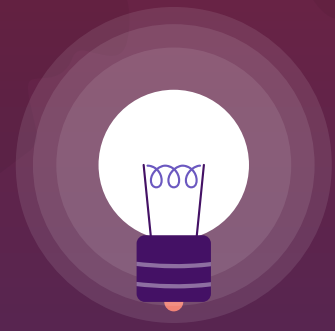


July 2023

 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. Rs 1,61,497 crore gross GST revenue collected for June 2023; records 12% Year-on-Year growth

The gross GST revenue collected in the month of June, 2023 is '1,61,497 crore of which CGST is '31,013 crore, SGST is '38,292 crore, IGST is '80,292 crore and cess is '11,900 crore (including ' 1,028 crore collected on import of goods). The revenues for the month of June 2023 are 12% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year.

#### 2. NHB operationalises Rs 10,000-crore Urban Infrastructure Development Fund(UIDF)

The National Housing Bank (NHB) has operationalised the Rs 10,000-crore UIDF announced in this year's Budget for creation of urban infrastructure in tier-2 and tier-3 cities.

As many as 459 tier-2 cities with population of 50,000 to less than a lakh and 580 tier-3 cities with population of one lakh to less than a million as per 2011 census are covered under UIDF as of now.

Interest rate on UIDF loans has been kept at bank rate minus 1.5%.

#### 3. India's direct tax mop-up in FY24 rises 16% to Rs 4.75 trillion so far

India's direct tax collection soared 16 per cent to touch Rs. 4.75 trillion this financial year, showing continuity in revenue growth despite external headwinds. It said that the numbers so far 'continue to register steady growth.' On a gross basis, collection from direct taxes, which includes income and corporation taxes, grew 14.65 per cent to Rs. 5.17 trillion.

#### 4. GST Council Meeting highlights: 28% GST rate on full value of online gaming

The 50th GST Council has recently concluded in New Delhi. A 28% GST rate has been levied on the full value of gaming, horse racing, and casinos which comes as a drawback to online gaming companies. Further, the council members exempted GST on key import of pharma products like cancer drug Dinutuximab, and Food for Special Medical Purposes (FSMP).

#### 5. ADB retains India's growth forecast at 6.4 percent for current financial year

The Asian Development Bank retained India's economic growth forecast at 6.4 percent for the current financial year and 6.7 percent for the next, The ADB said

robust domestic demand will continue to support the region's recovery. In an update to its Asian Development Outlook, the ADB said inflation is expected to continue to fall, approaching pre-pandemic levels.

### 6. India Needs Average Annual 7.6% GDP Growth To Become Developed By 2047: RBI

India could become a developed country by 2047 with an average annual real GDP growth of 7.6 per cent over the next 25 years, said an article published by the Reserve Bank in its July bulletin. During 2022-23, India recorded a growth of 7.2 per cent. The RBI's projection for GDP growth for the current fiscal year is 6.5 per cent.

### 7. HDFC Bank crosses \$100 billion valuation, becomes world's 7th largest bank

Days after its merger with HDFC Ltd, HDFC Bank joined the exclusive club of companies with a market capitalisation of \$100 billion. This makes it the seventh-largest lender globally. The bank's market capitalisation crossed \$150 billion, making it bigger than Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs and Bank of China.

### 8. IMF raises India's growth forecast to 6.1% for current fiscal

International Monetary Fund (IMF) has raised India's growth forecast, projecting a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 6.1 per cent in the current fiscal. In the World Economic Outlook that was released in April, the IMF had projected India's GDP at 5.9 per cent in the current fiscal.

### 9. India's per capita income set to grow by 70% to \$4,000 by 2030: Standard Chartered Bank report

In a recent research report, Standard Chartered Bank has said that it predicts India's per capita income is poised to experience significant growth, soaring by nearly 70 per cent to reach \$4,000 by fiscal 2030, up from \$2,450 in fiscal 2023. This surge is expected to help the country achieve the status of a middle-income economy, boasting a GDP of \$6 trillion.

### National

#### 1. Dream11 secures BCCI lead sponsor rights for Rs 358 crore

Fantasy gaming platform Dream11 on Friday won the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)'s lead sponsor rights for Rs 358 crore. Byju's had an optional agreement with the BCCI until November, but they decided to end the contract in March. Since then, Team India has been without a jersey sponsor and

even played the recent World Test Championship final without one.

## [2. Home Minister Amit Shah approves release of Rs 6,194 cr disaster relief fund to 19 states](#)

Home Minister Amit Shah today approved the release of over Rs 6,194 crore to 19 State governments under the State Disaster Response Fund(SDRF).

The amount includes Rs 1,209.60 crore as central share of SDRF to four states -- Chhattisgarh, Meghalaya, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh -- for 2022-23.

## [3. Centre announces Tomato Grand Challenge hackathon](#)

The Centre has announced the Tomato Grand Challenge (TGC) hackathon aimed at addressing the availability and affordability of tomatoes for consumers and ensuring fair value for tomato farmers. The challenge has invited innovative ideas across the tomato value chain. Winning ideas will be evaluated, developed into prototypes, and implemented on a large scale.

## [4. India's first domestically built 700 MW nuclear reactor starts commercial operation in Gujarat](#)

India's first indigenously developed 700 MW nuclear power reactor at the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Gujarat started

commercial operations. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) is building two 700 MW pressurised heavy water reactors (PHWRs) at Kakrapar, which is also home to two 220 MW power plants.

## [5. World Bank approves USD 255.5 million loan to improve technical education in India](#)

The World Bank has approved a USD 255.5 million loan to assist India in raising the standard of its technical education and expanding the number of jobs prospects available to students. More than 3,50,000 students will benefit annually from the project's assistance of 275 government-run technical institutes.

## [6. NCUI collaborates with Google Cloud to launch an E-commerce Application to empower Indian coopera](#)

Cooperative body National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), partnered with Google Cloud to launch its e-commerce application for Indian cooperatives. The launch took place at the two-day 17th Indian Cooperative Congress (ICC) on July 1-2, 2023 in New Delhi.

## [7. Prime Minister Modi inaugurates Sai Hira Global Convention Centre in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh](#)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the next 25 years of India's Independence is going to be "Kartavya Kaal" as the country is giving top priority to its "kartavya" (duties). The convention centre will be the centre of spiritual conferences and academic programs.

#### 8. Centre's Fiscal Deficit At 11.8% Of Full Year Target: CGA Data

The central government's fiscal deficit at the end of May stood at 11.8% of the full-year budget estimates for 2023-24.

The fiscal deficit was 12.3% of the 2022-23 budget estimates in the same period of the last year.

In the Union Budget, the government aimed to bring down the fiscal deficit during the current financial year 2023-24 to 5.9% of the GDP

#### 9. Amit Shah to inaugurate conclave on Primary Agricultural Credit Societies on July 14

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate a day-long conclave to discuss ways to strengthen Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) through Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in the national capital.

The PACS have a huge member base of around 13 crore farmers,

out of which more than 86 percent of farmers in the country are small and marginal. Currently, there are more than 95000 PACS, of which only about 63,000 PACS are functional

#### 10. Urban 20 (U20) Mayoral Summit concludes with handover of the Communique to G20 Leaders

The two-day Urban 20 Mayoral Summit, hosted by the chair city Ahmedabad, in Gandhinagar, concluded with the handover of the Communique from the Mayors to G20 leaders.

The Communique was officially endorsed by 105 cities across the world, the highest ever number of endorsements received to date for any U20 Communique. The Communique is aligned with the G20 theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'

#### 11. Agri Ministry asks banks to promote Rs 1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund

The Agriculture Ministry asked banks to promote Rs 1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) for creation of necessary infrastructure in the farm sector. The AIF is a financing facility launched on July 8, 2020 for creation of post-harvest management infrastructure and community farm assets.



## 12. Cabinet approves changes to Jan Vishwas Bill to decriminalise offences in 42 laws

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday cleared the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2022 that proposes to decriminalise various offences in 42 laws, including minor ones that invite jail term.

The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2022 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on December 22, 2022 and its aim is to reduce the compliance burden on individuals and business

## 13. Centre releases Rs 7,532 crore to states under SDRF

The finance ministry on Wednesday released Rs 7,532 crore to 22 state governments under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) amid rain causing havoc in the northern parts of the country. The State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) has been constituted in each state under Section 48 (1) (a) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

## 14. Union Cabinet clears commercial mining of lithium & 5 other critical minerals

The Union Cabinet Wednesday approved amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, that will pave

the way for commercial mining of six critical minerals ' lithium, beryllium, niobium, tantalum, titanium and zirconium ' and deep-seated minerals like gold, silver and copper.

## 15. Centre Exempts Satellite Launch Services From GST

In order to support new businesses, the GST Council exempted satellite launch services provided by ISRO, Antrix Corporation Limited, and New Space India Limited (NSIL) from GST. This may also be extended to similar services provided by private sector firms. This decision will enable companies to provide competitive prices to launch satellites.

## 16. G20: Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting to be held in Gandhinagar

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Dr Shaktikanta Das will jointly chair a meeting of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) to be held on July 17-18 in Gandhinagar where 66 delegations will be in attendance.

## 17. 3rd Sherpas G20 meeting to begin in Hampi, Karnataka

The third Sherpas meeting under India's G20 Presidency will begin in Hampi in Karnataka.

Chaired by India's G20 Sherpa, Amitabh Kant, the three days meeting on the banks of river Tungabhadra near UNESCO World Heritage site Hampi will deliberate and engage in co-authoring the Leaders Declaration to be adopted by the G20 leaders in New Delhi Summit.

### 18. President of India to present the 'Bhoomi Samman' 2023 on 18th July, 2023

The President of India will present the 'Bhoomi Samman' 2023 on 18th July 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi to 9 State Secretaries and 68 District Collectors along with their teams who have excelled in achieving saturation of the core components of Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) ' the core of Governance.

### 19. Back Surat Diamond Bourse becomes world's largest office building, surpasses US Pentagon

India has surpassed the US in one significant thing--having the world's largest office building. Gujarat has a record-breaking building to house its mammoth diamond industry. According to a report by CNN, the newly-opened Surat Diamond Bourse consists of 15-storey complex, built across more than 35 acres of land.

### 20. Lavasa, India's first private hill station, sold for Rs 1.8k crore

In a move that will address claims of hundreds of homebuyers and lenders, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has cleared the sale of India's first private hill station, Lavasa, to Darwin Platform Infrastructure. The NCLT order approving the resolution plan submitted by Darwin came after the lenders voted in favour of the resolution plan.

### 21. Amit Shah lays foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Andhra Pradesh

Union Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of 108 feet tall statue of Lord Shri Ram in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh through video conferencing.

The statue will be built at a cost of over 500 crore rupees.

The statue to be installed in Mantralayam will give the message of Sanatan Dharma to the entire world, and it will strengthen the Vaishnava tradition.

### 22. Airtel becomes first ICT provider to link over 20 million IoT devices

Bharti Airtel announced it has become the first Information and Communications Technology service provider in India to connect over 20 million devices through its Internet of Things solutions. IoT



describes the network of physical objects embedded with sensors, software, and other technologies for the purpose of connecting and exchanging data with other tech using internet.

### [23. In-Principle approval to set up 21 new Greenfield Airports in country](#)

Government of India has accorded 'In-Principle' approval for setting up of 21 new Greenfield Airports namely- Mopa in Goa, Navi Mumbai, Shirdi and Sindhudurg in Maharashtra, Kalaburagi, Vijayapura, Hassan and Shivamogga in Karnataka, Dabra (Gwalior) in Madhya Pradesh, Kushinagar and Noida (Jewar) in Uttar Pradesh.

### [24. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will dedicate 1.25 lac PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras to Nation](#)

In a bid to provide help to farmers in cultivation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate 1.25 lakh centres of 'Pradhanmantri Kisan Samridhi Kendras (PMKSK) at a special function in Rajasthan's Sikar district on 27 July. The launch of PMKSKs will provide solutions to farmers on needs related to agricultural inputs, seeds, fertilisers, and testing facilities.

### [25. PM inaugurates International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre - 'Bharat Mandapam'](#)

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to nation the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC) complex at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi and urged the nation to move ahead with the principle of 'Think Big, Dream Big, Act Big'. The complex has been named, 'Bharat Mandalam'. He also unveiled the G-20 coin and G-20 stamp at the grand opening ceremony.

### [26. Govt to consider PLI scheme for chemicals and petrochemicals industry](#)

The government will consider the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for Chemicals and Petrochemicals sector to make India a manufacturing hub for such products. In view of stringent pollution control regulations and rising labour cost, global manufacturers in the chemical industry are looking at diversifying their products and production capability.

### [27. TRAI releases Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Repealing Regulations, 2023](#)

The Ministry of Communications underlined TRAI's Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Repealing Regulations, 2023 (02 of 2023) dated 25 July 2023 to repeal the Regulation on quality of service

of dial-up and leased line internet access service, 2001 (4 of 2001) with effect from the date of its notification in the official gazette.

### 28. Government Prohibits Export Of Non-Basmati White Rice

Government of India has amended the Export Policy of Non Basmati White Rice from 'Free with export duty of 20%' to 'Prohibited'. The step has been taken to ensure adequate availability of Non Basmati White Rice in the Indian market. The domestic prices of Rice are on an increasing trend. The retail prices have increased by 11.5% over a year and 3% over the past month.

### 29. Bengaluru becomes first Indian city to join World Cities Culture Forum

Bengaluru has become the first Indian city to become part of the World Cities Culture Forum a global network of cities that share research and intelligence, and explore the role of culture in future prosperity. The network currently has 40 cities spanning six continents. Bengaluru being the latest addition is set to join the league of cities like New York, London, Paris.

### 30. Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani to inaugurate the G20 EMPOWER Summit in Gandhinagar

The G20 EMPOWER Summit is set to take place on August 1, 2023, at the Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

The summit, organised around the theme- 'Women-Led Development: ensuring a sustainable, inclusive, and equitable global economic growth', will witness the participation of delegates from across G20 nations, invited guest countries and international organisations.

