

January 2023

# THE HINDU REVIEW

- **Monthly** capsule
- **Current** Affairs

Economy | Appointment | Awards | Ranking  
Government Scheme | Summit | Partnership | GDP  
Banking & Financial | Defence | Sports |  
Book and Author | Science and technology



Republic day 2023

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# The Hindu Review (January 2023)

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## Chapter 1: Appointment (National, International)

### (National)

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Person</u>
<p><b>Appointed as the Chairman-Cum-Managing Director of the public sector enterprise MOIL Limited.</b></p> <p><b>About MOIL (Manganese Ore (India) Limited)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOIL is one of the largest manganese ore producers of the country.</li> <li>MOIL is a Schedule "A" Miniratna Category-I Company under the Union Ministry of Steel.</li> </ul>	<p>Ajit Kumar Saxena (Updated 1 January)</p>
<p><b>Appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Limited</b></p>	<p>Sundararaman Ramamurthy (Updated 1 January)</p>
<p><b>Appointed as Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.</b></p>	<p>Ajay Kumar Srivastava (Updated 1 January)</p>
<p><b>Takes the additional charge as Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF)</b></p>	<p>Sujoy Lal Thaosen (Updated 2 January)</p>
<p><b>Appointed as Chairman of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)</b></p>	<p>Dinesh Kumar Shukla (Updated 2 January)</p>
<p><b>Assumed command of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command.</b></p>	<p>Pankaj Mohan Sinha (Updated 2 January)</p>
<p><b>Appointed as the state icon for Bihar by the Election Commission.</b></p>	<p>Maithili Thakur (Updated 4 January)</p>
<p><b>Appointed as the interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BharatPe</b></p>	<p>Nalin Negi (Updated 5 January)</p>
<p><b>Elected as Chairman of the All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) for a period of two years (2023-24)</b></p>	<p>Saiyam Mehra (Updated 9 January)</p>

Elected as Vice Chairman of the All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) for a period of two years (2023-24)	Rajesh Rokde (Updated 9 January)
Appointed as new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL)	Surinder Chawla (Updated 9 January)
Signed for a new campaign '360° Financial Protection with ICICI Prudential Life Insurance'	Suryakumar Yadav (Updated 10 January)
Reappointed as the Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee.	Chetan Sharma (Updated 10 January)
Extends tenure RBI Deputy Governor by one year	Michael Patra (Updated 12 January)
Facebook-parent Meta has appointed as Director of its Global Business Group in India.	Vikas Purohit (Updated 12 January)
Appointed as acting Chief Justice of Gauhati HC	Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh (Updated 12 January)
Appointed as a brand ambassador of Nutrition Company Herbalife Nutrition India Private Limited	Smriti Mandhana (Updated 12 January)
Become the first woman officer of the Border Roads Organization (BRO) to be posted on a foreign project. <b>About Border Roads Organization (BRO)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Formation</b> - 7 May 1960</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b> - New Delhi</li> <li>• <b>Director General</b> - Rajeev Chaudhary</li> </ul>	Captain Surbhi Jakhmola (Updated 15 January)
Appointed as the Deputy National Security Adviser (NSA)	Pankaj Kumar Singh (Updated 19 January)
Appointed as the Director of the National Health Authority (Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.	Praveen Sharma (Updated 21 January)



<b>Appointed as director general of the aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)</b>	Vikram Dev Dutt (Updated 24 January)
<b>Appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Tata Trusts</b>	Siddharth Sharma (Updated 26 January)
<b>Appointed as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Tata Trusts</b>	Aparna Uppaluri (Updated 26 January)
<b>Appoint as the new CEO of JP Morgan Chase &amp; Co (India) for three years.</b>	Prabdev Singh (Updated 26 January)
<b>Appointed as Chairman of Amul</b>	Shamalbhai B Patel (Updated 27 January)
<b>Appointed as vice Chairman of Amul</b>	Valamjibhai Humbal (Updated 27 January)
<b>Signs up as its Brand Ambassador of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)</b>	Champion Boxer Nikhat Zareen (Updated 30 January)

### (International)

<u>Organization / Country</u>	<u>Person</u>
<b>Appointed as new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bank of Singapore effective from 6 March 2023.</b>	Jason Moo (Updated 4 January)
<b>Elected as new speaker of the US House of Representatives</b>	Kevin McCarthy (Updated 8 January)
<b>Become the first female Sikh judge in the US</b>	Manpreet Monica Singh (Updated 10 January)
<b>Appointed as the new chief technologist of NASA.</b>	AC Charania (Updated 12 January)
<b>Appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Cognizant with immediate effect.</b>	Ravi Kumar (Updated 15 January)

<b>Appointed as the first minister of the new Ministry of Indigenous People of Brazil</b>	Sônia Guajajara (Updated 16 January)
<b>Appointed as the new Chief Economist of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)</b>	Clare Lombardelli (Updated 17 January)
<b>Become the youngest and the first LGBTQ woman of colour to serve on Oakland City Council in the US state of California.</b>	Janani Ramachandran (Updated 19 January)
<b>Appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Vedanta's Cairn Oil &amp; Gas</b>	Nick Walker (Updated 20 January)
<b>Announced his resignation amid the ongoing anti-corruption drive.</b> <b>About Vietnam</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Capital</b>- Hanoi</li> <li>• <b>Currency</b>- Vietnamese dong</li> <li>• <b>Prime Minister</b> - Pham Minh Chinh</li> </ul>	Vietnam President Nguyen Xuan Phuc (Updated 20 January)
<b>Become the first Indian-American politician to be sworn in as the Lieutenant Governor in the state of Maryland, USA.</b>	Aruna Miller (Updated 21 January)
<b>Elected as new prime minister of New Zealand</b> <b>About New Zealand</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Capital</b> - Wellington</li> <li>• <b>Currency</b> - Dollar</li> <li>• <b>Prime Minister</b> - Chris Hipkins</li> <li>• <b>Deputy Prime Minister</b> - Carmel Sepuloni</li> </ul>	Chris Hipkins (Updated 23 January)
<b>Netflix Inc co-founder is stepping down as Chief Executive Officer (CEO)</b>	Reed Hastings (Updated 23 January)
<b>Appointed as Administrator to manage the use of funds for the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2023</b>	Justice AK Sikri (Updated 24 January)

<b>Nominated as special envoy for human rights in North Korea</b>	Julie Turner (Updated 26 January)
<b>Named for US Air Force Brigadier General</b>	Raja Chari (Updated 28 January)
<b>Elected as President of the Czech Republic</b>  <b>About Czech Republic</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Capital</b> - Prague</li> <li>• <b>Currency</b> - Czech koruna</li> <li>• <b>Prime Minister</b> - Petr Fiala</li> <li>• <b>President</b> - Petr Pavel</li> </ul>	Petr Pavel (Updated 30 January)

## Chapter 2: Awards (National, International)

### (National)

<u>Award</u>	<u>Person/Organization</u>	<u>Purpose/ Field</u>
<b>A 5-star 'Eat Right Station' certification by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)</b>	The Varanasi Cantt railway station	For providing quality and nutritious food to passengers.
<b>'Best Police Unit' awards for 2021 in the state Maharashtra</b>	Jalna district police and Nagpur city police	The Jalna police got the award in ' <b>Class A</b> ' and the Nagpur police in ' <b>Class B</b> ', For maintaining <b>law and order</b> and evolving <b>community policing and administration</b> .
<b>Assam highest civilian award 'AssamBaibhav'</b>	Dr. Tapan Saikia	For his contribution to <b>cancer treatment</b>
<b>Dr. Patangrao Kadam award</b>	Adar Poonawalla	For their contribution in the fight against <b>COVID-19</b>
<b>Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2023</b>	Thiru Kumar Nadesan	For his <b>contribution towards community welfare</b> .

<b>The first-ever Federal Bank Literary Award 2022</b>	Writer K Venu	For his autobiography ' <b>Oranweshanathinte Katha</b> '.
<b>Best Small Bank Award 2022 under the category of banks with a book size of less than Rs 1 Lakh crore</b>	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	
<b>"The most distinguished scientist of the year 2022" at the Indian Achievers Award at Vigyan Bhawan</b>	R Vishnu Prasad	For his outstanding contributions in various fields, including <b>culture, science, sports, and innovation</b> .
<b>Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award</b>	Dr. Prabha Atre	She is an <b>Indian classical vocalist</b> from the <b>Kirana Gharana</b> .
<b>Inclusive Finance India Awards 2022</b>	ESAF Small Finance Bank	For its contributions to advancing the goal of <b>financial inclusion</b> and <b>supporting inclusive growth</b> .
<b>'Green Railway Station Certification with the highest rating of Platinum'</b>	Visakhapatnam railway station of East Coast Railway	For adopting <b>green concepts</b>
<b>India's number 1 station</b>	Aska police station of Odisha	

**(International)**

<b><u>Award</u></b>	<b><u>Person/Organization</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose/ Field</u></b>
<b>UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023</b>	Odisha	For <b>Jaga Mission</b> , a 5T initiative of the state.
<b>"Award for Global Leadership"</b>	Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud	<b>Justice Chandrachud</b> , who was part of the apex court benches that <b>delivered several landmark verdicts</b> , including the <b>Ayodhya</b> land dispute case, was sworn in as the <b>50th CJI on November 9, 2022</b> .



<b>The 80th 'Golden Globe Awards 2023' Best Original Song for Naatu Naatu</b>	South Cinema's film RRR	
<b>The 71st annual Miss Universe pageant</b>	Miss USA R'Bonney Gabriel	
<b>The 'Golden Kailasha' award at the 8th edition of the Ajanta-Ellora film festival.</b>	"Naanera", a Rajasthani	For the <b>best movie</b>
<b>The 'Best Sustainable Greenfield Airport' award under aviation sustainability and environment at ASSOCHAM's 14th International Conference-cum-Awards for Civil Aviation 2023</b>	GMR Goa International Airport (GGIAL)	For " <b>outstanding initiatives</b> " in implementing sustainability.
<b>ISA Award 2021-22 for Service to Humanity, a top civilian award of Bahrain</b>	Dr. Sanduk Ruit	He is fondly called as " <b>God of Sight</b> " to have saved <b>1,20,000 eyesight</b> who would have otherwise gone blind in absence of treatment.
<b>An Oscar nomination for Best Actress</b>	Michelle Yeoh	For <b>Best Actress</b> for her movie " <b>The 'Everything Everywhere All at Once</b> ".

## Annual Golden Globes Awards 20223 Complete winners list

### 80th Annual Golden Globes Awards 2023

- The **80th Golden Globe Awards** honored the best in **film and American television of 2022**, as chosen by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA).
- The ceremony was held on January 10, 2023, from The Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, California, with it being aired live in the United States on NBC and streamed on Peacock.
- Jerrod Carmichael hosted the ceremony.

- Golden Globes 2023 Winners

Film	Winner	Nominees
Best Motion Picture – Drama	The Fablemans	Avatar: The Way of Water Elvis Tár Top Gun: Maverick
Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy	The Banshees of Inisherin	Babylon Everything Everywhere All at Once Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery Triangle of Sadness
Best Actress in a Motion Picture – Drama	Cate Blanchett for Tár	Olivia Colman – Empire of Light  Viola Davis – The Woman King  Ana de Armas – Blonde  Michelle Williams – The Fabelmans
Best Actor in a Motion Picture – Drama	Austin Butler for Elvis	Brendan Fraser – The Whale Hugh Jackman – The Son  Bill Nighy – Living  Jeremy Pope – The Inspection
Best Actress in a Motion Picture — Musical or Comedy	Michelle Yeoh for Everything Everywhere All at Once	Margot Robbie – Babylon Anya Taylor-Joy – The Menu  Emma Thompson – Good Luck to You, Leo Grande

		Lesley Manville – Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris
Best Actor in a Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy	Colin Farrell for The Banshees of Inisherin	Diego Calva – Babylon Daniel Craig – Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery  Adam Driver – White Noise  Ralph Fiennes – The Menu
Best Actress in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture	Angela Bassett For Black Panther: Wakanda Forever	Kerry Condon – The Banshees of Inisherin Jamie Lee Curtis’s – Everything Everywhere All at Once  Dolly De Leon – Triangle of Sadness  Carey Mulligan – She Said
Best Actor in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture	Ke Huy Quan For Everything Everywhere All at Once	Barry Keoghan – The Banshees of Inisherin Brad Pitt – Babylon  Eddie Redmayne – The Good Nurse  Brendan Gleeson – The Banshees of Inisherin
Best Director – Motion Picture	Steven Spielberg – The Fabelmans	James Cameron – Avatar: The Way of Water Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert – Everything Everywhere All at Once  Baz Luhrmann – Elvis  Martin McDonagh – The Banshees of Inisherin

Best Screenplay — Motion Picture	Martin McDonagh For The Banshees of Inisherin	Sarah Polley – Women Talking Todd Field – Tár  Tony Kushner and Steven Spielberg – The Fabelmans  Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert – Everything Everywhere All at Once
Best Picture — Animated	Guillermo del Toro’s Pinocchio	Inu-Oh Marcel the Shell with Shoes On Puss in Boots: The Last Wish Turning Red
Best Picture — Non-English Language	Argentina, 1985	All Quiet on the Western Front Close Decision to Leave RRR
Best Original Score – Motion Picture	Justin Hurwitz, Babylon	Carter Burwell, The Banshees of Inisherin Alexandre Desplat, Guillermo del Toro’s Pinocchio Hildur Guðnadóttir, Women Talking John Williams, The Fabelmans
Best Song Motion Picture	“Naatu Naatu,” RRR	“Carolina,” Where the Crawdads Sing “Ciao Papa,” Guillermo del Toro’s Pinocchio “Hold My Hand,” Top Gun: Maverick “Lift Me Up,” Black Panther: Wakanda Forever

