

August 2023

 oliveboard

SSC BOLT



MONTHLY
GK PREP



(Current Affairs + Static Questions)
{Including bonus CK questions, as per the updated
CGL Tier II pattern}

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Important Current Affairs

Economy

1. India's core sector output expands to 5-month high at 8.2% in June

As per the data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Output of eight key infrastructure sectors ' known as the core sector ' expanded to a five-month high of 8.2 per cent in June. This is due to a high base effect and positive growth in seven of the eight sectors. In June last year, the core sector had grown by 13.1 per cent.

2. GST Council meet: 28% tax on online gaming to become effective from 1 Oct, says FM Sitharaman, to review after 6 months

After the 51st GST Council Meeting in New Delhi, Ms Sitharaman said the 28 percent GST casinos and online gaming will be levied on face value.

The Council had also recommended that the law may be amended to provide clarity in the matter. It recommended certain amendments in the CGST Act 2017 and IGST Act 2017 to provide clarity on the taxation of supplies in casinos, horse.

3. India imposes anti-dumping duty on optical fibre imports from China, Korea and Indonesia

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), an arm of the Commerce Ministry of India, has imposed an anti-dumping duty on optical fibers from China, Korea and Indonesia in a move to secure the domestic industry from artificially cheap rates that are capturing the market. The anti-dumping

duty imposed under this notification shall be effective for a period of five years

4. Unclaimed deposits of Rs 48,461 crore transferred to Depositor Education & Awareness Fund

Unclaimed deposits worth Rs 48,461.44 crore pertaining to 16,79,32,112 accounts have been transferred by the banks to Depositor Education & Awareness Fund as on March 31, 2023, informed to the Parliament. The Central Government introduced the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) to protect investors' interests and promote awareness.

5. RBI raises inflation projection for FY24 to 5.4% amid price shocks from vegetables

The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has increased its CPI (consumer price index) inflation forecast for FY24 to 5.4 % from 5.1%. For the 2nd quarter, it projected the CPI inflation to be at 6.2% followed by 5.7 % in the 3rd quarter and 5.2 percent in the 4th quarter. It further projected CPI inflation to be at 5.2% for the 1st quarter of FY25.

6. Retail inflation rises to 15-month high of 7.44 per cent in July

According to data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), India's retail inflation jumped to a 15-month high of 7.44% in July as prices of vegetables and other food items spiked.

This is a sharp acceleration from the 4.87% inflation reported in June. A year ago, retail inflation was at 6.71%.

Previously, high inflation was recorded at 7.79% in April 2022.

7. India, UAE settle 1 million barrels of crude oil transaction in national currencies

Exactly a month after India and UAE signed a Memorandum of Understanding on having trade in national currencies, the UAE's Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) made their first ever crude oil transaction in national currencies.

The transaction involved the sale of one million barrels of oil. UAE is 4th largest source of crude oil and 2nd largest source of LNG and LPG for India.

8. WPI contracts 1.36 per cent in July, after deflating 4.12 per cent in June

India's wholesale inflation contracted 1.36% on a year-on-year basis in the month of July after contracting 4.12% in June, data showed on Monday. On a month-on-month basis, the index stood at 1.95%.

India's WPI reading has remained in the negative territory for four straight months.

June's WPI reading of 4.12% was the lowest since September 2015.

9. FDI Equity Inflows Decline 34% to \$10.94 Billion in April-June 2023

Foreign direct investment (FDI) into India declined 34 percent to \$10.94 billion during April-June 2023-24, dragged by lower inflows in computer hardware and software, telecom, auto, and pharma, according to government data.

During the quarter, FDI equity inflows decreased from major countries including Singapore, Mauritius, the US, UK, and UAE. FDI inflows stood at \$16.58 billion during April-June 2022-23.

10. Zepto Becomes India's 111th Unicorn With \$200 Mn Funding At \$1.4 Bn Valuation

Instant grocery delivery startup Zepto has raised \$200 million in a new funding round at a valuation of \$1.4 billion. The funding makes Zepto the first Indian startup to attain the unicorn status this year.

As many as 44 startups entered the unicorn (reached/exceeded \$1 billion valuation) club in 2021 and 23 were added last year.

Kaivalya Vohra, Zepto co-founder and CTO. Zepto co-founder and chief executive : Aadit Palicha.

National

1. Parliament passes Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023 prohibiting unauthorized recording and exhibition of films

Parliament has passed the Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023 which seeks to amend the Cinematograph Act, 1952 under which the certificate issued by the Central Board of Film Certification was valid for 10 years. Now, the certificate will be perpetually valid. It also prohibits the unauthorized recording of films and eases the process of the licensing procedure.

2. India's installed wind energy capacity to rise to 99.9GW by 2029-30

India's wind energy sector is witnessing a remarkable surge, with the installed capacity reaching an impressive 43,773 megawatts (MW) as of 30 June 2023. The major wind energy producing States for the year 2022-23 were Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala,

Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

3. India has largest 5G network in world: Sh. Vaishnav

India now has the second largest 5G network in the world, on the back of the fastest 5G rollout with 300,000 sites set up in 10 months, the government said. The world's fastest 5G rollout continues, over 3 lakh sites installed in 714 districts.

4. G20 Ministerial Conference on Women's Empowerment to begin at Gandhinagar in Gujarat

G20 Ministerial Conference on Women's Empowerment has begun in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The three-day conference will be chaired by Union Minister of Women and Child Development, Smriti Irani.

The theme of the conference is 'Women-led Inclusive Development as Cusp of Inter-Generational Transformation.'

5. Rajya Sabha passes Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023 in Parliament

The Rajya Sabha passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023, that seeks to promote ease of business by decriminalising minor offences through amendments in 183 provisions of 42 Acts.

The Bill, which was cleared by the Lok Sabha on July 27, was passed by a voice vote in the Upper House.

6. GI Tags To Goan Food Items, Uttar Pradesh's Metal Craft, Four Rajasthan Crafts Among Seven Products

The Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag to seven products

from various regions of India, including four from Rajasthan.

The GI tags were secured by 'Jalesar Dhatu Shilp', 'Goa Mankurad Mango', 'Goan Bebinca', Udaipur Koftgari Metal Craft, 'Bikaner Kashidakari Craft', 'Jodhpur Bandhej Craft', and 'Bikaner Usta Kala Craft



7. Parliament passes the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023

The Rajya Sabha passed the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023, which seeks to make amendments to the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 ('OAMDR Act'). The proposed amendments introduce auction for allocation of operating rights in offshore areas.

8. Indiaspora to host G20 Forum in New Delhi

Indiaspora, a leading non-profit organisation dedicated to uniting the Indian diaspora for a stronger, more interconnected global community, announced that it will host a G20 Forum in New Delhi later this month to

brainstorm the Indian diaspora's role in the country's march towards 2047.

[9. Rajya Sabha Passes Bill To Amend Advocates Act, Seeks To Punish 'Touts](#)

The Rajya Sabha passed the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2023, which was introduced on August 1. It amends the Advocates Act, 1961

.The major changes which the Bill seeks to bring is, making the act of 'Tout' punishable and certain provisions of Legal Practitioners Act, 1879 which have become obsolete.

[10. PM Modi to lay foundation stone to revamp 508 railway stations](#)

PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for redevelopment of 508 railway stations across the country.

These stations will be redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme at an estimated cost of over ₹ 24,470 crore.

The redevelopment will provide modern passenger amenities along with ensuring better designed traffic circulation and inter-modal integration.

[11. Lok Sabha passes Inter-Services Organisation \(Command, Control & Discipline\) Bill ' 2023](#)

The Lok Sabha has passed the Inter-Services Organisation (Command, Control & Discipline) Bill - 2023.

The bill seeks to empower Commander-in-Chief and Officer-in Command of Inter-Services Organisations (ISOs) with all disciplinary and administrative powers in respect of the personnel serving in or attached to such organisations.

[12. Government restricts import of laptop, computers, tablets](#)

The Indian government has imposed immediate restrictions on importing laptops, tablets, and personal computers falling under HSN 8741 category.

As per a government notification, the import of restricted items will be allowed only against a valid license.

However, the curbs will not be applicable to imports under Baggage Rules.

[13. National Virtual Library of India is being developed to fulfill the vision of One Nation One Digital Library](#)

President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the "Festival of Libraries 2023" at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The two-day Festival, which is being organised by the Ministry of Culture, will highlight iconic libraries from across the world to initiate a conversation on the modernisation and digitisation of libraries in India.

[14. Cabinet Okays Rs 1.4-L cr Plan for Rural Broadband Reach](#)

The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹1.40-lakh-crore plan to provide broadband services to households in all 640,000 villages in the country under the BharatNet project. The last-mile broadband connectivity project has already connected 194,000 villages, with the rest likely to be completed in two-and-a-half years.

[15. NABARD sanctions Rs 1974 crore to Rajasthan govt](#)

NABARD has sanctioned ₹1,974.07 crore to the Rajasthan government under the Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for 2023-24. NABARD Rajasthan Chief General Manager Dr Rajiv Siwach said ₹930.44 crore has been sanctioned for three

rural drinking water supply projects in Ajmer, Jalore, and Kota districts.

16. Parliament Passes Delhi Services Bill (GNCTD Amendment Bill)

The Rajya Sabha on Monday passed the contentious Government of NCT of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023 - which seeks to dilute the powers of the Delhi Government over services.

The Bill seeks to establish a permanent authority named "National Capital Civil Service Authority" to control of civil servants.

It was already approved by Lok Sabha on August 03.

17. Centre Agrees To Look Into 'Havana Syndrome' In India

The mysterious condition known as 'Havana Syndrome' has been puzzling doctors and scientists for years, and it appears that India may be the latest country to be affected by it. The syndrome has been making headlines after the Indian Government announced it would look into the condition, following reports of possible cases in India.

18. Standing Committee on Economic Statistics gets a new name

The government said Standing Committee on Economic Statistics has been renamed as Standing Committee on Statistics.

The committee will advise Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on all surveys. It will advise on survey methodology including sampling frame, sampling design, survey instruments, etc and to finalize tabulation plan of surveys.

19. Indian Railways' Historic Milestone! New Amravati station becomes Central Railway's third 'Pink Station'

In a first, Central Railway's New Amravati station becomes the first station in Bhusaval Division and third station of Central Railway CR to be a Pink Station to be fully managed by women staff.

Central Railway has inaugurated the New Amravati station under the capable management of an all-women team.

20. India aims to triple natural gas share to 15% by 2030

India has embarked on an ambitious trajectory to amplify its existing 6% share of natural gas in the energy amalgam to a formidable 15% by 2030, as the government presses forward with a suite of comprehensive measures. These include the expansion of the National Gas Grid Pipeline, expansion of the City Gas Distribution (CGD) network, setting up of LNG Terminals, etc.

21. Railways Ministry to establish Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras at railway stations across the country

Railways Ministry will establish Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras at railway stations across the country. It aims to make available quality medicines to all at an affordable price. The Ministry has identified the list of fifty stations for the pilot project.

22. Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah introduces three new Bills in Lok Sabha

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah introduces the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita Bill 2023, the

Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita Bill, 2023 and the Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 in the Lok Sabha.

23. PM GatiShakti: NPG Proposes Six Major Road And Rail Projects Worth Rs 28,000 Crore To Transform Connectivity

A total of six infrastructure projects, valued at over Rs 28,000 crore, have been proposed under the PM GatiShakti initiative.

These recommended projects pertain to the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

The decision was taken at the 53rd National Planning Group (NPG) meeting, held in New Delhi.

24. India To Deploy Its First Polar Research Ship In Five Years, Will Help In Sustaining Indian Bases In Antarctica

India is planning to have its first Polar Research Vessel (PRV) within the next five years, according to Union Earth Sciences Minister Kiren Rijiju.

This initiative is aimed at sustaining India's bases in Antarctica.

The proposal regarding the ship is expected to undergo Cabinet approval during the current financial year. The estimated cost of the vessel has been revised to Rs 2,600 crore.

25. G20 Film Festival to begin in New Delhi with screening of Satyajit Ray's Pather Panchali

The G20 Film Festival has begun in New Delhi with screening of Satyajit Ray's Pather Panchali .

The festival aims to celebrate and showcase a vibrant and collaborative partnership existing amongst the G20 and invited countries in the field of cinema.

The festival is organised by the India International Centre and the G20 Secretariat of the Ministry of External Affairs

26. Centre Renames Nehru Memorial As Prime Ministers' Museum And Library

The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) has officially been renamed as the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library (PMML) Society with by the Centre.

The decision was taken at a special meeting of the Memorial Museum and Library Society which was presided over by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who is the Vice-President of the Society.

27. Cabinet approves seven rail projects worth Rs 32,500 crore to boost connectivity

With a view to improve rail connectivity and ease travel for commuters, the Union Cabinet approved seven projects for the Ministry of Railways at a cost of around Rs 32,500 crore. Spanning 35 districts in nine States - Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha, Jharkhand, and West Bengal, the projects will add 2,339 km to the existing network.

28. Chairman, Central Water Commission Launches Mobile App 'Floodwatch' To Provide Real-Time Flood Forecasts To Public

The Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC), Shri Kushvinder Vohra today launched the mobile application, "FloodWatch' with the aim of using mobile phones to disseminate information related to the flood situation and forecasts up to 7 days on a real-time basis to the public. The in-house

developed user-friendly app has readable and audio broadcast.

29. Two reforms introduced for Mobile User Protection to promote a cleaner and safer digital ecosystem

In strengthening Government of India's commitment to foster a digitally inclusive society while maintaining the highest standards of security and customer protection, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Communications, Railways and Electronics & IT, today launched two reforms towards digital transformation and enhancing customer Protection.

30. Prime Minister to address G20 Health Ministers' meeting in Gandhinagar through video conferencing

As part of India's G20 presidency, the G20 Health Ministers' meeting formally began today. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will virtually address the meeting in the afternoon. Addressing the meeting, Addressing at the inaugural session, WHO Director General, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus commended India for its steps taken in advancing Universal Health Coverage.

31. Sadbhavana Diwas Observed with Pledge Taking in DEPwD

'Sadbhavana Diwas' is observed nationwide on 20th August annually but as it falls on a Sunday this year, Sadbhavana Pledge taking was organised today, i.e. 18th August, 2023 in all Government Offices.

32. President Droupadi Murmu gives assent to Central GST (Amendment) Bill and Integrated GST (Amendment) Bill, 2023

The Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 defines the

expressions online gaming, online money gaming, and virtual digital assets.

The Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 amends the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act 2017 to exclude online money gaming from the definition of online information and data access or retrieval services.

33. 4th Trade & Investment Working Group meeting under India's G20 Presidency to begin in Jaipur

The fourth and final meeting of the Trade and Investment Working Group of G 20 is going to take place in Jaipur from 21st August, 2023.

The five priority issues - Trade for Growth & Prosperity, Resilient Trade and GVCs, Integrating MSMEs in World Trade, Logistics for Trade and WTO Reforms will be discussed among the G20 member/invitee countries during the meetings.

34. Government notifies Indian Green Hydrogen Standard under National Green Hydrogen Mission

The Government has notified the Green Hydrogen Standard for India in a significant move for the progress of the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

It defined Green Hydrogen as having a well-to-gate emission including water treatment, electrolysis, gas purification, drying and compression of hydrogen of not more than 2 kg CO₂ equivalent / kg H₂. The standard is issued by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

35. Centre imposes 40 percent export duty on Onions to improve its domestic availability

The Government of India imposed a 40 percent duty on export of onions to

control price rise and improve supplies in the domestic market till 31st December 2023.

Earlier, the government released 3 lakh tonnes of onions from its buffer stock to increase the availability. It also maintaining an onion buffer, under the Price Stabilization Fund, to check prices of onions.

36. G20 Pandemic Fund approves 25 million dollar grant for strengthening Animal Health System in India

The G20 Pandemic Fund has approved a 25 million dollar proposal of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying for strengthening the Animal Health System of India.

