

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS

MONTH OF FEBRUARY-2023

List of Important Days

- February 01 - Indian Coast Guard (ICG) is celebrating its 47th Raising Day.
- February 01 to 07 - World Interfaith Harmony Week.
- February 02 - World Wetlands Day. (Theme - "It's Time for Wetlands Restoration.")
- February 04 - World Cancer Day. (Theme - "Close The Care Gap")
- February 06 - International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). (Theme - "Partnership with Men and Boys to transform Social and gender Norms to End FGM")
- February 07 - Safer Internet Day.
- February 10 - World Pulses Day. (Theme - "Pulses for a Sustainable Future")
- February 10 - National Deworming Day.
- February 11 - 8th International Day of Women and Girls in Science. (Theme - "Innovate. Demonstrate. Elevate. Advance (IDEA): Bringing communities Forward for sustainable and equitable development.")
- February 11 - World Unani Day. (Theme - "Unani Medicine for Public Health")
- February 12 - National Productivity Day. (Theme - "Productivity, Green Growth, and Sustainability: Celebrating India's G20 Presidency.")
- February 13 - World Radio Day. (Theme - "Radio and Peace")
- February 13 to 17 - RBI's Financial Literacy Week. (Theme - "Good Financial Behaviour - Your Saviour")
- February 15 - International Childhood Cancer Day. (Theme - "Better Survival")
- February 17 - Global Tourism Resilience Day.
- February 18 (third Saturday in February) - World Pangolin Day.
- February 20 - Arunachal Pradesh Statehood Day.
- February 21 - International Mother Language Day. (Theme - "Multilingual education - a necessity to transform education")
- February 22 - World Thinking Day. (Theme - "Our World, Our Peaceful Future")
- February 22 - World Scout Day.
- February 24 - Central Excise Day.
- February 27 - Maharashtra states in India mark Marathi Language Day.
- February 27 - World NGO Day.
- February 28 - National Science Day. (Theme - "Global Science for Global Wellness.")

Reserve Bank of India

- **Digital payments** across the country registered a growth of **24.13 per cent** in a year through September 2022, as per the RBI's Digital Payments Index.
 - The newly-constituted RBI's Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) stood at **377.46** in September 2022 against 349.30 in March 2022 and 304.06 in September 2021.

- According to the RBI's most recent status report, there were approximately **1.87 crore** physical and digital **payment acceptance devices** deployed under the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme as of December 31, 2022.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das released the **Monetary Policy statement**, which included the highly anticipated **increase** in the **repo rate** of **25 basis points**.
 - Repo Rate: 6.50%
 - Standing Deposit Facility (SDF): 6.25%
 - Marginal Standing Facility (MSF): 6.75%
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched the first pilot of **Digital Rupee- Retail segment (e₹-R)** on December 01, 2022.
 - This was stated by the Union Minister of State for Finance, Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha.
- Shaktikanta Das, the governor of the RBI, announced that a pilot programme to introduce **coin vending machines** that use **QR codes** will begin shortly.
- The Reserve Bank of India decided to expand the scope of the Trade Receivable Discounting System or the **TReDS platform** allowing the use of insurance facilities.
 - The central bank's decision is expected to boost trade of receivables increasing cash flows to MSMEs.
- The Reserve Bank of India imposed several restrictions on **five cooperative banks**, including on withdrawals, in the wake of the deteriorating financial condition of the lenders.

Other Banks

- **Airtel Payments Bank** announced the availability of its current account, **BizKhata**, which offers small businesses and business partners across the nation fast activation and **limitless transactions**.
- Public sector **Indian Overseas Bank** has launched the facility of issuance of **e-BG** (Electronic Bank Guarantee) scheme in association with the **National e-Governance Services Ltd**.

Insurance

- New India Assurance (NIA) has launched a **'Pay as You Drive'** (PAYD) policy, which offers a comprehensive motor insurance policy that charges a premium based on the **usage** of the vehicle.
- **Edelweiss General Insurance** has rebranded itself as **Zuno General Insurance Limited** (Zuno GI), which is a new age digital insurer with an aspiration to reimagine and redefine Insurance to make it easy, friendly, and transparent.

Supreme Court

- India's Supreme Court is now back to its **full strength** of **34**, with the elevation of two High Court Chief Justices to the apex court.
- The Chief Justice of India **DY Chandrachud** announced that the Supreme Court has launched **"neutral citations"** of judgments to ensure a uniform pattern of citing its decisions.

Election Commission

- According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), more than **60%** of India's 94.5 crore voters have connected their **Aadhaar numbers** to their voter IDs.

States

- **Visakhapatnam** to be **Andhra Pradesh's new capital**, says CM Jagan Mohan Reddy.
- The **Madhya Pradesh** government announced that **Islam Nagar village**, situated in the Bhopal district, has been renamed as **Jagdishpur**.
- The **Maharashtra** government announced the **Jai Jai Maharashtra Majha** as the **state song**.

- The Government of **Goa** has launched the **Vision for All School Eye Health program** in partnership with OneSight EssilorLuxottica Foundation and Prasad Netralaya.
- **Yaya Tso**, known as birds' paradise for its beautiful lake located at an altitude of 4,820 metres, has been proposed as **Ladakh's first biodiversity heritage site (BHS)**.
- **Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC)** has launched India's first public issue of **municipal bonds** intending to raise up to **Rs 244 crore** to fund a **solar power project**.
- The deadline for completing projects under the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) was **extended** for all 100 participating cities to **June 2023** due to the delays caused by COVID-19.
- Governor of Odisha Prof. Ganeshi Lal launched India's first AI Chatbot for the Agricultural sector '**Ama KrushAI**' at the valedictory session of '**Krusha Odisha 2023**'.
- The **Kerala** government has launched robotic scavenger, "**Bandicoot**", to clean sewages in the temple town of Guruvayur, becoming the first state in the country to use **robotic** technology to clean all its commissioned manholes.
- **Maharashtra** CM Eknath Shinde confirmed that **Aurangabad city** will be renamed **Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar**, and **Osmanabad city** will be called **Dharashiv**.
- The **Irinjadappilly Sree Krishna Temple** in Kerala's Thrissur district has become the first in the country to use a **mechanical**, lifelike **elephant** for temple rituals.
- The **Karnataka** Government will build the country's first **Marina** or a boat basin offering dockage, at Byndoor in Udupi district to promote coastal tourism in Karnataka.

Defence and National Security

- A joint training exercise "Exercise **Trishakri Prahar**" was conducted in **North Bengal** from 21 January to 31 January 2023.
- The **Indian Air Force** has developed an innovative solution '**Vayulink**' that would aid pilots in dealing with bad weather and also provide jammer-proof uninterrupted communication with the base station.
- **India** and **Japan** has kick started an exercise '**Ex Dharma Guardian**' at Camp Imazu in Shiga Province, Japan from February 17 to March 2, 2023.
- In what some nations claim is an endorsement of **Russia's** invasion of Ukraine, **South Africa** is beginning a joint military drill with **Russia** and **China**.
- **Malabar** multilateral naval exercise will be hosted by **Australia** for the first time this year, which includes participation from **India, Australia, Japan**, and the **United States**.

Committees/Commissions

- A month after a Parliamentary panel sought a new digital competition law, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) has constituted a 16-member committee to look into the **Draft Digital Competition Act**.
 - Chaired by Corporate Affairs Secretary **Manoj Govil**.
- Cabinet Secretary **Rajiv Gauba** will head a top panel comprising a senior official from the Prime Minister's Office, seven secretaries, among others, to monitor the implementation of the government's ambitious **Mission Karmayogi** programme for training of government employees.

Schemes/Initiatives

- The **Uttar Pradesh** government has launched a **Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan campaign** to empower girls from the underprivileged class.
- The President of India Droupadi Murmu addressed the 31st Foundation Day of the **National Commission for Women** in Delhi on January 31st, 2023.
 - The **theme** of the program was 'Sashakt Nari Sashakt Bharat'.

- Minister of Tourism G. Kishan Reddy launched the **Visit India Year – 2023** initiative and unveiled the **logo** in New Delhi.
- The Secretary of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Alkesh Kumar Sharma inaugurated the **G20 Cyber Security Exercise and Drill** for more than 400 domestic and international participants under India's G20 presidency.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of a ₹450 crore **nano urea plant** and township of the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO) in Deoghar, **Jharkhand**.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the **India Energy Week (IEW) 2023** event that aimed to showcase India's rising prowess as an energy transition powerhouse. The IEW is being held in **Bengaluru** from 6th to 8th February 2023.
- PM Narendra Modi dedicated the **HAL Helicopter Factory** to the nation in **Tumakuru**.
 - He also laid the foundation stone of the Tumakuru Industrial Township and two Jal Jeevan Mission projects at Tiptur and Chikkanayakanahalli in Tumakuru.
- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the 36th **Surajkund International Crafts Mela** at Faridabad, **Haryana**.
- The Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) unveiled "**Bal Mitra**," a **WhatsApp** chatbot designed to improve communication between kids and parents in Delhi.
- The government has extended **PM-KUSUM** scheme till **March 2026** as its implementation was significantly affected due to the pandemic.
- Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav launched the '**Save Wetlands Campaign**' in the presence of the Chief Minister of Goa.
- The **Yuva Sangam registration portal** was launched in New Delhi.
 - The Yuva Sangam is an initiative of PM Narendra Modi to build close ties between the youth of the Northeast Region and the rest of India under the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.
- The **Sculpture Park** at Bikaner House in New Delhi was inaugurated by Rajasthan Chief Secretary Usha Sharma.
- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has recently launched a chatbot to help people get an **answer to their queries** related to the **Aadhaar card**. It is called "**Aadhaar Mitra**".
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Jal Jan Abhiyan** virtually on Abu Road in the Sirohi district of **Rajasthan**.
- Advancing India's cyber-preparedness, **KAVACH-2023**, a national level hackathon was launched to identify innovative ideas and technological solutions for addressing the **cyber security** and cybercrime challenges of the 21st century.
- The "**mPassport Police App**, developed by the consular, passport and visa division of the external affairs ministry for law enforcement agencies, is being rolled out along with 350 tablets to personnel of the Special Branch of **Delhi Police**.
 - mPassport Police App - Police verification for passport in **just 5 days**.
- The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (**PM-KISAN**) completed **4 years** on 24 February 2023.
- Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah addressed the '**Kol Janjati Mahakumbh**' organized on the occasion of Shabri Mata Janm Jayanti at Satna, **Madhya Pradesh**.

Summit/Conference

- The 30th **National Child Science Congress** was inaugurated on 27th January 2023 at Ahmedabad, **Gujarat**.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023** in **Lucknow**.