Television	Winner	Nominees
Best Television Series — Drama	House of the Dragon (HBO Max)	Better Call Saul (AMC+/AMC) The Crown (Netflix)

		Ozark (Netflix) Severance (Apple TV+)
Best Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Abbott Elementary (ABC)	The Bear (FX) Hacks (HBO Max) Only Murders in the Building (Hulu) Wednesday (Netflix)
Best Television Motion Picture	The White Lotus (HBO Max)	Black Bird (Apple TV+) Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story (Netflix) The Dropout (Hulu) Pam & Tommy (Hulu)
Best Actress — Television Motion Picture	Amanda Seyfried, The Dropout	Jessica Chastain, George & Tammy Julia Garner, Inventing Anna Lily James, Pam & Tommy Julia Roberts, Gaslit
Best Actor – Television Motion Picture	Evan Peters, Dahmer For Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story	Taron Egerton, Black Bird Colin Firth, The Staircase Andrew Garfield, Under the Banner of Heaven Sebastian Stan, Pam & Tommy
Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series — Drama	Zendaya, Euphoria	Emma D’Arcy, House of the Dragon Laura Linney, Ozark Imelda Staunton, The Crown Hilary Swank, Alaska Daily
Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series — Drama	Kevin Costner, Yellowstone	Jeff Bridges, The Old Man Diego Luna, Andor Bob Odenkirk, Better Call Saul Adam Scott, Severance



Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Quinta Brunson, Abbott Elementary	Kaley Cuoco, The Flight Attendant Selena Gomez, Only Murders in the Building Jenna Ortega, Wednesday Jean Smart, Hacks
Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Jeremy Allen White, The Bear	Donald Glover, Atlanta Bill Hader, Barry Steve Martin, Only Murders in the Building Martin Short, Only Murders in the Building
Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role on Television	Jennifer Coolidge, The White Lotus	Claire Danes, Fleishman is in Trouble Daisy Edgar-Jones, Under the Banner of Heaven Niecy Nash, Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story Aubrey Plaza, The White Lotus
Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role on Television	Paul Walter Hauser, Black Bird	F. Murray Abraham, The White Lotus Domhnall Gleeson, The Patient Richard Jenkins, Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story Seth Rogen, Pam & Tommy

### Padma Awards 2023

#### Padma Awards 2023 Winners List Announced

- The **Union ministry of home affairs** announced the **Padma Awards** on the eve of the country's 74th Republic Day.
- The government announced **6 names for Padma Vibhushan, 9 for Padma Bhushan, and 91 for Padma Shri Awards.**
- Nineteen of the awardees are women.

#### Padma Vibhushan (6)

1. Zakir Hussain - Art
2. S M Krishna - Public Affairs
3. Dilip Mahalanabis (Posthumous) - Medicine

4. Srinivas Varadhan - Science & Engineering
5. Mulayam Singh Yadav (Posthumous) - Public Affairs
6. Balkrishna Doshi (Posthumous) - Architecture

#### Padma Bhushan (9)

1. S L Bhyrappa - Literature & Education
2. Kapil Kapoor - Literature & Education
3. Kumar Mangalam Birla - Trade & Industry
4. Deepak Dhar - Science & Engineering
5. Vani Jairam - Art
6. Suman Kalyanpur - Art
7. Swami Chinna Jeeyar - Spiritualism
8. Kamlesh D Patel - Spiritualism
9. Sudha Murty - Social Work

#### Padma Shri (91)

1. Shri Anand Kumar - Literature & Education
2. Shri Radha Charan Gupta - Literature & Education
3. Shri Rattan Singh Jaggi - Literature & Education
4. Shri C I Issac - Literature & Education
5. Shri Prabhakar Bhanudas Mande - Literature & Education
6. Shri Antaryami Mishra - Literature & Education
7. Shri Ramesh Patange - Literature & Education
8. Shri Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari - Literature & Education
9. Shri Dhaniram Toto - Literature & Education
10. Shri Prakash Chandra Sood - Literature & Education
11. Dr. Janum Singh Soy - Literature & Education
12. Shri Mohan Singh - Literature & Education
13. Shri B Ramakrishna Reddy - Literature & Education
14. Shri Arvind Kumar - Science & Engineering
15. Shri Khadar Valli Dudekula - Science & Engineering
16. Shri Ganesh Nagappa Krishnarajanagara - Science & Engineering
17. Shri Modadugu Vijay Gupta - Science & Engineering
18. Prof. (Dr.) Mahendra Pal - Science & Engineering
19. Ms. Sujatha Ramdorai - Science & Engineering
20. Shri Abbareddy Nageswara Rao - Science & Engineering
21. Shri Bakshi Ram - Science & Engineering
22. Ms. Jodhaiyabai Baiga - Art
23. Shri Premjit Baria - Art
24. Ms. Usha Barle - Art
25. Shri Hemant Chauhan - Art
26. Shri Bhanubhai Chitara - Art
27. Ms. Hemoprova Chutia - Art
28. Shri Hem Chandra Goswami - Art
29. Ms. Pritikana Goswami - Art

30. Shri Domar Singh Kunvar - Art
31. Shri Risingbor Kurkalang - Art
32. Ms. Subhadra Devi - Art
33. Shri Ahmed Hussain & Shri Mohd Hussain - Art
34. Shri Dilshad Hussain - Art
35. Shri Parshuram Komaji Khune - Art
36. Shri Maguni Charan Kuanr - Art
37. Ms. Rani Machaiah - Art
38. Shri Ajay Kumar Mandavi - Art
39. Ms. Krishna Patel - Art
40. Shri K Kalyanasundaram Pillai - Art
41. Shri Mahipat Kavi - Art
42. Shri M M Keeravaani - Art
43. Shri Mangala Kanti Roy - Art
44. Ms. K C Runremsangi - Art
45. Shri Ritwik Sanyal- Art
46. Shri Kota Satchidananda Sastry -Art
47. Shri Kapil Dev Prasad - Art
48. Shri Shah Rasheed Ahmed Quadri - Art
49. Shri C V Raju - Art
50. Shri Pareshbhai Rathwa - Art
51. Shri Moa Subong - Art
52. Ms. Raveena Ravi Tandon - Art
53. Ms. Coomi Nariman Wadia - Art
54. Ms. Neihunuo Sorhie - Art
55. Shri Ghulam Muhammad Zaz - Art
56. Shri Ramesh Parmar & Ms. Shanti Parmar - Art
57. Shri Nadoja Pindipapanahalli Munivenkatappa - Art
58. Shri Bhiku Ramji Idate - Social Work
59. Shri Bikram Bahadur Jamatia -Social Work
60. Shri Ramkuiwangbe Jene - Social Work
61. Ms. Hirabai Lobi - Social Work
62. Shri Moolchand Lodha - Social Work
63. Shri Gajanan Jagannath Mane - Social Work
64. Shri Uma Shankar Pandey - Social Work
65. Shri V P Appukuttan Poduval - Social Work
66. Shri Laxman Singh - Social Work
67. Shri Palam Kalyana Sundaram - Social Work
68. Shri Karma Wangchu (Posthumous) - Social Work
69. Shri Sankurathri Chandra Sekhar- Social Work
70. Shri Vadivel Gopal & Shri Masi Sadaiyan - Social Work
71. Shri Narendra Chandra Debbarma (Posthumous) - Public Affairs
72. Shri Rakesh Radheshyam Jhunjhunwala (Posthumous) - Trade & Industry

73. Shri Areez Khambatta (Posthumous) - Trade & Industry
74. Shri Ratan Chandra Kar - Medicine
75. Dr. Nalini Parthasarathi - Medicine
76. Shri Hanumantha Rao Pasupuleti - Medicine
77. Shri Munishwar Chanddawat - Medicine
78. Dr. Gopalsamy Veluchamy - Medicine
79. Dr. Ishwar Chander Verma - Medicine
80. Shri Manoranjan Sahu - Medicine
81. Shri S R D Prasad - Sports
82. Shri Cheruvayal K Raman – Agriculture
83. Shri Tula Ram Upreti – Agriculture
84. Shri Patayat Sahu – Agriculture
85. Shri Nekram Sharma – Agriculture
86. Shri K Shanathoiba Sharma - Sports
87. Shri Gurcharan Singh - Sports
88. Shri Thounaojam Chaoba Singh - Public Affairs
89. Shri Kushok Thiksey Nawang Chamba Stanzin – Spiritualism
90. Dr. Sukama Acharya - Spiritualism
91. Shri S Subbaraman – Archaeology

### Gallantry Awards

#### President Murmu approved 412 Gallantry Awards to Armed Forces personnel

- President **Droupadi Murmu** has approved **412 Gallantry awards** and other **Defence decorations to Armed Forces personnel and others.**
- These include six Kirti Chakras, including four posthumous, and 15 Shaurya Chakras including two posthumous.
- These include one Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry), 92 Sena Medals, including four posthumous, one Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry), seven Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry) and 29 Param Vishisht Seva Medals.
- President has also awarded President's Tatrakshak Medal and Tatrakshak Medal to Indian Coast Guard Personnel for their act of conspicuous gallantry, exceptional devotion to duty, and distinguished service.

#### Kirti Chakra Awardees

- Major Shubhang of the Dogra Regiment from Indian Army
- Naik Jitendra Singh of the Rajput Regiment from Indian Army
- Jammu and Kashmir police constable Rohit Kumar (Posthumous)
- Sub Inspector Deepak Bhardwaj (Posthumous)
- Head constable Sodhi Narayan (Posthumous)
- Head constable Shrawan Kashyap (Posthumous)

#### Shaurya Chakra Awardees

- Major Aditya Bhadauria, Kumaon Regiment, Indian Army
- Captain Arun Kumar, Kumaon Regiment, Indian Army

- Captain Yudhvir Singh, mechanised infantry, Indian Army
- Captain Rakesh TR, Parachute Regiment, Indian Army
- Naik Jasbir Singh, Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, Indian Army (Posthumous)
- Naik Vikas Choudhary, Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, (Posthumous)
- Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh, Jammu and Kashmir Police
- Group Captain Yogeshwar Krishnarao Kandalkar, Air Force
- Flight Lieutenant Tejpal, Air Force
- Squadron leader Sandeep Kumar Jhahhria, Air Force
- Corporal Anand Singh, Air Force
- Leading aircraftman Sunil Kumar, Air Force
- Assistant Commandant Satendra Singh
- Deputy Commandant Vikki Kumar Pandey
- Constable Vijay Oraon

**Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry)**

- Major Rakesh Kumar, Indian Army

**Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry)**

- Late CDR Nishant Singh (Posthumous), Navy

**Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry)**

- Wing Commander Sumedh Ashok Jamkar, Air Force
- Squadron leader Krishna Kumar Singh, Air Force
- Junior Warrant officer Srikanth Bonam, Air Force
- Sergeant Pankaj Kumar Rana, Air Force
- Corporal Satendra Kumar, Air Force
- Corporal Anthony Mang Kham, Air Force
- Leading Aircraftman Ravinder Singh, Air Force

**Uttam Yudh Sewa Medal**

- Lieutenant General Ram Chander Tiwari, Indian Army
- Lieutenant General Anindiya Sengupta, Indian Army
- Lieutenant General Amardeep Singh Aujla, Indian Army



## Chapter 3: Government Scheme/ campaign

SCHEME	PURPOSE
<b>Prajjwala Challenge</b> <b>Under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM)</b>	To inviting ideas, solutions, and actions to transform the rural economy
<b>Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights scheme (Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu Adhikar Yojana)</b> <b>(Madhya Pradesh)</b>	The objective of this scheme is to provide free plots to the <b>poor living in rural areas</b> for building <b>their houses</b> .
<b>"Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development" (BIND)</b>	<p>The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal of the <b>Ministry of Information and Broadcasting</b> regarding the Central Sector Scheme <b>"Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development" (BIND)</b>.</p> <p>The BIND scheme is aimed to <b>bring modernization to the public broadcaster Prasar Bharati</b> i.e. All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD).</p>
<b>The shared school bus system, prime tourism vehicles, and agriculture response vehicle scheme</b> <b>(Meghalaya)</b>	<p>It will help to minimize <b>traffic congestion in Shillong</b>.</p> <p>The buses are part of the <b>Sustainable Transport and Efficient Mobility Society (STEMS)</b> programme focused on mobility and overall transportation to decongest the city.</p>
<b>A water conservation scheme with an outlay of Rs 467.32 crore</b> <b>(Jharkhand)</b>	<p>Under the scheme, <b>2,133 ponds</b> will be renovated and <b>2,795 percolation tanks</b> will be constructed in all the blocks of <b>24 districts of the state</b>.</p> <p>The objective of this scheme is to provide <b>water</b> to the <b>drought-affected farmers</b> of the state for irrigation purpose.</p>

## Chapter 4: Summit/ Conference

Summit/Conference	Location	About
<b>Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial</b>	New Delhi	<b>Prime Minister Narendra Modi</b> has chaired the <b>Annual General Meeting</b> of the <b>Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society</b> in New Delhi.

