

## GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS

### MONTH OF JANUARY-2023

#### List of Important Days

- 2023 - International Year of Millets (IYM).
- January 01 - Global Family Day.
- January 01 - Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has marked the 65th Foundation Day.
- January 04 - World Braille Day.
- January 06 - World Day of War Orphans.
- January 09 - Pravasi Bharatiya Divas or NRI Day. (Theme - "Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal.")
- January 10 - World Hindi Day. (Theme - "Hindi - Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence")
- January 10 to 16 - DPIIT to Organize Startup India Innovation Week.
- January 11 - National Human Trafficking Awareness Day.
- January 11 to 17 - National Road Safety Week.
- January 12 - National Youth Day. (Theme - "Viksit Yuva - Viksit Bharat (Developed Youth - Developed India)")
- January 14 - 7th Armed Forces Veterans Day.
- January 15 - 75th Indian Army Day.
- January 16 - National Startup Day.
- January 23 - Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti or Netaji Jayanti or Parakram Diwas.
- January 24 - International Day of Education. (Theme - "to invest in people, prioritize education")
- January 24 - National Girl Child Day. (Theme - "Self Defence Training for Girls.")
- January 25 - 13th National Voters Day. (Theme - "Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure")
- January 26 - International Customs Day. (Theme - "Nurturing the next generation: Promoting a culture of knowledge-sharing and professional pride in Customs.")
- January 27 - International Holocaust Remembrance Day. (Theme - "Home and Belonging")
- January 28 - Data Protection Day, or Data Privacy Day.
- January 29 - World Leprosy Day. (Theme - "Act Now. End Leprosy.")
- January 30 - India observed Martyrs' Day or Shaheed Diwas.
- January 30 - World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day. (Theme - "Act Now. Act Together. Invest in Neglected Tropical Diseases")

#### Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India's Medium-term Strategy Framework for the period 2023-2025 - 'Utkarsh 2.0' - was launched by Shri Shaktikanta Das, Governor, RBI.
- The Reserve Bank of India said **SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank** remain domestic systemically important banks (**D-SIBs**).
- The Reserve Bank of India has launched the **Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH)** which will provide useful inputs for monetary policy.

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will auction **₹16,000 crore** of sovereign green bonds (SGrBs) in two tranches.
  - The RBI will auction 5-year and 10-year green bonds worth ₹4000 crore each on 25 January and on 9 February, and this would be a uniform price auction.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued the list of **six credit rating agencies** that banks can use for the purpose of risk weighting banks' claims for capital adequacy purposes.
- The **sovereign green bonds** issued by the Indian government will not have **any restrictions on foreign investment**, the Reserve Bank of India said.
- The Indian government bought back bonds maturing in **2024** from the Reserve Bank of India, while also issuing bonds maturing in 2032 worth a similar quantum, the central bank said.

#### State Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India gave its approval to **SBI Funds Management Ltd** to acquire up to **9.99%** stake in **Equitas Small Finance Bank** through the schemes of SBI Mutual Fund.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched e-Bank Guarantee (**e-BG**) facility in association with National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).

#### Other Banks

- **Bandhan Bank** launched the '**Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust**' campaign along with the bank's brand ambassador **Sourav Ganguly**.
- The current **interest rate** on Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP) account deposits is **7.2%** compounded annually.
- **AU Small Finance Bank** announced the launch of a first-of-its-kind platform in the credit card industry - the **SwipeUp** platform.

#### Central Government

- The Union Cabinet has approved the **incentive scheme** for the promotion of **RuPay Debit Cards** and low-value **BHIM-UPI transactions** (person-to-merchant) for the current financial year.

#### States

- **Kerala** CM Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated **Indian Library Congress** in Kannur, Kerala.
- The **Uttarakhand** government has decided to **abolish** the **revenue policing system** in the state.
- **Himachal Pradesh** CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up of Rs 101 crore **CM's Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh** for the destitute in the state.
- **West Bengal** CM Mamata Banerjee launched a new campaign "**Didi'r Surakha Kavach**" for her party, Trinamool Congress.
- CM of **Odisha** Naveen Patnaik directed the distribution of **five kilograms** of rice per month **free** of cost to beneficiaries of the State Food Security Scheme (SFSS) for the next one year.
- **Kerala** CM Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated the **Palm leaf Manuscript Museum** with modern audio-visual technology at the renovated Central Archives, Fort area in **Thiruvananthapuram**, Kerala.
- CM Pinarayi Vijayan declared **Kerala** as the **first state** in the country to go **fully digital** in its **banking service** and said this recognition would boost the state economy.
- The **Kerala** Cabinet approved a scheme to ensure those **employed** under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the poll-bound state get benefits like **pension** and **medical assistance**.

- The 'Year of Enterprises' Project was recognized as the **best practices** model at the National Conference on Micro Small and Medium Enterprises.
- The **Himachal Pradesh** government intends to make the state as the first **Green Energy State** by the end of **2025**.
- **Assam** CM Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Centre has nominated the **maidams** of **Ahom Kingdom** in Charaideo to seek a **UNESCO World Heritage Site tag**.
- **Himachal Pradesh** celebrates its **53rd Statehood Day** with joy and enthusiasm across the state on **25th January 2023**.

### Defence and National Security

- **Pakistan** and **India** exchanged lists of their **nuclear facilities** on January 1 as part of a 1988 pact that bars them from attacking each other's nuclear installations, according to official statements from both sides.
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (**BPCL**) has announced the launch of Low Smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (**SKO**) for the **Indian Army** in **Jammu**.
- The Defence Research and Development Organization (**DRDO**) has developed an unmanned aerial vehicle (**UAV**) to carry out logistic operations in the **Himalayan frontier**.
- The United States said its ballistic missile submarine, **USS West Virginia**, visited its Indian Ocean military base at Diego Garcia.
- The Japan Air Self Defense Force (**JASDF**) and the **Indian Air Force** will participate in the joint air exercise "**Veer Guardian-2023**" starting on January 12 at Hyakuri Air Base in **Japan**.
- Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ship '**Kamla Devi**' the Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) which is designed, built, and delivered by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd to Indian Coast Guard was commissioned in Kolkata, **West Bengal**.
- "**Nari Shakti**" (women power) will be driving the **theme** of this year's Republic Day tableau of **Navy**.
- **Indian Navy** has carried out a six-day-long mega military exercise **AMPHEX 2023** along with the **Indian Army** and the **Indian Air Force** near Kakinada in **Andhra Pradesh**.
- The Indian Air Force (**IAF**) is set to conduct Exercise **PRALAY** in the northeastern sector of India amid the unresolved contention with China about differing perceptions regarding the Line of Actual Control (LAC) between the two nations.
- The **2023** edition of Indian **Navy's** major maritime exercise Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (**TROPEX**) is currently underway in the Indian Ocean Region.

### Committees/Commissions

- The Ministry of Home Affairs (**MHA**) in India has established a **High Powered Committee (HPC)** to address issues related to the protection of **Ladakh's** culture, language, land, and employment opportunities.
  - A 17-member committee has been constituted under the **Chairmanship** of Minister of State for Home Affairs **Nityanand Rai**.

### Schemes/Initiatives

- The Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (**DAY-NRLM**) has launched the **Prajwala Challenge** (for rural development).
- **Amit Shah** lays the foundation stone of the **Central Detective Training Institute** in **Karnataka**.

- The National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (**NCISM**) and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (**CCRAS**), the two prominent institutions under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India have launched '**SMART**'.
  - **SMART** - Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals.
- The **President** of India Droupadi Murmu inaugurated Samvidhan Udyan, Mayur Stambh, National Flag Post, Statue of Mahatma Gandhi, and Maharana Pratap at Raj Bhavan, **Jaipur**.
- **Indian Science Congress's 108th** edition was officially inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi.
  - Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University is hosting the five-day 108th session of ISC.
- Defence minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the **Siyom Bridge** in **Arunachal Pradesh**, along with 27 other infrastructure projects completed by the Border Roads Organization (**BRO**).
- CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the **Madhya Pradesh Residential Land Rights scheme** (Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu Adhikar Yojana) to distribute free leases of residential land to selected beneficiaries.
- In a bid to **upgrade Prasar Bharati's** broadcast infrastructure and network, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved a scheme worth more than Rs 2,500 crore for **Doordarshan and All India Radio**.
- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated "**National Genome Editing & Training Centre**" at National Agri-food Biotechnology Institute (NABI) Mohali, **Punjab**.
- **Odisha** CM Naveen Patnaik inaugurated one of the **largest hockey stadiums** in India in **Rourkela** ahead of the Men's Hockey World Cup 2023.
- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the three-day '**North East Krishi Kumbhar-2023**' and took part in the **49th Foundation Day** celebration of the **ICAR Research Complex** for NEH Region, Umiam.
- President Droupadi Murmu laid the foundation stone of state-owned energy firm **SJVN's 1,000 MV Bikaner Solar Power Project**.
  - The event was done virtually by the President of India in Jaipur, **Rajasthan**.
- The **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2023** convention in Indore, **Madhya Pradesh**, was formally opened by PM Narendra Modi.
- PM has launched the government's Aspirational Block Programme (**ABP**), which is aimed at improving the performance of blocks lagging on various development parameters.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated a 120-foot-tall **statue** of a polo player riding a polo at Marjing Polo Complex in Imphal, **Manipur**.
- Union Minister of State Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh released the **theme** for the "**National Science Day 2023**", titled "Global Science for Global Wellbeing" at National Media Centre.
- Union Labour and Employment Minister Bhupendra Yadav inaugurated the Regional Office of Employees provident Fund Organization (**EPFO**) at Alwar, **Rajasthan**.
- The **MAARG** (Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth) platform will be launched by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.
- PM Narendra Modi distributed title deeds or '**Hakku Patra**' to over 52,000 eligible beneficiaries from the Lambani nomadic tribes residing in northern **Karnataka**.
- CM of **Odisha**, Naveen Patnaik inaugurated an '**International Craft Summit**' in **Jajpur**.
- **India Energy Week 2023** is going to be hosted in **Bengaluru** from 6th to 8th February 2023.
  - The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India Hardeep S. Puri inaugurated the demo run of an **Inland Water Vessel** powered by Methanol blended Diesel (**MD15**).

