

GENERAL AWARENESS-CURRENT AFFAIRS
MONTH OF APRIL-2023

List of Important Days

- April 01 - Odisha Day or Utkal Divas.
- April 01 - RBI Foundation Day.
- April 01 to 07 - Prevention of Blindness Week.
- April 02 - 16th World Autism Awareness Day.
- April 04 - International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. (Theme - "Mine Action Cannot Wait")
- April 05 - International Day of Conscience.
- April 05 - 60th National Maritime Day.
- April 06 - International Day of Sport for Development and Peace. (Theme - "Scoring for People and the Planet.")
- April 07 - 75th World Health Day. (Theme - "Health For All")
- April 10 - World Homeopathy Day. (Theme - "One Health, One Family")
- April 11 - National Safe Motherhood Day.
- April 12 - International Day of Human Space Flight.
- April 13 - 104th Anniversary of Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.
- April 14 - World Chagas Disease Day. (Theme - "Time to integrate Chagas disease into primary health care, so that universal care and surveillance start at the most decentralized level of the health system")
- April 15 - World Art Day.
- April 16 - Save the Elephant Day.
- April 16 - World Voice Day.
- April 17 - World Hemophilia Day.
- April 17 to 21 - National Panchayat Awards Week.
- April 18 - World Heritage Day or International Day for Monuments and Sites.
- April 19 - World Liver Day. (Theme - "Be vigilant, do a regular liver check-up, fatty liver can affect anyone.")
- April 20 - Chinese Language Day.
- April 21 - National Civil Services Day.
- April 21 - World Creativity and Innovation Day.
- April 22 - International Mother Earth Day. (Theme - "Invest in our Planet,")
- April 23 - World Book and Copyright Day.
- April 24 to 30 - World Immunization Week.
- April 24 - International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace.
- April 24 - India celebrates National Panchayati Raj Day.
- April 24 - World Day for Laboratory Animals.

- April 25 - International Delegate's Day.
- April 25 - World Malaria Day.
- April 26 - International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day.
- April 26 - World Intellectual Property Day.
- April 27 (fourth Thursday of April) - International Girls in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Day.
- April 28 - World Day for Safety and Health at Work.
- April 29 - World Veterinary Day.
- April 30 - International Jazz Day.

Reserve Bank of India

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has shared details on India's International Investment Position (IIP) at the end of December 2022.
 - According to the data, non-residents' net claims in India **dropped** by **US\$ 12.0 billion** between October and December 2022, settling at US\$ 374.5 billion by the end of December 2022.
- The Reserve Bank of India has announced its bimonthly monetary policy and kept the **repo rate unchanged** at **6.50 per cent**.
 - GDP growth is expected to have been 7 per cent in FY 22-23.
- Several **public sector banks** in India have transferred a total of **Rs 35,012 crore** (\$4.7 billion) in unclaimed deposits to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it has imposed **penalties** on **Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd, Indian Bank, and Muthoot Money Limited** for non-compliance with regulatory norms.
- **RBI** is set to introduce a new secured web-based portal called "**PRAVAAH**" (Platform for Regulatory Application, Validation And Authorization) aimed at simplifying and streamlining the **application processes**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released comprehensive instructions for banks and non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) regarding the **acceptance** of '**green deposits**'.

State Bank of India

- The State Bank of India (SBI) has revealed plans to introduce new variants of **current accounts** and **savings accounts** in the fiscal year 2023-24, as it seeks to reduce the gap between deposit growth and credit growth.
 - It also plans to introduce a new savings account called "**Parivar**" (family) account.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has announced the re-introduction of its **retail term deposit** scheme, Amrit Kalash.
 - The scheme offers a special tenor of 400 days and provides an interest rate of 7.6% for senior citizens and 7.1% for others.
- **SBI** opened its fourth branch exclusively for **startups** in **Mumbai's BKC area**.

Other Banks

- **India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)** launched its **WhatsApp Banking Services** in New Delhi.
- State-owned **Bank of Maharashtra (BoM)** has opened its first dedicated branch for **startups** in **Pune, Maharashtra**.
- **Canara Bank** and **NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd (NBBL)** have collaborated to launch a service that allows **Indians residing in Oman** to make payments for **their bills in India**.

- City Union Bank Limited (**CUB**) has introduced a new feature that allows customers to use **voice biometric authentication** when logging into the bank's mobile banking app, aimed at improving security.
- **Jupiter**, a neobanking startup, has obtained a non-banking finance company (**NBFC**) **license** from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), enabling the company to provide credit from its own resources.

Election Commission

- In a significant development, the Election Commission has granted **national party status** to the **Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)**.

States

- The European Commission (EC) has awarded protected geographical indication (**PGI**) status to **Kangra tea**, a unique variety of tea grown in the Kangra district of India's **Himachal Pradesh**.
- **Eravikulam National Park** is located in the Western Ghats of India, in the state of Kerala.
 - In a first, Eravikulam National Park gets a **fernarium**.
- The **Benarasi Paan**, known for its distinct taste and unique blend of ingredients, has been awarded the GI tag along with three other **Varanasi**-based products: **Banarasi Langda Mango, Ramnagar Bhanta (Brinjal), and Adamchini Rice**.
- According to data shared by the GI Registry, **Kerala** (six products) has secured the highest number of Geographical Indication (**GI**) tags for products among all states in India in FY23.
- The **Mircha rice** variety from West Champaran district of **Bihar** has recently been granted the **GI tag**.
- **Chhattisgarh's Nagri Dubraj**, an aromatic rice variety, has been granted a geographical indication (**GI**) tag by the Geographical Indication Registry.
- The **Tamil Nadu** Industrial Development Corporation (**Tidco**) has developed a mechanism called Tamil Nadu Regional Aerial Connectivity through Helicopters (**TN REACH**), which aims to utilize over **80 unused helipads** across the state to provide intercity and town connectivity.
- The Chief Minister of **Maharashtra**, Eknath Shinde, has declared that May 28, the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, will be celebrated as '**Swatantrya Veer Gaurav Din**'.
- **Himachal Pradesh** has initiated a project named **Sanjeevani** to uplift the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- The well-known **Gond painting** of **Madhya Pradesh** has been granted the coveted Geographical Indication (**GI**) tag.
- **Kerala** adopts a **Water Budget** – the first of its kind in the country.
 - The details of the first phase of the Water Budget in the state covering 94 grama panchayats in 15 block panchayats were unveiled by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.
- The famous **Cumbum Panneer Thratchai** or Cumbum grapes from **Tamil Nadu** have recently been granted the Geographical Indication (**GI**) tag.
- In a first-ever census of its kind in the country, forest officials in **Odisha's** Bhitarkanika have sighted 179 mangrove **pitta birds**, which are known for their exotic and vibrant colours.
- The **Rajasthan** government's recent declaration of **three areas** as **conservation reserves** has brought a ray of hope for wildlife conservation efforts and ecotourism in the state.
 - As the state government declared three areas – Sorsan in Baran, Khichan in Jodhpur and Hamirgarh in Bhilwara – as conservation reserves.

Defence and National Security

- The 10th annual **SLINEX-2023** bilateral maritime exercise between **India** and **Sri Lanka** has commenced in Colombo, **Sri Lanka**.
- India's Sukhoi-30s, which are made in Russia, will participate in an exercise named '**Cope India**' that involves dogfighting with **American F-15 Strike Eagle** fighter jets.
- On April 5, 2023, the **Andaman & Nicobar** command, which is India's sole tri-services unit, held a collaborative military drill named Exercise '**KAVACH**'.
- The **Indian Air Force's Rafale** fighter jets will be participating in a military exercise in **France** that involves thousands of **NATO troops**.
- As part of her three-day official visit to the northeastern state, **President** Draupadi Murmu boarded a **Sukhoi 30 MKI** fighter jet for a flight from the strategic Tezpur Airforce station in **Assam**.
- The **INS Vikrant**, India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, was presented with a special gift in the form of its **original bell** from the first carrier of the same name commissioned in 1961.
- The **Greek and Indian Air Forces** will collaborate on a joint training exercise with Su-30, F-16, and Rafale fighter jets for ten days over **Greece** and the Mediterranean Sea.
- The inauguration of the Defence Research and Development Organization (**DRDO**) Industry Academia Centre of Excellence (**DIA-CoE**) took place at the Indian Institute of Technology-Hyderabad, making it the largest facility of its kind in the country.
- The 7th edition of the joint military exercise "**AJEYA WARRIOR-23**" is currently underway at Salisbury Plains in the **United Kingdom**.
 - This biennial training event with the United Kingdom alternates between the **United Kingdom** and **India**.

Committees/Commissions

- The **Indian** government has formed a committee to explore ways of enhancing the **pension benefits** of **government employees** under the National Pension System (**NPS**).
 - The committee will be headed by the finance secretary and consists of three other members.
- The government implemented changes to the pricing model of domestic **natural gas** in accordance with the **Kirit Parikh committee's** recommendations on gas pricing.

Schemes/Initiatives

- The government has introduced a new program called the "New India Literacy Programme" (**NILP**), which is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme that will be implemented for five years from FY 2022-23 to 2026-27.
- The Union Minister for **Rural Development**, Shri Giriraj Singh, has launched an innovative Captive Employer initiative under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (**DDU-GKY**) in New Delhi.
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs informed the Rajya Sabha that under the **PM SVANidhi scheme**, 42.7 lakh loans worth ₹5,152.37 crore have been disbursed to street vendors.
- The Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, introduced the "**Sagar Setu**" mobile application for the **National Logistics Portal Marine**.
- Indian Home Minister Amit Shah has unveiled a 54-foot-tall **statue** of **Lord Hanuman** at a temple in **Gujarat**, India.
- During his visit to Telangana, PM Narendra Modi launched the **Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express**.

- The **Gaj Utsav-2023** was inaugurated at the **Kaziranga National Park** by the **President** of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu.
- The Ministry of Finance announced that the Pradhan Mantri **MUDRA Yojana** (PMMY) has sanctioned **41 crore loans** amounting to ₹23.2-lakh-crore in the past **eight years**.
- PM Narendra Modi launched the International Big Cats Alliance (**IBCA**) during his visit to **Karnataka** on April 9, 2022.
 - The IBCA aims to conserve seven species of big cats, including tigers, lions, leopards, cheetahs, jaguars, snow leopards, and clouded leopards.
- Sarbananda Sonowal, the Union Minister for AYUSH, inaugurated the **International Yoga Mahotsav** at the Dibrugarh University Playground.
- The world's first **conservation and breeding center** for the critically endangered **Asian king vulture** is set to open in **Uttar Pradesh's Maharajganj district**.
 - The center named **Jatayu Conservation and Breeding Centre (JCBC)**.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana** (PMJDY) scheme has achieved a significant milestone in the financial year ending March 31, 2023.
 - The basic bank accounts under the scheme have registered a record surge of **₹50,000 crores**, with the total balance reaching ₹1.99 lakh crore.
- India's Home Minister Amit Shah launched the **Vibrant Village** program at **Kibithu**, a border village in **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- The **Ministry of Culture** in India is dedicated to promoting **Indian Folk Arts and Culture** abroad through various initiatives.
- Manoj Sinha, the lieutenant governor, has opened a **Tulip Garden** in the **Jammu** region at Sanasar's Ramban Hill Resort.
- During his three-day visit to **Uganda's Kampala**, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar launched the '**Tulsi Ghat Restoration Project**' in **Varanasi**.
- PM Narendra Modi launched **Rajasthan's first Vande Bharat Express** train via video conferencing, which is the 15th such train in the country.
- Shri Parshottam Rupala, the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, launched two significant initiatives: the **Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative** (APPI) and the Animal Health System Support for One Health (**AHSSOH**) project, which is funded by the World Bank.
- During his day-long tour to Guwahati, PM Narendra Modi inaugurating a **methanol plant** and laying the foundation stone for a bridge over the Brahmaputra River.
- The CM of **Telangana**, K Chandrasekhar Rao, unveiled a 125-foot bronze statue of **BR Ambedkar** in **Hyderabad** to commemorate the 132nd birth anniversary of the renowned Indian Constitution architect.
- Dr Jaishankar inaugurated the **Buzi Bridge** virtually, which is a part of the 132 km Tica-Buzi-Nova-Sofala Road project.
 - The bridge has been constructed by India and is a symbol of the solidarity and friendship between India and **Mozambique**.
- The Chief Minister of **Arunachal Pradesh**, Pema Khandu, inaugurated the newly renovated Shar Nyima Tsho Sum Namyig Lhakhang (**Gonpa**) at Gyangkhar, Tawang district.
- Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh launched the **YUVA PORTAL** in **New Delhi**, which aims to connect and identify potential young Start-Ups.
 - The minister also introduced the One Week - One Lab programme during the event.

- **India Steel 2023** will be inaugurated at the Mumbai Exhibition Centre in Goregaon, **Mumbai**, with Union Minister of Steel Jyotiraditya Scindia presiding over the event.
- The '**Sangathan Se Samridhhi**' campaign was launched by Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh, with the aim of empowering marginalized rural households.
- The Executive Committee of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) chaired by Director General G Asok Kumar, approved **eight projects** (reduce pollution in River) worth approximately Rs 638 crore.
- Arjun Munda, the Minister of Tribal Affairs, will launch the Marketing and Logistics Development for Promotion of Tribal Products from North-Eastern Region (**PTP-NER**) scheme in **Manipur**.
- The Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar, has unveiled a **new online platform** and mobile application called **SATHI** (Seed Traceability, Authentication, and Holistic Inventory) to address the issues of seed production, quality identification, and certification.
 - The platform has been developed under the Uttam Beej – Samridhhi Kisan scheme.
- The '**Study in India Pavilion**' at the Global Education & Training Exhibition (**GETEX**) in **Dubai** was inaugurated by the Consul General of India in Dubai, Dr. Aman Puri.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated and addressed the **One Earth One Health – Advantage Healthcare India – 2023** conference at Pragati Maidan in **New Delhi** via video conferencing.
- In a recent report, the number of people enrolled in the **Atal Pension Yojana** has surpassed **5.20 crore** as of March 31, 2023.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the '**NAMO Medical Education and Research Institute**' in Silvassa town, located in the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

Summit/Conference

- **IIT Kanpur** will host the **Youth20 Consultation** under the G20 Presidency of India from April 5th-6th, 2023.
- The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (**CDRI**) and its partners hold the International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (**ICDRI**) every year.
- The United Nations 2023 **Water Conference** was held in **New York**.
 - The theme of the conference was "Our watershed moment: uniting the world for water."
- The **Telangana** government has scheduled the **Food Conclave-2023** on April 28 and 29, which is a yearly gathering of 100 experts in the agri-food industry to discuss and exchange ideas.
- Ministry of Defence (Finance) hosted the **International Conference on Defence Finance & Economics** with the goal of facilitating discussions and partnerships among prominent policymakers, academics, and government officials from both India and other countries.
- **Quad Summit** in **Sydney** is set to mark a significant milestone in the growing cooperation between the four democracies of the Indo-Pacific region.
- **India** will host the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (**SCO**) **Summit** in **New Delhi**.

Agreement/Deal/Signed

- **Fino Payments Bank** has renewed its association with **Rajasthan Royals (RR)** for the season 16 of IPL.
 - Fino Bank will be RR's official Digital Banking Partner.
- **Romania's** deputy defence minister, Simona Cojocaru, recently met with **India's** defence secretary, Giridhar Aramane, in New Delhi, during which the two countries signed their first **Defence Cooperation Agreement**.

- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (**I&B**) and **Amazon India** have recently signed a collaboration agreement aimed at boosting India's **creative economy** and promoting creative talent in the country.
- The Unique Identification Authority of India (**UIDAI**) has partnered with the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (**IIT-Bombay**) to develop a **touchless biometric capture system** that is easy to use and accessible from anywhere.
- **Nepal** and **India** are preparing to sign an agreement to allow **cross-border digital payments** through e-wallets, a move that is expected to boost trade and tourism between the two countries by eliminating currency exchange issues.
- The Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre (SIIC) at **IIT Kanpur** has entered into a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreement with **Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited**.
- **HDFC Bank** has signed a Master Inter Bank Credit Agreement with the **Export-Import Bank of Korea**, with a total value of US \$300 million.
- **IIT Indore**, in partnership with **NASA-Caltech** and the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, has designed an inexpensive **camera setup** that can capture multispectral images of four chemical species in a flame using a single DSLR camera.
- **India** and the **United Kingdom** have signed a MOU for collaboration on **science and innovation**.
- Global power technology company, **Cummins Inc**, has entered into a definitive agreement with **Tata Motors Ltd** to manufacture a range of **low-to-zero-emissions technology products** in India.
- **Shivalik Small Finance Bank** has announced a strategic partnership with **Arya.ag**, a grain commerce platform, to provide financing to small farmers against warehouse receipts.
- **Reliance General Insurance** has made history by becoming the first general insurance company to accept the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) **e-Rupee (₹)** for **premium payments**.

Meet/Visit

- The **G20 EMPOWER Alliance** is dedicated to accelerating **women's leadership** and empowerment in the private sector.
- **Bangladesh, India, and Japan** are set to hold a connectivity event in **Tripura, India**.
 - The event is aimed at exploring connectivity initiatives and leveraging the commercial potential of the region.
- **India** will host the **Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi**.
 - Theme - 'Responses to Contemporary Challenges from Philosophy to Praxis'.
- The 12th Session of the **India-Spain Joint Commission** for Economic Cooperation (JCEC) took place on April 13.
- G20 Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists (**MACS**), is scheduled to take place in **Varanasi** from 17 to 19 April.
 - Theme - "One Earth, One Family, One Future."
- The recent **G7 Ministers' Meeting** on Climate, Energy, and Environment in Sapporo, **Japan** focused on how advanced economies can make a significant impact on addressing the climate crisis.

Bills

- The Rajya Sabha approved the **Competition Amendment Bill, 2023**, aimed at modernizing the two-decade-old anti-trust law to align with changes in the economy.
- **Tamil Nadu** Governor RN Ravi has given his assent to a bill that **bans online gambling games** and regulates them.

- The Central government has recently issued the **Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023**, which are designed to comply with the guidelines set by the Supreme Court in a writ petition involving the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) and the People for Elimination of Stray Troubles.

Fund

- **India** gives **\$2 million** to African Union Transition Mission in **Somalia**.
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has announced its plans to invest in non-convertible debentures valued at **Rs 150 crore** in Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd (TPDDL).
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual Report 2022 revealed that **Pakistan** received loans of **\$5.58 billion**, making it the largest recipient of ADB-funded programs/projects in the year 2022.

Economy

- According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), India's **foreign exchange reserves** have continued to increase for the second consecutive week, reaching **USD 578.778 billion** in the week ending March 24. This indicates a rise of USD 5.978 billion in the week.
- The Controller General of Accounts (CGA) released data indicating that the central government's **fiscal deficit** reached **82.8%** of the full-year target at the end of February.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released data showing that India's **current account deficit** has decreased to **\$18.2 billion**, which is equivalent to 2.2% of the GDP.
- The Goods and Services Tax (GST) **revenue** collection for March 2023 has increased by **13%** to Rs 1.60 lakh crore, according to data released by the Ministry of Finance.
- According to a recent report by the World Bank, **India's GDP** growth is predicted to slow down on April 1 to **6.3%** from 6.6% in the fiscal year 2024.
- The Unified Payments Interface (UPI), India's flagship digital payment platform, set a new record at the end of the fiscal year 2022-23.
 - In March 2023, the UPI processed a historic high of **8.7 billion transactions**, worth Rs 14.05 trillion.
- According to the latest **ADB** outlook, **India's economic growth** rate is expected to reach **6.4%** in 2023-24 from 6.8% in FY23, while the growth forecast for the current year has been revised downwards to 6.4% from 7.2% earlier projected.
- In a recent address to the Indian diaspora community in France, Union Minister Piyush Goyal announced that **India** is set to become the **third-largest economy** in the world by **2027**.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has revised **India's** Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast for the financial year 2023-24, lowering it by 20 basis points to **5.9 percent**.
- As per the latest Trade and Development Report Update released by the United Nations Trade and Development Conference (UNCTAD), **India's economic growth** is expected to slow down from 6.6% in 2022 to **6%** in 2023.
 - The report also predicts a **decline** in **global growth** in 2023 to **2.1%** from the previously projected 2.2% in September 2022.
- According to the NSO data, **India's** annual **retail inflation** for March eased to **5.66%** from 6.44% in February.
- **India's** **wholesale-price** based inflation eased in March 2023, as input prices continued to **moderate**.
 - The annual wholesale price inflation (WPI) was recorded at **1.34%** year-on-year, which is a significant decrease from the previous month's reading of 3.85%.

Companies/Industry

- Walmart-backed Indian fintech decacorn **PhonePe** has recently launched **Pincode**, a new consumer-facing app aimed at strengthening its e-commerce initiatives.
- **WhatsApp** has initiated a safety campaign called '**Stay Safe with WhatsApp**' aimed at educating users about the product features that can assist them in maintaining their online safety and improving their messaging experience.
- The authorities of the **Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve** and the **NHAI's** subsidiary, Indian Highways Management Company, signed an agreement aimed at streamlining the entry process for vehicles into the forest area.
 - MoU will enable the implementation of a FASTag-based payment system at forest entry points.
- **Apple** opened its first official store in **Mumbai**, India.
- The city of **Ayodhya** has been chosen for a two-year pilot project aimed at producing **biodiesel from waste**.
 - **Belgium**-based company **Vito** is expected to launch the project in Ayodhya soon.
- The state-owned railway company **Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)** was in focus as the Indian Government upgraded its status to a '**Navratna**' Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) from a '**Miniratna**' category.

Exports/Imports

- **India's gold imports** have **declined** by about **30%** to \$31.8 billion during April-February 2023.
- According to recent figures released by the Indian Ministry of Commerce, the **UAE** remains the **second** most significant **export** destination for India.
 - The **US** and **UAE** held onto their first and second positions, respectively, during the financial year 2022-23.

Taxation/Trade

- The government introduced the **Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023**, which aims to increase the country's **exports** to **USD 2 trillion** by 2030.
- **UK** is set to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (**CPTPP**), which covers a market of around 500 million people with a combined GDP of £9tn.
 - The CPTPP agreement was signed by 11 countries, including Canada, Japan, Mexico, and Australia, and came into force in December 2018.
- The Ministry of External Affairs declared that trade between **India and Malaysia** can now be conducted using the **Indian Rupee (INR)** as a mode of settlement, in addition to other currencies.
- World Trade Organization (**WTO**) has **raised** its projection for **global trade growth** in 2023 from 1% to **1.7%**.
- **NSE Indices** Limited introduced the **Nifty REITs & InvITs Index**, the first of its kind in India, designed to monitor the performance of publicly listed and traded Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) at the National Stock Exchange, whether listed or unlisted but authorized to trade.
- The potential signing of a free trade agreement between **India** and the **European Union** is seen as a positive step towards promoting economic ties between the two regions.
- The Finance Ministry has released time series data indicating a significant increase in **net direct tax** collections, which rose by **160%** to reach Rs 16,61,428 crore in 2022-23 from Rs 6,38,596 crore in 2013-14.

- According to provisional data from the commerce ministry, the bilateral trade between **India** and the **United States** has risen by 7.65% to reach \$128.55 billion in the fiscal year 2022-23, making the United States India's largest trading partner. **China** at second position.
- The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is reportedly set to replace the existing fortnightly notification system for currency exchange rates with a **daily publishing system** on the integrated customs portal.
- **India** is set to appeal against the recent ruling by the World Trade Organization's (WTO) trade dispute settlement panel, which found that the country's import duties on certain information and technology products are inconsistent with global trade norms.

Space

- **Amit Kshatriya**, an Indian-American engineer with expertise in software and robotics, has been appointed as the inaugural **head** of NASA's newly-established **Moon to Mars Programme**.
- **ISRO** has accomplished the Reusable Launch Vehicle Autonomous Landing Mission (RLV LEX) at the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR) in Chitradurga, **Karnataka**.
- On April 5th, 2023, **Israel** successfully launched a new spy satellite, named **Ofek-13**, into orbit. The satellite Ofek-13 launched from the Palmachim Airbase in central Israel.
- **Skyroot Aerospace**, a startup based in Hyderabad, India, has successfully test-fired an advanced, fully **3D-printed cryogenic engine**, marking a significant milestone in the country's indigenous space technology development.
- **Chinese** company **Space Pioneer** has achieved a historic milestone in space exploration, launching its **Tianlong-2 rocket** into orbit from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Inner Mongolia on April 2.
 - The Tianlong-2 rocket, also known as "Sky Dragon-2," has enabled Beijing Tianbing Technology to launch a small satellite named "Love Space Science" to a polar orbit around Earth.
- The Union Government of **India** has recently approved the **Indian Space Policy 2023**, which aims to enhance the role of the Department of Space and boost the activities of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- **NASA's** Tropospheric Emissions: Monitoring of Pollution (TEMPO) instrument has successfully launched, marking a significant step forward in the monitoring of major **air pollutants**.
- The European Space Agency (ESA) launched the **Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer mission** (Juice).
 - Juice aims to explore Jupiter and three of its largest moons.
- **SpaceX**, founded by Elon Musk, is preparing to conduct an unprecedented test flight of its ground breaking Starship, which is currently the most powerful rocket in existence.
- **NASA's Lucy mission** is on a 12-year journey to observe nine Jupiter Trojans and two main belt asteroids, making it the first-ever mission to visit them.
 - Lucy was captured four Jupiter Trojan asteroids recently.
- **Kenya's** first operational Earth observation satellite, "**Taifa-1**," was successfully launched into space, using a rocket from Elon Musk's rocket company, SpaceX.
- **ISRO**, the Indian Space Research Organization, is gearing up for its upcoming commercial mission, which is set to launch a **Singaporean Earth** Observation satellite called **TeLEOS-2**.
- **China** has achieved a significant milestone by successfully launching the **Fengyun-3** meteorological satellite.
 - The satellite was launched using the **Chang Zheng-4B** carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Cosmodrome, located in Gansu Province.

Health/Diseases/Drugs

- **Cipla**, a prominent Indian pharmaceutical company, announced that it has entered into a licensing agreement with **Novartis Pharma AG** (Switzerland) to produce and market the Galvus range, which is used in the treatment of type 2 diabetes, effective from January 1, 2026.
- **China** records world's first human death from **H3N8 bird flu**.
- **Ghana** has made history by becoming the first country to approve a highly effective **malaria vaccine** developed by scientists at the University of Oxford in the UK.

Energy/Gas/Oil

- Norwegian company **Norled** has successfully launched the world's first ferry that runs on **liquid hydrogen**.
 - The vessel, called **MF Hydra**, is a hybrid that uses both batteries and liquid hydrogen fuel cells.
- **India** is expected to become the **world's second-largest solar manufacturer** by 2026.
- **Adani Power Ltd** recently opened a new **power plant** in **Jharkhand**, India.
 - This state-of-the-art power plant has a capacity of 1,600 MW and is expected to supply electricity to **Bangladesh**.
- Kerala State Inland Navigation Corporation (**KSINC**) has launched a **solar-powered tourist boat** called **Sooryamshu** that can produce 27 KW of energy.
- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has granted **Miniratna Category-I** Central Public Sector Enterprise (**CPSE**) status to the state-owned Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (**SECI**).

Education

- **IIT Madras** is set to establish the first Indian Institute of Technology in **Africa** in **Tanzania**, with classes scheduled to begin in October.
 - The new campus will be located in Zanzibar, and marks IIT Madras' first international campus.

Transport/Cars/Scooters

- **Haryana** becomes first state in India to have **100% electrified railway network**.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Vande Bharat Express train** service between Rani Kamalapati Railway Station in **Madhya Pradesh** and Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station in **Delhi**.
- The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has named India's first **semi-high-speed regional rail** services as '**RAPIDX**'.
- **Kolkata Metro** has achieved a significant milestone as it became the first metro rail in India to complete an **under-river journey**.
- Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has announced that the Union government plans to introduce '**Vande Metro**' by **December 2023**.
- On the occasion of the 132nd birth anniversary of social reformer **BR Ambedkar**, a **special tourist train** has been launched from **New Delhi** that will take passengers to various cities associated with him across the country.
 - The train, named **Bharat Gaurav**, will tour the Ambedkar Circuit and was flagged off.

Festival

- **Baisakhi** is the most significant festival celebrated by the **Sikh community**.
- India is commemorating the 132nd birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar on April 14, 2023, as **Ambedkar Jayanti**.
- The Department of Tourism and the Department of Art and Culture jointly organized the **Thawe Festival** in Gopalganj, **Bihar**.

- The tourism department of the **Goa** government is set to hold the 'Heritage Festival 2023' at Saligao village in North Goa.

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

- **Rajib Kumar Mishra**, who is currently the acting chairman of PTC India or formerly Power Trading Corporation of India Limited, has been given a permanent role in the company, despite facing regulatory issues related to its subsidiary, **PTC India Financial Services Ltd.**
- Vice-Admiral **Sanjay Jasjit Singh** assumed the position of **Vice-Chief of Naval Staff (VCNS)** as part of a series of high-level changes in the Indian Navy.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that **Neeraj Nigam** has been appointed as the new **executive director (ED)**.
- The Indus Entrepreneurs (**TiE Rajasthan**) has appointed **Dr. Sheenu Jhawar** as the new President for a term of two years, from 2023 to 2025.
 - She takes over from Dr. Ravi Modani.
- Reliance Industries Limited (**RIL**) is set to hire **RS Sodhi**.
 - Sodhi will be joining Reliance Retail Ventures Limited (RRVL), led by Isha Ambani.
- **Sudha Shivkumar** has been appointed as the 40th president of **FICCI Ladies Organization (FLO)**, which is the oldest women-led and women-centric business chamber in Southeast Asia.
- **Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India** has announced the appointment of **Tsutsumu Otani**, currently the Vice President at Honda Motor Co., Japan, as the new President, CEO & Managing Director.
 - He will take over from **Atsushi Ogata**.
- **Kenichi Umeda** has been appointed as the new Managing Director of **Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt. Ltd.**
 - He takes over from **Satoshi Uchida**.
- British-Hindu Murugesvaran '**Subby**' **Subramaniam** has been appointed as **Warrant Officer** of the **UK's Royal Air Force**, the aerial warfare and space force announced.
- At the Ordinary Congress of European Soccer's governing body held in **Lisbon**, **Aleksander Ceferin** was re-elected as the **UEFA president** unopposed.
- **Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo**, who held the position of Senior Vice-President, took over as the **President** of the **National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)**.
- The **Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association** has announced that **Anshuman Singhania**, who is currently serving as the Managing Director of JK Tyre & Industries Ltd, has been chosen as its new Chairman.
- Justice **Apresh Kumar Singh** has been appointed as the new chief justice of the **Tripura High Court**, replacing Justice **Jaswant Singh** who recently retired.
- **Kathleen Corradi** has been appointed by NYC Mayor **Eric Adams** to tackle the city's severe rodent issue.
 - She has been designated as the city's inaugural "rat czar".
- Life Insurance Corporation (**LIC**) has announced the appointment of **Ratnakar Patnaik** as the new Chief Investment Officer, replacing **PR Mishra**, who stepped down from the role on April 10.
 - Additionally, **PC Paikray** has been named the new **Chief Risk Officer**, taking over from Tablesh Pandey on the same date.
- **Neeli Bendapudi**, an academic of Indian origin, has been selected as one of the five co-chairs of an Association of American Universities (AAU) task force that aims to enhance research and academic collaborations among higher education institutions in the United States and India.

