

Weekly Current Affairs Magazine 8th - 14th Sept 2023



Weekly Current Affairs Magazine

8th - 14th September 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 2nd week of September (8th-14th) of September 2023. This file is important for the upcoming MBA exams.

Banking & Financial Awareness

1. Which Credit card issuer launched a new credit card SimplySAVE Merchant SBI Card for MSMEs to cater to their short-term credit requirements _____ **SBI Card**.
Note:
 - Available on RuPay network, the card can be linked to UPI for payments through various UPI-enabled third-party apps.
 - MSMEs contribute significantly towards economic growth and job generation
 - Launch of SimplySAVE Merchant SBI Card is an attempt to address this larger segment by extending interest-free short-term credit to MSME
2. Which financial service provider collaborated with KredX, a supply chain finance platform, to make B2B digital payments rewarding for both enterprises and vendors _____ **Mastercard**.
Note:
 - Aim: To integrate its commercial card service with the KredX platform, eliminating the complexities associated with B2B payments, especially those made via cards.
 - Equipped with features like dynamic discounting, early payment and price discovery, the platform will enable enterprises and vendors to improve their cash flows.
3. Which card issuer has unveiled new features of its super-premium card 'AURUM', targeted at C-suite executives and high net-worth individuals _____ **SBI Card**.
Note:
 - Aim: To enhance benefits to its users, ranging from the introduction of new annual spending-based milestones and welcome benefits to additional international lounge benefits
 - AURUM cardholders will now be able to derive benefits of up to worth ₹ 2 lakh annually, basis their spends.
4. Which organization has launched Credit Line And Voice-Enabled Payments on popular payment platforms UPI _____ **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**.
Note:
 - Aim: To create an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable digital payments ecosystem that will help UPI achieve the target of 100 billion transactions per month.
 - NPCI has partnered with AI4Bharat at IIT Madras, to co-develop Hindi and English payment language models.
5. Which organization has launched the 'Nation First Transit Card' to facilitate the seamless and convenient customer commuting experience _____ **State Bank of India**.
Note:
 - Aim: To ensure easy digital ticketing fare payments in metro, buses, water ferries, parking, etc., through a single card and individuals can also use this card for making retail and e-commerce payments.
 - It is set to revolutionize the commuting experience, and is aligned with the national vision of "One Nation One Card".
6. Which bank became the first foreign bank in India to launch 'ONDC in a Box', a one-stop-shop proposition for corporates towards seamless enablement on ONDC _____ **Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited**.
Note:
 - Aim: To foster an inclusive, competitive, and open network, amplifying its impact across the business spectrum.
 - The ONDC is an initiative to build an open, interoperable network on which buyers and sellers can transact without needing to be present on the same platform.
7. Which bank has introduced the Zenith and Super Premium Metal Credit Card, expanding its range of banking solutions _____ **AU Small Finance Bank Ltd**.

Note:

- This credit card includes features like premium lounge access, personalized concierge services, and a welcome with Premium Brand vouchers or Reward Points worth Rs 5000.
- One of the card's highlights is the Forex markup of 0.99 percent for international travel, making it advantageous for global transactions.

8. Which has received a green signal from the Reserve Bank to make I-Process Services (India) Private Ltd a wholly-owned subsidiary of the lender _____ **ICICI Bank**.

Note:

- Started in 2005, I-Process Services (India) Private Ltd was set up to provide staffing solutions services for some of India's top financial institutions.
- With in-depth experience across recruitment, HR operations, payroll, compliance and training, I-Process can smartly negotiate market challenges

9. Which organization partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to introduce a RuPay prepaid forex card tailored for Indian travelers going to the UAE _____ **Thomas Cook (India) Limited**.

Note:

- Aim: To ensure accessibility for customers, being India's forex network with over 4000 touchpoints, including retail outlets, airport counters, online platforms, and mobile applications.
- The "Ghar pe Forex" commitment reportedly provides doorstep delivery within 2 hours.

10. Which bank has entered into bancassurance tie-ups with Star Health and Allied Insurance Company and Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company _____ **AU Small Finance Bank**.

Note:

- Aim: To enable the Bank's customers to access a wide range of insurance products from Star Health and Bajaj Allianz.
- AU Small Finance Bank has recently transitioned from a prominent, retail focused nonbanking finance company which primarily served low and middle-income individuals and businesses.

11. Which insurance organization launched a new product 'Income Laabh' with an aim to simplify insurance and deliver maximum protection to its consumers _____ **Bharti AXA Life Insurance**.

Note:

- Objective: To provide financial protection and a steady income stream to consumers.
- It starts with an initial income pay-out equivalent to 100 percent of the annual premium paid by the policyholder.
- After 5 years, for those opting for a 10-year policy term, the income increases to 150 percent.

12. Which platform has announced the launch of 'AutoPay on QR' in collaboration with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) _____ **Cashfree Payments**.

