Which country has secured Second Rank at the 16th International Olympiad 2023 on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) in Poland With Four Gold and One Silver Medal \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**

**Note:**

- The United Kingdom clinched the lead with five Golds.
- A total of 236 students from 50 nations participated at the Olympiad
- Rajdeep Mishra from Kota, Rajasthan, Koduru Tejeswar from Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, Md. Sahil Akhtar from Kolkata, West Bengal, Akarsh Raj Sahay from Nagpur, Maharashtra were awarded Gold medals.

7. Who becomes the first Indian after Viswanathan Anand to reach the semifinals of the FIDE World Cup 2023, defeated his higher-ranked opponent, Fabiano Caruana, in Baku \_\_\_\_\_ **R Praggnanandhaa.**

**Note:**

- Out of four Indians, who had made it to the quarterfinals, Praggnanandhaa remains the only Indian in the fray.
- No Indian has reached the last four stage of the Chess World Cup, except Anand, who won the first two editions of the tournament in 2000 and 2002.

8. Name the Indian shooter secured bronze medals behind the People's Republic of China's Jiayu Han and Zhilin Hang in the women's 10-meter air rifle event at the ISSF World Championship 2023 in Baku \_\_\_\_\_ **Mehuli Ghosh.**



**Note:**

- This Championship 2023 was a qualifying event for the Paris 2024 Olympics.
- A total of 48 Olympic quotas are on offer with the top four finishers (one per country) in each of the 12 Olympic individual shooting events. This was India's fourth Paris 2024 quota in shooting.

9. Which country secured their first FIFA Women's World Cup title 2023 by defeating England at the Accor Stadium in Sydney \_\_\_\_\_ **Spain.**

**Note:**

- Spain and Germany are now the only two nations to win both the men's and women's tournaments.
- The victory made La Roja the first team to hold the under-17, under-20 and senior world titles at the same time – and the fifth winner in nine editions of the Women's World Cup.
- Spanish captain Olga Carmona's first-half goal proved to be the difference maker

10. Who has bagged the gold medal defeating Hong Kong's Ena Kwong in the U-17 category in the Asian Junior Squash Individual Championships 2023 held in China \_\_\_\_\_ **Anahat Singh.**

**Note:**

- She also has a bronze medal win, at Macau in the U-13 category in 2019.
- She won the U-11 title during the British Junior Open Squash and by winning the U-13 title in the Dutch Junior Open Squash 2019
- In 2021, she also reached the quarterfinals of the Indian Open held at Noida.

11. Who secured the Men's single title of Cincinnati Open 2023 after defeating Carlos Alcaraz of Spain \_\_\_\_\_ **Novak Djokovic.**

**Note:**

- The win delivered Djokovic his 95th career title and 39th Masters 1000 crown.
- The Spaniard is currently ranked at number one in the ATP Tour rankings, with Djokovic ranked just behind him at number two.
- Djokovic is the only player in tennis history to be the reigning champion of all four majors at once across all three different surfaces

12. Who clinched first-ever gold and silver respectively in the junior men's 72kg category at the World Para Powerlifting Championships 2023 in Dubai \_\_\_\_\_ **Honey Dabas and Rahul Jograjiya.**

**Note:**

- Dabas lifted a best total of 135kg while Jograjiya had his best total lift of 132kg.
- Dabas has two gold medals from the Dubai 2022 Fazza World Cup.
- India's only medal at a World Championships has been claimed by Parmjeet Kumar (men's - 49kg) at the Tbilisi 2021 World Championships.

13. Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh has announced that the Khelo India Women's League will officially be known as \_\_\_\_\_ **Asmita Women's League.**

**Note:**

- ASMITA refers to Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action.
- The Asmita Portal serves as a comprehensive resource, offering valuable insights into upcoming leagues among other features.
- It will enable any school, college, government, or private organization to host the 'Asmita Women's League.