- The **World Government Summit 2023** held in **Dubai**.
 - The World Government Summit will be held under the **theme** of “Shaping Future Governments”.
- **12th World Hindi Conference** inaugurated at **Fiji**.
- A 3-day long 18th **UIC World Security Congress** jointly organized by the International Union of Railways (UIC), Paris and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) began in **Jaipur**.
 - **Theme** of this year’s Congress is “Railway Security Strategy: Responses and Vision for Future”.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **Reliance Consumer Products Limited** announced a strategic partnership with Sri Lanka-headquartered **Maliban Biscuit Manufactories Limited**.
- **United States** and **India** elevate strategic partnership with the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET).
- **India** has welcomed **Congo** to **International Solar Alliance**.
 - The External Affairs Ministry said Ambassador of Republic of Congo, Raymond Serge Bale signed the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement in the presence of Joint Secretary (Economic Diplomacy).
- **Nagaland** government has signed a MoU with **Patanjali Foods Limited** for development and area expansion under **palm oil cultivation** and processing for Zone-II (Mokokchung, Longleng, and Mon districts) of Nagaland under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP).
- **Foxconn** and **Vedanta** are close to inducting European chipmaker **STMicroelectronics** as the technology partner in their proposed **semiconductor chip manufacturing** unit in India.
- **IBM** has partnered with **NASA** to gain new findings on **Earth’s climate** through the power of **AI technology**.
- **HDFC Bank** has partnered with National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) Limited to build a large pool of skilled **Virtual Relationship Management** professionals for the **banking industry**.
- **ISRO** and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (**IIT Madras**) plans to develop a training module for the **Indian Spaceflight Programme** using Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality / Mixed Reality (AR / VR / MR).
- The Directorate General of GST Intelligence (**DGGI**) and the National Forensic Sciences University (**NFSU**) signed a MoU for setting up digital forensic laboratories along with the exchange of information and knowledge, technological advancement and **skill development** in the field of **digital forensics**.
- Energy Efficiency Services (**EESL**) signed a MoU with **Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Joint Business Council (IMT-GT JBC)** Malaysia at India Energy Week (IEW).
- The Ministry of **Defence** inked a contract with Larsen & Toubro (**L&T**) for the purchase of 41 indigenous **modular bridges** for the Corps of Engineers of the Indian Army.
- Samsung Semiconductor India Research (**SSIR**) has announced a new partnership with the Indian Institute of Science (**IISc**) to promote research and development in the field of on-chip Electrostatic Discharge (**ESD**) Protection.
- The Union Cabinet approved the signing of the MoU between the **India** and Republic of **South Africa** for cooperation in the ‘**disability sector**’.
- PM Narendra Modi had a telephone conversation with **Spanish** PM Pedro Sánchez and both leaders agreed to collaborate on issues such as **digital infrastructure**, climate action, clean energy transition and sustainable development.

- **India** and **Fiji** have signed a pact to exempt **visas** for holders of diplomatic and official **passports**.
- The Union Cabinet approved signing of a MoU between **India** and **Chile** for cooperation in the field of **agriculture** and allied sectors.
- Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (**BEL**) has signed an MoU with Israel Aerospace Industries (**IAI**) for the domestic manufacture and supply of its Long-Range Artillery Weapon System (**LORA**) for the Indian Tri-services.
- Ministry of **Rural Development** signed an MoU between the ministry and **Meesho** an e-commerce platform owned by Bengaluru-based Fashnear Technologies Private Limited.
- Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (**BEL**) said, it signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Aeronautical Development Agency (**ADA**), DRDO, for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (**AMCA**) programme.
- **India** and **Guyana** have agreed to cooperate in the **oil and gas sector**, including long-term crude purchase from the South American country and investment in its upstream sector.
- The **Uttarakhand** government has signed a contract to construct a 3.38 km **ropeway** from Janki Chatti in Kharsali to Yamunotri Dham.
- The **Tawazun Council** signed 11 deals, worth Dhs5.8bn (\$1.579bn), on the International Defence Exhibition (**IDEX**) and the Naval Defence Exhibition (**NAVDEX**) 2023.
- German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's visit to India on February 25-26 will focus on advancing a \$5.2 billion agreement between **Germany** and **India** to jointly construct **six conventional submarines** in India.
- **Infosys** announced that it will expand its collaboration with **Microsoft**, to help accelerate enterprise **cloud transformation** journeys worldwide, via an exchange filing.
- The **Britain** and the **European Union (EU)** agreed on a new trading arrangement for **Northern Ireland**.
- **RBL Bank**, the private lender said that it has reached an agreement with Export-Import Bank of India (**India Exim Bank**) under the Trade Assistance Programme (**TAP**) in order to facilitate cross-border commercial operations.
- The **Kerala** government and **UN Women** entered into an agreement, in order to promote activities that are welcoming to women in the State's **tourist industry**.

Meet/Visit

- The first **G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group meeting** under the G20 Indian Presidency was held on 30-31 January 2023 in **Chandigarh**.
- The first **Youth20 (Y20) Inception Meeting 2023** under G20 began in **Guwahati**.
- **India - Egypt** hold 3rd 'Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism' meeting in **New Delhi**.
- The 190th Meeting of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (**ESIC**) was held in **Chandigarh**.
 - Unemployment benefits under **ESIC extended for 2 years** by Labour Ministry.
- **UAE** hosted first **I2U2 Vice-Ministerial Meeting** to discuss investment opportunities.

Fund

- The Asian Development Bank (**ADB**) in order to help India fulfil its most pressing development requirements, pledged up to **\$25 billion** over the course of the next five years to support social development, **climate change**, and **infrastructure** development in India under the **PM Gati Shakti** project.
- The **World Bank** announced \$2.5 billion in additional grant financing from the U.S. Agency for International Development (**USAID**) to support **Ukraine's** budget and maintain essential services.

- **Pakistan's** Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said his country has received **\$700 million** funds from the **China** Development Bank.

Economy

- Union Finance Minister, **Nirmala Sitharaman** is presenting the **Union Budget 2023** for the **5th** time in a row. The **Economic Survey 2022-23** was released on 31st January 2023 by the Chief Economic Advisor of India, V Anantha Nageswaran.
- According to Telecom and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, the government has said that it will provide a **digital credit facility** this year in a similar manner to how it introduced the Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**).
- India's gross domestic product (**GDP**) is expected to grow at **6.2** per cent in FY24 as drivers of domestic demand remain intact amid fears of an impending slowdown, **Morgan Stanley** said in a research report released.
- **Forex Reserves decline** by **\$8.31 bn** to \$566.94 bn.
- **IndiaRatings** (Ind-Ra) revised its FY24 growth forecast downward to **5.9%** from the Reserve Bank of India's 6.4%.

Companies/Industry

- Genus Power Infrastructures Ltd. and its 100 percent subsidiary company **Hi-Print Metering Solutions Private Limited** have received the letter of award (LOA) of Rs 2,855.96 crore for the appointment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure Service Provider (**AMISP**).
- The **Adani Group** acquired the strategic **Israeli port of Haifa** for USD 1.2 billion.
- **Azad Engineering Private** Limited has been approved as the first Indian company to supply critical rotating parts for **nuclear turbines**.
- Under fire following allegations of fraud and stock manipulation, the **Adani group** has received another jolt from the **US markets**.
 - The group's flagship company Adani Enterprises has been **removed** from the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices effective February 7.
- **Google** has invested around **\$300 million** in **Anthropic**, an artificial intelligence startup whose technology is said to rival OpenAI, the company behind ChatGPT.
- In Mumbai, an industry first for banks and NBFCs, **Mobicule**, a specialist in debt collection, has announced the release of its **mCollect Repossession module**.
- In the process of the adoption of the Central Bank of Digital Currency (**CDDC**), **Reliance Retail** started accepting digital rupees or **e-rupee** for payments at its store.
 - Reliance Retail has partnered with **Innoviti Technologies**, **ICICI Bank**, and **Kotak Mahindra Bank** to enable acceptance of the digital rupee.
- **Reliance** Industries Limited (RIL) and **Ashok Leyland** unveiled India's first Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (**H2-ICE**) technology solution for **heavy duty trucks**.
 - This technology was flagged off by PM Modi at the India Energy Week in **Bengaluru**.
- **Google** has unveiled an experimental conversation **AI service** called "**Bard**", as it races to catch up with the wildly popular chatbot ChatGPT from the Microsoft-backed firm OpenAI.
- **Reliance Jio** in collaboration with **GSMA** has unveiled a nationwide **Digital Skill initiative**.
- **PhonePe** announced the debut of a service that will enable its **Indian users** who are travelling overseas to pay **foreign businesses** using the Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**).
- **Chinese** search engine **Baidu** revealed its plans of launching a ChatGPT-style AI chatbot called '**Ernie Bot**'.
 - Ernie, meaning "Enhanced Representation through Knowledge Integration,".

- India's leading fintech, **MobiKwik** has become the first fintech apps to support **RuPay Credit Cards** on **UPI**.
- **Alphabet Inc.** lost **\$100 billion** in market value shortly after its new chatbot inadvertently disclosed false information in a promotional video.
- Almost **500 employees** in India from the legal, sales, marketing, and other areas have been let go by Google parent company **Alphabet**.
- **Intel** has launched the new **Xeon W-3400** and **Xeon W-2400** desktop workstation processors (code-named Sapphire Rapids), which are built for professional creators to provide massive performance for media and entertainment, engineering, and data science professionals.
- **Bill Gates** has acquired a minority stake in **Heineken Holding NV**, the controlling shareholder of the world's second-largest brewer, for about \$902 million.
- **Japan's** eminent hospitality group Hotel Management International Company Limited (**HMI**) will be opening **30** new properties across **Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Nokia** updates their **logo** to mark the beginning of a new era.
 - Nokia is now a "enterprise technology company," according to Lundmark, rather than just a maker of smartphones.

Taxation/Trade

- According to finance ministry Nirmala Sitharaman, the Goods and Services Tax (**GST**) collection in **January 2023** saw a significant increase, reaching over **Rs 1.55 lakh crore**.
- The second-highest mop-up since the indirect tax levy (**GST**) was instituted in July 2017 for goods and services tax collection was **Rs 1.56 trillion** in **January 2023**.

Space

- **Space Exploration Technologies Corp.** is part of a payload contract **NASA** has awarded for as much as \$100 million over a decade.
 - **Elon Musk's** rocket launch and satellite operator will share the contract for unspecified "commercial payload processing services" with Astrotech Space Operations LLC, a unit of Lockheed Martin Corp., the government's space agency announced in a statement.
- **NASA's** "all-electric" plane **X-57** is soon set to take off, the US space agency.
- Astronomers have discovered **12 new moons** around **Jupiter**, putting the total count at a record-breaking **92**. That's more than any other planet in our solar system. Saturn, the one-time leader, comes in a close second with 83 confirmed moons.
- **SpaceX** intends to fire up all 33 of its engines before launching its massive **Starship launch** system into orbit for the first time.
- Jeff Bezos-led **Blue Origin** scored a big contract from the American space agency, **Nasa**, to launch a mission to Mars.
 - The mission, dubbed the dual-spacecraft **ESCAPADE**, will be launched next year on Blue Origin's recently developed New Glenn heavy-lift rocket.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (**ISRO**) successfully launched the second edition of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (**SSLV-D2**) from the first launch pad of Satish Dhawan space centre at Sriharikota, **Andhra Pradesh**.
- The first-ever woman **astronaut** of **Saudi Arabia** will go to space this year, Saudi woman astronaut **Rayyana Barnawi** will join fellow Saudi Ali Al-Qarni on a 10-day mission to the International Space Station (ISS) this year.
- **Antaris** announced that the world's first satellite fully conceived, designed, and manufactured using the company's end-to-end cloud platform, **JANUS-1** has successfully reached orbit.
 - JANUS-1 rode on the Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) SSLV-D2 rocket.

- The **Martin Foundation** in association with **Dr APJ Abdul Kalam International Foundation** and **Space Zone India** launched the APJ Abdul Kalam Satellite Launch Vehicle Mission-2023 from the Pattipolam village of Chengalpattu district in Tamil Nadu.
- India's lunar mission, **Chandrayaan-3** has successfully underwent **EMI-EMC** (Electro-Magnetic Interference/ Electro-Magnetic Compatibility).
- **China** sent the **Zhongxing-26** communications satellite into orbit Feb. 23, marking the resumption orbital launches following a pause for Chinese New Year.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- The **Kerala** government announced a scheme of Rs 200 crore for developing **green hydrogen hubs** at **Trivandrum** and **Kochi**.
 - Kerala aims to become a 100 percent renewable energy-dependent state by **2040** and a net carbon-neutral state by 2050.
- The first **nuclear power plant** in **North India** would be built in Gorakhpur, **Haryana**.