- **Karnataka Bank** announced that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted approval for the appointment of **Sekhar Rao**, the bank's executive director, as the interim managing director and chief executive officer.
- Tata Group, appointed **Dr. Randhir Thakur**, as the CEO and managing director of Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd (TEPL).
- **Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu** has become the 22nd **president of Bangladesh**, taking over from Abdul Hamid.
- **Anant Maheshwari**, the President of Microsoft India, has been appointed as the Chairperson of **Nasscom** for the period 2023-24, succeeding **Krishnan Ramanujam**.
 - Additionally, **Rajesh Nambiar**, the Chairman and Managing Director of Cognizant India, has been named as the **Vice Chairperson** of **Nasscom** for 2023-24. Nasscom is the top association for the software and IT services industry.
- **Shreekant M Bhandiwad** has become the new Chairman of Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), taking over the position from his predecessor.
- **Pankaj Singh**, the BJP MLA from Noida and son of Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, has been elected unopposed as Cycling Federation of India (CFI) **president** in the Annual General Body meeting in Nainital.
- **Hari Hara Mishra** has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Association of Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs).
- The government announced the appointment of **Siddhartha Mohanty** as the Chairperson of the **Life Insurance Corporation of India** (LIC).

Resignation/Dismissed/Retired/Quit

- **Gary Ballance**, a left-handed batsman, has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.

Deaths

- **Sarah Thomas**, a renowned short story writer and novelist, passed away.
- **Salim Durani**, a former Indian cricketer known for his striking looks, humor, and ability to hit powerful sixes, passed away.
- Jharkhand minister **Jagarnath Mahto** has passed away.
- **Jalabala Vaidya**, a renowned theatre artist and co-founder of Delhi's Akshara Theatre, passed away.
- **Keshub Mahindra**, the Chairman Emeritus of Mahindra & Mahindra and India's oldest billionaire, passed away.
- **Dr. Zafrullah Chowdhury**, a renowned public health activist and veteran fighter of the Liberation War, passed away in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Noted actor and theatre artist **Uttara Baokar** passed away.
- Telugu actor and comedian **Allu Ramesh** passed away.
- **Parkash Singh Badal**, a former Chief Minister of Punjab and leader of the Akali Dal, has passed away.

Awards/Honours

- An Indian-American physician and professor **Dr. Nitya Abraham** has been honoured with the **Young Urologist of the Year Award** conferred by the American Urological Association (AUA).
- The highest decoration of **Poland**, the **Order of the White Eagle**, was presented to **Ukraine's** President **Volodymyr Zelensky** by the President of Poland, Andrzej Duda, during a meeting between the two leaders at the Presidential Palace in Warsaw.

- **Brazilian** artist **Dante Akira Uwai** has won the **Winter Youth Olympic Games Gangwon 2024** medal design competition. Akira Uwai's creation – 'A Sparkling Future' – was chosen by a panel of judges.
- **MS Dhoni** along with Yuvraj Singh has been named among the five Indians to be awarded honorary **life membership** of the Marylebone Cricket Club (**MCC**).
- **Tripura's** recent award as the best-performing state in the North Eastern region for **e-Procurement** is a significant achievement for the state.
- At the World Vaccine Congress 2023 held in Washington, **USA** from April 3-6, **Bharat Biotech** was awarded the **Best Production/Process Development award** as a part of the Vaccine Industry Excellence (ViE) awards.
- The 2023 **International Prize in Statistics**, which is regarded as the equivalent of the Nobel Prize in statistics, has been awarded to **Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao**, an Indian-American statistician.
- Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister, is scheduled to present the '**Maharashtra Bhushan**' Award to **Dattatreya Narayan Dharmadhikari**, also known as Appasaheb Dharmadhikari, on April 16 for his notable work as a social worker and reformer.
- **Nilesh Bhagwan Sambre**, the founder of Jijau Educational and Social Foundation, was recently honored with the "**Maratha Udyog Ratna**" award at the "Maratha Entrepreneurs Conference 2023".
- At the 13th Managing India Awards ceremony hosted by the All India Management Association (**AIMA**), **Kumar Mangalam Birla**, Chairman of Aditya Birla Group, was presented with the '**Business Leader of the Decade Award**' for his contributions to the Indian industry in the last ten years.
- **Assam** made a historic achievement by entering the **Guinness Book** of World Records with over 11,000 dancers and drummers performing the traditional '**Bihu**' dance and playing the 'dhol' at a single venue.
- **Raj Subramaniam**, the CEO of FedEx, a renowned global transportation company, and an Indian-American, was recently honored with the distinguished **Pravasi Bharatiya Samman** award.
- Former Chancellor **Angela Merkel** received **Germany's highest Order of Merit**.
- **Utsa Patnaik**, a well-known economist of both national and international acclaim, has been chosen for the prestigious **Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2023**.
- **Asha Bhosle**, the renowned singer, will be honored with the **Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar award**, which was established by the Mangeshkar family and trust in memory of Lata Mangeshkar.
- In honor of Sachin Tendulkar's 50th birthday, the West Stand at the renowned **Sharjah cricket stadium** has been renamed as the '**Sachin Tendulkar Stand**.'
- **Dr Raghu Ram Pillarisetti**, a renowned surgeon, has been awarded the **lifetime achievement award** by the **Telugu Association of London**.
- After a 64-year wait, members of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation personally presented the 1959 **Ramon Magsaysay Award** to the **Dalai Lama** at his residence.
- **Shakira**, the renowned Colombian singer, will be recognized with the prestigious '**Latin Women of the Year**' award at the inaugural Latin Women in Music gala hosted by Billboard.
 - Shakira has been titled as the 'Queen of Latin Music'.
- **Neeli Bendapudi**, the current president of Penn State University, is set to receive the **Immigrant Achievement Award** for her significant contributions to higher education in the United States.
- The **Green Organization** has awarded Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (**PGCIL**), a Maharatna CPSU of Ministry of Power, Government of India, with the **Global Gold Award** for their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) work.

Sports/Game

- **Sri Lanka's** attempt to move up to the eighth spot in the **MRF Tyres ICC Men's Cricket World Cup Super League** table has been unsuccessful, as they lost to New Zealand in the third ODI at Hamilton.
- Red Bull's **Max Verstappen** has claimed his first **Australian Grand Prix 2023**.
- **Russian** tennis star **Daniil Medvedev** claimed his fourth title of the year by defeating Jannik Sinner in a closely-contested final match in **Miami Opens 2023**.
- **Gregoria Mariska Tunjung**, an Indonesian badminton player, emerged victorious in the **Women's singles** category at the **Madrid Spain Masters 2023** finals. She defeated PV Sindhu from India.
- **India** emerged as the winners in both men's and women's categories at the **4th Asian Kho Kho Championships** held in Tamulpur, located in the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) of north-central **Assam's** Baksa district.
- **Anjali Sharma** has made her state and country proud by successfully scaling the peak of **Mount Kilimanjaro** in South Africa while wearing a traditional Gaddi dress (Luanchadi).
 - She is the first Indian woman to achieve this feat while wearing the Gaddi costume.
- **Sanjita Chanu**, a weightlifter from India who has won the Commonwealth Games twice, has been **banned** for four years by the National Anti-Doping Agency (**NADA**) of India after she tested positive for banned drugs.
- During the second T20I match between Sri Lanka and New Zealand in Dunedin, **Kim Cotton** became the **first woman** to serve as an on-field **umpire** in a men's international match between two full-member teams, making history.
- **FIFA** announced that it had withdrawn **Peru's hosting rights** to the **FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023**.
- According to the latest **FIFA rankings**, the **Indian men's football** team has climbed up five spots and is now ranked at **101**.
- Indian Grandmaster **D Gukesh** Wins Title at **World Chess Armageddon Asia And Oceania Event** by defeating former world rapid champion Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan in the final.
- Delhi Capitals' captain **David Warner** became the **fastest batsman** to reach **6000 runs** in the Indian Premier League (**IPL**).
 - He is now the third player to achieve this feat after Virat Kohli from Royal Challengers Bangalore and Shikhar Dhawan, captain of Punjab Kings.
- The ICC has revealed the winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for March 2023, with **Shakib Al Hasan** from Bangladesh being named as the **ICC Men's Player of the Month**, while **Henriette Ishimwe** from Rwanda was selected as the **ICC Women's Player of the Month**.
- **Aman Sehrawat**, a freestyle wrestler, won India's 1st **gold** medal, under the men's 57kg freestyle category, at the **Asian Wrestling Championships 2023**.
 - 36th edition of Asian Wrestling Championships was held in Astana, **Kazakhstan**.
 - India has won 14 medals (one gold, three silvers and 10 bronze) and is ranked **7th** in overall medal tally.
 - **Kazakhstan** was **topped** in medal tally followed by Japan and Iran.
- **Kagiso Rabada** became the **fastest bowler** to reach this milestone in terms of matches played, completing it in his 64th IPL match.
- **Evans Chebet** of Kenya crosses the finish line and takes first place in the professional Men's Division during the **127th Boston Marathon** in Boston, **Massachusetts**.
- **Suryakumar** won the honour of **Wisden Almanack's leading T20I cricketer** while **Harmanpreet Kaur** became the first Indian woman to win the **Cricketer of the Year** award.

- **FIFA** has selected **Argentina** to host the **under-20 soccer World Cup** after revoking the hosting rights from Indonesia.
- Four-team **Intercontinental Football Cup** will be held in **Bhubaneswar** from June 9 to 18.
- **Goa** Chief Minister Pramod Sawant announced that PM Narendra Modi will inaugurate the **National Games** in **Goa** in October 2023.

Report

- **India's unemployment** rate has risen to a three-month high of **7.8%** in March 2023, according to the latest data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
- According to the **India Justice Report (IJR) 2022**, which assesses the performance of states in terms of justice delivery, the state of **Karnataka** has achieved the **top** rank among the 18 large and mid-sized states with populations over one crore.
- **Mukesh Ambani** has been named the **richest sports owner** in the **Forbes billionaire 2023** list, with a net worth of \$83.4 billion, surpassing **Steve Ballmer**, the owner of the Los Angeles Clippers, whose net worth is \$80.7 billion.
- Barron's prestigious annual '**100 Most Influential Women in US Finance**' list includes **five Indian-origin women** executives who have attained prominent positions in the financial services industry and have played a role in shaping its future.
 - These women are Anu Aiyengar from J.P. Morgan, Rupal J. Bhansali from Ariel Investments, Sonal Desai from Franklin Templeton, Meena Flynn from Goldman Sachs, and Savita Subramanian from Bank of America.
- Bollywood superstar **Shah Rukh Khan** won the 2023 **TIME100 Reader Poll**, beating the likes of royal-couple Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, Argentinian player Lionel Messi, and Meta founder Mark Zuckerberg.
- According to the Airports Council International (ACI) World, **Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport** has been ranked as the **ninth** busiest airport in the world in 2022, handling approximately 59.5 million passengers every year.
- Data provided by the National Securities Depository indicates that in the fiscal year 2022-23, overseas capital flows into **Indian capital** markets originating from **Mauritius** experienced the sharpest **decline**, while **Norway and Singapore** gained popularity.
- The State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) for 2021-22 indicates that Andhra **Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, and Telangana** are the top-performing states.
- **Berlin** in **Germany** has been named the city with the **most exceptional public transport** system globally, according to a survey conducted by Time Out, a London-based media outlet that specializes in the hospitality industry and identifies itself as a global brand committed to urban life.
 - Prague, the capital of the **Czech Republic**, came in **second place**. **Mumbai**, the top-ranked Indian city, secured the **19th** spot in the rankings.
- World of Statistics has shared the ranking of the world's "**most criminal countries**".
 - On the list, **Venezuela** has been ranked **top**, followed by Papua New Guinea (2), Afghanistan (3), South Africa (4), Honduras (5), Trinidad (6), Guyana (7), Syria (8), Somalia (9) and Jamaica (10), respectively.
 - **India** stood at **77 spots** while the US and UK were ahead of India in the criminal ranking country.
 - Turkey, Germany, and **Japan** were among the least criminal countries, ranking at 92nd, 100th, and 135th ranks.
- Stanford University's AI Index report states that **India** is ranked **fifth** in terms of investments received by **startups** offering **AI-based products** and services in 2022.
 - India is still behind the US, China, the UK, and Israel in terms of AI investments received.

- According to the **Freedom in the World Index** for 2023 published by international watchdog Freedom House, **Tibet** is the country with the **least freedom** in the world.
 - Tibet, South Sudan, and Syria are the “least-free countries” in the world.
- **India’s employment rate** has shown a marginal improvement in the March quarter, with an increase of 0.3% from the previous quarter, according to the latest data released by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE).
 - In March 2023, India’s employment rate rose to **36.9%**, up from 36.6% in December 2022.
- **Shah Rukh Khan** and ‘RRR’ director **SS Rajamouli** are included in Time Magazine’s annual **100 Most Influential People** of 2023, becoming the only two Indians on the list.
- According to a report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), **Jagan Mohan Reddy** from Andhra Pradesh is the **richest** among them with assets worth ₹510 crore, while **Mamata Banerjee**, the Chief Minister of West Bengal, has the **lowest** assets worth around ₹15 lakh.
- According to a recent report by Brand Finance, a U.K.-based brand valuation consultancy, **MRF Ltd.** has been ranked as the **second-strongest** tyre brand in the world.
- **India** retains **top** status in **International Flight Safety Standards**.
- **India** has surpassed **China** to become the **world’s most populous** nation with 142.86 crore people, according to the latest United Nations data.
- The top 10 **wealthiest cities** in the world are listed by global wealth tracker Henley and Partners.
 - **Bengaluru** has emerged as one of the world’s wealthiest cities with the greatest growth rates, despite the fact that no Indian city could make the top 10 list.
 - Two nations – **China** and the **United States** – have the most cities on the list.
- For the fourth year in a row, **Rajasthan topped** the country in terms of persondays generation under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.
 - Rajasthan is followed by **Tamil Nadu** (33.45 crore), **Uttar Pradesh** (31.18 crore), Andhra Pradesh (23.96 crore) and Bihar (23.69 crore) in terms of persondays generation, according to MGNREGA MIS report.
- According to a report by payment services firm Worldline India, **Chennai** has become one of the leading cities for **digital payment** transactions in 2022 in the country.
 - The report by payment services firm Worldline India also stated that **Bengaluru** has emerged as the **top** city for digital payment transactions in 2022.
 - **New Delhi** came in **second** followed by **Mumbai** and **Pune**.
- According to the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, **India’s** rank in the 7th edition of the World Bank’s **Logistics Performance Index 2023** has improved by 6 positions, and it now stands at **38th** among 139 countries.

General - National

- The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (**PNGRB**) has introduced amendments to the **PNGRB** (Determination of Natural Gas Pipeline Tariff) regulations to include regulations related to a unified tariff for natural gas pipelines, with a vision of “One Nation, One Grid and One Tariff.”.
- Indian PM **Narendra Modi** has been invited to **France** for the **Bastille Day parade**, which is scheduled for July 14th.
- **India** has recently been elected as a member of the United Nations (UN) **Statistical Commission Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board** of the Joint UN Program, signaling the country’s increasing presence in the international arena.
- AWS India’s Head of Start-up Ecosystem, Amitabh Nagpal, has acknowledged that **gaming** has become one of the **most popular forms of entertainment**.