- Union Territory Administrator, Banwari Lal Purohit has inaugurated northern India's largest **floating solar power project** of 2000kWp worth Rs.11.70 crore at waterworks, Sector 39, **Chandigarh**.
- Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the **National Logistics Portal** (marine) in **New Delhi**.
- The Mughal Garden of Rashtrapati Bhavan has been called **Amrit Udyan**.
  - As President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated **Udyan Utsav-2023**, the opening of the Rashtrapati Bhavan grounds, the renowned park is expected to open to the public on January 31.
- **Woxsen University** has launched Project Aspirations for **Girls in Telangana**.

#### Summit/Conference

- Ministry of **Jal Shakti** organized the "1st All India Annual **State Minister Conference on Water**" with the **theme** of "**Water Vision@2027**" in Bhopal, **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur launched the **themes** of Y20 summit, logo, and website in the Curtain raiser event of **Y20 Summit India** in **New Delhi**.
- **India** will host '**The Voice of Global South**' Summit on January 12-13.
  - Theme - 'Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose'.
- India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant inaugurated India's first **Model G-20 Summit** organized by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini's Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership.

#### Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **HDFC Bank** is partnering with **Microsoft** in the next phase of its **digital transformation** journey and unlocking business value by transforming the application portfolio, modernizing the data landscape and securing the enterprise with **Microsoft Cloud**.
- The International Hockey Federation (**FIH**) has signed a partnership with the **JSW Group** for the **FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023** in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela.
- **Axis Bank** has partnered with **OPEN** to provide a fully native **digital current account** journey for its customers including SMEs (small and medium enterprises), freelancers, homepreneurs, influencers and more.
- **Axis Bank** has signed an agreement with the Indian Institute of Science (**IISc**), **Bengaluru**, to establish a Centre for Mathematics and Computing at the institute.
- **India** and **Panama** have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to encourage cooperation in the training of diplomats.
- The National Council of Science Museums hosted **Astro Tourism - A Sky Gazing** event at Delhi's India Gate in collaboration with the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library.
- **Madhya Pradesh Tourism** Board signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with chapters of 8 countries of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (**GOPIO**) at the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas convention.
- **Sony Sports** signs **Hyundai Ioniq 5**, **Samsonite** as sponsors for **Australian Open**.
- The International Hockey Federation (**FIH**) Partners with **JSP Foundation** for Hockey Development and Men's World Cup Lausanne, **Switzerland**.
- The National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (**NABH**) and Healthcare Sector Skill Council (**HSSC**) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for Recognition and **Skilling of Healthcare Professionals**.
- **India** and **Egypt** signed an MOU to facilitate content exchange, capacity building, and Co-Productions between Prasar Bharati and the National Media Authority of Egypt.

- Atal Innovation Mission – **NITI Aayog**, Central Board of Secondary Education – **Ministry of Education** and **Intel India** have collaborated to bring a change in the education sector by embedding future skills such as **AI and Tinkering** in the formal curriculum.
- Defence PSU Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (**GRSE**) Ltd has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Rolls Royce Solutions** of Germany for manufacture of high-quality **marine diesel engines** at the former's plant in **Ranchi**.

#### Meet/Visit

- **Puducherry** Lieutenant governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan said that the **first G-20 meeting** will be held in **Puducherry** on 31st January.

#### Fund

- The Union Cabinet approved an initial outlay of Rs 19,744 crore for the **National Green Hydrogen Mission**.

#### Economy

- India's Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**) processed a record **7.82 billion transactions** in December, worth a total of INR 12.82tn (\$174.6bn).
- India's **international financial assets declined** by \$56.5 billion during July-September 2022 with valuation losses accounting for a major part.
- Banks Report **High Credit Growth** with Indian Economy Showing Stability.
  - It is estimated that the Indian economy grew by **9.7%** in the first half of 2022-23, significantly higher than China's 2.2%, the UK's 3.4% and the USA's 1.8%.
- **India's foreign exchange reserves fell** by \$70.1 billion in 2022, data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) shows.
  - The forex reserves stood at \$562.9 billion in the week ended December 30.
- **India's growth** is expected to **slow to 6.9 per cent** in Financial Year 2023, a 0.6 percentage point decrease since June, according to the World Bank.
- **Retail inflation declined** to a one-year low of **5.72 per cent** in December 2022.
- **India's forex reserves declined** by USD 1.268 billion to USD 561.583 billion for the week ended January 6, the Reserve Bank said.
- The United Nations (**UN**) has cut its **GDP growth** forecast for **India** for calendar year 2023 to **5.8 percent**.
- According to the economic survey, **India's** economy will expand by **6.5 percent** in 2023–2024.

#### Companies/Industry

- Fintech platform **BharatPe** said it has received in-principle authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an **online payment aggregator (PA)**.
- **China's Alibaba Group** sold a 3.1% stake in Indian digital payments firm **Paytm** for a total of \$125 million through a block deal.
- Former India cricket team captain Mahendra Singh **Dhoni** and drone market **Garuda Aerospace** have launched a surveillance drone named '**Droni**'.
- In a major boost to the film and entertainment industry, **PVR-Inox merger** has been approved by the National Company Law Tribunal.
- Startup firm **IG Drones**, which was born out of the Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT) campus in Odisha's Sambalpur has developed a **5G-enabled drone** that is capable of vertical take-off and landing.

- **PhonePe** has raised \$350 million in funding from **General Atlantic**, a leading global growth equity firm.
- **PepsiCo** Foundation, the philanthropic arm of PepsiCo and **CARE**, has launched 'She Feeds the World' program in India to strengthen the role of small-scale women producers through sustainable training and economic support.

### Exports/Imports

- **Coffee** shipments from India, Asia's **third-largest** producer and exporter, **rose 1.66%** to 4 lakh tonne in 2022.

### Taxation/Trade

- According to a government announcement, India's **goods and services tax** receipts increased **15%** year over year in December to Rs.1.49 lakh crore (\$18.07 billion).
  - In November, revenue from goods and services taxes totaled Rs.1.46 lakh crore.
- Zerodha-backed **GoldenPi Technologies** has become the first **online bond platform** provider to receive a debt **brokerage license** from market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).
- Markets regulator **SEBI** has launched an **information database on municipal bonds**.

### Space

- Indian Space and Research Organization (**ISRO**), National Centre for Earth Sciences (**NCES**), and the Andhra University (**AU**) have researched and concluded that constant rip current zones at blue flag-certified **Rushikonda beach** and **RK Beach** have become a danger to the beach visitors.
- Virgin Orbit's historic "Start Me Up" mission launched from Spaceport Cornwall on January 9th as planned, but it has failed to reach orbit and has ultimately ended in failure.
- Indian Space Research Organization (**ISRO**) launch vehicle will carry a satellite built by **750 girls** attending government schools across the nation, according to Space Kidz India, a Chennai-based space tech business.
- A **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket** carried more than **four dozen** Starlink satellites into the low-Earth orbit in a launch from the California coast.
- The United States space agency **NASA** has said the country plans to test a spacecraft engine powered with **nuclear fission** by **2027**.
- Indian Institute of Astrophysics (**IIA**) handed over to ISRO, the Visible Line Emission Coronagraph (**VELC**), the primary payload on board **Aditya-L1**, which is India's first dedicated scientific mission to study the Sun, to be launched by June or July.

### Health/Diseases/Drugs

- **Kerala** reported 3 cases of **norovirus**, a gastro-intestinal zoonotic disease that is spread by intimate contact or contaminated food.
- The first nasal vaccination produced in India against **Covid-19**, the **iNCOVACC**, was introduced by Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh and Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya.

### Energy/Gas/Oil

- India's first green hydrogen blending operation in the piped natural gas (**PNG**) network at NTPC Kawas, **Gujarat**.
- The phased roll-out of **E20 (20 per cent ethanol blending in gasoline)** will begin on **April 1**, Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has said.

- **Luminous Power Technologies** revealed that it has planned to build India's first green energy-based **solar panel manufacturing** plant in **Uttarakhand**.

### Environment

- **Silent Valley National Park** in the last month identified 141 species of birds of which **17 were new** species of birds.
- The annual mean land surface air temperature averaged over India during **2022** was +0.51 degree Celsius **above the long-term average** (1981-2010 period).
  - The year 2022 was the **fifth warmest year** on record since nationwide records commenced in 1901.

### Education

- The 28th edition of **Saarang**, India's largest student-run festival begins at **IIT Madras**.

### Transport/Cars/Scooters

- India's first **underwater metro service**, The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC) said that the **East-West Metro Corridor project** is expected to be completed by December 2023.
- **Ghaziabad-Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay section** (762 KM) becomes the longest fully automatic block signalling section of Indian Railways.
- East Coast Railways' **Visakhapatnam railway station** has received the prestigious '**Green Railway Station Certification**' with the highest Platinum rating.