<b>Museum and Library Society</b>		He underlined the need to widen the scope of <b>research on modern Indian history</b> by involving individuals and institutions to create awareness about the country's past.
<b>The first G-20 meeting</b>	Puducherry	<b>Puducherry Lieutenant Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan</b> said that the first G-20 meeting will be held in <b>Puducherry on January 31</b> .  These programs will be organized in different parts of the country in different segments. <b>Kolkata</b> will host the first meeting on the <b>Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion</b> .
<b>The 36th Strategic Dialogue</b>	New Delhi	<b>India and France</b> held the <b>36th Strategic Dialogue in New Delhi</b> .  The two sides discussed a <b>wide range of bilateral and global issues</b> .
<b>The foreign ministers of the Group of Twenty (G20) countries</b>	New Delhi	The foreign ministers of the <b>Group of Twenty (G20) countries</b> are set to meet in <b>New Delhi in March 2023</b> .  India assumed the Presidency of the G20 starting in <b>December 2022</b> .
<b>A special virtual Summit on 12th and 13th of January 2023 called 'Voice of Global South Summit'</b>	India	The theme of the Summit is ' <b>Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose</b> . More than <b>120 countries</b> have been invited for this summit.
<b>The 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention</b>	Indore	The <b>17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention</b> is being organized in <b>Indore from 8th Jan to the 10th of January</b> in partnership with the Government of <b>Madhya Pradesh</b> .  The theme of this PBD conference is " <b>Diaspora: Reliable partners for India's progress in Amrit Kaal</b> ".
<b>First meeting of the working group on G20 Financial Inclusion</b>	Kolkata	<b>Kolkata</b> hosting the <b>first Meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group of G20</b> on Jan 9-11, 2023.  All the member countries, invited countries and invited organizations like <b>World Bank, IMF, and the United Nations</b> will take part in the meeting.
<b>14th edition of the World Spice Congress (WSC)</b>	Mumbai	The theme of the WSC 2023 is <b>VISION 2030: S-P-I-C-E-S (Sustainability, Productivity,</b>

		<p><b>Innovation, Collaboration, Excellence and Safety).</b></p> <p>The event, organized to create a platform not only for <b>traders</b> but also <b>policy regulators</b>, will have <b>special business sessions</b> dedicated to promoting spice trade among the <b>G20 countries</b>.</p>
<b>13th Ministerial Meeting of the India-US Trade Policy Forum</b>	Washington DC, USA.	To lay the foundation for forging <b>robust bilateral trade ties</b> and enhancing the <b>bilateral economic relationship</b> between both countries.
<b>The first G-20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) meeting</b>	Pune	The forum will bring together the <b>IWG</b> member countries, guest countries and international organizations invited by <b>India</b> to discuss the <b>2023 Infrastructure Agenda</b> under the <b>Indian G20 Presidency</b> .
<p><b>The 53rd edition of the annual World Economic Forum Summit 2023</b></p> <p><b>About World Economic Forum (WEF)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Founded</b> - 24 January 1971</li> <li>• <b>Founder</b>- Klaus Schwab</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b>- Cologne, Switzerland</li> <li>• <b>President</b>- Borge Brende</li> </ul>	Davos, Switzerland	The theme of this year's meet is ' <b>Cooperation in a fragmented world</b> '. Besides this raging issues like the <b>Russia-Ukraine war</b> , global recession, <b>climate change</b> , and spike in the cost of living are among the key issues to be discussed.
<b>A Business-20 (B-20) inception meeting, as part of the G-20 presidency</b>	Gandhinagar, Gujarat	The meeting will be held to <b>formulate policy recommendations</b> to be submitted to <b>G-20 ahead of the leaders' Summit</b> .
<b>The First Health Working Group meeting under G-20 India Presidency</b>	Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	The three-day meeting will focus on thematic discussions on three main priorities, <b>health emergencies prevention, preparedness and response, strengthening cooperation</b> in the pharmaceutical sector, and digital health innovations to <b>aid universal health coverage</b> .
<b>'Think 20' meeting under G20</b>	Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh (MP)	<p>The first <b>Think-20 meeting</b> in MP has inaugurated by Chief Minister <b>Shivraj Singh Chouhan</b>.</p> <p>During the meeting, experts and foreign guests will discuss various topics including <b>Global</b></p>

		<b>Governance with LiFE, Values, and Wellbeing.</b>
<b>The first Global Tourism Investors Summit from 10th to 12th April 2023</b>	Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.	The aim of the summit is to bring together <b>global business leaders</b> , and policymakers to understand and <b>explore Tourism Business opportunities</b> in India.
<b>The 5th Foreign Policy and Security Dialogue between India and South Korea</b>	Seoul	Both sides agreed to deepen cooperation in areas including <b>trade and investment, security and defense, science and technology</b> , as well as <b>cultural and people-to-people exchanges</b> .
<b>41st session of the Network Planning Group (NPG)</b>	New Delhi	The meeting saw deliberations on a <b>4 Lane Accessed Controlled Greenfield Highway</b> as part of the <b>Nagpur-Vijaywada corridor</b> and new rail connectivity projects connecting <b>Barejadi Nandej to Sanand in Gujarat</b> , and <b>Barbil, Barsuan and Nayagrah in Odisha</b>
<b>The first G-20 Environment meeting under the G-20 India Presidency</b>	Taj West End in Bengaluru	It will put specific emphasis on the <b>restoration of areas affected by Forest Fire and Mining</b> .
<b>The 18th Annual General Meeting of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE)</b>	Guwahati	During the meeting, a holistic approach of the government for skill development in the <b>North Eastern region</b> was suggested.  Both the Ministers also <b>co-chaired</b> a review meeting on the preparations for several activities under ' <b>Ek Bharat, Shreshth Bharat</b> '.
<b>The first meeting of the Youth-20 Group from 6-8 February, 2023</b>	Guwahati	The meeting will focus on five themes of the Future of Work - <b>climate change and disaster risk reduction, peacebuilding and reconciliation, democracy and youth in health, well-being and sport</b> .
<b>National SC-ST Hub Conclave</b>	Mumbai	The National conclave has been organized by the <b>Union Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises</b> , to spread awareness of the <b>National SC-ST Hub (NSSH)</b> and other schemes of the <b>MSME Ministry</b> .
<b>First Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) meeting</b>	Bhubaneswar, Odisha	<b>The MOC members</b> met to discuss the major agenda of <b>India's Olympic program and proposals for the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) athletes</b> . <b>About Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was created in <b>July 2014</b> under the auspices of the <b>National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)</b> with the objective of identifying and preparing</li> </ul>

		potential medal prospects for the Olympic and <b>Paralympic Games</b> .
<p><b>The Election Commission of India (ECI) has hosted the 2nd International Conference</b></p> <p><b>About Election Commissioner of India (ECI)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is a constitutional body to conduct and regulate elections in the country.</li> <li>• <b>Founded</b> - 25 January 1950</li> <li>• <b>25 January</b> - Voter's Day</li> <li>• <b>HQ</b> - New Delhi</li> <li>• <b>1st Chief</b> - Sukumar Sen</li> <li>• <b>1st Women Chief</b> - V.S. Ramadevi</li> <li>• <b>25th Chief</b> - Rajiv Kumar</li> <li>• <b>Commissioner</b> - Anup Chandra Pandey &amp; Arun Goel</li> </ul>	New Delhi	<p>Theme 2023 - <b>Use of Technology and Elections Integrity</b>.</p> <p><b>The Chief Election Commissioner of India, Rajiv Kumar</b>, along with <b>Election Commissioners Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goel</b>, inaugurated the two-day international conference.</p>
<p><b>The first-ever India Stack Developer Conference</b></p>	New Delhi	<p>Delegates from <b>G20 countries and G20 Secretariat</b> have also been invited to the conference.</p> <p>The conference will provide a platform for the Industry and <b>developer community</b> to explore ways to develop a <b>robust start-up</b> and <b>innovation ecosystem</b> within the country and also take <b>India stack products</b> to other countries.</p>
<p><b>The G20 Startup20 Engagement Group will hold its inception meeting</b></p>	Hyderabad	<p>The group will discuss the productive development of <b>policy recommendations on entrepreneurship and innovation priorities</b> of and across <b>G20 countries</b> for the years ahead.</p>
<p><b>The 15th BRICS summit</b></p>	South Africa	<p>It was announced by the <b>Russian Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov</b> in a joint conference with Foreign Minister of the <b>State of Eritrea Osman Saleh</b> in <b>Massawa, Eritrea</b>.</p>



## Chapter 5: Partnership/ Agreement

<b>Partnership/ Agreement</b>	<b>Aim</b>
<p><b>India and Cyprus have signed a number of agreements</b></p> <p><b>About Cyprus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Capital</b> - Nicosia</li> <li>• <b>Currency</b> - Euro</li> <li>• <b>President</b> - Nicos Anastasiades</li> </ul>	<p>On <b>Defence and Military Cooperation</b> between the two countries.</p> <p>To provide a common framework of arrangement and cooperation to facilitate the <b>mobility of students, academics, business people and professionals.</b></p>
<p><b>India and Austria have signed five agreements and two of them are in the interest of the Indian community living in Austria.</b></p> <p><b>About Austria</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Capital</b>- Vienna</li> <li>• <b>Currency</b>- Euro</li> <li>• <b>President</b> - Alexander Van der Bellen</li> </ul>	<p>The two agreements would be in the interest of the <b>Indian community.</b></p> <p>There is an agreement on '<b>Migration and Mobility</b>' for people who want to work in Austria and who want to come to <b>India</b> for <b>business</b>, or who come here <b>as students and professionals.</b></p> <p>Another agreement is on the '<b>Working Holiday</b>' <b>program</b> that will enable Indian students in <b>Austria</b> to work for <b>6 months.</b></p>
<p><b>The Tripura government has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB)</b></p>	<p>To strengthen and <b>improve power distribution efficiency</b> in the <b>north-eastern state</b> amounting to <b>Rs 2,275 crore</b></p>
<p><b>SBI Cards has partnered with Punjab &amp; Sind Bank</b></p> <p><b>About Punjab &amp; Sind Bank</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Founded</b> - 24 June 1908</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b> - New Delhi</li> <li>• <b>MD &amp; CEO</b> - Swarup Kumar Saha</li> <li>• <b>Executive Director</b> - Kollegal V Raghavendra</li> <li>• <b>Tagline</b> - Where Service is a Way of Life</li> </ul>	<p>To launch <b>co-brand credit cards</b> for the bank's customers.</p> <p>The new three card variants are - <b>PSB SBI Card ELITE, PSB SBI Card PRIME, and PSB SimplySAVE SBI Card.</b></p>

<p><b>India has signed various loan agreements with the Asian Development Bank (ADB)</b></p> <p><b>About Asian Development Bank (ADB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Founded</b> - 19 December 1966</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b> - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines</li> <li>• <b>President</b> - Masatsugu Asakawa</li> <li>• <b>Vice President</b> - Ashok Lavasa</li> <li>• <b>Director of ADB for India</b> - Takeo Konishi</li> <li>• <b>Executive Director</b> - Sameer Kumar Khare</li> <li>• <b>Member Countries</b> - 68 (Nuie)</li> </ul>	<p>To boost the infrastructure sector in the country.</p>
<p><b>The private sector lender HDFC Bank has partnered with Microsoft in the next phase of its digital transformation.</b></p> <p><b>About HDFC Bank</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Founded</b> – August 1994</li> <li>• <b>Founder</b> - Hasmukhbhai Parekh</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b> - Mumbai, Maharashtra</li> <li>• <b>MD &amp; CEO</b> - Sashidhar Jagdishan</li> <li>• <b>Tagline</b> - We understand your world</li> </ul>	<p>To <b>unlock business</b> value by transforming the <b>application portfolio, modernizing the data landscape</b>, and securing the enterprise with <b>Microsoft Cloud</b>.</p>
<p><b>Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited (formerly known as Max Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited) has signed a corporate agency agreement with Sundaram Finance Limited</b></p>	<p>To offer <b>Niva Bupa's</b> select range of indemnity plans to its <b>growing range of existing and past customers</b></p>

<p><b>Axis Bank has partnered with the digital banking fintech company OPEN</b></p> <p><b>About OPEN Company</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Founded in <b>2017</b>, <b>Open Financial Technologies operates SME neo-banking platform</b> Open Money, embedded finance platform, Zwitch and enterprise digital banking platform for banks, Banking Stack.</li> <li>• The 100th Unicorn from India, Open is backed by leading global investors like IIFL Finance, Temasek, Google, Visa, Tiger Global, amongst others.</li> </ul>	<p>To launch a digital current account for its customers including <b>SMEs, freelancers, homepreneurs, influencers and others.</b></p>
<p><b>Hockey Wali Sarpanch signed an agreement with NABARD</b></p> <p><b>About National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Founded</b> - 12 July 1982</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b> - Mumbai, Maharashtra</li> <li>• <b>Chairman</b> - K V Shaji</li> <li>• NABARD established on the recommendations of B. Sivaramman Committee</li> </ul>	<p>To strengthen farmers of <b>Lambi Ahir Village, Rajasthan</b></p> <p>To bring <b>market access</b> of different channels for our farmers, the economy of <b>scale</b>, <b>reduction in transaction cost</b>, and <b>reduction</b> in middlemen.</p>
<p><b>South Indian Bank has partnered with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)</b></p>	<p>To provide <b>financial assistance</b> to the dealers of <b>SAIL</b> across the country.</p>
<p><b>Adani Enterprises has signed an agreement with Ashok Leyland and Ballard Power (Canada)</b></p>	<p>To launch a pilot project to develop a <b>hydrogen fuel cell electric truck (FCET)</b> for <b>mining logistics and transportation.</b></p>
<p><b>SBI General Insurance has partnered with Doers NGO</b></p>	<p>To assist <b>Himachal Pradesh police</b> in reducing the number of <b>traffic accidents</b> under the <b>corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative.</b></p>

<p><b>The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has partnered with JSP Foundation</b></p> <p><b>About International Hockey Federation (FIH)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Founded</b>- 7 January 1924, Paris, France</li> <li>• <b>Founder</b>- Paul Léautéy</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b>- Lausanne, Switzerland</li> <li>• <b>CEO</b>- Thierry Weil</li> <li>• <b>President</b>- Tayyab Ikram (Macau)</li> <li>• <b>Motto</b>- Fair Play Friendship forever</li> </ul>	<p><b>For Hockey Development and Men's World Cup in Jan 2023.</b></p>
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## Chapter 6: Ranking Index

Index	Index released by	India's Rank	1st Rank
<b>Global airports of 2022</b>	Cirium	Bengaluru, India – Kempegowda International Airport 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tokyo, Japan – Haneda Airport
<b>Henley Passport Index 2023</b>	The International Air Transport Association (IATA)	85th	Japan
<b>Destination for mobile gamers India Mobile Gaming Report 2022</b>	Gaming platform Mobile Premier League.		Uttar Pradesh
<b>Global Fire Power Index 2023</b>		4th	USA

## Chapter 7: Mergers and Acquisitions

Merger Company	About
<b>Tata Motors to complete the acquisition of Ford India's manufacturing plant</b>	<b>Tata Motors</b> to complete the acquisition of Ford India's manufacturing plant at <b>Sanand</b> through its subsidiary on <b>10th January 2023</b> .