- According to the latest **tiger census** data released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the tiger population in India has reached **3,167** in 2022.
- On April 10, 2023, **India** released the first edition of the **Dogri version** of the **Indian Constitution**.
- **3D-printed post office** is being built in **Bengaluru**, India, which will be the first of its kind in the country.
- **India** chairs the **Commonwealth group** on reform of financial architecture.
- The **16th Indian Visa Application Centre (IVAC)** in **Bangladesh** was inaugurated by High Commissioner Pranya Verma in Kushtia town.
- On April 19, the Union Cabinet approved the **National Quantum Mission**, aimed at propelling India into a leading position in the quantum technology sector and promoting economic growth through its development.
- The **Indian** Government has taken steps for **National Medical Devices Policy** to implement the PLI Scheme for medical devices and establish **4 Medical Devices Parks** in Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
- The National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI) subsidiary, **NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd (NBBL)**, has launched the **NOCS platform** to provide reconciliation and settlement services for transactions made on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) network.
- The **SHUNYA** team from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay earned the second position in the **Solar Decathlon Build Challenge** held in the **US**.

General - International

- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**) has announced that **Finland** has become the 31st member of the alliance, after Turkey's approval.
- **Georgia** Assembly has passed a resolution that condemns **Hinduphobia and anti-Hindu bigotry**, making it the first state in America to take such legislative action.
- **OPEC members**, such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Iraq, Kuwait, and Algeria, have declared voluntary oil production **cuts of more than one million barrels** per day from May to December.
- **China's** Civil Affairs Ministry published a list of standardized names for **11 locations** in **Arunachal Pradesh**, referring to it as "Zangnan," the southern region of Tibet, and using Chinese, Tibetan, and pinyin characters.
- In a startling move, the **Italian** government has announced that it plans to **ban** the **English** language and impose heavy fines on individuals and organizations that continue to use it.
 - The announcement comes just weeks after the **ban** on **ChatGPT**, a language model developed by OpenAI.
- In recent years, there has been a shift in the global currency landscape, with **China's yuan** steadily gaining ground against the **US dollar**.
 - This trend is reflected **in Russia**, where the yuan has now overtaken the **dollar** as the most traded currency.
- **Nepal** has become a **founding member** of the **International Big Cats Alliance**.
- According to reports, **Syria** has now become the world's largest **narco-state**, with the majority of its foreign currency earnings coming from the production and export of Captagon, a highly addictive amphetamine commonly referred to as "poor man's coke".
- To combat the falling value of the **Zimbabwean** currency, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) has announced plans to introduce a **gold-backed digital currency**.
- A panel in **Japan's** health ministry has approved the country's first **abortion pill**, in a major step for reproductive rights decades after other countries made abortion medication widely available.

- State of **Pennsylvania** in the **United States** has declared **Diwali**, the Hindu festival, as a **national holiday**.

Books and Authors

Book's Name

Author's Name

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire | Nandini Das |
| • Gandhi: Siyasad aur Sampradaiykta | Piyush Babele |
| • The Great Bank Robbery: NPAs, Scams and the Future of Regulation | Pattabhi Ram & Sabyasachee Dash |
| • State Bank of India (SBI) headquartered in Mumbai (Maharashtra) announced the launch of its coffee table book titled “ The Banker to Every Indian ” which celebrates 75 years of Indian independence and the 200-year history of SBI, which was established in 1955. | |
| • Boria Majumdar , a renowned sports historian and popular TV show host, unveiled a new book called ‘ Sachin@50 - Celebrating A Maestro ’ on the occasion of legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar’s 50th birthday. | |

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TO THE POINTS: APRIL-2023

- World bank has approved a USD 100 million loan to help **Odisha** strengthen its early forecasting systems for improved disaster response.
- Public sector banks (PSBs) could recover only **14%** of the written-off loans worth Rs 7.34 lakh crore in the last 5 years ending March 2022.
- **World Bank** has approved a USD 363 million loan to Karnataka under “Karnataka Sustainable Rural Water Supply Program” (KSRWSP).
- As per the PFRDA (Redressal of Subscriber Grievance) Regulations 2015, The Centre has increased the upper age limit by 5 years of ombudsman of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) to **70 years**.
- **State Bank of India** has announced a donation of ₹ 48 lakhs for the plantation of 32,000 tree saplings at Garden City University, Bengaluru.
- According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Global goods trade is expected to increase by **1%** in the first quarter of 2023.
- **Nagpur Metro** has been honoured with the prestigious Asia Book of Records certification for three different categories.
- **Aaliya Mir** became the first woman from Jammu and Kashmir to receive a wildlife conservation award.
- **Assam**’s NGO named Tapoban has won the Children’s Champion Award 2023.
- A Moray Eel fish of the Genus Gymnothorax has been recently discovered by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) in **Tamil Nadu**.
- **Ajay Singh** has assumed charge as the president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).
- Professor Dr Renu Cheema Vig has been appointed as Vice Chancellor of **Punjab University**.
- Indian actor **Ranveer Singh** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Star Sports.

- The Ministry of Defence has signed 3 defence contracts worth **₹ 5,400 crore** for Indian Army and Indian Navy.
- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted Regional Search and Rescue (SAR) exercise at **Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh**.
- Girish Bapat passed away recently at the age of 73. He was a veteran **Politician**.
- Rupa Publications India will publish Ghulam Nabi Azad's autobiography "Azaad" on 5th April 2023 in New Delhi. Ghulam Nabi Azad was the former Chief Minister of **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- **Odisha's** Foundation Day (also known as Utkal Diwas) has been celebrated every year on 1st April.
- The Union Ministry of Finance has increased the interest rates on various small savings schemes for the first quarter of FY24. The increased interest rate of the Sukanya Samriddhi Account (SSA) Scheme is **8.0%**.
- **Axis Bank** has entered into a co-lending pact with Shriram Housing Finance through Yubi.
- **State Bank of India** has launched its coffee table book 'The Banker to Every Indian,' which celebrates 75 years of India's independence and SBI's glorious 200-year history.
- **Aditya Birla Health Insurance Company Limited** has signed a bancassurance partnership with UCO Bank for the distribution of health insurance products through the bank's branches across India.
- **IRDAI** has announced that LIC, GIC Re and New India Assurance are considered as the Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for the financial year 2022-23.
- **State Bank of India** has partnered with Godrej Capital to offer banking products & services.
- **Tamil Nadu** was planning a year-long celebration of the centenary of the Vaikom Satyagraha that was launched to end caste discrimination in a temple in colonial Kerala.
- Second G20 Sherpas meeting held in **Kumarakom, Kerala** under India's G20 Presidency.
- The International Finance Corporation (IFC) planned to invest Rs 600 crore in **Mahindra and Mahindra** unit at a valuation of up to Rs 6,020 crore.
- According to a report published by UNESCO at the UN 2023 Water Conference, **26 per cent** of the world's population does not have safe drinking water.
- **IIT Delhi** has entered the list of top 50 institutions for engineering in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023.
- Wicketkeeper-batsman Aasif Sheikh has been declared the winner of the 2022 Christopher Martin-Jenkins Spirit of Cricket Award. He belongs to **Nepal**.
- BharatPe cofounder Ashneer Grover's new venture Third Unicorn Pvt Ltd has launched a fantasy sports app named **Crickpe**.
- India's first cloned Gir calf **Ganga** has been produced at the National Dairy Research Institute (ICAR-NDRI).
- **Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed** will be appointed as the next crown prince of Abu Dhabi.
- Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) approved the appointment of UTI AMC and SBI Mutual Fund as its fund managers for **3** years.
- The Ministry of Defence has signed **Rs 19,600crores** contracts for 11 Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels and 6 Next Generation Missile Vessels for Indian Navy.

- As per the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, India and South Asia could be worst hit if **1.5°C** threshold is overshoot.
- Every year, World Autism Awareness Day has been observed on **2 April**.
- **India Post Payment Bank** has collaborated with Airtel to launch WhatsApp Banking Services for its customers to access banking services on their mobile phone.
- **Ambit Finvest** has partnered with Bajaj Finserv Direct to develop a D2C (direct-to-customer) instant loan application to give business loans to MSME business owners.
- AMNS Luxembourg Holding has signed a **\$5 billion** loan agreement with consortium of Japanese banks to finance the company's expansion plans in India.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved a 15.6 billion US dollar support package for **Ukraine** to assist with the conflict-hit country's economic recovery.
- According to the data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), India's current account deficit narrows to **2.2%** of Gross domestic product (GDP) in the October to December quarter (Q3FY23).
- The Airport Authority of India (AAI) has given the target to most of the airports to achieve 100 percent use of Green Energy by 2024 and Net Zero by **2030**.
- PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation for India's first public transport ropeway in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**.
- Tiwa tribesmen celebrated Yangli festival in the Karbi Anglong district of **Assam**.
- According to FIS 2023 Global Payments Report, India's e-commerce market is projected to grow from \$83 billion in 2022 to \$150 billion in **2026**.
- Mayurbhanj district of **Odisha** has been listed by TIME Magazine among the 50 extraordinary destinations to explore in its list of the World's Greatest Places of 2023.
- **Praveer Sinha** has been re-appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director of Tata Power Company Limited for a period of 4 years.
- **Amit Kshatriya** has been appointed as the first head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) newly-established Moon to Mars Programme.
- Rajib K Mishra has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of **PTC India**.
- **BEL** has signed a contract with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for the procurement of 13 Lynx-U2 Fire Control Systems for the Indian Navy.
- **ISRO** has released images of Earth captured by the Earth Observation satellite (EOS-6) satellite.
- **Nokia** has planned to launch 4G mobile network on the moon in late 2023.
- World Cup-winning midfielder Mesut Ozil announced his retirement from football at the age of 34. He played for **Germany**.
- Veteran **Malayalam** novelist, short story writer Sarah Thomas has passed away at the age of 88.
- Every year, the International Day for Mine Awareness has been observed all over the world on **April 4th**.
- **DBS Bank** has recently launched 'DigiPortfolio' offers Morningstar-curated investments on risk preference.

- **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference Unveils Commemorative Stamp and Commemorative Coin.
- Income Tax Department has extended the due date to June 30 from the earlier deadline of March 31. However, the linking will be possible only after paying a late fee of ₹ 1,000.
- The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) carried out its **78th** round of the Multiple Indicator Survey (MIS).
- **India** is the first country in the world to estimate the Tuberculosis (TB) burden in the country.
- **Georgia** has passed a resolution condemning Hinduphobia.
- Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has announced the creation of a new national airline called **Riyadh Air**.
- Anjali Sharma conquered South Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro peak wearing a Gaddi dress (Luanchadi). Luanchadi is a traditional dress of **Himachal Pradesh**.
- **VA Tech Wabag** has bagged a design, build, operate (DBO) order from CMWSSB for building a 400 million litres per day (MLD) seawater reverse osmosis (SWRO) desalination plant.
- Eravikulam National Park has a new attraction a Fernarium set up inside the park. Eravikulam National Park located in **Kerala**.
- The Ministry of Rural Development has signed MoUs with **19** 'Captive Employers' for the training and placement of 31,000 rural youths under the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY).
- **Sanjay Jasjit Singh** has been appointed as the new Vice-Chief of Naval Staff (VCNS) of the Indian Navy.
- **Neeraj Nigam** has been appointed as the new Executive Director (ED) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Gianni Infantino has been re-elected as the president of Fédération internationale de football association (FIFA) until **2027**.
- **Bharat Dynamics Limited** has successfully conducted a field firing test of its latest 3rd generation man-portable Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGM), Amogha-III.
- **Indian Immunologicals Limited** has partnered with ICAR-CIFA for fish vaccine development.
- Amazon is planned to launch first of 3,000 internet satellites to space in **2024**.
- ISRO has successfully carried out the landing experiment of the Reusable Launch Vehicle-Technology Demonstration (RLV-TD) programme in **Challakere, Karnataka**.
- The Centre announced that it has increased the upper age limit by **5** years of the ombudsman of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) to 70 years.
- Every year, National Maritime Day in India is celebrated on **5th of April**.
- **PhonePe** has launched a new consumer-facing application, Pincode that will be integrated into India's Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) framework.
- **Karur Vysya Bank** has partnered with SBI Life Insurance to market the bank's insurance schemes through its branches.
- **HDFC Bank** has launched a super-premium credit card "Regalia Gold Credit Card" for high-income individuals.

- **State Bank of India** has extended the SBI “WECARE” Senior Citizens’ Term Deposit programme.
- **SBM Bank India** has blocked Credit Cards offered in partnership with Fintechs.
- Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath has inaugurated Sericulture Fair in **Gorakhpur**.
- Union Minister for Urban Housing and Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep S. Puri has been set to make 1,000 cities in the country 3-star garbage-free cities by October **2024**.
- **United Kingdom** has signed a deal to join a trade pact with 11 Asia and Pacific nations, 3 years after it officially left the European Union (EU).
- India’s first Cool Roof Policy has launched in **Telangana** for all types of Buildings.
- **Hindustan Zinc Limited** has signed an MoU with the Rajasthan Cricket Association (RCA) for the development of the world’s 3rd largest cricket stadium in the village of Chonp in Jaipur.
- **Ron Malka** has been appointed as Executive Chairman of the Adani Group’s Haifa Port Company (HPC).
- The **10th** edition of Indian Navy (IN) - Sri Lanka Navy (SLN) bilateral maritime exercise SLINEX-2023 was held at Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- India and **US** conducts the “Cope India” exercise at the Kalaikunda airbase in West Bengal.
- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has increased its shareholding from 4.472% to **5.008%** of the paid-up capital in BATA India.
- Oscar-winning Japanese pop pioneer **Ryuichi Sakamoto** passed away at the age of 71.
- **Cricketer** Salim Durani has passed away at the age of 88 in Jamnagar, Gujarat.
- Lance Solomon Red dick has recently passed away at the age of 60. He was a renowned **Actor**.
- Penguin Random House India (PRHI) has announced that the English version of **Nepali** novel “Phoolange” will be released on 17 April 2023.
- **Union Bank of India** became the first Indian bank to open special vostro account for India-Malaysia trade settlement in rupee.
- Non-banking financial company **Geojit Credits** has announced the launch of ‘Loan Against Mutual Fund’ (LAMF).
- **Bank of Maharashtra** has inaugurated its first dedicated Branch for start-ups at Pune, Maharashtra.
- The World Bank has lowered its forecast for India’s economic growth in the current fiscal year that started on April 1 to **6.3%** from 6.6%.
- The Union Government has launched a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely, “New India Literacy Programme” (NILP). The scheme aims to cover a target of 5.00 crore non-literates in the age group of **15** years and above.
- The Ministry of Education has selected **9000** schools for Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme.
- India’s GDP forecast for FY24 is **6.4%**, as per the Asian Development Bank (ADB) report.
- The Ministry of Commerce Piyush Goyal has unveiled Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023 to raise India’s goods and services exports to two trillion dollars by **2030**.
- India’s fiscal deficit for FY23 touched 14.53 trillion rupees in the 11 months through February – nearly **83%** of annual estimates.