Established under Indonesia's G20 Presidency, the Pandemic Fund finances critical investments to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response capacities at national, regional, and global levels. It mainly focuses on low- and middle-income countries.

37. Centre to set up Rs 12,000-crore inland waterway on Brahmani river in Odisha

The Centre is preparing a Rs 12,000-crore inland waterway on the Brahmani river in Odisha to move goods from four key industrial clusters to the ports of Paradip and Dhamra.

Under the proposed plan, the inland waterway will be developed on the engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) model in which the total project funding is made by the government.

38. India's Chandrayaan-3 successfully lands on the Moon

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully landed its Chandrayaan-3 Lander Module on the surface of the Moon.

ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 mission successfully completed its month-long journey from Earth to the Moon, making a soft landing on the lunar south pole. This is the same region where its predecessor, Chandrayaan-1, discovered the presence of water molecules. Pragyan (rover) has a mission life of 1 lunar day, approximately equal to 14 Earth days.

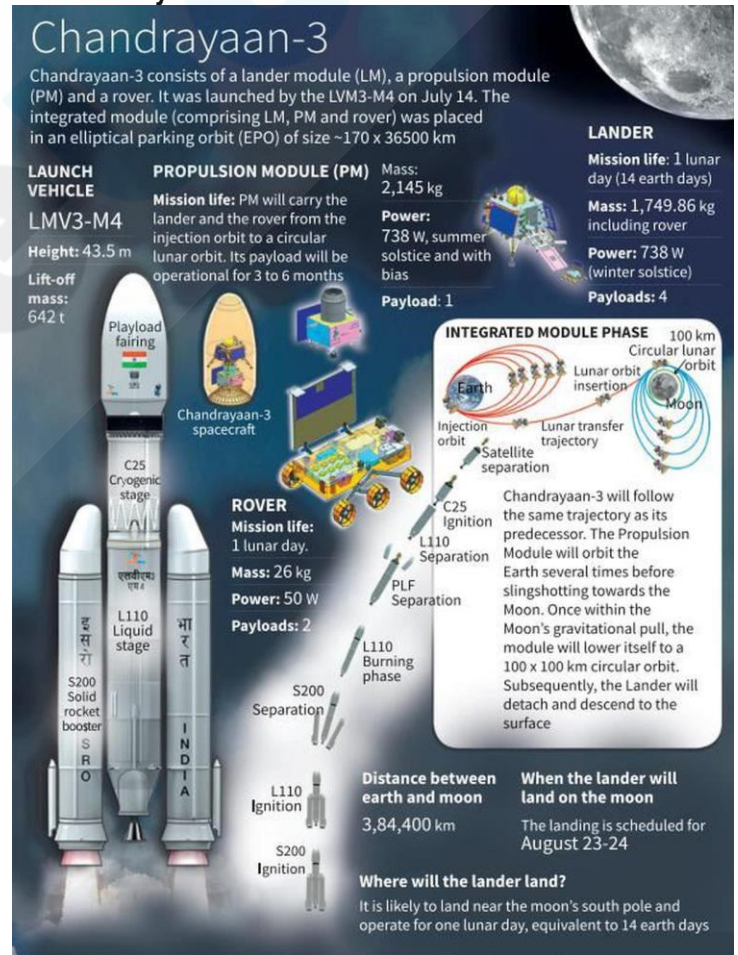


Image Courtesy: The Hindu

39. India Aims for 65% Renewable Energy Share by 2030, Exceeding Previous Targets

The Union Power Minister announced ambitious plans to significantly increase the country's reliance on renewable energy sources. India is poised to achieve a remarkable 65% share of renewable energy in its energy mix by the year 2030.

Back in 2015, the country had set a target of reaching 40% renewable energy penetration by 2030.

40. President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu releases the commemorative coin on Late Shri NT Rama Rao on his centenary year

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu released the commemorative coin of Rs. 100 on Late Shri NT Rama Rao on his centenary year at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre on August 28, 2023.

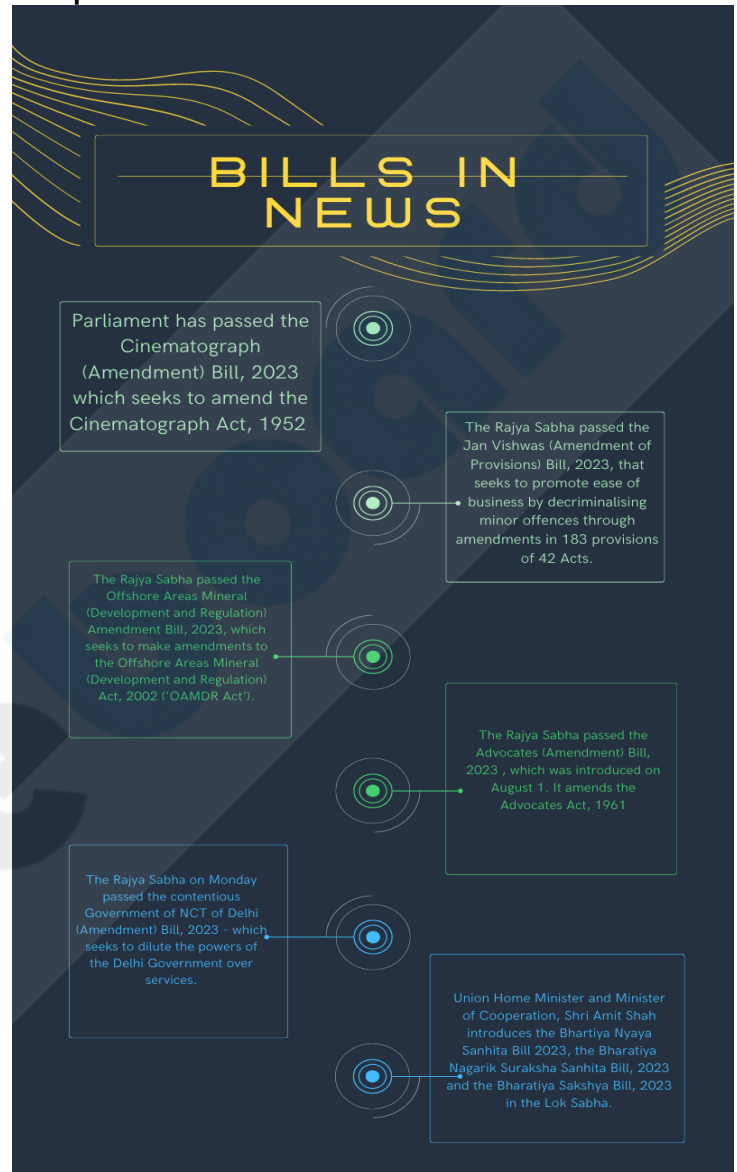
Shri NT Rama Rao has enriched Indian cinema and culture through Telugu films. He also spread the message of social justice and equality through one of his films 'Manushulanta Okkate'.

41. Akashvani organises event related to Know India Programme under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs

Akashvani organised an event related to Know India Programme under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi.

Know India Programme (KIP) is a flagship initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs for diaspora engagement, which familiarizes Indian-origin youth with their Indian roots.

In 1956 the name AKASHVANI was adopted for the National Broadcaster.



International

1. UNESCO recommends putting Venice on heritage danger list

The UN's cultural agency UNESCO has said, the iconic Italian city, Venice should be added to a list of world heritage sites in danger.

UNESCO in its report said, the city is at risk of irreversible damage from overwhelming tourism, over development and rising sea levels due to climate change.

The agency aims to encourage the better preservation of the site for the future

2. India Gives Rs 45 cr to Sri Lanka to fund its 'Digital Identity Project'

India has handed over Rs 45 crore in advance to Sri Lanka to fund its unique digital identity project, the most crucial step in the island nation's digitalisation programme being implemented through the Indian grant assistance. It is only the 15% of the total funds required for the successful implementation of the project given as an advance payment.

3. Iraq is the 18th country to be recognized by WHO for eliminating Trachoma

The World Health Organization formally recognized Iraq as the 18th country to have successfully eliminated trachoma as a public health hazard. This accomplishment also places Iraq as the fifth country in the WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region to reach this milestone. The WHO has designated Iraq as the 50th country to have eradicated at least one Neglected Tropical Diseases

4. Russia launches first Moon mission in nearly 50 years

Russia launched its first moon-landing spacecraft in 47 years yesterday in a bid to be the first nation to make a soft landing on the lunar south pole, a region believed to hold coveted pockets of water ice.

The Russian lunar mission, known as Luna-25, was launched using a Soyuz 2.1v rocket from the Vostochny cosmodrome, located over 5,500 km east of Moscow. It is Russia's first lunar mission since 1976. Yuri Borisov, the head of Roscosmos.

5. Anwarul Haq Kakar sworn in as Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister

Mr Kakar, the 52-year-old first-time Senator, is an ethnic Pushtun from Balochistan and a member of the Balochistan Awami Party (BAP). He was administered oath of the office by President Arif Alvi in a ceremony held at the Aiwan-i-Sadr (the President House) in Islamabad. He became the 8th interim prime minister of Pakistan.

6. BRICS Bank signs \$173 mn loan agreement for Lesotho water project

The New Development Bank (NDB), which was established by the BRICS bloc, and the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA) have inked a loan agreement for the implementation of phase II of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP).

The NDB will provide a project loan of 3.2 billion South African Rand (\$173 million) to TCTA under the sovereign guarantee of South Africa. Lesotho-->

Capital: Maseru

Currency: Lesotho Loti

7. Zimbabwe's Mnangagwa re-elected president, opposition rejects result

Zimbabwe's elections commission said late on August 26 that incumbent Emmerson Mnangagwa had won this week's presidential election with roughly 53% of the vote, but the opposition and analysts immediately questioned the result.

Emmerson Mnangagwa's main challenger, Nelson Chamisa, secured 44% of the presidential vote, according to the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission.

Sports

1. Hyderabad to host India's first IAU 50 Km World Championships, half-marathon

Hyderabad is all set to host meg sporting event, the IAU 50 Km World Championships 2023, which will be held for the first time in India. The IAU 50 Km World Championships 2023 which in affiliation with the International Association of Ultra Runners (IAU) and the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) will see participants from several countries.

2. Subroto Mukherjee Sports Education Society sign MoU with AIFF to promote football at the grassroots level

For the first time ever, Subroto Mukerjee Sports Education Society (SMSES) has collaborated with All India Football Federation (AIFF) to promote football at grass root level.

As part of this MoU, from this edition onwards, a Subroto XI team will be formed in Junior Boys (U-17) category. The team will participate in AIFF Youth Competition from the 2023-24 season.

3. World University Games 2023: Jyothi Yarraji wins bronze medal in women's 100m hurdles

India's Jyothi Yarraji won the bronze medal in the women's 100m hurdles at the FISU World University Games 2023 in Chengdu, China.

The run in the final saw Jyothi Yarraji better her previous national record by 0.04 seconds.

This was India's second athletics medal at the Chengdu meet after Bhavani Bhagavathi Yadav claimed a bronze in the women's long jump event. India's

medals tally now stands at 25 medals- 11 gold, five silver and nine bronze.

4. Alex Hales announces international retirement

England batsman Alex Hales has announced his retirement from international cricket at the age of 34. The right-hand batsman, who played 11 Test matches, 70 one-day internationals and 75 Twenty20s for England, was dropped from England's 2019 ODI World Cup squad after news of a failed recreational drugs test broke before tournament.

5. World No. 1 men's doubles pair of Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam won a gold medal in SL3-SL4 category

World No. 1 men's doubles pair of Pramod Bhagat and Sukant Kadam won a gold medal in SL3-SL4 category in the Four Nations Para-Badminton International- 2023 in Sheffield, England, defeating compatriots Deep Ranjan Bisoyee and Manoj Sarkar 21-17 21-17. Bhagat also secured a silver in the singles SL3 category, as also a silver in mixed doubles SL3- SU5 category with Manisha

6. PM Modi & Anurag Singh Thakur congratulate Indian Men's Hockey Team for clinching Asian hockey Championship trophy

In the Hero Asian Hockey Men's Championship, the Final between India and Malaysia is underway at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai. In the semifinal, India beat Japan 5-0 at the same venue. Indian players brilliantly scored and defended goalpost, making it difficult for Japan to score even a single goal.

Earlier Japan clinched Bronze Medal, defeating South Korea.

7. In Tennis, Jannik Sinner clinches his first Masters 1000 title in Toronto

Jannik Sinner beat Australian Alex De Minaur 6-4 6-1 at the National Bank Open in Toronto to clinch his first Masters 1000 title after finishing runner-up in two editions of the Miami Open in 2021 and 2023.

Sinner has become the second Italian player in history to win a Masters 1000 title following Fabio Fognini's triumph in Monte-Carlo in 2019.

8. India climbs to number 3 in FIH Men's Hockey Rankings following Asian Champions Trophy win

Indian men's hockey team jumped to the third spot in FIH Men's Hockey World Rankings following their 4-3 win over Malaysia in the final of Asian Champions Trophy in Chennai.

India has reached the third spot with 2771.35 points. They saw an uptick of 8.61 points following their win and were earlier at 2762.74.

Top 5 now: Netherlands, Belgium, India, England and Germany.

9. Priya Malik wins Gold medal at 2023 U20 World Wrestling Championships in Jordan

Indian grappler Priya Malik won Gold medal at the 2023 U20 World Wrestling Championships in Jordan. Priya became just the second woman wrestler from India to be crowned U20 world champion.

10. India clinch mixed team air pistol gold in ISSF World Championship at Baku, Azerbaijan

Shooters Esha Singh and Shiva Narwal brought cheers to the India camp, clinching the 10m air pistol mixed team gold by defeating Turkey in the final of the ISSF World Championship at Baku, Azerbaijan on 18th August 2023.

India is currently placed second on the medals table with a gold and a bronze medal, while China is leading the tally with five gold and two bronze medals.

11. ICC unveils official mascots of the 2023 Cricket World Cup

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has finally unveiled the two mascots for the Cricket World Cup 2023, starting October 5 in India.

Cricket fans from across the world will have a chance to name these two mascots ' a male and a female, in an engaging process, as announced by cricket's governing body.

These mascots were revealed during an event in Gurugram.

12. Spain beats England to win its first FIFA Women's World Cup title

Spain won the Women's World Cup for the first time with Olga Carmona's first-half strike giving La Roja a 1-0 victory over England in final.

The win gave the Spanish women their first major international trophy and avenged a quarterfinal loss to eventual champion England in the European championship last year.

Sweden picked up their fourth Women's World Cup bronze medal.

13. Avani Prashanth claims Ahlsell Final golf tournament; becomes the first Indian to win on the LET Access Series

Indian amateur Avani Prashanth claimed the Ahlsell Final golf tournament title at Elisefarm Golf Club (Sweden).

The 16-year-old carded a six-under 210 overall to edge out her nearest rivals Isabell Ekstrom (Sweden) and Matilda Bjorkman (Sweden) by one shot.

Avani, who started the final round in tied-ninth spot, climbed to the top with a stellar five-under 67.

14. IBSA World Games: Indian women's visually challenged cricket team wins gold

The visually challenged Indian women's cricket team, on Saturday, scripted history winning a gold medal beating Australia by nine wickets at the IBSA World Games.

India restricted Australia for 114/8 in the allotted 20 overs and then chased down the revised target of 42 in 3.3 overs.

15. In badminton, HS Prannoy wins bronze medal at BWF World Championships in Copenhagen

India's ace shuttler HS Prannoy had to settle for a bronze medal as he registered a loss to Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the semifinals of the ongoing Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Championships.

Prannoy went down to world number three and three-time Junior champion Vitidsarn by 21-18, 13-21, 14-21.

With this win, World Number 7 Prannoy assured a bronze medal for India.