### Films and Film Festival

- The 80th edition of 2023 **Golden Globes show** hosted by Jerrod Carmichael.
  - Best Original Song, Motion Picture - "Naatu Naatu," "RRR".
  - Best Director, Motion Picture - Steven Spielberg, "The Fabelmans".
- Vivek Agnihotri's film '**The Kashmir Files**' has been shortlisted for **Oscars 2023**.
- The Song '**Naatu Naatu**' from India's blockbuster film RRR and two documentaries from the country '**All That Breathes**' and '**The Elephant Whisperers**' have made it to the final **nominations** list at the 95th edition of the **Academy Awards**.

### Festival

- The 10th edition of **Dhaka Lit Fest (DLF)**, the largest international literary festival in **Bangladesh**, is scheduled for January 5-8, 2023.
- The second phase of the Sari Festival "**VIRAASAT**"-Celebrating 75 handwoven Saris of India was held at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi.
- **Imoinu Day** is celebrated in **Manipur** as a part of the Meitei Cultural ritual.
- **Octave 2023** is a festival being held under the aegis of the South Zone Culture Centre, **Thanjavur**, Tamil Nadu to showcase the **indigenous art and culture of Northeast India**.
- The eagerly anticipated **Purple Fest**, Celebrating Diversity, the state's first-ever inclusive festival for people with **disabilities** (PwDs), will take place in **Goa**.
- The **International Kite Festival 2023** has begun in Ahmedabad, **Gujarat**.
  - Gujarat Tourism on the G20 theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'.
- **Chhattisgarh** CM Bhupesh Baghel celebrated the **Cherchera festival** at Dudhadhari Math in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- The 23rd of this month will see the Aadi Shaurya - **Parv Parakram Ka Tribal Dance Festival** and **Military Tattoo** at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.



- **Mongeeet** is a festival of music, poetry, art, craft, food, culinary techniques, indigenous herbs, and culture celebrated in Majuli, **Assam**.
- The **Jammu and Kashmir** Government is set to host their first **SARAS Fair 2023** from 4th February to 14th February 2023.
- The third edition of the two-day **Orange Festival** has been organized in **Nagaland's** Rusoma village to mark the harvest of organic oranges in the district.
- The month-long **Khadi Fest-23** was inaugurated by the Chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Mr. Manoj Kumar in **Mumbai**.

#### Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- **Luiz Inácio "Lula" da Silva** was sworn in as **Brazil's president** for the third time.
- **Ajay Kumar Srivastava** has been elevated as Managing Director and CEO of **Indian Overseas Bank**.
- **China** has appointed **Qin Gang**, its ambassador to the United States and China's New and Youngest **Foreign Minister**.
- Five-time MLA from Bhattiyat **Kuldeep Singh Pathania** is all set to be the next **Speaker** of the **Himachal Pradesh** Assembly.
- Folk singer **Maithili Thakur** was appointed the **state icon** for **Bihar** by the **Election Commission**.
- **Bank of Singapore (BoS)**, the private banking arm of Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation (OCBC), announced that it has appointed **Jason Moo** as its new CEO.
- The All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (**GJC**) its members have elected **Saiyam Mehra** as Chairman and **Rajesh Rokde** as **Vice Chairman** of the industry body for a period of two years (2023-24).
- The **United States** Parliament has elected **Kevin McCarthy** of the Republican Party as the **speaker** of the House of Representatives after 15 rounds of voting.
- Indian-origin Sikh woman, **Manpreet Monica Singh** became the first ever **female Sikh judge** in the **US** after she was sworn in as a Harris county judge.
- **Paytm Payments Bank** has received banking regulator RBI's nod to appoint **Surinder Chawla** as its Managing Director and CEO.
- **ICICI Prudential Life Insurance** has announced the launch of its '360° Financial Protection with ICICI Prudential Life Insurance' digital-first campaign featuring cricketer **Suryakumar Yadav**.
- **Chetan Sharma** was reappointed as the **chairman** of the **senior selection committee**, exactly two months after his entire panel was disbanded by the BCCI for the Indian team's semifinal exit in the T20 World Cup.
- **Anurag Kumar** was appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Electronics Corporation of India Limited (**ECIL**).
- Nutrition Company **Herbalife Nutrition India Private Limited** is partnering with international women's cricketer, **Smriti Mandhana** as a 'nutrition sponsor'.
- **Meta** announced the appointment of former Tata CLiQ CEO **Vikas Purohit** as the director of global business group in **India**.
- An Indian-American aerospace industry expert has been appointed as NASA's new chief technologist to serve as principal advisor to Administrator Bill Nelson on technology policy and programmes at the space agency's headquarters. **A.C. Charania** joined the space agency in his new role on January 3.

- IT giant **Cognizant** has announced **Ravi Kumar** as its new Chief Executive Officer, replacing the outgoing **Brian Humphries**, effective immediately.
- Senior IAS Officer **A Santhi Kumari** has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of **Telangana**.
- The appointments Committee of the Cabinet have approved the appointment of **Vikram Dev Dutt** as the next director general in the Directorate of General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).
- US President Joe Biden will appoint former COVID policy coordinator **Jeff Zients** as his new **chief of staff**.
- Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (**IIM-A**) has announced the appointment of IIM-Lucknow professor **Bharat Bhasker** as IIM-A director for five years with effect from March 1.
- **Amul** brand has announced the appointment of **Shamalbhai B Patel** as its chairman and **Valamjibhai Humbal** as **vice chairman**.
- **Tata Trusts** named **Siddharth Sharma**, as its CEO and **Aparna Uppaluri**, as chief operating officer.
- US President Joe Biden has nominated **Julie Turner** as special envoy for human rights in **North Korea**.
- Toyota names **Koji Sato** new CEO as **Akio Toyoda** takes chairman role.
- **Naresh Lalwani** has taken over as the new General Manager of **Central Railway**.
- **Petr Pavel**, a former chairman of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) military committee, has become the new **president** of the **Czech Republic**.
- NMDC has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with **World Boxing Champion** and gold medal winner of Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, **Nikhat Zareen** to represent NMDC as its brand ambassador.
- The Union Public Service Commission (**UPSC**) has recommended the name of **Dr Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi** as the new Drugs Controller General of India (**DCGI**).
- Air Marshal **A P Singh** has been appointed as the new **Vice Chief** of the **Indian Air Force**.
  - He will succeed Air Marshal **Sandeep Singh**, who will retire from service.

#### Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Amul Federation's** managing director **RS Sodhi stepped down**.
  - He has been replaced for an interim period by **Jayan Mehta**, Amul's incumbent chief operating officer.
- Indian Tennis Player **Sania Mirza** (36-year-old), the former doubles World No. 1, has confirmed her retirement from professional Tennis.
- Cricket South Africa (CSA) has confirmed that Proteas all-rounder **Dwaine Pretorius** has retired from international cricket with immediate effect.
- **Gareth Bale** has announced his retirement from professional football.
- France team captain **Hugo Lloris** has announced his decision to retire from international football.
- Veteran Indian opener **Murali Vijay** has announced his retirement from all forms of international cricket.

#### Deaths

- **R Krishnakumar**, a close confidante of Ratan Tata and a group veteran, passed away.
- The former Pope **Benedict XVI** has passed away in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican.
- **Walter Cunningham**- the last surviving astronaut on Apollo 7 mission who helped pave the way for humans to walk on the moon - died in Houston.

- Senior leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and former West Bengal governor, **Keshari Nath Tripathi** passed away.
- Padma Awardee **Dr Tehemton Erach Udwadia**, an Indian Surgeon and Gastroenterologist, who was known as the 'father of laparoscopic surgery in India' passed away.
- **Constantine II**, the former and last King of Greece who ruled Greece before the country became a republic in 1974 passed away.
- Socialist stalwart and former JD (U) chief **Sharad Yadav** passed away.
- Former Vice Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal **Harjeet Singh Arora** passed away.
- **Dr Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi**, who is widely revered for his contribution in the field of architecture, has passed away.
- 'Ironman of India' **Sabir Ali**, who won the decathlon gold at the 1981 Asian Athletics Championships in Tokyo, passed away.
- Veteran Telugu film actor and former parliamentarian **J Jamuna** passed away.
- A US Military raid in Somalia killed a key regional leader of the Islamic State group, **Bilal al-Sudani**.

#### Awards/Honours

- **Odisha** won the UN-Habitat's **World Habitat Awards 2023** for Jaga Mission, a 5T initiative of the state.
- Writer **Ambikasuthan Mangad** has been selected for **Odakuzhal Award 2022** for his collection of short stories titled **Pranavayu**.
- The recipients of the state's top civil honours for 2022-2023 were revealed by the **Assam government**.
  - The Assam government presented awards in the **Asom Baibhav, Asom Sourav, and Asom Gourav** categories.
- **Jalna district police** and **Nagpur city police** in **Maharashtra** have been awarded the **Best Police Unit Awards** for 2021 in the state.
- **e-NAM**, a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, has won the **Platinum Award** in the Digital Empowerment of Citizens Category in **Digital India Awards 2022** held in New Delhi.
- **Kerala** has kicked itself into the **Guinness Book of World Records** by taking 4,500 penalty kicks in 12 hours.
- **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited (TMB)** has bagged the **Best Small Bank** award in the Best Banks survey for the year 2022.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah awarded the **Aska Police Station** of Ganjam, district of **Odisha** as the **number one police station** in the country.
- Two Indian films bagged awards for the best script writer and best actress in the Asian Film Competition section at the **21st Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF), Bangladesh** concluded.
  - **Anik Dutta** directed film Aparajito (The Undeclared) got the **best scriptwriting** award while **Ketaki Narayan** was judged the **best actress** for her role in Krishnendu Kalesh directed film Prappeda (Hawk's Muffin).
- **R Vishnu Prasad** was awarded "The most distinguished scientist of the year 2022" at Vigyan bhawan, Delhi.
- Hindustani vocalist Padma Vibhushan, **Dr. Prabha Atre** was conferred with the **Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award** at the hands of Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde.