	The subsidiary, <b>Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Limited (TPEML)</b> , on August 2022, announced that would acquire <b>Ford India Pvt Ltd's (FIPL)</b> Sanand plant in <b>Gujarat</b> for <b>₹725.7 crore</b> .
<b>IIT Madras Centre of Excellence (CoE) has collaborated with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)</b>  <b>About Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Founded</b> - 1 January 1958</li> <li>• <b>Headquarters</b> - New Delhi</li> <li>• <b>Motto</b> - "Strength's Origin is in Knowledge"</li> <li>• <b>Chairman</b> - Dr. Samir V Kamat</li> </ul>	To develop <b>Advanced Defence Technologies</b>

## Chapter 8: Loan

Organization/Bank	Loan Amount	To which country	Purpose
<b>Asian Development Bank</b>	\$100 million	Shriram Finance Limited	<b>To finance its purchase of new and used vehicles across India.</b>

## Chapter 9: App/Website/Portal

App/ Website/Portal	Company / Department	Purpose
<b>Portal for mapping of Industrial Units and Laboratories</b>	Union Minister for Commerce and Industry	This will enable <b>analysis of test facilities in the country</b> and help <b>entrepreneurs</b> in accessing <b>information</b> about testing facilities.
<b>A MSME online portal providing instant online 'In Principle'</b>	The South Indian Bank	To get <b>instant funds</b> . This initiative will help thousands of <b>micro and small businesses avail loans</b> quickly.
<b>PayRup APP</b>	Launched by Mahadevappa Halagatti.	It provides advanced <b>digital payment experience</b> with outstanding user experience.

<b>MAARG platform (Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth)</b>	Union Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal	The portal will facilitate mentorship between <b>startups and entrepreneurs across sectors, stages, and functions.</b>
<b>National Logistics Portal (Marine)</b>	Sarbananda Sonowal	The portal is a <b>one-step platform</b> aimed at connecting all the <b>stakeholders of the logistics community</b> using Information Technology to improve efficiency and transparency by <b>reducing costs and time delays.</b>

## Chapter 10: Important MoU

<b>MoU</b>	<b>Between Which Countries</b>
<b>This agreement will help in the creation of over 20,000 new employment opportunities.</b>	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b> government has signed an MoU with <b>six UAE-based companies</b> worth <b>Rs 18,590 crore</b>
<b>Signed MoUs with the aim of boosting cooperation in the development of the Tourism sector of the State, and promotion, and publicity of tourist places.</b>	<b>Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board</b> with chapters of <b>eight countries of the Global Organisation of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO)</b> France Metropole Paris, Mauritius, Reunion Island, Martinique, Sri Lanka, GOPIO International, Malaysia, and Mauritius.
<b>Signed MoU to enhance cooperation in training of diplomats</b>	<b>India with Panama</b>
<b>Signed an MoU to establish a Hindi Chair.</b>	<b>The Indian High Commission</b> with the <b>Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka</b>
<b>Signed an MoU to establish a Centre for Mathematics and Computing at the Institute.</b>	<b>Axis Bank</b> with the Indian Institute of Science ( <b>IISc</b> ) <b>Bengaluru</b>
<b>Signed non-binding MoUs to extend financial assistance for various projects during UP Global Investors Summit in Delhi.</b>	State-owned <b>REC Ltd.</b> with the <b>Uttar Pradesh government</b>
<b>Signed an MoU for the Development of Floating and Ground Mounted based Renewable Energy Projects in the State of Tripura.</b>	<b>NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (NTPC REL)</b> with the Government of <b>Tripura</b>
<b>Signed an MoU to help farmers in getting low interest-rate loans.</b>	Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority ( <b>WDRA</b> ) with the <b>State Bank of India</b>



Signed an MoU to work together for the promotion of medical value travel in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine.	The Ayush Ministry with India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC)
Signed an MoU to strengthen cultural ties.	India's Ministry of Culture with the Government of Egypt
Signed an MoU to introduce 12 African Cheetahs annually over the next eight to ten years.	India and South Africa

## Chapter 11: GDP Forecasting

Organization	FY22 (2021-22)	FY23 (2022-23)
Fitch	8.4%	7% (7%, 2023-24)
HSBC Bank	11.2%	
RBI forecasted	9.5%	6.8% (6.3%, 2023-24)
Moody	8.8% for calendar year 2022	7%
Asian Development Bank (ADB)		7% (8%, 2023-24)
World Bank	8.3%	6.9% (6.8%, 2023-24)
<u>World Economic Outlook released by International Monetary Fund (IMF)</u>	9%	6.1% (6.8%, 2023-24)
FICCI	9.1%	7.4%
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	9.4%	6.6% for FY23 5.7% For FY24
UNCTAD		5.7%
Goldman Sachs	9.1%	6.9% (2022), 5.9% (2023)
CRISIL	9.5%	7% (6% FY24)
UN (United Nation)	4.6%	6.4% (5.8%, 2023-24)
Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)	9.5%	
India Ratings & Research (Ind-Ra)	8.6%	7-7.2%
Economy Survey	11%	8-8.5%

National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)		
Standard & Poor's (S&P)	9.5%	7% (6.5%,2023-24)
ICRA	8.5%	7.2%
State Bank of India (SBI)		6.8%
Morgan Stanley	10.5%	7.2% (6.7%,2023-24)
CARE Ratings	8.8 to 9%	
Normura	10.8%	4.7% (FY 24-5.1%)
Oxford Economics	10.2%	
Brickwork Ratings	8.3%	8-8.5% (1 Feb 2022)
UBS	9.1%	
National Statistical Office (NSO)	8.7%	7%
Barclays	7.7%	
BofA Securities	9%	

## Chapter 12: Current Affairs (National)

### India's first underwater metro to become operation by December 2023

- According to the **Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation**, India's **first underwater metro service**, the East-West Metro Corridor project is expected to be **completed by December 2023**.
- The East-West corridor of the Kolkata Metro is 15 Km-long and spans from Salt Lake Stadium to Howrah.

### Pralhad Joshi inaugurated Rs 300 crore Angul-Balram rail line in Odisha

- Coal Minister **Pralhad Joshi** inaugurated the **Rs 300 crore Angul-Balram rail line** connecting **Odisha's Talcher Coalfield**.
- The 14-km-long Angul-Balram rail link is the first phase of a total 68-km inner corridor connecting Angul with Putugadia, Jarapada, and Tentuloi, which will cater to coal mines of Talcher coalfields.

### International Year of Millets (IYM) 2023 kick starts on 1 Jan 2023

- The **year 2023** is being observed all over the world as *the International Year of the millets*.
- The Government of India aims to make the International Year of the millets a 'People's Movement' and position India as the 'Global Hub for Millets'.

### CRPF celebrated Jashn-e-Chillai-Kalan' with students in Srinagar

- **CRPF** celebrated 'Jashn-e-Chillai-Kalan' with students in **Srinagar**.
- Chillai-Kalan is the harshest winter period in Kashmir for a period of 40 days starting from 21st December to 29th January every year.

### India's second longest cable-stayed eight-lane Zuari Bridge opens in Goa

- Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways **Nitin Gadkari** has inaugurated the **first phase of the New Zuari Bridge** across River Zuari connecting Bambolim in North Goa to Verna junction in South Goa.

- Located on NH-17/NH-66 on the Panjim-Mangalore section in the state of Goa, the bridge will reduce the travel time between North and South Goa by minimizing the traffic blockades between the Bambolim-Agasaim-Cortalim-Sancoale to Verna Junction.

#### 'SMART' programme launched to boost R&D in Ayurveda

- **Government of India** has launched the 'SMART' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals) programme.
- Objective - **To boost scientific research in priority healthcare research areas through Ayurveda colleges and hospitals.**
- The SMART program has been jointly launched by the Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS). Both Institutions come under the Union Ministry of Ayush.

#### PM Modi inaugurated 108th Indian Science Congress

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **108th Indian Science Congress** through video conferencing.
- The focal theme of this year's ISC is "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment".

#### Shiva Chauhan becomes the first women officer to be operationally deployed in Siachen

- **Captain Shiva Chauhan** has become the **first woman army officer** to get operationally **deployed on the Siachen Glacier**, the world's highest battlefield.
- The officer has deployed at the Kumar post, located at an altitude of around 15,600 feet in Siachen for a period of three months after she underwent rigorous training.

#### PM Modi to launch world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Assam

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will flag off the **world's longest luxury river cruise** - 'Ganga Vilas' - from **Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi to Dibrugarh in Assam** on January 13.
- The cruise will cover **3,200 kilometres in 50 days.**
- Passing through the rivers of India and Bangladesh, the cruise will be covering 27 different river systems and will stop at over 50 tourist sites, including world heritage.

#### Mamata Banerjee launched new campaign 'Didir Suraksha Kavach'

- West Bengal Chief Minister **Mamata Banerjee** has launched **two programme** named 'Didir Suraksha Kawach' and 'Didir Doot', ahead of the 2023 panchayat polls.
- Around 3.5 lakh party workers will reach out to 10 crore people of the state. It is being done so that no one is left out.
- The programme will focus on 15 state government schemes, covering various sectors such as food, housing, health, education, social security, income and employment.

#### Manipur celebrated Imoinu Eratpa festival

- The Meetei community of Manipur celebrates Imoinu Eratpa festival every year and they regard the Imoinu goddess as a goddess of wealth and prosperity.
- As part of the celebration, people offer different dishes to Imoinu goddess and prayers will be held.

### 2nd Phase of Sari Festival "VIRAASAT" begins in New Delhi

- The second phase of the Sari Festival "VIRAASAT" is celebrating 75 handwoven Saris of India in New Delhi.
- This phase is being organized by the Ministry of Textiles from 3rd to 17th January 2023 at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi.
- The first phase of "VIRAASAT" - started on the 16th and concluded on 30th of last month.

### Gaan Ngai festival celebrated in Manipur

- The Gaan Ngai festival of the Zeliangrong community has celebrated in Manipur.
- The Gaan Ngai festival is one of Manipur's major festivals, which is celebrated every year after harvesting.

### Narendra Tomar inaugurated 'North East Krishi Kumbha-2023'

- Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the three-day 'North East Krishi Kumbha-2023' in Meghalaya.
- He also participated in the 49th Foundation Day celebration of the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam.

### World's first Palm-leaf Manuscript Museum in Thiruvananthapuram

- Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala has opened the world's first museum of palm leaf manuscripts, enriching the state culturally and educationally.
- The museum, which opened last week, has 187 manuscripts chronicling a mine of stories based entirely on primary sources.

### India's first Inclusion Festival, Purple Fest begins in Goa

- Union Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar has inaugurated 'Purple Fest: Celebrating Diversity', India's first festival of inclusion in Goa.
- Objective - To showcase how we can come together to create a welcoming and inclusive world for everyone.

### Military Tattoo & Tribal Dance Festival to be held in New Delhi

- A Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance Festival - Aadi Shaurya - Parv Parakram Ka will be held at Jawaharlal Nehru stadium in New Delhi on January 23 & 24, 2023.
- The two-day festival will showcase the prowess of the Armed Forces and the ethnic beauty of India's tribal culture.

### Odisha CM inaugurated the state-of-the-art hockey stadium in Rourkela

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated the state-of-the-art hockey stadium in Rourkela.
- The stadium has been named after legendary freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

### BPCL launched low-smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for Indian Army

- Indian state refiner **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)** has launched **low-smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO)** for the Indian Army in Jammu.
- The low-smoke kerosene will provide cleaner fuel to soldiers.

#### Amit Shah inaugurated 120-foot-tall polo statue in Manipur

- Union Home Minister **Amit Shah** has unveiled a **120-foot-tall statue of a polo player riding a pony** at **Marjing Polo Complex** in **Manipur's Imphal East** district.
- Northeastern state **Manipur** is considered as the **birthplace of polo sports**. The state is epicenter of the game.

#### Chhattisgarh celebrated traditional 'Cherchera' festival

- **Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel** celebrates the traditional **Cherchera festival** at **Dudhadhari Math** in the state capital **Raipur**.
- The traditional **Cherchera** festival is celebrated on the full moon night of **'Paush'** Hindu calendar month in the happiness of taking the crops to their homes after cultivation.

#### Gujarat CM inaugurated International Kite Festival 2023

- Gujarat Chief Minister **Bhupendra Patel** has inaugurated the **International Kite Festival 2023** in **Ahmedabad**.
- It will be held from the 8th to the 14th of January, 2023.
- The theme of this festival will be held with the **theme of G20 - 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'**.

#### PM Modi launched Aspirational Block Programme

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has launched the **Aspirational Block Programme (ABP)** on the lines of a similar exercise aimed at developing backward districts.
- India is focusing on the four pillars of infrastructure, investment, innovation and inclusion to be a developed country.
- The ABP was launched during the 2nd National Conference of Chief Secretaries.
- The programme will cover 500 districts across 31 states and Union Territories initially.
- Over half of these blocks are in 6 states-UP (68 blocks), Bihar (61), MP (42), Jharkhand (34), Odisha (29), and WB (29).

#### Talcher Fertiliser plant in Odisha will be ready by October 2024

- Union Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** has informed that the country's **first-ever coal gasification-based Talcher Fertiliser plant in Odisha** will be ready to be dedicated to the nation by **October 2024**.