Education

- **Delhi** State Council of Educational Research and Training (**SCERT**) has organized a 5-day '**Jeevan Vidya Shivar**' for the teachers of Delhi government schools at Thyagaraja stadium.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- The **Indian Railways** is introducing a green revolution and will be introducing **hydrogen** and **electric trains** to the **eight** heritage routes in the country by **December 2023**.
- **Zoop**, the food delivery service by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC), recently partnered with **Jio Haptik** to allow users to order food through their **WhatsApp** chatbot service in just a few simple steps.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari unveiled **Skye UTM**, which is the most cutting-edge **unmanned traffic management system** in the world, which is capable of handling 4,000 flights per hour and 96,000 flights per day.

Films and Film Festival

- Mumbai will host the 2023 **Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival** ceremony.
 - **Alia Bhatt** and **Ranbir Kapoor** won the **Best Actor** and **Best Actress** awards at the Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards.
- At the Royal Festival Hall in London, England, the **76th British Academy Film Awards**, also referred to as the BAFTAs, were presented.
 - German anti-war film **All Quiet on the Western Front** winning seven awards, including the two big wins awards, Best Film and Best Director.
- SS Rajamouli's directorial, '**RRR**' has bagged the '**Best International Film**' award at the Hollywood Critics Association Film Awards.
 - **RRR** won three awards at HCA - 'Best Action Film', 'Best Stunts', and 'Best Original Song'.

Festival

- The **Kala Ghoda Arts Festival** began on 4th February and will go on till 12th February 2023.
- The seven-day 49th **Khajuraho Dance Festival** is organized in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the 33rd **Police-Public Mela** at Gulshan Ground, Jammu.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the '**Barisu Kannada Dim Dimava cultural festival** at Talkatora Stadium in Delhi.

- The **Ajanta Ellora International Festival 2023** was held from 25th February to 27th February in Aurangabad, **Maharashtra**.

Media /I.T / Telecommunication

- The government has approved conversion of over Rs 16,133 crore **interest dues** of debt-ridden **Vodafone Idea** into **equity**, after receiving a firm commitment from Aditya Birla Group to run the company and bring necessary investment, telecom minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- **Equatorial Guinea** has appointed **Manuela Roka Botey** as prime minister. She became the first woman in the country to hold the position.
- Sports brand **Puma India** announced roping in women's cricket team captain **Harmanpreet Kaur** as its latest brand ambassador.
- **Morgan Stanley** named **Arun Kohli** as the new India head to replace **Sanjay Shah**.
- **V Ramachandra** was appointed by the Reserve Bank to the **advisory** committees of Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited (**SIFL**) and Srei Equipment Finance Limited (**SEFL**).
- **Madhvendra Singh** appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Gujarat Ports Infrastructure Company Limited of the **Gujarat Maritime Cluster**.
- Indian-American Congressman **Dr. Ami Bera** has been appointed as a member of a powerful **US House** Committee handling **intelligence**-related matters.
- **Mahindra Finance** has appointed **Raul Rebello** as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Designate.
- Economics professor and researcher **Shamika Ravi** has been appointed as a member of the Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (**EAC-PM**).
- Indian-American student at Harvard Law School, **Apsara Iyer** has been elected president of the prestigious **Harvard Law Review**.
- The Union government notified the appointment of **five new judges** to the **Supreme Court**.
 - With their appointments, the number of judges in the Supreme Court will rise to **32**.
 - The Five Judges are:-
 - Justice Pankaj Mithal, the chief justice of Rajasthan High Court
 - Justice Sanjay Karol, the chief justice of Patna High Court
 - Justice PV Sanjay Kumar, the chief justice of Manipur High Court
 - Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, a judge of Patna High Court
 - Justice Manoj Misra, a judge of Allahabad High Court
- Lawyer **Lekshmana Chandra Victoria Gowri** was appointed to the **higher judiciary** and took an oath of office as the additional judge of **Madras High Court**.
- The Union Government has appointed **K Satyanarayana Raju** as its Managing Director and CEO of **Canara Bank**.
 - He will be replacing **L V Prabhakar**.
- **UnCrave**, the plant-based meat brand by Licious, unveiled popular comic, actor, and musician **Vir Das** as its Brand Ambassador.
- Drugmaker **Pfizer Limited** has announced the appointment of **Meenakshi Nevatia** as an Additional Director and Managing Director for five years.
 - She comes in the place of **S Sridhar**.
- President of India Droupadi Murmu appointed **13 new Governors** while accepting the resignations of Bhagat Singh Koshyari as Governor of Maharashtra and of Radha Krishnan Mathur as Lt. Governor of Ladakh.

- Lt Gen **MV Suchindra Kumar** has been named as the new **Vice Chief of Army Staff**, while incumbent Lt Gen **B S Raju** will take charge as **South Western Army Commander**.
- An Indian-American, **Neal Mohan** will become the next Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Alphabet-owned **YouTube** following **Susan Wojcicki's** announcement that she will be stepping down from her role as the head of the video-sharing platform.
- **Tata Motors** has appointed **Rajan Amba** as the Managing Director of Jaguar Land Rover India.
 - Amba replaces **Rohit Suri**.
- **Rajesh Rai** has been appointed as Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Indian Telephone Industries Limited (**ITI Ltd**).
- Former IAS officer **BVR Subrahmanyam** was appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of **Niti Aayog**.
- **Afshan Khan**, an Indo-Canadian, has been named the coordinator of the “**Scaling Up Nutrition Movement**,” according to UN Secretary-General António Guterres.
- **PepsiCo India** has roped in actor **Ranveer Singh** to endorse its leading soft drink brand Pepsi.
- Former bureaucrat **Shailesh Pathak** has been appointed as the new Secretary General of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (**FICCI**).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed **Vikramaditya Singh Khichi** to a panel to advise the administrator of debt-ridden **Reliance Capital (RCap)**.

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Aaron Finch** has announced his retirement from international cricket after more than a decade representing **Australia**.
- **France** defender **Raphael Varane** is retiring from international football.
- Veteran **Pakistan** wicketkeeper **Kamran Akmal** has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- BCCI's Chief selector **Chetan Sharma** has resigned from his post following a sting operation conducted by a TV news channel.

Deaths

- Former Union law minister and eminent jurist **Shanti Bhushan** passed away.
- Legendary film director **K. Vishwanath** passed away in Hyderabad.
- Noted Kannada writer **K.V. Tirumalesh** passed away in Hyderabad.
- **Pakistan's** former president **Pervez Musharraf** passed away in Dubai.
- **Vani Jayaram**, 78, a legendary playback singer from the South film industry passed away.
- Italian **Skier Elena Fanchini** passed at the age of 37.
- Popular artist **B.K.S. Verma** has passed away in the city. The subject of his paintings was mainly environmental and social issues presented in a surreal form.
- **Tulsidas Balaram**, one of the country's finest footballers and a member of the golden era of Indian football (1951-1962), passed away.
- Famous Yakshagana singer and screenwriter **Balipa Narayan Bhagwat** passed away.
- Former Gujarat governor and veteran Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader **Om Prakash Kohli** has passed away.

Awards/Honours

- Former pm **Dr Manmohan Singh** was recently conferred a **Lifetime Achievement** Honour by the **India-UK Achievers Honours** in London for his contribution to economic and political life.
- **V Karthikeyan Pandian**, an IAS officer, and private secretary to Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik, was conferred with **President's award** by **International Hockey Federation** during the 47th FIH Congress.
- The **Crypto.com Arena** in Los Angeles played host to the **65th Annual Grammy Awards** ceremony on February 5, 2023.
 - As the first **transgender** woman to get a Grammy in the best pop duo/group performance category, **Kim Petras** created Grammy history.
 - Song of the Year - **Lizzo** – About Damn Time.
- Author **Dr Peggy Mohan** has bagged the 'Mathrubhumi Book of The Year' award at the fourth edition of Mathrubhumi International Festival of Letters (**MBIFL 2023**).
- An international sand artist named **Sudarsan Pattnaik** made a sand sculpture of the late singer **Lata Mangeshkar** at Puri Beach in the state of Odisha to commemorate her first death anniversary.
- **Five athletes** were nominated for the **BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year** award, including wrestlers **Vinesh Phogat** and **Sakshi Malik**.
 - Weightlifter **Mirabai Chanu** as well as renowned shuttler **PV Sindhu** and boxer **Nikhat Zareen** also made the cut.
- Managing Director & CEO, Manappuram Finance Ltd, **VP Nandakumar** has bagged the **Hurun India's award** for his remarkable achievements in the world of business.
- The "**Golden Book Awards**" is announced its winner for 2023.
- MRF Ltd. Chairman and Managing Director **K.M. Mammen** was presented the **ATMA Lifetime Achievement Award** by Maruti Suzuki India MD & CEO **Hisashi Takeuchi** at the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (**ATMA**) Annual Conclave 2023 in New Delhi.
- The country's largest power generating company, **NTPC Limited** has been honoured with '**ATD Best Awards 2023**' by the Association for Talent Development (**ATD**), USA.
- The Union Minister for Culture, Tourism and DoNER, Shri G. Kishan Reddy presented the **Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (UBKYP)** 2019, 2020 and 2021, at Meghdoot Theatre Complex, Rabindra Bhavan, **New Delhi**.
- **Visva-Bharati University** was founded by Rabindranath in 1921. It will soon receive the **UNESCO 'heritage'** tag. This will allow it to be the first university of **living heritage**.
- The '**Don't Choose Extinction**' campaign, launched by the UN Development Programme (**UNDP**) to raise awareness about the **climate emergency**, has won Gold and Silver in two different categories at the 2nd **Annual Anthem Awards**.
- The **Kollam district** panchayat has won the **Swaraj Trophy** for the best district panchayat in the State for the 2021-22 financial year.
 - The **Kannur** district panchayat stood **second** in the rankings.
- In commemoration of India's late Chief of Defence Staff General **Bipin Rawat**, a bell has been placed at **Nepal's** revered Shree Muktinath Temple.
 - The bell named "**Bipin Bell**,".
- Computer scientist **Hari Balakrishnan** has been awarded the 2023 **Marconi Prize**.
- The **India Today Tourism Survey** has chosen **Jammu & Kashmir Tourism** for best adventure tourism award.
- Poet **V. Madhusoodanan Nair** has been selected for the **Jnanappana Award** – 2023 instituted by the Guruvayur Devaswom.