- President of India, Droupadi Murmu has approved **412 Gallantry awards** and other Defence decorations to Armed Forces personnel and others.
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced its first individual award winners in the ICC Awards 2022.
  - Men's T20 International Cricketer of the Year: **Suryakumar Yadav** (India).
  - Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year: **Renuka Singh** (India).
- For the year 2023, the President has approved conferment of **106 Padma Awards** including 3 duo cases (in a duo case, the Award is counted as one) as per list below.
  - The list comprises **6 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan** and **91 Padma Shri Awards**.
- New Zealand Cricket (NZC) has announced that outstanding women's cricketer will be honoured with the inaugural **Debbie Hockley Medal** at this year's annual cricket awards ceremony.
- **Uttarakhand** tableau which showcased the state's wildlife and religious sites at the 74th Republic Day **parade** has won the **top prize**.

### Sports/Game

- Kolkata-based chess player, **Koustav Chatterjee** became India's **78th Grandmaster**.
- In Hockey, **Madhya Pradesh** defeated Odisha to clinch **Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's Under-18 Qualifiers** title in **Bhubaneswar**.
- Hockey **Haryana's women's** team won the **Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Women's Under 18 Qualifiers** after defeating Madhya Pradesh in the final at **Bhubaneswar**.
- Former World rapid champion **K. Humpy** produced a superlative performance to claim India's first-ever silver medal from the **World blitz chess championship** that concluded in **Almaty, Kazakhstan**.
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced that **Yo-Yo Test** and **Dexa** will be a part of the selection criteria.
- Saurashtra's **Jaydev Unadkat** made a slice of Ranji Trophy history, becoming the first bowler to take a **hat-trick** in the **opening over**.
- **Australia's Belinda Clark** has become the first **female cricketer** to have a **statue** cast in her honour, a bronze sculpture of the trailblazing former captain unveiled outside Sydney Cricket Ground.
- **Pranesh M** became India's **79th Grandmaster**, having completed his three norms prior to this event.
- **University of Kerala** bagged the '**Overall Championship**' at Padma Tarang, the **36th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival** at Sri Padmavati Mahila Viswa Vidyalayam (SPMVV) in Tirupati.
- **Novak Djokovic** has defeated America's Sebastian Korda in a nerve-wracking final to win the **Adelaide International men's singles title**.
  - Women's singles - Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus).
- The **Khelo India Senior Women National Kho Kho league** is to take place at Chandigarh University, **Punjab**.
- **Suryakumar Yadav** has become the fastest player to **reach 1,500 runs** in T20 International cricket in terms of balls faced.
- **Hockey India** has launched a new metaverse product (Hockeyverse) to tie in with its hosting of the Men's World Cup in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela.
- **Harry Brook** received the **ICC Men's Player of the Month** award.
  - Australia's **Ashleigh Gardner** bagged the **ICC Women's Player of the Month** award.

- **Falak Mumtaz**, an 11-year-old girl from Jammu and Kashmir has bagged a gold medal in **National Sqay Championship** held in Jammu.
- **Men's Hockey World Cup**, 2023 has begun with a spectacular opening ceremony at the picturesque Barabati Stadium in **Cuttack**.
- Indian captain **Rohit Sharma** has shattered a long-standing record held by MS Dhoni to become India's **most prolific six-hitter** in the history of ODI cricket.
- **India Open Badminton Championship** 2023 held at D. Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.
  - Men's Singles - Kunlavut Vitidsarn (Thailand)
  - Women's Singles - An Seyoung (South Korea).
- **Australian Open 2023:**
  - Men's Singles - N. Djokovic (Serbia)
  - Women's Singles - A. Sabalenka (Belarus)
  - Men's Doubles - J. Kubler & R. Hijikata (Australia)
  - Women's Doubles - B. Krejčíková & K. Siniaková (Czechia)
- **India** beat **England** in the first-ever **ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup** final in Potchefstroom, **South Africa**.
- **Germany** beat **Belgium** in the penalty shootout to win the **FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023** at the Kalinga Stadium in **Bhubaneswar**, India.
- Dutch player **Anish Giri**, five times the runner-up in Wijk aan Zee, has won the 85th edition of **Tata Steel Chess** after pouncing on a blunder by Richard Rapport while Jorden van Foreest took down long-term leader Nodirbek Abdusattorov.

## Report

- A total of **1,668 Journalists** have been **killed** worldwide with murders, contract killings, ambushes, war zone deaths, and fatal injuries.
- **Unemployment rate** in India **rose to 8.30 per cent** in December 2022, the highest in 16 months, according to data from Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
  - While **urban unemployment** rose to **10.09 per cent** in December, from 8.96 per cent in November, **rural unemployment** moved to **7.44%** from 7.55%, the data revealed.
- In a major development, **India** has surpassed **Japan** in terms of **auto sales** last year to become the **third-largest** auto market globally for the first time.
- According to a survey by **Avtar**, **Chennai** is India's **top** city for **women's employment**.
  - Pune, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai are the next best cities for women's employment.
- Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (**POWERGRID**) has been ranked **1st** in Services Sectors across categories Gross Block, Value Addition, Net Profit, Net Worth, Dividend Declaration, and Contribution to the Central Exchequer and has also been ranked **3rd** among the Top 10 profit-making Cluses.
- According to the latest **Henley Passport Index**, **Japan** has retained its position as the most favorable passport in the world.
  - The **Indian** passport was ranked **85th**, giving visa-free entry to 59 destinations worldwide.
- **Delhi** was the most **polluted city** in India in 2022, According to an analysis of Central Pollution Control Board data.
- Billionaire Jeff Bezos's e-commerce company **Amazon** has become the **most valued brand**, overtaking Apple, last year's topper.
- Billionaire **Mukesh Ambani** ranked **No.1** among Indians and **second globally** on the **Brand Guardianship Index 2023**, overtaking the likes of Satya Nadella of Microsoft and Google's Sundar Pichai.

- **India** has emerged as one of the **top three** countries in the world where the area under **organic agriculture** expanded the maximum in 2020.
- The International Cricket Council's (ICC) 92.2 million followers across Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, TikTok and YouTube makes it the **most followed** international sports federation on social media, according to a study from BCW Sports.
- Hindenburg report drags **Gautam Adani** down from 3rd to **7th position** on **Forbes' rich list**.
- **Gautam Adani** has **fallen out** of the exclusive group of the top 10 wealthiest billionaires in the world, according to the Hindenburg report.

#### General - National

- The Government of **India** is proposing the **ban** on promotion of Online **Betting** on the **Social Media** platforms.
- The Union Cabinet has approved the naming of Greenfield International Airport at **Goa's Mopa** as **Manohar International Airport** after former Defence Minister and Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar.
- **India** has taken over the leadership of the Asia Pacific Postal Union (APPU) in January 2023.
  - **Dr Vinaya Prakash Singh** will take over the charge of Secretary General of the Union for a tenure of 4 years.
- The **Indian** government has proclaimed that they have identified **two lithium mines** and **one copper mine** in **Argentina** and they are moving forward to acquiring it or taking long term lease.
- The Ministry of **Culture** has informed the parliament that **fifty** of India's 3,693 centrally protected monuments have been **missing**.
- Digital India Startup Hub, through the Software Technology Parks of India, shall set up India's first Centre of Excellence in **Online Gaming** at **Shillong** by March 2023.
- On January 26, a traditional "**Halwa**" ritual will be held to commemorate the completion of the **Budget planning process**.
- Ministry of **Tourism** Organized 6-day Mega event "**Bharat Parv**" at Red Fort Lawns.
- The Secretary of the Ministry of Culture Govind Mohan announced that the government is to hand over around **1,000 monuments** under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India to the **private sector** for their upkeep under the Monument Mitra Scheme.

#### General - International

- **Croatia** has switched to the **euro** and entered Europe's passport-free zone.
- **Taiwanese** lawmakers have passed new rules that let **local chip firms** turn **25%** of their annual research and development expenses into **tax credits**, part of efforts to keep cutting-edge semiconductor technologies at home and maintain the island's technology leadership.
- Now **Punjabi** is all set to be taught in public schools in **Western Australia**.
- The **United States** announced that it will extend **COVID-19 pandemic-era** restrictions, known as **Title 42**, to expel migrants from Nicaragua, Cuba and Haiti caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border back to Mexico.
- **Brazil** and **Argentina** aim for greater economic integration, including the development of a **common currency**.
- **Brazil's** ministry of health has declared a **medical emergency** in the Yanomami territory, the country's largest indigenous reservation bordering Venezuela, following reports of children dying of **malnutrition** and other diseases caused by illegal gold mining.

- Satellite images show that **China** is constructing a new dam on the **Mabja Zangbo River**, geospatial intelligence researcher Damien Symon has claimed.
- **Canadian** PM Justin Trudeau has announced a new federal investment to build and commercialize the world's first photonic-based, fault-tolerant **quantum computer**.