#### Uttar Pradesh government launched UP Global City campaign

- The **Uttar Pradesh government** has launched a **100-day "UP Global City" campaign** in advance of the **Global Investors Summit** and **G20 summit**.
- Objective - To bring urban areas in the state up to global standards, with a focus on improving urban facilities, air quality, cleanliness, and beautification, as well as proper garbage disposal.

#### Kerala becomes country's first fully digital banking state



- Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has declared **Kerala as the first state in the country to go fully digital in its banking service.**
- This achievement was possible due to social interventions through local self-government institutions along with infrastructure development and technological advances in the banking sector.

#### **Kerala University won 'Overall Championship' at youth festival**

- The **University of Kerala** bagged the 'Overall Championship' at the **36th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival in Tirupati.**
- **Mahatma Gandhi University** came as the runners-up.

#### **Aparna Sen received Lifetime Achievement Award at Jaipur Film Festival**

- Veteran actor-director **Aparna Sen** has honoured with the **Lifetime Achievement Award** at the opening ceremony of the **15th edition of the Jaipur International Film Festival (JIFF).**

#### **PM Modi inaugurated Global Investors Summit in Indore**

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has virtually inaugurated the **7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.**
- The inaugural session of the summit was attended by **Chandrika Prasad Santokhi (President of Suriname)** and **Dr. Mohammed Irfan Ali (President of Guyana).**
- The theme of the Global Investors Summit is '**Madhya Pradesh - a future-ready state**'.

#### **Sudarsan Pattnaik builds world's largest hockey stick in Odisha**

- Renowned sand artist **Sudarsan Pattnaik** built the **world's largest hockey sculpture on the banks of the Mahanadi River in Cuttack, Odisha.**
- He built a **105-foot long hockey stick, using 5000 hockey balls.**
- Objective - **To mark the commencement of the Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 that begins on January 13.**

#### **Centre renamed Integrated Food Security Scheme as Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana**

- The Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had approved a new **Integrated Food Security** scheme for providing free foodgrains to **Antodaya Ann Yojna (AAY) & Primary Household (PHH) beneficiaries**, to be rolled out from **1st January 2023.**
- New scheme has been named as **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY).**

#### **PM Modi inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival at Hubbali in Karnataka**

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated **26th National Youth Festival**, organized in **Karnataka from 12th -16th January 2023.**
- Theme of this event: **Viksit Yuva - Viksit Bharat.**The event also included folk dances and songs.

#### **Centre approved ₹2,600 crore as incentive for banks to promote digital payments**

- The **Union Cabinet** has approved a **₹2,600 crore scheme** for promoting **RuPay debit cards and low-value BHIM-UPI transactions.**



- The Cabinet has approved this incentive scheme to promote small amount transactions between individuals and merchants through RuPay Debit Cards and BHIM-UPI.

#### West Bengal organized 'Ganga Sagar Mela' on Makar Sankranti

- Lakhs of pilgrims have celebrated flocking to Sagar Island on the **southernmost tip of West Bengal** for the annual **Ganga Sagar Mela**, held between January 12 and 14 to celebrate Makar Sankranti.
- It is the second largest fair in India after Kumbha Mela.

#### Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated School of Logistics

- Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, **Sarbananda Sonowal and Tripura CM Manik Saha** have inaugurated the **School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication in Agartala, Tripura.**

#### India's largest student-run festival 'Saarang' conducts at IIT Madras

- Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Annual **Cultural Festival Saarang** has been conducted completely in physical mode.
- This year is the **28th Edition of the Saarang**, which is one of the largest student-run festivals.
- The theme for Saarang 2023 is '**Mystic Hues**' which celebrates how intertwined colours are with culture and traditions.

#### 'Soul of Steel' challenge launched in Uttarakhand

- **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** has launched the '**Soul of Steel**' challenge in **Dehradun, Uttarakhand** on the occasion of Armed Forces Veterans Day.
- The 'Soul of steel' challenge is based on the lines of the 'Ironman triathlon', a long-distance triathlon held in Europe which tests an individual's physical capabilities.

#### PM Modi announced 'Aarogya Maitri' project

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has announced a new '**Aarogya Maitri**' project under which India will **provide essential medical supplies to any developing country affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crisis.**
- PM Modi announced the "Aarogya Maitri" project during the Voice of Global South Summit

#### FSSAI issues regulatory standards for Basmati Rice for first time

- **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** has specified **identity standards for basmati rice** (including brown basmati, milled basmati, parboiled brown basmati, and milled parboiled basmati) **for the first time.**
- As per these standards, Basmati rice shall possess the natural fragrance characteristics of basmati rice and be free from artificial coloring.
- These standards will be **enforced from August 1.**

#### Entire country to be covered by doppler weather radar network by 2025

- Union Minister **Dr. Jitendra Singh** has informed that by **2025, the entire country will be covered by the Doppler weather radar network.**
- The purpose is to **predict extreme weather events more accurately.**

- The number of Doppler radars in the country has increased from 15 in 2013 to 37 in 2023.

#### Indian Railway to run Bharat Gaurav train between Ayodhya and Janakpur

- **Indian Railways** is going to run its **Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC Tourist Train** on a very special tour “**Shri Ram-Janaki Yatra: Ayodhya to Janakpur**” covering two most significant pilgrimage sites Ayodhya and Janakpur from the neighboring countries India and Nepal.

#### India announced the donation of pentavalent vaccines to Cuba

- **India** has announced, the **donation of 12,500 doses of pentavalent vaccines to Cuba**.
- The pentavalent vaccine provides protection to a child from five life-threatening diseases Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Hib.
- It was announced during the Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi's official visit to Cuba.

#### Rajasthan becomes first state to implement blindness control policy

- **Rajasthan** has become the **first state to implement a policy to control blindness**, with the objective of ensuring the “**right to sight**”.
- The policy has been introduced with the aim to bring light in the lives of more than three lakh people suffering from visual impairment in the state.

#### India's richest 1% own more than 40% of total wealth: Oxfam

- The **richest one percent** in India now own **more than 40 percent of the country's total wealth**, while the bottom half of the population together share just 3 percent of wealth, **according to Oxfam report**
- A one-off tax on unrealized gains from 2017–2021 on just one billionaire, Gautam Adani, could have raised Rs 1.79 lakh crore, enough to employ more than five million Indian primary school teachers for a year.

#### Maghi Mela festival being held in Punjab

- **Maghi Mela festival** is being celebrated in **Muktsar Sahib, Punjab**.
- The Maghi Mela has been celebrated in the city of Sri Muktsar Sahib in Punjab for centuries in memory of the 40 Sikh warriors who died fighting the Mughals in the Battle of Khidrana in 1705.

#### NCERT notified India's first national assessment regulator 'PARAKH'

- The **National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT)** has notified **India's first national assessment regulator, PARAKH**.
- **PARAKH** stands for **Performance Appraisal, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development**.
- The regulator aims to set up assessment guidelines for all boards to help remove disparities in scores of students enrolled with different state boards.

#### Telangana CM launched second phase of 'Kanti Velugu'

- **Telangana Chief Minister, K Chandrasekhar Rao** has launched the **second phase of the 'Kanti Velugu' initiative in Khammam district**.
- It is considered to be the world's largest eye screening programme.

- Under the Kanti Velugu, free eye screening will be held at the special health camps for 100 days with 1500 medical teams.

#### Kerala Literature Festival concludes in Kozhikode

- The 6th edition of the Kerala Literature Festival concluded in Kozhikode, Kerala.
- The event was included in the World Tourism Calendar.
- The Thrissur Pooram and the Kochi-Muziris Biennale are other events in Kerala that have found a place in the World tourism calendar.

#### ASI discovered two 1200-year-old miniature stupas at Nalanda, Bihar

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has discovered two 1200-year-old miniature stupas within the complex of the world heritage site 'Nalanda Mahavihara' in the Nalanda district of Bihar.
- The figures of Buddha are shown on the stupa carved out of stone. Such stupas were popular as votive offerings in India as early as the 7th century.

#### Punjab government to launch 'Schools of Eminence' project

- The Punjab government will launch its first major education project, 'Schools of Eminence'.
- It will be launched at the Indian School of Business (ISB), Mohali.
- Under the project, the state government will upgrade existing government schools into 'Schools of Eminence' for classes 9 to 12.

#### Kollam becomes first constitution-literate district in India

- Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan has declared Kollam district as the first Constitution-literate district in the country.
- It is achieved through 'The Citizen', a Constitution literacy campaign.

#### PM Modi inaugurated the second phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the second phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23 in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh via video conferencing.
- The Khel Mahakumbh organizes diverse competitions in both indoor and outdoor sports like wrestling, Kabaddi, Kho Kho, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Chess, Badminton, and Table Tennis.

#### India announced 100 million Maldivian Rufiyaa for development projects

- During the visit to Maldives, EAM Dr. S Jaishankar has announced an additional grant of 100 Million Maldivian Rufiyaa for community development projects in Maldives.
- He also witnessed an MoU between Maldivian National University and Kochi University of Science & Technology.

#### PM Modi launched several development projects in Karnataka, Maharashtra

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone and inaugurated several projects in the northern districts of Yadgiri, and Kalaburagi (Karnataka), and Maharashtra.

- Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurate various developmental projects related to **irrigation, drinking water, and a National Highway development project at Kodeka in the Yadgiri district.**

#### India's 1st School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication launched

- India's first **School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication** has launched in **Agartala, Tripura.**
- The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal, along with Dr. Manik Saha, Chief Minister of Tripura, jointly inaugurated the school.
- Objective - To enable the rich pool of talent in the region to become world-class experts in the transportation and logistics sector.

#### Egypt president Abdel Fattah El Sisi to be chief guest at Republic Day celebrations

- **Egypt President Abdel Fattah El Sisi will be the chief guest at Republic Day celebrations.**
- This is for the first time that the president of Egypt has been invited as chief guest on our Republic Day 2023.
- **A 180-member strong military contingent from the Egyptian army will also participate in the Republic Day parade.**

#### India's deepest metro station to be built at Pune Civil Court

- The **Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation (MahaMetro)** has announced that the **Commissioner of Metro Railway Safety (CMRS)** will inspect a stretch of the **Pune Metro in February, and clearances are expected in March.**
- This line features India's deepest underground station, which will be ready in a few months at the Civil Court and measures 33.1 metres (108.59 feet) in depth.

#### Odisha CM inaugurated 'International Craft Summit'

- Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** has inaugurated an **'International Craft Summit'** in Jajpur, Odisha.
- This first-of-its-kind craft summit features pioneering craftspeople, culture, and art enthusiasts.

#### Tourism Ministry participates in world's largest Travel Exhibition

- The **Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, is participating in FITUR, the world's largest international travel exhibition in Madrid, Spain.**
- India's participation at FITUR is significant to step up the recovery of inbound tourism to pre-pandemic levels

#### J&K government to host its maiden SARAS Fair 2023

- The **Government of Jammu and Kashmir** is going to host its maiden **SARAS Fair 2023** from 4 to 14 Feb 23.
- In this fair, artisans and women self-help groups from across the country will showcase their crafts, handcrafts, handloom, and foods.
- The fair would be organized at Bagh-e-Bahu, Jammu.

#### Himachal Pradesh targets to be first 'green energy state' by 2025

- The **Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu** has announced that the state government is planning to make the state as **the first Green Energy State by the end of 2025**.
- The state government would also invest in solar plants and will install 500 MW solar projects during the year 2023-24.

#### **HCHF and Ladakh Tourism Dept organized annual Ethnic Mamani Festival**

- The annual **Ethnic Mamani Festival** was organized at **Historical Styangkung Village and Chiktan Shagaran** by the **Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation (HCHF) and Ladakh Tourism Department**.
- The Styangkung village is around 500 years old and still well-preserved and is being developed as one of the well-maintained heritage villages in Ladakh.

#### **'Moidams' nominated for UNESCO World Heritage Site**

- **Charaideo Moidams** is India's **nomination for UNESCO's world heritage site status** in the cultural category.
- The **Ahom-era 'Moidams' (cemetery of the royal family)** in Assam's Charaideo district will be India's only nomination for recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

#### **Lt Governor R K Mathur launched ULPIN in Ladakh**

- Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur has launched the **Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) in Leh**.
- The **14-digit ULPIN** would help in the **digitization of land records** and also reach a conclusive land titling.
- The UPLIN scheme will prove beneficial in numerous ways, including settling and expediting land-related disputes in court and addressing legacy issues such as putting a check on any unwanted change in land revenue records.

#### **PM Modi named 21 islands of Andaman and Nicobar after Paramveer Chakra awardees**

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** named **21 islands of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands after 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees** on the auspicious occasion of Parakram Divas organized to mark the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- The memorial will be built on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep in Port Blair. The memorial will consist of Netaji's Museum, Heritage trail, ropeway connected to Port Blair and a children's park.
- The 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees, after whom the islands have been named are:
  1. Major Somnath Sharma,
  2. Subedar and Honorary Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh
  3. MM 2nd Lt. Rama Raghoba Rane
  4. Naik Jadunath Singh
  5. Havildar Major Piru Singh
  6. Capt GS Salaria
  7. Lt. Col. (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa



8. Subedar Joginder Singh
9. Maj. Shaitan Singh
10. Abdul Hameed
11. Lieutenant Colonel Ardeshir Burjorji Tarapore
12. Lance Naik Albert Ekka
13. Major Hoshiar Singh
14. Second Lieutenant Arun Khetrupal
15. Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon
16. Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran
17. Naib Subedar Bana Singh
18. Captain Vikram Batra
19. Lieutenant Manoj Kumar Pandey
20. Subedar Major (then Rifleman) Sanjay Kumar
21. Subedar Major Retd Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav

#### Indian Railways launches 'Ideal Train Profile'

- **Indian Railways** has introduced 'Ideal Train Profile' for maximum capacity utilization and income generation by regularly analyzing the movement of demand in each train in reserved express trains.
- The pilot project was started on seven zonal railways – Eastern, Central, Northern, Southern, South Central, Western, and West Central Railway.