14. How many Khelo India Centres (KIC) in Rajasthan at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur \_\_\_\_\_ **33.**

**Note:**

- He also announced that a National Center of Excellence with a sports science center will be set up in Rajasthan along with an additional 18 KIC, thus taking the total number of KIC in the State to 51.
- The total number of KICs across India is 960, out of which 715 are operational KICs

15. The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced a sponsorship agreement with which financial services corporation \_\_\_\_\_ **Mastercard.**





**Note:**

- Under this deal, the brand has become a global partner for the upcoming ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, which is set to be held in India from October 5 to November 19, 2023.
- The advantages are to interact with legendary cricketers, see the Men's Cricket World Cup trophy up close, and gain special access to games.

16. Who won the gold medal in the Men's 25 metre standard pistol shooting event at the ISSF World Championship 2023 in Baku \_\_\_\_\_ **Amanpreet Singh.**

**Note:**

- South Korea's Gunhyeok Lee had to settle for silver while France's Kevin Chapon secured a bronze
- In the Women's 25-meter Standard Pistol shooting event, Tiwana, Yashita Shokeen, and Kritika bagged bronze.
- The two medals on the day took India's tally in the Championship to nine - five gold and four bronze medals.

17. Who has secured a shooting spot for India in the Paris 2024 Olympics \_\_\_\_\_ **Rajeshwari Kumari.**

**Note:**

- She finished fifth in the women's trap final at the ISSF World Championship 2023 in Baku, Azerbaijan.
- The ISSF World Championship 2023 serves as a qualifying event for the Paris Olympics 2024.
- The best four finishers (one from each country) in each of the 12 Olympic individual shooting events receive a seat on their national teams, giving a total of 48 shooters

18. Who bagged a bronze medal in badminton at BWF World Championships 2023 in Denmark \_\_\_\_\_ **HS Prannoy.**

**Note:**

- He registered a loss to Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the semifinals at the Championships and went down to world number three position.
- This is India's 14th medal at the World Championships.
- This includes one gold, four silvers and nine bronze medals.
- China is the most successful team in the tournament's history, with 196 medals, including 69 gold, 48 silver and 79 silvers.

19. Indian women's visually impaired team won the T-20 final of the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA) World Games 2023, held at which location \_\_\_\_\_ **Birmingham.**

**Note:**

- The Indian team defeated Australia by nine wickets in the rain-interrupted match.
- The Indian men's blind cricket team lost to Pakistan in the IBSA World Games final to settle for a silver medal.
- Cricket for the visually challenged made its debut in the International Blind Sports Federation World Games in 2023.

20. Who made history by winning the gold medal in the men's javelin throw (88.17 meters) event at the World Athletics Championships 2023 held in Budapest, Hungary \_\_\_\_\_ **Neeraj Chopra.**

**Note:**

- He became the first-ever Indian athlete to achieve this feat, marking a significant milestone for Indian athletics.
- Neeraj faced tough competition, notably from Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem, who secured the silver medal with a commendable throw of 87.82 meters.

21. The Indian men's 4x400 metres relay team comprising of Muhammed Anas Yahiya, Amoj Jacob, Muhammed Ajmal and Rajesh Ramesh ended with what position in the 4x400 metres relay race final at the World Athletics Championships 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Neeraj Chopra.**

**Note:**

- The USA relay team of Quincy Hall, Vernon Norwood, Justin Robinson, and Rai Benjamin won finished first and won the gold.
- France clocked bagged silver while Great Britain claimed bronze.



22. Who became the first Thai to win the men's singles title at the World Championships 2023 and became the badminton world champion after a victory over Japan's Kodai Naraoka in Copenhagen \_\_\_\_\_  
**Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn.**

**Note:**

- Earlier, world No. 1 An Se-young also became the first South Korean to win the women's singles gold at the World Championships 2023 after defeating Carolina Marin.
- She had knocked out Tokyo 2020 gold medallist Chen Yufei in straight games in the semi-finals

23. Who has won the Dutch Grand Prix 2023 for the third consecutive year, once again prevailing at his home race held at Circuit Zandvoort in the Netherlands \_\_\_\_\_ **Max Verstappen.**