### Books and Authors

#### Book's Name

- The World: A Family History of Humanity
- Breaking Barriers: the Story of a Dalit Chief Secretary
- Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom
- Roller Coaster: An Affair with Banking
- Njaan Sakshi (me as the witness)
- Jadunama
- Spare
- Revolutionaries- The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom
- Braving A Viral Storm: India's Covid-19 Vaccine Story
- India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn

#### Author's Name

- Simon Sebag Montefiore
- Kaki Madhava Rao
- Sanjeev Sanyal
- Tamal Bandyopadhyay
- K.K. Abdul Gaffar's autobiography
- Arvind Mandloi
- Prince Harry
- Assistance of American novelist J. R. Moehringer
- Sanjeev Sanyal
- Aashish Chandorkar
- Dr Ashwin Fernandes

CSB  
THE CHENNAI SCHOOL OF BANKING

## TO THE POINTS : JANUARY-2023

- Every year, Global Family Day, also known as World Peace Day, is observed to encourage the idea of peace and unity around the world on **January 1st, 2023**.
- The government has announced that the food processing industry has invested Rs 4,900 crore so far under the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme. The PLI scheme for the food processing industry was approved in March 2021, with a budget outlay of **Rs 10,900 crore**.
- The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) of Bengaluru has been chosen as the secretariat for Science 20 (S20) - the science working group of the G20 summit. Theme of the S20 in 2023 is **Disruptive Science for Innovative and Sustainable Development**.
- Goa's **Zuari Bridge** was opened by the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari. An essential connection connecting North and South Goa is the bridge.
- The creators of the news network, Prannoy Roy and his wife Radhika Roy, have sold a 27.26% stock holding in NDTV to **The Adani Group**.
- Recently, NDTV's board has approved the appointment of **Aman Kumar Singh** as a non-executive Additional Director.
- After taking the oath of office for the sixth time, Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu will head the Jewish state's most right-wing administration to date. He succeeded **Yair Lapid**.
- Recently, **G Kamala Vardhana Rao** was appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) successfully test-fired the extended-range version of BrahMos air-launched missile against a ship target from a SU-30MKI aircraft. BrahMos Aerospace is an **Indo Russian** joint venture which produces supersonic cruise missiles.
- Former world rapid champion Koneru Humpy has won India's first-ever Silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in **Almaty, Kazakhstan**. Humpy defeated China's Zhongyi Tan to win the Silver medal.
- Recently, Cristiano Ronaldo, the captain of Portugal's national football team, signed a contract with Saudi Arabia's Al Nassr club until **2025**.
- Recently, Former Brazilian football legend, Edson Arantes do Nascimento, who was popularly known as **Pele** passed away at the age of 82 in São Paulo, Brazil.
- The Government will launch the **Digital India** Innovation Fund to support deep tech start-ups.
- Recently, Kerala government's plan to create a women-friendly tourism network plan to redress the gender balance in the tourism enterprise of '**Aymanam**' by showcasing women's talent.
- Recently, India will sign a "Comprehensive Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement" (MMPA) with **Austria** on 2 January 2023.
- Recently, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has taken oath as the 39th president of **Brazil**. Lula defeated Jair Bolsonaro.
- Recently, **IIT Madras** has created a 'centre of excellence' at a campus unit set up by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) to develop advanced technologies for national defence and security.
- Recently, **Riafy Technologies** received the honour of Google Play's Best of 2022 Awards.
- Recently, Pritzker Prize laureate Arata Isozaki passed away. The Pritzker Prize is awarded for **Architecture work**.
- **Ministry of rural development** has launched Prajjwala Challenge inviting ideas, solutions, and actions to transform the rural economy.



- India's first underwater tunnel, being built under the **Hooghly River** in West Bengal as part of the East-West Metro Corridor, will be a blink-and-you-miss-it experience for passengers as trains will cross the 520-meter stretch in just 45 seconds.
- Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh has inaugurated the Incubation Centre at the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) in **New Delhi**.
- Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurates a mega-dairy built at Rs 260 crore in **Mandya**, Karnataka.
- The 5 member commissions will survey to ensure that the OBCs are provided reservations based on the triple test, as mandated by the Supreme Court.
- **Madhya Pradesh** CM stated that a huge statue of former PM Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will be installed and a research center will be built as part of his grand memorial.
- **Punjab & Sind Bank** and SBI Cards and Payment Services have partnered to launch co-branded credit cards for the bank's customers.
- **IDBI** has signed an agreement to transfer schemes from IDBI Mutual Fund (IDBI MF) to LIC Mutual Fund (LIC MF).
- Credit card spending was **11%** lower in November 2022 falling for the first time since July 2022 to ₹ 1.15-lakh crore, signaling a slowdown from the peak levels seen during the festival season.
- The Finance Ministry increased interest rates on many small savings schemes including senior citizen savings schemes and National Savings Certificates (NSCs). The new rates will be applicable on fresh deposits between **January 1 and March 31, 2023**.
- The Maha Metro Corporation has finalized debt arrangements for the second phase of its project in Nagpur. The second phase is expected to be completed by **2026**.
- The government on the revenue front as GST revenues in December clocked Rs 1,49,507 crore, registering **15 percent** to increase over the same period last year.
- The Centre's fiscal deficit for the April-November period of the current fiscal year came in at **Rs 9.78 trillion** or 58.9 percent of the Budget Estimate (BE) of Rs 16.6 trillion, compared with Rs 6.96 trillion or 46.2 percent for the same period last year.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has projected India's growth to ease to 6.1 percent in FY24 from an estimated **6.8** percent in FY23, reflecting a less favorable global outlook and tighter financial conditions.
- IDBI Bank's Board of Directors re-appointed Mr. **Suresh Kishinchand Khatanhar** as the Deputy Managing Director (DMD) on the Board of the Bank for 1 year.
- Dr. **Ch Srinivasa Rao** assumed charge as director of the National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM) for the second term.
- Lieutenant General **Arvind Walia** has been appointed as the next Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army.
- **Haryana** team won the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Women's Under 18 Qualifiers.
- Madhya Pradesh defeated Odisha to clinch the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's Under-18 Qualifiers. **Zameer Mohammad** scored the hat trick for Madhya Pradesh in the final.
- Nineteen-year-old Kolkata-based chess player Koustav Chatterjee is India's **78** Grandmaster.
- Arata Isozaki Passed away at the age of 91 in Japan's southern island of Okinawa. He belongs to **architect**.
- World Braille Day is observed every year on **January 04**.

- As per the proposal by the Government of India, **United Nations General Assembly** has declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYM).
- United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopts first-ever resolution on **Myanmar** on demanding an end to violence and the release of political prisoners.
- **Assam** Chief Minister has recently granted Industry Status to the Tourism Sector of their respective state.
- **Tripura** signs Rs 2,275 crore agreements with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to improve the power distribution network.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) has recently granted **\$100 million** to Shriram Finance for vehicle loans to women entrepreneurs.
- **Tata AIA Life Insurance Company** has recently Introduced Emerging Opportunities Fund with Unit Linked Insurance Plans (Ulips).
- Coffee exports from India rose up by nearly 2% to 400,000 tonnes in 2022 and reaches Asia's **3rd** largest producer and exporter.
- As per the report by the government of India, 'SMART' program was launched to boost Research & Development in **Ayurveda**.
- Women workers participating in the MGNREGS have touched a ten-year high in the ongoing financial year with **57.8%** of women workers.
- Central government offices are expected to go fully digital by the end of **February 2023**.
- As per the data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, India's unemployment rate rose to the highest in 16 months at **8.30%** in December.
- Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva sworn in as the **39th** president of Brazil following the 2022 Brazilian general election.
- Tata Sons chairman Mr. N Chandrasekaran to head **Maharashtra** state government advisory council.
- Defence Ministry begins Process to Buy 100 More K-9 Vajra self-propelled Howitzers that was built by **Larsen & Toubro**.
- **Riafy Technologies** app has won Google Play's Best of 2022 Award.
- Magnus Carlsen wins all three-world chess championships. He belongs to **Norway**.
- RK Krishnakumar passed away. He was the former director of **TATA Group**.
- PM Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee National Institute of Water and Sanitation in **Kolkata, West Bengal**.
- 2nd phase of the Sari Festival "VIRAASAT"- Celebrating 75 handwoven Sarees of India begins in **New Delhi**.
- Minister **Shri Rajnath Singh** has recently inaugurated the Siyom Bridge in Arunachal Pradesh.
- Under **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**, the Government of India recently proposes to ban online betting ads on social media platforms.
- **President Droupadi Murmu** has recently inaugurated Samvidhan Udyan at Raj Bhavan in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- Under the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), the Government of India proposes self-regulation for **Online e-gaming companies**.
- **Croatia** has recently joined Schengen Zone and adopted the Euro as their currency.