#### SCO Film Festival to be organized in Mumbai

- The **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Film Festival** will be organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting through the **National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) in Mumbai from 27 to 31 January 2023**.
- The SCO Film Festival is being organized during the Presidency of India in the SCO.

#### Hardeep S Puri flagged off low carbon cruise on Mahabahu Brahmaputra

- Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, **Hardeep Singh Puri** has inaugurated the **demo-run of Inland Water Vessel powered by Methanol blended Diesel (MD15)**.
- The boat ride was conducted on a 50-seater motor launch marine vessel named 'SB Gangadhar'.

#### Annual Orange festival 2023 celebrated in Nagaland

- **Nagaland** has celebrated the **3rd edition of the annual Orange festival 2023** at Rusoma village, under **Kohima district**.
- The Festival is being organized by the department of Horticulture, Agriculture, Rural Development, Land Resources and Kohima Smart City.

#### Ministry of Tourism organized 6-day mega event "Bharat Parv" at Red Fort lawns

- **The six-day mega event Bharat Parv** will be organized at **Red Fort in Delhi** from the 26th to the 31st of this month as part of the Republic Day Celebrations.



- The event will have a Food Festival, Handicraft mela, folk and tribal dance performances, Performances by cultural troupes, and the illumination of Red Fort.

#### Government renamed Delhi's Mughal Gardens as 'Amrit Udyan'

- The **Central government** has renamed the **Mughal Gardens in New Delhi's Rashtrapati Bhavan as 'Amrit Udyan'**.
- In keeping with the theme of 'Amrit Mahotsav' to commemorate 75 years of India's independence, the Union Government has renamed the Mughal Gardens as Amrit Udyan.
- Designed in 1917, the gardens spread over 15 acres are also known as the “soul of the presidential palace.

#### PM Modi addressed 1111th Avataran Mahotsav of Bhagwan Devnarayan

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has addressed the ceremony commemorating the **1111th 'Avataran Mahotsav' of Bhagwan Shri Devnarayan Ji in Bhilwara, Rajasthan.**
- Bhagwan Shri Devnarayan Ji was born in the family of a popular Mandalji Gurjar who established the famous Mandal Lake near Bhilwara district in Mewar.

#### Government to hand over 1,000 sites to private sector under Monument Scheme

- The **government will hand over** around **1,000 monuments** under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India **to the private sector** for their upkeep under the Monument Mitra Scheme, announced by the Ministry of Culture.
- Corporate entities will take over these monuments as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. Under the scheme, monument amenities will be revamped by the private sector.

#### Khadi Fest-23 inaugurated in Mumbai

- Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission **Manoj Kumar** has inaugurated the **Khadi Fest- 23** at the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Headquarters in **Mumbai.**
- **Khadi Fest- 23** will run from **27 January to 24 February 2023.**

#### Third Interpol Young Global Police Leaders Program begins

- The **third edition of the Interpol Young Global Police Leaders Program** being held in **New Delhi** with the of theme 'Trust'.
- The event which is being organized by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) began on the 25 January to 2 February 2023.
- As many as 59 participants from 44 countries are taking part in the programme.

## Chapter 13: Current Affairs (International)

#### 1668 Journalists killed in the last 20 years: Reporters without Borders

- According to Reporters without Borders (RSF), a total of 1,668 journalists have been killed worldwide in connection with their work of journalism over the past

two decades (2003–2022), due to murders, contract killings, ambushes, war zone deaths, and fatal injuries.

- The report says that on average every year 80 journalists lost their lives. The total killed since 2000 is 1,787.

### India assumes the charge of the Wassenaar Arrangement

- India has assumed the chairmanship of the **plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement for one year on 1st January 2023.**
- At the **26th annual plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement**, Eoin O'Leary (Ireland's ambassador) has handed over the chairmanship to Jaideep Mazumdar (India's ambassador).
- **Jaideep Mazumdar** is the permanent representative to the UN and international organizations in Vienna.
- **India joined the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) on 08 December 2017** as its 42nd Participating State.

### Wassenaar Arrangement

- The Wassenaar Arrangement was established in July 1996 at Wassenaar, Netherlands. It is a voluntary export control regime of 42 member countries.
- The member countries exchange information on transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies.

### China becomes the first country in Asia to launch Hydrogen powered Train

- **China has become the first country in Asia and second in the world to launch Hydrogen powered urban trains.**
- **Germany was the first country to introduce hydrogen-powered trains in September 2022.**
- The hydrogen train gets a top speed of 160 km/h, and the operational range without refueling is 600 km.

### India takes over leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union

- **India will take over the leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) having its Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand from this month.**
- **Dr. Vinay Prakash Singh** assumed the charge as the **Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) on 1 January 2023.**

### India becomes 3rd largest auto market globally, surpasses Japan: Report

- For the first time, **India surpassed Japan in auto sales last year and became the third-largest auto market in the world**, according to Nikkei Asia.
- The country's sales of new vehicles totaled at least 4.25 million units, topping the 4.2 million sold in Japan.
- **China continued to lead the global auto market in 2021 with 26.27 million vehicles sold. The US remained second at 15.4 million vehicles, followed by Japan at 4.44 million units.**

### Punjabi will be taught in Australian schools

- **Punjabi is all set to be the newest language to be taught in public schools of Western Australia.**

- The Australian government is adopting Punjabi as the newest language after a 2021 census showed that it was the fastest-growing language in Australia with more than 239,000 people using it at home, an increase of over 80 percent from 2016.

#### UAE names ADNOC oil chief Sultan al-Jaber as President of COP28

- The **president of the UAE's** national oil company **Sultan al-Jaber** has been **named as president of this year's COP28 climate talks.**
- Jaber, also UAE's minister of industry and technology and its climate envoy, will help develop the COP28 agenda and play a central role in intergovernmental negotiations to build consensus.

#### Film 'Toolsidas Junior' to be screened at SCO Film Festival 2023

- National Award-winning movie "Toolsidas Junior" will be screened at the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization Film Festival in the Children Focus Section..**

#### Pakistan is South Asia's weakest economy: World Bank report

- **World Bank** forecast **Pakistan's economic growth** to slow further to **two percent during 2023.**
- This will mark a drop of two percentage points from its June 2022 estimates, according to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report.
- The reason behind this is unprecedented floods, depleting forex reserves, food shortages, and poverty.

#### Jio is India's strongest brand, ranked 9th globally: Brand Finance Report

- **Reliance Jio** has been ranked as **the strongest brand in India** and placed **9th among the world's strongest brands**, according to the report 'Global 500 - 2023' published by Brand Finance.
- Jio was placed ninth among the **world's strongest brands** ahead of brands like **EY, Coca-Cola, Accenture and Porsche**, and behind the likes of **Google, YouTube, Deloitte, and Instagram.**

#### UNESCO to dedicate International Day of Education to Afghan Girls

- **UNESCO** has decided to dedicate the **International Day of Education** on the **24th of January 2023 to Afghan girls and women.**
- It said that no country in the world should bar women and girls from receiving an education and it is a universal human right that must be respected.

## Chapter 14: Banking & Financial

#### RBI to issue green bonds in two tranches of Rs 8,000 crore each

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** will issue **Sovereign Green Bonds** worth **Rs 8,000 crore each** in two tranches on **January 25 and February 9.**
- The proceeds will be deployed in public sector projects which help in reducing the carbon intensity of the economy.

- The RBI will sell two bonds maturing in **5 years and 10 years** worth, **Rs 4,000 crore each**, at every auction. Sovereign green bonds will be **issued through Uniform Price Auctions**.

#### Government hikes interest rates on small savings schemes

- **Government has increased interest rates on various small savings schemes** for the fourth quarter of the current Financial Year starting **from 1st January 2023**.
- The interest rate of five year **National Saving Certificate** has been increased to **7 percent from 6.8 percent**.
- The interest rate on the **senior citizen saving scheme** increased to **8 percent from 7.6 percent**. The **Monthly Income Account Saving** has also been increased to **7.1 percent from 6.7 percent**.
- The interest rate on **Kisan Vikas Patra** will now be **7.2 percent from 7 percent** and will **mature in 120 months**.
- The interest rate of **small savings deposit** of one year time period has been increased to **6.6 percent from 5.5 percent**.

#### RBI launched Utkarsh 2.0 for the period 2023-2025

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor **Shaktikanta Das** has launched **Utkarsh 2.0**, the **second phase of the central bank's medium-term strategy** for strengthening regulatory and supervisory mechanisms.
- Utkarsh 2.0 harnesses the strengths of Utkarsh 2022 by retaining the six Vision statements as well as Core Purpose, Values, and Mission statement.

#### Gross GST collection in December goes up by 15% is ₹1.49 lakh.

- The gross **Goods and Services Tax (GST)** revenue collected in **December 2022 is ₹1.49 lakh**.
- The GST revenues are **15 percent higher** than the GST revenues in the same month last year.
- The gross GST revenue collected during **December 2022 is ₹1,49,507 crore**, of which CGST is ₹26,711 crore, SGST is ₹33,357 crore, IGST is ₹78,434 crore (including ₹40,263 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is ₹11,005 crore (including ₹850 crore collected on import of goods).

#### Bandhan Bank launched 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign

- **Bandhan Bank** has launched its '**Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust**' campaign featuring cricketer **Sourav Ganguly** as its brand ambassador.
- This is the first time that Bandhan Bank has appointed a pan-India brand ambassador.

#### Aegon Life Insurance launched iTerm Prime Insurance plan

- **Aegon Life Insurance** has launched **iTerm Prime Insurance plan** catering to the need of self-employed individuals with a special **10% discount** on the first-year premium.
- iTerm Prime offers a minimum sum assured of **₹25 lakhs**, with no upper limit on a consumer's requirement.

#### RBI lifted restrictions on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services

- The Reserve Bank of India has lifted the restrictions it had imposed on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd.
- The restrictions prevented the company from effecting any recovery or repossession activity through outsourcing arrangements.

#### ICICI Bank launched digital solutions for exporters

- Private lender ICICI Bank has launched a range of digital solutions to streamline the lifecycle of exports.
- Objective - To simplify the journey of exporters by decongesting the current time-intensive manual procedures

#### SBI launched e-Bank Guarantee facility in association with NeSL

- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility in association with National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).
- With the advent of e-BG, this function will be replaced by e-stamping and e-signature.

#### Alibaba sells Paytm stake worth \$125 million via block deal

- China's Alibaba Group sold a 3.1% stake in Indian digital payments firm Paytm for a total of \$125 million through a block deal.
- Alibaba, which held a 6.26% stake in Paytm as of end-September, sold the stake at 536.95 rupees apiece.
- Formally known as One97 Communications, Paytm listed in 2021 after a mega \$2.5 billion initial public offer (IPO).

#### WPI inflation eased to 4.95 percent in December 2022

- The wholesale price-based inflation declined to 4.95 percent in December 2022, mainly due to fall in prices of food articles and crude petroleum.
- The Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation was 5.85 percent in November 2022 and 14.27 percent in December 2021.
- Inflation in food articles was (-)1.25 percent, while in fuel and power, it was 18.09 percent during December 2022. Inflation in manufactured products was 3.37 percent during the month.

#### India's exports decline by 12.2% to \$34.48 billion in December 2022

- India's merchandise exports declined by 12.2 percent to \$34.48 billion in December 2022, as against \$39.27 billion recorded in the same month of the preceding year.
- This comes after a 0.6 percent rise in exports in November and a 12 percent contraction in October.

#### LIC launched Jeevan Azad limited premium payment plan

- The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has launched Jeevan Azad (Plan No. 868) to offer an attractive combination of protection and savings.
- It is a limited-period premium payment plan that offers financial support for the family in case of unfortunate death of the life assured during the policy term.

#### India to become \$26 trillion economy by 2047: EY report



- According to an EY report, the Indian Economy is very likely to hit the **\$26 trillion mark by the year 2047**, which will also be the 100th year of India's independence.
- The report also showed that the country's per capita income would exceed \$15,000, placing it among the top developed economies.
- It also noted that despite maintaining a stable yet modest growth rate of 6% per annum, India would still be able to become a **\$26 trillion economy** (in nominal terms) by 2047-48, with the per capita income at six times the current levels.

#### AU Bank launched credit card offering platform SwipeUp

- India's largest Small Finance Bank, **AU Small Finance Bank** has launched the **SwipeUp platform**.
- The platform will provide an opportunity to other bank credit cardholders to upgrade their card to one of AU credit cards.

#### EPFO launched Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 Program

- **Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)** has launched "**Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0**" - A District Outreach Program for expanding its presence in more than 685 districts of the country.
- It was e-launched by Arti Ahuja, Secretary (Ministry of Labour & Employment) from the EPFO Headquarters, in the presence of the Central Provident Fund Commissioner (CPFC) and officers of EPFO.