16. Pakistan reclaim No. 1 ODI ranking spot after Afghanistan whitewash

The 3-0 series win saw Pakistan pip Australia for the No. 1 spot in the ICC Men's ODI Rankings.

Heading into the Afghanistan series, Pakistan were at the second spot with 115.8 rating points, behind top-ranked Australia (118). Pakistan now sit atop with 118.48 rating point, going past Australia only marginally in the rankings chart.

17. India win inaugural Women's Asian Hockey 5s World Cup Qualifier, beat Thailand 7-2 in final

India defeated Thailand 7-2 in the final here to win the inaugural Women's Asian Hockey 5s World Cup Qualifier and seal their berth in the berth in the next year's World Cup.

Mariana Kujur (2nd, 8th minutes) and Jyoti (10th, 27th) scored a brace for India, while Monika Dipi Toppo (7th), skipper Navjot Kaur (23rd) and Mahima.

18. Maharashtra Govt signs MoU with Germany's professional association football league to help young players

The Maharashtra Government has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Germany's professional association football league, 'Bundesliga', to build a football team for players under the age of 14.

It will help young footballers to develop their skills and potentially compete at a high level.

Agreements & MoUs

1. DGT collaborates with Amazon Web Services India to offer skilling programs on emerging technologies

The Directorate General of Training (DGT), under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

(MSDE), is collaborating with Amazon Web Services (AWS) India to upskill students in cloud computing, data annotation, artificial intelligence (AI), and machine learning (ML), to boost their capabilities and employability.

2. IIT Ahmedabad's CIIE.co partners with SIDBI to set up pre-seed deeptech accelerator fund

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has announced the SIDBI Accelerator Fund in partnership with the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad's startup incubator, CIIE.CO, with an initial corpus of INR 40 Cr. The fund provides pre-seed funding to deeptech startups. The corpus will be equally contributed by the two entities.

3. Indian Railways, IIT Madras join hands to establish 5G testbed in Hyderabad

The Indian Railways Institute of Signal Engineering and Telecommunications (IRISET) under the Ministry of Railways and the IIT Madras have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the India 5G testbed.

This testbed will be located at IRISET in Secunderabad to test 5G use on the Indian Railways.

4. India to host South Asia's first-ever Center for Species Survival

With a vision to create a just world that values and conserves nature, IUCN Species Survival Commission has partnered with Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) to set up the first-ever Center for Species Survival in South Asia. This collaborative effort aims to enhance conservation efforts by wildlife experts and specialist groups and safeguard the rich biodiversity of India.

5. TCS Gets Contract To Transform Government's E-Marketplace

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been chosen as a strategic partner to transform the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) by bringing in more transparency and efficiency into the public procurement process.

In May 2023, TCS led a consortium which bagged a \$1.8-billion deal from the government-owned telco Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to deploy 4G network. CEO of GeM: PK Singh; TCS, CEO and MD K Krithivasan.

6. L&T and Partners to Invest \$4 Billion in Green Hydrogen Ventures

Engineering major L&T and its green hydrogen joint venture partners—Indian Oil Corporation and ReNew—will invest up to \$4 billion ('32,000 crore) in their green hydrogen businesses over three-five years. The company will invest approximately '500 crore in manufacturing electrolyzers.

Additionally, the joint venture with IOCL and ReNew can also establish green hydrogen plants

7. 12 Stalled Hydro Power Projects of Arunachal Pradesh of more than 11.5 GW handed over to Hydro PSUs under Union Ministry of Power

The Government of India and the Government of Arunachal Pradesh have come together to rejuvenate and execute 12 stalled hydro-electric power projects in the state.

8. Apple supplier Foxconn hikes investment proposal in Telangana to \$550 million

The Board of Directors of FIT Hon Teng Ltd (Foxconn) has approved a \$400

million investment in Telangana, as confirmed by Foxconn India representative V Lee. Foxconn is a key supplier for Apple.

9. ISRO Transfers IMS-1 Satellite Bus Technology to a Private Industry

ISRO transferred the IMS-1 Satellite Bus Technology to M/S Alpha Design Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (ADTL). NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of ISRO, facilitated the technology transfer through an agreement.

IMS-1 bus, weighing about 100 kg, accommodates a 30 kg payload.

NSIL is a wholly owned Government of India company. Shri. D Radhakrishnan, Chairman and Managing Director of NSIL.

10. Cabinet approves signing of MoU between India and Suriname in the field of the regulation of medicines

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, was apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on 4th June, 2023 between the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, and Ministry of Health, Government of the Republic of Suriname for Recognition of Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) in Suriname.

11. Wipro launches centre of excellence on generative AI in partnership with IIT Delhi

Wipro has launched a centre of excellence (COE) on generative artificial intelligence (AI) in partnership with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi. It will serve as a research and development hub and drive collaboration between the company's researchers and graduates of the institute. It will support

foundational and applied research, and nurture talent.

12. Cabinet approves Mutual Recognition Arrangement of Authorised Economic Operators between India and Australia

The Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) between India and Australia.

It aims at providing reciprocal benefits to accredited and trusted exporters of both the signatories in the clearance of goods by the Customs authorities of the importing country.

13. Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Sports between India and Australia

The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in Sports between the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports of the Republic of India and the Department of Health and Aged Care of the Government of Australia.

This MoU will help both in expanding knowledge and expertise in the area of sport sciences, technologies and infrastructure, etc.

14. IRCTC, Delhi Metro Rail Sign MoU for QR code--based tickets

In order to offer DMRC tickets with QR codes via the IRCTC platform, the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCT) and the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU). The effort would help passengers of the IRCTC and the DMRC by expediting the travel process and cutting down on the amount of time spent in station lines.

15. NEHHDC, Tide join hands to promote small weavers and artisans of North East India

In a bid to digitise the handloom and handicraft sector in North East India, Tide, UK's SME-focused business financial platform has entered into an MoU with North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation (NEHHDC).

The year-long partnership will help nearly 2.1 million handloom weavers and 3.5 million handicraft artisans across 800 clusters in NE India.

16. L&T wins 'significant' order to build Australia's largest urea plant

Diversified group L&T on has secured a "significant" order from Perdaman Chemicals & Fertilisers to build a 2.3 million tonne urea plant in Australia. On completion, this facility will be the largest urea plant in Australia and one of the largest in the world.

17. PFC inks \$1.28 mn loan pact with JBIC for waste-to-energy project in Karnataka

State-owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has signed a loan agreement with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) for JPY 1.85 billion or \$1.28 million for a waste-to-energy project in Karnataka.

The loan proceeds would be used to finance the 11.5 MW for waste-to-energy project of KPC Gas Power Corporation Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of KPCL, at Bidadi.

18. Mastercard signs up as ICC sponsor for 2023 World Cup

Digital payments company Mastercard has signed up as one of the International

Cricket Council's (ICC) top-tier sponsors for the 2023 World Cup in India, which will be held between October 5 and November 19.

With this, Mastercard joins ICC's other global partners MRF Tyres, Booking.com, Aramco and Emirates.

ICC is the global governing body for cricket headquartered in Dubai, United Arab Emirates

19. UNDP partners govt to fast-track sustainable development in northeast

The Ministry of Development of North-eastern Region (MDoNER) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) joined hands to enhance and expedite sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the northeastern states.

Under this strategic collaboration, UNDP will provide crucial technical support to MDoNER in several key areas, including fast-tracking progress on the SDGs.

20. Infosys signs tennis legend Rafael Nadal as brand ambassador for 3 years

Bengaluru-based tech-giant Infosys signed Spanish tennis legend Rafael Nadal as its ambassador for a three-year period.

Nadal's first collaboration with the company will be in the development of an AI-powered match analysis tool, a personalized tool that will be available in real-time to Nadal's coaching team to simultaneously track insight from his live matches. Salil Parekh is the Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director of Infosys.

22. Inland Waterways Authority signs MoU with Numaligarh Refinery for export of petroleum products

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has signed a MoU with the Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) to use National Waterways-2 (Brahmaputra) and Indo Bangladesh Protocol Route (IBPR) for export of petroleum products to Bangladesh and other south east Asian countries. The Numaligarh Refinery will set up POL Oil Terminal at Jogighopa Logistics Park with rail connectivity. IWAI chairperson: Sanjay Bandopadhyaya.

23. AAI and NLCIL signed agreement for operationalisation of TN's upcoming Neyveli Airport

NLC India Limited (NLCIL) has inked a pact with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to provide communication, navigation, surveillance and air traffic management services at the company's brownfield Airport in Neyveli. According to a press release, the airport is being developed under the regional connectivity scheme (RCS), also known as Udan to promote air connectivity. NLC India Limited (NLCIL), is a Navratna public sector unit.

24. IDFC First Bank Grabs 3-Year Title Sponsorship for BCCI Matches at Rs 4.2 Crore Per Match

IDFC FIRST Bank has bagged the title rights for the home international series of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). It would pay a sum of Rs 4.2 crore per international game. Moreover, the contract will commence for a three-year-long period starting from the three-

match ODI series that India will host against Australia. Roger Binny is the President of BCCI.

25. Defence Ministry inks Rs 19,000-crore deal with HSL for 5 Fleet Support Ships

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a contract with Visakhapatnam-based state-owned Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) for acquisition of first of its kind five Fleet Support Ships (FSS) of 44,000 tonnes for the Indian Navy at an overall cost of approximately '19,000 crore. The Navy envisages eight FSS over next ten years to augment its fleet of tankers.

26. Amazon signs MoU with Indian postal service, partners with Railways for faster deliveries

Amazon had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian postal service and has also partnered with the Indian Railways for a dedicated freight corridor that will help Amazon expedite deliveries for its seller partners.

Amazon's partnership with the Indian Railways for a dedicated freight corridor is the first of its kind for any e-commerce company.

Schemes

1. 31.14 lakhs handicraft artisans registered under PEHCHAN Scheme benefitting

31.14 lakhs handicraft artisans have been registered under PEHCHAN scheme across the country to benefit of this programme.

These registered artisans with Pehchan card can avail the benefits of the National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive

Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) of Ministry of Textiles.

2. Ministry of Tourism identifies 'Prayagraj' and 'Naimisharanya' in UP as destinations for development under 'Swadesh Darshan 2.0

The Ministry of Tourism has identified 'Prayagraj' and 'Naimisharanya' in Uttar Pradesh as destinations for development under 'Swadesh Darshan 2.0 with the objective to develop sustainable and responsible tourism destinations. The government launched 'Swadesh Darshan Scheme' in the year 2014-15 for integrated development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits in the country.

3. Over 5.25 crore subscribers enrolled in Atal Pension Yojana

Over 5.25 crore subscribers have enrolled in Atal Pension Yojana (APY), the government's flagship social security programme launched in 2015 with the objective of delivering old-age income security to all citizens of India, particularly to the workers in the unorganised sector. As of date, the total assets under management (AUM) in APY is more than Rs 28,434 crore.

4. Jal Jeevan Survekshan (JJS-2023): Srinagar Ranks First across India in implementation of JJM among Har Ghar Jal Certified Distts

The Srinagar District has been Ranked as the top performing District under Jal Jeevan Survekshan(JJS-2023) among 114 Har Ghar Jal Certified Villages across the Country in the implementation of the Jal Jeevan Mission(JJM) during October, 01, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

The Srinagar District has attained the top rank in implementation of JJM by obtaining highest score of 83.0.

5. Defence Minister approves substantial increase in financial aid to strengthen support systems for ex-servicemen and families.

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh approved a substantial increase in financial aid across various schemes aimed to strengthen the support systems for the ex-servicemen and their families.

6. DPIIT and Ministry of Rural Development jointly launch 'One District One Product' Wall at SARAS Ajeevika Store

In a significant step towards promoting the indigenous crafts and artisans of India, One District One Product (ODOP) program, an initiative under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, launched its collaboration with the Ministry of Rural Development in New Delhi.

7. Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority and Common Service Centre launches 'Niveshak Sarathi' Vans for Delhi - NCR

In a step towards financial literacy, Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) CEO Ms. Anita Shah Akella launched two Investor Awareness Vans titled 'Niveshak Sarathi', from IEPFA's headquarters as part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, aligning with the theme 'From Unawareness to Financial Independence.'

8. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches DBT in NAPS to strengthen apprenticeship ecosystem in India

A Chintan Shivir on 'Enhancing Apprenticeship Engagement' organized to elevate the uptake of apprenticeship programs among all stakeholders.

9. Cabinet approves '13,000-crore Vishwakarma Yojana; craftsmen to get subsidised loans up to '2 lakh: Ashwini Vaishnaw

Union Cabinet today approved a '13,000 crore PM Vishwakarma scheme that will benefit about 30 lakh traditional artisans and craftsmen, including weavers, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, laundry workers, and barbers.

Under the scheme, craftsmen will be provided a subsidised loan of '1 lakh in the first tranche, and another '2 lakh in the second tranche. The loans will be provided at a concessional interest rate of 5 per cent.

10. Cabinet approves outlay of Rs 14,903 crore to expand Digital India programme

Union Cabinet approved extension of the Digital India programme with an outlay of Rs 14,903 crore to boost digital initiatives in skilling, cyber security, high performance computing and simplifying technology for masses, among other areas.

Under the extended programme, nine more super computers will be added under the National Supercomputing Mission(NCM). The outlay has been approved for a five-year period between 2021-22 to 2025-26.

11. Jan Dhan Accounts Cross 50 Crore-Mark in less than 9 years.

The total number of Jan Dhan accounts crossed 50 crore on August 9, according to the latest report submitted by the banks. Of these, 56% of the account holders are women, and 67% of these accounts have been opened in rural or semi-urban areas.

The deposits in these accounts stood cumulatively at above Rs 2.03 lakh crore and about 34 crore RuPay cards have been issued.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), was launched on August 28, 2014.

12. Centre rolls out Rs 5,000 crore RLI scheme for pharma, med-tech sectors

Centre has rolled out a Rs 5,000 crore research-linked-incentive(RLI) scheme for pharmaceuticals and med-tech sector to strengthen the research infra in the country & promote more industry-academia linkages for research and development(R&D).

The total outlay of the scheme would be Rs 5,000 crore over a period of five years from 2023-24 to 2027-28.

Scheme has two components. Indian pharma industry constitutes 3.4% market share of the global pharma industry.

13. Government approves Rs 57,613 crore for 10,000 e-buses across 169 cities to promote green mobility

57 thousand 613 crore rupees will be spent on PM-eBus Sewa.

Ten thousand new electric buses will be deployed in 169 cities.

The scheme will cover cities having a population of three lakh and beyond as per the census 2011 including all the Capital cities of Union Territories, North Eastern Region, and Hill States

14. Eight states lag behind in meeting targets under Mission Amrit Sarovar

West Bengal, Punjab, Telangana, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Bihar and Rajasthan wherein some of the districts are yet to achieve the target of 75 Amrit Sarovars per district.

So far, out of 1,12,277 Amrit Sarovars identified, work has been started on 81,425 Amrit Sarovars and a total of 66,278 Amrit Sarovars have been built/rejuvenated.

The Amrit Sarovar mission was launched by the Prime Minister on the 24th April 2022.

15. GOI launches 'Invoice incentive Scheme' by name 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikaar'

Government of India is launching an 'Invoice incentive Scheme' by the name 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikaar' to encourage the culture of customers asking for bills for all purchases.

Under the scheme, invoices will be drawn at regular intervals monthly and quarterly. Bills can be uploaded on Mobile App 'Mera Bill Mera Adhikaar' available on IOS and Android or on web portal ' This scheme is being implemented in association with State Governments.

16. Centre To Extend PLI Scheme For Automotive Sector By One Year Until FY28

The government has decided to extend the Rs 25,938-crore production-linked incentive scheme for the automotive sector by one year, Union Heavy Industries Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey said.

Post extension, the five-year scheme, originally in place from 2022-23 to 2026-27, will be active until 2027-28.

17. Government likely to extend export benefits under RoDTEP scheme for pharma, steel, chemical sectors

The government is expected to extend export benefits under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme to iron and steel, chemicals, and pharmaceutical sectors beyond September 30, 2023.