Note:

- Aim: To enable subscription-based businesses to enhance customer acquisition, supporting retention, and facilitating rapid growth.
- Cashfree Payments' 'AutoPay on QR' will help subscription-based businesses to boost return on investment (ROI) on ad spends by enabling mandate creation in two clicks.

13. The RBI has asked all banks, non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) and asset reconstruction companies (ARCs) to release all the original movable/immovable property documents and remove charges registered with any registry within a period of how many after full repayment/settlement of the loan account _____ **30 days**.

Note:

- In case where the delay is attributable to the RE, it shall compensate the borrower at the rate of ₹5,000 for each day of delay.

Obituaries

1. Dennis Austin, who passed away at the age of 76, was created which feature of Microsoft _____ **PowerPoint**.

Note:

- He studied engineering at several universities, including MIT and UC Santa Barbara.
- He eventually joined the software company Forethought and co-developing PowerPoint.
- The company released the software in 1987, and Microsoft bought the company just a few months later.
- He served as PowerPoint's primary developer from 1985 to 1996 when he retired.

2. Ajit Ninan, who passed away, was a famous _____ **Political cartoonist**.

Note:

- Ninan was best known for the Centrestage series in India Today magazine and Ninan's World in Times of India.
- A popular political cartoonist, Nina was equally well known for his work in children's literature.

3. Malini Rajurkar, who passed away in a Hyderabad, was a famous _____ **Hindustani classical vocalist.**

Note:

- She was 82 and had been suffering from age-related ailments.
- She has performed in major music festivals in India, including Gunidas Sammelan (Mumbai), Tansen Samaroh (Gwalior), Sawai Gandharva Festival (Pune), and Shankar Lal Festival (Delhi).

Important Days

1. The world observes International Literacy Day on which date to signify the role of literacy and education in one's life _____ **September 8.**

Note:

- Theme 2023 - Promoting literacy for a world in transition: Building the foundation for sustainable and peaceful societies.'
- The day reminds us of the importance of personal development, literacy, and progress of society.
- The day is a stark reminder of the fact that literacy is not a luxury but a fundamental right important for a person's dignity.

2. World Physical Therapy Day observed on which date celebrates the significant contributions of physical therapists and physiotherapists in promoting health and well-being _____ **8 September.**

Note:

- The Theme of 2023 is "prevention and management of arthritis".
- It serves as an opportunity to raise awareness about the crucial role these professionals play in helping people recover from injuries, manage chronic conditions, and improve their overall physical function and quality of life.

3. World Suicide Prevention Day is observed on which date _____ **10th September.**

Note:

- The theme for the World Suicide Prevention Day from 2021-2023" is Creating Hope Through Action
- This theme serves as a powerful call to action and a reminder that there is an alternative to suicide and that through our actions we can encourage hope and strengthen prevention.
- Suicide is a major public health problem with far-reaching social, emotional, and economic consequences.

4. National Forest Martyrs Day is celebrated on which date _____ **11th September.**

Note:

- Aim: To pay tribute to those who gave their lives in efforts to protect nature in India.
- The theme for 2023 is 'forests and health.
- Many individuals have dedicated themselves, and some have even sacrificed their lives, to preserve these precious natural resources. Their sacrifices are commemorated on a special occasion known as National Forest Martyrs Day

5. World Physical Therapy Day or World Physiotherapy Day 2023 is celebrated on which date every year _____ **September 8.**

Note:

- It recognizes and celebrates the significant contributions of physical therapy and physiotherapists in promoting health and well-being.
- "Prevention and Management of Osteoarthritis" is the theme for World Physiotherapy Day 2023.

6. United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, on which date of every year, is celebrated by several countries around the world _____ **September 12.**

Note:

- The United Nations' Day for South-South Cooperation celebrates the economic, social and political developments made in recent years by regions and countries in the South and highlights United Nations efforts to work on technical cooperation among developing countries.

7. On which date, the global community and India celebrate 'World EV Day' _____ **September 9.**

Note:

- The year 2023 has established a powerful message for India and the world, it is a message of sustainable transportation and a cleaner future, free of carbon emissions.
- Starting with the most definitive government policy, the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME) scheme, which has been instrumental in promoting EV adoption among the masses.

8. Indians on which date celebrate National 'Hindi Diwas' _____ **14 September.**

Note:

- On this day in 1949, the Hindi language was adopted as one of the official languages of the Republic of India.

- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first prime minister of India, officially declared 14 September as the Hindi Diwas.
- 425 million people speak Hindi as their 1st language and about 120 million people speak Hindi as their 2nd language.

New Appointments

1. The Association of Investment Bankers of India (AIBI) appointed whom Chairman _____ **Mahavir Lunawat.**

Note:

- The Chairperson of AIBI represents Investment Bankers on the Primary Market Advisory Committee (PMAC) of SEBI and has been active in representing the members' views, and comments.
- He has led some of the key M&As, and corporate restructuring projects and has lead managed more than 100 IPOs.