### International

#### 1. New Zealand says it's the first to ban thin plastic bags from supermarkets

New Zealand will become the first country to ban the thin plastic bags that supermarket customers use to collect their fruit and vegetables. The new ban will also extend to plastic straws and silverware, as the government expands a campaign against single-use plastics it started in 2019 when it banned the thicker plastic shopping bags that customers used to carry home.

#### 2. China's Qu-Dongyu re-elected unopposed as head of FAO

In a significant development at the ongoing FAO Conference in Rome, Qu Dongyu has been re-elected unopposed as the head of the United Nations' Food and

Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the period 2023-2027.

### [3. NATO's Jens Stoltenberg to stay on as chief for another year](#)

NATO members has extended the tenure of the alliance's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg by one year, following failed efforts to settle on a consensus successor for the role. The announcement comes a week before the NATO leaders summit in Vilnius, Lithuania that is sure to be dominated by the Western military alliance's response to the conflict in Ukraine. NATO Headquarter: Brussels, Belgium

### [4. China releases its first open-source computer operating system](#)

China has released its first homegrown open-source desktop operating system, named 'OpenKylin' as the country steps up efforts to cut reliance on U.S. technology. It is based on the existing open-source Linux operating system. China's version was built by a community of about 4,000 developers, and is used in its space programme and industries such as finance and energy.

### [5. Latvia: Edgars Rinkevics sworn in as EU's first openly gay president](#)

In Latvia, longest-serving Foreign Minister Edgars Rinkevics became the first openly gay head of state in the European Union(EU). Rinkevics

sworn in as the country's new President who has pledged to fight for inclusion and equality.

Rinkevics was foreign minister from 2011 until his official resignation in July 2023. Latvia capital is Riga.

### [6. NATO leaders gather in Lithuania for key summit](#)

NATO leaders are gathering in Lithuania for a crucial summit that could shape the direction of the war in Ukraine and the future of the Western alliance.

The 31 allies hope to show Russia they have the resolve to support Ukraine militarily for the long term. They arrive with a welcome boost after Turkey dropped its objections to Sweden joining the alliance.

### [7. UAE becomes first Arab country to get observer status at Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering](#)

A delegation from the UAE is participating with observer status in the plenary of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG), a Financial Action Task Force-Style regional body (FSRB), taking place this week in Vancouver, Canada. The UAE is the first Arab country to be granted observer status at the APG.

### [8. EIB keen to extend 1 bn euro for green hydrogen, RE projects in India](#)

European Investment Bank (EIB) it is keen to extend finance of 1 billion euros for the development of green hydrogen and renewable energy projects in India.

EIB Vice-President Kris Peeters will make a four-day business visit to India this week to strengthen cooperation with the Indian public and private sectors and discuss EIB support for clean energy investment. The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the lending institution of the EU member states.

### [9. India-UAE: Joint Statement on Climate Change](#)

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, and Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) recognized the urgent need to address the global challenge of climate change through global collective action while respecting the foundational principles and obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on the Climate Change (UNFCCC) UAE is the host country of COP28 in 2023.

### [10. BIMSTEC foreign ministers meeting begins in Bangkok](#)

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

Foreign Ministers' Retreat began in Thailand capital city Bangkok. BIMSTEC is an economic and technical initiative which brings together the countries of the Bay of Bengal for multifaceted cooperation.

### [11. Spain fines Apple, Amazon \\$218 mn for elbowing out small retailers](#)

Amazon and Apple were fined a total of 194 million euros (USD 218 million) for colluding to box out competitors by favouring sales of Apple products directly from the online retail giant, Spain's antitrust watchdog said. Apple was fined 143.6 million euros (USD 161 million), while Amazon received a fine of 50.5 million euros (USD 56.7 million).

### [12. Elon Musk rebrands Twitter to 'X,' replaces iconic bird logo](#)

Elon Musk has unveiled a new 'X' logo to replace Twitter's famous blue bird as he follows through with a major rebranding of the social media platform he bought for \$44 billion. The company first began its transition to X in April, when the name of Twitter Inc. changed to X Corp., according to court filings.

### [13. Indian-American policy expert Nisha Biswal becomes Deputy Chief Executive Officer of US finance agency](#)



Indian-American policy expert Nisha Biswal is confirmed by the Senate to serve as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a US finance agency.

Ms. Biswal will serve as the Deputy CEO of the United States International Development Finance Corporation

## Sports

### 1. India beat Iran to win Asian Kabaddi Championship in Busan, South Korea

The Indian men's kabaddi team won the 11th edition of the Asian Kabaddi Championship beating Iran 42-32 in the final in Busan, South Korea. This is India's eighth title in nine editions.

Six teams - India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Chinese Taipei and Hong Kong - participated in the Championships. Pawan Sehrawat was the captain of Indian Kabaddi team in this tournament.

### 2. Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra clinches Lausanne Diamond League title.

Neeraj Chopra clinched the Lausanne Diamond League 2023 title with the best throw of 87.66 meters in the 5th attempt. This is his second successive Diamond League victory.

Germany's Julian Webber slid secured second place with a best

throw of 87.03 meter while Jakub Vadlech of the Czech Republic got third place with an 86.13 meter throw. In September 2022, Neeraj became the first Indian athlete to win the Diamond Trophy.

### 3. Yuki Bhambri wins maiden ATP doubles title in Mallorca, Spain

In Tennis, India's Yuki Bhambri clinched his maiden title on the ATP World Tour, winning the doubles trophy at the Mallorca Championships with South African partner Lloyd Harris, in Spain. The 30-year-old Indian Bhambri, who is ranked 75 in the ATP doubles tennis rankings, is all set to jump up to a career-best 58th position in the standings.

### 4. Mirabai Chanu & Bindyarani Devi selected in the selected in the 4-member Indian weightlifting team for the Hangzhou Asian Games

Tokyo Olympic Silver medalist Mirabai Chanu headlines the India Weightlifting team for the upcoming Asian Games.

The four-member also includes the Commonwealth Gold medalist Bindyarani Devi. Mirabai will participate in the 49 kg category, while Bindyarani will feature in the 55 kg.

### 5. SAFF Championship final: India wins 5-4 in penalties; Sunil Chhetri wins Golden Boot, Golden Ball



The Indian football team beat Kuwait 5-4 in a penalty shootout after the final was tied at 1-1 after regulation time.

India, who are 100th in the latest FIFA rankings, won their ninth SAFF Championship 2023 in 14 editions.

This was India's second silverware on the trot after clinching the Intercontinental Cup last month. Indian Football team, head coach Igor Stimac

**6. World Archery Youth Championships: Indian pair Priyansh & Avneet Kaur win gold in junior mixed team compound event in Ireland**

Indian archers Priyansh and Avneet Kaur won gold in the junior mixed team compound event, defeating Israel in the final of the World Archery Youth Championships in Limerick, Ireland.

It was a nail-biting contest wherein the Indian players beat Israel with a close score of 146-144.

**7. In archery, Parth Salunkhe becomes first Indian to win Youth World Championship in recurve category**

Parth Salunkhe became the first male archer to win a gold in the recurve category at the Youth World Championships as India finished with their highest-ever tally of 11 medals. The 19-year-old from

Satara in Maharashtra defeated Korean Song Injun in the Under-21 men's recurve individual final, Limerick, Ireland.

**8. Canada Open 2023: Lakshya Sen beats Li Shi Feng in straight sets to clinch title**

Indian Badminton player Lakshya Sen defeated China's Li Shi Feng in straight sets 21-18 and 22-20 to clinch the men's singles title at the Canada Open 2023.

21-year-old Lakshya Sen triumphed over the reigning All England Champion Li Shi Feng by winning the first set by 21-18 and the second set by 22-20.

**9. Archery: Parth Salunkhe becomes first Indian to win Youth World Championship**

Parth Salunkhe became the first Indian male archer to win a gold in the recurve category of the Youth World Championships as the country's contingent finished with its highest-ever tally of 11 medals. The 19-year-old from Satara in Maharashtra provided the perfect icing on the cake by defeating a Korean in the Under-21 men's recurve individual final.

**10. Wanindu Hasaranga, Ashleigh Gardner bag ICC Player of the Month awards for June 2023**

Sri Lanka spinner Wanindu Hasaranga and Australian women's

team all-rounder Ashleigh Gardner were on Tuesday named ICC's 'Player of the Month' for their impressive performances in June. Hasaranga clinched the award following his record-breaking feats at the World Cup Qualifier games in Zimbabwe.

### 11. Historic Victory for Team India at International Biology Olympiad

Team India achieved a monumental feat at the 34th International Biology Olympiad held in Al Ain, UAE, from July 2 to July 11, 2023. For the first time in the history of the competition, all four students representing Team India clinched gold medals, showcasing their exceptional talent and knowledge in the field of biology.

### 12. Praveen Kumar wins bronze in Para Athletics Worlds, books 2024 Paris Paralympics berth

India's Praveen Kumar won a bronze in the men's high jump T64 event in the World Para Athletics Championships here to book a 2024 Paris Paralympics quota.

The 20-year-old Kumar produced a season's best effort of 2.01m to finish third behind Lepiato Maciej (2.05m) of Poland and Broom-Edwards Jonathan (2.05m) of Great Britain. Kumar's medal is the first for India in the championships.

### 13. Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Shri Anurag Singh Thakur unveils trophy for Hero Asian Champions Trophy 2023

Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports and Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Thakur unveiled the coveted trophy for Hero Asian Champions Trophy, Chennai 2023 at the Major Dhyanchand National Stadium in New Delhi.

Hero Asian Champions Trophy, Chennai 2023 will begin from August 3rd, 2023. India, Korea, Malaysia, Japan, Pakistan, and China will vie for the Title.

### 14. Asian Athletics Championships: India's Jyothi Yarraji wins historic gold medal in women's 100m hurdles

Jyothi Yarraji created history on Thursday by becoming the first-ever Indian woman athlete to win a gold medal in women's 100m hurdles at the ongoing Asian Athletics Championships in Bangkok.

The 23-year-old, who, in 2023 itself, ran sub-13 seconds six times, clocked 13.09 seconds at the Asian meet to finish first.

### 15. Services Sports Control Board boxers dominate 5th Junior Boys National Boxing Championships by claiming 8 of 13 gold medals..

Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) boxers dominated the 5th Junior Boys National Boxing Championships by claiming eight of the 13 gold medals on offer even as hosts Arunachal Pradesh ended up with the best-ever finish of one gold, three silver and two bronze medals at the Don Bosco campus.

#### 16. Asian Athletics Championships: Sports Minister Anurag Thakur hails athlete Parul Chaudhary on gold medal win

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Thakur hailed athlete Parul Chaudhary for putting up a determined performance and bagging a Gold medal in Women's 3000 metre Steeplechase Final at the Asian Athletics Championships.

#### 17. India shooter Prithviraj Tondaiman bags Bronze medal at ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Italy

In shooting, India shooter Prithviraj Tondaiman bagged the bronze medal in the men's trap event at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup Lonato 2023 in Italy.

Britain's Nathan Hales won the gold medal with 49 points while Qi Ying of the Republic of China bagged the silver medal with 48 points.

Prithviraj Tondaiman's bronze was India's only medal at the Lonato shooting meet.

18. Indian Shuttler Satwiksairaj Rankireddy sets Guinness world record for fastest badminton shot  
Star Indian Shuttler Satwiksairaj Rankireddy has set the Guinness world record for the fastest shot by a male player in badminton, recording a mindboggling 565 kilometres per hour with his smash during the game. Satwik, who along with his partner Chirag Shetty won the Indonesia Open recently, broke a decade-long record set in May 2013 by Malaysian Tan Boon Heong.

#### 19. Indian Surf Team wins bronze medal at Asian Surfing Championship in Maldives

Indian Surf Team won the bronze medal at the Asian Surfing Championship, held at Thulisdhoo Island in Maldives. 18 countries from Asia took part in this championship. The Surfing Federation of India sent a team comprising 4 senior Surfers in the men's category and 2 Surfers in the Under 18 category. 5 out of the 6 Surfers were from Tamilnadu.

#### 20. South Zone win Duleep Trophy, beat West Zone by 75 runs in the final

South Zone emerged champions of the Duleep Trophy, beating West Zone by 75 runs on the concluding day of the final at the Chinnaswamy in Bangalore. West were bowled out

for 222, resuming at 182/5. Vidwath Kaverappa who made his first-class debut in the 2021-22 Ranji Trophy won the Man-of-the-Match and the Man-of-the-series awards.

### [21. Virat Kohli equals Sir Don Bradman's record of most test centuries](#)

Virat Kohli equals Sir Don Bradman's record of most test centuries after smashing his 29th ton in second test against West Indies in Trinidad. Skipper Rohit Sharma's 80 runs, Ravindra Jadeja's 61 and Ravichandran Ashwin's 56 helped India to post a massive total in their first innings.

### [22. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty win Korea Open 2023 men's doubles title in Yeosu Korea](#)

Asian Champions Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated world no. 1 Indonesian duo Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto in a thrilling 3-game men's doubles final 17-21, 21-13, 21-14 to clinch the Korea Open 2023 title in Yeosu, Korea on 23rd July 2023.

### [23. India finish 2nd on medals tally at ISSF World Championship in South Korea](#)

India finished 2nd on the medals tally at the recently concluded ISSF Junior Shooting World Championships 2023 in Changwon, South Korea. Indian shooters

bagged 17 medals, which include 6 Gold, 6 Silver, and 5 Bronze. The championships saw 90 Indian shooters vie for medals in pistol, rifle, and shotgun competitions in the under-21 age category.

### [24. Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurates Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Greater Noida](#)

Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2023 in Greater Noida. The event is being held in India for the first time. The international event will see the participation of more than 30 Indian weightlifters, including many Khelo India Athletes.