**Note:**

- With the dominant win, Verstappen has now matched Sebastian Vettel's all-time record of nine F1 victories in a row.
- The second position was secured by Fernando ALONSO of the team Aston Martin and third position was secured by Pierre GASLY of the team Alpine

24. Who finished in the eleventh position in the 3000 meters steeplechase final of the World Athletics Championships 2023 in Budapest Hungary \_\_\_\_\_ **Parul Chaudhary.**

**Note:**

- She broke the national record in the World Athletics Championships and qualified for the Paris Olympics 2024.
- Brunei athlete Winfred Mutile Yavi clinched the gold medal, Kenya's Beatrice Chepkoech won silver and another Kenya athlete Faith Cherotich achieved winning bronze.

25. Who has announced that 1,000 Khelo India Centres will be established within a year in the country \_\_\_\_\_ **Youth Affairs Minister, Anurag Singh Thakur.**

**Note:**

- He also informed that each player will receive 5 lakh rupees to procure equipment for their centres and per year another 5 lakh rupees for operational expenses.
- He also launched an Information booklet on Sports Infrastructure Projects sanctioned under the Khelo India Scheme as well as launched a National Sports Federations portal.

### Books and Authors

1. Who is the writer of Drunk on Love: The Life, Vision and Songs of Kabir \_\_\_\_\_ **Vipul Rikhi.**

**Note:**

- A new book aims to capture the life of mystic poet Kabir through popular legends, his vision and his poetry that has been quoted and translated extensively.
- The book is published by HarperCollins India and written by writer-singer Vipul Rikhi.
- The book presents the 15th-century poet, as he is described, quoted, and loved in popular imagination.

2. The book titled 'Drunk on Love: The Life, Vision and Songs of Kabir', was authored by whom \_\_\_\_\_ **Vipul Rikhi.**

**Note:**

- Published by: HarperCollins India
- It presents the 15th-century poet, as he is described, quoted, and loved in popular imagination.
- A new book captures the life of mystic poet Kabir through popular legends, his vision, and his poetry which has been quoted and translated extensively.
- It brings into one place stories from Kabir's life, his most famous songs.

3. The book 'Pitchside: My Life in Indian Cricket' was authored by whom \_\_\_\_\_ **Amrit Mathur.**

**Note:**

- Through anecdotes, events, and matches, he provides an insider's view garnered over a span of more than 30 years of closely observing the game and its players.



- With experience as a cricket administrator, he notably managed the Indian team during the historic 1992 tour of South Africa
- 4. Along with Chief Minister of MP Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who has released books based on speeches of PM Narendra Modi titled "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" \_\_\_\_\_ **Union Minister for Sports Anurag Thakur.**

**Note:**

- The book is launched at the Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Centre in Bhopal.
- The second and third volumes focusing on the addresses of PM Narendra Modi from June 2020 to May 2022 were released.
- 5. BJP President J P Nadda released the Outlook Group's Coffee Table Book 'Sikhs and Modi (A Journey of Nine Years)', which was authored by whom \_\_\_\_\_ **Prabhleen Singh.**

**Note:**

- The teachings of Sikh Gurus contributed towards the unity of the society, patriotism, and dedication towards religion.
- It was the first time after Independence that the country has started observing 'Veer Bal Diwas' on the day of sacrifice by young sahibzade of Guru Gobind Singh for unity and integrity of the country.

### Science and Defence

1. Which country's first lunar mission in decades has ended in failure with its Luna 25 spacecraft crashing into the moon's surface \_\_\_\_\_ **Russia.**

**Note:**

- The incident, a blow to Russia's space ambitions, happened after communication with the robotic spacecraft was interrupted.
- The measures taken to search for the device and get in contact with it did not yield any results.
- According to a "preliminary analysis," Luna-25 "switched to an off-design orbit" before the collision

2. Which country's Air Force will hold its first-ever multi-national air exercise 'Tarang Shakti', in October 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Air Force (IAF).**

**Note:**

- The exercise intends to strengthen military cooperation between the air forces.
- Out of 12, Six air forces will participate in the exercise, while the rest will attend the aerial drills as observers.
- The air forces of the US, the UK, France and Australia are among those likely to take part in the exercise.