Sports/Game

- **Babita Phogat**, a former wrestler, joined the oversight committee established to look into the claims made against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI).
- The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) announced that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) won the hosting of the **2027 Asian Nations Cup**.
- **Kerala** wins inaugural champions of **National Beach Soccer Championships** and overwhelming Punjab, to win the title, at Dumas Beach, **Surat**.
- Gymnast **Dipa Karmakar** has been handed a 21-month **ban** for failing a dope test conducted by the International Testing Agency.
- The **ICC T-20 Women's World Cup** is to begin in **South Africa** on 10th February 2023.
- **Gary Ballance**, who represented **England** 42 times across all three formats, scored a **superb century** for Zimbabwe on the fourth day of the first Test against West Indies in Bulawayo.
- Indian Olympian **Aditi Ashok** won the **2023 Magical Kenya Ladies Open Title** with a final-round score of 74.
- **Cristiano Ronaldo** scored all of **Al Nassr's goals** in a 4-0 rout of Al Wehda in the Saudi league as he passed the **500 league goal** mark in his club career.
- **Ravichandran Ashwin** picked up his **450th Test wicket** during the first Border-Gavaskar Trophy game between India and Australia.
- **Sania Mirza** has been roped in as **mentor** of **Royal Challengers Bangalore** for the inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL), to be played in Mumbai from March 4 to 26.
- The **Pangong Tso Lake** in **Ladakh** will host the first-ever **frozen lake marathon** on 20th February 2023, at an altitude of roughly 13,862 feet.
- **Tata Group** has secured the title sponsorship rights for the **Women's Premier League (WPL)** for **five seasons (BCCI)**.
- **Hockey Madhya Pradesh** was named the winner of the 13th **Hockey India Senior Women National Championship** in 2023 after defeating Hockey Maharashtra 5-1 in the championship game in Kakinada, **Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Daniil Medvedev** won the **Qatar Open** in his professional tennis debut by defeating Andy Murray.
- **Australia** won the **Women's T20 World Cup** for the sixth time when they beat South Africa by 19 runs in the final at **Newlands**.
- **Argentina's Lionel Messi** has bagged the **Best FIFA men's player** prize for 2022.
- The all-time great **Lionel Messi** has scored his **700th** career club goal in Paris St. Germain's 3-0 win over Marseille.
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is close to agreeing to a deal with German sporting goods giant **Adidas** to pay Rs 350 crore as the team's **uniform sponsor**.

Report

- According to the latest Indian Institutional Ranking Framework (IIRF) ranking (2023), the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), **Ahmedabad** (Gujarat), is the **top** government college in India for pursuing the Master of Business Administration (MBA) course.
 - **IIM Bengaluru** (Karnataka) and **IIM Kolkata** (West Bengal) are ranked **second** and **third**, respectively.
- PM **Narendra Modi** has been pegged as the **world's most popular leader** as per a survey by a US-based consulting firm 'Morning Consult'.
 - **Mexican President** Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, came in **second** and **Swiss President** Alain Berset occupied the **third** position.

- **India's unemployment** rate fell to **7.14%** in January, the lowest in four months, from 8.30% in the previous month, data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) showed.
 - The **urban** unemployment rate declined to **8.55%** in January from 10.09% in the previous month, while the **rural** unemployment rate slipped to **6.48%** from 7.44%, the data showed.
- According to a current United Nations report, **North Korea stole** more **bitcoin** assets in 2022 than any other year and targeted the networks of multinational aerospace and defence industries.
- **India** is the highest **milk producer** in the world contributing **twenty-four per cent** of global milk production in the year 2021-22.
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been named to FORTUNE® magazine's list of the **World's Most Admired Companies**.
- During 2021-22, **India** received **foreign** inward **remittances** of USD 89,127 million which was the highest ever inward remittances received in a single year.
- The **World Happiness Index** 2023 Report will mark its tenth anniversary with this year's Globe Happiness Reflect.
 - **Finland** was named the world's **happiest country** for the fifth year in a row.
- India's national accreditation system under the Quality Council of India (QCI) has been ranked **5th** in the world in the recent **Global Quality Infrastructure Index (GQII)** 2021.
- **Bank of Maharashtra** (BoM) has emerged as the **top** performer among state-owned lenders in terms of **loan growth** percentage during the third quarter of 2022-23, an analysis of the latest financial results of public sector banks showed.
 - Country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) stood at **fourth** spot.
- **India** has ranked **42nd** among 55 leading global economies on the **International IP Index** released by the U.S. Chambers of Commerce.
 - The **United States** ranks **first** in the 2023 index, followed by the **UK** and **France**.
- According to HedgewithCrypto research, **India** emerged as **7th** biggest nation ready to **adopt crypto** in 2023.
 - **Australia** is the biggest country when it comes to the adoption of cryptocurrency in 2023.
 - **USA** ranks as the **second** biggest country in crypto adoption.

General - National

- **India** will be invited as the **focal country** at the **Madrid International Book Fair** in **2025**, the Ambassador of Spain to India, Jose Maria Ridao said.
- **Minority Affairs** Minister Smriti Irani has informed that the Government, under the Annual Bilateral Agreement with **Saudi Arabia** for **Haj pilgrimage** this year, has restored the original Haj quota which stands at **one lakh 75 thousand 25**.
- **India, France** and the **United Arab Emirates** (UAE) announced the creation of a formal trilateral cooperation initiative for projects in **solar and nuclear energy**, the fight against climate change and joint production of military hardware.
- **India** and the **European Union** (EU) announced the formation of three working groups under the '**Trade and Technology Council**' that was set up to deepen strategic ties with the trade bloc.
- **India** delivered **fifty buses** to **Sri Lanka** at the Presidential Secretariat premises as Sri Lanka celebrated its 75th Independence Day.
- Union Ministry of Science & Technology; Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the world recognizes India's Blue Economy resources and the International **Seabed Authority** with headquarters in **Jamaica** has officially designated **India** as a "**Pioneer Investor**".
- The Indian government issued urgent and emergency orders to **restrict 138 betting and gambling applications** and 94 loan-providing apps.

- As part of “**Operation Dost**,” India is deploying a field hospital, supplies, and rescue personnel to the earthquake-stricken countries of **Turkey and Syria**.
- The commencement of a public campaign to strengthen **cyber security** in these four countries has been announced by The Quad, a plurilateral structure made up of **India, Australia, Japan, and the US**.
- **India’s** newly created infrastructure-financing institution is planning a maiden **bond** issue of **50 billion rupees** in the next quarter.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs in Lok Sabha has revealed that the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) is currently functioning with **less than 50%** of its sanctioned **strength**.
- **India** and the **UAE** are celebrating the first anniversary of their **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement**, signed on February 18, 2022.
- Minister for IT and Industries KT Rama Rao informed that the **World Health Organization** will set up an **mRNA** (messenger ribonucleic acid) vaccine hub in **Telangana**.
- The amount of various subsidies and sops transferred to recipients through direct benefit transfer (DBT) has reached almost **Rs 5.5 trillion** so far in the current fiscal year, FY23.
- **India** has joined a global initiative started by the **US** and the **UAE** to boost funding and assistance for the development of climate-smart **agriculture** and food systems.
- PM Narendra Modi will disburse the **13th installment** of the income support programme **PM-Kisan**, totaling more than Rs 16,800 crore to more than eight crore beneficiary farmers in Belagavi, **Karnataka**.

General - International

- **Inflation** has risen to a 48-year high in crisis-hit **Pakistan**, where the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is visiting for **urgent talks**.
- The United Nations cultural organization, **UNESCO**, designated the historic center of **Odesa** (Ukraine) as a World Heritage Site and categorized it as being “**in danger**” during a committee meeting in Paris.
- **Australia** announced it will **erase** the **British monarch** from its **banknotes**, replacing the late Queen Elizabeth II’s image on its **\$5 note** with a design honoring Indigenous culture.
- A **7.8 magnitude earthquake** shook **Turkey** followed by another strong quake which was felt in several provinces in the region, knocking down a number of buildings, reports said.
- New ‘everyday’ stamps featuring the image of **King Charles III** were unveiled for the first time, the latest item in Britain to get a makeover following the death of Queen Elizabeth.
- **Peru** reported the **death** of 585 **sea lions** and 55,000 wild birds due to the H5N1 **bird flu virus** in recent weeks.
- In order to speed up the government’s reaction to an ongoing **energy crisis**, **South African** President Cyril Ramaphosa proclaimed a **state of Disaster**.
- **Pakistan’s** PM Shahbaz Sharif has approved a **deal** with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and all matters over the bailout programme are settled, citing sources.
- The **Spanish** government approved a historic law granting paid **medical leave** to women suffering from severe **menstrual pain** is the first for any European country.
- The **Bhutan** National Digital Identity (NDI) mobile wallet, Royal Highness The Gyalsey (Prince) **Jigme Namgyel Wangchuck** has become the first **digital citizen of Bhutan**.
- Amid the severe economic crisis, **Pakistan’s** government has decided to **raise** the **policy rate** to 19 per cent or **200 basis points**, which will be an increase of 2 per cent. Currently, it stands at 17 per cent.

- The Financial Action Task Force (**FATF**), a global organization that monitors financial crime, **suspended Russia's** membership after finding that Moscow (Russia)'s conflict in Ukraine breached the FATF's principles.

Books and Authors

Book's Name

- Victory City

Author's Name

Salman Rushdie

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TO THE POINTS: FEBRUARY-2023

- The State Bank of India (SBI) has raised Rs 9,718 crore through its second infrastructure bond issuance at a coupon rate of **7.70%** per annum for the 15-year money.
- **Nigeria's** Central Bank has launched a domestic card scheme "AfriGo" to boost the cashless economy & rival foreign cards like MasterCard and VISA.
- Renew Buy has launched its first line of customized health insurance products. This new-age health insurance benefits have been available in **3** variants.
- As per the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) report, Student enrolments in India increased by **7.5%** in 2020-21 compared to 2019-20.
- As per the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) report, The total toll collection through FASTag in India has increased by **46 per cent** to Rs 50,855 crore in 2022.
- **Chennai** hosted the first G20 Education Working Group meeting as a precursor seminar on the 'Role of Digital Technology in Education'.
- South Africa is set to host the 15th BRICS summit at Durban in August 2023. Earlier in **2013**, the 5th annual BRICS summit was held in Durban, South Africa.
- The first International Financial Architecture Working Group meeting of G-20 held in **Chandigarh**.
- **Jharkhand** started its First Migrant Survey to gain a better understanding of the migrant community and their numbers.
- **Shasti Conrad** has been elected as the new chair of the Washington State Democrats.
- Morgan Stanley has named Arun Kohli as its new country head for India. He replaces **Sanjay Shah**.
- Toy craft **Etikoppaka** has been conferred with Padma Shri by the Government of India.
- **Germany** has won the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 held at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, India.
- Sania Mirza announced her retirement from tennis. She won **6** Grand Slam titles.
- Jonatan Christie claimed his first title at the 2023 Indonesia Masters. He belongs to **Indonesia**.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is set to launch a scientific mission named **Aditya-L1** to study the sun in June or July 2023.
- Every year the Indian Coast Guard Day is celebrated on 01st February. This year Indian Coast Guard celebrates its **45th** Raising Day on 01st February 2023.
- **An Se Young** has defeated Carolina Marin to claim her second singles title of the season in the 2023 Indonesia Masters.
- According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Indian economy is expected to grow by **6.1%** in 2023 and **6.8%** in 2024.