2. The Reserve Bank of India re-appointed whom as the managing director and chief executive officer (MD and CEO) of the ICICI Bank _____ **Sandeep Bakhshi.**

Note:

- He has been with the ICICI Group for 36 years and has handled various assignments across the group in ICICI Limited, ICICI Lombard General Insurance, ICICI Bank and ICICI Prudential Life Insurance.
- He has served as Wholetime Director and the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the bank, prior to his appointment as MD and CEO.

3. Whom has been appointed as the Vice-Chairperson of The National Association of Software and Service Companies (Nasscom) _____ **Sindhu Gangadharan.**

Note:

- Earlier, she holds the position of Senior Vice President and Managing Director at SAP Labs India and is also responsible for SAP User Enablement.
- Earlier this year, Gangadharan was appointed as the Chairperson of the Nasscom GCC Council for the term 2023-2025.

4. Women's fashion brand W on-boarded whom as its brand ambassador _____ **Anushka Sharma.**

Note:

- With this partnership, the brand prepares to launch its high-decibel festive campaign that beautifully merges the warmth of festivities with the spirit of modernity.

5. Who has been appointed as the ninth president of the Singapore _____ **Tharman Shanmugaratnam.**

Note:

- He has served Singapore all his life in public service.
- Prior to being president-elect, he served as a senior minister and Deputy Prime Minister from May 2011 to May 2019.
- He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the World Economic Forum.
- This was the first contested presidential election since 2011.

6. Digital payment services provider Paytm has appointed whom as a new statutory auditor for five years _____ **S.R. Batliboi & Associates LLP.**

Note:

- The previous statutory auditor, Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants LLP, completed its term at the conclusion of the AGM.
- Price Waterhouse Chartered Accountants LLP on August 7 had announced its resignation as auditor of Paytm Payments Services Limited with immediate effect.

Important News - India

1. India launched the Global Biofuel Alliance at a G20 summit in which Indian city _____ **New Delhi.**

Note:

- The Global Biofuel Alliance is an India-led Initiative to develop an alliance of Governments, International organizations, and Industry to facilitate the adoption of biofuels.
- Aim: To position biofuels as a key to energy transition and contribute to jobs and economic growth.
- The Alliance which will help strengthen India's position globally and will focus on collaboration.

2. In a significant victory for India's G-20 presidency, the member nations have unanimously adopted which declaration _____ **New Delhi Leaders' Declaration.**

Note:

- On the first day of the 18th G-20 Summit PM announced the adoption of the declaration by the bloc of world-leading economies during the second session of the G20 summit, titled One Family.
 - Inclusive growth, accelerating actions to deal with climate change, and increasing medical supplies to be future-ready for health emergencies.
3. Leaders of India, Brazil, South Africa, and the United States met on the margins of the G20 Leaders' Summit in which Indian city _____ **New Delhi**.
- Note:**
- Aim: To reaffirm their shared commitment to the G20 as the premier forum for international economic cooperation to deliver solutions for shared world.
 - In this spirit, together with the World Bank President, they welcome the G20's commitment to build better, bigger, and more effective multilateral development banks.
4. At which edition of the G20 Summit, a one-day conference themed "Transnational Grid Interconnections for One Sun, One World, One Grid (OSOWOG)" convened in New Delhi _____ **18th**.
- Note:**
- Aim: To enable nations to harness the abundant energy resources of the sun, particularly as the world transitions toward renewable energy sources.
 - It makes round-the-clock renewable energy more cost-effective, reducing the need for energy reserves and ultimately lowering electricity costs for the populace
5. The G20 leadership summit declared it will work towards having in place a fully functional dispute settlement system at WTO by which year _____ **2024**.
- Note:**
- There are two main ways to settle a dispute once a complaint has been filed in the WTO
 - First: The countries find a mutually agreed solution, particularly during the phase of bilateral consultations
 - Second: Through adjudication which includes ruling by a panel and if not satisfied, challenging that ruling at the appellate body.
6. Who announced the project during the annual Group of 20 summit of the world's top economies to launch the India-Middle East-Europe economic corridor including shipping and railway links _____ **PM Narendra Modi**.
- Note:**
- Aim: To boost trade, transport energy resources and improve digital connectivity.
 - The first-of-its-kind economic corridor will be an initiative on cooperation on connectivity and infrastructure involving India, UAE, Saudi Arabia, EU, France, Italy, Germany, and the US.
7. The 18th G20 Summit successfully concluded in New Delhi with India handing over the Presidency to which country _____ **Brazil**.
- Note:**
- After receiving the gavel, President of Brazil Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva appreciated India's efforts in leading the G20 presidency saying that India gave the voice to issues of interest to emerging countries.
 - Prime Minister Modi raised the issue of reforms in the United Nations Security Council by emphasizing on a new global structure.
8. Indian Coast Guard participated in which edition of the Heads of Asian Coast Guard Agencies Meeting (HACGAM) at Istanbul, Türkiye _____ **19th**.
- Note:**
- Aim: To enable a focused and goal-oriented approach towards coordinated response and synergy towards common maritime issues.
 - Objective: To discuss vital issues including maritime law enforcement, safety and security of life at sea, marine environment protection, illicit trafficking of drugs, weapons, and humans at sea etc.
9. The 4th G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group Meeting is held in which Indian city to finalize the 2023 G20 Sustainable Finance Report _____ **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**.
- Note:**
- Aim: To focus on finalizing the 2023 G20 Sustainable Finance Report
 - Objective: To discuss the progress made by jurisdictions, International organizations and relevant stakeholders against the actions listed out.
 - Session Include: Experience sharing presentations on the theme Scaling up Social Impact Investment in India
10. Which railway station was awarded the 'Green Railway Station' certification with the highest rating of Platinum by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) _____ **Vijayawada Railway Station**.
- Note:**