- **Nokia** has changed its iconic logo after nearly 60 years to revamp its brand identity for the first time in the company's history.
- The combined Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) increased by **6.0 per cent** (provisional) in February 2023 as compared to the Index of February 2022.
- NTPC Renewable Energy has signed Term Sheet with Greenko ZeroC to Supply 1300 MW Round the Clock RE Power for powering Greenko's upcoming Green Ammonia Plant at **Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh**.
- **Sudha Shivakumar** has been appointed as the 40th National President of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Ladies Organization (FLO) for the term 2023-24.
- Kenichi Umeda has been appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) of the **Suzuki Motorcycle India**.
- Axis Securities Limited has appointed Mr Pranav Haridasan as its new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for a tenure of **3** years.
- The CGTMSE has issued guidelines regarding reduction of the annual guarantee fee for loans up to Rs. 1 crore from a peak rate of **2%** per annum to as low as **0.37%** per annum.
- The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (**PNGRB**) has amended PNGRB under the mission of "One Nation, One Grid and One tariff".
- Finland became the **31st** member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).
- Every year, World Health Day has been observed on **7 April**.
- **Axis Bank** has partnered with VISA to launch 'Digital Dukaan', an enhanced Payments & Business Management solution for merchants.
- India's homegrown payments system, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has recorded its highest-ever number of transactions at **8.7 billion** in March 2023.
- **Canara Bank** has introduced a "Premium Payroll Package" for Salary account holders with competitive features.
- The Ministry of heavy industries sanctioned **Rs 800 crore** under the FAME India scheme Phase-2 has been sanctioned to three PSU oil marketing companies (OMC) for setting up 7,432 public fast-charging EV stations across India.
- The National Gallery of Modern Art organized "Spring Fiesta" on 29 March 2023 to celebrate **69** years of museum.
- **South Indian Bank** has partnered with Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company Ltd (Chola MS) to offer health and general insurance products.
- Bandipur Tiger Reserve has completed 50 years as a Project Tiger Reserve. Bandipur Tiger Reserve located in **Karnataka**.
- India and **Bhutan** are considering setting up the first Integrated Check Post along the border near Jaigaon.
- According to the data from the Geographical Indication (GI) Registry, **Kerala** has topped the list of states in India with the most number of products securing the GI tag in the financial year 2022-23.
- ArcelorMittal-Nippon Steel India has a joint venture with Nippon Steel and has entered into a **\$5 billion** loan deal with a consortium of Japanese Banks.

- 'Mircha' rice has been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. Mircha rice is a product of **Bihar**.
- According to the financial advisory firm Arton Capital report, India got **144th** place in the Passport Index.
- **Elon Musk** has been titled as the most followed Twitter user.
- According to a new International Women's Day study from City Index, India is home to the **Fifth** highest number of female billionaires in the world.
- **Godrej Agrovet** has signed a MoU with the Andhra Pradesh state government on the sidelines of the Andhra Pradesh Global Investors Summit (APGIS) 2023.
- **Iran** has appointed Reza Ameri as its ambassador to the UAE for the first time since 2016.
- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) have acquired **Karaikal Port** for Rs 1,485 Crores.
- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the **Canadian** Space Agency have announced the 4 astronauts crew for the Artemis II mission.
- The Kenya Space Agency (KSA) is set to launch its first operational Earth observation satellite named **Taifa-1**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of **₹ 6.77 crore** on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited for non-compliance.
- **IIFL Finance Limited** has secured USD 100 million in long-term funding jointly from Export Development Canada (EDC) and Deutsche Bank.
- Indian Bank has launched a new retail term deposit named "IND SUPER 400 DAYS". The minimum deposit amount for "IND SUPER 400 DAYS" is **Rs.10000**.
- The Union Cabinet approved a project to build an advanced gravitational-wave detector in **Maharashtra** at an estimated cost of Rs 2,600 crore.
- **Ministry of Finance** has launched a 3 month campaign to achieve saturation under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented Rs 1.18 lakh crore Budget for **Jammu and Kashmir** for the year 2023-24 with a thrust on providing housing in rural areas and water tap connections to 18.36 lakh households.
- **Kashi** has been declared the first tourism and cultural capital of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).
- India Grid has launched its first battery energy storage system linked to solar panels in **Maharashtra**.
- **Tamil Nadu** has launched 'Anaivarukkum IIT-M initiative for the state government school students.
- The Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation (KSINC) has introduced its first solar-powered tourist vessel named **Sooryamshu** in Kochi backwaters, Kerala.
- The Union Cabinet gave its nod for inking an agreement with German bank KfW for **Kerala** Green Energy Corridor Project.
- Second Meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPMI) held in **Hyderabad, Telangana** under G20 (Group of Twenty) India Presidency.

- The Yaoshang festival has been celebrated every year on the full moon of Lamta month (February-March) of the Meitei lunar calendar in **Manipur**.
- Reliance Industries Ltd and its telecom arm Jio Infocomm has raised a total of **\$5 billion** in the largest syndicated loan in India.
- **Poland's** highest Order of the White Eagle award has been awarded to Volodymyr Zelensky.
- **Bharat Biotech** has won the 'Best Production /Process Development' award as part of the Vaccine Industry Excellence (ViE) awards at the World Vaccine Congress 2023.
- **Tripura** became the best-performing state among North Eastern States in implementing e-Procurement.
- **Mumbai** is the only city in India that has featured in the list of top twenty cities with best public transport in the world, according to the Time Out report.
- **Shah Rukh Khan** has topped the list of most influential people around the world, for TIME magazine's 100th edition of the list.
- **Aaditya Thackeray** has been selected for World Economic Forum's Young Global Leaders Class 2023.
- **Ministry of Corporate Affairs** has extended the term of Chandra Shekhar Rajan as non-executive chairman of IL&FS (Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited) up to September 30, 2023.
- The Extended Range Anti-Submarine Rocket (ER-ASR) has been successfully test-fired for the first time from Navy's **INS Chennai**.
- **Sabyasachee Dash and V Pattabhi Ram** is the author of the new book titled 'The Great Bank Robbery'.
- Every year, World Homeopathy Days celebrated on **10 April**.
- **RBI** has developed an online application for Full-Fledged Money Changers & non-bank Authorized Dealers Category-II.
- **Bank of Maharashtra** has launched a digitized personal loan for customers in select regions & enhanced its WhatsApp banking.
- The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has emerged as the **second** most preferred method of repaying digital loans.
- **Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank** has been excluded from the Second Schedule of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934.
- The Ministry of Finance stated that around 41 crore loans amounting to ₹ 23.2-lakh-crore were sanctioned under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana in the last 8 years of existence of the scheme.
- The eastern bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered a stay on the **₹ 72,000 crore** Great Nicobar Island project and constituted a committee to revisit the environmental clearance granted by MoEF & CC.
- India's first post office constructed using 3D printing technology to be set up in **Bengaluru**.
- **EESL** has installed more than 1.28 Crore LED Street Lights across 29 States under Street Lighting National Programme.
- **Kerala** electricity board has received Rs. 919 crore German loan for the Green Energy Corridor project.

- **United States** has announced that spouses of H-1B visa holders can work in the country.
- **Punjab** has launched 'CM di Yogshala' programme to create a mass movement to carve out a healthy.
- The American multinational technology company Apple has officially announced its first-ever flagship retail store named 'Apple BKC' to be set up in **Mumbai**.
- **Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao** has been awarded as the 2023 International Prize in Statistics.
- India's commercial capital Mumbai has been included in the World Tree City 2022 list, for the **2nd** consecutive year.
- **K Narayan Singh Deo** has been assumed charge as the President of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).
- **India** has been elected to the United Nations (UN) Statistical Commission for a four-year term starting from 1st January 2024.
- **Samantha Ruth Prabhu** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the premium fashion brand, Tommy Hilfiger.
- Indian Navy conducted the offshore biannual security exercise 'Prashthan' in the offshore development area (ODA) off **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- **Chennai** is set to host the Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023.
- Every year, National Safe Motherhood Day in India has been celebrated on **11 April**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has planned to launch a secured web-based centralized portal named '**PRAVAAH**'.
- **State Bank of India** has launched a new variant of the current account and "Parivar" (family) savings account in FY24 to attract deposits.
- **ADB** has proposed to subscribe to non-convertible debentures worth ₹ 150 crore of Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd (TPDDL).
- The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry has formed a **14** member committee to examine issues related to stalled real estate projects.
- **India** has been elected as a member of the UN Statistical Commission Narcotic Drugs and the UN HIV/AIDS Program Coordinating Board (UNAIDS).
- On the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti, Union Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled a **54** feet tall statue of Lord Hanuman at Sarangpur temple in Botad district of Gujarat.
- India has donated **USD 2 million** to the United Nations Trust Fund to assist the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS).
- World's first Asian King Vulture Conservation and Breeding Center inaugurated in **Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Tamil Nadu** Governor has approved a Bill to ban online gambling, including online rummy and poker with stakes.
- **Jammu and Kashmir** has inaugurated its first Tulip garden to provide a major impetus to tourism and trade activities.
- **Jakson Green** Company has won a project from a state-run NTPC to set up a methanol synthesis facility at its Vindhyachal thermal power plant (TPP) in Madhya Pradesh.
- The World Trade Organization (WTO) revised upwards global trade forecast to **1.7%** for 2023.

- **Paradip Port** has handled a record annual traffic of 135.36 million metric tonnes in 2022-23 against 116.13 million metric tonnes in the last financial year.
- According to the Airports Council International (ACI) list, **Indira Gandhi International airport** with more than 5.94 crore passenger traffic has become the ninth busiest airport in the world in 2022.
- P.V. Sindhu has lost to Gregoria Mariska Tunjung in the **Madrid Spain Masters**.
- The Chinese space startup 'Space Pioneer' (also known as Beijing Tianbing Technology Company Limited) successfully launched **Tianlong-2** rocket into orbit.
- Twitter's iconic blue bird logo has been replaced with the **Doge** meme.
- **NSE Indices Limited** has launched India's first ever Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) called Nifty REITs and InvITs Index.
- **ICICI Lombard General Insurance** has partnered with actyv.ai to offer bite-sized insurance products to MSMEs.
- **IndusInd Bank** will receive a \$125 million funding line from the partnership between Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Citibank.
- Weighted average domestic term deposit rate (WADTDR) on fresh deposits raised **250 bps** by during May 2022 to February 2023, as per the RBI's Monetary Policy report.
- **₹ 10,000** is the minimum transaction amount for availing the EMI facility for UPI payments recently introduced by ICICI Bank.
- **Motor insurance policies** will be offered through the partnership between Bajaj Finance and SBI General Insurance.
- **42%** was the tax devolution ratio recommended by the 15th Finance Commission.
- **Periyar Tiger Reserve** has been ranked as India's best-maintained tiger reserve in the 5th cycle of Management Effectiveness Evaluation.
- **Over 27 crore** of women beneficiaries recorded under the PMJDY scheme at the end of FY23.
- **4** infrastructure projects have been approved by the Network Planning Group (NPG) under the PM Gati Shakti initiative.
- **Ministry of Home Affairs** has launched a scheme that envisages monetary aid to poor inmates who cannot afford the penalty or the bail amount.
- PM Narendra Modi has released the latest census data of the tigers in the country at Mysuru, Karnataka. The number of tigers has increased by **200** in the last 4 years.
- According to the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2021-22 report, the top-performing states in their respective state groups in SEEI 2021-22 are **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Chandigarh**.
- As per the recent report, India's cattle population is currently insured by **less than 1%**.
- **Himachal Pradesh** has launched a project named 'Sanjeevani' to empower the livelihood of small dairy farmers and livestock owners.
- **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited** has set up the third production line of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).
- Military drill **Operation Joint Sword** held by the Chinese military around Taiwan Island.

- **Iran** has successfully tested a homemade long-range, high-precision kamikaze drone named Meraj-532, equipped with a 50-kg warhead.
- Naresh Gupta passed away at the age of 72. He was the Former Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of **Tamil Nadu**.
- Every year, Jallianwala Bagh Massacre has been observed on **13 April**.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the framework for the acceptance of green deposits of regulated entities (RE) will come into effect from **1 June 2023**.
- **Direct Plan** is the new option provided by SEBI to investors in alternative investment funds (AIFs).
- The revised India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) forecast is **5.9 percent** for the financial year 2023-24 (FY24), as per the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- The Union Minister of Law Kiren Rijiju has released **Dogri** version of the Constitution of India.
- **S Jaishankar** has launched the 'Tulsi Ghat Restoration Project' in Varanasi during his visit to Uganda's Kampala.
- India's first semi-high-speed regional rail services '**RapidX**' launched by the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCR TC).
- **Himachal Pradesh** became the first in India to enact Sukhashraya Bill, 2023 to provide state-mandated benefits to orphans, semi-orphans and specially-abled children in need.
- According to the United Nations, India's projected economic growth rate for 2023 is **6.0%**.
- **Kumar Mangalam Birla** won the prestigious 'Business Leader of the Decade' award at All India Management Association's (AIMA) 13th Managing India Awards ceremony.
- According to the latest report by Brand Finance on the Most Valuable and Strongest Tyre Brands in the world, **MRF Limited** has emerged as the 2nd strongest tyre brand in the world.
- According to poll affidavits analysed by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), **Andhra Pradesh's** CM has the highest assets totalling ₹ 510 crores.
- **K Krithivasan** has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).
- **Tripura High Court** has appointed Justice Apresh Kumar Singh as its new Chief Justice.
- **Anshuman Singhania** has been elected as the new Chairman of the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers' Association (ATMA).
- **Royal Enfield** has partnered with the Indian women's Ice Hockey team to strengthen its Olympic ambitions.
- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has appointed **Vishal Anand Kanvaty** as its Chief Technology Officer (CTO).
- **Turkey** has recently launch edits first aircraft carrier and eyes drone capabilities.
- **IIT Bombay** has signed an MoU with the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to develop a touchless biometric capture system for easier use, anytime and anywhere.
- **Garuda Aerospace** became the first company to receive the government's agri-drone subsidy for agricultural drones.
- **D Gukesh** has won the title in the World Chess Armageddon Asia and Oceania event.
- **DBS Bank India** has announced to launch its proprietary credit cards in 3 months.

- Karnataka Bank got authorized to collect **Direct taxes and Indirect taxes** by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **City Union Bank** has launched India's first voice biometric authentication for logging into its mobile banking app.
- Canara bank has partnered with NPCI Bharat BillPay (NBBL) to launch cross-border inward bill payment services for Indians based in **Oman**.
- **HDFC Bank** has planned to raise up to Rs 50,000 crore (about \$6 billion) through bonds including additional tier (AT) I, tier II, and infrastructure bonds in the next 12 months.
- **13** task forces have been approved by the Union Minister of Steel and Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia for defining the roadmap for 'Green Steel'.
- The Ministry of Education has released a pre-draft version of the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for School Education. This pre-draft version covers the framework of curriculum for age groups **3 to 18 years**.
- HDFC Bank has signed a "Master Inter Bank Credit Agreement" with Export Import Bank of Korea (KEXIM) for a **USD 300 million** line of credit.
- **TV Somanathan** is heading the four-member committee established by the Finance Ministry to recommend ways to enhance the pension benefits of government employees enrolled in the National Pension System (NPS).
- The famed Gond painting of **Madhya Pradesh** has received the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- **Tamil Nadu's** famous Cumbum Paneer Thratchai (commonly known as Cumbum grapes) has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- **Vinod Rai** is the author of the new book titled 'Transforming the Steel Frame: Promise and Paradox of Civil Service Reform'.
- **Sanjay Agarwal** has been re-appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of AU Small Finance Bank.
- **Keshub Mahindra** passed away at the age of 99.
- Jalabala Vaidya has recently passed away at the age of 86. She was a renowned **Theatre Artist**.
- **Peru** has been removed as the host of the Men's Under-17 World Cup 2023.
- Kim Cotton became the first woman on-field umpire in full-member men's international cricket. She belongs to **New Zealand**.
- India got **101st place** in the latest FIFA rankings released by FIFA.
- IndusInd Bank's GIFT City IBU (IFSC Banking Unit) branch has entered into a **\$100 million** long-term loan agreement with JBIC to foster the growth of Japanese construction equipment companies in India.
- **State Bank of India** has approved a long term fund raising of up to \$2 billion (about Rs 16,000 crore) for FY24 through bonds.
- The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has constituted a **4** member working group on asset reconstruction companies (ARCs).
- **Indian Bank** has signed an MoU with the TN e-Governance agency to offer payment aggregator services.