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## 26. Shooter Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar clinches Gold medal at FISU World University Games in Chengdu, China

Shooter Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar clinched Gold medal for India on the 2nd day of FISU World University Games in Chengdu, China.

Olympian Tomar, competing in men's 50 meter rifle three positions, secured the top podium by scoring a total of 461.7 points in the final.

With this, India have now a gold, silver and bronze each in shooting.

### Agreements & MoUs

#### 1. Defence ministry inks Rs 2,725 cr contract with MDL for refit of submarine

The Ministry of Defence signed a contract on June 30 for medium refit with life certification (MRLC) of sub-surface killer class of submarine INS Shankush with M/S Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd, Mumbai at an overall cost of Rs 2,725 crore.

Shankush is a Sub-Surface Killer (SSK) class submarine.

The submarine post MRLC will be delivered in 2026.

#### 2. National Anti-Doping Agency, India signs a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with South

#### Asia Regional Anti-Doping Organisation

National Anti-Doping Agency, India signed an MoU with SARADO, comprising of Anti-Doping Organizations of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka, at the NADA India ' SARADO Cooperation Meet in New Delhi. The MoU aims to increase the Regional Cooperation in anti doping in sport.

#### 3. MoU signed to establish 1st campus of IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Ministry of Education and Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK), and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) to establish 1st campus of IIT Delhi in Abu Dhabi. IIT Delhi ranked among the world's top 50 institutions for engineering and technology.

#### 4. India, UAE sign MoU on linking of India's Unified Payments Interface with Instant Payment Platform of UAE

India and the UAE has signed three MoUs in banking and education sectors. The MoUs in the banking sector pertain to the use of local currencies for cross-border transactions and cooperation for interlinking their payment and



messaging systems. Under the MOU in the education sector, the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi will set up an IIT campus in Abu Dhabi.

#### 5. India and UAE signed historic Memorandum of Understanding on LCS system

In a significant move to strengthen economic ties, India and the United Arab Emirates have signed a historic Memorandum of Understanding on the Local Currency Settlement (LCS) system. This groundbreaking agreement, signed between the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of the UAE, aims to revolutionize cross-border transactions between the two nations.

#### 6. Meta, Microsoft Team Up to Offer New AI Software for Businesses

Microsoft will release a new version of Meta Platforms' artificial-intelligence language model in a partnership between the tech giants that will make the software available to companies for the first time. The Meta AI model, dubbed Llama 2, will be free and available to developers building software on Microsoft's Azure cloud-computing platform.

#### 7. UNDP India joins hands with Absolute to further sustainable agriculture practices under PMFBY

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Absolute, a bioscience company signed a MoU to strengthen the government of India's flagship Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana and enhance the resilience of the farmers. The partnership between UNDP India and Absolute aims to enhance the implementation of the PMFBY and the Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme.

#### 8. 'India AI' and Meta, India sign MoU to foster advancements in AI & Emerging Technologies

In order to foster collaboration in the field of AI and Emerging Technologies, 'India AI' an IBD under Digital India Corporation and Meta, India have signed an MoU. The objective of the MoU is to establish a framework for collaboration and cooperation between 'India AI' and Meta in the field of Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technologies.

#### 9. IOC signs \$7-9 billion LNG import deal with UAE's ADNOC Gas

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd's recently signed long-term liquefied natural gas purchase deal with Abu Dhabi's ADNOC Gas is valued at \$7-9 billion, the United Arab Emirate -based gas major. The agreement, which was inked during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to

France and the UAE, is for supply of up to 1.2 million tonnes per annum of LNG for 14 years from 2024.

#### 10. ADB, India sign \$200 million loan for expanding urban services in Rajasthan

The Government of India and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$200 million loan as additional financing for the ongoing Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project to expand water supply and sanitation systems and enhance urban resilience and heritage living in selected towns.

#### 11. India, ADB sign 295 million dollar loan agreement to upgrade around 265 Km State highways in Bihar

The Government of India and Asian Development Bank signed a 295 million dollar loan agreement to upgrade around 265 kilometer State highways in Bihar. It supports the government of Bihar's programme to upgrade all State highways to standard two-lane widths and improve road safety. The improved roads will enhance connectivity in some of Bihar's poorest rural districts.

#### 12. India signs MoU with Papua New Guinea on sharing INDIA STACK

As a follow-up to the first Global DPI Summit was organised by Ministry of Electronics and IT on June 12-13, 2023 in Pune. Meity of

the Republic of India and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) of the Papua New Guinea signed a Memorandum of Understanding on sharing INDIA STACK i.e., successful digital solutions implemented at population scale.

#### 13. India AI, Meta India Ink Pact To Spur Advancements In AI, Emerging Tech

India AI and Meta India signed a pact to foster collaboration in the field of AI and emerging technologies, making Meta's open-source AI models available for use by the Indian ecosystem, according to an official release. India AI is an Independent Business Unit under Digital India Corporation.

### Schemes

#### 1. Government notifies draft framework for formation of India's first carbon market

The Union ministry of power has notified the much-anticipated carbon credit trading scheme, 2023. The notification said the Centre will constitute a 'National Steering Committee for the Indian carbon market' to govern and oversee the functions of the market.

The secretary, ministry of power will be the ex-officio chairperson of the committee. Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) has

been mandated to regulate the market

## 2. Bank of India rolls out Mahila Samman Savings Certificate scheme

Bank of India (BoI) has rolled out Mahila Samman Savings Certificate scheme. The scheme was announced in the Union Budget 2023-24. The scheme offers an interest rate of 7.5 per cent per annum, compounded quarterly.

## 3. Ministry of Home Affairs, launches 'Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States'

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs, has launched a 'Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States' from the earmarked allocation of Preparedness and Capacity Building Funding Window under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for strengthening fire services in the States with a total outlay of Rs. 5,000 crore.

## 4. Carl Zeiss To Invest 250 Million Euros In India To Build Its Largest Lens Factory

Carl Zeiss India is set to construct its largest spectacle lens production facility in Bengaluru, with an investment of over 250 million euros.

The construction of the facility will commence next month on the land acquired two years ago. The expected completion date for the project is October 2024.

## 5. Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurates National Mega Conclave on FPO in Cooperative Sector

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah inaugurated the National Mega Conclave on Farmers Producer Organisation, FPO in the cooperative sector and released the action plan for formation of 1,100 new FPOs by Primary Agricultural Credit Societies in New Delhi.

## 6. DGFT implements the Advance Authorisation Scheme, allows duty-free import of inputs for export purposes

Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) implements the Advance Authorisation Scheme under the Foreign Trade Policy, which allows duty-free import of inputs for export purposes.

The eligibility of inputs is determined by Sector-specific Norms Committees based on input-output norms.

## 7. First ever 'Credit Guarantee Scheme' for Livestock Sector launched for rebooting rural economy by leveraging MSMEs

Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is implementing the Credit Guarantee Scheme under Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) to strengthen credit delivery system and facilitate smooth flow of credit to the MSME.

### 8. One crore 19 lakh houses sanctioned under PMAY-U so far: Govt in RS

The government informed the Rajya Sabha that around one crore 19 lakh houses have been sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban, PMAY-U so far. In a written reply in the Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Kaushal Kishore said that of the sanctioned houses, around one crore 12 lakh houses have been grounded for construction.

### 9. Product basket of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana increases to 1,800 medicines & 285 Surgical Equipment

The product basket of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana has increased to 1,800 medicines and 285 Surgical equipment. These products are available at 50 to 90 percent lower prices compared to the market. The Chemicals and Fertilisers Ministry said, the Government has decided

to open 10,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras by the 31st of December this year in the country.

### 10. Punjab top beneficiary list under Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana

Punjab is the leading beneficiary among states under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY), a scheme initiated by the Centre during the pandemic to give a fillip to formal employment.

According to data, one in every five active Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) subscribers in the state joined the workforce.

### 11. FAME III corpus may jump to '30,000 cr

The central government may triple subsidy allocation for electric vehicle (EV) purchases in the third edition of the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric Vehicles in India (FAME) programme amid the rising popularity of EVs in India. Allocation for the FAME III scheme may jump to around '30,000 crore from '10,000 crore earmarked for the current FAME II

### Appointments & Resignations

#### 1. Lt Gen M U Nair appointed as new National Cybersecurity Coordinator

The government has appointed Lt Gen M U Nair as the new National Cybersecurity Coordinator (NCSC). Lt Gen Nair, who assumed the role



of the 28th Signal Officer-in-Chief in July 2022, brings with him experience and expertise in the field of cyber warfare, signal intelligence, and communication and information technology. He is the third cyber security chief after Lt Gen Rajesh Pant and 1st chief Gulshan Rai.

## 2. BCCI appoints Ajit Agarkar as chairman of Indian senior men's selection committee

Former India fast bowler Ajit Agarkar has been named chairman of selectors for the Indian men's team by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

The Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC), consisting of Sulakshana Naik, Ashok Malhotra, and Jatin Paranjape, unanimously recommended Ajit Agarkar.

## 3. FPSB India appoints Krishan Mishra as CEO

The Financial Planning Standards Board of India (FPSB India) has appointed Krishan Mishra as Chief Executive Officer.

FPSB India is the Indian subsidiary of FPSB, the global standards-setting body for the financial planning profession and owner of the international Certified Financial Planner (CFP) certification program

## 4. Govind Kottis Satish becomes 1st Indian to be appointed on Russian oil giant Rosneft's board

Rosneft, the Russian energy giant, has made a significant move towards enhancing trade ties with India by appointing a former Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) director to its board. GK Satish, who retired as IOC's director for business development in 2021, is one of 3 new members joining Rosneft's 11-member board of directors.

Igor I Sechin, CEO & chairman of Rosneft's board.

## 5. Justice AP Sahi Gets Appointed As The New Chairman Of NCDRC

Justice AP Sahi, the Former Chief Justice of Madras and Haryana High Courts has been appointed as the new Chairman of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) for a period of four-year term.

NCDRC is a quasi-judicial body created in 1988 under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986. Its head office is in New Delhi.

## 6. K. Rajaraman appointed as new chairperson of IFSCA

The government announced the appointment of K Rajaraman as the next Chairperson of the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA).



His appointment is for a period of three years. He succeeds the first IFSCA Chairperson Injeti Srinivas who led the authority since 2020. At present, the GIFT IFSC is the maiden international financial services centre in India.

#### 7. ITC board reappoints Sanjiv Puri as chairman & managing director

ITC Ltd's board has recommended the re-appointment of Sanjiv Puri as the company's chairman & managing director for a period of five years, effective 22 July, 2024. Puri, 60, was appointed as chief executive officer in February 2017 and re-designated as the managing director in May 2018.

#### 8. Ritesh Chauhan (IAS) gets additional charge as MD of NAFED

Ritesh Chauhan (IAS) has been appointed as Managing Director (MD) of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED).

NAFED an apex organisation of marketing cooperatives for agricultural produce in India, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.

#### 9. Ms. Nivruti Rai appointed as Managing Director & CEO of Invest India

Ms. Nivruti Rai joined as the Managing Director & CEO of Invest India on July 12, 2023. She has taken

over the charge from Ms. Manmeet K Nanda, Joint Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) who had assumed this additional charge of MD & CEO ad-interim in March 2023.

#### 10. Rakesh Pal appointed as 25th Director General of Indian Coast Guard

Rakesh Pal has been appointed as the 25th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard.

The Indian Coast Guard came into being on 01st Feb 1977 with a fleet strength of just seven ships for surveillance in the Indian waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone, The Indian Coast Guard was formally inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai on 19th Aug 1978. V.A.Kamath, the first Director General of Indian Coast Guard.

#### 11. Admiral Lisa Franchetti becomes first woman to lead US Navy

Admiral Lisa Franchetti has become first woman in history to serve as the Chief of Naval Operations and member of Joint Chiefs of Staff. Franchetti, who is currently serving as the vice chief of naval operations, was commissioned in 1985 and has served as the commander of US Naval Forces Korea. She is the second woman

ever to achieve the rank of four-star admiral in the United State **Awards**

### 1. Boxing champion Mary Kom named Global Indian Icon at U.K.-India Awards

Sporting legend and India's first-ever Olympic medallist in women's boxing, MC Mary Kom, has been honoured with the Global Indian Icon of the Year award at the annual U.K.-India Awards in Windsor, south-eastern England.

The awards, now in their fifth year, honours leaders who strengthen bilateral ties in various sectors. She has won six women's world championship titles. She clinched bronze medal at the London 2012 Olympic Games.

### 2. CMD EIL conferred with Business Leader of the Year Award

Engineers India Limited's (EIL) C&MD Vartika Shukla EIL was donned with the Business Leader of the Year Award at the Donwards Downstream India Awards at the Global Refining and Petrochemicals Congress 2023 in New Delhi.

This award is conferred in recognition of C&MDs extensive contributions to the evolution and development of the hydrocarbons sector.

### 3. NMDC wins ASSOCHAM Awards for Mineral Development and Employer Brand

NMDC Limited won the 'Mineral Development Award' and the 'Employer Brand of the Year Award' at ASSOCHAM Business Excellence Awards 2023 in Kolkata.

Recognising NMDC's immense contribution to the mining sector, Industry, Commerce and Enterprise Department, Government of West Bengal presented the ASSOCHAM Awards to NMDC at the Indian Mining and Minerals Conclave 2023.

### 4. Coal India receives 'The Rising Star Award' by GeM

Coal India Limited (CIL) is the recipient of the Rising Star Award in appreciation of its outstanding efforts to enhance procurement through the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal in FY 2022'23. GeM CEO is PK Singh

### 5. Belgian tennis great Justine Henin receives the Philippe Chatrier Award

The International Tennis Federation has awarded Justine Henin its highest honor, the Philippe Chatrier Award.

Henin won seven Grand Slam singles titles, an Olympic gold medal, and was part of Belgium's team that won the Fed Cup now

called the Billie Jean King Cup in 2001.