- Award is given for its efforts in improving environmental standards and providing eco-friendly services to passengers.
- This is an upgrade of the station's ratings, from gold in 2019 to platinum in 2023.
- It bagged second in the South Central Railway zone after Secunderabad to have bagged the platinum rating.

11. Which organization signed a MoU with five State Governments, including Haryana, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, to train employable Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and bring them to the mainstream workforce _____ **Amazon India**.

Note:

- Aim: To provide skilling and employment opportunities to PwD candidates in these five states.
- Under this initiative, Amazon has a focus on skilling and livelihood for PwD across Amazon India's Operations network, over a period of three years.

12. A MoU was signed between Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV), Vadodara, and which organization in New Delhi in the presence of Union Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw _____ **Airbus**.

Note:

- Aim: To enable the co-development and co-delivery of sector-relevant skilling, courses, and programs for regular students and working professionals and scholarship programs.
- Objective: To become the biggest source of talent for the entire transportation industry in the country and for the world.

13. The United States and which country have signed a deal on semiconductor supply chains to expand the capacity of the semiconductor ecosystem in Hanoi, in support of the US industry _____ **Vietnam**.

Note:

- The US and Vietnam also announced the launch of comprehensive workforce development initiatives in Vietnam that jointly develop hands-on teaching labs and training courses for semiconductor assembly, testing, and packaging.

14. Which Indian Institution has entered into a game-changing partnership with the National Skill Development Corporation _____ **IIM Indore**.

Note:

- Aim: To foster excellence and innovation in these critical domains.
- Objective: To provide professional support to underserved regions, communities, individuals, and MSMEs, thereby nurturing a skilled ecosystem primed for market success.
- IIM Indore's vision is about elevating livelihood opportunities and income levels for families and households across the nation.

15. India and which country signed a historic comprehensive cooperation agreement in the field of energy _____ **Saudi Arabia**.

Note:

- Aim: To enhance ties between India and Saudi Arabia in renewable energy, energy efficiency, hydrogen, electricity and grid interconnections, petroleum, natural gas, strategic petroleum reserves, and energy security.
- It also seeks to encourage bilateral investment in the fields of renewable energy, electricity, hydrogen and storage, and oil & gas.

16. Which green organization partnered with Nayara Energy, an oil refining and marketing company, to produce green hydrogen for Nayara Energy's captive usage _____ **NTPC Green Energy Ltd (NGEL)**.

Note:

- Aim: To collaborate and produce green hydrogen for Nayara Energy's captive usage, accelerate decarbonization and catalyse reduction in carbon footprint.
- Objective: To explore and implement cutting-edge technologies to produce green hydrogen, contributing to a cleaner and more resilient energy landscape.

17. India and which country signed three MoUs including one on cooperation in Digital Payment mechanisms _____ **Bangladesh**.

Note:

- First MoU was signed between National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Bangladesh Bank on cooperation in Digital Payment mechanism
- Second MoU focused on the renewal of the Cultural Exchange Program for 2023-2025.
- The third MoU was signed between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Bangladesh Agriculture Research Council.

18. The Consulate General of which country in Dubai welcomed a delegation of 15 Indian startups in a bid to foster collaboration and innovation between _____ and UAE entrepreneurial ventures _____ **India**.

Note:

- Aim: To explore the vibrant startup ecosystems of Sharjah, Dubai, and Abu Dhabi, further strengthening the bonds between India and the UAE.
- These sessions will provide valuable insights into marketing opportunities, expansion strategies within the UAE, and networking opportunities.

19. Dhaka and which city signed two bilateral instruments to enhance cooperation in different fields including infrastructure and satellite _____ **Paris**.

Note:

- Agreement between economic relations division of Bangladesh and the France development agency, France on 'improving urban governance and infrastructure programme
- LOI on cooperation between Bangladesh satellite company limited and airbus defence and space SAS, France related to Bangabandhu-2 earth observation satellite system

20. India and which country reviewed cooperation in the fields of education, information technology, and skills during the visit of Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs Saurabh Kumar to Ulaanbaatar _____ **Mongolia**.

Note:

- Aim: To discuss bilateral projects and cooperation in areas of education, IT, skilling, and capacity building.
- They also witnessed the signing of the contract for the construction of the India-Mongolia Friendship Secondary School.