- RBL Bank has launched an innovative Digital Fixed Deposit (FD) scheme available to new-to-bank customers. Minimum tenure of this FD scheme is **15 months**.
- **Droupadi Murmu** has inaugurated the five-day National Panchayat Awards Week in New Delhi.
- PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the first Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi. **Ministry of Culture** organized this summit.
- **Yuva Portal** has been recently launched by the Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh in New Delhi.
- **D Y Chandrachud** led the five-judge Constitution bench that has been formed to hear petitions seeking legal recognition of same-sex marriage.
- **Syria** became the largest 'narco-state' in the world.
- India has celebrated a key milestone in its Group of Twenty (G20) Presidency with the hosting of its 100th G20 meeting in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**.
- **Nepal** became a founding member of the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA), an initiative by the Government of India (GoI).
- **Utsa Patnaik** has been awarded the Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2023.
- **Raj Subramaniam** has been presented with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (the highest civilian award given by India to persons of Indian origin and Indian diaspora).
- **Bengaluru** has emerged on top in digital payment transactions with 29 million transactions worth USD 65 billion.
- Indian Navy has conducted the bi-annual coordinated exercise Prasthan along with other defence in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- 'Exercise Orion' is a Multilateral Military exercise held between Indian Air Force and **French** Air Force.
- The Indian Navy has procured weapons and equipment worth more than USD 300 million (over Rs 2,400 crore) from **USA**.
- **IIT Indore** has collaborated with NASA-Caltech to develop a low-cost camera for multispectral imaging of flame.
- **Harmanpreet Kaur** became the first Indian woman to win the Wisden Almanack's Cricketer of the Year award.
- **Federal Bank** has partnered with KiVi to scaling and expanding its agri lending portfolio in Tamil Nadu.
- **AU Small Finance Bank** has received license from RBI to act as Authorized Dealer Category-I (AD-I) under section 10 of FEMA, 1999 to deal in foreign exchange.
- The RBI has accepted bids worth **Rs 5,500 crore** at an auction for conversion and switching of 5 government of India (GoI) bonds against the notified amount of Rs 11,000 crore.
- **8** projects have been approved under the Namami Gange Programme worth ₹ 638 crore by the Jal Shakti Ministry's National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).
- 5th edition of the International Exhibition & Conference on Steel Industry - 'INDIA STEEL EXPO 2023' organized in **Mumbai, Maharashtra**.
- India and **Canada** agreed to make defence an important pillar of the bilateral relationship.

- **Mizoram** has been declared the happiest state in India, according to a research conducted by Rajesh K Pillania, a professor of strategy at the Management Development Institute in Gurugram.
- **Nagaland** has received approval from NMC for setting up its first medical college in the state.
- **Uttar Pradesh** became the first state in India to have 100% electric vehicles in the Government Departments.
- The first-ever census of Mangrove Pitta Bird was conducted in the Bhitarkanika wildlife sanctuary. Bhitarkanika wildlife sanctuary located in **Odisha**.
- **Bengaluru** has got a special mention as one of the fastest-growing cities in the Asia Pacific.
- As per the recent report in April 2023, India got **3rd** place in having the highest number of unicorns worldwide.
- **Chennai, Tamil Nadu** is set to host the Men's Hockey Asian Champions Trophy 2023.
- **Virat Kohli** has been appointed as the Brand Influencer of HSBC India.
- **HDFC Bank** has appointed Kaizad Bharucha as its Deputy Managing Director (MD) and Bhavesh Zaveri as its Executive Director (ED).
- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is preparing to launch a Singaporean Earth Observation satellite named **TeLEOS-2**.
- **Biofire Technologies** has recently launched the world's first-ever biometric handgun.
- **India** is planning to buy 250 more Pralay ballistic missiles for the services to boost the firepower of the defence forces.
- Every year, Earth Day has been celebrated on **22 April**.
- **AIIB** has signed a host member agreement with United Arab Emirates (UAE) to officially open in Abu Dhabi its first overseas office.
- **West Bengal** has topped the list of States with the most ponds and reservoirs in the First Census of Water Bodies.
- The Government of India has planned to release a new ₹ 100 commemorative coin for the **100th** episode of Mann Ki Baat.
- **FAO** has released a report titled- "The Status Of Women In Agrifood Systems" highlighting the importance of Gender Equality in the Agricultural Sector.
- **IIT Madras** is planned to establish its first International campus in Zanzibar, Tanzania.
- **Nepal** has celebrated Jitgadhi festival.
- **Himachal Pradesh** became the first Indian state to develop a DNA database for unidentified bodies.
- **Haryana** has launched 3 online initiatives-Pro-active Divyang Pension Service, 'Tau se pucho' WhatsApp chatbot and an online room booking facility at PWD (B&R) rest houses.
- Recently, **Kerala** has launched the 'One Panchayat, One Playground' project for reviving the sports culture in the state.
- **Tata Steel** has been recognized as the 2023 Steel Sustainability Champion by the World Steel Association.
- **Toyota** has launch edits first-ever online retail sales platform named 'Wheels on Web'.

- **NTPC** has partnered with Chempolis India on Feasibility Study for setting up Bamboo-based Bio-Refinery at Bongaigaon.
- **IIT Roorkee** has signed a pact with the Taiwanese centre for developing tech solutions for earthquakes, floods.
- **Madhav Pai** has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of WRI India.
- Recently, **Rishab Pant** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of Star Sports.
- The Indian Air Force has participated in a multi-national air exercise named “INIOCHOS-23” in **Greece**.
- **Rohit Sharma** has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the JioCinema for IPL 2023.
- Every year, World Book and Copyright Day has been celebrated on **23 April**.
- Every year, National Panchayati Raj Day has been celebrated on **24 April**.
- **InPrime Finserv** has been officially recognized as a non-banking financial company from the Reserve Bank of India.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given a relaxation of **3 years** for HDFC Bank to comply with the priority sector lending norms (PSL) following its merger with HDFC Ltd.
- **Union Bank of India** has secured 1st rank as per the report on Enhanced Access & Service Excellence (EASE) Reforms Index for Q3 FY 2022-23 published by Indian Banks’ Association (IBA).
- **Canara Bank** has collaborated with Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) to launch the “Digitalised Submission of Form 15G/15H” as one of the customer-friendly services adding to our pursuit of “Customer Delight”.
- **MasterCard** has partnered with M1xchange to offer a digital invoice discounting solution to farmers.
- ICICI Bank has introduced an EMI facility for UPI payments made by scanning QR code. Minimum amount for these UPI payments is **Rs 10,000**.
- The PM of India praised **Abhilekh Patal** a portal with over 1 Crore Pages of Historical Records of the National Archives.
- **Jakson Green** Company has developed a green hydrogen refuelling station in New Delhi.
- The Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched the **SATHI Portal** and Mobile App.
- **Tamil Nadu** has passed a bill amending the Factories Act, 1948, that extends the daily working hours from 8 to 12 hours for factory workers.
- **Oliver Dowden** has been appointed as the Deputy PM of the United Kingdom.
- Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh has been sworn in as the **8th** Chief Justice (CJ) of the Tripura High Court.
- **Deepika Mishra** became the first female officer in the Indian Air Force to be honoured with a gallantry award.
- **Oil India** has signed an umbrella MoU with CSIR to pursue technological partnership in select domains across the Energy value chain.
- Mitsubishi Electric to set up a \$222-million AC manufacturing plant in **Chennai, Tamil Nadu**.

- **Tata Consultancy Services** has emerged as the top company in the best places to work and grow careers, as per the report prepared by LinkedIn.
- Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched **UDAN 5.0** to further enhance the connectivity to remote and regional areas of the country and achieve last-mile connectivity.
- Trilochan Kanungo has passed away at the age of 83 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. He was a renowned **Politician**.
- World Malaria Day is observed on 25 April all over the world. Theme - **Time to deliver zero malaria: invest, innovate, implement**.
- Recently, **Axis Bank and HDFC Bank** has planned to acquire a 9.94% stake each in Go Digit's life insurance business.
- **SEBI** came out with a procedure for vault managers to seek prior approval from the watchdog in case of a change in control.
- The Reserve Bank of **Zimbabwe** is planning to introduce a gold-backed digital currency as legal tender in the country.
- As per the recent report, **40%** of villages have achieved ODF Plus villages in India under the Swachh Bharat Mission – Grameen, Phase – II.
- **UNCDF** has partnered with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog to launch a whitepaper aimed at making India a global leader in agritech innovation.
- **India** has planned to build and fund Mongolia's first oil refinery by 2025.
- Recently, **France** has approved an unpopular plan to raise the retirement age from 62 to 64.
- The **Rajasthan** government has planned to implement the Rajasthan Platform-based Gig Workers (Registration and Welfare) Bill, 2023.
- The Election Commission has for the first time introduced the Vote from Home option in **Karnataka** state assembly.
- Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary to be the second new home of cheetahs. Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary located in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- **WayCool** has launched a wholly-owned subsidiary 'BrandsNext' to exclusively focus on its fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) business.
- **International Food Policy Research Institute** has published Global Food Policy Report 2023 that stated that investing in early warning systems is essential to save lives, livelihoods and money.
- India and **Thailand** sign an MoU to explore mutual recognition/ cooperation arrangements (MRAs) in nursing, accounting, audio-visual and medical tourism.
- Recently, Mohammed Shahabuddin has been sworn in as the **22nd** President of Bangladesh for a five-year term.
- **Arun Sinha** has been appointed as the Chairman of the National Technical Research Organization (NTRO).
- **DRDO** and Indian Navy successfully conducted a maiden flight trial of sea-based endo-atmospheric Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) interceptor missiles.
- **China** has launched its first satellite dedicated to monitoring heavy rainfalls named "Fengyun-3G".
- Every year, World Intellectual Property Day has celebrated on **26 April**.

- The RBI has cancelled the banking licence of **Adoor Co-operative Urban Bank** and has allowed it to function as a non-banking institution.
- **Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company** has partnered with actyv.ai to offer insurance products to MSMEs through their technology platform.
- **SEBI** has proposed to facilitate a balanced approach to ESG.
- **Emkay Global** has received in-principle approval from the capital markets regulator SEBI to launch a mutual fund business in India.
- Recently, **Nexus Select Trust** has received the final observations, and go-ahead from SEBI for its Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) initial public offering (IPO) of units.
- Recently, 4th India-CARICOM ministerial meeting held between India and **Jamaica**.
- **Japan** has approved the country's first abortion pill-Mefeego pill pack.
- Recently, **Manipur** has celebrated the 5th edition of the state-level HUN Thadou Cultural Festival.
- **India** accounted for one-fifth of private equity inflows into the Asia-Pacific.
- As per the recent report, Alibaba splitted into **6** units and planned to raise funds and explore initial public offerings.
- The Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has approved setting up a petrochemical complex at an estimated cost of ₹ 61,077 crore in **Paradip, Odisha**.
- **NSE** has revised the eligibility criteria for SMEs looking to switch from its SME platform to the main board.
- **Angela Merkel** has received the highest order of Merit in Germany.
- **Synergy Group** won the prestigious Tanker Operator Award.
- Android app **Bluesky** (a Twitter alternative) has been recently launched by Jack Dorsey.
- **NBBL** has launched the NOCS platform to provide reconciliation and settlement services for transactions undertaken on the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) network.
- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to develop 10,000 km of Optic Fibre Cables (OFC) infrastructure across India by **2025**.
- Recently, PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of different projects in the Union Territory of **Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu**.
- **Bhupendra Yadav** has launched a new feature in eShram Portal to enhance the utility of the portal.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has organized Asia Pacific Leaders' Conference for Malaria Elimination in partnership with the Asia Pacific Leaders' Malaria Alliance (APLMA) in **New Delhi**.
- Under "Dekho Apna Desh" and "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" Scheme, the Ministry of Railways will start Puri-Gangasagar Divya Ka shi Yatra from **Pune**.
- As per the recent report by the Rural Development Ministry, **26** States and Union Territories have been adopted by ULPIN.
- **European Parliament** has approved the world's first set of comprehensive regulations called the Markets in Crypto Assets (MiCA).
- **Rajasthan** has inaugurated 'Mehangai Rahat Camp' to provide the people of the State relief from inflation.

- INOX Air Products has commissioned a 21.3 MWp Open Access Captive Solar Power Plant in **Unnao, Uttar Pradesh**.
- **IndusInd Bank** has recently entered into an insurance and mutual funds business to expand its portfolio beyond its core banking business.
- **RBI** has aligned the Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS) for International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) set up under the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019.
- **NSE** has come out with new norms to retain the demerged entity of an index constituent in the respective index.
- **Reliance General Insurance** became the first general insurance company to accept the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) e-Rupee (₹) for premium payments.
- The Border Roads Organization has put up a signboard at the entrance of Mana village on the India-China border reading 'India's first village'. Mana Village located in **Uttarakhand**.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched IFFCO's liquid nano Di-Ammonia Phosphate (DAP). Nano-DAP is jointly manufactured by (IFFCO) in association with **Coromandel**.
- **Australia** is set to host the third in-person Quad Leadership Summit 2023.
- **State Bank of India's** economic research department has reported that the average ticket size of loans under PMMY has almost doubled in 8 years.
- The Ramon Magsaysay Award has been presented to the Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama after **64** years.
- **Karnataka** has bagged the national award for the best implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for the year 2022-23.