## Chapter 15: Committee

Committee	Headed by	Purpose
<b>17 member High Powered Committee (HPC)</b>	Under the <b>Chairmanship of Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai</b>	To ensure the protection of land and employment for the people of <b>Ladakh</b> .
<b>The third meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Skill Development Mission</b>	Dharmendra Pradhan	The progress made in the <b>skill development efforts</b> and the <b>road map</b> ahead were discussed in the meeting.
<b>A high-level meeting to review the status of Kala-Azar disease</b>	Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya	<b>Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya</b> has chaired a high-level meeting to review the status of <b>Kala-Azar disease</b> in the four endemic states of <b>Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and West Bengal</b> . <b>What is Kala-azar</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is also known as Visceral</li> </ul>



		<p>Leishmaniasis (VL), black fever and Dumdum fever.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The disease is the second largest parasite killer in the world after Malaria.</li> </ul>
<b>Sports Ministry has formed an Oversight Committee</b>	<p>Khel Ratna Awardee M C Mary Kom and other members include Yogeshwar Dutt and Trupti Murgunde.</p>	<p>To enquire into the <b>allegations of sexual misconduct and financial irregularities</b> in the <b>Wrestling Federation of India (WFI)</b>, leveled by prominent sportspersons.</p>
<b>The 10th meeting of the Group of Infrastructure Committee in New Delhi.</b>	<p>Nitin Gadkari</p>	<p>To address <b>existing inter-Ministerial issues concerning</b> the implementation of various <b>infrastructure projects</b>.</p>

## Chapter 16: Defence News

### Government starts process to buy 100 more K9-Vajras

- The **Defense Ministry** has initiated the process to procure **100 more K-9 Vajra** self-propelled howitzers, which are made in **India by Larsen & Toubro (L&T)** using technology transferred from South Korean defence major Hanwha Defence.
- The K-9 Vajra is a 155 mm, 52-calibre tracked self-propelled howitzer built by L&T with technology transferred from South Korean defence major Hanwha Defence based on its K-9 Thunder.

### India successfully carried out test launch of Prithvi-II ballistic missile

- Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)** has successfully launched **Short-Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM) Prithvi-II** from the **Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Odisha coast**.
- The missile, which is powered by light propulsion twin engines, has a **range of around 350 km and can carry 500-1,000 kg of warheads**.

### Army organized 'Sainya Ranakshetram 2.0' Seminar-cum-workshop

- The **second edition of "SAINYA RANAKSHETRAM 2.0"** has organized by the **Indian Army** under the aegis of HQ Army Training Command from October 2022 to January 2023.
- Objective - To seek solutions to operational cyber challenges and to jump-start and telescope the development time for innovative solutions in the field of Cyber Security.

### Fifth Kalvari class submarine INS Vagir inducted into Indian Navy

- The **fifth Kalvari class submarine INS Vagir** has been **inducted into Indian Navy**.

- Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar was the Chief Guest at a ceremony held at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.
- The submarine has been **built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.**
- Four of the Kalvari class of submarines have already been commissioned into the Indian Navy.

<b>Defence Exercise</b>	<b>Between</b>	<b>About</b>
<b>1st bilateral air exercise 'Veer Guardian-2023'</b>	India and Japan	<b>Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japan Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) will hold the first bilateral air exercise at Hyakuri Air Base in Japan from 12 January 2023 to 26 January 2023.</b>
<b>The 21st edition of the bilateral naval exercise titled 'Varuna'</b>	India and France	The exercise will be conducted from <b>16 to 20 January 2023</b> and will witness advanced air <b>defense exercises, tactical maneuvers, and surface firings.</b>
<b>The first-ever military exercises involving the Special Forces in Udaipur, Jaipur and Jodhpur.</b>	India and Egypt	It is being held to celebrate the <b>75 years</b> of diplomatic relations between <b>India and Egypt.</b>
<b>Cyclone-I, the first-ever joint exercise</b>	India & Egypt	The first of its kind joint Exercise <b>Cyclone-I</b> , being held in the deserts of <b>Rajasthan</b> , is seeing the Special Forces contingents of <b>India and Egypt</b> engage in various activities to enhance their skills.
<b>Biennial tri-services amphibious 'exercise AMPHEX 2023'</b>	The Indian Army, Indian Air Force (IAF), and the Indian Navy.	The aim of this war exercise was to showcase <b>India's capabilities to protect the territorial integrity</b> of its areas including better coordination between the <b>three services and</b>

		<b>enhance joint warfighting capabilities.</b>
<b>"Ops Alert" exercise</b>	The Border Security Force (BSF)	The 'Ops Alert' exercise commenced on <b>January 21</b> and will continue <b>till January 28</b> "all along the <b>Indo-Pak international border</b> from <b>Sir Creek (marshy area)</b> to the <b>Rann of Kutch in Gujarat</b> and <b>Barmer district of Rajasthan.</b>
<b>'PRALAY' exercise</b>	Indian Air Force (IAF)	The <b>Indian Air Force (IAF)</b> will carry out <b>Exercise Pralay</b> involving all its major air bases in the <b>northeast</b> including the recently moved drone <b>squadrons</b> in the northeast amid the ongoing standoff with China.

## Chapter 17: Sports News

### Koneru Humpy won Silver at the World Chess Blitz Championship

- Former world rapid champion **Koneru Humpy** has won **India's first-ever Silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships** in Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- Humpy defeated China's Zhongyi Tan to win Silver in the 17th and final round.
- Fourth-seeded Humpy scored an impressive 12.5 points, just half a point behind the gold medal winner Bibisara Balabayeva of Kazakhstan.

### Hockey Madhya Pradesh clinched Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's U-18 title

- In hockey, **Madhya Pradesh clinched** the title by defeating Odisha 6-5 in the **Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's Under-18 qualifier title** in Bhubaneswar.
- Jamir Mohammad was the star of the final, scoring a hat-trick, while Ali Ahmed, Mohammad Zaid Khan, and Captain Ankit Pal scored one goal each for Madhya Pradesh.

### Hockey Haryana Women's U-18 team won Khelo India Youth Games 2022

- Hockey **Haryana's women's team** has won the **Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Women's Under 18 Qualifiers** after defeating Madhya Pradesh 2-0 in the final at Bhubaneswar.

- In the final match, Pooja and Gurmail Kaur scored a goal each for Haryana to end the contest in their favour.
- Odisha stepped up to claim third place after beating Hockey Jharkhand 2-1 in the 3rd and 4th place encounter.
- Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Jharkhand have qualified for the Khelo India Youth Games to be held in Madhya Pradesh next year.

#### **Cristiano Ronaldo joined Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr**

- Portugal team captain **Cristiano Ronaldo** has joined **Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr** on a two-and-a-half-year contract.
- The 37-year-old Ronaldo signed the deal, which is believed to be worth more than 200 million euros, which will continue till June 2025.

#### **Koustav Chatterjee becomes 78th Grandmaster of India**

- 19-year-old **Koustav Chatterjee** became **India's 78th Grandmaster** in MPL 59th National Senior Chess Championship in New Delhi.
- He is also the tenth GM from West Bengal.
- Koustav earned his first GM norm in October 2021 at a Grandmasters' chess tournament in Bangladesh.

#### **Pranesh M became India's 79th Grandmaster**

- **Tamilnadu's M Pranesh** (16) has clinched the title in the Rilton Cup, the first tournament of the FIDE Circuit, here to **become India's 79th chess Grandmaster**.
- After beating GM Frode Olav Olsen Urkedal of Norway, Pranesh attained the required 2500 ELO ratings and won the Rilton Cup in the final round to claim the title.
- With this, he also becomes India's first Grandmaster of year 2023.

#### **Sania Mirza announced her retirement from Professional Tennis**

- Indian Tennis Player **Sania Mirza** has announced **her retirement from professional Tennis**.
- The former doubles World No. 1 champion has announced that she will retire at the WTA 1000 event in Dubai in February.

#### **Khelo India National Women Kho Kho leagues set to take place in Punjab**

- The **Khelo India Senior Women National Kho Kho league** is set to take place at Chandigarh University, **Punjab from 10 January to 13 January 2023**.
- The league is being organized by the Kho Kho Federation of India and will be held over three phases with full financial support from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

#### **Anahat Singh won Girls U-15 squash title at British Junior Open Tournament**

- Indian squash prodigy **Anahat Singh** has won **the Girls Under-15 squash title at the most prestigious British Junior Open tournament in Birmingham (UK)**.
- The 14-year-old defeated Sohaila Hazem of Egypt, 3-1 in the final.
- She has also won the 2022 Scottish Junior Open held in Edinburgh, Scotland in the Girls under-17 categories.

#### **Novak Djokovic won men's single Adelaide International 1 title 2023**

- Serbian Tennis Player **Novak Djokovic** has defeated America's Sebastian Korda to win the 2023 **Adelaide International 1 men's singles title 2023**.
- In the women's final at Adelaide International 1, Aryna Sabalenka won the women's singles by defeating Linda Noskova of the Czech Republic. This was her 11th WTA Tour singles title.
- Men's doubles: Lloyd Glasspool (United Kingdom) and Harri Heliövaara (Finland)
- Women's doubles: Asia Muhammad (United States) and Taylor Townsend (United States)

#### Dwaine Pretorius announces retirement from international cricket

- **South Africa all-rounder Dwaine Pretorius** has announced his **retirement from international cricket**.
- The all-rounder had made a total of 60 appearances for the Proteas across all formats, with the maximum being in the shorter format.
- Pretorius had featured in 30 T20Is, 27 ODIs, and 3 Tests, in which he amassed 1895 runs and scalped 77 wickets.

#### Harry Brook & Ashleigh Gardner named ICC Players of the Month

- **England's Harry Brook** has won his maiden **ICC Men's Player of the Month** crown for **December 2022**.
- Brook helped England claim a historic World Test Championship (WTC) series victory in Pakistan.
- While **Australia's Ashleigh Gardner** has won the **ICC Women's Player of the Month** award for **December 2022**

#### Footballer Gareth Bale announced his retirement from professional football

- Former Tottenham and Real Madrid star, **Gareth Bale** has announced his **retirement from professional football**.
- Bale made his Wales debut in 2006 against Trinidad and Tobago. He has won Wales' player of the year award six times.

#### France captain Hugo Lloris retires from international football

- France team captain **Hugo Lloris** has announced his **retirement from international football** at the age of 36.
- Lloris represented France in four World Cups and three Euros and captained Les Blues to the World Cup trophy in 2018.
- The 36-year-old holds many records and is France's most-capped player with 145 appearances to his name.

#### 11-year-old Falak Mumtaz won gold medal at National Sqay Championship

- An 11-year-old Kashmiri girl **Falak Mumtaz** from a far-flung area has **won a gold medal at the national level in the Sqay championship in Jammu**.
- She is currently studying sixth standard at Aisha Ali Academy in Kulgam.
- Falak is the only girl who gave a tremendous performance to win the gold medal.

#### Yuki Bhambri, Saketh Myneni won Bangkok Open tennis title 2023



- The Indian tennis pair of **Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni** has won the **Bangkok Open Men's double tennis championship, held at Nonthaburi, Thailand.**
- Bhambri-Saket, playing their seventh final as a pair, beat Indonesian Christopher Rungkat and Australian Akira Santillan 2-6, 7-6, 14-12.
- This is their sixth title together on the ATP Challenger Tour.

#### Viacom18 gets 'WIPL' media rights for Rs 951 crore

- **Viacom 18** has acquired the media rights of the **Women's Indian Premier League (WIPL), which will start from March-April 2023.**
- Viacom18 has bought the media rights of the **women's IPL for five years from 2023 to 2027 for Rs 951 crore.**

#### Victor and Akane won the Malaysia Open Badminton title 2023

- Denmark badminton player, **Viktor Axelsen** won the **men's singles Malaysia Open title 2023**, after defeating Kodai Naraoka from Japan.
- While Japanese player Akane Yamaguchi lifted the title in the women's final, after beating South Korea's An Se-young.
- Men's doubles - Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto (Indonesia)
- Women's doubles - Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (China)
- Mixed doubles - Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqing (China)

#### Barcelona won the Spanish Super Cup for 14th time

- **Barcelona** has defeated Real Madrid 3-1 in Riyadh to win their **14th Spanish Super Cup title.**
- The cup was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

#### Laxman Rawat clinched NSCI Snooker Open Crown

- **Laxman Rawat** of the Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) has **defeated Aditya Mehta (his fellow PSPB challenger)** by 9-6 to win the final of the 'Baulkline' NSCI All India Snooker Open 2023.
- Rawat had finished as the runner-up in the previous edition of the tournament, losing to Sourav Kothari in the final.

#### Hashim Amla announced retirement from all forms of cricket

- South Africa cricketer **Hashim Amla** has announced **his retirement from all forms of cricket.**
- He last played for Surrey in the County Championship 2022 and helped them win the title as well.

#### An Seyoung won women's singles final at India Open Badminton

- In the India Open Badminton Championship, **Korea's An Seyoung** won the **Women's Singles** final at K D Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.
- In the finals, An Seyoung beat World No.1 Japanese Akane Yamaguchi 15-21, 21-16, 21-12.
- While Thailand's **Kunlavut Vitidsarn** won **Men's Singles** final defeating Denmark's Viktor Axelsen.
- Men's doubles - Liang Weikeng and Wang Chang (China)
- Women's doubles - Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida (Japan)



### Aasif become the 1st Nepali cricketer to win the ICC Spirit of Cricket

- Nepal wicketkeeper **Aasif Sheikh** has been awarded the **ICC Spirit of Cricket Award for 2022** after his selfless decision to refuse the run-out of Ireland's Andy McBryne in their T20I match in the Oman Quadrangular Series back in February.

### England's Ben Stokes and Nat Sciver won ICC annual awards

- England Test captain **Ben Stokes** and England all-rounder **Nat Sciver** have won **ICC cricketer of the year 2022 awards**.
- All-rounder Stokes has been named Men's Test Cricketer of the Year while Sciver won the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year.
- Sciver, 30, is also named Women's one-day international (ODI) Cricketer of the Year.
- The 31-year-old Stokes took over the Test captaincy from Joe Root in April 2022 and has won nine of his 10 Tests in charge.