- **CCAvenue** became the first payment gateway player to process Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) or Digital Rupee transactions for online retail merchants.
- As per the recent report, The first G20 Energy Transition Working Group (ETWG) meeting under India's presidency was held in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- The **11th** edition of the International Plastics Exhibition, conference and convention – Plast India 2023 was held at the revamped Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- As per the recent report, **Visakhapatnam** is to be Andhra Pradesh's new capital.
- India is no longer among the top-five nations in terms of market capitalization (m-cap) as the close to \$70 billion rout in **Adani Group** stocks has seen the domestic market slip to sixth position in the world.
- According to the Union Finance Ministry, the Gross GST collection in January 2023 is **₹ 1.55 lakh crore**.
- According to the Economic Survey, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for FY24 is **6.5%**.
- **Hein Schumacher** has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Consumer goods giant Unilever.
- Air Marshal A P Singh has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF). He will replace **Sandeep Singh**.
- **Usman Khawaja** has bagged the inaugural Shane Warne Men's Test Player of the Year award.
- Every year, World Wetlands Day is celebrated on **2nd February**.
- **Uttarakhand** has celebrated the Harela festival.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has partially relaxed the restrictions it had imposed on **SBM Bank India** to stop all transactions under the Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS).
- The newly-constituted RBI's Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) stood at **377.46** in September 2022 against 349.30 in March 2022.
- The Union Government has provided an outlay of **₹ 35,000 crore** to achieve energy transition and net zero objectives and listed green growth among seven priorities of the government.
- In Union Budget 2023, **50** additional airports, heliports, water aerodromes and advanced landing grounds will be revived for improving regional air connectivity.
- The Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has presented her fifth Budget and the Centre increased the Railway Budget for 2023-24 by **Rs 2.41 trillion**.
- Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has taken over the chairmanship of Supreme Audit Institutions 20 (SAI20) with India assuming the G20 presidency. **Girish Chandra Murmu** is the Current CAG of India.
- Maharashtra has announced that the 'Jai Jai Maharashtra Maza, Garja Maharashtra Maza' – as the 'state song'. This song will be adopted as the state song on **19 February** 2023 the birth anniversary of legendary Maratha warrior Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.
- **Tamil Nadu** has proposed to construct a museum for the state's former Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi.
- **New Delhi** became the first city in India to get a real-time source segmentation of air pollution.
- As per Council for Leather Exports data, The exports of Indian leather and footwear sector is expected to touch **USD 6 billion** in the current fiscal year.
- Reliance Retail Ventures (RRVL) has entered into a strategic partnership with Maliban Biscuit Manufactories (Maliban).Maliban Biscuit Manufactories is based in **Sri Lanka**.

- The RBI has appointed **V. Ramachandra** as a member of the Advisory Committee of Srei Infrastructure Finance Ltd. (SIFL) and Srei Equipment Finance Ltd. (SEFL).
- The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has recommended **Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi** as the new Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).
- The Adani Group has acquired the Haifa port for USD 1.2 billion. Haifa port was located in **Israel**.
- Indian Army's 'Exercise Topchi' 2023 was held in **Maharashtra**.
- **India** has been named as the host nation for the men's Club World Championship for the next two years by the Volleyball World and the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB).
- Former Union Minister **Shanti Bhushan** passed away at the age of 97.
- **Australia** is planning to remove the head of the British royal family from its five-dollar banknote in favour of a design that honours the culture of the country's Indigenous people.
- **New India Insurance Company Limited** has launched a 'Pay as You Drive' (PAYD) policy to offer a comprehensive motor insurance policy that charges a premium based on the usage of the vehicle.
- **Bank of Baroda** has announced the establishment of the 'Rashtrabhasha Samman' to stimulate and promote literary works in Indian languages.
- **Edelweiss Mutual Fund Limited** has launched India's first passive short-term index fund named "CRISIL IBX 50:50 Gilt Plus SDL Short Duration Index Fund".
- As per the Union Budget 2023 document, the subsidy under the FAME scheme for fiscal 2024 is projected at **Rs 5,172 crore**, compared with the revised estimate of Rs 2,897 crore in the current fiscal year.
- India and **US** sign a deal for the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).
- **India** has invited as the focal country at the Madrid International Book Fair in 2025.
- **Haryana's** vigilance bureau has been renamed as Anti-Corruption Bureau.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has launched the 'Aarohini Initiative Training Programme' for the safety and security of girls in all 746 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV).
- The "Bajrang Setu," India's first and Asia's second cable suspension bridge, will be built at **Rishikesh, Uttarakhand**.
- **Etawah** has to be renamed as Mulayam Nagar in memory of Samajwadi Party founder Mulayam Singh.
- As per ISMA data, India's **sugar** production rose 3.42 per cent to 19.35 million tonnes in the first four months of the ongoing marketing year ending September.
- **Maharashtra** is the major sugar producing state in India during October 2022-January 2023.
- **The Hindu Group** has bagged four awards at the WAN-IFRA Digital Media South Asia Awards 2022 for its various products and services.
- **Manuela Roka Botey** became the first female Prime Minister of Equatorial Guinea.
- The Indian military has concluded a 10-day joint training exercise named "**Trishakti Prahar**" in the strategically vital Siliguri corridor, in North Bengal.
- **LRDE** has developed a major subsystem for a space radar "UnFurlable Reflector Antenna (UFRA)".
- Every year, World Cancer Day is observed on 4 February. Theme - **Close the Care Gap**.
- **Reliance Retail** has become the first Indian retailer to introduce Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), also known as the digital rupee (₹ -R) at its stores.

- According to the data by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based transactions hit **8.03 billion** in January 2023.
- The **49th** meeting of the Goods & Service Tax (GST) Council will be chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi.
- The National Bank for Agriculture and rural development (NABARD) has estimated a credit potential of Rs. 34082 crore under the priority sector for **Jammu and Kashmir** for the year 2023-24.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹ 39.50 lakhs for **North East Small Finance Bank**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of ₹ 30.00 lakh on the **Bank of Baroda** (BoB) for non-compliance with certain provisions of the 'Reserve Bank of India - (Know Your Customer (KYC)) Direction, 2016.
- The government has revised the definition of broadband connectivity. The Centre has specified a higher minimum download speed of **2 Mbps** (megabits per second).
- The Road Transport Ministry has asked states to register vehicles owned by people with disabilities under the ownership category of "**Divyangjan**".
- The Neeli Jheel ecotourism site has been opened in the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary. Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary located in **Delhi**.
- The Commerce and Industry Ministry is planning to implement the new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) on **April 2023**.
- WhatsApp chatbot **Bal Mitra** was launched by the Delhi Deputy Chief Minister (CM) Manish Sisodia.
- **Rajasthan** celebrate the 'Desert Festival' every year in February.
- IndusInd International Holdings Limited has received a go-ahead from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to increase its stake in IndusInd Bank Limited to **26%** from the current 15.16%.
- **US** has emerged as India's top destination for merchandise exports during April-December this fiscal at USD 59.7 billion.
- **Maharashtra** has the highest number of electric vehicle (EV) sales in India under the second phase of the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) scheme.
- **IIT Patna** has partnered with Drone Destination to open Bihar's 1st government-approved UAV training centre.
- Veteran film director and Dadasaheb Phalke award winner **Kasinathuni Vishwanath** passed away at the age of 92.
- The International Day Against Female Genital Mutilation has been observed on **6 February**.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has strengthened the framework for green bonds by introducing the concept of **Yellow and Blue** bonds as new modes of sustainable finance.
- Under the Fund of Funds Scheme (FFS) for startups, Rs. 7,980 crore has been committed to **99** Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs).
- Money management platform Fi Money has partnered with **Federal Bank** to launch its lending services to offer users instant credit.
- **State Bank of India** has given the Work Order for RailTel Corporation of India Ltd (RailTel) for providing 4G LTE (Long Term Evolution) connectivity to 15,000 offsite Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) spread across India.
- **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance** has launched its modular health insurance product 'My Health Care Plan', an umbrella product for customizable packages.

- The Board of IDFC Limited gave its in-principle approval to infuse ₹ 2,200 crore into IDFC First Bank, providing growth capital to the lender.
- **State Bank of India** has provided a loan worth Rs 21,000 crore (\$2.6 billion) to Adani Group firms.
- Atal Innovation Mission inaugurated its ACIC-CBIT centre in **Hyderabad, Telangana**.
- The Union Government blocked **232** apps operated by overseas entities, including Chinese for being involved in betting, gambling and unauthorized loan service.
- According to energy cargo tracker Vortexa, India imported a record volume of crude oil from Russia in January 2023, accounting for **28%** of its total imports.
- **Uttar Pradesh** will be a major beneficiary of the hike in ethanol blending to 20% with petrol in the next two years.
- Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh has inaugurated the de-addiction workshop 'Mission Drugs Free Devbhoomi' organized in the district jail of Dehradun. He also announced that the state government will be drug-free by the year **2025**.
- **Jharkhand** has launched a water conservation scheme with an outlay of Rs 467.32 crore to provide benefits to farmers in the state.
- **Raja Krishnamoorthi, Ami Bera, Ro Khanna and Pramila Jayapal** have been appointed as a member of key US House Committees.
- According to data provided by Tracxn, **Bengaluru** has topped the startup funding chart in India with \$10.8 billion in 2022.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) chairman S Somanath announced that the launch of **SSLV** on 10 February 2023.
- Parimal Dey passed away at the age of 81. He belongs to **Football**.
- A legendary playback singer **Vani Jairam** has passed away at the age of 78 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- Every year, International Development Week is celebrated on 6th – 12th February. Theme - **Go for the goals**.
- As per the RBI data, The update number of payment acceptance devices deployed under the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme as on December 31, 2022, stood at about **1.87 crore**.
- PM Narendra Modi has dedicated 75 Digital Banking Units (DBUs) to the service of the nation. As of January 2023, **84** DBUs are operational across India.
- According to the latest data released by RBI, Indians remitted close to **\$2 billion** in November, 2022 under RBI's liberalized remittance scheme (LRS).
- As per the APEDA report, **12 per cent** has been increased in the export of major agriculture and processed products during the first three quarters of the current fiscal.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India Energy Week (IEW) 2023 in **Bengaluru, Karnataka**.
- **Bangladesh** has cancelled its orders to import 2 lakh tonnes of parboiled rice from 2 Indian cooperative agencies through government-to-government (G2G) deals.
- First of its kind SARAS Fair 2023 from February 4 to 14 was hosted by **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- **Reliance Industries** and Ashok Leyland unveiled India's first Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (H2-ICE) powered truck at the India Energy Week in Bengaluru.
- Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud administered the oath of office to **5 new judges** of the Supreme Court.

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed Rajan Pental as the Executive Director of **Yes Bank** for a period of 3 years.
- **IIT Madras** has received Rs 242 crore from the Union Government for lab-grown diamond research.
- India got **3rd** rank in the MSCI (Morgan Stanley Capital International) Emerging Markets (EM) Index.
- As per the US-based consulting firm 'Morning Consult', **Narendra Modi** has been pegged as the world's most popular leader with an approval rating of 78 per cent.
- The Indore Municipal Corporation has ranked top in cleanliness survey for **6th** consecutive years.
- **Tamil Nadu's** Defence Industrial Corridor has signed MoUs from 53 industries and organizations for a potential investment of ₹ 11,794 crore.
- **IBM** has partnered with NASA to gain new findings on Earth's climate through the power of AI technology.
- India sign an MoU with OCP Group for annual imports of 1.75 million tonne (MT) of phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) fertilizers. OCP Group is based in **Morocco**.
- **Peggy Mohan** has bagged the 'Mathrubhumi Book of The Year' award at the fourth edition of Mathrubhumi International Festival of Letters (MBIFL 2023).
- Military leader General Pervez Musharraf (Retd) has passed away at the age of 79 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE). He was the former President of **Pakistan**.
- Oldest white tigress **Vina Rani** at the National Zoological Park recently died.
- **Muthoot Finance Ltd** has planned to raise around Rs 500 crores through public issue of secured redeemable non-convertible debentures (Secured NCDs) of the face value of Rs 1,000 each.
- **Paytm Payments Bank** has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to enable users to link RuPay credit cards with Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- **Keoladeo National Park** in Rajasthan has recently received a proposal from the state's forest department to build a zoo there.
- India's first glass igloo restaurant in **Gulmarg** has become a popular destination for tourists who visit the area to experience scenic beauty.
- **Google** has launched a new AI chatbot of its own called Bard, based on the company's Language Model for Dialogue Application (LaMDA).
- Drone solutions provider **Skye Air** has launched traffic management system for drones in India.
- **European Union** has announced the formation of 3 working groups with India under the 'Trade and Technology Council' (TTC) with a focus on trade, investment & value chains, digital economy and clean technology.
- Along with India, **United Arab Emirates and France** has unveiled an ambitious roadmap for cooperation in a wide range of areas including defence, energy and technology.
- **Sri Lanka** has celebrated its 75 years of Independence on the 4th Feb, 2023 under the theme "Namo Namo Matha - A step towards a century".
- The 6th Meeting of the Heads of Supreme Audit Institutes (SAIs) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States was held in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**.
- The Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav has launched the Save Wetlands Campaign in **Goa**.
- According to production data of FAOSTAT, **India** is the highest milk producer in the world contributing twenty-four per cent of global milk production in the year 2021-22.