As exports have not doing good for the last few months, there is a demand to extend it for about six months till March 2024.

Appointments & Resignations

1. Indian American Shohini Sinha becomes FBI special agent

Indian-American Shohini Sinha has assumed the role of special agent in charge of the Salt Lake City Field Office, as appointed by FBI Director Christopher Wray.

Her appointment marks a momentous milestone in her career, as she becomes the fortieth sovereign to undergo the prestigious coronation ceremony at the renowned Westminster Abbey.

2. Anant Maheshwari named Honeywell High Growth Region President and CEO

Honeywell announced that Anant Maheshwari has been named President and CEO of Honeywell's High Growth Region portfolio, effective September 4, 2023. He will lead business growth across Honeywell's geographies in China, India, Southeast Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, Africa and Latin America.

3. Cambodia king approves nomination of Hun Manet as next PM

Cambodia's king Norodom Sihamoni, has approved the government's nomination of Hun Manet, the eldest son of long-serving Prime Minister Hun Sen, to become the next Premier.

Ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) in last month's election won 120 of 125 parliamentary seats in a contest in which all viable opposition was sidelined.

4. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal takes charge as CBIC Chairman

Sanjay Kumar Agarwal has taken charge as the new Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC). He has taken over charge of the post with effect from August 5, 2023. The CBIC, which deals with policy making in indirect taxes - GST, customs, excise, headed by a chairman and has six members in the board.

5. Indian Oil Chairman SM Vaidya gets rare tenure extension of 1 year

In a first-of-its-kind instance, the government has extended the tenure of Indian Oil Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) Shri Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, for a period of one year beyond the date of his superannuation, i.e. w.e.f. 01.09.2023 till 31.08.2024.

The decision to extend Vaidya's tenure was authorized by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

6. Parminder Chopra to be 1st woman CMD of PFC as ACC approves her appointment

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Parminder Chopra for the post of Chairperson and Managing

Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation (PFC) Limited. With this, she became the first full-time women CMD of PFC. PFC is a Maharatna PSU under the Ministry of Power.

7. Axis Bank's Neelkanth Mishra appointed part-time chairperson of UIDAI

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), the nodal body in charge of issuing Aadhaar numbers, has appointed Neelkanth Mishra as its part-time chairperson. Mishra is the Chief Economist and Head of Global Research at Axis Bank Ltd.

The UIDAI board consists of a chairperson, two part-time members, and the CEO, who also serves as the member-secretary. Amit Agrawal- Chief Executive Officer of the Unique Identification Authority of India.

8. Justice Prakash Shrivastava appointed Chairperson of National Green Tribunal

Former Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, Justice Prakash Shrivastava is the new Chairman of the National Green Tribunal (NGT). The Cabinet

Appointments Committee of the Central Government approved the appointment of Justice Prakash Shrivastava as the Chairman of the NGT.

NGT was set up under the National Green Tribunal Act in 2010.

9. Shriram Finance's Umesh Revankar takes charge as chairman of FIDC

The Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC), the representative body for asset and loan financing of Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs), has appointed Umesh Revankar as its new chairman.

Kamlesh Gandhi, CMD of MAS Financial Services, and K V Srinivasan, chief executive officer of Profectus Capital, will act as the co-chairmen of FIDC.

10. Geetika Srivastava becomes India's First Woman Charge d'Affaires In Pakistan

Geetika Srivastava, currently serving in the Indo-Pacific division of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), will be the new charge d'affaires at its High Commission in Islamabad, becoming the first woman to hold that post. She will succeed Dr M Suresh Kumar.

The Indian & Pakistani missions in Islamabad and New Delhi have been without High Commissioners since August 2019.

11. Tata Steel And ACME Group Join Forces For India's Largest Green Hydrogen Project Worth Rs 27,000 Crore In Odisha

Renewable energy company ACME Group has partnered with Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Ltd. (TSSEZL) to establish a green hydrogen and green ammonia project at the Gopalpur Industrial Park (GIP) in Odisha.

This project will be India's largest manufacturing facility for green hydrogen and its derivatives in the country, according to TSSEZ Manikanta Naik, Managing Director of Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Ltd.

12. Govt appoints Jaya Verma Sinha as first woman CEO, chairperson of Railway Board

The Secretariat of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet announced the appointment of Jaya Verma Sinha as first

woman CEO and chairperson of Railway Board.

Sinha will assume charge on or after September 1 and her tenure will be till August 31, 2024. She succeeds Anil Kumar Lahoti.

The Railway Board is the apex decision-making body for the national transporter. Awards

1. Jayesh Saini Receives Global Leader Award 2023 for Healthcare Expansion in Africa

LifeCare Group, led by the visionary Jayesh Saini, is proud to announce its remarkable achievements in expanding healthcare services across East Africa. Jayesh Saini's leadership and commitment to expanding healthcare services have been recognized globally as he receives the prestigious Global Leader Award 2023 - Global Indian of the Year 2023.

2. UNION HOME MINISTER'S MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN INVESTIGATION, 2023

The 'Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation' for the year 2023 have been awarded to 140 Police personnel.

3. Union Home Minister Amit Shah hails the team of NAFIS of NCRB for winning Gold Award

Union Home Minister Amit Shah hailed the team of National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) of for winning the Gold Award under the Excellence in Government Process Reengineering for Digital Transformation Category-1 of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).

4. 954 police medals, including 230 for gallantry, announced on Independence Day eve

According to the ministry of home affairs, President's Police Medal for Gallantry (PPMG) has been awarded to 01 CRPF personnel, Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG) has been awarded to 229, President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service (PPM) awarded to 82 and Police Medal for Meritorious Service (PM) has been awarded to 642. These medals are announced twice a year, the other being on the occasion of Republic Day.

5. President approves 76 gallantry awards for Armed Forces and CAPF Personnel on eve of Independence Day 2023

President Droupadi Murmu approved 76 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel on the eve of Independence Day 2023. These include four Kirti Chakra (posthumous), 11 Shaurya Chakras, two Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 52 Sena Medals (Gallantry), three Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry) and four Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).

6. Indian-American economist Raj Chetty awarded top Harvard University prize

Prominent Indian-American economist Raj Chetty has been awarded the coveted George Ledlie Prize for wielding big data to break myths about who achieves the American Dream and the obstacles faced by others.

Along with Chetty, Biologist Michael Springer, who created a better, faster COVID test system to help deal with the

spread of COVID was also honoured with the Prize.

7. India secures Second Rank at 16th IOAA in Chorzow, Poland

With Four Gold and One Silver Medals, India has secured Second Rank at the 16th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) in Chorzow, Poland.

The Olympiad was held from the 10 to the 20 of August 2023. The United Kingdom clinched the lead with five Golds.

The team was led by Prof. Surhud More from IUCAA, Pune, and Pritesh Ranadive from HBCSE-TIFR, Mumbai.

8. SVAMITVA Scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj won National Award for e-Governance 2023

SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj won the National Award for e-Governance 2023 (GOLD) for Application of Emerging Technologies for Providing Citizen Centric Services. It is a recognition of excellent and exemplary work done by Team SVAMITVA and supported by Team NIC-MoPR.

Ranks & Reports

1. India's manufacturing PMI eases for second month to 57.7 in July

The S&P Global purchasing managers' index (PMI) for manufacturing, fell to 57.7 in July from 57.8 in June, and 58.7 in May. A figure above 50 implies expansion and a reading below that denotes contraction.

Higher inflationary pressures remained a key challenge despite easing in the recent months, it said.

2. Indian economy may grow by average 6.7% till FY31, says S&P Global

Expressing confidence in the medium-term growth potential of the Indian economy, S&P Global in its report titled 'Look Forward: India's Moment', projected an average annual growth of 6.7 per cent from the fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24) to FY31, with capital accumulation as the main driver of this growth. This increase would correspond to a per capita GDP of around \$4,500.

3. Walmart tops Fortune Global 500 list for 2023, Saudi Aramco most profitable company ever

Fortune announced that US retailer Walmart has topped its Global 500 list for 2023, ranking the world's largest corporations by revenue for fiscal 2022. On Fortune's authoritative ranking of the (current) corporate world order, the Arkansas-based retailer claimed No. 1 for the 10th consecutive year and for the 18th time since 1995.

4. World rice price index jumps to near 12-year high in July, UN food agency says

The United Nations food agency's rice price index rose 2.8% in July from a month ago to their highest level in nearly 12 years as prices in key exporting countries jumped on strong demand and India's move to curb the exports. The July score was almost 20% higher than the last year's 108.4 points and the highest since September 2011, it said.

5. Maharashtra Secures Top Position In Fiscal Health Report, Kerala Performs Worst

Based on FY 24 budget estimates, Chhattisgarh, one of the poorest states in the country, is the second best in the

overall fiscal health scorecard after Maharashtra, and ahead of Telangana, while the bottom three are West Bengal, Punjab, and Kerala, shows a report on the fiscal health of the key 17 states, penned by Kaushik Das, the chief economist at Deutsche Bank India. Based on the FY23 revised budget estimates, Maharashtra tops the ranking.

6. 12th Report on States/UTs performance on CPGRAMS released by DARPG for the month of July, 2023

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) released the Centralized Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) 12th monthly report for States for July, 2023.

The said report provides a detailed analysis of types and categories of public grievances and the nature of disposal.

7. 12 per cent of sitting MPs in Rajya Sabha are billionaires: ADR report

About 12% of sitting MPs of Rajya Sabha(RS) are billionaires according to a report by Association for Democratic Reforms(ADR) and the National Election Watch(NEW).

According to the report, 5 (45%) out of 11 MPs from Andhra Pradesh, 3 (43%) out of 7 MPs from Telangana and 3 (16%) out of 19 MPs from Maharashtra have declared assets worth more than Rs 100 crore. Out of the 225 RS sitting MPs analysed, 75 (33%) have declared criminal cases against them

8. India' GDP growth likely at 8.5% in first quarter: ICRA

ICRA Ratings in its report highlights that India's economic growth will accelerate to 8.5% in Q1 FY24, driven by a recovery

in the services sector. Its estimate is higher than the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) forecast of 8.1%,

Continued catch-up in service demand, improved investment activity, and government capital expenditure will drive the growth.

9. Amul ranked world's strongest dairy brand, second strongest food brand in the world

Amul has been ranked as the world's strongest dairy brand by the Brand Finance Food and Drink Report 2023. The report evaluates and ranks the strongest and most valuable food, dairy, and non-alcoholic beverage brands.

The report was conducted by UK-based Brand Finance, the world's leading brand valuation consultancy.

Important Days

1. World Breastfeeding Week 2023 | August 1 to August 7

World Breastfeeding Week is held in the first week of August every year.

According to World Health Organization, breastfeeding is one of the most effective ways to ensure child health and survival and yet currently, fewer than half of infants under 6 months old are exclusively breastfed.

World Breastfeeding Week 2023 Theme: Let's make breastfeeding and work, work!

2. National Handloom Day | 7 August

In 2015, the Government of India designated the 7th August every year, as the National Handloom Day. The Swadeshi Movement which was launched on 7th August, 1905 had encouraged indigenous industries and in particular handloom weavers. On this

day, we honour our handloom-weaving community and highlight the contribution of this sector in the socio-economic development of India

3. World Biofuel Day | 10 August 2023

World Biofuel Day is observed every year on August 10 to spread awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative for humanity.

The day also attempts to highlight the government's efforts to encourage the biofuel sector. This year theme 'Biofuels for Sustainability and Rural Income'

4. World Lion Day | 10 August

World Lion Day is celebrated on August 10 every year.

The purpose of Lion Day is to create awareness about the majestic hunter, the ultimate feline, often referred to as the king of the jungle. Lions, scientifically known as *Panthera leo*, rank as the second-largest cat species globally with the Asian tiger taking the lead and weigh between 300 and 550 pounds.

5. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 2023

The day was designated as International Youth Day by the United Nations in the year 1999 after the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation by the 'World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth.' Subsequently, it is being celebrated every year on 12 August to highlight the importance of youth people as the driving force of change in the world.

6. World Elephant Day - August 12

World Elephant Day is an annual observance dedicated to raising awareness about the plight of elephants and promoting their conservation and

welfare. It is celebrated on August 12th each year.

The idea of World Elephant Day was conceived by Canadian filmmakers Patricia Sims and Michael Clark, who co-founded the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation in Thailand.

7. World Organ Donation Day

World Organ Donation Day is observed on August 13, every year in order to raise awareness about the importance of and help people understand organ donation. Organ transplantation can help in saving and transforming the lives of people who have been fighting to survive.

8. Partition Horrors Remembrance Day | 14 August

Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' or 'Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas' is observed on August 14 to remember all those who lost their lives due to partition.

This day was announced by the Prime Minister in 2021 to remember all those who lost their lives due to the partition of the nation and were uprooted from their origins.

9. World Humanitarian Day | 19 August

In 2008, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution designating 19 August as World Humanitarian Day to honour the memory of those who lost their lives in the Baghdad bombings.

It is observed to recognise the work done by humanitarians around the world by venturing into disaster-stricken regions and onto the front lines to save and protect people's lives. The theme for World Humanitarian Day 2023 is 'No matter what'.

10. World Mosquito Day - August 20

World Mosquito Day is a special day dedicated for spreading awareness about mosquitoes and the types of diseases they carry. It is celebrated on 20th August of every year worldwide. The health-contingency event is being observed for the past 126 years.

World Mosquito Day was established to honour the discovery made by Sir Ronald Ross in 1897, linking mosquitoes to malaria.

11. National Sports Day 2023 | 29 August

The National Sports Day in India is celebrated on 29 August every year. It is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend Major Dhyan Chand Singh.

The first National Sports Day was celebrated on August 29, 2012 and hence this year marks the 12th anniversary of Rashtriya Khel Divas.

2023 theme: "Sports are an enabler to an inclusive and fit society".

12. World Sanskrit Day 2023 | August 31

World Sanskrit Day, also recognized as International Sanskrit Day, Sanskrit Diwas, and Vishwa Samskrita Dinam, is commemorated on the occasion of Shraavan Purnima, which corresponds to the full moon.

World Sanskrit Day is observed on August 31 with the aim of promoting Sanskrit, recognized as the world's oldest language.

Summit & Conferences

1. For the first time in Asia, World Coffee Conference to be held in Bengaluru

Bengaluru, the coffee capital of India, is all set to host the fifth edition of the World Coffee Conference (WCC 2023)

between September 25 and 28. This is the first time India and Asia are preparing to host this most prestigious global coffee event. The event to be jointly organized by the Coffee Board, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

2. PM Modi to take part in BRICS Johannesburg meet

The South African President, Cyril Ramaphosa invited the Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for the BRICS Summit being hosted by South Africa on August 22-24, 2023. BRICS' current five members - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - are due to convene there on Aug. 22-24.

3. MoS Rajeev Chandrasekhar to attend 'Digital India RISC-V' Symposium, organised by IIT Madras

Union Minister for State for Entrepreneurship, Skill Development, Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar will be taking part in the 'Digital India RISC-V' Symposium, being organised by IIT Madras and IIT-M Pravartak Technologies Foundation in Chennai. The event showcasing 'The future of Electronics in India through the RISC-V pathway'.

4. India to launch BRICS Startup Forum to boost startups, investors, incubators

India is all set to initiate the BRICS Startup Forum in 2023 to promote collaboration and knowledge sharing among startups, investors, incubators, and emerging entrepreneurs, said commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal, during the virtual 7th BRICS Industry Ministers' meeting, hosted by South Africa as the Chair. BRICS is a

group of Brazil, Russia, India China and South Africa

5. Global Maritime India Summit 2023 to be held in October

Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS), 2023 is slated for October 17 to October 19, at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The meeting, with participation from more than 40 countries, including 21 Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Deputy High Commissioners, Trade Commissioners, and 23 other diplomats, underscored the global interest in the upcoming GMIS 2023.