CURRENT AFFAIRS: APRIL-2023

MODEL QUESTIONS

List of Important Days

1. What is the theme for World Health Day 2023?
(1) Achieving Health for All (2) Building a fairer, healthier world
(3) Universal Health Coverage (4) Health equity (5) None of these
2. When was World Hemophilia Day observed in 2023?
(1) 15th April (2) 16th April (3) 17th April (4) 18th April (5) None of these
3. When is World Creativity and Innovation Day celebrated?
(1) 20th April (2) 21st April (3) 22nd April (4) 23rd April (5) None of these
4. What is the date on which International Mother Earth Day is celebrated?
(1) 22nd March (2) 22nd April (3) 22nd May (4) 22nd June (5) None of these
5. When is International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace observed?
(1) 24 April (2) 24 May (3) 24 June (4) 24 July (5) None of these
6. When is World Book and Copyright Day observed?
(1) 23 April (2) 23 May (3) 23 June (4) 23 July (5) None of these
7. What is the unique celestial event set to occur in Bengaluru on April 25?
(1) Lunar Eclipse (2) Solar Eclipse (3) Zero Shadow Day
(4) Comet sighting (5) None of these
8. When does Zero Shadow Day occur?
(1) On the winter solstice (2) On the summer solstice
(3) On the spring equinox (4) On the autumn equinox (5) None of these
9. What is the theme for the 2023 World Intellectual Property Day?
(1) Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity
(2) Protecting IP in the Digital Age
(3) IP and Sustainable Development
(4) IP and Artificial Intelligence
(5) None of these
10. When is World Veterinary Day observed?
(1) 28th April (2) 29th April (3) 30th April (4) 1st May (5) None of these

Reserve Bank of India

11. Which institutions are covered by the RBI's guidelines on outsourcing of IT services?
(1) Only banks (2) Both banks and NBFCs
(3) Only NBFCs (4) Only public sector banks (5) None of these
12. What is the RBI's Quarterly Order Books, Inventories and Capacity Utilization Survey?
(1) A survey of consumer spending patterns
(2) A survey of manufacturers' order books, inventories, and capacity utilization
(3) A survey of banks' loan disbursements
(4) A survey of households' income and expenditure
(5) None of these

13. How is the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) responding to the recent increase in inflation?
- (1) Increasing interest rates to curb inflation
 - (2) Decreasing interest rates to stimulate economic growth
 - (3) Injecting liquidity into the banking system to support lending
 - (4) Tightening monetary policy to control inflation
 - (5) None of these

State Bank of India

14. What is the aim of SBI launching new current accounts and savings accounts in FY24?
- (1) To increase the bank's profits
 - (2) To reduce the number of existing accounts
 - (3) To attract more customers and deposits
 - (4) To streamline the account opening process
 - (5) None of these
15. How much money is SBI seeking through the issuance of dollar bonds?
- (1) \$100 million
 - (2) \$250 million
 - (3) \$500 million
 - (4) \$750 million
 - (5) None of these
16. What is the maturity period of the bonds that SBI is planning to issue?
- (1) 5 years
 - (2) 7 years
 - (3) 10 years
 - (4) 15 years
 - (5) None of these

Other Banks

17. Which bank entity recently launched WhatsApp Banking Services to enable customers to access banking services on their mobile phones?
- (1) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 - (2) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
 - (3) State Bank of India (SBI)
 - (4) India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)
 - (5) None of these
18. How long must unclaimed deposits be inactive before they are transferred to the RBI's DEAF?
- (1) 1 year
 - (2) 3 years
 - (3) 5 years
 - (4) 10 year
 - (5) None of these
19. What is the importance of disclosing interest rates to borrowers?
- (1) To ensure fairness and transparency in lending practices
 - (2) To maximize profits for the bank
 - (3) To attract more customers and increase market share
 - (4) To meet regulatory requirements
 - (5) None of these
20. What is UPI EMI?
- (1) A type of loan offered by ICICI Bank
 - (2) A feature that allows customers to pay for purchases in installments using UPI
 - (3) A type of digital wallet
 - (4) A feature that allows customers to transfer money internationally
 - (5) None of these
21. What are green deposits?
- (1) Deposits made by customers at green banks
 - (2) Deposits made by customers to support environmentally-friendly projects
 - (3) Deposits made by banks in green technologies and projects
 - (4) Deposits made by banks in renewable energy sources
 - (5) None of these

22. How will RBI monitor green deposits?
(1) By conducting regular audits of banks' green investments
(2) By requiring banks to submit quarterly reports on their green investments
(3) By conducting site visits to green projects funded by banks
(4) By collaborating with third-party environmental organizations to monitor green investments
(5) None of these
23. Which bank has reintroduced the 'Amrit Kalash' retail term deposit scheme?
(1) HDFC Bank (2) ICICI Bank (3) Axis Bank
(4) State Bank of India (SBI) (5) None of these
24. What is the benefit of investing in the 'Amrit Kalash' retail term deposit scheme?
(1) Access to credit facilities (2) Higher interest rates (3) Tax savings
(4) Insurance coverage (5) None of these
25. What is a Rupee Vostro Account system?
(1) An account opened by an Indian bank in a foreign bank to facilitate foreign transactions in Indian rupees
(2) An account opened by a foreign bank in India to facilitate foreign transactions in Indian rupees
(3) An account opened by the Reserve Bank of India to facilitate foreign transactions in Indian rupees
(4) An account opened by the Indian government to facilitate foreign transactions in Indian rupees
(5) None of these
26. Which type of transactions can be carried out using a Rupee Vostro Account system?
(1) Domestic transactions (2) Both domestic and foreign transactions
(3) Foreign transactions (4) Only transactions related to imports (5) None of these
27. What are digital payment solutions?
(1) Payment solutions that involve the use of cash
(2) Payment solutions that involve the use of cheques
(3) Payment solutions that involve the use of credit cards
(4) Payment solutions that involve the use of digital platforms such as mobile apps and internet banking
(5) None of these

Election Commission

28. What is the criteria for a political party to be recognized as a national party?
(1) The party should have at least 50 MPs in the Parliament.
(2) The party should have at least 20 MLAs in the state assemblies.
(3) The party should have at least 10% of the total votes polled in four or more states in Lok Sabha or Assembly elections.
(4) The party should have at least 10% of the total votes polled in two or more states in Lok Sabha or Assembly elections
(5) None of these

States

29. What is the name of the rice for which Bihar has received the GI tag?
(1) Basmati Rice (2) Masuri Rice (3) Marcha Rice
(4) Jasmine Rice (5) None of these
30. What is the product that has been granted the GI tag in Chhattisgarh?
(1) Nagri Dubraj rice variety (2) Malabar Pepper (3) Nagaland Honey
(4) Darjeeling Tea (5) None of these
31. Which Indian state is on track to become the first state to have 100% EVs in government departments?
(1) Maharashtra (2) Uttar Pradesh
(3) Tamil Nadu (4) Karnataka (5) None of these
32. What is the name of the village in Uttarakhand that has been recognized as the "first Indian village?"
(1) Ganga (2) Kedarnath (3) Rishikesh (4) Mana (5) None of these

Defence and National Security

33. What is the name of the bilateral maritime exercise between India and Sri Lanka that began in 2023?
(1) INDOLINK (2) SLINEX (3) INSLAM (4) LANKINDO (5) None of these
34. What is the name of the joint military exercise conducted by the Andaman and Nicobar Command?
(1) KAVACH (2) Varuna (3) Malabar (4) Garuda (5) None of these

Schemes/Initiatives

35. What is the target of Swachhotsav 2023?
(1) To make 1000 cities 3-Star Garbage Free by October 2024
(2) To make 100 cities 3-Star Garbage Free by October 2024
(3) To make 500 cities 3-Star Garbage Free by October 2024
(4) To make 10000 cities 3-Star Garbage Free by October 2024
(5) None of these
36. What is the goal of Swachhotsav 2023?
(1) To promote cleanliness in cities
(2) To reduce pollution in cities
(3) To make cities garbage-free
(4) All of the above
(5) None of these
37. Who launched the 'SAGAR-SETU' mobile app of National Logistics Portal Marine?
(1) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(2) Union Minister for Shipping, Ports and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal
(3) Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari
(4) Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnav
(5) None of these

38. What is the objective of the "Golden License program"?
- (1) To attract foreign direct investment in Bahrain
 - (2) To promote entrepreneurship in Bahrain
 - (3) To provide financial assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises in Bahrain
 - (4) To promote employment in Bahrain
 - (5) None of these
39. Who unveiled the statue of Lord Hanuman in Gujarat?
- (1) Narendra Modi
 - (2) Amit Shah
 - (3) Rajnath Singh
 - (4) Yogi Adityanath
 - (5) None of these
40. Who is the target audience of the HELP Program in Uttarakhand?
- (1) Women
 - (2) Youth
 - (3) Senior citizens
 - (4) All of the above
 - (5) None of these
41. Who launched the railway projects and methanol plant in Assam?
- (1) President of India
 - (2) Prime Minister of India
 - (3) Chief Minister of Assam
 - (4) Union Minister for Railways
 - (5) None of these
42. Where was the Ambedkar statue unveiled?
- (1) New Delhi
 - (2) Hyderabad
 - (3) Mumbai
 - (4) Kolkata
 - (5) None of these
43. Who inaugurated the Buzi Bridge in Mozambique?
- (1) Narendra Modi
 - (2) Amit Shah
 - (3) S. Jaishankar
 - (4) Rajnath Singh
 - (5) None of these
44. What is the name of the scheme launched by the Tribal Affairs Minister for the development of marketing and logistics in the Northeast region?
- (1) Marketing, Logistics Development for PTP-NER
 - (2) Tribal Development for PTP-NER
 - (3) Logistics Enhancement for PTP-NER
 - (4) Marketing Development for Northeast Tribals
 - (5) None of these
45. What is the occasion for the release of Rs 100 coin?
- (1) Republic Day
 - (2) Independence Day
 - (3) Gandhi Jayanti
 - (4) Mann Ki Baat 100th episode
 - (5) None of these
46. What is the PM GatiShakti national master plan?
- (1) A plan for the development of agriculture and rural areas in India
 - (2) A scheme for the construction of affordable housing for all in India
 - (3) A plan for the modernization and integration of India's transportation network
 - (4) A scheme for the promotion of entrepreneurship and startups in India
 - (5) None of these
47. What new feature was introduced on the eShram portal?
- (1) Access to free healthcare
 - (2) Access to housing schemes
 - (3) Access to education opportunities for children of migrant workers
 - (4) Access to transportation facilities
 - (5) None of these

48. What is the theme of the 6th Edition of One Earth One Health – Advantage Healthcare India 2023, inaugurated by PM Modi?
- (1) Healthcare for All
 - (2) One Earth, One Family, One Future
 - (3) One World, One Health
 - (4) Advancing Global Healthcare
 - (5) None of these
49. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the National Games in October 2023. Where will the inauguration ceremony of the National Games be held?
- (1) Nehru Stadium, Chennai
 - (2) Sardar Patel Stadium, Ahmedabad
 - (3) Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi
 - (4) Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Fatorda
 - (5) None of these
50. What is 'Reflections' launched by the Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman?
- (1) A new scheme to promote savings among Indians.
 - (2) An initiative to promote digital transactions in India.
 - (3) A collection of essays by the Finance Minister on India's economy and policies
 - (4) A series of webinars to educate people about investment opportunities.
 - (5) None of these

Summit/Conference

51. Who will be attending the Combined Commanders' Conference on April 1?
- (1) Prime Minister Modi
 - (2) President Kovind
 - (3) Defense Minister Rajnath Singh
 - (4) Home Minister Amit Shah
 - (5) None of these
52. What is the Food Conclave-2023 in Hyderabad?
- (1) A summit of global leaders to discuss food security
 - (2) An international trade fair showcasing food products
 - (3) A conference on food processing and technology
 - (4) A festival celebrating regional cuisine
 - (5) None of these
53. Where is the Global Education & Training Exhibition (GETEX) taking place?
- (1) Mumbai, India
 - (2) Dubai, UAE
 - (3) New York, USA
 - (4) Beijing, China
 - (5) None of these
54. The third in-person Quad Summit will be held in Australia. The Quad is a strategic grouping of four countries in the ____ region.
- (1) European
 - (2) African
 - (3) Indo-Pacific
 - (4) South American
 - (5) None of these

Agreement/Deal/Signed

55. Which two companies have announced a partnership for co-lending?
- (1) Axis Bank and HDFC
 - (2) Axis Bank and Shriram Housing Finance
 - (3) Axis Bank and ICICI Bank
 - (4) Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank
 - (5) None of these

56. With which Telecom Company is India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) working to deliver messages to its customers?
 (1) Vodafone Idea (2) Reliance Jio (3) BSNL
 (4) Airtel (5) None of these
57. How many countries are currently part of the Trans-Pacific Partnership?
 (1) 4 (2) 8 (3) 11 (4) 15 (5) None of these
58. What is the name of the organization that India has signed an MoU with to enhance innovation for clean energy transition?
 (1) International Energy Agency (IEA)
 (2) International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
 (3) International Renewable Energy Agency (IREA)
 (4) International Climate and Energy Alliance (ICEA)
 (5) None of these
59. What is the partnership between Canara Bank and Reserve Bank of India innovation hub?
 (1) A partnership for the development of rural areas in India
 (2) A partnership for the promotion of entrepreneurship and startups in India
 (3) A partnership for the development of digital payment solutions in India
 (4) A partnership for the promotion of renewable energy in India
 (5) None of these

Bills

60. What are the key provisions of the Competition Amendment Bill, 2023?
 (1) Provision for settlement of disputes
 (2) Provisions related to merger control
 (3) Provisions related to digital markets
 (4) All of the above
 (5) None of these
61. What is the name of the Bill passed by the Tamil Nadu assembly allowing 12-hour work days?
 (1) Tamil Nadu Labour Rights Bill (2) Tamil Nadu Work Hours Extension Bill
 (3) TN Industrial Growth Bill (4) TN Employment and Wages Bill (5) None of these

Fund

62. What is the extra corpus support provided to the CGTMSE scheme in the FY 2023-24 Union Budget?
 (1) 1,000 crores (2) 5,000 crores (3) 9,000 crores (4) 12,000 crores (5) None of these

Economy

63. What is the current value of India's forex reserves?
 (1) \$572.80 billion (2) \$578.78 billion (3) \$583.98 billion
 (4) \$589.66 billion (5) None of these
64. By how much did India's forex reserves increase?
 (1) \$5.89 billion (2) \$5.98 billion (3) \$6.07 billion
 (4) \$6.14 billion (5) None of these

65. What is the fiscal deficit till February 2023?
(1) Rs 14.5 lakh crore (2) Rs 16.5 lakh crore (3) Rs 18.5 lakh crore
(4) Rs 20.5 lakh crore (5) None of these
66. What is India's current account deficit as a percentage of GDP in Q3?
(1) 2.2% (2) 2.5% (3) 2.8% (4) 3.1% (5) None of these
67. Which organization releases data on India's current account deficit?
(1) Reserve Bank of India (2) Securities and Exchange Board of India
(3) Ministry of Finance (4) National Stock Exchange of India (5) None of these
68. How many transactions were processed by UPI in March 2023?
(1) 5.7 billion (2) 7.7 billion (3) 8.7 billion (4) 9.7 billion (5) None of these
69. What was the net IIP position of India at the end of December 2022?
(1) Positive \$567 billion (2) Positive \$783 billion (3) Positive \$945 billion
(4) Negative \$567 billion (5) None of these
70. What is the significance of India's March GST collection of Rs 1.60 lakh crore?
(1) It is the highest GST collection ever recorded
(2) It is the second-highest GST collection ever recorded
(3) It is the lowest GST collection ever recorded
(4) It has no significance
(5) None of these
71. What is a currency swap?
(1) The exchange of one currency for another currency at an agreed-upon rate
(2) The use of a foreign currency to purchase goods or services in another country
(3) The use of a domestic currency to purchase goods or services in another country
(4) The exchange of one type of currency for another type of currency
(5) None of these
72. Which of the following factors are used to determine the size of a country's economy?
(1) Population size (2) Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
(3) Purchasing power parity (PPP) (4) Unemployment rate (5) None of these
73. Which organization has lowered India's GDP forecast for FY24 to 5.9%?
(1) World Bank (2) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
(3) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) (4) Asian Development Bank (ADB) (5) None of these
74. Indian economy would expand near by 6% this fiscal year, IMF forecasts. What is the IMF's Special Drawing Rights (SDR)?
(1) A type of loan provided by the IMF to low-income countries.
(2) A reserve asset created by the IMF to supplement member countries' official reserves
(3) A system of exchange rates used by the IMF to stabilize global currency markets.
(4) A type of financial assistance provided by the IMF to countries experiencing a balance of payments crisis.
(5) None of these
75. What is the current inflation rate in India as of April 2023?
(1) 4.5% (2) 5.5% (3) 5.66% (4) 7.5% (5) None of these

Companies/Industry

76. What is Pincode, the new e-commerce app launched by PhonePe on the ONDC network?
(1) A social media app (2) A food delivery app (3) A ride-hailing app
(4) An e-commerce app (5) None of these
77. What is the purpose of the loan provided by the Asian Development Bank to Tata Power Delhi Distribution?
(1) To fund the expansion of the company's operations
(2) To improve the company's financial position
(3) To support the company's efforts towards renewable energy
(4) To support the company's efforts towards improving electricity distribution in Delhi
(5) None of these
78. Which organization has called for the trade pact between India and the EU?
(1) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
(2) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)
(3) Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)
(4) All of the above
(5) None of these
79. Who will develop 10,000 km of optic fibre cables across India by FY 2025?
(1) BSNL (2) NHAI (3) Airtel (4) Reliance Jio (5) None of these

Exports/Imports

80. Which country is the largest importer of gold in the world?
(1) India (2) China (3) United States (4) Germany (5) None of these
81. Which country has become the biggest oil supplier to India?
(1) Saudi Arabia (2) United States (3) Iraq
(4) Russia (5) None of these