The award, named after the former ITF president, was introduced in 1996.

#### 6. ONGC becomes India's first PSU to get certified for Anti-Bribery Management System

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has become the first Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) in India to get certified for Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS) by an international accredited certification body InterCert USA.

Earlier in 2005, ONGC was the first organization in India that adopted the Integrity Pact (IP) by Transparency International.

#### 7. PM Modi conferred with France's highest award Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become the first Indian Prime Minister to have been conferred with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, France's highest civilian and military honour, by French President Emmanuel Macro.

The Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour given by France is another in a series of top international award bestowed by various countries on PM Modi.

#### 8. Adani Transmission Wins Golden Peacock Environment Management Award 2023

Adani Transmission Limited (ATL), the largest private sector transmission and distribution company listed in India and part of the globally diversified Adani portfolio, has won the 'Golden Peacock Environment Management Award (GPEMA)' in the 'Power Transmission' sector from 'Institute of Directors (IOD)'.

#### 9. SJVN bags 1st Prize in Swachhta Pakhwada Awards 2023 by MoP

SJVN Limited has been conferred with 1st Prize in Swachhta Pakhwada Awards 2023 by Ministry of Power. SJVN's Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) NL Sharma received the prize from Ministry of Power's Secretary Pankaj Agarwal in a ceremony at New Delhi.

The PSUs are evaluated on number of parameters for the initiatives undertaken to create awareness for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Last year also, SJVN has won the first prize.

#### 10. NTPC Wins ET HR World Future Skills Awards 2023

NTPC has received the prestigious Economic Times (ET) HR World Future Skills Awards 2023 for 'Best use of AI/AR/VR in Learning and Upskilling' and 'Best Advance in

Creating an Extended Enterprise Learning Programme'.

These awards bear testimony to NTPC's focus on the adoption of cutting-edge technologies such as virtual reality (VR) in Learning and Development (L&D).

#### 11. IIT professor wins global recognition with Eni Award for clean water innovations

Professor Thalappil Pradeep from IIT Madras has been honored with the esteemed Eni Award for his groundbreaking research in energy and environment. The award recognises his innovative work in providing affordable clean water using advanced nanoscale materials.

#### 12. JKRLM wins SKOCH Gold Award for Marketing Avenues to SHGs

Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM) has bagged the SKOCH Award under the theme "State of Governance India 2047" in Gold category for its outstanding efforts in creating marketing avenues for Self-Help Groups in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir. SKOCH award marks a significant milestone for JKRLM, being the first award received since the inception of the scheme.

#### 13. Italy Honours Indian Army contribution in 2nd World War

Remembering the supreme sacrifices of the Indian Soldiers, the Commune of Monotone (in Italy) and Italian Military historians have unveiled 'V.C Yeshwant Ghadge Sundial Memorial' at Montone (Perugia, Italy) as a tribute to the Indian troops who fought during Italian Campaign during the Second World War.

#### 14. Union Minister Shri Anurag Thakur confers 8th and 9th Community Radio Awards; inaugurates Regional Community Radio Sammelan

The Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Thakur today conferred the 8th and 9th National Community Radio Awards. The awards were conferred during the Inaugural Session of the two-day Regional Community Radio Sammelan (North) which was inaugurated by the Union Minister at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication in New Delhi.

#### 15. President of India confers National Geoscience Awards- 2022

The President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu has conferred the prestigious National Geoscience Awards- 2022 (NGA) of the Ministry of Mines in a glittering function organized at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre. The National Geoscience Award for Lifetime



Achievement was conferred upon Dr. Om Narain Bhargava.

### 16. Shankari Chandran, novelist of Sri Lankan descent, wins Australia's Miles Franklin Literary Award

Shankari Chandran won the 2023 Miles Franklin Literary Award for her novel Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens. The novel is set in the Cinnamon Gardens Nursing Home in the suburb of Westgrove, Sydney ' populated with residents with colourful histories.

### 17. Ratan Tata to get Maharashtra govt's first 'Udyog Ratna' award

The Maharashtra government has decided to confer the first 'Udyog Ratna' award on veteran industrialist and chairman emeritus of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata, state Industries minister Uday Samant has said. Awards for young entrepreneur, woman entrepreneur and Marathi entrepreneur will also be given, Samant announced in the state legislative council.

### 18. Byculla railway station gets UNESCO's Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award

The historic Byculla Railway Station in Mumbai has been awarded the prestigious UNESCO Asia Pacific Cultural Heritage award in recognition of its extensive restoration efforts. The award,

declared in November of the previous year, celebrates the station's significant contribution to cultural heritage conservation.

### 19. PM Narendra Modi to be conferred Lokmanya Tilak National Award in Pune

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a day's Pune tour tomorrow. During this, the Prime Minister will be honored with the Lokmanya Tilak National Award.

PM will be the 41st recipient of this award.

The award was instituted in 1983 by the Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust. This award is given every year on 1st August , the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak.

## Ranks & Reports

1. Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj Shri Kapil Moreshwar Patil releases Report on Panchayat Development Index  
Panchayat Development Index (PDI) Report has come with 144 local targets, 577 local indicators and 688 data points on 9 themes of LSDGs. PDI will act as a baseline for Panchayat for setting local targets & local action points with measurable indicators in preparation of thematic Gram Panchayat Development Plan.



## 2. Tamil Nadu emerges as India's top electronics exporter, triples exports to \$5.37 bn in FY23

Tamil Nadu's electronics exports nearly tripled in one year to \$5.37 billion in FY23 from \$1.86 billion in the previous year. From the fourth spot in FY22, Tamil Nadu moved to the top spot in FY23. Uttar Pradesh was second with \$4.90 billion and Karnataka third with \$4.52 billion. Tamil Nadu is now home to over 15 leading electronics manufacturers, including Foxconn.

## 3. New Mangalore Port sets record with largest container parcel vessel

The New Mangalore Port (NMP) achieved a milestone of vessel call by the highest ever parcel size of 2,689 TEUs (Twenty Equipment Units).

The record was set with the arrival of MSC Makoto II, a Panama-flagged container vessel, at NMP Berth No.14 today, carrying 1,210 TEUs of import containers and 1,479 TEUs of export containers.

## 4. Education Ministry releases Performance Grading Index for Districts combined report for 2020-21 & 2021-22

Education Ministry on 9th July 2023 released the PGI-D combined report for 2020-21 and 2021-22. The PGI-D structure comprises of total weight age of 600 points

across 83 indicators, which are grouped under 6 categories. These categories are further divided into 12 domains.

PGI-D grades the districts into ten grades. Highest achievable Grade is Daksh & lowest is Akanshi-3. PGI-D report for 2018-19 and 2019-20 has been released before this.

## 5. India to surpass US to become world's 2nd largest economy by 2075: Goldman Sachs

Goldman Sachs said India, the fifth-largest economy, will become the second largest economy in the world by 2075 surpassing not only Japan and Germany but also the United States.

According to the investment bank report the innovation and technology, higher capital investment and rising worker productivity to increase drastically due to the burgeoning population. Currently India is the world's fifth-largest economy, behind Germany, Japan, China and US

## 6. India registers remarkable reduction in poverty; 415 million people out of poverty level in just 15 years: UN

A total of 415 million people moved out of poverty in India within just 15 years from 2005/2006 to 2019/2021, the UN said

It said that 25 countries, including India, successfully halved their global MPI values within 15 years, showing that rapid progress is attainable. These countries include Cambodia, China, Congo, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Serbia, and Vietnam.

### 7. 21% unorganised workers exit PM pension scheme

The government's pension scheme for unorganised workers, Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM), saw the exit of about 21% subscribers in less than six months.

The total number of subscribers under the scheme fell to 4.43 million on July 11, down 1.19 million from an all-time high of 5.62 million on January 31, as per government data.

### 8. Sikkim tops northeast, UP among bigger states in grievance redressal

Sikkim has topped the northeastern states in addressing public complaints, followed by Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. The ranking was made in the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) monthly report, released by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) under the Personnel Ministry, for states for June 2023.

### 9. 13.5 crore Indians escape Multidimensional Poverty in 5 years.

A record 13.5 crore people moved out of multidimensional poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21 as per NITI Aayog's Report 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023'.

National MPI measures simultaneous deprivations across the three equally weighted dimensions of health, education, and standard of living that are represented by 12 SDG-aligned indicators. Uttar Pradesh registered the largest decline in number of poor with 3.43 crore people.

### 10. IEA launches Oil 2023 (Analysis & forecast to 2028) medium-term market report.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) in collaboration with Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) under the aegis of MoP&NG launched the Oil 2023 medium-term market report, titled: IEA Oil 2023 ' Supply and demand dynamics to 2028, in Delhi at an event that saw participation from the captains from the Indian oil and gas industry.

### 11. The Paths to Equality: Twin Indices on Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality

Only an abysmal 1 per cent of women across the world live in countries that have managed to achieve both high women empowerment and gender parity, according to a new report by the United Nations. The bodies collated data from 114 countries and analysed them based on the twin indices of Women's Empowerment Index (WEI) and the Global Gender Parity Index (GGPI).

**12. India's tiger population estimates to 3,925 with an annual growth rate of 6.1% per annum reveals a report released**

India's tiger population is estimated to be 3,925 with an annual growth rate of 6.1% per annum. This was revealed in a report released by Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Ashwini Kumar on the occasion of Global Tiger Day.

### Important Days

#### **1. National Doctors Day - July 1**

Government of India designated July 1st as National Doctor's Day in 1991 to commemorate the birth and death anniversary of Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy, one of India's most renowned physicians and the second Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Roy was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1961.

This year's theme for National Doctor's Day is 'Celebrating Resilience and Healing Hands'.

#### **2. National Chartered Accountants Day or CA Day - July 1**

CA Day is observed every year on July 1 to mark the establishment of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) in 1949 by an Act of Parliament in India. ICAI is the second-largest professional body of Chartered Accountants in the world.

To commemorate the start of its 75th-year celebrations, ICAI unveiled a new logo with the tagline: '75 Years of Trust'.

ICAI functions under the administrative control of the ministry of corporate affairs.

#### **3. State Bank of India (SBI) Celebrates 68th Foundation Day**

SBI Foundation Day is celebrated on July 1 every year to commemorate the day of the establishment of India's oldest commercial bank and SBI celebrates its 68th Foundation Day this year.

The origin of the State Bank of India goes back to the first decade of the nineteenth century with the establishment of the Bank of Calcutta in Calcutta on 2 June 180

#### **4. National Fish Farmers Day - July 10**

National Fish Farmer's Day is celebrated on 10th July every year to recognize and appreciate the invaluable contributions of fish farmers, aquaculture industry professionals and other stakeholders.

NFFD honours Professor Dr. Hiralal Chaudhury and his colleague Dr. K. H. Alikunhi who had guided the induced breeding and reproduction in Indian Major Carps in 1957 on this day.

#### [5. World Population Day | 11 JULY](#)

World Population Day is observed on July 11 each year.

World Population Day serves as a reminder to work towards addressing these issues and striving for a better future for everyone on the planet.

The annual observance aims to raise awareness and educate people about the global population and its associated challenges. The United Nations established World Population Day in 1989

#### [6. All-India Institute of Ayurveda organises a three days seminar on the occasion of Sushruta Jayanti](#)

The All-India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) is organizing a three-day seminar from 13-15th July 2023 on the auspicious occasion of Sushruta Jayanti-2023. Sushruta Jayanti is celebrated every year on 15th July

to honour the legendary Sushruta, hailed as the father of surgery.

#### [7. World Emoji Day | 17 July](#)

World Emoji Day, celebrated on July 17, recognizes the influential role emojis play in digital communication. The date was selected due to its significance in the world of emojis as the "Calendar" emoji displayed on platforms like Apple and Google features the date July 17.

#### [8. Nelson Mandela International Day | 18 July](#)

Every year the Nelson Mandela International Day is celebrated on July 18 to mark the birth anniversary of the legendary South African leader.

The day is celebrated to highlight the legacy of the anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader, and philanthropist, whose values continue to inspire generations and shape the world.

This year's theme is 'The Legacy Lives on Through You: : Climate, Food, and Solidarity.'

#### [9. International Moon Day | 20 July](#)

The General Assembly declared International Moon Day, a United Nations-designated international day to be observed annually on 20 July, in its resolution 76/76 on 'International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space' in



2021. International Moon Day marks the anniversary of the first landing by humans on the Moon as part of the Apollo 11 lunar mission. The theme for 2023 is 'Lunar Exploration Coordination & Sustainability.'

#### 10. World Chess Day | 20 July

International Chess Day is celebrated on July 20 every year with the aim to raise awareness about the game of chess and appreciate chess players across the world. Chess is known as the "game of kings" and is popular for its intellectual depth. UNESCO established International Chess Day in 1996 with the aim to honor the founding of the International Chess Federation, FIDE.

#### 11. PM Modi pays tributes to Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Chandra Shekhar Azad on their birth anniversary

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid his tributes to legendary freedom fighters Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Chandra Shekhar Azad on their birth anniversaries. Saluting Indian nationalist and freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Prime Minister Modi said in a tweet, Lokmanya Tilak shook the foundation of British rule by demanding complete Independence.

#### 12. National Broadcasting Day | 23 July

On this day in 1927, the first ever radio broadcast in the country went on air from the Bombay Station under a private company, the Indian Broadcasting Company. On the 8th of June, 1936, the Indian State Broadcasting Service became All India Radio (AIR). The Central News Organisation (CNO) came into existence in August 1937. The Vividh Bharati Service was launched in 1957.

#### 13. World Drowning Prevention Day | 25 July

World Drowning Prevention Day, declared in April 2021 by General Assembly resolution is held annually on 25 July. This global advocacy event serves as an opportunity to highlight the tragic and profound impact of drowning on families and communities and to offer life-saving solutions to prevent it.