### ICC awards winners for 2022-

- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy- Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy- Nat Sciver (England)
- Men's Test Cricketer of the Year- Ben Stokes (England)
- Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year- Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year- Nat Sciver (England)
- Men's T20 International Cricketer of the Year- Suryakumar Yadav (India)
- Women's T20 International Cricketer of the Year- Tahlia McGrath (Australia)
- Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year- Marco Jansen (South Africa)
- Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year- Renuka Singh (India)
- Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year- Gerhard Erasmus (Namibia)
- Women's Associate Cricketer of the Year- Esha Oza (India)
- David Shepherd Trophy- Richard Illingworth (England)
- Spirit of Cricket Award- Aasif Sheikh (Nepal)

### Australian Open 2023 title

- **Novak Djokovic** has won the **Australian Open title** for the 10th time by defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-3, 7-6, 7-6 in the first **Grand Slam Australia Open 2023**.
- With this victory, Djokovic has equaled Spain's Rafael Nadal's record of winning 22 Grand Slam titles.

Event	Winner	Runner-Up
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Novak Djokovic (Serbia)	Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Arina Sabalenka (Belarus)	Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan)

<b>Men's Doubles</b>	J. Kubler & R. Hijikata (Australia)	H. Nys (Monaco) & J. Zieliński (Poland)
<b>Women's Doubles</b>	Barbora Krejčíková (Czech) Kateřina Siniaková (Czech)	– S. Aoyama & E. Shibahara (Japan)
<b>Mix Doubles</b>	Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos (Brazilian)	Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza (India)

### Germany beat Belgium to win FIH Men's Hockey World Cup in Bhubaneswar

- **Germany has won the Men's Hockey World Cup Title 2023.**
- Germany defeated defending champions Belgium 5-4 in a shootout in the final played at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.
- **Germany now has won the World Cup three times, first in 2002 and second in 2006.**
- Germany had earlier won the quarter-finals against England and the semi-finals against Australia after coming from two goals down.
- Germany also took their world title tally to three, equalling Australia and the Netherlands.
- The record of winning the most titles in the Men's Hockey World Cup is recorded in the name of Pakistan, which have won this title four times.
- Earlier in the day, the Netherlands beat Australia 3-1 to claim the bronze medal. It was the first time since 1998 that Australia failed to finish on podium at the FIH World Cup.

### Awards of Hockey World Cup 2023 -

- Best Player- Niklas Wellen (Germany)
- Best Goalkeeper- Vincent Vanasch (Belgium)
- Best Junior Player- Mustapha Cassiem (South Africa)
- Hero Top Scorer- Jeremy Hayward (Australia)
- Best Team Goal Celebration Award- Korea
- Fan's Choice Award- Christopher Ruhr (Germany)
- Fair Play Award- Belgium
- Maximum Team Goals Award- Netherlands
- Best Forward of the Tournament Award- Niklas Wellen (Germany)
- Best Midfielder of the Tournament Award- Victor Wegnez (Belgium)
- Best Defender of the Tournament Award- Jeremy Hayward (Australia)

### India defeated England to win Women's U -19 T20 World Cup

- In the first edition of the **Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup, India defeated England** by seven wickets to win the tournament.
- England was bowled out for 68 in 17.1 overs. In response, the Indian squad easily chased down the total by the 16th over.

## Chapter 18: Book and Author

Book	Author
'Ambedkar: A Life'	Shashi Tharoor
'Diary No.1'	Written by Assam CM 'Chief Minister <b>Ranjan Gogoi</b> has released.
"Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom".	Sanjeev Sanyal
K.K. Abdul Gaffar's autobiography 'Njaan Sakshi'	Mahendra Singh Dhoni
'Human Anatomy'	Released by <b>Governor of Madhya Pradesh Shri Mangubhai Patel</b>  Written by <b>Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi</b>
Braving A Viral Storm: India's Covid-19 Vaccine Story in New Delhi.	Co-authored by <b>Aashish Chandorkar and Suraj Sudhir</b>  Released by <b>Mansukh Mandaviya</b>
Memoir titled "Spare"	Written by <b>Prince Harry</b> with the assistance of American novelist <b>J. R. Moehringer</b>
"Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies"	Authored by <b>Shubhra Gupta</b>
'COACHING BEYOND: My Days with the Indian Cricket Team'	Authored by <b>R. Kaushik &amp; R. Sridhar.</b>
"India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn"	Written by <b>Dr. Ashwin Fernandes</b>

## Chapter 19: Important Day

Date	Day	Theme/Importance
1 January	Global Family Day	Objective - <b>To share positivity and strive for peace.</b>
1 January 2023	65th foundation day of DRDO	<b>Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)</b> celebrated its <b>65th foundation day on 1st January 2023.</b>  It is a <b>premier defence research and development agency</b> under the

		Ministry of Defence, <b>Government of India.</b>
<b>4 January</b>	World Braille Day	Objective - To promote awareness about <b>Braille</b> and the contributions of <b>Louis Braille.</b>
<b>5 January</b>	National Birds Day	Objective - <b>To raise awareness of the value of tiny tweets in the ecosystem.</b>
<b>6 January</b>	World Day of War Orphans	Objective - <b>To raise awareness about children orphaned in wars.</b>
<b>10 January</b>	World Hindi Day	Theme 2023 - <b>Hindi: Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence.</b>
<b>11th to 17th January 2023</b>	Road Safety Week	The aim of the programme is to propagate <b>the cause of safer roads</b> for all under the <b>Swachhata Pakhwada</b>
<b>12 January</b>	National Youth Day	Theme 2022 - <b>Viksit Yuva-Viksit Bharat</b>
<b>11 January</b>	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day	Objective - <b>To raise awareness about the plight of human trafficking victims, as well as to promote and protect their rights.</b>
<b>14 January</b>	7th Armed Forces Veterans Day	<b>The First Armed Forces Veterans Day</b> was celebrated on <b>14 January 2016</b> and it was decided to commemorate this day every year by hosting such interactive events in <b>honor of our Armed Forces Veterans and their families.</b>
<b>15 January</b>	148th Foundation Day of India Meteorological Department (IMD)	<b>IMD</b> is the chief government agency dealing in <b>meteorology, seismology, and associated subjects.</b>
<b>16 January</b>	National Startup Day	Objective - <b>To promote and encourage upcoming businesses in the country.</b>
<b>19 January</b>	National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Day	<b>18th National Disaster Response Force day</b> is celebrated on <b>19 January 2023</b> by the <b>National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).</b>  It was formed in the year <b>2006</b> under <b>the Disaster Management Act of 2005.</b>

<b>21 January</b>	Foundation Day of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura	This year marks the <b>51st foundation year</b> for the three states which attained <b>statehood</b> under the <b>North Eastern Areas (Reorganization) Act of 1971</b> .
<b>23 January</b>	126th Birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose	The birth anniversary of <b>Subhas Chandra Bose</b> on <b>23 January</b> is celebrated every year as <b>Parakram Diwas</b> to inspire the people of the country, especially the youth.
<b>24 January</b>	National Girl Child Day	Objective - To raise <b>awareness</b> against <b>pre-natal sex determination</b> and <b>gender-selective abortion</b> .
<b>24 January</b>	Foundation Day of Uttar Pradesh	The main theme of the ' <b>Uttar Pradesh Day</b> ' <b>2023</b> is ' <b>Investment and Employment</b> ' this year.
<b>24 January</b>	International Education Day	Theme 2023 - <b>To Invest in People, Prioritise Education</b>
<b>25 January</b>	National Voter's Day	Theme 2023 - <b>Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For Sure</b>
<b>25 January</b>	National Tourism Day	Objective - <b>To raise awareness about the importance that the tourism industry plays in the country</b>
<b>25 January</b>	Himachal Pradesh Statehood Day	After India's independence, <b>Himachal Pradesh</b> was formed on <b>15 April 1948</b> , by uniting <b>30 hill princely states</b> of the region.  It was granted the <b>status of a Union Territory</b> on <b>November 1, 1956</b> .
<b>26 January</b>	International Customs Day	Theme 2023 - <b>Nurturing the next generation: promoting a culture of knowledge-sharing and professional pride in Customs</b>
<b>27 January</b>	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Theme 2023 - <b>Home and Belonging</b>
<b>28 January</b>	Data Privacy Day	Theme 2023 - <b>Think Privacy First</b>
<b>29 January</b>	World Leprosy Day	Theme 2023 - <b>Act Now. End Leprosy</b>

## Chapter 20: Science & Technology

### ISRO 'Shukrayaan I' mission to planet Venus reportedly shifted to 2031

- According to a report, **P. Sreekumar**, the Satish Dhawan Professor at the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and advisor to its space science programme, stated in a talk that the organization has not yet received approval from the Indian government for the **Venus mission 'Shukrayaan I'** and that, as a result, the mission may be **delayed until 2031**
- The mission was scheduled to launch in December 2024.

### IIT Madras developed Indigenous Mobile Operating System 'BharOS'

- IIT Madras incubated firm has developed an **Indigenous Mobile Operating System named 'BharOS'**.
- The OS is claimed to be a significant contribution towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and is said to offer a secure environment for users.
- BharOS has been developed by **JandK Operations Private Limited (JandKops)** – a non-profit organization established by IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation.

### 'Vigyanika - Science Literature Festival' event to be held in IISF, Bhopal

- A **Science Literature Festival 'Vigyanika'** has been organized at the Indian International Science Festival (IISF), **Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.
- "Science Literature Festival" is being organized as part of the 8th IISF.

### JUICE Space Mission of Europe to be launched in April 2023

- The European Space Agency's **Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE)** will be **launched from the agency's spaceport in French Guiana in April 2023**.
- Objective - To explore the large, frigid worlds that orbit Jupiter, Ganymede, Callisto, and Europa

## Chapter 21: Obituary

Person	About
<b>Former Pope Benedict XVI</b>	<p><b>Former Pope Benedict XVI</b> passed away recently in the <b>Mater Ecclesiae Monastery</b> in the Vatican.</p> <p>He was 95 years old.</p> <p>The head of the <b>Catholic Church</b>, former <b>Pope Benedict</b>, was the <b>first pope</b> in 600 years to resign. He resigned in 2013 and</p>



	was replaced by the <b>present pope Francis</b> .
<b>Tata group veteran R Krishnakumar</b>	Tata Group veteran and former <b>Tata Sons director R Krishnakumar</b> passed away recently at the age of <b>84</b> .  He started working for <b>Tata Administrative Services in 1963</b> and joined <b>Tata Global Beverages in 1965</b> .
<b>Gujarat's first woman chief secretary Manjula Subramaniam</b>	The first woman chief secretary of Gujarat, <b>Dr. Manjula Subramaniam</b> passed away recently in <b>Vadodara</b> . She was <b>74</b> .  A <b>Gujarat-cadre officer</b> of the <b>1972</b> batch, <b>Subramaniam</b> was appointed as the <b>first woman chief secretary of Gujarat</b> in 2007.
<b>Sangeet exponent Sumitra Sen</b>	<b>Noted Rabindra Sangeet</b> exponent, <b>Sumitra Sen</b> passed away at the age of <b>89</b> . She will be remembered for her <b>rendition of songs like Jokhon Porbe Na Mor, Sokhi Vabona Kahare Bole, and Mone Ki Dwidha</b> .
<b>Former governor of Bengal Keshari Nath Tripathi</b>	<b>Former Governor of West Bengal</b> and <b>three-time Uttar Pradesh Assembly Speaker Keshari Nath Tripathi</b> passed away recently in <b>Prayagraj</b> . He was <b>88</b> .
<b>Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee Rehman Rahi</b>	In 2007, Rahi received the <b>highest literary award</b> in the country, the <b>Jnanpith award</b> for his collection ' <b>Siyah Rood Jaeren Manz</b> ' (In Black Drizzle).
<b>Father of laparoscopic surgery Tehemton Udwadia</b>	He was the <b>1st surgeon in India</b> to introduce <b>laparoscopy in surgery</b> in <b>1972</b> , and the <b>1st to perform laparoscopic surgery</b> in the developing world in <b>1990</b> .
<b>Former Union Minister Sharad Yadav</b>	<b>Former Union Minister and RJD Leader Sharad Yadav</b> passed away recently at the age of <b>75-year in Gurugram</b> .  He was elected from <b>Uttar Pradesh's Badaun parliamentary seat</b> in 1989.

<p><b>British linguist Ronald E Ashe</b></p>	<p>A <b>British linguist</b> and educator specializing in <b>Dravidian languages</b>, <b>Ronald E. Asher</b> passed away at the age of <b>96</b>.</p> <p>He won a <b>gold medal</b> from <b>Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Trichur</b>, in 1983 and was honored by the Royal Society, Edinburgh in 1991.</p>
<p><b>World's oldest person Lucile Randon</b></p>	<p><b>The world's oldest person, French nun Lucile Randon</b> has died aged <b>118</b>.</p> <p><b>Randon</b> - who assumed the name <b>Sister André</b> when she took <b>holy orders</b> in <b>1944</b> - died in her sleep at her nursing home in <b>Toulon, France</b>.</p>
<p><b>Padma Shri awardee Prabhaben Sobhagchand</b></p>	<p>Padma Shri awardee <b>Prabhaben Sobhagchand Shah</b> passed away recently at the age of <b>92</b>.</p> <p>She was a social worker from the Union Territory of <b>Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman, and Diu</b>.</p> <p>Prabhaben Sobhagchand Shah was also known as "<b>Daman ki Divya</b>".</p>
<p><b>Renowned architect Dr. B.V. Doshi</b></p>	<p>Noted architect and Padma Bhushan awardee <b>Balkrishna Doshi</b> passed away recently at the age of <b>95</b>.</p> <p><b>Doshi</b> was awarded the <b>prestigious Aga Khan Award</b> in the year <b>1995</b> for the architecture of '<b>Aranya Low-Cost Housing</b>' township.</p>
<p><b>Leopoldo Roberto Garcia Pelaez Benitez</b></p>	<p>He is also known as "<b>Polo Polo</b>".</p> <p>He was born in <b>1944</b> in <b>Leon, Guanajuato</b>, and is regarded as the "<b>father</b>" of the Stand-Up comedy genre.</p>

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