- **Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell** has signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) with International Energy Agency (IEA) to strengthen cooperation in the field of data and research & enhance global energy security, stability, and sustainability.
- **Directorate General of GST Intelligence** has signed an MoU with National Forensic Sciences University for setting up digital forensic laboratories.
- **Swiggy** has appointed Mallika Srinivasan, Shailesh Haribhakti and Sahil Barua as independent directors to its Board.
- **Shamika Ravi** has been appointed as a member of the Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister (EAC-PM).
- The Government of India (GoI) has allowed Indian Bank to increase the number of posts of executive directors from 3 to **4**.
- **DCB Bank's** stake in DSP Investment Managers was increased by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to 9.99% as part of investment through various mutual fund schemes.
- Aaron Finch (**Australia**) has announced his retirement from international T20Is.
- **Salman Rushdie** is the author of the new book titled "Victory City".
- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) hiked the repo rate by **25** basis points (bps) to 6.5% for FY 2022-23.
- Fintech firm PhonePe announced that its users will now be able to pay to international merchant outlets in **5 countries**.
- **Airtel Payment Bank** has launched "BizKhata", a current account with unlimited transactions and instant activation for small merchants and business partners across India.
- The government expects to get **₹ 35,000 crores** from the private sector for National Research Foundation (NRF).
- The Centre is planning to start a program to support small hydropower projects in the country. Currently, the installed capacity of small hydropower projects is **4.9 GW**.
- According to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, Government e-Marketplace is well positioned to surpass its annual target of **₹ 1.75 lakh crore**.
- India plans to promote green tourism, open up to **50** new tourism destinations & launch a publicity campaign in overseas markets during its presidency of the G20 for 2023.
- **Rajasthan** has launched "iStart" scheme to promote innovation, generate employment, and facilitate investment in the state.
- **K Satyanarayana Raju** has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Director (CEO) of Canara bank.
- The Indian Navy's Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) & the MiG-29K undertook their maiden landing on board India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier **INS Vikrant**.
- Jupiter becomes a planet with most moons with **12** newly discovered moons.
- **NTPC** has been awarded the "ATD Best Awards 2023" for the sixth consecutive year by the Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA.
- **Samsung** has partnered with IISc Bengaluru to promote research and development in the field of on-chip Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) protection.
- **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare** has signed an MoU with Digital Green under a public-private partnership framework to build a national-level digital extension platform.
- Akanksha Vyavhare has recently seen in news. He related with **Weightlifting**.

- Indian pacer Joginder Sharma has announced his retirement from all formats of cricket. He belongs to **Haryana**.
- Third edition of the Khelo India Winter Games will be held in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- Popular artist Bukkasagara Krishnaiah Srinivas (BKS) Varma has passed away at the age of 74. He belongs to **Karnataka**.
- **World Pulses Day** is celebrated on 10 February every year and recognized Pulses as a global food.
- The RBI has proposed to permit the lending and borrowing of government securities (G-Secs) to further develop the government securities market. The new market hours for the G-Secs is **9 am – 5 pm**.
- **RBI** is preparing a pilot project on QR code-based coin vending machines (QCVM) to promote distribution of coins, and enhance the accessibility to coins.
- The RBI has proposed to extend the **UPI** facility to inbound travellers for merchant payments; initially to travellers from G20 countries.
- **Cashfree** has launched 'Co-lend', India's first fully automated escrow management solution for co-lending.
- The Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) helped in generating 1.12 crore net additional employment during 2015-2018. The maximum loan amount given in the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana is **Rs 10 lakh**.
- PM Narendra Modi has launched **3** initiatives in the green energy sector during the inaugural India Energy Week in Bengaluru.
- At the Monetary Policy Committee announcement, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has announced the expansion of the scope of TReDs.
- **Ashwini Vaishnaw** has launched 'Digital Payments Utsav' in New Delhi to promote Digital Payments across the country.
- Danish brewer Carlsberg has stated that the Khetan Group which owns 33% shares in the holding company which manages businesses in India and **Nepal** has put a formal notice to sell its entire stake to the brewer for \$744 million.
- Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has approved divestment of **2.5%** stake in Central Depository Services (India) Ltd (CDSL) through an Offer for Sale (OFS) route.
- Ministry of Defence (MoD) has sign a contract with **Larsen & Toubro** for the procurement of 41 indigenous modular bridges worth over Rs 2,585 crore for the Indian Army's Corps of Engineers.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), along with the Indian Navy, has conducted an important trial for the Gaganyaan, human space flight mission in **Kochi, Kerala**.
- **Rakhi Kapoor** has won the award for her book "Now You Breathe - Overcoming Toxic Relationships and Abuse" in the category Powerful Relationship Guide.
- **TCS** has secured its largest UK deal in three years with a new agreement with an insurance services provider.
- Net inflows increased **\$3.6 billion** under non-resident deposits during April-November 2022.
- **Bharati Airtel** has entered a strategic partnership with Vultr to deliver cloud solutions to enterprises in India.
- **Polycab India** has announced an official partnership with the International Cricket Council (ICC).
- **Syngenta India** has entered into a partnership with Io Tech World Avigation for the introduction of drone spraying in the agriculture sector across India.
- Penguin India has recently published a new book on Satyajit Ray named "**Best of Satyajit Ray.**"

- **Ujjivan Small Finance Bank** has launched, India's first mobile banking application with 3 V's – voice, visual, and vernacular-enabled features to provide banking access to individuals who have limited reading and writing skills.
- The RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das stated that Current Account Deficit (CAD) is expected to moderate in the second half of 2022-23(H2 FY23) from 3.3% of GDP in April-September.
- **Edelweiss General Insurance** has rebranded as Zuno General Insurance Limited (Zuno GI), a new-age digital insurer with an aspiration to reimagine and redefine Insurance to make it easy, friendly, and transparent.
- New portal **Insurance Mall** launched by Bajaj Finance Limited for its customers to ensure an Easy-buy experience.
- The RBI has extended the validity of authorization issued to Vakrangee to set up, own and operate White Label Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) in India till **31 March 2024**.
- Urban-20 City Sherp as meeting recently held in **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**.
- The Union Health Ministry Mansukh Mandaviya has launched a nationwide mass drug administration (MDA) campaign. The government has recently announced the elimination of filariasis by **2027**, three years ahead of the global target.
- The Animal Welfare Board of India has issued a notice appealing to people to celebrate 'Cow Hug Day' on **February 14** to spread "positive energy" and encourage "collective happiness".
- Secretary of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Shri Apurva Chandra announced that 108 Buddhist pilgrims from **Republic of Korea** will walk over 1,100 km over 43 days.
- **Punjab** has approved a new industrial and electric vehicle policy 2022.
- **Goa** has launched the 1st premium Helicopter Service, Heli-Tourism service under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) model in the state.
- The Madhya Pradesh government has announced that Islam Nagar village in Bhopal district has been renamed as **Jagdishpur**.
- **Karnataka** High Court recently announced that Gift Vouchers, Cash Back Vouchers, and E-Vouchers are not goods or services, and will not attract Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- **Ranbir Kapoor** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Flipkart-owned Myntra Designs Private Limited.
- **ABK Prasad** has been selected for the prestigious "Raja Ram Mohan Roy National Award for Excellence in Journalism-2020" for his outstanding contribution to the field of journalism.
- **Blue Origin** has won the first NASA business for New Glenn named 'ESCAPADE'.
- As per the recent Global Quality Infrastructure Index (GQII) 2021, India's national accreditation system under the Quality Council of India (QCI) get **5th place**.
- As per United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report, the rise of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) could result in 10 million deaths annually by **2050**.
- India's aviation safety oversight ranking has improved from **112th** place to 55th place, with significant improvement in the score.
- **GAIL** has signed an advance pricing agreement (APA) with the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to improve the ease of doing business in India and support the government's goal of promoting a non-adversarial tax system.
- **Telangana** has signed an MoU with Mahindra & Mahindra for establishing a manufacturing facility, including the development and production of electric three and four-wheelers, on its 'Last Mile Mobility' business.

- Samunnati Agro Solutions Private Limited has partnered with GLOBALG.A.P. for setting global standards for agricultural produce particularly, on food safety and quality. GLOBALG.A.P. is based on **Germany**.
- The National Productivity Day in India 2023 is observed on the 12th of February 2023. Theme - **A chance to set goals**.
- Every year, World Radio Day has been celebrated on **13 February**.
- **Bank of India's** Investment Managers Private Limited has launched a New Fund Offer (NFO) for investors looking to diversify their portfolio across large, mid and small cap categories.
- The QUAD countries have launched 'Quad Cyber Challenge' for improving cyber security. **Australia** is set to host the 2023 Quad summit.
- Geological Survey of India (GSI) has announced that "for the first time" it has established Lithium inferred resources of 5.9 million tonnes in the Salal-Haimana area of Reasi District of **Jammu & Kashmir**.
- A two-day Urban-20 City Sherpas' meeting was held in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. It is the **3rd** of the G20 events being held in Gujarat as part of India's presidency of the Group of 20.
- **Tamil Nadu** has proposed 81 crores 'Muthamizh Arignar Dr Kalaignar Pen Monument' in the Bay of Bengal.
- The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) India has imposed a **Rs 20 lakh** fine on Air Asia (India) for violating applicable DGCA Civil Aviation Requirements.
- As per the recent finance ministry report, The Gross direct tax collections grew **24%** to Rs 15.67 lakh crore so far this fiscal year.
- President of India Droupadi Murmu has appointed governors in 12 states and a Union Territory (UT). Lakshman Prasad Acharya has been appointed as the Governor of **Sikkim**.
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched the second developmental flight of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV-D2). SSLV rocket carrying **3** satellites.
- **Qualcomm Technologies** introduced the world's first satellite-based two-way capable messaging solution for premium smartphones called "Snapdragon Satellite" at the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) 2023.
- **UK** has awarded Manmohan Singh the Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to economic and political life.
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been named as the World's Most Admired Companies, according to the FORTUNE® magazine. CEO of TCS is **Rajesh Gopinathan**.
- **Nagaland** has signed an MoU with Patanjali Foods Limited for development and area expansion under palm oil cultivation and processing for Zone-II of the state under the National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP).
- **Confederation of Indian Industry** has signed an MoU with the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) to collaborate on Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes.
- Recently the Mascot, Theme Song and Jersey for the 3rd edition of Khelo India Winter Games has been launched. The 3rd edition of Khelo India Winter Games to be held in **Jammu & Kashmir**.
- Jean-Eric Vergne has won his inaugural Formula E race Hyderabad E-Prix at the street circuit on the banks of Hussain Sagar Lake at the NTR Marg. He belongs to **France**.
- Joginder Sharma has announced his retirement. He related with **Cricket**.
- Legendary Oscar- and Grammy-winning composer **Burt Bacharach** passed away at the age of 94.