- The Uttar Pradesh (UP) government signed an MoU worth Rs 18,590 Crore with 6 Companies belonging to **UAE**.
- **Odisha** becomes the 1st state to have separate registration for 'vintage vehicles'.
- HDFC Bank Collaborates with **Microsoft** is part of its digital transformation journey.
- **Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Ltd** signs a corporate agency agreement with Sundaram Finance to strengthen its distribution.
- **YES Bank** recently partnered with Microsoft to transform the mobile banking experience.
- To emphasize the 'trust' that the brand has been able to earn in 7 years, 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign was launched by **Bandhan Bank**.
- As per the Government of India's Public Enterprise Survey 2021-22, **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation** will be the most profitable public sector enterprise in 2021-22.
- Mr. Ajay Kumar Srivastava was appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive officer (CEO) of **Indian Overseas Bank**.
- As per the Election Commission of India, Maithili Thakur was appointed as the state icon of **Bihar**.
- As per Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), India's 1st Atmanirbhar human space flight Gaganyaan to be launched by **2024**.
- Manu S. Pillai presents his new book, The World: A Family History. That was published by **Hachette India**.
- Breaking Barriers is a new book written by **KAKI MADHAVA RAO**.
- Anita Pointer Passed away in Los Angeles. She was famous **Singer**.
- World Day of War Orphans for the children who lose their parents in sudden violence was observed on **January 06**.
- Union Cabinet under PM Narendra Modi has approved **Rs 19,744 cr** for National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- Government of India aims for a \$17 billion cut in food, and fertilizer subsidies of **26%** in Financial Year 24.
- Minister **Shri Rajnath Singh** inaugurates 2 infrastructure projects to improve road connectivity in J&K & Ladakh.
- To inform people to vote in the upcoming assembly polls Election Commission launches **Mission-929** to take voter turnout in Tripura to over 90.
- As per the report released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), **HDFC bank, ICICI Bank, and State Bank of India** are chosen as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs).
- India Accelerator collaborates with **ICICI Bank & Infosys Finacle** to promote the startup ecosystem in India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently released the **5th** volume of Reserve Bank history that covers 11 years from 1997-2008.
- SBI Mutual gets Reserve Bank of India approval to buy 9.99% of various schemes from **Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd**.
- The 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention was held at **Indore, Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Odisha** has won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Slum Up gradation Program.
- Writer Ambikasuthan Mangad has been selected for Odakuzhal Award 2022 for his short stories collection titled **Pranavayu**.

- **IIT Madras** and Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) tie up for advanced defence tech Research & Development.
- As per Bird Census of Silent Valley, the bird species go up to 175. Silent Valley National Park is located in **Kerala**.
- Mr. Lingam Venkata Prabhakar, Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Canara Bank** has retired recently.
- **BharatPe** has appointed chief financial officer (CFO) Mr. Nalin Negi as interim CEO.
- **Bombay stock exchange (BSE)** has appointed Mr Sundararaman Ramamurthy as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company for 5 years.
- Space sector start-up **Digantara** has recently launched a second satellite – Pushan Alpha on SpaceX Rocket to monitor space weather.
- Mr. Shyamal Ghosh passed away. He belongs to **Foot Ball**.
- Ghaziabad-Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya section of **762 km** has become India's longest rail track with the automatic signaling system.
- Committee on Economic Affairs has recently approved over **Rs 2,500 cr** scheme for upgrading the infrastructure of Doordarshan and All India Radio.
- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurates National Genome Editing & Training Centre in **Punjab**.
- The first edition of All India States' Ministers Conference on "Water Vision@2047" begins in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.
- **India** has taken over the leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) in January 2023 to extend, facilitate and improve postal relations.
- Gaan Ngai festival is a famous festival celebrated among Zeliangrong community in **Manipur**.
- **West Bengal** Chief Minister has launched a new campaign 'Didir Suraksha Kavach'.
- To develop and promote 'green' pharma zones Drug maker company Granules India Partners with **Greenko Group**.
- **Shri Rajnath Singh** has inaugurated 28 infrastructure projects and Siyom Bridge in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Himachal Pradesh** launches CM's Sukhashray Sahayata Kosh Scheme to provide the facility of higher education to needy children.
- **Asian Development Bank** and Government of India sign USD 300 million loans to improve connectivity in Assam.
- **YES Bank** partners with BaaS startup Falcon to tap the embedded finance market.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India (GoI) sign a US\$350 million loan to improve the connectivity of **Chennai Metro**.
- **Microsoft** signs MoU with Indian Space Research Organization to boost Indian space tech startups.
- US Vice-President Ms. Kamala Harris names **Mr. Rajeev Badyal** to the National Space Council Advisory Group.
- Former Captain and World Cup winner Belinda Clark of **Australia** becomes first female cricketer to have statue.
- The 16-year-old Pranesh becomes India's **79th** chess Grandmaster after winning the Rilton Cup title.

- The book Titled 'Human Anatomy' was in news, it was authored by **AK Dwivedi**.
- Manjula Subramaniam passed away. She was the first woman chief secretary of **Gujarat**.
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas or Non-Resident Indian 2023 is observed on **January 09**.
- As per the report released by the Ministry of Culture, **50** centrally protected monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are untraceable or missing.
- Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates a three-day 'North East Krishi Kumbha-2023' in **Meghalaya**.
- World's First Palm-Leaf Manuscript Museum opens in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**.
- Indian Army inks pact with **Assam** for the treatment of ex-servicemen at medical colleges.
- Cabinet under Union Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal approve Rs 28.11 cr for **Andhra Pradesh** state tobacco farmers affected by Cyclone Mandous.
- **Reserve Bank of India** has recently launched Utkarsh 2.0 for the period 2023-2025.
- **AXIS BANK** partners with OPEN for launch a fully digital current account.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) allows reclassifying government holding in **IDBI Bank** as 'public' after-sale.
- As per RBI, Annapurna Finance Pvt applies for a universal bank license. The initial minimum paid-up voting equity capital for a universal bank should be **500 Crore**.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has recently issued a debt broker license to **GoldenPi Technologies**.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) extends relaxation on dispatching hard copies of financial statements till **September 2023**.
- **IndusInd Bank** partners with British Airways & Qatar Airways to launch a multi-branded credit card powered by Visa.
- General Atomics Aeronautical Systems (GA-ASI) partners with **Bharat Forge Limited** to manufacture aero structures in India.
- As per the report released by Avtar, **Chennai** tops in terms of women's employment.
- As per the report released by Cirium, Bangalore, and Delhi are in the Top 10 best-performing global airports of 2022. This list was topped by **Haneda Airport**.
- International Hockey Federation made a partnership with **JSW Group** for the upcoming FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023.
- The first-ever Formula E World Championship race is hosted by **Hyderabad**.
- New Book on the Role of "Revolutionaries In India's Freedom Struggle" was written by **Sanjeev Sanyal**.
- **Shashi Tharoor** has authored the Book Titled Ambedkar: A Life was recently launched at the Kitaab Kolkata event.
- World Hindi Day is observed on **January 10**.
- President Droupadi Murmu lay the foundation stone for SJVN's 1,000 MW solar project in **Jaipur, Rajasthan**.
- India identifies copper and lithium mines in **Argentina**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** launched Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights Scheme named Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu Adhikar Yojana.

- To simplify the journey of exporters **ICICI Bank** has launched digital solutions for exporters and value-added services.
- **Aegon Life Insurance** has launched iTerm Prime Insurance plan to promote life insurance access in developing India.
- According to the Finance Ministry, Goods & services tax (GST) collections stand at **Rs 1.49 trillion** in December 2022.
- The 'Toolkit on Enabling Gender-Responsive Urban Mobility and Public Spaces in India' was launched at a session organized by **World Bank**.
- **Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud** was conferred with the 2022 CLP Award for Global Leadership by Harvard Law School.
- As per the report released by the Reserve Bank of India, India's foreign exchange reserves fell by **\$70.1 billion** in 2022.
- US President Mr. Joe Biden recently Re-nominates **Eric Garcetti** as Envoy to India.
- Mr. Prasanna Kumar Motupalli was appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of **Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited**.
- **Shiva Chouhan** has become the first woman officer to be deployed at the world's highest battlefield, Siachen.
- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is to develop spatial infrastructure geoportal for **Ladakh**.
- Mascot, torch, and anthem of Khelo India Youth Games were unveiled in **Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.
- Walter Cunningham Passed away. He belongs to **Astronaut**.
- Noted Rabindra Sangeet exponent Sumitra Sen Passed away. She was honoured with the Sangeet Mahasamman award by **West Bengal**.
- National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed every year on **January 11**.
- **PM Narendra Modi** has recently launched Aspirational Block Programme aimed at spurring development parameters.
- Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, and Switzerland officially began their 2-year term as non-permanent members of the **UNSC**.
- Cherchera festival is an important harvest festival recently celebrated in **Chhattisgarh**.
- To mark the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Military Tattoo & Tribal Dance Festival was held in **New Delhi**.
- Tribal Bodies Step Up Demand To 'Free' Parasnath Hills From Jains in **Jharkhand**.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will issue green bonds worth **Rs 16,000 cr** in two tranches in the month of January, February.
- As per the data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI), the average assets under management (AUM) for the domestic mutual fund (MF) industry grew 5.4% year-on-year to **Rs 40.2 trillion** for the quarter that ended December.
- Mr. Surinder Chawla has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Paytm Payments Bank**.
- **China** has recently launched Asia's first semi-high-speed hydrogen train with a range of 600 km.
- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) signs a MoU with space tech company **Social Alpha** to establish the SpaceTech Innovation Platform.