Taxation/Trade

82. Which other country has India recently allowed to trade in Indian rupee?
(1) Bangladesh (2) Nepal (3) Sri Lanka
(4) All of the above (5) None of these
83. What is the GST revenue collection for the month of March 2023?
(1) Rs 1.50 lakh crore (2) Rs 1.55 lakh crore (3) Rs 1.60 lakh crore
(4) Rs 1.65 lakh crore (5) None of these
84. What is the projected growth rate for global trade in 2023, according to the WTO?
(1) 0.7% (2) 1.7% (3) 2.7% (4) 3.7% (5) None of these
85. Which taxes are included in net direct tax collections?
(1) Goods and Services Tax (GST) (2) Excise duty (3) Corporate tax
(4) Income tax (5) None of these

86. What are net direct tax collections?
- (1) The total amount of tax revenue collected by the government
 - (2) The amount of tax revenue collected directly from individuals and businesses
 - (3) The amount of tax revenue collected indirectly from individuals and businesses
 - (4) The total amount of tax revenue collected from both direct and indirect taxes
 - (5) None of these

Space

87. What is the name of SpaceX's spacecraft that is set to make its 1st test flight?
- (1) Dragon
 - (2) Falcon Heavy
 - (3) Starship
 - (4) Atlas V
 - (5) None of these
88. What is the name of the device NASA used to detect carbon monoxide during the extraction of oxygen from lunar soil?
- (1) Lunar Mass Spectrometer
 - (2) Vacuum Spectrometer
 - (3) MSolo
 - (4) Lunar Oxygen Detector
 - (5) None of these
89. What is the name of the upcoming NASA mission that will investigate the Moon's South Pole for resources?
- (1) Lunar Resources Exploration-1
 - (2) Lunar Polar Rover
 - (3) Lunar Resource Extraction-1
 - (4) Polar Resources Ice Mining Experiment-1
 - (5) None of these

Health/Diseases/Drugs

90. What is H3N8 bird flu?
- (1) A type of flu that affects only birds
 - (2) A type of flu that affects both birds and humans
 - (3) A type of flu that affects only humans
 - (4) A type of flu that affects only pigs
 - (5) None of these

Energy/Gas/Oil

91. What is the name of the world's first liquid hydrogen-powered ferry?
- (1) MV Hydra
 - (2) MF Hydra
 - (3) MS Hydra
 - (4) MV Hydrogen
 - (5) None of these
92. What is PNGRB?
- (1) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board
 - (2) Petroleum and Natural Gas Refining Board
 - (3) Public Natural Gas Resources Board
 - (4) Private Natural Gas Resources Board
 - (5) None of these
93. What is the current status of India in terms of solar manufacturing?
- (1) India is the world's largest solar manufacturer
 - (2) India is the world's second-largest solar manufacturer
 - (3) India is the world's third-largest solar manufacturer
 - (4) India is the world's fourth-largest solar manufacturer
 - (5) None of these

Transport/Cars/Scooters

94. From where was the Bharat Gaurav Tourist train flagged off?
(1) Mumbai (2) Kolkata (3) Chennai (4) New Delhi (5) None of these
95. What is 'Vande Metro'?
(1) A new type of metro train developed by the Indian Railways
(2) A metro line connecting different cities in India
(3) A high-speed bullet train project in India
(4) A metro station named after Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(5) None of these
96. Which organization is responsible for ensuring compliance with the International Flight Safety Standards in India?
(1) Ministry of Civil Aviation (2) Directorate General of Civil Aviation
(3) Airports Authority of India (4) Indian Air Force (5) None of these

Media /I.T / Telecommunication

97. Who announced the first quantum computing-based telecom network link in India?
(1) Narendra Modi (2) Amit Shah (3) Ashwini Vaishnav
(4) Ravi Shankar Prasad (5) None of these

Appointments/Election (or) Latest who is who?

98. Who is the current Chairperson of the GST Council in India?
(1) Nirmala Sitharaman (2) Piyush Goyal (3) Amit Shah
(4) Narendra Modi (5) None of these
99. Who is the current Prime Minister of Italy?
(1) Silvio Berlusconi (2) Matteo Renzi (3) Giorgia Meloni
(4) Mario Draghi (5) None of these
100. Who is the brand ambassador for the 'Khel On, Trade On' campaign?
(1) Robin Uthappa (2) Sachin Tendulkar (3) Virat Kohli
(4) PV Sindhu (5) None of these
101. Who has taken charge as the new President of National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)?
(1) Kalikesh Singh Deo (2) Raninder Singh (3) Rajiv Bhatia
(4) Vijay Kumar (5) None of these
102. Who is the current chairman of SBI?
(1) Arundhati Bhattacharya (2) Dinesh Kumar Khara (3) Rajnish Kumar
(4) Pawan Kumar Bajaj (5) None of these
103. Who has been named in the task force to expand US-India university partnerships?
(1) A US-born Ajay Banga (2) An India-born Neeli Bendapudi
(3) A US government official (4) An Indian government official (5) None of these
104. Who was recently announced as the brand ambassador for JioCinema?
(1) Virat Kohli (2) Rohit Sharma (3) MS Dhoni
(4) Shikhar Dhawan (5) None of these

105. Who has been appointed as the National Technical Research Organization (NTRO) chairman?
(1) Arun Sinha (2) Rajesh Pant (3) Ajit Doval
(4) Pankaj Saran (5) None of these
106. Which company has recently signed up Virat Kohli as their brand influencer?
(1) HDFC Bank (2) Standard Chartered Bank (3) Citibank
(4) HSBC (5) None of these
107. Who has been appointed as the new CMD of BEML Limited?
(1) Shantanu Roy (2) Sanjay Gupta (3) Ashok Sinha
(4) Rajiv Kapoor (5) None of these
108. Who recently took the oath as the 22nd President of Bangladesh?
(1) Sheikh Hasina (2) Abdul Hamid (3) Khaleda Zia
(4) Shahabuddin Chuppu (5) None of these

Awards/Honours

109. What is the highest civilian award in India, which was conferred upon Pandit Ravi Shankar?
(1) Padma Bhushan (2) Padma Vibhushan (3) Padma Shri
(4) Bharat Ratna (5) None of these
110. Who is the first woman officer of the Indian Air Force (IAF) to receive a gallantry award?
(1) Wing Commander Sunita Williams
(2) Squadron Leader Avani Chaturvedi
(3) Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh
(4) Wing Commander Deepika Misra
(5) None of these
111. Who has been awarded the Immigrant Achievement Award in 2023 for their contributions to higher education in the US?
(1) Neeli Bendapudi (2) Kamala Harris (3) Sundar Pichai
(4) Satya Nadella (5) None of these

Sports/Game

112. Which organization is responsible for the FIFA Rankings?
(1) FIFA (2) UEFA (3) AFC (4) CONCACAF (5) None of these
113. Who won the gold medal for India in the 2023 Asian Wrestling Championships?
(1) Aman Sehrawat (2) Sushil Kumar (3) Bajrang Punia
(4) Yogeshwar Dutt (5) None of these
114. Who has been named as the Wisden T20I player of 2022?
(1) Harmanpreet Kaur (2) Umesh Yadav (3) Rohit Sharma
(4) Virat Kohli (5) None of these
115. Where was the World Cup held where Jyothi Surekha Vennam won the gold medal?
(1) Lausanne, Switzerland (2) Berlin, Germany (3) Paris, France
(4) Guatemala City, Guatemala (5) None of these

116. Who won the London Marathon?

- (1) Mary Keitany (2) Eliud Kipchoge (3) Brigid Kosgei
(4) Daniel Kiptum (5) None of these

Report

117. What is the current unemployment rate in India as of March 2023?

- (1) 5.5% (2) 6.2% (3) 7.1% (4) 7.8% (5) None of these

118. Who has topped the 2023 TIME100 Reader Poll?

- (1) Amitabh Bachchan (2) Aamir Khan (3) Shah Rukh Khan
(4) Salman Khan (5) None of these

119. Which airport has recently been ranked as the 9th busiest airport in the world?

- (1) Beijing Capital International Airport
(2) Dubai International Airport
(3) Los Angeles International Airport
(4) Indira Gandhi International Airport
(5) None of these

120. What is the current rank of India in terms of the size of its economy?

- (1) 1st (2) 2nd (3) 3rd (4) 5th (5) None of these

121. What was the employment rate in India in the March quarter?

- (1) 36.6% (2) 36.9% (3) 37.2% (4) 36.3% (5) None of these

122. What is the overall trend in India's employment rate?

- (1) Decreasing (2) Increasing (3) Stable (4) Fluctuating (5) None of these

123. Which tyre brand has emerged as the 'second strongest tyre brand in the world'?

- (1) Michelin (2) Bridgestone (3) Goodyear (4) MRF (5) None of these

124. Which city tops the list of world's wealthiest cities in 2023?

- (1) London (2) Tokyo (3) New York City (4) Singapore (5) None of these

General - National

125. Which UN body has India been elected to as a member in 2023?

- (1) UN Human Rights Council
(2) UN Statistical Commission
(3) UN Security Council
(4) UN General Assembly
(5) None of these

126. What is the OIC?

- (1) Organization for International Cooperation
(2) Organization of Islamic Conference
(3) Organization of International Commerce
(4) Organization for Islamic Cooperation
(5) None of these

127. What does NBFC stand for?
(1) Non-Banking Finance Company
(2) Non-Banking Financial Corporation
(3) National Bank Finance Company
(4) National Bank Financial Corporation
(5) None of these
128. How many official languages are recognized by the Indian Constitution?
(1) 12 (2) 18 (3) 22 (4) 28 (5) None of these
129. Which city is home to India's first 3D-printed post office?
(1) Mumbai (2) Delhi (3) Bengaluru (4) Hyderabad (5) None of these
130. What is Fasal?
(1) A government agency that provides agricultural subsidies
(2) An NGO that works with farmers
(3) A private company that provides agricultural technology solutions
(4) A cooperative that provides seeds and fertilizer
(5) None of these
131. Which organization ruled against India regarding import duties on ICT products?
(1) United Nations (2) World Health Organization
(3) World Trade Organization (4) International Monetary Fund (5) None of these
132. What does PTP-NER stand for?
(1) Project Tiger Protection-Northeast Region
(2) Promotion of Tribal Products-Northeast Region
(3) Protection of Traditional Practices-Northeast Region
(4) Preservation of Tribal Culture-Northeast Region
(5) None of these
133. What is a Mangrove Pitta bird?
(1) A type of bird found in the Himalayan region of India
(2) A bird species that lives in deserts
(3) A bird species that lives in mangrove forests
(4) A bird species that lives in grasslands
(5) None of these
134. What is the role of the NTRO?
(1) To provide technical intelligence to security agencies
(2) To provide financial intelligence to security agencies
(3) To provide legal intelligence to security agencies
(4) To provide diplomatic intelligence to security agencies
(5) None of these
135. Which Indian states have resolved their long-standing border disputes with a landmark pact?
(1) Assam and Manipur
(2) Assam and Arunachal Pradesh
(3) Assam and Nagaland
(4) Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya
(5) None of these

136. What is the Locked Shields cyber-defense exercise?
(1) An international cyber-attack simulation exercise
(2) A physical security training program for military personnel
(3) A military exercise for nuclear security
(4) A cybersecurity conference held annually
(5) None of these
137. How will the new digital currency be backed by gold in Zimbabwe?
(1) The government will hold gold reserves to back the currency
(2) The currency will be directly convertible to gold
(3) A portion of the currency will be backed by gold
(4) The currency will be pegged to the price of gold
(5) None of these
138. When was the first Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) established in India?
(1) 1990 (2) 2000 (3) 2003 (4) 2010 (5) None of these

General - International

139. What is the name of the trading deal that Britain is set to join?
(1) Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)
(2) North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
(3) European Union (EU)
(4) Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
(5) None of these
140. How many places in Arunachal Pradesh have been 'renamed' by China?
(1) 7 (2) 9 (3) 11 (4) 13 (5) None of these
141. What event has Peru withdrawn from hosting?
(1) FIFA World Cup 2022 (2) FIFA Women's World Cup 2023
(3) FIFA U-20 World Cup 2023 (4) FIFA U-17 World Cup 2023 (5) None of these
142. Which two countries have gained as FPI destinations in FY23?
(1) Norway and Singapore (2) Singapore and China (3) Norway and India
(4) China and India (5) None of these
143. What is the role of the Rat Czar in New York City?
(1) To hunt and exterminate rats
(2) To oversee and coordinate efforts to control the rat population
(3) To study and research rats
(4) To train other city employees in rat control
(5) None of these
144. Which country became a founding member of the International Big Cats Alliance?
(1) India (2) Nepal (3) Bangladesh (4) Sri Lanka (5) None of these
145. What is Syria known as after recent reports?
(1) World's largest oil producer (2) World's largest agricultural producer
(3) World's largest 'narco-state' (4) World's largest weapons producer (5) None of these

146. What is the cause of the conflict in Sudan?
 (1) A dispute over an internationally supported plan to establish a new civilian government
 (2) A conflict over oil resources in the country
 (3) Religious tensions between different sects in Sudan
 (4) A territorial dispute with South Sudan
 (5) None of these
147. Which country is the largest shareholder in the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)?
 (1) China (2) Japan (3) South Korea (4) India (5) None of these
148. Which organization publishes the Index of Economic Freedom?
 (1) World Economic Forum (2) International Monetary Fund (3) World Bank
 (4) Heritage Foundation (5) None of these

Books and Authors

149. Who is the author of the book 'Sachin@50' - Celebrating A Maestro?
 (1) Boria Majumdar (2) Sachin Tendulkar (3) Rahul Dravid
 (4) Virat Kohli (5) None of these
150. Who revealed the book 'Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamprashastih'?
 (1) President Ram Nath Kovind (2) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
 (3) Home Minister Amit Shah (4) Defence Minister Rajnath Singh (5) None of these

Ans: 1-1, 2-3, 3-2, 4-2, 5-1, 6-1, 7-3, 8-2, 9-1, 10-2, 11-2, 12-2, 13-1, 14-3, 15-3, 16-2, 17-4, 18-4, 19-1, 20-2, 21-3, 22-2, 23-2, 24-2, 25-2, 26-3, 27-4, 28-4, 29-3, 30-1, 31-2, 32-4, 33-2, 34-1, 35-1, 36-4, 37-2, 38-1, 39-2, 40-4, 41-2, 42-2, 43-3, 44-1, 45-4, 46-3, 47-3, 48-3, 49-4, 50-3, 51-1, 52-3, 53-2, 54-3, 55-2, 56-4, 57-3, 58-1, 59-3, 60-4, 61-2, 62-3, 63-2, 64-2, 65-1, 66-1, 67-1, 68-3, 69-2, 70-2, 71-1, 72-2, 73-2, 74-2, 75-3, 76-4, 77-4, 78-1, 79-2, 80-1, 81-4, 82-4, 83-3, 84-2, 85-4, 86-2, 87-3, 88-3, 89-4, 90-2, 91-2, 92-1, 93-3, 94-4, 95-1, 96-2, 97-3, 98-1, 99-3, 100-1, 101-1, 102-2, 103-2, 104-2, 105-1, 106-4, 107-1, 108-4, 109-4, 110-4, 111-1, 112-1, 113-1, 114-1, 115-4, 116-4, 117-4, 118-3, 119-4, 120-4, 121-2, 122-2, 123-4, 124-3, 125-2, 126-4, 127-1, 128-3, 129-3, 130-3, 131-3, 132-2, 133-3, 134-1, 135-2, 136-1, 137-1, 138-3, 139-1, 140-3, 141-4, 142-1, 143-2, 144-2, 145-3, 146-1, 147-1, 148-4, 149-1, 150-2.

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