6. Y20 Summit under G20 being hosted by Department of Youth Affairs gets underway at Varanasi

More than 100 delegates from the group of 20 countries (G20), other guest nations and international organizations will participate in the Youth20 (Y20) summit which will be held in Varanasi between August 17-20, 2023.

The Y20 summit is being organized by the Union Ministry of youth affairs and Sports.

7. First-ever WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine to be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat

The Ministry of Ayush and World Health Organization are organizing the two day Traditional Medicine Global Summit, on 17th and 18th August 2023 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The Union AYUSH Secretary highlighted that the Global Centre on Traditional Medicines in Jamnagar, established by the WHO, is the first such centre in a developing country. It is the largest international event on Traditional Medicine.

8. G20 ministers agree to adopt digital public infrastructure

The G20 Digital Economy Ministers' Meeting in Bengaluru concluded with member countries and invitees showing absolute consensus on the concepts and application of Digital Public Infrastructure, Cyber security and digital skilling- the three priority areas put forth under G20 India Presidency.

9. G20 health ministers meet: Govt launches Global Initiative on Digital Health

Union minister for health and family welfare, Mansukh Mandaviya, launched the 'Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH)- a World Health Organisation (WHO) Managed Network' at the Mahatma Mandir convention centre in Gujarat's Gandhinagar during the second and final day of the G20 health ministers' meeting.

10. 4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting to begin in Varanasi

The 4th G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) Meeting will begin today in Varanasi. It will culminate in the Culture Ministers' Meeting (CMM) on 26th of this month (August).

The 4th CWG meeting in Varanasi aims to arrive at actionable outcomes while positioning culture at the heart of policy-making.

The previous three CWG meetings were held in Khajuraho, Bhubaneswar, and Hampi.

11. PM Modi addresses BRICS Business Forum Leaders' Dialogue in Johannesburg

Addressing the BRICS Business Forum Leaders' Dialogue in Johannesburg,

South Africa, the Indian Prime Minister says India will soon be a 5 trillion dollar economy. India today remains the world's fastest-growing major economy. The theme of BRICS Summit is BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development, and Inclusive Multilateralism. The BRICS grouping comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

12. 26th National Conference on e-Governance to begin in Indore

The 26th National Conference on e-Governance is being organized in Indore from August 24 to deliberate on providing better facilities to the citizens. The two-day conference is being organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh. The conference will brainstorm on the theme 'Developed India: Empowering Citizens'.

13. Iran, Saudi Arabia and Egypt among 6 nations to join China and Russia in BRICS economic bloc

The BRICS bloc of developing nations agreed to admit Saudi Arabia, Iran, Ethiopia, Egypt, Argentina, and the United Arab Emirates in a move aimed at accelerating its push to reshuffle a world order.

The expansion adds economic heft to BRICS, whose current members are China, the world's second-largest economy, as well as Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa.

14. B20 Summit India 2023 to commenced in New Delhi

The B20 Summit India 2023 started in New Delhi. The Summit is based on the theme of B20 India R.A.I.S.E:

Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable, Equitable Businesses.

On the first day of the Summit, seven sessions will be organized including B20 India priorities and recommendations from India for the world, aligning global priorities.

15. B20 Summit India 2023 to conclude today

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will address the B20 Summit India 2023 in New Delhi on 27th August, 2023 at 12 noon.

B20 Summit India brings policymakers, business leaders and experts from across the world to deliberate and discuss the B20 India Communique. The B20 India Communique includes 54 recommendations and 172 policy actions for submission to G20.

16. G20 Technical Workshop on One Health-Opportunities and Challenges to held in Bengaluru from 29th to 31st of August

G20 Technical Workshop on One Health-Opportunities and Challenges will be held in Bengaluru from 29th to 31st of August.

The three-day event will culminate with the key policy recommendations relevant to addressing various challenges in the Health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment.

17. India officially hands over B20 presidency to Brazil to host G20 Summit in 2024

India has handed over the B20 presidency to Brazil to host G20 in 2024. According to N Chandrasekaran, the B20 India Chair, India's B20 Presidency under its G20 Presidency worked under the theme of Vasaudeva Katumbakam (One Earth, One Family, One Future).

The B20 summit is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community.

18. 2nd G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Roundtable meet begins in Gandhinagar

As part of India's G20 presidency, the second G20-Chief Scientific Advisers' Roundtable meet began in Gandhinagar. There will be a total of four sessions on themes 'Opportunities in One Health, Synergizing Global Efforts to expand the Access to Scholarly Scientific Knowledge', Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility in S&T and Institutional Mechanism for Inclusive S&T Policy.

19. India to host Global IndiaAI 2023 in October, 2023

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology will be organizing the Global IndiaAI 2023, scheduled for October with participation from leading AI players, researchers, start-ups, inventors in India and worldwide.

The conference is poised to cover a wide spectrum of topics, including next-generation learning and foundational AI models, and other AI's applications.

Science & Technology

1. ISRO injects Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft into translunar orbit

ISRO announced that Chandrayaan-3 has successfully completed its orbits around the Earth and is currently on its way

towards the Moon. A successful perigee-firing performed at ISTRAC (ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network). ISRO has injected the spacecraft into the translunar orbit.

2. Dr Jitendra launches India's first indigenous MRI Scanner, underlines affordable healthcare

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; launched India's first indigenously developed, affordable, lightweight, ultrafast, high field (1.5 Tesla), next generation Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Scanner in New Delhi.

Under the National Biopharma Mission, Voxelgrids Innovations Pvt Ltd has MRI Scanner to solve the unmet need of the country.

3. India launches 'Neerakshi' Autonomous Underwater Vehicle for mine detection

India has launched an Autonomous Underwater Vehicle called 'Neerakshi' for detecting underwater mines. Neerakshi is an autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) designed to detect mines. It is a collaboration of Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd and Aerospace Engineering Private Ltd (AEPL).

4. ISRO plans to launch Aditya L1 satellite

Indian Space Research Organisation is planning its next launch of the Aditya L1 satellite this month.

It will be the first space-based Indian mission to study the Sun.

The satellite will carry seven instruments to study the solar atmosphere, solar magnetic storms and

its impact on the environment around Earth.

5. PM hails India's first 3D printed Post Office at Cambridge Layout, Bengaluru

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has called India's first 3D printed Post Office at Cambridge Layout, Bengaluru, a testament to our nation's innovation and progress. According to the postal officials, the construction of this post office building was carried out by construction company Larsen & Toubro Limited while IIT Madras provided technical guidance.

6. Jitendra Singh unveils 'Namoh 108', new variety of lotus

Union Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh on Saturday unveiled a new variety of lotus flower with 108 petals, named 'Namoh 108', developed by the Lucknow-based National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI).

The 'NBRI Namoh 108' lotus variety flowers from March to December and is the first flower whose genome is completely sequenced for its characteristics.

NBRI is a constituent institution of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

7. US FDA approves Pfizer's maternal RSV vaccine to protect infants

U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Pfizer's respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine for use in women during the middle of the third trimester of pregnancy to protect their babies. The approval allows the vaccine to be given to women 32 to 36 weeks into a pregnancy to prevent lower respiratory

tract infection & severe disease in infants until they are 6 months old.

8. Update on ISRO's Gaganyaan mission and 'Vyommitra' robot

Union minister Jitendra Singh on Saturday gave a major update on the Indian Space Research Organisation's Gaganyaan mission and said its trials will begin in October.

During the Gaganyaan mission, Vyommitra is designed to perform certain tasks to assess how humans would act when sent into space.

What is Gaganyaan mission?

9. ISRO to launch Aditya-L1, the first space-based observatory to study Sun

ISRO's Aditya-L1, the first space-based Indian observatory to study the Sun will be launched from Sriharikota space station in Andhra Pradesh.

The satellite will be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrange point L1 of the Sun-Earth system which is about 1.5 million kms from the Earth.

It will take around four months to reach the Lagrange point.

10. Sh. Nitin Gadkari launches world's first ethanol-run Toyota Innova car

Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari unveiled a version of Toyota Innova, which runs entirely on biofuel ethanol. Early this month, the minister had announced at a sustainability conclave that he will launch the electric flex-fuel Toyota Innova MPV, which is entirely fueled by ethanol - a fuel which comes from plants - indicated by "E100".

Defence

1. INS Visakhapatnam and INS Trikand arrive at Dubai for a bilateral exercise with UAE Navy

Two Indian Navy ships, INS Visakhapatnam and INS Trikand, arrived at Port Rashid in Dubai for a bilateral exercise with the UAE Navy.

The exercise, which will be held from August 8 to 11 aims to share best practices and increase synergies between the two navies.

'Zayed Talwar' a bilateral exercise, is scheduled to enhance interoperability and synergy between the two navies

2. India, Japan, US, Australia to hold Malabar naval exercise

India, Japan, the United States, and Australia holds the Malabar Navy Drill off the coast of Sydney from 11 August to 21 August. The Indian Navy's indigenous frontline warships INS Sahyadri and INS Kolkata along with ships and aircraft from the US Navy (USN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF), and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) will participate in the exercise.

3. Indian Navy holds bilateral naval drill 'Zayed Talwar' with UAE

Two Indian Naval Ships INS Visakhapatnam and INS Trikand, under the command of Rear Admiral Vineet McCarty, Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet, arrived at Port Rashid, Dubai on 08 Aug 2023 to participate in a bilateral Naval Maritime Partnership Exercise with the UAE Navy.

4. Defence Ministry to switch to locally built OS Maya amid threats

In the face of increasing cyber and malware attacks on defence as well as critical infrastructure across the country,

the Defence Ministry has decided to replace the Microsoft Operating System (OS) in all computers connected to the Internet with a new OS, Maya, based on open-source Ubuntu developed locally.

[5. Vindhyagiri: President Murmu Launches The Sixth Ship Of Project 17A Of Indian Navy](#)

President Droupadi Murmu launched Vindhyagiri ' the sixth ship of project 17A of the Indian Navy at Garden Reach Shipbuilders Engineers Limited. She also launched 'My Bengal, Addiction Free Bengal' Campaign under the 'Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan', organized by Brahma Kumaris at Raj Bhavan, Kolkata. Vindhyagiri, named after the mountain range in Karnataka. The project's first five ships have been launched by MDL & GRSE, between 2019-2022.

[6. IAF postpones October's mega multilateral air exercise to next year](#)

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will host a mega multilateral military exercise, 'Tarang Shakti', next year that was originally planned for October. It is learnt that air forces of France, the UK, Australia, the US and Japan would participate in the exercise. It will be the biggest air exercise being organised in India.

[7. 27th edition of multilateral naval exercise Malabar 2023 concludes in Sydney, Australia](#)

The 27th edition of the multilateral naval exercise Malabar 2023 has concluded in Sydney, Australia. The exercise saw the participation of Ships, Submarines, and aircraft from the Indian Navy, Australian Navy, Japan

Maritime Self-Defence Force, and the US Navy.

Indian Navy was represented by Destroyers INS Kolkata, Frigate INS Sahyadri, and P8I Maritime Patrol aircraft.

[8. Indian Air Force contingent reaches Egypt to participate in Multilateral tri-service exercise](#)

In a significant move towards fostering global defence cooperation, an Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent reached the Egyptian Air Force Base to participate in Exercise BRIGHT STAR-23.

This will mark the first participation of the IAF in Ex BRIGHT STAR-23, which will also see the participation of air force contingents from the US, Saudi Arabia, Greece and Qatar.

Obituary

[1. Renowned Telangana folk singer Gaddar passes away at 77](#)

Renowned Telangana folk singer and balladeer Gaddar, who was popularly known for his revolutionary songs during the 1980s and later during the Telangana statehood agitation, passed away due to ill-health. He was 77. Born as Gummadi Vittal Rao at Toopran in Medak district in 1949, the renowned folk singer and poet went on to become popular as 'Gaddar'.

[2. Renowned nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha dies at 78 in Kolkata](#)

Renowned nuclear physicist Bikash Sinha died in Kolkata. Sinha, 78, was suffering from old age-related ailments. A recipient of Padma Shri in 2001 and Padma Bhusan in 2010, he was the former director of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics and Variable Energy Cyclotron Centre.

3. Eminent scientist Padma Shri MRS Rao passes away in Bengaluru at 75

Manchanahalli Rangaswamy Satyanarayana Rao, popularly known as MRS Rao, an eminent Indian scientist and Padma Shri awardee, passed away in Bengaluru.

Born on January 21, 1948, in Mysuru, the 75-year-old scientist, was the first scientist to initiate Chromatin Biology research in India.

He was honoured with the Padma Sri award in 2010.

4. Indian football legend Mohammed Habib passes away at 74

Mohammed Habib, the playmaker par excellence in the history of Indian football is no more.

One of the highest points of Habib's career was when he played for Mohun Bagan against the visiting Cosmos Club which also featured the legendary Pele in 1977 in a 'friendly'.

5. Former DRDO Chief V.S. Arunachalam passed away at the age of 87.

V.S.Arunachalam helmed the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and was the Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister from 1982-92.

He was conferred the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (1980), Padma Bhushan (1985), Padma Vibhushan (1990) and DRDO's Lifetime Achievement Award (2015) for his contribution to engineering science and technology.

He had set up Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) in Bengaluru.

6. Adobe co-founder John Warnock passes away at 82

Adobe's co-founder John Warnock passed away at the age of 82.

In 1982, Warnock co-founded Adobe alongside Charles Geschke, their partnership rooted in their earlier collaboration at Xerox. His leadership role within the company evolved over the years, transitioning from CEO to chairman of the board in 2000.

7. Indian English poet Jayanta Mahapatra passes away

Jayanta Mahapatra, one of India's best known English poets, passed away in Cuttack.

The legendary poet has left an imprint in the Indian English poetry with his writings spanning over 50 years.

He was conferred Sahitya Akademi Award for his poem Relationship in 1981, a rare recognition for an Indian English writer.

He was awarded Padma Shri in 2015

1. Teenager D Gukesh becomes top-ranked Indian in chess charts, ends Viswanathan Anand's 36-year-long stay

17-year-old Grandmaster D Gukesh has surpassed his idol, Viswanathan Anand, in the live world rankings by the International Chess Federation (FIDE). This achievement came after Gukesh's victory over Misratdin Iskandarov of Azerbaijan in a second-round match at the World Cup.

Gukesh demonstrated his prowess by outclassing Iskandarov in just 44 moves.

2. Italian goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon retires from football at 45

Italy great Gianluigi Buffon has announced his retirement from professional football at the age of 45.

The World Cup winner enjoyed a successful 28-year career and played his last two seasons at boyhood club Parma in Serie B.

He made his professional debut for Parma aged 17 in 1995 and four years later won the Coppa Italia, UEFA Cup and Italian Supercoppa at the club.

3. Oscar-winning director, William Friedkin dies at 87

William Friedkin, the renowned American filmmaker behind iconic movies of the 1970s such as 'The French Connection' and 'The Exorcist,' has passed away in Loss Angeles. Friedkin's exceptional contributions to cinema were highlighted by his Academy Award victory for best director in 1972 for "The French Connection."

4. Infosys's Sudha Murty appointed on key committee of NSTC by NCERT

Sudha Murty, the chairman of the Infosys Foundation, has been named as a member of a 19-member committee by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). National Syllabus and Teaching Learning Material Committee (NSTC), will be focused on the development of textbooks and supplementary learning materials for the council's initiatives.

5. Neymar quits PSG to sign for Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal

Brazil star Neymar has signed for Saudi Arabian side Al-Hilal from French champions Paris Saint-Germain, the two clubs announced.

Though financial details were not released, reports suggest that the fee was around 90 million euros plus additions which makes him the costliest

player in cumulative transfer fee, overtaking Romelu Lukaku. Nasser Al-Khelafi, President and CEO of Paris Saint-Germain.