#### 14. Kargil Vijay Diwas | 26 July

Kargil Vijay Divas or Kargil Diwas is observed every year on 26 July to honour India's victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War in 1999. As part of "Operation Vijay," the Indian Army drove out intruders from Pakistan during this conflict and reclaimed Tiger Hill and other outposts. At

Kargil in Ladakh, the conflict lasted for more than 60 days.

### 15. World Hepatitis Day [WHO] | 28 July

World Hepatitis Day is observed each year on 28 July to raise awareness of viral hepatitis, which causes inflammation of the liver that leads to severe disease and liver care. Hepatitis Day, initially observed on May 19, was later moved to July 28 in 2010. The World Hepatitis Alliance, established in 2007, organized the first community-driven World Hepatitis Day in 2008. The theme for World Hepatitis Day 2023 is "One life, one liver."

### 16. World Nature Conservation Day | 28 July

World Nature Conservation Day is recognised annually on 28 July. The main purpose of celebrating this day is to create awareness among people about the importance of the natural environment and its resources. NGOs and educational institutions organise several events to raise awareness about the importance of the conservation of nature.

### 17. International Tiger Day | 29 July

Global Tiger Day, commonly referred to as International Tiger Day, was first established in 2010 during the Saint Petersburg Tiger

Summit by nations that are home to tigers. The Global Tiger Initiative, a grouping of nations, international organisations, and conservation organisations committed to tiger conservation, organised the summit, which took place in St. Petersburg.

### 18. International Day of Friendship | 30 July

The International Day of Friendship was proclaimed in 2011 by the UN General Assembly with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities. The International Day of Friendship is an initiative that follows on the proposal made by UNESCO defining the Culture of Peace. 'Sharing the human spirit through friendship' is the theme of World Friendship Day.

### 19. World Day against Trafficking in Persons | 30 July

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is observed on 30 July was adopted at a high-level meeting of the UNGA. The resolution reaffirms the commitment of the United Nations to end trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and states that trafficking in persons is a serious threat to "human dignity and physical integrity, human rights and

development" 2023 Theme: Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind

### 20. World Ranger Day II 31 May

World Ranger Day is celebrated worldwide on July 31st to commemorate Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty and to celebrate the work Rangers do to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage. The 2023 World Ranger Day theme is '30 by 30' based on the 2022 United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15). It is an International Ranger Federation initiative promoted together with The Thin Green

### Summit & Conferences

#### 1. Mumbai to host the G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting from July 4-5,

Mumbai will host the G-20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Summit and Research Ministers' Meeting during 4th to 5th July, 2023.

A total of about 107 foreign delegates including Research Ministers from 29 G-20 members, invited guest countries and international organizations are likely to participate in the meeting.

#### 2. India to host SCO summit in virtual format today

India is set to host the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in the virtual format today (July 4). The summit will be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The three main issues that are anticipated to be on the agenda of the summit are terrorism, regional security and prosperity.

#### 3. Startup20 Shikhar summit under India's G20 presidency begins in Gurugram, Haryana

The Startup20 Shikhar summit under India's G20 presidency began in Gurugram, Haryana today. The Startup20 Engagement Group is hosting the two day Startup20 Shikhar summit. During the summit, startup 20 communique was released, which urged G20 leaders to raise the joint investment in the global startup ecosystem to one trillion US dollar by 2030.

#### 4. Power and New & Renewable Energy Minister to inaugurate International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH 2023) in New Delhi

The Government of India is organizing an International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2023) during 5th ' 7th July 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, to bring together the global scientific, policy, academic and industrial leaders to discuss recent advances and emerging

technologies in the entire green hydrogen value chain.

#### [5. Gov. of India and Govt. of Kenya will be co-hosting 'India-Africa International Millet Conference' in Kenya on August 2023](#)

To celebrate the International Year of Millets, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Government of Kenya will be co-hosting the 'India-Africa International Millet Conference' in Kenya with support of International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

#### [6. Third G20 Culture Working Group meeting in Hampi, Karnataka](#)

The 3rd G20 Culture Group (CWG) meeting began in Hampi, Karnataka on July 9.

An exhibition titled 'Woven Narratives' is being organized as part of the 3rd G20 CWG Meeting. The exhibition's theme focuses on the third priority outlined by the CWG - 'Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries and Creative Economy'.

The first two CWG meetings were held at Khajuraho and Bhubaneswar.

#### [7. 3rd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting begins in Kevadia, Gujrat](#)

After the successful completion of two TIWG meetings, the 3rd meeting will take place from July 10th-12th in Kevadia, Gujarat.

The three-day meeting will be attended by more than 75 delegates from G20 member countries, invitee countries, regional groupings and international organisations.

#### [8. India-ASEAN conference on traditional medicines on 20th July 2023](#)

India is going to hold an ASEAN countries conference on traditional medicines on July 20, 2023.

Ten ASEAN countries including Cambodia, Vietnam will be participating in the conference.

The Ministry of Ayush with support from the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian Mission to ASEAN and the ASEAN Secretariat is gearing up to host the conference.

#### [9. G20 Conference on Crime and Security in the Age of NFTs, AI & Metaverse held in Gurugram successfully concludes](#)

The G20 Conference on Crime and Security in the Age of NFTs, AI and Metaverse held in Gurugram successfully concluded with the release of the Chair's Summary. The conference aimed to address the challenges posed by cybercrime and security in the era of new



technologies like NFTs, AI, and Metaverse.

#### 10. Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addresses G20 Young Entrepreneurs Alliance Summit in New Delhi

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said successful launch of Chandrayaan-3 will boost Space StartUps and Space entrepreneurs.

#### 11. G20 Global Food Regulators Summit being held in New Delhi on 20th and 21st July

The Global Food Regulators Summit 2023 is being organized in Delhi for the first time, as a G20 event. The summit is being organized by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 20th and 21st July, 2023 at Manekshaw Auditorium, New Delhi.

This is the first time the summit is being held outside Rome.

#### 12. Ayush Ministry organizes Conference of India and ASEAN on traditional medicines in New Delhi

The Ministry of Ayush today organized a Conference of India and the Association of South East Asian

Nations (ASEAN) on traditional medicines in New Delhi. A total of 75 delegates from India and ASEAN participated in the Conference.

#### 13. Women-led Sustainable Development through Dairy Cooperatives - W20 Janbhagidari Event

Shri Parshottam Rupala, who addressed virtually, emphasized the role and importance of women in the dairy sector, mentioning their contribution to value-added product manufacturing, and highlighted that 18 dairy cooperatives are currently operated by women.

Smt. Alka Upadhyaya, Secretary of AHD, emphasized the significant contribution of women to the white revolution. 70 percent of the workforce in the dairy sector are women.

#### 14. PM Modi to inaugurate 'Semicon India 2023' in Gandhinagar on July 28

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate 'Semicon India 2023' in Gandhinagar on 28th of July. The exhibition will inform people about the manufacturing process of semiconductors and the progress made in this field. The exhibition will be open till 30th July. The national-level event will showcase the latest technology related to semiconductors.

### 15. 5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit to be organised on 25th July at Khajuraho, MP

The 5th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit is to be jointly organised by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Pawan Hans Ltd. and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) on 25th July 2023 in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh. event's theme is "Reaching the Last Mile: Regional Connectivity through Helicopters & Small Aircraft".

### 16. Third and final meeting of G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group begins in Chennai

The inaugural session of the 3rd G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, under the Indian Presidency, started in Chennai. The establishment of this Working Group is a testament to the commitment of all G20 countries to finally change from reacting to disasters to proactively addressing their root causes.

### 17. Think20 Summit under India's G20 Presidency to begin today in Mysuru, Karnataka

Observer Research Foundation (ORF), as the Think20 Secretariat under India's G20 Presidency, will host the Think20 Summit in Mysuru from today till August 2. Think20 is

the G20's official engagement group that serves as an 'ideas bank' for the multilateral grouping by bringing together think tanks and high-level experts to discuss policy issues relevant to the G20.

### Science & Technology

#### 1. Chandrayaan 3 spacecraft integrated with GSLV Mark III launch vehicle

Chandrayaan Three spacecraft has been integrated with GSLV Mark III launch vehicle at Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota spaceport

The launch is planned between 12 and 19th of this month. The Propulsion module will carry the lander and rover configuration till 100kms lunar orbit.

The Propulsion module will orbit the Moon as was done in Chandrayaan I and II.

#### 2. IISc Researchers, Collaborators Crack Structure Of Crucial Neural Transport Protein

Using 'Cryo-EM', a powerful microscopy technique, researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and collaborators have decoded the molecular architecture of a transporter protein controlling the movement of a key neurotransmitter.

Neurons or nerve cells communicate by releasing chemical signals called neurotransmitters.

### 3. Lupin Gets U.S. FDA Nod For Cyanocobalamin Nasal Spray

Pharma major Lupin Ltd. has received approval from the U.S. health regulator for its generic version of Cyanocobalamin nasal spray.

The approval granted by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is for the abbreviated new drug application for Cyanocobalamin nasal spray of strength 500 mcg/spray (one spray per device).

### 4. Chinese rocket becomes 1st methane-fueled launcher to reach orbit

A private Chinese company has launched the world's first methane-liquid oxygen space rocket into orbit. The Zhuque-2 carrier rocket blasted from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. The first launch attempt of the Zhuqu-2 in December had failed.

### 5. MoU signed between OneWeb India and Gujarat Government to set up India's first private satellite network

The Gujarat government has signed an MoU with London-based company OneWeb and the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India to

set up two 'Satellite Network Portal Sites'. One of the sites is to be launched in Jotana, Mehsana, Gujarat. The project is intended to provide high-speed, affordable, and secure satellite internet access across the country.

### 6. CERTIn cautions against ransomware 'Akira' attack

An Internet ransomware virus 'Akira' that steals vital personal information and encrypts data leading to extortion of money from people has been reported in cyberspace, the country's federal cybersecurity agency said in the latest advisory. This computer malware is targeting Windows and Linuxbased systems. 'Akira is reportedly active in cyberspace.

### 7. Jupiter-3, world's largest private satellite, set for launch by SpaceX's Falcon Heavy

SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket will launch Maxar Technologies' largest ever satellite, the Jupiter 3. The communications platform will join others in the Hughes Jupiter satellite fleet already in orbit, which provides broadband internet services to North and South America.

The satellite will be the world's largest commercial communications satellite once it's fully deployed.

## 8. ISRO rocket carrying seven Singaporean satellites lifts off from Sriharikota

ISRO launched its proven PSLV rocket carrying seven Singaporean satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre.

ISRO's trusted workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle is the DS-SAR Radar Imaging Earth Observation satellite, which has been developed under a partnership between DSTA (representing the Government of Singapore) and ST Engineering, Singapore.

## Defence

### 1. Japan, India Maritime Exercise- JIMEX23 commences in Visakhapatnam

The seventh edition of the bilateral Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2023 (JIMEX 23) hosted by the Indian Navy, is being conducted at/ off Visakhapatnam from 05 -10 July 2023.

This edition marks the 11th anniversary of JIMEX, since its inception in 2012

### 2. Indian Navy and US Navy Conduct Seventh Edition of SALVEX Exercise in Kochi

The Seventh edition of Indian Navy ' US Navy (IN ' USN) Salvage and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) exercise, SALVEX was conducted from 26 Jun ' 06 Jul 23 at Kochi. IN

and USN have been participating in joint Salvage and EOD exercises since 2005. India's INS Nireekshak and United States USNS Salvor participated in this exercise.

### 3. Defence Acquisition Council approves procurement of 26 Rafale Marine aircraft from France

The Defence Acquisition Council has approved proposals for the procurement of 26 Rafale Marine aircraft from France to boost the Indian Navy's operational capabilities.

It has granted Acceptance of Necessity for procurement of 26 Rafale Marine aircraft along with associated ancillary equipment, weapons, and logistic support for the Indian Navy from the French government.

### 4. India-Mongolia joint military exercise 'Nomadic Elephant ' 2023' to commence at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Indian Army contingent comprising of 43 personnel left for Mongolia. The contingent will participate in the 15th edition of bilateral joint military exercise 'NOMADIC ELEPHANT-23'. India and Mongolia have a shared commitment to regional security and cooperation.

### 5. Indian, Indonesian naval ships to conduct joint exercise in Jakarta



Two frontline Indian Naval ships INS Sahyadri and INS Kolkata arrived in Indonesia's Jakarta to participate in the Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with the Indonesian Navy.

INS Sahyadri is the third indigenously designed and built Project-17 class stealth frigate and INS Kolkata is the first indigenously designed and built stealth destroyer of the Project-15A class. Both the ships have been built at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd, Mumbai.

#### 6. Ashok Leyland bags major orders worth Rs 800 crore from Indian Army

Ashok Leyland, the Indian flagship of the Hinduja Group and the largest supplier of logistics vehicles to the Indian military, announced on that it had won major orders for defence vehicles, valued at Rs 800 crore. The contracts awarded to Ashok Leyland include for the production of 'field artillery tractors' (FAT 4x4) and 'gun towing vehicles' (GTV 6x6).

#### 7. Back India hands over INS Kirpan to Vietnam in landmark move

'On completing 32 years of illustrious service to the nation, Indian Naval Ship Kirpan has been decommissioned from the Indian Navy and handed over to Vietnam People's Navy (VPN) at Cam Ranh, Vietnam. According to the Indian

Navy chief, this marks the first time India has handed over a full operational corvette to a foreign country.

#### Books & Authors

##### 1. Abhishek Choudhary's Vajpayee: The Ascent of the Hindu Right 1924-1977

The early years of late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee are captured in a new biography, Vajpayee: The Ascent of the Hindu Right 1924-77, by Abhishek Choudhary.

The book published by Picador India was released in May 2023.

This first volume lays out 53 years of Vajpayee's life, spanning from 1924 to 1977.