- As per the recent appointment by the President of India Droupadi Murmu, **C.P. Radhakrishnan** has been appointed as the Governor of Jharkhand.
- **Financial Literacy Week (FLW)** is being organized by the RBI from February 13 to February 17, 2023.
- According to the Ministry of Communications, **7%** of Indian villages do not have a 4G mobile network.
- Supreme Court had ruled that **Competition Commission of India** can impose penalty only on the basis of relevant turnover of specific product or service.
- **Giriraj Singh** has inaugurated the Mission Antyodaya Survekshan (MAS) 2022-23 at a function in New Delhi.
- PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit 2023 in Lucknow. **Jhansi** came in the first position of this summit.
- The Union Minister of Communications Ashwini Vaishnav has inaugurated the National Philatelic Exhibition named **AMRITPEX 2023** at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- The **14th** edition of Aero India Show has been inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The yearly meeting of members of River Cities Alliance (RCA), DHARA was organized in Pune, Maharashtra. DHARA - **Driving Holistic Action for Urban Rivers**.
- India's first frozen lake marathon is set to be held in Pangong Tso. Pangong Tso located in **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- India and **United States** have jointly developed air-launched unmanned aerial vehicles (ALUAV) that will be used for surveillance missions.
- The Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India (GoI) notified the appointment of Chief Justices (CJ) in **4** High Courts.
- **Nikos Christodoulides** has been elected as the 8th President of Cyprus.
- A former judge and freedom fighter, Mohammad Shahabuddin Chuppu has been declared as the **22nd** President-elect of Bangladesh.
- Tata Steel Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and managing director (MD) TV Narendran stated that the merger of **7** subsidiary companies with Tata Steel are expected to be completed in 2023-24 fiscal year (FY24).
- The Centre has designated **AIIMS Delhi** as the centre of excellence (CoE) for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare.
- Egyptian President Abel Fattah Al-Sisi has presented Niyati Totala and Neel Kapeshkumar Parikh of IIT Indore Global Best M-Gov Award for creating **Blockbill** app.
- **Dhiraj Kumar** is the author of the new book titled "Sridevi: The Life of a Legend" recently released.
- **State Bank of India** has started its 3rd specialized branch for start-ups in India at Gurugram to support and provide all banking services required by Start-ups under one roof.
- **Paytm** has launched a special G20-theme, QR Code to celebrate India's presidency of the inter-governmental forum and the country's leadership in mobile payments.
- Bank of Maharashtra has launched its own private cloud infrastructure named **Mahabank Nakshatra** to facilitate high-performance cloud capabilities for digital infrastructure and hosting applications of the bank.

- President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the 2nd edition of Indian Rice Congress in Cuttack. As of now, **West Bengal** is the highest rice-producing state in India.
- PM Narendra Modi has launched a year-long celebrations commemorating Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati's **200th** birth anniversary.
- PM Narendra Modi has laid foundation stone of **247 km** of national highway projects to be developed at a cost of more than ₹ 5,940 crore.
- **India** is planning to propose the launch of a global initiative "MIIRA" to encourage the consumption and production of millets.
- **US, India, and Brazil** are set to establish a global biofuel alliance along with other interested countries.
- India's Retail inflation has been increased to three month high level of **6.52%** in January 2023.
- **₹ 25,000 crore** amount is estimated to be collected from Special Additional Excise Duty (SAED) for FY23.
- The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation has been declined for the **eighth** consecutive month to 4.73% in January 2023.
- **Aniket Sunil Talati** has been elected as the President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) for the year 2023-24.
- Natalia Gavrilita stepped down from her position of the PM of **Moldova**.
- **Rayyana Barnawi** became the first woman astronaut from Saudi Arabia to Visit International Space Station (ISS).
- **Angela Merkel** has been awarded the Felix Houphouet-Boigny UNESCO Peace Prize in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast.
- The World's First Cloud-Built Demonstration Satellite **JANUS-1** was launched By ISRO's mini-Rocket SSLV-D2.
- According to Knight Frank report, Mumbai and Bengaluru are among five best performing residential markets in Asia Pacific in terms of annual price growth. **Manila** has ranked as the best-performing Asia-Pacific market.
- Football club team **Real Madrid** has won the Club World Cup by defeating Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal in the final held in Rabat, Morocco.
- **HDFC Bank** has launched a pilot project under RBI's Regulatory Sandbox program in partnership with Crunchfish to test offline digital payments for merchants and customers.
- **RBI** has updated its 'Alert List' for the public on unauthorized FOREX trading platforms.
- **Maruti Suzuki** has signed an MoU with South Indian Bank to provide dealer finance options and custom auto retail financing solutions for customers.
- **South Indian Bank** has launched a wealth management platform in partnership with Geojit Financial Services Limited.
- South Indian Bank signed the agreement with **Telangana's** Directorate of Treasuries & Accounts (DTA) (Cyber Treasury).
- India's first waste-to-hydrogen plant is to be set up in **Pune, Maharashtra**.
- **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways** has set up a high-level panel for formulating the guidelines for the operationalization of Ro-Ro and Ro-Pax ferry services.
- **ReNew** company has unveiled a new brand identity as it reinforces leadership in providing decarbonization solutions.

- The Union Government has launched a mobile app named **Khanan Prahari** and a web app Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) for reporting unauthorized coal mining activities.
- The Union Cabinet has given approval to the signing of an MoU between India and **South Africa** for cooperation in the disability sector.
- The four-day National Horticultural Fair (NHF) 2023 was held in Bengaluru. Theme of this event - **Innovative Horticulture for Self Reliance**.
- **Russia** has supplied India with around \$13 billion of arms during the past 5 years.
- **Meenakshi Nevatia** has been appointed as an Additional Director and the Managing Director for Drugmaker Pfizer for 5 years.
- Alibaba Group completely sells its 3.16% investment in **Paytm**.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank** is set to acquire 100% of equity shares of Sonata Finance Pvt Ltd (SFPL) from existing shareholders for a cash consideration of about ₹ 537 crores.
- HDFC Bank has executed an agreement to sell its entire stake **9.95%** in Softcell Technologies Global Private Limited (STGPL) at ₹ 600.36 per equity share for a consideration of ₹ 9.94 crores.
- **Tech Mahindra** has signed an MoU with the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT), Saudi Arabia to establish a Data & Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Cloud Center of Excellence (CoE) in Riyadh.
- **Central Board of Direct Taxes** has introduced fresh norms for filing statements for equalization levies by companies that would allow the tax commissioner to reject returns that they deem to be invalid.
- Public sector general insurance companies like New India, United India, National Insurance, Oriental Insurance and General Insurance Corporation Re have **Rs 348 crore** exposure in Adani Group companies.
- India's wheat production during the current crop year (July 2022-June 2023) has been estimated at a record high of **112.18 million tonnes**.
- **145** bird species were spotted during the first Sundarban Bird Festival.
- **Singapore** has been awarded the hosting rights for the 2025 World Aquatics Championships.
- The third edition of the Khelo India Winter Games was recently concluded in Gulmarg, Jammu and Kashmir. **Jammu and Kashmir** has topped the medal tally in this event.
- Lalitha Lajmi passed away at the age of 90. She was a renowned **Painter**.
- The RBI has organized its 2nd global hackathon - "HARBINGER 2023 - Innovation for Transformation". Theme for the 2nd global hackathon - **Inclusive Digital Services**.
- Paytm Payments Banks Limited has launched UPI LITE enabled by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for multiple small-value UPI transactions. The minimum transactions for UPI LITE is **Rs. 200**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted in-principle approval to **32** entities to operate as an online payment aggregator (PA).
- **SEBI** has introduced the issue summary document (ISD) for filing papers about Initial Public Offer (IPO) and for further issue of securities in XBRL format.
- **EIB** has formally agreed to join the India Hydrogen Alliance (IH2A) and expand support for large-scale green hydrogen hubs and projects across India with indicative funding of €1 billion.

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 130 million loan to increase agricultural productivity and promote horticulture agribusinesses to raise farmers' income in **Himachal Pradesh**.
- **EbixCash** has become the first company in India to launch and enable Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions for foreign nationals visiting India.
- **Shinku La** Tunnel construction has been approved by the Union Cabinet to provide all-weather connectivity in Ladakh.
- The Union Cabinet recently approved the establishment of a new **Primary Agricultural Credit Society** in 2 lakh panchayats in the next five years.
- The Union Cabinet has approved a Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Vibrant Villages Programme with a financial allocation of **4,800 crore** rupees for the fiscal years 2022-23 to 2025-26.
- According to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, India's overall exports from April to January in the current financial year are estimated to show a positive growth of **17.33%** over the same period last year.
- The Ministry of Culture is organizing the First G20 Culture Group (CWG) meeting in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh. **4** priority areas of India have been included in the CWG meeting.
- The United States (US) aerospace major Boeing launched its first global support centre (GSC) in India at **Gurugram, Haryana**.
- **SpaceX** has ignited its giant Starship spacecraft into orbit, completing an engine-firing test at the launch pad.
- **Subhash Chandran** has bagged the Akbar Kakkattil award for his novel 'Samudrasila'.
- India and **Fiji** has signed an MoU on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and official passports.
- **IISc Bangalore** has signed an MoU with Bharat Electronics Limited to work together in Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and other emerging technologies.
- India and **Spain** agree to collaborate on digital infrastructure, climate action, and sustainable development.
- **Uttar Pradesh** has signed MoUs with the HCL foundation to strengthen the grassroots sports ecosystem and infrastructure and build high-performance centres.
- The National Dairy Development Board is a statutory body set up by an Act of the Parliament of India. The founder of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is **Verghese Kurien**.
- **HDFC Bank** is the first private sector bank in India to take up a service that allows customers to use RuPay credit cards on a UPI with BHIM and other UPI-enabled apps.
- Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd (HDFC) concluded a sale of 10-year non-convertible debentures (NCDs) worth **Rs 25,000 crore**, marking the largest domestic rupee bond issuance by a corporate in India.
- **National Skill Development Corporation** has entered into a partnership with HDFC Life to support self-employment and augment entrepreneurial opportunities under the Skill India Mission.
- **SEBI** has notified governance norms for Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) on the lines of listed companies.
- The Public-Sector Banks (PSBs) in India wrote off bad loans worth **Rs 29,000 crore** during the Q3-FY23.
- **DriveU** has partnered with SMC Insurance Brokers Pvt. Ltd to provide car insurance for over 650,000 DriveU customers.

- Under Project Cheetah, **12** African cheetahs including seven males and five females will reach Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
- The national-level hackathon “KAVACH-2023” has been launched in New Delhi to advance India’s cyber-preparedness.
- North India’s first nuclear power plant is set to come up in **Gorakhpur, Haryana**.
- According to a report produced by NASSCOM, India is the **third** largest tech start-up ecosystem globally, with over 1,300 active tech start-ups added in CY2022.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved a **₹ 5,666 crore** deal related to Dalmia Cement’s acquisition of cement, clinker and power plants of Jaiprakash Associates Limited (JAL).
- According to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) report, titled “Global Sea-Level Rise and Implications”, between 2013 and 2022, global mean sea-level rose by **4.5 millimetre**.
- **West Bengal** has presented a Rs 3.39-lakh crore budget for the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24.
- **Neal Mohan** has been appointed as the next Chief Executive officer (CEO) of YouTube.
- **Karnataka Bank** has won Prathista Puraskar under Digidhan Awards 2021-22.
- **Surf Excel** brand has crossed a billion dollars in annual sales in 2022, the first brand in India’s home and personal care category to reach that mark.
- **Zomato** has launched The Shelter Project to support the entire gig economy and delivery partners of various companies.
- As per Nokia’s annual Mobile Broadband Index (MBIT) report, India’s total spends on private wireless networks is expected to reach around \$250 million by **2027**.
- **4th** edition of the annual joint military exercise, “EX DHARMA GUARDIAN”, between India and Japan is being conducted at Camp Imazu in Shiga province, Japan.
- Ola Electric Mobility has signed an MoU with **Tamil Nadu** government to set up a cell manufacturing plant and an electric 4-wheeler manufacturing plant in the state.
- The Central Water Commission has signed an Agreement with **IIT Roorkee**.
- Homegrown financial technology firm Velocity has launched India’s first Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot integrated with OpenAI’s ChatGPT called **Lexi**.
- Every year, The World Day of Social Justice has been observed on **February 20**.
- The Reserve Bank of India introduced Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act-related transaction codes in National Electronic Funds Transfer and Real Time Gross Settlement Systems, which will be effective from **March 15, 2023**.
- **20** Russian banks have opened rupee Vostro accounts with authorized dealer banks in India to enable rupee trade between the two countries.
- **Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance** has launched ‘ABSLI Anmol Suraksha Kawach’, to address the short-term protection needs of the policyholders.
- **The Ministry of Civil Aviation’s** flagship program Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN was initiated in 2016 with the objective of enhanced aviation infrastructure and air connectivity in Tier II and Tier III cities.
- India has set a target of achieving \$14 billion in exports of marine products by **2025**.
- The share of coal in India’s electricity generation is expected to drop from 74 percent to **69** percent by 2025 as renewable energy sources succeed.
- The “**Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana**” has been announced by Indian Railways to empower youth by giving them access to entry-level vocational training in railway training institutes.