21. Which ministry launched a portal for the mega exhibition—'Bharat: The Mother of Democracy'—to be held at Bharat Mandapam for global leaders attending the conference _____ **Culture Ministry**.

Note:

- The portal is divided into five sections and 22 sub-sections starting from Sindhu-Saraswati Civilisation, Mahajanapada and Gantantra, Vijaynagar Empire, and Mughal emperor Akbar reign to Constitution of India and Elections in Modern India

22. The Gujarat government announced that after Surat, which city has become the second city in the country to implement an emission trading scheme (ETS) for particulate pollution that will help regulate industrial emissions and reduce the state's pollution levels _____ **Ahmedabad**.

Note:

- Aim: To reduce particulate pollutants PM2.5 and PM10.
- Objective: to ensure a balance between economic development and environment preservation.
- The scheme will cover 118 industries in Ahmedabad.

23. Which state Cabinet gave its approval for transgender persons to be provided benefits of the State Social Security Scheme under which they will be given a pension of Rs 1,000 per month _____ **Jharkhand**.

Note:

- Transgenders are included in the category of OBC.
- Proposals are first, transgender persons should be declared as a third gender
- Second, Those transgender persons who are not covered under any other category for reservation should be included in the OBC at serial number 46 in the list

24. The Cabinet approved the expansion of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) allocating 7,500,000 new LPG connections over a three-year period until which year _____ **2025-26**.

Note:

- Costing Rs 1,650 crore, this expansion will elevate the total number of PMUY beneficiaries to 103.5 million.
- The government announced this extension after reducing the price of cooking gas by Rs 200 across all markets last month.
- Data indicate that LPG penetration reached 99.9 per cent in 2022

Important News – State

1. Which city's first underground electric transformer was inaugurated at Malleshwaram by the city's civic body and electricity board together _____ **Bengaluru**.

Note:

- Aim: To ensure the safety of people and to maintain the aesthetics of India's garden city.
- This adds to the overall safety of the environment, encouraging the citizens to use footpaths without any hassles since they'd be free from interruption during maintenance works of overhead cables and related equipment.

2. UAE-based leading cooling utility firm Tabreed has signed MoU with the Indian state Government to build 1.25 lakh refrigeration tonne (RT) of district cooling plants and networks _____ **Telangana**.

Note:

- Aim: To aid 6,800 GWh of power as well as 41,600 megalitres of water savings, and has the potential to reduce over 200 MW of peak electricity demand.
 - Telangana is set to house Asia's largest district cooling system to establish cooling infrastructure for industrial parks.
3. Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai launched 'Mashaal' for which edition of the National Games 2023 at a program held in Durbar Hall Raj Bhavan, Donapaula _____ **37th**.

Note:

- The 37th National Games will be held in Goa from October 25 to November 9 2023
 - The Governor also released anthem (theme song) of national games for which actor Amitabh Bachchan has given his voice
 - He highlighted the nationwide participation expected for this prestigious event and the potential positive impact on Goa's tourism sector
4. Which state government is all set to launch the largest social welfare initiative, the Kalaingar Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam, whereby monthly financial assistance of Rs 1,000 will be provided to 1.06 crore eligible women families _____ **Tamil Nadu**.

Note:

- The sum will be directly transferred into the bank accounts of beneficiaries and they will be given ATM cards to withdraw the amount.
 - The government will start disbursing the money under the scheme from September 15.
5. Which state government will provide Rs 10 lakh as compensation to the kin of any person killed in a mob lynching incident _____ **Madhya Pradesh**.

Note:

- There will be a provision of compensation of Rs 4 to Rs 6 lakh for the injured.
 - This will also include all those incidents of mob lynching that occur due to religion, caste, language, or any other reason.
 - Under the scheme, mob lynching will be considered in which five or more accused are involved.
6. Who inaugurated the International Conference on Dam Safety at Jaipur in Rajasthan _____ **VP Jagdeep Dhankhar**.

Note:

- According to the Jal Shakti Ministry, there are over 6000 dams in India and it is ranked third globally in terms of large dams.
 - Aim: To provide a major platform for experts to come together and debate cutting-edge topics in dam safety and management.
 - It has been essential to civilization's development, have role in meeting demand for drinking water, irrigation, hydropower
7. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and which organization signed a MoU to develop an indigenous Communication Based Train Control system _____ **Bharat Electronics Limited**.

Note:

- Aim: To transform rail transportation in India, driving innovation, reducing costs, and fostering self-reliance in the field of train control signaling systems.
- The Communication-Based Train Control System will optimize train operations, and enhance passenger services while efficiently utilizing rail infrastructure.

Important News- World

1. Which country has once again claimed the title of the world's best country in 2023, according to the latest World Report's annual Best Countries rankings _____ **Switzerland**.

Note:

- This marks Switzerland's second consecutive year at the pinnacle and its sixth time overall as the No. 1 nation on the list.
 - The rankings are Canada at No. 2, Sweden at No. 3, Australia at No. 4, the United States at No. 5, and India at No. 30
 - The United States has slipped one spot compared to its 2022 ranking.
2. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced India and which country have launched an infrastructure financing bridge to plan and implement major infrastructure projects _____ **The UK**.