##### 2. 'Through the Broken Glass: An Autobiography' by TN Seshan

Unveiling the life and legacy of T.N. Seshan, 'Through The Broken Glass: An Autobiography' chronicles the captivating journey of the former Chief Election Commissioner of India, who left an indelible mark on the nation's process. Published by Rupa Publications India, the autobiography provides an insightful glimpse into Seshan's pivotal term as the CEC from 1990-1995.

## Obituary

### 1. Former Kerala CM Oommen Chandy passes away at 79

Former Chief Minister Oommen Chandy has passed away. He was 79. He led the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) ministries in Kerala from August 31, 2004, to May 12, 2006, and from May 18, 2011, to May 20, 2016. He was elected to the Kerala Legislative Assembly for the first time in 1970.

## Person in news

### 1. Lallianzuala Chhangte, Manisha Kalyan Named Footballers of the Year for 2022-23

India and Mumbai City FC winger Lallianzuala Chhangte and forward Manisha Kalyan were named the AIFF Men's and Women's Footballer of the Year for 2022-23 season for their impressive performances throughout the season.

### 2. Shah Rukh Khan appointed brand ambassador of ICC World Cup 2023

Shah Rukh Khan has been appointed as the brand ambassador of ICC World Cup 2023.

India will host the ODI World Cup in 2023 between October 5 and November 19 with ten teams taking part in the prestigious competition.

CEO of The International Cricket Council (ICC) : Geoff Allardice;  
Chairman of ICC: Greg Barclay.

### 3. Odisha's Naveen Patnaik Is Now 2nd Longest-Serving Chief Minister In India

Odisha's Naveen Patnaik became the second longest-serving chief minister in the country, replacing West Bengal's Jyoti Basu. Former Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Kumar Chamling still holds the record of being the longest-serving Chief Minister in the country. He was the Chief Minister of the Himalayan state from December 12, 1994 till May 27, 2019 more than 24 years.

### 4. S. Phangnon Konyak becomes first woman member from Nagaland to Preside over Rajya Sabha

Marking a significant moment in history, the first woman member from Nagaland in the Rajya Sabha, Smt. Phangnon Konyak presided over the House. Earlier she had created history by becoming the first ever women member to be appointed to the panel of Vice-Chairpersons on July 17, 2023.

### 5. Aditya Samant becomes India's 83rd chess Grandmaster

Aditya S Samant became India's 83rd chess Grandmaster. The 17-year-old Maharashtra player Samant, an International Master, became a GM when he started his ninth-round game against

compatriot Aryan Chopra at the BielChess MTO 2023 tournament. He earned his first GM norm at the Abu Dhabi Masters in August last year.

## India & World

### [1. MoU for setting up of campus of IIT Madras in Zanzibar - First ever IIT campus to be set up outside India](#)

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for setting up of campus of IIT Madras in Zanzibar- Tanzania was signed between the Ministry of Education (MoE), Govt. of India, IIT Madras and Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT) Zanzibar- Tanzania. This is the first ever IIT campus to be set up outside India.

### [2. Indian tri-services contingent leaves for French Bastille Day Parade](#)

The tri-services contingent of the Indian armed forces left for France on 6 July for the Bastille Day parade. The Fete Nationale Francaise is celebrated on 15 July, the National Day in France. Bastille Day is celebrated as the anniversary of Storming of the Bastille in 1789 during the French Revolution. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been invited as the guest of honour.

### [3. Multilateral development banks pledge upto \\$27 bn for India's green growth](#)

European Investment Bank has pledged one billion euros to develop a large-scale hydrogen industry hub, while the ADB intends to provide \$20-\$25 billion over five years to support India's green growth during International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2023), held between July 5-7 in India. The World Bank also approved \$1.5 billion to aid India's low-carbon transition. ICGH-2023 held in New Delhi

### [4. India Permits Potato Imports From Bhutan Without License Till June 2024](#)

India on Monday permitted imports of potatoes from Bhutan without any license for one more year till June 2024. Earlier, it was allowed till June 30 this year.

The DGFT said that the import of 17,000 metric tonnes of fresh (green) areca nut without a minimum import price condition from Bhutan will also be allowed through land customs station Chamurchi. Imports of fresh or chilled potatoes stood at \$1.02 million in 2022-23.

### [5. Adani group announces full-load commencement of power supply to](#)

## Bangladesh from 1600 mw thermal plant

The Adani Group announced the commissioning of India's first transnational project at Godda in Jharkhand to supply power to the Bangladesh electricity grid.

Chairman Gautam Adani called on Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Dhaka following the full load commencement of power supply to Bangladesh from the Group's Ultra Super-Critical Thermal Power Plant.

## 6. India's Razorpay launches first international payment gateway in Malaysia

India's home-grown fintech and payments solutions provider Razorpay has announced the launch of its first international payment gateway services in the Malaysian market with Curlec. In Feb 2022, Bengaluru-headquartered Razorpay which was established in 2014, announced its first international expansion into South-East Asia with the acquisition of a majority stake in Curlec.

## 7. India contributes \$1 million to the United Nations to promote the Hindi language

Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations announced that India has made a voluntary

contribution of \$1 million to the UN. This contribution aims to support the promotion of the Hindi language within the organization and foster inclusive dialogue and understanding.

## Apps & Portals

### 1. Government launches CRCS-Sahara Refund Portal to help Sahara depositors get refund

Union Home Minister Amit Shah launched the CRCS'Sahara Refund portal in New Delhi following a Supreme Court order to refund the money to the depositors of the Sahara Group's cooperative societies. On March 29, 2023, the apex court directed the transfer of Rs 5,000 crores from the Sahara-SEBI Refund Account to the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS).

### 2. Online portal launched to report violation of ban on e-cigarettes

Electronic cigarettes continue to be sold on e-commerce sites, even to children below 18, warn experts working in the area of tobacco control. The portal, [www.violation-reporting.in](http://www.violation-reporting.in), will allow faster action against any reported violations, the government said.



## States

### Arunachal Pradesh

#### 1. Chachin Grazing Festival celebrated with great zeal in Arunachal Pradesh

Chachin Grazing Festival was celebrated with great fervour by the local graziers of Tawang region near Bumla Pass, Arunachal Pradesh.

The two-day event held at Chachin saw enthusiastic participation from Graziers from all over Tawang region.

### Assam

#### 1. Project Gajah Kotha Launched To Control Human-Elephant Conflict In Assam

Assam has launched the "Gajah Kotha" campaign to address the growing human-elephant conflict (HEC) issue by engaging more than 1,200 individuals and promoting coexistence.

This initiative specifically targets villages in eastern Assam affected by human-elephant conflict, aiming to educate residents about elephant behaviour, ecology, and the cultural significance.

### Kerala

#### 1. OPPO India sets up first PPP-model Atal Tinkering Lab in Kerala

OPPO India in collaboration with NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) as its knowledge partner has

announced the establishment of an Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL) in Kerala. This collaboration marks the establishment of the first-ever Atal Tinkering Lab, based on the PPP (Public-Private Partnership) model.

#### 1. REC extends Rs 4,785 crore for HPCL Rajasthan Refinery's project in Barmer

REC Limited has extended a loan of Rs 4,785 crores to HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited (HRRL) for setting up a green field refinery-cum-petrochemical complex in Barmer district, Rajasthan.

#### 2. Rajasthan govt tables country's first gig workers bill

The Rajasthan government tabled the Rajasthan Platform-Based GIG Workers (registration and welfare) Bill, 2023 - the country's first such - which seeks to guarantee social security to gig workers. The bill provisions for monetary penalties if an aggregator fails to comply with the Act. The state government may impose a fine of Rs. 5 Lakh to Rs. 50 lakh for It's violation.

#### 3. Rajasthan Assembly passes Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill

The Rajasthan Assembly passed The Rajasthan Minimum Guaranteed Income Bill, 2023, which seeks to cover the entire adult population of the state with a guarantee of wages

or pension. As per the Bill, all families of the state, whether urban or rural, will be able to get employment guarantee of 125 days every year.

Tamil Nadu

### 1. India's first 'Police Drone Unit' launched in Chennai

The Greater Chennai City Police (GCP) launched 'Police Drone Unit' for aerial surveillance over vast areas and quick detection of criminal activities.

All drones are equipped with built-in Artificial Intelligence (AI) capabilities and can be operated up to a distance of 5-10 Kms from the ground station (i.e.) the Drone Police Unit.

### 2. India gets its 36th and Tamil Nadu its first flying training school

India now has 36 DGCA-approved flying schools. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) recently gave its nod to EKVI Air Training Organization Pvt. Ltd. will be based at Salem Airport. This will be the first flying training organization (FTO) in Tamil Nadu.

### 3. Foxconn to invest Rs 1,600 crore in Tamil Nadu for component manufacturing

Taiwan's Foxconn Technology Group, a key supplier to Apple Inc, pledged to invest Rs 1,600 crore to set up a high-end electronics

component manufacturing unit in Tamil Nadu's Kanchipuram district generating jobs for about 6,000 people. The investment to be made by Foxconn Industrial Internet (Fii), the largest subsidiary of Foxconn Technology Group.

Uttar Pradesh

### 1. UP govt approves two thermal power projects a 50:50 partnership with NTPC

The Uttar Pradesh government approved two 'Obra D' thermal power projects of 800 MW each to be built at the cost of Rs 18,000 crore in Sonbhadra's Obra, a move aimed at providing cheaper electricity to the people of the state. The projects will be executed by the government with a 50:50 partnership with central government-owned power generator NTPC. 'Obra D' thermal power plants will be the first ultra super critical unit in the state.

Jammu and Kashmir

### 1. J&K launches India's first chatbot for people in mental distress

India's first Tele-MANAS chatbot, which will start an instant conversation with people in distress, was launched in J&K. This year Kashmir saw the highest number of distress calls to the Tele-Manas centre. The initiative will ensure the availability of health

counsellors, clinical psychologists and consultants round-the-clock.

## 2. Srinagar bans sale of 'sharp-edged weapons' amid rise in stabbing incidents

Srinagar authorities on Friday banned the sale, purchase, and carrying of 'sharp-edged weapons' in public places in view of several stabbing incidents in the city. The decision was taken apparently as a result of several recent incidents of stabbings reported several places in the district.

## 3. Jammu to pioneer India's first Cannabis Medicine Project

Jammu is going to pioneer India's first Cannabis Medicine Project. 'Cannabis Research Project' of CSIR-IIIM Jammu is a first of its kind in India initiated the project in Private Public Partnership with a Canadian firm, which has great potential to put the substance of abuse for the good of mankind, especially for patients suffering from neuropathies, cancer, and epilepsy.

### Imp CA

## 1. Tushar Mehta re-appointed as Solicitor General for India, six ASGs for Supreme Court re-appointed

The Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet on Friday approved the re-appointment of Tushar Mehta

as Solicitor General for India, for a period of three years.

Vikramjit Banerjee, KM Nataraj, Balbir Singh, SV Raju, N Venkataraman and Aishwarya Bhati have been re-appointed as Additional Solicitors General (ASGs). Solicitor General is the second most senior law officer after Attorney General.

## 2. Justice Sheo Kumar Singh appointed Acting Chairperson of NGT

The Central government notified the appointment of Justice Sheo Kumar Singh as Acting Chairperson of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) till a new Chairperson is appointed.

The appointment was made in light of the retirement of Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel as Chairperson.

He was appointed as Judicial Member of the NGT on March 11, 2020. Notification was issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

## 3. India's third moon mission, Chandrayaan-3 launched successfully from Sathish Dhawan Space Centre Sriharikota

The Indian Space Research Organization successfully launched LVM3 M 4 rocket carrying Chandrayaan 3 at 2.35 PM from the second launch pad of India's spaceport at Sriharikota.

#### 4. Carlos Alcaraz ends Novak Djokovic's reign to win maiden Wimbledon title

Carlos Alcaraz marked a pivotal moment in men's tennis by ending Novak Djokovic's illustrious Wimbledon reign with an electrifying 1-6, 7-6(6), 6-1, 3-6, 6-4 victory claiming his first-ever title at the All England Club. At just 20 years old, Alcaraz became Wimbledon's third youngest men's champion, adding to his previous major victory at the US Open last year.

#### 5. Marketa Vondrousova defeats Ons Jabeur 6-4, 6-4 to clinch women's title at Wimbledon

Marketa Vondrousova became the lowest-ranked woman to win Wimbledon, defeating 2022 runner-up Ons Jabeur 6-4, 6-4 in the final. Vondrousova is a 24-year-old left-hander from the Czech Republic who is ranked 42nd and was the first unseeded woman to play for the title at the All England Club in 60 years.

#### 6. Tamil Nadu tops NITI Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2022

Tamil Nadu has pipped Maharashtra and Gujarat to emerge as the top state among coastal states in the Niti Aayog's Export Preparedness Index 2022. Tamil Nadu is followed by Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat,

Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal and Kerala in that order in the ranking of coastal states.

#### 7. Henley Passport Index 2023: Singapore replaces Japan as world's strongest passport

The updated 2023 Henley Passport Index placed Singapore as the world's most powerful passport with visa-free access to 192 travel destinations out of 227 around the world. Three European countries Germany, Italy, and Spain move up one slot with 190 visa-free destinations and shared the second place. Japan was placed 3rd.

#### 8. Govt appoints Sat Pal Bhanoo as Managing Director of Life Insurance Corp

The government has appointed Sat Pal Bhanoo as one of the managing directors of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC). He has been appointed in place of Siddhartha Mohanty who has been appointed as chairman of LIC in April.

Bhanoo's appointment is effective from the date of assumption of charge and up to the date of his superannuation on December 31, 2025 or until further orders

#### 9. EPFO declares 8.15% as EPF interest rate for FY 2022-23

The declared interest rate stands at 8.15 per cent, as notified by the retirement body Employees



Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in a circular dated July 24, 2023. The EPFO has directed all filed offices to credit the interest at a rate of 8.15 per cent on EPF for the financial year 2022-23 into the respective accounts of its members.