- To prevent misleading information **Google** has recently launched the anti-misinformation project in India to prevent violence.
- **Novak Djokovic** defeated America's Sebastian Korda to win the Adelaide International men's singles title.
- Mr. Gareth Bale is in news, He announces retirement from **Foot Ball**.
- Cricket all-rounder Dwaine Pretorius announces retirement. He belongs to **South Africa**.
- PM Sinha Passed Away. He was the former Chairman of **PepsiCo India**.
- Swami Vivekananda's birthday is observed as National Youth Day, which is observed on **January 12**.
- **Shri Jitendra Singh** has recently unveiled the theme for National Science Day 2023 at National Media Centre.
- After a gap of two years due to the covid 19 pandemic, International Kite Festival 2023 is set to begin in **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**.
- India's Fastest Payment app named **PayRup** was recently launched by Mahadevappa Halagatti in Lulu Mall.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a revised list of **06 credit rating agencies** to assign risk weight to assets for capital adequacy purposes by the banks.
- **AXIS BANK** signs MoU with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru to establish the Centre for Mathematics and Computing at the Institution.
- Standard Chartered Becomes First Foreign Bank to Trade Bond Futures in **China**.
- Veteran actress-director **Aparna Sen** receives a lifetime achievement award at Jaipur Film Fest.
- 'RRR' wins Best Original Song for 'Naatu Naatu' at Golden Globes 2023. This song was composed by **MM Keeravaani**.
- e-NAM, a flagship initiative of **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** has won the Platinum Award at Digital India Award 2022.
- As per the report released by Central Pollution Control Board, **Delhi** is ranked India's most polluted city in 2022.
- As per the recent report released by Henley Index, India got **85th Rank** in the most powerful passports Index.
- Khelo India Senior National Women Kho Kho leagues set to take place in **Punjab**.
- India & **Japan** to hold joint Air Exercise, 'Veer Guardian-2023' to promote air defence cooperation.
- **United Kingdom** attempt to launch the first rocket from its soil failed after the rocket carrying 9 satellites failed to reach orbit.
- Keshri Nath Tripathi passed away recently. He was a Senior BJP leader & former Governor of **West Bengal**.
- Father of Laparoscopic Surgery named **Dr. Tehemton Erach Udwadia** has recently passed away.
- Grant Wahl Passed away. He belongs to **Journalist**.
- Renowned Kashmiri poet & Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee Prof **Abdul Rehman Rahi** passed away.
- National Road Safety Week is observed on **January 11 to 17**.
- **Home Minister Amit Shah** has recently inaugurated the 'Jai Hind'- The New Light and Sound Show at Red Fort.

- Centre named the new Integrated Food Security Scheme PMGKAY. PMGKAY - **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana**.
- Kisan Vikas Patra's (KVP) interest rate was hiked from 7% earlier to **7.2%** for January–March 2023 quarter.
- Prof. Kamakoti, the director of **IIT Madras** has recently announced that the Country's largest student-run festival 'Saarang 2023' will be held for five days.
- **Kerala** becomes India's first state with a fully digital banking service.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has launched a Global City campaign to bring urban areas in the state up to global standards.
- **Madhya Pradesh** is all set to host the 4th edition of the Mandu Festival.
- **Tripura** has launched 'Saharsh' in all government and government-aided schools.
- Osmanabad District Court becomes 1st court in **Maharashtra** to introduce e-system of functioning.
- To improve customer experience **Kotak Mahindra General Insurance** partners with Clootrack.
- **AXIS BANK** has entered Into a Revised Pact with Max Financial Services for Acquiring Additional 7% Stake in Max Life.
- India has signed an MoU with **Panama** to enhance cooperation in the training of diplomats.
- **Gabon** appoints Ms. Ossouka Raponda as the first female vice president and Mr. Alain-Claude Bilie as the new prime minister.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) appoints Indian-American space expert **AC Charania** as NASA's chief technologist.
- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance ropes in with Indian Cricketer **Suryakumar Yadav** to launch the "360° Financial Protection" campaign.
- **Defence Research and Development Organization** develops unmanned aerial vehicles for operations in the Himalayan frontier.
- India successfully carries out a test launch of the Prithvi-II ballistic missile from Chandipur, Odisha. The Prithvi-II missile has a range of around **350 kilometers**.
- France captain Hugo Lloris announces retirement from **Football**.
- Ranjan Gogoi releases Assam chief minister's Diary No.1. Ranjan Gogoi was the Former **Chief Justice of India**.
- Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates School of Logistics, Waterways and Communication in **Tripura**.
- **PM Narendra Modi** has flagged off the Grand cultural event Sur Sarita-Symphony of Ganga which is to be held in Varanasi.
- India became one of the top five equity capital markets (ECM) globally in 2022. This report was released by **Kotak Investment Banking**.
- Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) signs MoU with **Goa** to promote the development of SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises).
- Tamil Nadu (TN) Chief Minister (CM) Shri MK Stalin launches a platform for global Tamil investors named **www.tamilangels.fund**.
- **West Bengal** CM has recently launched a vehicle location control centre & mobile app to enhance security for women.
- In the first issue of fundraising through bonds in 2023 **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development** has raises Rs 5,000 crore through 3-year bonds.



- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) extends trading hours in case of an outage at stock exchanges. Communication of such outages by exchanges to be made within **15 min**.
- HDFC Capital achieves **\$376-mn** initial close for scheme 2 of HDFC Capital Affordable Real Estate Fund - 3 (H-CARE 3).
- To provide instant online 'In Principle' approval of up to ₹ 1 crore **South Indian Bank** recently launched a Micro Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME) online portal.
- As per recent data released by National Statistical Office (NSO), Inflation cools to a one-year low of **5.7%** in December.
- **Jayen Mehta** has recently been appointed as the interim chairman of India's biggest dairy brand Amul.
- IAS officer Santhi Kumari becomes the first woman Chief Secretary of **Telangana**.
- Herbalife Nutrition ropes in India's women star cricketer **Smriti Mandhana** as Nutrition Sports athlete Sponsor.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Tourism Board signs MoUs with chapters of eight countries of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO).
- Ashleigh Gardner of Australia and Harry Brook of **England** has won the ICC Players of The Month Award For December.
- **MS Dhoni** has released the autobiography of Techno-educationalist, Professor K.K. Abdul Gaffar's autobiography, 'Njaan Sakshi' (me as the witness).
- The book "Roller Coaster: An Affair with Banking" was written by Tamal Bandyopadhyay. This book was published by **Jaico Publishing House**.
- Indian Army day 2023 is observed on **January 15**.
- India's first Centre of Excellence of online gaming will come up in **Meghalaya**.
- **Shri Piyush Goyal** has recently launched the MAARG portal (Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth) for startup mentorship.
- Union Labour Minister Bhupendra Yadav inaugurated the Regional Office of Employees Provident Fund Organization in **Rajasthan**.
- To provide essential medical supplies to any developing country PM Modi announces **Aarogya Maitri** project.
- To formalize the Young Professional Scheme, India has signed an MoU with **United Kingdom**.
- Shared school bus system & agriculture response vehicle scheme was recently launched by **Meghalaya** CM.
- ONGC Tripura Power Company Ltd (OTPC) ties up with APDCL to develop a 250 MW battery energy storage system in **Meghalaya**.
- **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance** and Punjab & Sind Bank have recently entered into a strategic partnership to develop their Customer Relationship.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) allows **AIFs** to Participate in Credit Default Swap Transactions.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) grants in-principle approval for payment aggregator license to Fintech startup **EnKash**.
- **Export-Import Bank of India** raises \$1 billion via 10-yr sustainability bond issue under Environmental Social Governance (ESG) Framework.

- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) allows **Unified Payments Interface** transactions for non-resident accounts linked to international numbers.
- As per the report released by PwC India, Startup Funding in India Drops **33%** to \$24 Billion in 2022.
- Social Media Giant **Meta** appoints Mr. Vikas Purohit as Director of Global Business Group India.
- James Webb Telescope Discovers its 1st Exoplanet. This James Webb Telescope belongs to **National Aeronautics and Space Administration**.
- Indian peacekeepers have been awarded the UN Medal for Exemplary Service. **Major Jasmine Chatha** led the parade of the Indian contingent at the award ceremony in Upper Nile for the first time.
- Miss USA R'Bonney Gabriel crowned **Miss Universe 2022** at the New Orleans Morial Convention Center in the United States.
- As per the report released by Oxfam, India's richest **1%** own more than 40% of total wealth.
- **Sony Sports** signs with Hyundai Ioniq 5 and Samsonite as sponsors for Australian Open.
- Indian Cricketer **Virat Kohli** becomes the fifth-highest run scorer in the One Day International (ODI) Format.
- Falak Mumtaz, an 11-year-old from **Jammu & Kashmir** won gold in the National Sqay Championship 2023.
- Google Doodle honours India's 'Pocket Dynamo' Khashaba Dadasaheb Jadhav on his **97th birth anniversary**.
- **Sultan al-Jaber** was named as the president of the COP28 climate conference which is going to take part in Dubai, UAE.
- As per recent report, India's forex reserves declined by USD 1.268 billion, falling to **USD 561.583 billion** for the week ended January 6.
- SPIC MACAY, Culture Ministry collaborates for 'Music in the Park' series under the name of **Shruti Amrut**.
- To promote innovation and Start-Ups in India's geospatial ecosystem, **Shri Jitendra Singh** has recently launched "Geospatial Hackathon".
- **PM Narendra Modi** shares snippets titled 'Your Exam, Your Methods-Choose Your Style' from Exam Warriors book.
- As part of India's G-20 presidency, a Business-20 (B-20) inception meeting is to be organized in **Gandhi Nagar**.
- 'Womaniya on Government eMarketplace' commemorated in New Delhi. The "Womaniya" initiative was launched in **2019**.
- **Guyana** has recently offered 200 acres of land for the exclusive production of millet.
- Uttarakhand State Governor approves Bill granting **30%** women's reservation in government jobs.
- For the distribution of health insurance products, **Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Ltd** is in Bancassurance Partnership with Punjab & Sind Bank.
- **Union Bank of India** partners with Garuda Aerospace sanctions 150 Agri drone loans for Garuda Kisan drones.
- As per the Finance Ministry report, India's retail inflation shrinks to **5.72%** for December 2022.
- **State Bank of India** recently launches e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility in association with National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to enhance transparency.