6. Mohit Kumar becomes first Indian wrestler since 2019 to win U20 World Wrestling Championship

Indian wrestler Mohit Kumar scripted history by becoming the Under 20 World Champion in the men's 61 Kg Freestyle category. The Championship is being held at Amman City in Jordan from August 14 to 20.

Mohit defeated Russia's Eldar Akhmadudinov 9-8 in the final to become the fourth Indian Freestyle Wrestler to win a Junior World Championship.

7. Sachin Tendulkar to bat for greater voter turnout as National Icon for Election Commission of India

Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar would begin a new innings - as the 'National Icon' for voter awareness and education for the Election Commission of India. An MoU was signed for the period of 3 years at an event organized at Rang Bhavan, Akashvani, New Delhi in the presence of Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar & Election Commissioners Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goel.

8. Infosys onboards tennis player Iga witek as global brand ambassador

Infosys has announced that it has entered into a multi-year partnership with women's tennis World No. 1 Iga Swiatek, making her its global brand ambassador to promote Digital Innovation and inspire women worldwide.

By leveraging artificial intelligence (AI), the partnership aims to amplify witek's

training, focusing on her strengths and devising match strategies.

9. Former CJI NV Ramana appointed as member of International Mediation Panel of SIMC

Former Chief Justice of India (CJI) Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana has been appointed as a member of the International Mediation Panel of the Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC).

The announcement was made by SIMC chairperson George Lim, who presented Justice Ramana with the letter of appointment in Singapore.

10. Priyan Sain wins Miss Earth India Crown at Miss Divine Beauty 2023 Pageant

Priyan Sain clinched the title of Miss Earth India 2023 during the Miss Divine Beauty 2023 national final held in New Delhi.

The 20-year-old student, dancer, and taekwondo player from Jaipur, Rajasthan succeeds last year's winner Vanshika Parmar, and will now prepare to represent India at the Miss Earth 2023 pageant in Vietnam this December. India & World

1. India Embarks On A 57-Kilometre Rail Project Linking Assam's Kokrajhar To Bhutan's Gelephu

India and Bhutan are soon going to be linked by a 57.5-km railway link, between Assam's Kokrajhar and Bhutan's Gelephu.

To be funded by the Indian government, the first-ever railway connection between India & Bhutan is expected to be completed by 2026.

As a landlocked country, the only transportation link between Bhutan and India for export & import is through road network.

2. Cricket Australia selects HCLTech to drive digital transformation

HCLTech has won a deal from Cricket Australia (CA), the national governing body for the game in Australia, for the next phase of CA's digital transformation. As part of the latest agreement, HCLTech will help Cricket Australia to deliver digital experiences to fans, players, partners, employees and volunteers across the world.

3. Trinidad And Tobago Inks Pact For Sharing Indian Technology Stack

Trinidad and Tobago has signed an agreement with the Indian government for sharing the India Stack, which is a collection of open application programming interfaces and digital public goods for identity, data and payment services.

It shall create a robust ecosystem of startups, developers and system integrators working around it on next-gen innovation. Minister of State for Electronics and IT: Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

4. Nepal to export 10,000 MW power to India in next 10 years

Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal has announced to increase the export of electricity to India from 450 MW to 10,000 MW in the next 10 years. India and Nepal have already signed a preliminary bilateral agreement for it. Nepal is currently exporting around 450 MW of electricity to India.

5. PM Modi gifts Bidri work pair of 'Surahi' to South African President Cyril Ramaphosa

PM Modi presented special gifts to the BRICS leaders including South African president Cyril Ramaphosa, First Lady of South Africa Tshepo Motsepe, and Brazilian president Luiz Incio Lula da Silva.

PM Modi gifted Bidri a pair of 'Surahi' from Telangana to South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

6. PM Modi arrives in Greece on first prime ministerial visit in 40 years

Prime Minister Narendra Modi left for Greece from Johannesburg, South Africa, where he attended the BRICS summit. The visit was at the invitation of Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis. This will be the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Greece in 40 years.

PM Modi will lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Athens .

President of Greece: Katerina Sakellaropoulou.

7. India & Bangladesh hold the fifth Annual Defence Dialogue in Dhaka

India and Bangladesh held the fifth Annual Defence Dialogue on 28 August 2023 in Dhaka.

The Annual Defence Dialogue between India and Bangladesh is the highest institutionalized interactive mechanism between both the countries.

In the dialogue, both the countries highlighted its significance in chartering the future course of the relations between the two Armed Forces.

8. India, New Zealand Join Hands To Boost Cooperation In Civil Aviation Sector

The Government of India and the Government of New Zealand have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in the air transport services.

This significant development builds upon the foundation established when India and New Zealand inked the Air Services Agreement on May 1, 2016.

Apps & Portals

1. MASI Portal for Monitoring CHILD CARE HOMES

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has developed an application 'MASI' - Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection for real time monitoring of the Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and their inspection mechanism across the country. The effective and efficient functioning of the mechanism for inspection of CCIs provided under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.

2. Shri Sarbananda Sonowal launches Port Health Organisation (PHO) under Sagar Setu

The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal launched Port Health Organisation (PHO) module under Sagar Setu - National Logistics Portal (Marine) - in an attempt to enable faster and simpler ecosystem to promote Ease of Doing Business.

PHO will conduct disease surveillance, health inspection and quarantine measures.

3. National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) launches mobile app 'Rajmargyatra' for national highway users

'Rajmargyatra' serves as a one-stop repository of essential information for national highway users.

Users can get real-time weather conditions, timely broadcast notifications, and access to details about nearby toll plazas, petrol pumps, hospitals, hotels, and other essential services that ensure a seamless and safe journey on national highways.

[4. CJI Chandrachud announces launch of 'Suswagatam' portal for e-passes to enter Supreme Court](#)

The Supreme Court announced the launch of portal 'SuSwagatam' which would enable advocates, visitors, interns and others to register themselves online and get e-passes to enter the apex court. 'Suswagatam' is a web-based and mobile-friendly application that allows users to register themselves online and request for e-passes attending court hearing, meeting advocates etc.

Agri-Business

[1. Mega Oil Palm Plantation drive organized in 49 districts of 11 states](#)

Under the National Mission on Edible Oils 'Oil Palm', the State Governments along with Oil Palm processing companies initiated a 'that commenced on 25th July 2023 to further promote and increase oil palm cultivation, making the country and its farmers 'Atma-Nirbhar' in edible oils production.

PSUs

[1. Oil India Ltd gets Maharatna status, ONGC Videsh Ltd becomes Navratna](#)

The Finance Ministry has approved the upgradation of Oil India Ltd to the category of 'Maharatna', a move which will impart enhanced powers to the OIL

board while taking financial decisions. Post the upgrade, the state-run oil major has become India's 13th Maharatna CPSE's. The Finance Ministry also approved the upgradation of ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) to Navratna CPSE.

[1. Arunachal Pradesh signs pact with 3 PSUs for 11,523 MW hydropower projects](#)

The Arunachal Pradesh Government inked memorandums of agreement (MoAs) with three central public sector undertakings (PSUs) for the development of 12 hydropower projects with a total capacity of 11,523 MW in the state. An estimated investment of Rs 1,42,000 crore would be made while executing the projects.

Assam

[1. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurates 132nd Durand Cup in Kokrajhar, Assam](#)

The 132nd edition of Durand Cup kicked off in Kokrajhar, Assam on August 05, 2023. Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh graced the opening ceremony, which marked the grand beginning of the annual football competition for the first time in the Assamese city. The tournament is organised by the Armed Forces and supported by the Government of Assam.

Goa

[1. In a first in India, Goa to give free IVF treatment in govt hospital](#)

In a first, Goa has become the first Indian state to offer free in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment. The inauguration of this service, alongside assisted reproductive technology (ART) and intrauterine insemination (IUI), was done by Chief

Minister Pramod Sawant at the Goa Medical College (GMC) in Bambolim. Jharkhand

1. Jharkhand government signs pact with TGESPL to set up India's 'first' hydrogen fuel project in Jamshedpur

Jharkhand government inked a pact with TCPL Green Energy Solutions Private Ltd (TGESPL), a joint venture between Tata Motors and Cummins Inc, USA to set up the country's "first" hydrogen fuel project in Jamshedpur.

The capacity of the proposed unit will be over 4,000 hydrogen IC engine/fuel agnostic engine and more than 10,000 battery system. To set up this project, it would entail an investment of Rs 354.28 crore.

Kerala

1. Kerala's first AI school launched in Thiruvananthapuram

Kerala got its first AI school at Santhigiri Vidyabhavan in Thiruvananthapuram. The inauguration was done by Former President Ram Nath Kovind.

The AI School is designed and moulded by one of the world's most advanced educational platforms iLearning Engines (ILE) USA in collaboration with Vedhik eSchool.

2. Keralites across the globe celebrating "Thirunam", the most auspicious day of Onam

Keralalites across the globe is celebrating "Thirunam", the 10th and the most auspicious day of Onam, the biggest cultural festival of the State. Onam, the harvest festival of Kerala, symbolises prosperity, secularism, and harmony.

Keralites celebrate the festival welcoming the visit of the righteous and mythical king Mahabali, in the memory of good old days.

Madhya Pradesh

1. President of India to inaugurate 'UNMESHA' and 'UTKARSH' festivals in Bhopal

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu visited Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) to inaugurate 'Unmesha' ' International Literature Festival and 'Utkarsh' ' Festival of Folk and Tribal Performing Arts, being organised by the Ministry of Culture in association with Sahitya Akademi and Sangeet Natak Akademi respectively.

2. PM Modi to launch rail and road projects worth over Rs 4,000 crore in Madhya Pradesh.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and lay the foundation stone of projects worth more than four thousand crore rupees in Sagar, Madhya Pradesh.

3. Madhya Pradesh Cabinet approves disbursement of Rs 6,000 crore to eligible farmers under Chief Minister's Kisan Kalyan Yojana

Madhya Pradesh Cabinet has approved disbursement of 6,000 rupees to the eligible farmers under the Chief Minister's Kisan Kalyan Yojana for the financial year 2023-2024. The decision was taken in a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan in Bhopal.

Maharashtra

1. Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jodaraste Scheme: Maharashtra govt to link all tribal villages in state with main roads

The state cabinet decided to implement the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Jodaraste Scheme in Maharashtra to connect all tribal villages in 17 districts of the state with main roads.

The project is estimated to cost Rs 5,000 crore and nearly 6,838 km of roads will be constructed as part of the scheme.

2. Maharashtra tops in attracting FDI in 1st quarter of current FY

Maharashtra secured the top rank in attracting Foreign Direct Investment worth Rs 36,634 crore which is more than the sum of investment received by Delhi, Karnataka and Telangana in the first quarter of FY 2023-24.

Maharashtra's FDI is more than the cumulative sum of FDI in Delhi, Karnataka and Telangana which rank second, third and fourth, respectively.

Meghalaya

1. ADB approves USD 40.5 mn loan for integrated early childhood development programme in Meghalaya

The Asian Development Bank has approved a USD 40.5-million loan for integrated early childhood development (ECD) and maternal mental health programme in Meghalaya.

The state government is also contributing USD 15.27 million to the project.

It will strengthen home-based childcare (children 0-1.5 years) and centre-based childcare(1.5-6 years) through Anganwadi centres. ADB headquarters in Manila, Philippines

2. Meghalaya hosts Pineapple Fest 2023 at New Delhi

Meghalaya Pineapple Fest - 2023, organized by the Government of Meghalaya, kicked off on Day 1 at the iconic Dilli Haat, New Delhi, celebrating Meghalaya's famed produce, the Kew pineapples.

Meghalaya's Pineapples with its sweetness measuring high brix value of 16-18 is gradually making it a sought-after fruit by retailers across the globe.

Odisha

1. NLC plans to set up 2,400 MW thermal plant in Odisha for Rs 19,422 crore

NLC India Ltd is planning to set up a 2,400 MW coal-based plant in Odisha. The plant will be set up at an investment of Rs 19,422 crore at Talabira (Talabira coal mines) in Odisha. The plant will supply 1,450 MW of power to Tamil Nadu, 100 MW to Puducherry and 400 MW to Kerala.

Rajasthan

1. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to inaugurate 9th India Region Conference of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Udaipur

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla to inaugurate the ninth India Region Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association today in Udaipur, Rajasthan. The conference will have two separate sessions.

The theme of the two-day conference is 'Strengthening Democracy and Good Governance in the Digital Age'.

Tamil Nadu

1. 4,000 MW Renewable Energy Power Project being set up in Tamil Nadu

The Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy and Power has informed that under Green Energy Corridor Phase-II, a project has been approved for setting up of 624 km of transmission lines and 2200 MVA capacity substations by FY 2025-26, for evacuation of renewable energy power of approx. 4000 MW capacity in the state of Tamil Nadu.

2. Tamil Nadu celebrates Cultural Festival Aadi Perukku

The Tamil Cultural community celebrates Aadi Perukku, also known as Pathinettam Perukku, as an auspicious festival to honor the monsoon season and the fertility of the soil.

Aadi Perukku is celebrated on August 3rd, coinciding with the 18th day of the Tamil month of Aadi.

3. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman lays foundation stone for Adichanallur museum that will exhibit 3,000-yr-old artefacts

Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman laid the foundation stone for an archeological museum in Adichanallur in the Thoothukudi district. Adichanallur was one of the five archaeological sites declared to be developed as 'Iconic Sites' in the Union Budget 2020-21. It is an archaeological site located on the banks of river Thamirabarani in this district.

4. Shipping & logistics firm UPS opens India's first tech centre in Chennai

UPS, a global shipping and logistics firm, inaugurated its first technology centre in Chennai. The new centre is focused on

innovations that aim to make business dealings easier for UPS customers. Earlier this year, UPS announced a strategic investment of \$15-20 million in India, intended to complement its existing technology teams in the US and Europe.

5. Commencement of Sagar Parikrama Phase-VIII to take place at Thengapattanam Fishing Harbour in Kanyakumari

The commencement of Sagar Parikrama Phase-VIII is set to take place at Thengapattanam Fishing Harbour in Kanyakumari district.

This particular phase of Sagar Parikrama will encompass an exploration of four coastal districts in Tamil Nadu, namely Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, and Ramanathapuram.

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying will inaugurate the event.

Uttar Pradesh

1. UP Cabinet approves policy for making state water tourism, adventure sports destination

The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved a policy that aims at making the state a water tourism and adventure sports destination.

The Uttar Pradesh Water Tourism and Adventure Sports Policy, 2023, will be valid for 10 years from the date notified by the state government.

2. NLC along with UP Govt to set up 1,980 MW Thermal Plant for Rs 19,406 crore

NLC India Limited has entered into a joint venture with the UP government to set up a thermal power plant at a cost of Rs 19,406 crore.

The 1,980 MW Plant will have three units of 660 MW each. The first phase of the project will start generating power by the end of this year.

The plant will come up at Ghatampur near Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh

3. Ministry of Jal Shakti Releases the 6th Census Report On Minor Irrigation (MI) Schemes

Out of 23.14 million MI schemes, 21.93 million (94.8%) are Ground Water and 1.21 million (5.2%) are Surface Water Schemes

Uttar Pradesh Possesses Largest Number of MI Schemes Followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

West Bengal

1. President Murmu Launches 'My Bengal, Addiction-Free Bengal' Campaign In Kolkata

President Droupadi Murmu launched 'My Bengal, Addiction Free Bengal' Campaign under the 'Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan', organized by Brahma Kumaris at Raj Bhavan, Kolkata on August 17.

Jammu and Kashmir

1. North India's first River Rejuvenation Project Devika is nearing completion

North India's first River Rejuvenation Project Devika is nearing completion. Built at a cost of over Rs 190 crore on the lines of 'Namami Ganga', the Project was launched by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Dr. Jitendra Singh said this while reviewing. Liquid Waste Management Project undertaken separately to protect the sanctity of holy Devika River in Udhampur, J&K.