**10. 3rd Edition Of Summit On "Global Chemicals And Petrochemicals Manufacturing Hubs In India" Held At New Delhi**

The Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers in association with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organized the 3rd edition of the Summit on "Global Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturing Hubs in India" (GCPMH 2023) on 27th ' 28th July 2023 at New Delhi. Union Minister of Finance Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman inaugurated the two days Summit.

## Important General Knowledge (GK) Questions

1. Which among the following is a device that uses ultrasonic waves to measure the distance, direction and speed of underwater objects?

- (a) Barometer
- (b) SONAR
- (c) Megger
- (d) RADAR

2. Which of the following can be released into the environment when a compact fluorescent lamp break?

- (a) Hydrogen Fluoride
- (b) Gallium
- (c) Carbon Monoxide
- (d) Mercury

3. Read the following statements and choose the correct code from the options given below:  
I- The colour that we see in leaves is due to a single pigment, Chlorophyll A.  
II- Chlorophyll A is the chief pigment associated with photosynthesis.

- (a) Only I
- (b) Only II
- (c) Both I and II
- (d) Neither I nor II

4. Match List I with List II and select answer from the codes given below.

- List I (Vitamin)  
List II (Sources)

I- Vitamin E

i- Pumpkin

II- Vitamin B1

ii- Fish liver oil

III- Vitamin A

iii- Lettuce

IV- Vitamin D

iv- Peas

Codes: I II III IV

(a) i; ii; iii; iv

(b) iv; ii; iii; i

(c) iii; iv; i; ii

(d) iii; i; iv; ii

5. Which of the following mirrors are used in the vehicles headlights to get powerful parallel beams of light?

- (a) Convex mirrors
- (b) Concave mirrors
- (c) Plane mirrors
- (d) Both a and b

6. When a sailor jumps out of a rowing boat, the boat moves backwards. Which law of motion will be applicable in this case?

- (a) First Law of Motion
- (b) Second Law of Motion
- (c) Third Law of Motion
- (d) Universal Law of Motion

7. Read the following statements about Wind Energy and choose the

correct option. I. Wind energy is an environment-friendly and efficient source of renewable energy. II. Wind energy requires no recurring expenses for the production of electricity.

- (a) I is true and II is false
- (b) I is false and II is true
- (c) I is true and II is true
- (d) I is false and II is false

8. Which of the following statement about respiration is not correct?

- (a) Rate of breathing in aquatic organisms is much slower than that in terrestrial organisms.
- (b) Anaerobic respiration took place in the absence of oxygen.
- (c) The release of energy in this aerobic process is a lot greater than in the anaerobic process.
- (d) In human beings, the respiratory pigment is haemoglobin which has a very high affinity for oxygen.

9. Read the following statements about Ecosystem and choose the correct option. I. An ecosystem consists of biotic components and abiotic components. II. Biotic components consist of temperature, rainfall, wind, soil and minerals.

- (a) I is true and II is false
- (b) I is false and II is true
- (c) I is true and II is true
- (d) I is false and II is false

10. With reference to the August Offer, which of the statements is/are correct? I. The first cotton textile mill was set up in Calcutta. II. The first jute mill was set up in Kanpur. Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) Both I & II
- (d) Neither I, nor II

11. With reference to 'Five Year Plans in India, which among the following is/are correct? I. First Five Year Plan was based on Mahalanobis model. II. Second Five Year Plan was based on based on the Harrod - Domar model. Select the correct answers using the codes given below: Codes:

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) Both I and II
- (d) Neither I nor II

12. Match list I with list II and select correct answer using the codes given below the list:

List - I (States)	List - II (Statehood)
A. Assam	1. 1960
B. Andhra Pradesh	2. 1966
C. Gujarat	3. 1950
D. Punjab	4. 1956

Codes: A B C D

- (a) 1 2 3 4

- (b) 3 2 4 1
- (c) 3 4 1 2
- (d) 4 3 2 1

13. Arrange the following events in the chronological order and select correct answers from the codes given below. I. Battle of Kanauj 1540 II. Battle of Panipat 1526 III. Battle of Chausa 1539 IV. Battle of Haldighati 1576 Codes:

- (a) II, III, I, IV
- (b) III, IV, II, I
- (c) II, I, III, IV
- (d) IV, I, II, III

Answer Keys

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

14. Who among the following was the founder of Sunga dynasty?

- (a) Agnimitra Sunga
- (b) Vishwamitra Sunga
- (c) Pushyamitra Sunga
- (d) Kaalamitra Sunga

15. The globe can be divided into various zones. Which of the following region comes under the Frigid Zone:

- (a) Tropical zone
- (b) Polar region
- (c) Torrid region
- (d) Mid-latitude region

16. Which lake is located on the border of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh and is a internationally recognised wetland under the Ramsar convention ?

- (a) Kolleru Lake
- (b) Sambhar Lake
- (c) Vembanad Lake
- (d) Pulicat Lake

17. Which mountain range is known for its sandstone formations and famous for the Dilwara Temples?

- (a) Sahyadri Range
- (b) Aravalli Range
- (c) Vindhya Range
- (d) Satpura Range

18. Which tectonic plate is responsible for the formation of the Himalayan Mountains?

- (a) African Plate and Pacific Plate
- (b) Pacific Plate and Indian Plate
- (c) Indian Plate and Eurasian Plate
- (d) Eurasian Plate and African Plate

19. Read the statements given below and the select the correct option:

I. Fiscal Deficit = Difference between country's expenditure and earnings  
II. Gross Fiscal Deficit = Total expenditure - Revenue Receipts

- (a) Only I is true
- (b) Only II is true
- (c) Neither I nor II is true



(d) Both I and II are true

20. The first Indian to join Viceroy's executive council after the Indian Council's Act, 1909 was:

- (a) Satyendra Prasad Sinha
- (b) Krishna Govind Gupta
- (c) Sayed Hussain Bilgrami
- (d) C Rajgopalachari

21. Nancy Mandhotra is associated with which of the following sports:

- (a) Shooting
- (b) Swimming
- (c) Cricket
- (d) Hockey

22. Which Article of the Indian Constitution specifies qualifications for election as President of India?

- (a) Article 52
- (b) Article 60
- (c) Article 58
- (d) Article 56

23. National companies law tribunal (NCLT) is a:

- (a) Judicial body
- (b) Quasi-judicial body
- (c) Constitutional body
- (d) Statutory body

24. 'Bhoomi Samman' is a prestigious award scheme launched by the Ministry of Rural Development of India to incentivise

the achievements of states and districts in implementation of:

- (a) Sustainable Agriculture
- (b) Land Record Modernization
- (c) Forest Conservation
- (d) Tribal Welfare Schemes

25. Which of the following countries is NOT a member of the G20 group?

- (a) Argentina
- (b) India
- (c) Saudi Arabia
- (d) New Zealand

26. Select the correct statement/ with respect to Asian Development Bank. A. Asian Development Bank was established on 19 December 1986. B. Iran is not a member of Asian Development Bank.

- (a) Only A
- (b) Only B
- (c) Both A and B
- (d) Neither A nor B

Answer Keys

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

27. UNESCO established the International Chess Day in 1996 with the aim to honour the founding of the International Chess Federation (FIDE). It is celebrated every year on:

- (a) 20<sup>th</sup> July

- (b) 20<sup>th</sup> August
- (c) 25<sup>th</sup> May
- (d) 25<sup>th</sup> April

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Uttarakhand

28. Duleep trophy is associated with which of the following sports:

- (a) Tennis
- (b) Hockey
- (c) Football
- (d) Cricket

30. Kudremukh National Park located in which Indian State?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Goa

29. Garba dance is a folk dance originated in\_\_\_\_\_.

### Answer Keys

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

### Solutions

1. (b)

The acronym SONAR stands for SOUNd Navigation And Ranging. Sonar is a device that uses ultrasonic waves to measure the distance, direction and speed of underwater objects. Sonar consists of a transmitter and a detector and is installed in a boat or a ship.

2. (d)

Mercury, an essential part of compact fluorescent lamp (CFLs), allows a bulb to be an efficient light

source. Small amounts of mercury can be released into the environment when CFLs break, or if they are improperly disposed of at the end of their useful lives.

No mercury is released when the bulbs are intact (i.e., not broken) or in use, but mercury vapor and very small beads of mercury can be released when a CFL is broken.

3. (b)

Pigments are substances that have an ability to absorb light, at specific

wavelengths. The colour that we see in leaves is not due to a single pigment but due to four pigments: Chlorophyll a (bright or blue green in the chromatogram), chlorophyll b (yellow green), xanthophylls (yellow) and carotenoids (yellow to yellow-orange).

Chlorophyll A is the chief pigment associated with photosynthesis.

4. (c)

List I (Vitamin)	List II (Source)
Vitamin E	Lettuce
Vitamin B1	Peas
Vitamin A	Pumpkin
Vitamin D	Fish Liver Oil

5. (b)

Concave mirrors are commonly used in torches, search-lights and vehicles headlights to get powerful parallel beams of light. They are often used as shaving mirrors to see a larger image of the face. The dentists use concave mirrors to see large images of the teeth of patients.

A spherical mirror, whose reflecting surface is curved inwards, that is, faces towards the centre of the sphere, is called a concave mirror.

6. (c)

Third Law of the motion will be applicable in the given question. As the sailor jumps forward, the force on the boat moves it backwards. The third law of motion states that when one object exerts a force on another object, the second object instantaneously exerts a force back on the first. These two forces are always equal in magnitude but opposite in direction.

7. (c)

To generate electricity, the rotatory motion of the windmill is used to turn the turbine of the electric generator.

Wind energy is an environment-friendly and efficient source of renewable energy. It requires no recurring expenses for the production of electricity. But the wind speed should also be higher than 15 km/h to maintain the required speed of the turbine.

8. (a)

Since the amount of dissolved oxygen is fairly low compared to the amount of oxygen in the air, the rate of breathing in aquatic organisms is much faster than that seen in terrestrial organisms. Fishes take in water through their mouths and force it past the gills

where the dissolved oxygen is taken up by blood.

9. (a)

All the interacting organisms in an area together with the non-living constituents of the environment form an ecosystem. Thus, an ecosystem consists of biotic components comprising living organisms and abiotic components comprising physical factors like temperature, rainfall, wind, soil and minerals.

10. (d)

The first cotton textile mill was set up in 1853 in Bombay by Cowasjee Nanabhoy and the first jute mill came up in 1855 in Rishra (Bengal). All these modern industries were foreign - owned and controlled by British managing agencies.

11. (d)

In 1950, the government set up a Planning Commission to help design and execute suitable policies for economic development. There was a broad agreement on what was called a 'mixed economy' model. The First Five-Year Plan (1951-56) was based on the Harrod - Domar model with few modifications. The Second Five-Year Plan (1956-1961) followed the

Mahalanobis model, an economic development model developed by the Indian statistician Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis in 1953.

12. (c)

Assam - 1950

Andhra Pradesh - 1956

Gujarat - 1960

Punjab - 1966

13. (a)

Battle of Kanauj 1540 : Between Sher Shah Suri and the Mughal king Humayun,

Battle of Panipat 1526 : Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodhi establishing the Mughal Empire in India.

Battle of Chausa 1539 : Sher Shah Suri defeated Humayun.

Battle of Haldighati 1576 :

Undecisive battle between Raja Man Singh of the Mughal army and Rana Pratap of Mewar. (Medieval India, Satish Chandra)

14. (c)

The founder of the Sunga dynasty was Pushyamitra Sunga, who was the commander-in-chief under the Mauryas. He assassinated the last Mauryan ruler and usurped the throne. Pushyamitra was a staunch follower of Brahmanism. He performed two asvamedha sacrifices. After the death of



Pushyamitra, his son Agnimitra became the ruler. The rule of the Sungas was important because they defended the Gangetic valley from foreign invasions. In the cultural sphere, the Sungas revived Brahmanism and horse sacrifice. (History - Higher secondary, Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation)

15. (b)

The globe can be divided into three broad zones.

Torrid zone : This covers the tropical region. Here the temperature remains high.

Temperate zone : This covers the mid-latitude region. Here the temperature remains moderate.

Frigid Zone : This covers the polar region. Here the temperature remains low.

16. (d)

Pulicat Lake, saltwater lagoon on the Coromandel Coast of Andhra Pradesh state, southern India. It extends from the extreme southeastern portion of Andhra Pradesh into the adjacent portion of Tamil Nadu state. This is the second largest saltwater lagoon in India and a Ramsar site (internationally recognized wetland under the Ramsar Convention).

17. (b)

The Aravalli Range is the oldest fold mountain range in India. It stretches across the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Delhi. The range is famous for its rich mineral resources, sandstone formations, and the intricately carved Dilwara Temples in Mount Abu, which attract tourists from all over the world.

18. (c)

The Himalayan Mountains were formed as a result of the collision between the Indian Plate and the Eurasian Plate. The Indian Plate, which was once a separate landmass, collided with the Eurasian Plate around 50 million years ago, leading to the uplift and folding of rocks, creating the world's highest mountain range.

19. (a)

Fiscal Deficit = Difference between country's expenditure and earnings  
Gross Fiscal Deficit = Total expenditure - (Revenue Receipts + Non-debt creating capital receipts)  
Non-debt creating capital receipts: Those receipts which are not borrowings, hence does not give rise to debt.

20. (a)

The Indian Councils Act (also known as Morley-Minto Reforms) provided for the association of Indians with the executive councils of the Viceroys and the Governors.

Satyendra Prasad Sinha became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's executive council.

21. (a)

Nancy Mandhotra is associated with Shooting. She won a silver medal in women's 10m mixed air rifle event in the ISSF World Cup 2023 held at Baku, Azerbaijan.

22. (c)

Articles 52-62 to the Indian Constitution are related to the President of India.

Article 54 - Election of President.

Article 56 - Term of office of President.

Article 58 - Qualifications for election as President.

Article 60 - Oaths and Affirmation by the President.