- China's Alibaba Group recently sells **Paytm** stake worth \$125 million via block deal.
- **World Economic Forum** has recently released Global Risks Report that Unveils Top Risks World is facing.
- As per the report from World of Statistics, **Shah Rukh Khan** becomes the only Indian to beat Tom Cruise, Jackie Chan, and others on the world's richest actor list.
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF) puts **Neelakurinji** plant on the list of protected plants under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- **Cognizant** has recently appointed ex-Infosys president Mr. Ravi Kumar as Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- **UAE** names oil giant ADNOC's chief Mr. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber as COP28 climate conference president.
- **Kartik Jain** has recently appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Shriram Asset Management Company.
- Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ship 'Kamla Devi', the Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) Series commissioned by **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata.**
- **South Africa** has recently launched the World's First Agri-Focused Satellite that will Generate Revenue Of \$108 million.
- **Akane Yamaguchi** won the Women's singles titles in Malaysia Open Super 1000 held in Kuala Lumpur.
- **Viacom 18** has bagged the Women's IPL five-year media rights for Rs 951 cr.
- Football Club Team **Barcelona** beats Real Madrid 3-1 to win the Spanish Super Cup 2023.
- Important Personality Sharad Yadav passed away. He was the former **Union Minister.**
- Recently Government of India extends the tenure of SBI MD Mr. Challa Sreenivasulu Setty by **2Years.**
- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) unearths two 1200-year-old miniature stupas at **Nalanda Mahavihara** Heritage site in India.
- Recently Padho Pardesh scheme has been discontinued. This Scheme comes under **Minister of Minority Affairs.**
- National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) notifies India's first national assessment regulator named **PARAKH.**
- As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approval, **Indian Bank** holds special Rupee Vostro accounts of 3 Sri Lanka banks.
- NueGo, an electric intercity coach services brand Forms Strategic Partnership with **Paytm** for online bus ticket booking.
- Telangana Southern State Power Distribution Company Limited (TSSPDCL) and **AmazonPay** joins hands to simplify electricity bill payments for customers.
- VTB, the second-largest bank of **Russia** launches direct payments in Rupees.
- Private equity firm Apax Partners Partners to sell its entire stake in **Shriram Finance Company Limited** for ₹ 2,250 crores.
- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) retakes **20%** stake in Sakhalin-1 oil and gas fields of Russia.
- As per the report released by Finance Ministry, India's exports drop **12.2%** in December, trade deficit inches up.

- India's fiscal deficit for FY23 is estimated at Rs 17.5 lakh crore, FY24 Rs 17.95 lakh crore. This data is released by **State Bank of India**.
- Government extends the tenure of Mr Sanjiv Chadha for about 5 months till 30 June, 2023. He is the MD and CEO of **Bank of Baroda**.
- Drone Startup firm **IG Drones** has recently developed India's first 5G-enabled drone named Skyhawk.
- As per the recent report released by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2022 will be the **5th** Warmest Year on Record as Warming Trend Continues.
- Tech Mahindra & **Microsoft** join hands to bring Cloud-powered 5G Core Network Modernization to Telecom Partners.
- Writer **K Venu** has recently received the Federal Bank Literary Award 2023 for his book Oranweshananthinte Katha.
- Film **Naanera** has recently bagged the Golden Kailasha award in Ajanta-Ellora film festival.
- Santokh Singh Chaudhary passed away. He belongs to **Politician**.
- Prince William's Godfather has passed away. He was the Last King of Constantine II of **Greece**.
- AD Damodaran passed away, He was renowned **Scientist**.
- **Hyderabad, Telangana** is all set to host India's first Fourth Industrial Revolution centre on healthcare, life sciences.
- PM Shri Narendra Modi inaugurates the second phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23 in Basti District of **Uttar Pradesh**.
- India and **United Arab Emirates** Signed Agreement on Green Hydrogen Development and Undersea Cable Connectivity.
- NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (NTPC REL) recently signs MoU with **Tripura** for collaboration in Renewable Energy Development.
- Government declares Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) as **Free Area** for purposes of Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) partners with VFS Capital to extend MSME loans up to Rs 5 lakh at **13%** per annum.
- As per Brand Finance's report "Global 500 2023", **Amazon** ranked the world's most valued brand.
- **Adani Group** has signed an agreement to deploy a hydrogen-powered truck with Ashok Leyland, India, and Ballard Power, Canada.
- Bharti Airtel invests **Rs 2,000 crore** to set up hyperscale data center in Hyderabad.
- **World Economic Forum** has launched Giving to Amplify Earth Action (GAEA) initiative to unlock \$3 trillion a year for climate and nature.
- Indian-origin Manpreet Monica Singh was sworn in as the first female Sikh judge of **United States**.
- **Central Mine Planning and Design Institute** has invented the New Dust Control Technology to minimize and control the fugitive dust in mining areas.
- RailTel Corporation of India Ltd bags ₹ 170 cr Work order for the **Puducherry** smart city project.
- Women Cricketer Geovanis Uwase suspended for illegal bowling action. She belongs to **Rwanda**.
- All-time great Hashim Amla ends a long cricket career. He belongs to **South Africa**.
- Famous Personalty Mukarram Jah Bahadur passed away. He was the last Nizam of **Hyderabad**.

- PM Modi recently launches projects worth Rs 38,000 crore to inaugurate two Metro rail lines in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- **United Nations General Assembly** adopts the Indian Co-sponsored Resolution On 'Education For Democracy'.
- To upgrade the existing government schools **Punjab** to launch the 'Schools of Eminence' project.
- **Punjab National Bank** becomes First Public Sector Bank to launch Credit Cards for the fixed deposit (FD) digitally.
- To provide financial assistance **South Indian Bank** partners with Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL).
- **Mastercard** expands the Girls4Tech program to promote STEM studies among girl students.
- As per the report released by World Economic Forum, India is to become a \$26 trillion economy by **2047**.
- Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 2023 monetary policy sets a target to guide inflation towards **4%** target by 2024.
- UNGA confirms Ms. Inger Andersen for a second term as UNEP Executive Director. She belongs to **Denmark**.
- Centre appoints **Pankaj Kumar Singh** as the deputy National Security Advisor (Dy NSA) for 2 years.
- Mr. Nick Walker was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas**.
- 21st edition of bilateral naval exercise 'Varuna' - 2023 begins at the western seaboard between India and **France**.
- **Shri Rajnath Singh** has launched the 'Soul of Steel' Alpine Challenge to promote tourism in border areas.
- Nepalese ophthalmologist Dr. Sanduk Ruit wins Bahrain's ISA Award for Service to **Humanity**.
- **Goa International Airport** has won the 'Best Sustainable Greenfield Airport' at ASSOCHAM 14th International Conference.
- Mukesh Ambani ranks **2nd** among the top 100 CEOs globally report which was recently released by Brand Finance.
- **Netherland** breaks the record for most goals in a men's Hockey World Cup at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.
- Social Worker Prabhaben Shah passes away. She won the Padma Shri award in **2022**.
- Lakshmi Vishwanathan Passed away. She was a famous in **Bharatanatyam**.
- **Gambia** s' Vice President Badara Alieu Joof passed away.
- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti was observed on **Jan 23rd, 2023**.
- The National Health Authority (NHA) is in the process of integrating the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) with the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM). Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) is a **14** digit number.
- Akshaya Big Campaign for Document Digitization (ABCD) campaign for tribal people launched in **Kerala**.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) approved an "Apple Cluster" for Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district under the **Cluster Development** Programme.

- **ESAFsmall finance bank** has bagged the prestigious Inclusive Finance India Awards 2022 for its contributions to advancing the goal of financial inclusion and supporting inclusive growth.
- A contract for the establishment of a Center for Maritime Economy and Connectivity was signed by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) and the **Indian Ports Association**.
- According to a Brand Finance analysis, Reliance Jio, owned by billionaire Mukesh Ambani, is the **Ninth** strongest brand globally and the strongest brand in India.
- **Vishal Kapoor** will be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Energy Efficiency Services (EESL), assumed additional responsibility as CEO of Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL).
- Sujeet Sharma has been appointed as Vice President – of Active Network, Commercial of Vodafone Idea. Before Vodafone Idea, he served in **Bharti Airtel**.
- Tata-Boeing Aerospace Limited (**TBAL**), an Indo-American defence and aerospace joint venture company, has delivered the first fuselage for the six AH-64 Apache attack helicopters that the Indian Army has ordered.
- The first edition of army exercise “Exercise Cyclone-I” is being conducted at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan between the Indian army and **Egyptian** army.
- **BharOS** is an indigenous mobile operating system that was created by the incubator company at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras.
- **Virat Kohli** moved up two spots to the top five in the most recent ICC ODI rankings after scoring 283 runs and two centuries in three games against Sri Lanka on January 2023.
- Nilamani Phookan, a renowned **Assamese** poet and Jnanpith winner, passed away on January 2023.
- R. Kaushik and R. Sridhar published the book “**COACHING BEYOND: My Days with the Indian Cricket Team**” offers an intimate peek at the Indian cricket team.
- Rock singer **David Crosby** who was awarded the Grammy for Best New Artist of 1969 for his debut album “I See You”, passed away.
- As per **National Bureau of Statistics** report, China’s population has declined for the first time in 61 years.
- Every republic day and Independence Day celebration, India invites chief guests from different countries. This year, in 2023, India invited **Egypt’s** President.
- IIT Madras has developed an Indigenous Mobile Operating System named ‘BharOS’. BharOS provides ‘NOTA’ updates that can help keep devices secure. NOTA - **Native Over The Air**.

-- x --