- BHASHINI is India's Artificial Intelligence-led language translation platform by **The Ministry of Electronics and IT**.
- **Sagar Parikrama** is an initiative of the Government of India, aiming to resolve the issues of the fishers and other stakeholders and facilitate their economic upliftment through various fisheries schemes and programs being implemented by the Government of India such as PMMSY.
- A time capsule created and produced by researchers at the **IIT-Delhi** is slated to be opened in 2047.
- Indian-origin Republican leader **Nikki Haley** formally launched her U.S. Presidential Campaign for 2024.
- The former Executive Director of **Bank of Baroda**, Shri Vikramaditya Singh Khichi, has been appointed by the Central Bank of India to the Advisory Committee on Reliance Capital.
- The Board of Directors of **AU Small Finance Bank** has appointed Ms. Kavita Venugopal as a Non-Executive Independent Director on the bank's Board.
- **David Malpass** will resign from his position as World Bank President by the end of June 2023.
- The Indian Air Force has created the reducing native platform "**Vayulink**" to assist pilots in navigating inclement weather and to offer jammer-proof uninterrupted contact with the base station.
- Recently, NASA has developed a technology '**FINDER**' that can remotely detect the tiniest motions of the body that will be used by disaster relief teams in earthquake-stricken Turkey.
- The district hospital in Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand, received anti-tuberculosis (TB) medications in the first successful experiment, which was carried out by the **All India Institute of Medical Sciences**.
- India is creating a fund worth **Rs. 33,000 crores** to help the country's corporate debt market remain liquid during times of stress, prevent panic selling, and lessen pressure from redemption.
- **102** musicians in India received the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the years 2019, 2020, and 2021 in New Delhi.
- **FTSE Russell**, the global index service provider added 10 Indian listed companies to its Global large-cap index.
- Recently, In terms of having a high-caliber entrepreneurial ecosystem, India is placed **Fourth** out of 51 nations, which reflects the constant improvement in the country's business environment over time.
- Tripartite MoU was signed amongst the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, NIPER Hyderabad, and FSSAI to deal with the problem of **Doping** in sports.
- Jeje Lalpekhlua announced his retirement, belongs to **Foot Ball**.
- Veteran Yakshagana playback singer and scriptwriter **Balipa Narayana Bhagawatha** passed away at the age of 84 in the Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka.
- Final rules on Interest Rate Risk in Banking Books have been published by the **Reserve Bank of India**, which mandate that banks measure, monitor, and disclose their exposure to IRRBB that may affect the capital base and potential future earnings of lenders.
- The stock broking company, Angel One has received in-principle approval from the **Securities Exchange Board of India** for sponsoring a Mutual Fund.
- **Giorgia Meloni**, the Italian PM and the right-wing poster child for Europe will be the main speaker at the upcoming Raisina discussion.
- The Ministry of External Affairs has launched the "**mPassport Police App**" to shorten the time required for police verification of individuals applying for passports in the capital.

- India achieved another milestone by launching the first ever indigenously developed Train Control and Supervision System 'i-ATS' has been launched by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation on its first corridor.
- To promote production and research in the technical textiles industry, Mumbai will play host to "Technotex 2023" organized by the textile ministry.
- GST Council adopted the report of the Group of Ministers on setting up the GST Appellate Tribunal with some modifications. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the 49th meeting of the GST Council.
- Rakesh Gangwal's wife, Shobha Gangwal, sold a 4% interest in InterGlobe Aviation's parent company for Rs 2,944 crore through open market transactions.
- Italy's Prime Minister will be the chief guest in the next Raisina dialogue which is India's premier foreign policy conference on **geopolitics and geoeconomics** committed to addressing the most challenging issues facing the global community.
- **Aruna Sundararajan** was appointed as the Chairperson of The Broadband India Forum organization.
- **Ayushmann Khurrana** has been chosen as a national ambassador by UNICEF India.
- 4th edition of the annual bilateral joint military exercise DUSTLIK (2023) between India-Uzbekistan military training is being conducted in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.
- Saurashtra defeated Bengal by nine wickets in the final at Eden Gardens in Kolkata. Saurashtra has won the Ranji Trophy title for the **Second** time.
- **Football Player** Tulsidas Balaram passed away at the age of 84 in Kolkata.
- **Kamala Kasturi**, the wife of the former Editor of The Hindu, G Kasturi, passed away at the age of 89.
- Every year 22nd February is celebrated as **World Scout Day**.
- World Thinking Day 2023 is observed on the 22nd of February 2023 with the theme Of "Our World, Our Thriving Future: The environment and global poverty".
- The PM of India Shri Narendra Modi and his Singapore counterpart Lee Hsien Loong launched cross-border connectivity between the **Unified Payments Interface** of India and PayNow of Singapore through video conferencing.
- Government has set up a panel to monitor the implementation of the Mission Karmayogi programme. The panel will be headed by Cabinet Secretary **Rajiv Gauba**.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone for the world's largest Divyang Park named **Divyang Anubhuti Park**.
- India becomes the world's **second** biggest wheat producer production is likely to rise 4.1% to a record 112.2 million tonnes.
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is set to host the first vice-ministerial meeting of the I2U2 in **Abu Dhabi** from 20-26 February 2023.
- Governor of Odisha Shri Ganeshi Lal launched India's first artificial intelligence (AI) driven ChatBot for agriculture named **Ama KrushAI** in Bhubaneswar at the annual Krushi Odisha event 2023.
- Lieutenant general **MV Suchindra Kumar** has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of Army Staff.
- Overall remittances by resident individuals under LRS have shot up by **40%** to \$19.35 billion during the nine months ended December 2022 from \$13.79 billion a year ago.

- Indian origin Karthik Subramaniam has been declared winner of the annual Picture of the Year awards for his photo titled “**Dance of the Eagles**”.
- India and **Fiji** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and official passports.
- Indian team led by P.V. Sindhu won the **bronze** medal at Badminton Asia Mixed Team Championship.
- **China** wins the Gold medal in the third edition of the Badminton Asia Mixed Team 2023 held from 14-19 February 2023.
- The global green bond market has surpassed the milestone of **2 trillion** USD in terms of cumulative green bond issuance.
- The world’s first international summit on the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the military (REAIM) 2023 commenced in The **Netherlands**.
- The **UIBC-UC** is well positioned to assist the 2 governments in attaining their goals and using the full potential of the UAE-India relationship.
- Odisha recorded an overall decline in the prevalence of child marriage from **21.3%** in National Family Health Survey-4 to 20.5% in NFHS-5.
- **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** has imposed a fine of ₹ 2,232 crore on the Delhi government for damage caused to the environment due to improper solid and liquid waste management.
- Madhya Pradesh (MP) Governor Mangubhai Patel inaugurated the 7-day long **49th** Khajuraho Dance Festival-2023 at the world-famous tourist destination Khajuraho, Chhatarpur district, MP.
- **Kerala High Court** has become the first High Court to publish two of its recent judgments in the country to publish it in a regional language.
- **Sanjaya Kumar Mishra** was sworn in as the 14th Chief Justice of the Jharkhand High Court (HC).
- **Chetan Sharma** is India’s first bowler to take a hat-trick in the ODI World Cup.
- India’s first hybrid sounding rocket made by the school students from various states launched as part of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Satellite Launch Vehicle Mission 2023 from **Pattipulam** Village in Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu (TN).
- The World’s highest altitude weather station has been rebuilt on **Mount Everest**.
- Indian educationist and social worker for the promotion of indigenous languages in Odisha Dr.MahendraKumr Mishra was conferred the International Mother Language Award by **Sheikh Hasina**.
- In order to further the existing cooperation in the realm of maritime safety and security, IFC-IOR signed an MoU with Regional Coordination Operations Centre (RCOC), **Seychelles**.
- Uber has signed a MoU with Tata Motors to bring 25,000 electric vehicles onto the platform. This agreement is both in alignment with India’s vision to reach net zero by **2070**.
- At the International Defence Expo and Conference, Hindustan Aeronautics (**HAL**) and EDGE, the top defence company in the UAE, inked a Memorandum of Understanding (IDEX).
- Indian teen Tilottama Sen has won bronze medal in the women’s 10m Air Rifle at ISSF World Cup held in **Cairo, Egypt**.
- India’s chess player **Vignesh NR** has become India’s 80th Grandmaster.
- **JP Nadda** has launched a book “Modi: Shaping a Global Order in Flux” in Chanakypuri.
- State Bank of India (SBI) integrated its mobile application BHIM SBIPay, with UPI-PayNow linkage facilitating fund transfers from India to **Singapore** through registered mobile numbers.

- **Kotak fyn** is the name of the integrated digital platform launched by Kotak Mahindra Bank for business banking and corporate clients, offering digital banking and value-added services across all products, including trade and services, account services, payments, and collections.
- **Saraswat Bank** has partnered with Singapore-based digital banking solutions provider Tagit to implement omnichannel digital banking solutions for its retail and corporate customers.
- Union Cabinet has extended the term of the 22nd Law Commission of India up to **August 31, 2024**.
- The government approved a **five-year** project on “Innovative Extension Approaches for Revitalizing Agriculture in J&K”.
- In the SBI research report titled Ecowrap, India’s GDP growth for Q3 FY23 is estimated at **4.6%**.
- India’s steel imports from Russia reached an eight-year high level in April-January of FY23. **India** is the world’s second-largest crude steel producer.
- **Punit Renjen** was the next chairman of Deloitte Global CEO, the Germany-headquartered global enterprise software company.
- **Shelly Oberoi** won the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) Mayor elections.
- **Ms. Vardhini Kalyanaraman** has been appointed as Additional Director (Independent Category) on the Board of Dhanlaxmi Bank.
- **Aparna Kuppuswamy** has been newly appointed as the Chief Risk Officer Fintech firm BharatPe Group.
- **Sanjay Nayar** has been appointed as the new vice president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM).
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has made an Announcement of Opportunity (AO) to allow scientists and researchers to analyze data from the first dedicated Indian astronomy mission, **AstroSat**.
- **Prime Minister of India** conferred the Sansad Ratna Awards 2023.
- **India and Guyana** has signed an air service agreement approved by the Union Cabinet of India.
- Weapon System **LORA** is a sea-to-ground and ground-to-ground system that comprises a long-range ballistic missile, a unique launcher, a command and control system, and a ground/marine support system.
- **Russia** was India’s 4th biggest steel supplier from April to January.

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