3. What is the name of India's first long-range revolver is to be launched in August 2023 manufactured by Advanced Weapons and Equipment India (AWEIL) \_\_\_\_\_ **Prabal.**

**Note:**

- The Prabal revolver boasts a firing range of up to 50 metres, more than twice the reach of other revolvers.
- The Prabal revolver is light in weight and equipped with a side swing cylinder.
- It weighs 700 grams (without cartridges) in weight and its barrel length is 76 mm, while its overall length is 177.6 mm.

4. Which Chennai-based space tech startup has launched its first small satellite rocket, named Agnibaan SOrTeD, with its private launchpad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota \_\_\_\_\_ **Agnikul Cosmos.**

**Note:**

- The rocket is driven by Agnikul's patented Agnilet engine, which is a 3D-printed, single-piece, 6 kN semi-cryogenic engine.



- These flight events have been configured to validate key technologies integral to the success of the company's upcoming orbital flights.
5. Name the Indian Navy's fifth Kalvari class submarine that will reach Fremantle, Australia \_\_\_\_\_  
**INS Vagir.**
- Note:**
- INS Vagir will participate in various exercises with Royal Australian Navy (RAN) units on the West Coast of Australia.
  - On the East coast of Australia, Indian Naval ships and aircraft is involved in Exercise AUSINDEX 23 from 22-24 Aug 2023.
  - The RAN submarine and Indian Naval P8i aircraft are scheduled to exercise with INS Vagir
6. Who has bagged a silver medal at the Singapore International Math Olympiad Challenge 2023 (SIMOC) \_\_\_\_\_  
**Raja Anirudh Sriram.**
- Note:**
- His journey of success has been marked by numerous national and international awards that highlight his extraordinary capabilities.
  - More than 2000 students from 32 countries participated in the prestigious event, where Raja Anirudh came up with flying colours.
7. Which Country's FDA has approved the first respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine for use in women during pregnancy to protect the baby \_\_\_\_\_ **USA.**
- Note:**
- Aim: To prevent lower respiratory tract infection and severe disease in infants until they are six months old.
  - This vaccine has been developed by Pfizer and the approval allows the vaccine to be given to women 32 to 36 weeks of pregnancy
8. Which country sent a new Earth observation satellite Gaofen-12 04 into space from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center \_\_\_\_\_ **China.**
- Note:**
- The satellite, Gaofen-12 04, was launched by a Long March-4C carrier rocket and has entered the planned orbit successfully.
  - It will be used in a variety of fields, including land surveys, urban planning, road network design, crop yield estimation and disaster relief.
  - The launch marks the 484th flight mission of the Long March series carrier rockets.
9. Which country has created history as it became the first country to land (Vikram Lander) on the South Pole of the lunar surface on 23rd August 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ **India.**
- Note:**
- The Lander Module comprising the lander (Vikram) and the rover (Pragyan), landed on the Moon.
  - Aim: To study the composition of the lunar soil and probe for water and ice, while listening for small seismic tremors.
  - India was the fourth nation to succeed at the task after the United States, the Soviet Union, and China.
10. Which LCA has successfully fired the ASTRA indigenous Beyond Visual Range air-to-air missile off the coast of Goa \_\_\_\_\_ **Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas.**
- Note:**
- ASTRA, a state of the art air-to-air missile to engage and destroy highly maneuvering supersonic aerial targets
  - Aim: To enhance the combat prowess of Tejas and reduce the dependency on imported weapons.
  - It is designed and developed by Defence Research and Development Laboratory, Research Centre Imarat and other laboratories of DRDO.
11. PM Narendra Modi has announced that the site where Vikram Lander and Rover Pragyan landed on the Lunar surface will be named as \_\_\_\_\_ **Shiva Shakti Point.**





**Note:**

- Another site on the Moon where the Chandrayaan 2 lander crash landed will be known as Tiranga Point.
- He said that Shiva Shakti point will remind the world about Shiv which is devoting oneself to the welfare of mankind and Shakti that gives inherent strength to accomplish that will incline towards the good of mankind.