Note:

- The two countries have also agreed to conduct investment negotiations in parallel with the goods negotiations to conclude their free trade agreement (FTA) talks.
 - The Indian government has also confirmed with the UK government its plans to consider allowing Indian companies to list on exchanges overseas.
3. Which organization announced its partnership with the MeitY, computer emergency response unit CERT-In to train 1,000 government officials and provide 1 lakh cybersecurity certificate scholarships to learners _____ **Google Cloud.**

Note:

- CERT-In is part of the MeitY which deals with cybersecurity threats, hacking and other cyber-related issues.
 - The 'cyber force' of government officials will be trained in cyber defence best practices, including the use of generative AI.
4. Which US Chip Company declared AI partnerships with Reliance Industries to build cloud infrastructure, language models, and generative applications _____ **NVIDIA.**

Note:

- Aim: To help NVIDIA deepen its inroads into the emerging AI ecosystem of the South Asian nation as it faces specific barriers in a few chip exports to China and other countries with US restrictions.
 - Reliance will create AI applications and services for their 450 million Jio customers.
5. Which IIT conducted the country's first national-scale mapping of soil erodibility _____ **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.**

Note:

- Before this, soil erodibility assessments were conducted in specific regions or catchments
 - Aim: To highlight specific areas where the soil is most prone to erosion.
 - Soil erodibility is the susceptibility of soil particles from becoming detached and reflects the combined effect of rainfall, infiltration, and runoff.
6. According to the Bloomberg Businessweek Best B-Schools Ranking 2023-24, which B-School bagged the top rank in the Asia Pacific B-School rankings category _____ **Hong Kong HKUST.**

Note:

- Shanghai University of Finance and Economics secured second position and CIEBS at third rank.
- In the overall Asia Pacific B-school rankings category, IIM Bangalore clinched 4th position followed by the Indian School of Business (ISB) at 5th position.

Honor & Awards

1. Which Indian City secured the first rank followed by Agra and Thane in the cleanest air in India according to the Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan 2023 (Clean Air Survey) report released in Bhopal by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav _____ **Indore.**

Note:

- Bhopal stood fifth while Delhi took the ninth spot.
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced the intent and plan to improve the air quality in more than 100 cities through a holistic approach.
2. How many researchers would receive the Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Awards 2022 _____ **12.**

Note:

- Country's top annual science prize, Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Awards were announced after a gap of two years.
- This year 2023 12 scientists will get the awards in seven categories. Dr.N. Kalaiselvi, Director General of CSIR announced the awards for the year 2022 in the presence of Union Minister Jitendra Singh.
- These awards are given every in seven scientific disciplines - physics, biology, engineering, mathematics, medicine, chemistry, and earth sciences.

Sports News

1. In Table Tennis, the Indian men's team finished with a bronze medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships 2023 following a semi-final defeat to which player in Pyeongchang, the Republic of Korea _____ **Chinese Taipei.**

Note:

- Indian men's team comprising Sharath Kamal, Harmeet Desai and Sathiyam Gnanasekaran lost in their final four match.
- The two losing semi-finalists are awarded bronze medals at the competition.
- This championship was also a qualifier for the Paris 2024 Olympics.

2. Who has won the US Open 2023, clinching her first Grand Slam title with a battling win over Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus _____ **Coco Gauff**.

Note:

- The championship match marked the first appearance by both athletes in a U.S. Open final.
- She last played in a Grand Slam final in 2022, losing the French Open to Iga Swiatek.
- In August 2023, the teen won the Western & Southern Open in Cincinnati, becoming the youngest player to do so.

3. Which men's double team rallied from a set down to beat India's Rohan Bopanna and Australian Matthew Ebden to win an Open-era record third straight U.S. Open men's doubles title 2023 _____ **American Rajeev Ram and Britain's Joe Salisbury**.

Note:

- The last pair to win three straight U.S. Open men's doubles titles were Tom Bundy and Maurice McLoughlin.
- The title is the fourth for the duo, who also won the Australian Open in 2020, and gives Salisbury a sixth Grand Slam title across the men's and mixed doubles.

4. Who created history by winning 24th Grand Slam title in US Open 2023 Men's Singles final 2023 _____ **Novak Djokovic**.

Note:

- He defeated Daniil Medvedev of Russia.
- He already the oldest French Open singles champion, became the oldest US Open singles champion in the pro era.
- In Women's Doubles 16th seed New Zealand-Canadian combination of Erin Routliffe and Gabriela Dabrowski defeated 12th seed pair of German-Russian duo Laura Siegemund and Vera Zvonareva to win the US Open 2023 title.

5. Which Indian compound archer bagged silver in 'World Cup Final' after he lost to Denmark's Mathias Fullerton _____ **Prathamesh Jawkar**.