2. Three-day National Thematic Workshop on Localization of (LSDGs)

Sustainable Development Goals in Panchayats begins in Srinagar

Ministry of Panchayat Raj (MoPR), Government of India, in close collaboration with Panchayati Raj & Rural Development Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, is organizing a three-day (21-23 Aug) National Workshop on Localization of Sustainable Development Goals in Gram Panchayats.

It has been organized on Theme 8: Panchayat with Good Governance in Srinagar, J&K.

3. Bhaderwah Rajma & Ramban Sulai Honey of Jammu and Kashmir get GI Tag

In Jammu and Kashmir, two world-famous local specialty products namely Bhaderwah Rajma and Ramban Sulai Honey have earned coveted Geographical Indication (GI) Tag.

Now, only an authorized user has the exclusive rights to use the Geographical Indication in relation to these products. It will also boost exports and promote their brands at the international level.

Ladakh

1. BRO commences construction of world's highest motorable road in Eastern Ladakh

Border Roads Organisation(BRO) has commenced the Rs. 520 cr construction of the world's highest motorable road, the Likaru-Migla-Fukche road close to Hanle in Eastern Ladakh.

The 64-km long road will connect Likaru to Fukche which is situated 3 km away from the LAC in Eastern Ladakh.

The new highest motorable pass will set a new world record at an altitude of 19,400 feet. Presently, Umlingla pass at

the height of 19,024 feet, is world's highest motorable pass.

Committees

1. Centre Sets Up High Powered 9-Member Committee To Review DRDO's Activities, Report Expected In 3 Months

Led by former Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government, Prof K VijayRaghavan, the 9-member committee has been tasked with the mission to comprehensively overhaul the DRDO. The committee's primary objective is to compile a comprehensive report, outlining recommendations aimed at enhancing the adaptability of the DRDO amidst the rapidly evolving technological terrain.

Imp CA

1. National Javelin Day | 7 August

August 7 is celebrated as National Javelin Day in India. The Athletics Federation of India, the apex body for the athletics in India, took the decision to celebrate August 7 as the National Javelin Day to commemorate Neeraj Chopra's historic gold medal during the Tokyo Olympics.

Chopra scripted history as it was India's first-ever gold medal in Track and Field events.

2. RBI Monetary Policy August 2023: RBI keeps repo rate unchanged at 6.5%; FY24 CPI inflation forecast raised to 5.4%

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das announced the 3rd bi-monthly monetary policy for FY24. RBI kept the repo rate unchanged at 6.5%. The standing deposit facility (SDF) rate kept unchanged at 6.25 per cent and the marginal standing facility

(MSF) rate and the Bank Rate at 6.75 per cent.

The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled during October 4-6, 2023.

3. Sulabh International founder Bindeshwar Pathak passes away

Sulabh International founder and social activist Bindeshwar Pathak, a pioneer in building public toilets, died.

Sh. Pathak founded Sulabh International in 1970 with a vision to eradicate open defecation and unclean public toilets. It is a social service organisation that works to promote human rights, environmental sanitation, waste management and reforms through education.

4. Reserve Bank of India to Launch the Pilot Project for Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced the development of a Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit. The Platform is being developed by Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), a wholly owned subsidiary of RBI.

The Public Tech Platform would enable delivery of frictionless credit by facilitating seamless flow of required digital information to lenders.

5. RBI launches - UDGAM - Centralised Web Portal for searching Unclaimed Deposits

The Governor, Reserve Bank of India launched a Centralised Web Portal UDGAM (Unclaimed Deposits ' Gateway to Access inforMation). This portal has been developed by RBI for use by members of public to facilitate and make it easier for them to search their

unclaimed deposits across multiple banks at one place.

6. Antim Panghal creates history by defending 53-kg title, Savita takes 62-kg gold; India win team championship

Indian wrestler Antim Panghal won her back-to-back women's U20 world titles, successfully defending her 53kg crown and became the first Indian woman to do so.

Panghal, who hails from Hisar in Haryana, dominated Ukrainian Mariia Yefremova in a facile 4-0.

In the 62kg final, Savita defeated Venezuela's A Paola Montero Chirinos.

7. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari launches Bharat NCAP safety test program

The union minister for Road, Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, launched India's much awaited crash test rating assessment programme, called Bharat NCAP.

Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (Bharat NCAP) is being launched to improve road safety and raise safety standards for vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes.

This makes India only the 5th country in the world to have its own crash test programme.

8. FIDE World Cup 2023: Magnus Carlsen wins maiden World Cup, Praggnanandhaa finishes as runner-up

Norwegian Grand Master Magnus Carlsen became the new world chess champion after defeating India's 18-year-old Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa in FIDE World Cup Chess Championship 2023 final at Baku.

Carlsen beat the Indian grand master 1.5-0.5 in the tie-break after the classical games ended in a stalemate.

The five-time world champion clinched his first world cup title. Magnus Carlsen won prize money of \$110,000.

9. 69th National Film Awards: Madhavan's 'Rocketry: The Nambi Effect' wins Best Feature Film

Rocketry: The Nambi Effect, the biographical drama written, produced and directed by R. Madhavan in his directorial debut, won the Best Feature Film award. The National Film Award for best director went to Nikhil Mahajan for Marathi film Godavari.

The Best Actor award went to Allu Arjun for his performance in director Sukumar's Pushpa: The Rise.

10. Chandrayaan-3: India to celebrate August 23 as 'National Space Day', says PM Modi

PM Modi further celebrated the success of India's moon mission and named the landing spot of the Vikram lander as 'Shivshakti'.

He also christened the location where Chandrayaan-2 had left its mark in 2019 as 'Tiranga Point'.

PM Modi was at the Indian Space Research Organisation Telemetry Tracking and Command Network in Bengaluru.

11. Neeraj Chopra becomes first Indian to win gold at World Athletics Championships

Neeraj Chopra, in a historic moment for Indian athletics, clinched the gold medal in the men's javelin throw event at the World Athletics Championships held in Budapest, Hungary.

Displaying exceptional prowess, he recorded a stellar throw of 88.17 meters during his second attempt.

Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem & Jakub Vadlejš of the Czech Republic bagged silver and bronze.

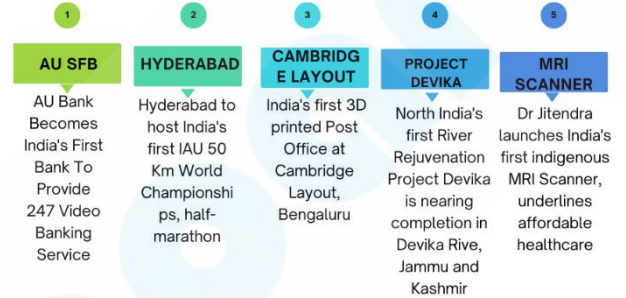
12. NITI Aayog, UNDP Sign MoU On Fast-Tracking SDGs

NITI Aayog & UNDP India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to formalise a framework of cooperation on a range of areas, including SDG localisation, data-driven monitoring, Aspirational Districts and Blocks, among others.

UNDP will also provide support for NITI Aayog's work on women's livelihoods, innovation, & Mission LiFE.

The MoU was signed for a period of 5 yrs. Shri B. V. R. Subrahmanyam: CEO, NITI Aayog.

SOME FIRSTS



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Important General Knowledge (GK) Questions

1. Minimum Support Price (MSP) is recommended by which entity?

- (a) The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
- (b) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
- (c) The Farmers' Welfare Society
- (d) The Commission for Weights and Measures

2. Fertile riverine alluvial soil is best suited for producing _____.

- (a) Coffee
- (b) Corn
- (c) rice
- (d) tea

3. As per the Constitution, the Executive power of the State is vested in _____.

- (a) Chief Minister
- (b) Chief Justice of High Court
- (c) Governor
- (d) Council of Ministers

4. Potassium is a chemical element with the symbol:

- (a) Na
- (b) S
- (c) Ca
- (d) K

5. The SI (International system of units) unit of length is _____.

- (a) metre
- (b) centimetre
- (c) millimetre
- (d) kilometre

6. Which of the following cells having nuclear material with a nuclear membrane?

- (a) Eukaryotic cell
- (b) Prokaryotic cell
- (c) White blood cell
- (d) Single cell

7. The famous Gandhi-Irwin Pact was signed in which year?

- (a) 1945
- (b) 1942
- (c) 1938
- (d) 1931

8. Sarojini Naidu gave the title of "The Ambassador of Hindu - Muslim Unity" to whom for being the architect and mastermind of the historic Lucknow Pact?

- (a) Muhammad Ali Jinnah
- (b) Sir Sayyad Ahmad Khan
- (c) Fazl-ul-Haq
- (d) Syed Mohammad Sharfuddin Quadri

9. Cheraw dance/ bamboo dance is the most popular dance form of which state?

- (a) Nagaland
- (b) Assam
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Tripura

10. Under which article, President of India can proclaim financial emergency?

- (a) Article 349
- (b) Article 321
- (c) Article 360
- (d) Article 355

11. Razia Sultan who ruled Delhi Sultanate was the daughter of whom among the following?

- (a) Qutbuddin Aibak
- (b) Aurangzeb
- (c) Iltutmish
- (d) Jehangir

12. Which of the following trees shed their leaves once in a year?

- (a) Coniferous trees
- (b) Deciduous trees
- (c) Evergreen trees
- (d) Both deciduous and coniferous trees

13. What is the name of the court poet of King Harshavardhana?

- (a) Tulsidas
- (b) Surdas
- (c) Raskhan
- (d) Banabhatta

Answer Keys

1. b 2. c 3. c 4. d 5. a 6. a 7. d 8. a 9. c 10. c 11. c 12. b 13. d

14. Bronchitis affects which part of the human body?

- (a) Lungs
- (b) Large Intestine
- (c) Heart
- (d) Stomach

15. Who among the following is not among those considered the Trinity of Carnatic Music?

- (a) Papanasam Sivan
- (b) Tyagaraja
- (c) Muthuswami Dikshitar
- (d) Syama Sastri

16. Who among the following was/were associated with the Swatantra Party?

- (a) C.Rajagopalachari
- (b) N.G.Ranga
- (c) K.M.Munshi
- (d) All the above

17. Gaddam Padmaja Reddy, was awarded Padma Shri in 2022 for her relentless effort to promote which of the following dance form?

- (a) Mohiniattam
- (b) Kuchipudi
- (c) Odissi
- (d) Sattriya

18. Raindrops attain the spherical shape due to _____.

- (a) Viscosity
- (b) Inertia
- (c) Pressure
- (d) Surface tension

19. Water and minerals are transported to the leaves by _____.

- (a) Veins
- (b) Vessels
- (c) Arteries
- (d) Capillaries

20. The National Small Industry Day is observed every year on

- (a) June 30th
- (b) July 30th
- (c) August 30th
- (d) September 30th

21. Which of the following is a water-soluble vitamin?

- (a) Vitamin B
- (b) Vitamin K

- (c) Vitamin E
- (d) Vitamin D

- (b) 6.0
- (c) 12.0
- (d) 8.0

22. The system in which exchange of heat between the system and surroundings through its boundary would not be allowed is called _____.

- (a) Isolated system
- (b) Open system
- (c) Adiabatic system
- (d) Closed system

23. Which of the following award has come to be known as the "Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture"?

- (a) World Food Prize
- (b) King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award
- (c) Borlaug Award
- (d) Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award

24. Force of attraction between molecules of the different substance is called _____

- (a) Cohesive force
- (b) Centripetal force
- (c) Centrifugal force
- (d) Adhesive force

25. Quinine, the popular drug for malaria is made from which of the following plants

- (a) Neem
- (b) Cinchona
- (c) Eucalyptus
- (d) Tulsi

26. Which of the following would be the correct pH of a strongly acidic solution?

- (a) 2.0

Answer Keys

14. a 15. a 16. d 17. b 18. d 19. b 20. c 21. a 22. c 23. a 24. d 25. b 26. a

27. Who among the following is also known as ancient 'Indian Napoleon'?

- (a) Chandragupta
- (b) Ashoka
- (c) Harsha Vardhan
- (d) Samudragupta

28. 'Snell's Law' and 'Total Internal Reflection' principles are associated with

- (a) Optics
- (b) Electromagnetism
- (c) Biology
- (d) Thermodynamics

29. From which Constitution of the world has the idea of Directive Principles of State Policy been borrowed from for the Indian Constitution?

- (a) British Constitution
- (b) American Constitution
- (c) Irish Constitution
- (d) Japanese Constitution

30. Which of the following kings in medieval India is associated with 'Battle of Chausa'?

- (a) Babar
- (b) Humayun
- (c) Akbar
- (d) Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

Answer Keys

1. b	2. c	3. c	4. d	5. a	6. a	7. d	8. a	9. c	10. c
11. c	12. b	13. d	14. a	15. a	16. d	17. b	18. d	19. b	20. c
21. a	22. c	23. a	24. d	25. b	26. a	27. d	28. a	29. c	30. b

Solutions

1. (b)

Government fixes Minimum Support Price (MSP) on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Cost of production is one of the important factors in the determination of MSPs. While recommending its price policy, the CACP considers all costs in a comprehensive manner which is based on the methodology recommended by Expert Committees from time to time.

2. (c)

Alluvial soil has the highest productivity with respect to other soils. It is present mostly along rivers and is carried by its streams during weathering of rocks. The soil is generally covered by tall grasses and forests, as well as a number of crops, such as rice, wheat, sugarcane, tobacco, maize, cotton, soybean, jute, oilseeds.

3. (c)

Executive power of the State is vested in Governor. State executive consists of Governor and Council of Ministers with Chief Minister as its head. The Governor of a State is appointed by the President for a term of five years and holds office during his pleasure.

Only Indian citizens above 35 years of age are eligible for appointment to this office.

4. (d)

Potassium is the first element of the fourth period (row) in the periodic table. The atomic mass of potassium is 39.098 atomic mass units. It is denoted by the symbol 'K'. It is an alkali metal along with lithium, rubidium, sodium, caesium, and francium.

5. (a)

The meter, symbol m, is the SI unit of length. It is defined by taking the fixed numerical value of the speed of light in vacuum c to be 299 792 458 when expressed in the unit m/s.

6. (a)

- Eukaryotic cell: Cells having well organised nucleus with a nuclear membrane. Example, animal cell.
- Prokaryotic cell: Cells having nuclear material without nuclear membrane. Example, bacteria.
- A white blood cell (WBC) in human blood is a single cell which can change its shape.
- Egg of a hen represents a single cell and is big enough to be seen by the unaided eye.

7. (d)

The outcome of the talks between the Viceroy Lord Irwin and Gandhi was the famous Gandhi-Irwin Pact signed on 5th March 1931. It was decided that the Civil Disobedience Movement would be discontinued, and steps would be taken for Congress participation in the Second Round Table Conference. The Government expressed its approval of the encouragement of Indian industries. The Pact was approved by the Congress in its annual session at Karachi in March 1931.

8. (a)

Sarojini Naidu gave Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the chief architect of the Lucknow Pact, the title of "the Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity". Sarojini Naidu was the first Indian woman to be president of the Indian National Congress.

9. (c)

Cheraw/ Bamboo dance:

- Most popular dance form in Mizoram.
- Colourful dance of the Mizos tribes.
- Long pair of horizontal bamboo staves are tapped open and close in rhythmic beats by people sitting face to face on the ground. Therefore, it is also called Bamboo dance.

10. (c)

The president under Article 360 of the Constitution has the power to declare financial emergency if he is satisfied that the financial stability or the credit of

India or any part of its territory is threatened.

During the operation of financial emergency, the executive authority of the union extends to the giving of directions to any state to observe certain specified canons or financial propriety and such other directions that the President may find necessary.

The directions may include reduction of salaries or allowance of those serving a state, of all those in connection with the affairs of union including judges of high court and Supreme Court. There has been no occasion of financial emergency in India.

11. (c)

Renowned as the first Muslim female ruler of the Delhi Sultanate, Razia Sultan ruled Delhi from 1236 to 1240.