12. Which device developed by ISRO-Space Applications Centre (Ahmedabad) for the safety of fishermen, was tested at Neendakara \_\_\_\_\_ **Nabhmitra**.

**Note:**

- Satellite-based communication system enables two-way messaging services from and to the sea.
- Weather and cyclone warnings will be communicated in the local language, the boats can also send distress messages to the authorities.
- In capsizing and fire, fishers can press a button on the device and get in touch with the control centre.

13. Which organization manufactured India's first set of Catalysts for Selective Catalyst Reactors (SCR) for limiting NOx emissions from thermal power plants \_\_\_\_\_ **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)**.

**Note:**

- The first set of indigenously manufactured SCR catalysts for the 5x800 MW Yadadri Thermal Power Station in Telangana, were flagged, from the company's Solar Business Division (SBD) unit in Bengaluru
- BHEL is India's largest engineering and manufacturing company of its kind.

14. NASA and which spacecraft has blasted off carrying four astronauts to the International Space Station (ISS) \_\_\_\_\_ **SpaceX's Dragon**.

**Note:**

- The Dragon spacecraft carried by a Falcon 9 rocket lifted off from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.
- Four astronauts from four countries, including the US, Denmark, Japan, and Russia.
- The agency's SpaceX Crew-7 mission is the seventh commercial crew rotation mission for NASA.

15. The Indian Space Research Organisation has announced that the Pragyan rover's Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy confirmed the presence of which element in the lunar surface near the south pole, through the first-ever in-situ measurements \_\_\_\_\_ **sulphur**.

**Note:**

- The rover's spectroscopy also detected Aluminium, Calcium, Ferrous (Iron), Chromium, Titanium, Manganese, Silicon, and Oxygen as expected and the search for hydrogen is underway.

16. Which organization is launching a groundbreaking technology demonstration known as the Integrated LCRD Low Earth Orbit User Modem and Amplifier Terminal (ILLUMA-T) to the Space Station \_\_\_\_\_ **NASA**.

**Note:**

- ILLUMA-T is scheduled to launch on SpaceX's 29th Commercial Resupply mission.
- Aim: To enhance space communications capabilities
- The ILLUMA-T, along with the Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD) launched in December 2021, will complete NASA's first two-way, end-to-end laser relay system.

17. Which space agency released a graph of the temperature variation between the moon's surface and a point around 8 cm below \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**.

**Note:**

- It was measured by an instrument named ChaSTE (Chandra's Surface Thermophysical Experiment).



- The graph shows that the temperature at 8 cm (80 mm) depth into the Moon's surface drops to -10 degrees Celsius and at 6 cm (60 mm) depth, the temperature is around 5-10 degrees Celsius.

**18.** Who has set up a nine-member committee of experts to overhaul the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) \_\_\_\_\_ **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.**

**Note:**

- The committee headed by Prof K VijayRaghavan to review and redefine the role of the department and submit a report within three months.
- Prof Vijay Raghavan is a former Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India and one of the key architects of the National Research Foundation (NRF).

**19.** Which Indian force contingent participated for the first time in Exercise BRIGHT STAR-23, a biennial multilateral tri-service exercise \_\_\_\_\_ **Indian Air Force (IAF).**

**Note:**

- It is being held at Cairo Air Base, Egypt, from August 27 to September 16, 2023
- Aim: To strengthen strategic partnerships and enhance joint operational capabilities.
- Objective: To practice planning and execution of joint operations
- The IAF contingent will consist of five MiG-29, two IL-78, two C-130 and two C-17 aircraft.

**20.** The Indian Army has signed contracts for the procurement of \_\_\_\_\_ tethered drones and 19 tank-driving simulators under Emergency Procurement (EP) \_\_\_\_\_ **130.**

**Note:**

- The armed forces are currently executing the fourth tranche of EPs sanctioned by the Defence Ministry.
- Tethered drone:
- It is an unmanned aerial vehicle tethered to the ground.
- It consists of a base station on the ground and the drone, which is connected to the station through the tether (cable).



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