Note:

- World No 14 Jawkar was facing a major challenge against the 10th-ranked Mathias Fullerton of Denmark in the gold medal clash.
- The Indian then shot a perfect 150 against world No 1 Mike Schloesser of the Netherlands and beat the second-seeded archer by a single point to book his place in the final.

6. Who reigned supreme to clinch the Open Blitz title of the Tata Steel Chess India 2023 in Kolkata _____ **Alexander Grischuk**.

Note:

- World Cup runner-up R Praggnanandhaa was the best Indian with an overall third-place finish
- Erigaisi was the second-best Indian with an overall fourth finish with 10 and a half points.
- India's No 1 D Gukesh suffered six defeats to end with a disappointing eighth place finish.

7. Which country won their first-ever FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 title by beating Serbia in Manila _____ **Germany**.

Note:

- The 19th edition of FIBA's flagship event, co-hosted by the Philippines, Indonesia and Japan, on a high note.
- Serbia absorbed another heartbreak after losing to the United States 129-92 in the 2014 final, but finished better than their quarter-final exit in 2019.
- Earlier, Canada bagged their first World Cup 2022 podium finish at the expense of short-handed United States.

8. Who stunned fans after he broke Sachin Tendulkar's record of the fastest batter to score 13000 runs in ODI _____ **Virat Kohli**.

Note:

- The 34-year-old record of fellow Indian veteran Sachin Tendulkar (321 innings), achieving in just 267 innings.
- With this century, Kohli has now scored four consecutive 100s at this stadium, the joint-most highest centuries at a single venue alongside South African
- He became the quickest batter to reach this milestone, Ponting and Sangakkara

9. Which Indian badminton player clinched the men's singles title at the Indonesia Masters 2023 in Medan, North Sumatra _____ **Kiran George**.

Note:

- Kiran George, 50th in the badminton rankings, beat world No. 82 Koo Takahashi of Japan to claim his second BWF World Tour Super 100 badminton title.
- He won the Odisha Open 2022, beating compatriot Priyanshu Rawat in the final.
- He was the only Indian who reached the final at the Indonesia Masters 2023.

10. Which Chinese is the new No. 1 in the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings 2023 _____ **Ruoning Yin**.

Note:

- She is the second Chinese player to reach No. 1 since the rankings began in 2006, joining Shanshan Feng (2017-18).
 - Yin is also the third player aged 20 or younger to hit No. 1, joining Athaya Thitikul (2022) and Lydia Ko (2015).
 - The 20-year-old Yin is the 18th different player to reach the top spot and the fifth this year, a record.
11. Which state clinched the title of champions in the 5th National Wheelchair Rugby Championship 2023 by securing a convincing victory over Karnataka _____ **Maharashtra**.

Note:

- Aim: To promote and expand the sport of wheelchair rugby across the nation.
- It was organized by The Indian Rugby Football Union (Rugby India), the governing body for rugby in India.
- It was conducted in association with the Wheelchair Rugby Federation of India and Mitsubishi Corporation.

Books and Authors

1. Who is the author of the book 'Fire on the Ganges: Life Among the Dead in Banaras' _____ **Radhika Iyengar**.

Note:

- The book was released by HarperCollins.
- The book explores the city of Banaras (also known as Varanasi) in India, particularly its relationship with death and the afterlife.
- Fire on the Ganges is the first attempt to chronicle the everyday realities of the Doms in Banaras.

Science and Defence

1. Which country launched a lunar lander on 7th Sep 2023, aiming to become the fifth nation to achieve a soft landing on the moon's surface following India's success _____ **Japan**.

Note:

- The Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) was sent to space on an H-IIA rocket.
- SLIM is a light and small spacecraft developed by Mitsubishi Electric.
- One of the goals of the mission is to demonstrate precision landing technology.
- The spacecraft is expected to land within 100 meters of a target site.

2. In a development highlighting India's growing presence on the global military stage, the Indian Navy's INS Sumedha arrived at which country to take part in 'Exercise Bright Star-23' _____ **Port Alexandria, Egypt**.

Note:

- It marks a historic occasion, with 34 countries participating, making it the largest joint military exercise ever held in the Middle East and North Africa region.
- The Harbour Phase involves an array of activities aimed at planning and executing the Sea Phase

3. Phase II of the 21st edition of Varuna (Varuna-23) bilateral exercise between Indian and French Navy was conducted in which location _____ **Arabian Sea**.

Note:

- The exercise witnessed participation of guided missile frigates, tanker, Maritime Patrol Aircraft and integral helicopters from the two sides.
- Aim: To enhance and hone their war fighting skills, improve interoperability and demonstrate their ability to promote, peace, security and stability in the region.

4. Who announced the Samudrayaan Mission(MATSYA 6000) India's first manned mission to explore the deep ocean, where three people will be sent into the depth of 6,000 metre in a submersible _____ **Minister of Earth Sciences Kiren Rijju**.

