

# **Weekly Current Affairs Magazine 15th - 21st August 2023**



## Weekly Current Affairs Magazine

### 15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023

#### Dear MBA

Aspirants, BYJU'S Exam Prep experts have curated a Weekly Current Affairs Magazine which is a collection of important news and events that occurred in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August (15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>) of August 2023. This file is important for the upcoming MBA 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 encourage various stakeholders, including banks, non-banking financial companies, FinTech firms, and startups, and other financial services
2. Which stock broking organization 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.
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

### Obituaries

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.

### 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.

### 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 Dravid**.

**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

**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.
  - 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.

**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).

### Important News- World

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.

### 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.

### 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 paceman 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

### 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.

### 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.

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