During her reign, she ordered coins be minted with her title as "Pillar of Women, Queen of the Times, Sultan Razia, daughter of Shamsuddin Iltumish."

12. (b)

In temperate forests across the Northern Hemisphere, trees shed their leaves during autumn as cold weather approaches. In tropical and subtropical forests, trees shed their leaves at the onset of the dry season.

Many types of trees shed their leaves as a strategy to survive harsh weather conditions. Trees that lose all of their leaves for part of the year are known as deciduous trees. Those that don't are called evergreen trees.

13. (d)

Banabhatta was the Asthana Kavi in the court of King Harsha Vardhana who reigned from C. 606- 647 CE in North India first from Sthanishvara (Thanesvar), and later Kanauj. Bana's principal works include a biography of Harsha, "the Harshacharita" (Deeds of Harsha) and one of the world's earliest novels "Kadambari". Bana died before completing the novel and it was completed by his son Bhushanbhatta. Both these works are said to be noted texts of Sanskrit literature. The other works attributed to Bana are Chandikasataka and a drama, the Parvati Parinaya.

14. (a)

Bronchi are the main passageway into the lungs. When the bronchi become swollen due to irritants or infection, bronchitis results and makes breathing more difficult. Bronchitis sufferers also tend to have much more mucus and phlegm than someone without inflamed bronchi. Bronchitis may be either acute or chronic.

15. (a)

The birth of the Musical Trinity - Tyagaraja, Muthuswami Dikshitar and Syama Sastri - at Tiruvarur between the years 1750 to 1850 A.D. ushered in an era of dynamic development in Carnatic music. The Trinity were not only contemporaries among themselves but also contemporaries of great composers of Western Music, as Beethoven, Mozart, Wagner and Haydn. It was the 'Golden Age' of music throughout the world.

Carnatic music reached its pinnacle of artistic excellence during this period.

16. (d)

Swatantra Party

Founded in August 1959, the Swatantra Party was a nonsocialist, constitutionalist and secular conservative party having distinguished leaders like C. Rajagopalachari (who resigned from the Congress), Minoo Masani, N.G. Ranga and K.M. Munshi, most of them being veteran Congress leaders.

The Swatantra Party favoured the notion of the 'night watchman' or laissez-faire State, and stood for free, private enterprise.

Source : Skholar.com

17. (b)

A renowned Kuchipudi dancer, Gaddam Padmaja Reddy, was awarded Padma Shri in 2022 for her relentless effort to promote the dance form. She has been performing Kuchipudi for over 50 years now.

18. (d)

- The shape of the raindrops is caused by the surface tension of the water.
- Surface tension is a force per unit length (or surface energy per unit area) acting in the plane of interface between the liquid and the bounding surface.

19. (b)

- Water and minerals are transported to the leaves by the vessels which run like pipes throughout the root, the stem, the branches and the leaves.

- They form a continuous path or passage for the nutrients to reach the leaf. They are called vessels.

20. (c)

The country observes the National Small Industry Day every year on August 30 to recognise the importance and contribution of the small-scale businesses in India. The small-scale sector plays a key role and is a major growth indicator in the Indian economy. The National Small Industry Day is celebrated across the country to encourage the development and growth of the sector

- It contributes as much as 40 per cent to the gross industrial value of the country's economy.
- The advent of the National Small Industry Day can be traced back to August 2000 when the government formulated a comprehensive policy package for small-scale industries (SSI) in India.
- On August 30, it was decided by the Ministry of Small-Scale Industries that the very day would be observed as SSI Day.
- The central government has kickstarted various initiatives such as the CHAMPIONS portal, UDYAM, and National SC-ST Hub, that contribute to making the MSMEs stronger and more stable.
- The day also highlights the efforts made by the centre to widen the range of these sectors into various services and commodities hovering in the economic model of a country which houses more than 6.3 crore MSMEs.

21. (a)

- There are two types of vitamins: water-soluble and fat-soluble. This means that they live in the fat of your body or the water of your body.
- Water-soluble vitamins: Vitamin B and C.
- Fat-soluble vitamins: Vitamin A, D, E and K.

22. (c)

- The system in which exchange of heat between the system and surroundings through its boundary would not be allowed is called adiabatic system.
- The manner in which the state of such a system may be changed will be called adiabatic process.
- Adiabatic process is a process in which there is no transfer of heat between the system and surroundings.

23. (a)

Often referred to as the "*Nobel Prize for Food and Agriculture*," the World Food Prize is the most prominent global award recognizing exceptional individuals who have worked to enhance human development by improving the quality, quantity, and availability of food for all.

This US\$250,000 prize was established by Norman Borlaug, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his work in global agriculture.

24. (d)

- Cohesive force is defined as the force of attraction between molecules of the same substance.

· Adhesive force is defined as the force of attraction between different substances, such as glass and water.

25. (b)

Quinine occurs naturally in the bark of the cinchona tree, though it has also been synthesized in the laboratory.

26. (a)

The pH scale measures how acidic or basic a substance is. The pH scale ranges from 0 to 14. A pH of 7 is neutral. A pH less than 7 is acidic. A pH greater than 7 is basic. The pH scale is logarithmic and as a result, each whole pH value below 7 is ten times more acidic than the next higher value. For example, pH 4 is ten times more acidic than pH 5 and 100 times (10 times 10) more acidic than pH 6. So pH of 2.0 is the most acidic of the above options.

27. (d)

Samudragupta was the fourth ruler of the Gupta Empire, ruled in 4th century BC. He was the son and successor of Chandragupta I. His rule was one of expansion marked first by the conquest of his immediate neighbours and then by campaigns to the east and the south where chiefdoms and kingdoms were

subdued and forced to pay tribute to him. Because of his expansion policy, he is also known as 'Indian Napoleon'.

28. (a)

Optics is the branch of science deals with the study of light. 'Snell's law' describes the behaviour of light ray travelling from one medium to another medium. 'Total Internal Reflection' means the light travelling through one medium gets reflected to the same medium. Electromagnetism is the branch which deals with the study of electromagnetic force which are caused by the interaction of electric and magnetic field.

29. (c)

Method of election of President, Nomination of members to Rajya Sabha and Directive Principles of State Policy have been borrowed from the Irish Constitution.

30. (b)

'Battle of Chausa' was fought between Mughal Emperor Humayun and Sher Shah Suri in 1539. It was fought in Chausa area in modern Bihar. Sher Shah Suri defeated the Humayun in this fight and assumed the royal title of 'Farid al-Din Sher Shah'.

Important Computer Knowledge (CK) Questions

1. Which of the following was a text-based browser invented in 1992?
 - (a) Mosaic
 - (b) Lynx
 - (c) Netscape Navigator
 - (d) Opera
2. Which of the following is NOT an example Utility Programme?
 - (a) WinZip
 - (b) Linux
 - (c) Avast
 - (d) All the above are Utility Programmes
3. Which of the following is NOT an input device?
 - (a) Key board
 - (b) MICR
 - (c) Joy stick
 - (d) Plotter
4. Linux Operating System is a kind of _____.
 - (a) Open source operating system
 - (b) Closed source operating system
 - (c) Private operating system
 - (d) Proprietary operating system
5. Which of the following converts a High-Level Language program into machine language by converting it line-by-line?
 - (a) Assembler
 - (b) Interpreter
 - (c) Compiler
 - (d) Developer
6. The TCP/IP model has how many layers in it?
 - (a) 5
 - (b) 4
 - (c) 3
 - (d) 6
7. Spelling mistakes in MS-Word are shown in which of the following colours?
 - (a) Green
 - (b) Blue
 - (c) Red
 - (d) Yellow
8. Word Processor is a?
 - (a) Music Device
 - (b) Hardware
 - (c) Programming language
 - (d) Application Software
9. The PS/2 connectors are color coded as ____ for keyboard and ____ for mouse.
 - (a) Green, Purple
 - (b) Purple, Green
 - (c) Orange, Green
 - (d) Green, Orange
10. What is the meaning of .ac domain ?
 - (a) Academic Institution
 - (b) Hospital name
 - (c) Account Department
 - (d) None of the above
11. Which of the following button is used to go to previous slide while in presentation mode?
 - (a) Backspace
 - (b) Page Up
 - (c) Enter
 - (d) Space

12. Which of the following is NOT an Anti-Virus software?

- (a) Norton
- (b) Kaspersky
- (c) Bitdefender
- (d) CyberLink PowerDirector

13. Software such as Antivirus helps analyse, configure, optimize or maintain a computer. They are referred to as _____.

- (a) Software Utility
- (b) Utility
- (c) Service Programmes
- (d) Only (1) & (2)

Answer Keys

1. b 2. b 3. d 4. a 5. b 6. b 7. c 8. d 9. b 10. a 11. b 12. d 13. d

14. The master views include_____. (i) Slide view(ii) Handout view(iii) Notes view

- (a) i and ii
- (b) i, ii and iii
- (c) ii only
- (d) iii only

15. Which of the following is property of an object oriented programming language that allows one to perform a single action in different ways?

- (a) Inheritance
- (b) Polymorphism
- (c) Encapsulation
- (d) Abstraction

16. Which of the following is the simplest sorting algorithm that works by repeatedly swapping the adjacent elements if they are in the wrong order?

- (a) Heap sort
- (b) Bubble sort
- (c) Quick sort
- (d) Merge sort

17. What is the maximum zoom percentage in MS PowerPoint?

- (a) 100%
- (b) 200%
- (c) 300%
- (d) 400%

18. Which of the following is the first boot sector virus?

- (a) Creeper
- (b) Brain
- (c) Code Red
- (d) Computed

19. Which of the following function counts the number of cells that are not empty in a range?

- (a) COUNT
- (b) COUNTA
- (c) COUNTIF
- (d) COUNTBLANK

20. Which of the following shortcut keys closes the active window in Windows?

- (a) F2
- (b) Alt + F4
- (c) Alt + Tab
- (d) Ctrl + Shift + N

Answer Keys

1. b	2. b	3. d	4. a	5. b	6. b	7. c	8. d	9. b	10. a
11. b	12. d	13. d	14. b	15. b	16. b	17. d	18. b	19. b	20. b

Solutions

1. (b)

The Lynx browser was a text-based browser, which was invented in 1992. It was not able to display the graphical content.

2. (b)

A utility program is a type of system software that assists users with controlling or maintaining the operation of a computer, its devices, or its software.

Utility programs typically offer features that provide an environment conducive to successful use of application software.

Examples: WinZip, Avast, etc.,
Linux is an Operating System which is a system Software.

3. (d)

- Input devices provide man to machine communication.
- They include mouse, key board, joy stick, microphone, touch screen, camera, bar code reader, MICR, OMR etc.
- Output devices are used to produce data information generated by computer.
- They include monitor, printer, projector, speaker, plotter etc.

4. (a)

- Linux is a free, open source operating system, released under the GNU General Public License (GPL).
- Anyone can run, study, modify, and redistribute the source code, or even sell copies of their modified code, as long as they do so under the same license.

5. (b)

Interpreter converts a HLL program into machine language by converting it line-by-line. If there is any error in any line, it stops the execution of the program immediately and reports to the user at the same time. Program execution cannot resume until the error is rectified by the user. Interpreter is very useful for debugging and suitable for novice programmer. This is a slow process and consumes less memory space.

6. (b)

TCP/IP Model helps you to determine how a specific computer should be connected to the internet and how data should be transmitted between them. TCP/IP is a layered server architecture system in which each layer is defined according to a specific function to perform. All these four TCP IP layers work collaboratively to transmit the data from one layer to another.

- Application Layer

- Transport Layer
- Internet Layer
- Network Interface

7. (c)

By default, MS-Word automatically checks document for spelling and grammar errors. These errors are indicated by colored, wavy lines. The red line indicates a misspelled word. The blue line indicates a grammatical error, including misused words.

8. (d)

Application software is a program or group of programs designed for end users.

While system software consists of low-level programs that interact with computers at a basic level, application software resides above system software and includes applications such as MS-Office, database programs, word processors, spreadsheets. Application software may be bundled with system software or published alone.

Application software may simply be referred to as an application.

9. (b)

PS/2 connector is developed by IBM for connecting mouse and keyboard. It was introduced with IBM's Personal Systems/2 series of computers and hence the name PS/2 connector. PS/2 connectors are color coded as purple for keyboard and green for mouse.



10. (a)

Domain name with extension . gen. in : It represents general website in India.

Domain name with extension . ac.

in : This domain name is used for academic institutes in India, it represents academic institution website in India.

11. (b)

While in presentation mode:

· To advance, press the Spacebar, the Right Arrow key, the Down Arrowkey, or P.

· To go back, press the Backspace key, the Left Arrow key, the Up Arrowkey, or N.

· To go to a specific slide, press Ctrl+S and select the slide.

12. (d)

Antivirus software is a program or set of programs that are designed to prevent, search for, detect, and remove software viruses, and other malicious software's. Example- Norton, Kaspersky and Bitdefender. CyberLink PowerDirector is

regarded as one of the fastest video editing systems around.

13. (d)

A utility or software utility is computer system software intended to analyse, configure, monitor, or help maintain a computer. They are also known as Service Programmes.

Usually, a utility is smaller than a standard program in size and may be included with an operating system or installed separately.

Example: Antivirus, Backup software, etc.,

14. (b)

The master views include Slide, Handout, and Notes view. They are the main slides that store information about the presentation, including background, theme colors, theme fonts, theme effects, placeholder sizes, and positions. The key benefit to working in a master view is that on the slide master, notes master, or handout master, you can make universal style changes to every slide, notes page, or handout associated with your presentation.

15. (b)

Polymorphism is the method in an object-oriented programming language that performs different things as per the object's class, which calls it. With Polymorphism, a message is sent to multiple class objects, and every object responds appropriately according to the properties of the class

16. (b)

Bubble Sort is the simplest sorting algorithm that works by repeatedly swapping the adjacent elements if they are in the wrong order.

Example:

First Pass:

(5 1 4 2 8) - > (1 5 4 2 8), Here,

algorithm compares the first two elements, and swaps since $5 > 1$.

(1 5 4 2 8) - > (1 4 5 2 8), Swap since $5 > 4$

(1 4 5 2 8) - > (1 4 2 5 8), Swap since $5 > 2$

(1 4 2 5 8) - > (1 4 2 5 8), Now, since these elements are already in order ($8 > 5$), the algorithm does not swap them.

Second Pass:

(1 4 2 5 8) - > (1 4 2 5 8)

(1 4 2 5 8) - > (1 2 4 5 8), Swap since $4 > 2$

(1 2 4 5 8) - > (1 2 4 5 8)

(1 2 4 5 8) - > (1 2 4 5 8)

Now, the array is already sorted, but our algorithm does not know if it is completed. The algorithm needs one whole pass without any swap to know it is sorted.

Third Pass:

(1 2 4 5 8) - > (1 2 4 5 8)

(1 2 4 5 8) - > (1 2 4 5 8)

(1 2 4 5 8) - > (1 2 4 5 8)

(1 2 4 5 8) - > (1 2 4 5 8)

17. (d)

PowerPoint allows users to zoom in and zoom out of the slides to help focus on specific sections or look at the entire slide as a whole. The minimum zoom supported by PowerPoint is 10% and the maximum is 400%.

18. (b)

It has been 26 years to the day when the computing world was introduced to its first virus: The Brain. The Brain was a boot sector virus that was written on and for floppy disks and spread by the exchange of disks between users.

19. (b)

The COUNTA function counts the number of cells that are not empty in a range. The COUNTA function counts cells containing any type of information, including error values and empty text (""). For example, if the range contains a

formula that returns an empty string, the COUNTA function counts that value. The COUNTA function does not count empty cells.

20. (b)

Keyboard shortcut	Action
Alt + F4	Close active window
F2	Rename selected item
Alt + Tab	Switch between open apps
Ctrl + Shift + N	Create new folder on desktop

आरंभ

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