Note:

- Aim: To sustainably use marine resources for the country's economic growth and livelihood along with creating job and maintaining the health of the marine ecosystem
- It is designed to study the deep ocean resources and conduct biodiversity assessment.

5. Which space agency has announced the existence of a possible rare water ocean on a giant exoplanet scores of light years away and also a chemical hint of a sign of potential life _____ **Nasa**.

Note:

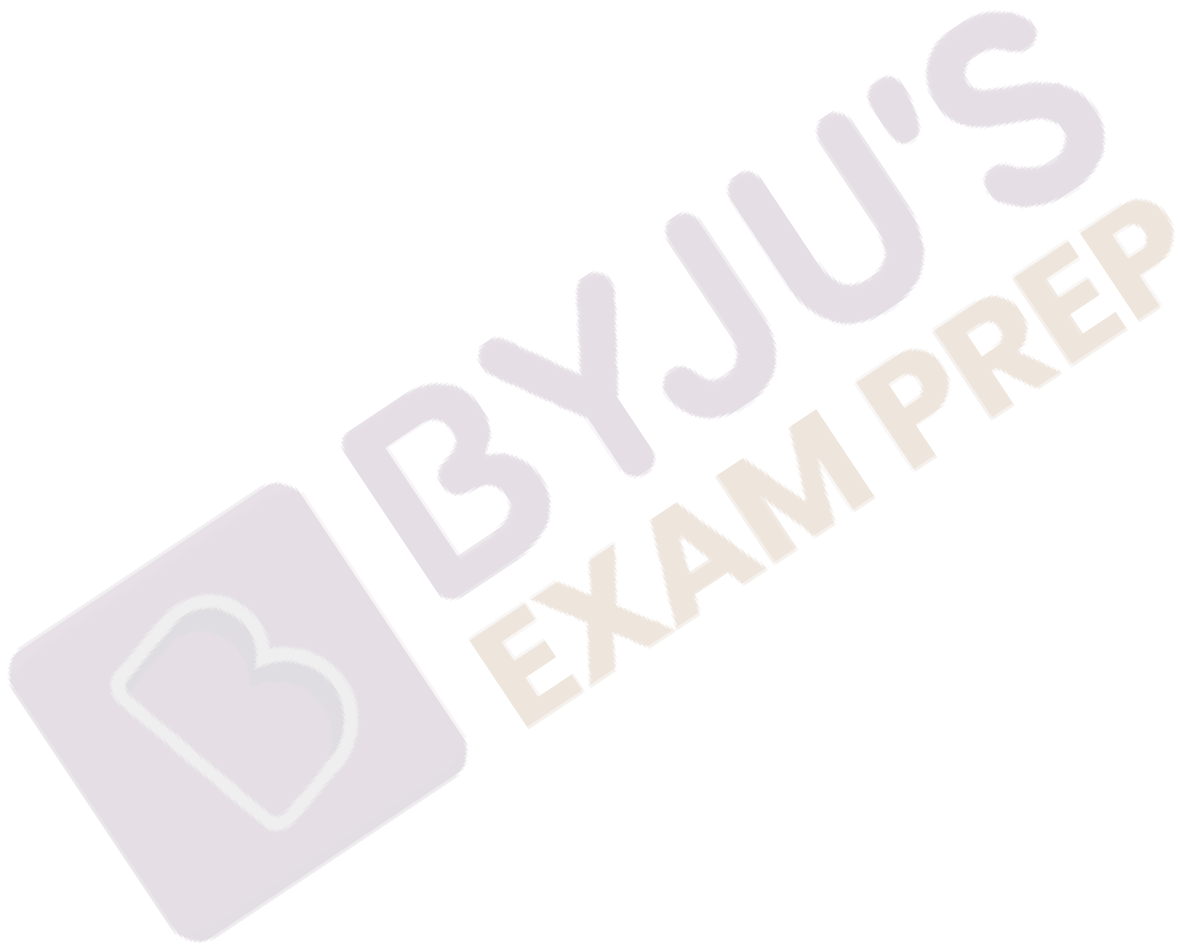
- NASA's James Webb Space Telescope in its study of K2-18 b, an exoplanet, discovered the presence of carbon dioxide and methane.

- This suggests that K2-18b could be a Hycean exoplanet, one which has the potential to possess a hydrogen-rich atmosphere and a water ocean-covered surface.
6. Which Cloud behemoth has signed a strategic MoU with the ISRO and Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE) to support space-tech innovations through cloud computing _____ **Amazon Web Services**.

Note:

- Aim: To enable the space industry to make better decisions, faster – pushing the boundaries of possibilities, and AWS is committed to help startups identify use cases and accelerate solution development.

-----0-----





India's Largest
EdTech Company



600+
Calls from IIMs
in 2023



100+
BLACKI Calls in 2023



1000+
Calls from **Top 20**
B schools



Address: Windsor IT Park, Tower - A, 2nd Floor,
Sector 125, Noida, Uttar Pradesh 201303



Contact: **+91 9513138506**

Email id: catdoubts@byjus.com

Website: www.byjusexamprep.com