Article 61 - Procedure for impeachment of President.

23. (b)

A quasi-judicial body has powers similar to that of court of law to conduct proceedings but their powers are usually limited to a

specific area of expertise and authority.

The National Companies Law Tribunal (NCLT) was constituted on 1st June 2016. It is a quasi-judicial body incorporated for dealing with corporate disputes that are of civil nature arising under the Companies Act.

24. (b)

'Bhoomi Samman' is a prestigious award scheme launched by the Ministry of Rural Development of India to incentivise the achievements of states and districts in implementation of Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme.

25. (d)

It is a group of 19 major economies of the world and the European Union. It was founded in 1999.

Members - Argentina, Australia, Canada, China, European Union, Brazil, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, United Kingdom, and United States of America.

26. (b)

Asian Development Bank is a multilateral development bank. It

was established in year 1966. It is headquartered in Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines. From 31 members at its establishment in 1966, ADB has grown to encompass 68 members - of which 49 are from within Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside.

There are 68 member countries of the ADB including India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, China, Bhutan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Australia, Indonesia, and others. Iran is not a member of Asian Development Bank.

27. (a)

International Chess Day was announced in 1996 by UNESCO to commemorate the establishment of the International Chess Federation, commonly known as FIDE by its French acronym. FIDE was founded in Paris, France, and currently has its headquarters in Switzerland. FIDE is an international body responsible for connecting various international chess federations and acts as the governing body for international chess competitions. FIDE was recognised by the International Olympic Committee in 1999. Every year, International Chess Day is celebrated on July 20.

28. (d)

Duleep trophy is a first class cricket competition held every year in India. It is administered by Board of Cricket Control in India (BCCI). The first edition of Duleep trophy was held in 1961-62.

South zone won the trophy in 2023 by beating the West zone. The final was held at Chinnaswamy stadium, Bengaluru.

29. (a)

Garba is a form of dance which originated in the state of Gujarat in India.

It is traditionally performed during the nine-day Hindu festival Navaratri. Padhar dance, Siddi Dhamal, Hudo, Matukadi, Tippani dance, dandiya raas, and Kagawa are other folk dances associated with Gujarat state.

30. (b)

Kudremukh National Park is located in the state of Karnataka, in the Western Ghats in the districts of Dakshina Kannada.

It is spread over an area of about 600 sq km and is 1,894.3 m above sea level.

Kudremukh is Karnataka's 2nd highest peak after Mullayangiri.

## Important Computer Knowledge (CK) Questions

1. Which of the following is/are Output devices:  
I. Speaker  
II. Monitor  
III. Projector  
IV. Microphone

- (a) Only I, II and IV
- (b) Only I and II
- (c) Only I, II and III
- (d) Only II, III and IV

2. Which of the following is an e-mail Application:  
I. Microsoft Outlook  
II. Gmail  
III. ProtonMail  
IV. Newton Mail

- (a) Only I and II
- (b) Only I, II and III
- (c) Only I, II and IV
- (d) All of the above

3. Which tab of the MS excel is used to perform common commands such as bold, underline, alignment, Number, copy, and paste?

- (a) Insert Tab
- (b) Page Layout Tab
- (c) Help Tab
- (d) Home Tab

4. Which one of the following short key is used in MS PowerPoint to open 'Slide Show'?

- (a) Shift + F6
- (b) F5
- (c) Ctrl + F5
- (d) Alt + R

5. Match the following:

Group A

Group B

1. MS-DOS

a. Virus

2. Trojan horse

b. Operating System

3. My SQL

c. Antivirus

4. Norton

d. Open Source Software

(a) 1- d; 2-c; 3-b; 4- a.

(b) 1- b; 2- a; 3- d; 4- c.

(c) 1- a; 2- b; 3- c; 4- d.

(d) 1- b; 2- c; 3- d; 4- a.

6. MATCH is an Excel function used to:

- (a) Compare the font of the text
- (b) Locate the position of a lookup value in a row, column, or table
- (c) Align the text while printing the content of the excel sheet
- (d) Deletes the irrelevant data in a column, row, or table

7. If one wants to copy the content of the cell present in the left cell, then which keyboard combination can be used?

- (a) Ctrl + D
- (b) Ctrl + R
- (c) Ctrl + Z



(d) Ctrl + V

8. The term 'pixels' is an indicator of which feature of the computer?

- (a) Display size
- (b) Screen resolution
- (c) Memory
- (d) Graphics

9. Which of the following is not a valid email address?

- (a) Jeevan.Arora@ms.ind
- (b) Kiran@Kiran.in
- (c) Satish@Outlook.com
- (d) Suma.Menon@Gmail.com

10. Which of the following is a formatting tool that makes all of the cell's content visible without adding to the overall width of the worksheet?

- (a) Sort
- (b) Marge & Center
- (c) Wrap text
- (d) Conditional formatting

11. The term TB is an indicator of which feature of the computer?

- (a) Speed
- (b) Number of pixels
- (c) Storage
- (d) Screen resolution

12. Which of the following menu types is also called a drop-down menu?

- (a) Fly-down
- (b) Put-down
- (c) Pull-down
- (d) Drag-down

13. Port 22 is typically used for which network protocol?

- (a) FTP
- (b) SSH
- (c) Telnet
- (d) HTTP

Answer Keys

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

14. Which memory organization technique allows the CPU to access any memory location in constant time (independent of the memory size)?

- (a) Cache Memory
- (b) Virtual Memory
- (c) Associative Memory
- (d) Direct Memory Access (DMA)

15. Which tab in Windows Explorer (File Explorer) allows you to access and manage network resources, such as other computers and shared folders?

- (a) Home
- (b) View
- (c) Share
- (d) Network

16. Which networking protocol is used to remotely manage and monitor network devices, such as routers and switches, and retrieve information about their status and performance?

- (a) SNMP
- (b) DNS
- (c) HTTP
- (d) FTP

17. What type of malware is designed to spy on users' activities and capture sensitive information without their knowledge?

- (a) Virus
- (b) Worm
- (c) Spyware
- (d) Ransomware

18. What type of networking device connects multiple network segments together and forwards data between them based on MAC addresses?

- (a) Switch
- (b) Router
- (c) Bridge
- (d) Gateway

19. In e-banking, what is the role of a "beneficiary" when setting up a fund transfer?

- (a) The beneficiary is a bank employee who oversees the fund transfer process.
- (b) The beneficiary is the person who initiates the fund transfer.
- (c) The beneficiary is the account holder who receives the funds.
- (d) The beneficiary is the e-banking platform provider.

20. Which CPU architecture uses a single, powerful core supplemented by smaller, energy-efficient cores?

- (a) Multi-core
- (b) Dual-core
- (c) Quad-core
- (d) Big.Little

### Answer Keys

1. c	2. d	3. d	4. b	5. b	6. b	7. b	8. b	9. a	10. c
11. c	12. c	13. b	14. c	15. d	16. a	17. c	18. c	19. c	20. d

### Solutions

1. (c)  
Speakers are one of the output devices used with computers. They

are transducers that convert electromagnetic waves into sound waves.

Projector is an output device that connects with a computer and projects the output onto a white screen or wall.

Monitors are the main output device of a computer. It forms images from tiny dots that are arranged in a rectangular form. The sharpness of the image depends on the number of pixels. There are two kinds of viewing screens used for monitors.

Microphone is an example Input Device.

Microphone translates sound vibrations in the air into electronic signals. It enables many types of audio recording devices for purposes including communications, music and speech recording.

### 2. (d)

E-mail is information stored on a computer that is exchanged between two users over telecommunications. In other words, e-mail is a message that may contain text, files, images, or other attachments sent through a network to a specified individual or group of individuals.

Gmail, Outlook, ProtonMail, and Newton Mail are examples of e-mail application.

### 3. (d)

The Excel Home Tab is used to perform common commands such as bold, underline, alignment, Number, copy, and paste. It is also used to apply formats to cells in a worksheet. The Home Tab groups and their buttons are:

- Clipboard Group (Paste, Cut, Copy, Format Painter)
- Font Group (Bold, Italic, Underline, Font Style, Colour & Size {decrease and increase}, Fill colour, Borders)
- Alignment Group (Alignment {Top, Middle, Bottom, Left, Right, Centre}, Orientation, wrap text, Merger& Centre, Indent decrease & increase)
- Number Group (General, Accounting Number Format, Percent style, Comma style, Increase and decrease decimal)
- Styles Group (Conditional Formatting, Format as Table, Cell Styles)
- Cells Group (Insert cells, Delete cells, Format cells)
- Editing Group (AutoSum, Fill, Clear the format, Sort& Filter, Find & Select)

### 4. (b)

F5 is used in MS PowerPoint to open 'Slide Show'.

MS PowerPoint is a popular presentation program and is used to create slideshows which

comprise text, graphics, sounds and other animated media.

Short key	Description
Shift + F6	Move anticlockwise among pane
Ctrl + F5	Restore window to previous size
Alt + R	Review Tab

5. (b)

Group A	Group B
MS-DOS	Operating System
Trojan horse	Virus
My SQL	Open Source Software
Norton	Antivirus

6. (b)

MATCH is an Excel function used to locate the position of a lookup value in a row, column, or table. Often, MATCH is combined with the INDEX function to retrieve a value at a matched position.

7. (b)

To copy the left cell, click a right cell beside the data which one wants to copy, and then press Ctrl + R keys, and the left cell value has been pasted into the right cell immediately. Ctrl +D is used to copy

the content of the cell present above.

8. (b)

Resolution is the image quality produced by a printer or displayed on a monitor. With monitors, the screen resolution is measured by the number of pixels horizontal by pixels vertically.

A pixel, also known as a picture element, is the smallest unit of a digital image or graphic that can be displayed and represented on a digital display device. A pixel is represented by a dot or square on a computer monitor display screen. Pixels are the basic building blocks of a digital image or display and are created using geometric coordinates.

9. (a)

A valid email address has four parts:

- Recipient name
- @ symbol
- Domain name
- Top-level domain

Top-level domains are the highest level of the domain name system for the internet and are placed after the domain name in an email address.

Common top-level domains are: .com; .net; .org



.ind is not a valid top-level domain.

10. (c)

Excel's wrap text feature is a formatting tool that allows you to control the look of cell entries (also called labels) and headings in a worksheet. When the content of a cell is wrapped, all of its content is visible without adding to the overall width of the worksheet.

11. (c)

A terabyte (TB) is a unit of digital data that is equal to about 1 trillion bytes. TB is used to measure the storage of a computer. Other units that are used for measuring storage include KB, MB, GB etc.

12. (c)

Also called as Pull-down menu, drop-down is a menu of commands or options that appears when you select an item with a mouse. The item you select is generally at the top of the display screen, and the menu appears just below it, as if you had pulled it down.

13. (b)

Port 22 is typically used for the SSH (Secure Shell) network protocol. SSH is a cryptographic network protocol that provides secure, encrypted communication over a

network. It is commonly used for remote login to servers and other network devices, allowing users to access and manage systems securely over an unsecured network, such as the internet. SSH replaces less secure remote access methods like Telnet (port 23), providing a more secure way to interact with remote systems. FTP (port 21) is used for file transfer, and HTTP (port 80) is used for web communication.

14. (c)

The memory organization technique that allows the CPU to access any memory location in constant time, independent of the memory size, is Associative Memory.

- Associative memory, also known as content-addressable memory (CAM), enables the CPU to perform a parallel search across all memory locations, matching the desired content directly. In other words, the CPU can access any memory location directly without the need for sequential searching or complex calculations to compute the address.

15. (d)

The tab in Windows Explorer (File Explorer) that allows you to access and manage network resources,

such as other computers and shared folders, is the "Network" tab. This tab provides access to the devices and resources available on the local network, allowing users to browse shared folders, printers, and other network resources that are visible and accessible within the local network environment.

16. (a)

The networking protocol used to remotely manage and monitor network devices, such as routers and switches, and retrieve information about their status and performance is Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP). SNMP is a widely used application layer protocol that facilitates the exchange of management information between network devices and a network management system (NMS).

- SNMP allows network administrators to monitor the health and performance of devices, collect data, and receive alerts or notifications about issues or changes on the network. It provides a standardized way for gathering various types of information, such as device status, interface statistics, CPU usage, memory utilization, and more.

17. (c)

The type of malware that is designed to spy on users' activities and capture sensitive information without their knowledge is "Spyware." Spyware is a form of malicious software that secretly monitors and collects information about a user's online activities, such as browsing habits, keystrokes, login credentials, and personal data.

- Spyware can be installed on a user's device without their consent, often bundled with legitimate software or through deceptive social engineering tactics. Once installed, spyware operates stealthily in the background, gathering sensitive data and transmitting it to the attacker or a remote server.

18. (c)

A Bridge is the networking device that connects multiple network segments together and forwards data between them based on MAC addresses. Bridges operate at the OSI Data Link Layer of the OSI model and are responsible for directing data packets to their intended destinations from one computer network to the other.

19. (c)

In e-banking, the term "beneficiary" refers to the account holder who is the recipient of the funds in a fund transfer. When setting up a fund transfer, the account holder needs to provide the beneficiary's account details, such as the account number, name, and bank details, to ensure that the funds are sent to the correct recipient.

- For example, if you want to transfer money from your bank account to your friend's bank account, your friend would be the beneficiary in this scenario. The beneficiary's bank account will receive the transferred funds, and they will have access to the money once the transaction is complete.

20. (d)

The CPU architecture that uses a single, powerful core supplemented by smaller, energy-efficient cores is known as "Big.Little." This architecture is designed to improve energy efficiency in mobile devices and other systems where power consumption is a critical factor. The Big.Little architecture combines high-performance cores (big cores) with low-power cores (LITTLE cores), and the system can switch between them based on the workload demand. This allows the device to use the powerful cores for resource-intensive tasks and switch to the energy-efficient cores for less demanding or background tasks, optimizing both performance and power consumption.

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