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NOVEMBER 2023 CURRENT AFFAIRS

Only Monthly Magazine Dedicated to State Civil Services Examination



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UNESCO New Creative Cities, 2023

- UNESCO has declared 'Kozhikode' of Kerala as a literary city in its latest list of 'Creative Cities Network'. Apart from this, 'Gwalior' of Madhya Pradesh has been ranked as 'City of Music' in this network.
- Director General of UNESCO, **Audrey Azoulay** has nominated **55 cities** for different creative sectors. These include areas like crafts and folk art, design, film, literature, media arts and music.
- **Other major cities included in the list**
 - Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) - Literature
 - Bukhara (Uzbekistan) - Crafts and folk art
 - Casablanca (Morocco) - Media Arts
 - Chongqing (China) - Design
 - Kathmandu (Nepal) - Film
- UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) was created in 2004.
- Till now a total of 8 cities of India have been included in it -

City	Area of attraction
• Jaipur	- Crafts and Folk Arts
• Varanasi	- Music
• Chennai	- Music
• Mumbai	- Film
• Hyderabad	- Gastronomy
• Srinagar	- Crafts and Folk Arts
• Gwalior	- Music
• Kozhikode	- Literature

Sporanaerobium Hydrogeniformans

- Scientists under the **Bioenergy Group** at the **Agarkar Research Institute (ARI)** in **Maharashtra** identified a new genus of anaerobic lignocellulose-degrading bacteria, called **Sporanaerobium hydrogeniformans**, in the **Aravali hot springs** located in **Ratnagiri district (Maharashtra)**.
- This bacteria has the **remarkable ability** to produce hydrogen gas as a byproduct of its metabolic processes.
- The hydrogen produced by this bacteria can be a source of clean and renewable energy. This study has been published in the **journal Archives of Microbiology**.

Fair Work India Ratings 2023

- This includes **12 platforms**: Amazon Flex, BigBasket, BlueSmart, Dunzo, Flipkart, Ola, Porter, Swiggy, Uber, Urban Company, Zepto and Zomato. These platforms were evaluated based on **five principles – fair pay, fair conditions, fair contracts, fair management and fair representation**.
- **BigBasket** scored the highest score of 6 out of 10, followed by BlueSmart, Swiggy, Urban Company and Zomato each scored 5 out of 10, Zepto (4/10), Flipkart (3/10), Amazon Flex (2 /10), Dunzo and Uber (1/10). While Ola and Porter got zero marks.
- The report said **BigBasket, Flipkart and Urban Company** were the only platforms with a minimum wage policy, ensuring that all their employees earn at least the local minimum wage per hour after including work-related costs.
- The '**Fair Work India Team**' was led by the **Center for IT and Public Policy (CITAPP)**, **International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIIT-B)** in collaboration with the **University of Oxford**.

'Ballon d'Or' Award

- **Football legend 'Lionel Messi'** has once again won the prestigious '**Ballon d'Or**' award. Messi has been honored with this award for the eighth time.
- **Barcelona's Elana Bonamati** was awarded the Women's Ballon d'Or.
- This is the **most prestigious** award in football, which is an honor given to an individual player.
- Every year **since 1956**, men are honored with this award for their best performance. The tradition of giving the **Ballon d'Or** to the **best female players** has been started from the **year 2018**.

Foundation days of different states

- **7 states in India**, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Karnataka, Punjab and Madhya Pradesh and **2 union territories-** Lakshadweep and Puducherry celebrate Foundation Day on **1 November**.
- The state of Kerala was formed on **November 1, 1956**. Before its formation, it was divided into three independent provinces, **Malabar, Travancore and Cochin**. The name of this state is derived from the **Keralian Thamboran, the first ruler of Kerala**.
- **Chhattisgarh** was carved out of Madhya Pradesh on November 1, 2000. It is the **10th** largest state of India.
- **Haryana** was separated from Punjab on **November 1, 1966**.
- Punjab was formed in the **year 1950** due to the **Punjabi Suba movement**.
- **Madhya Pradesh** was formed on **November 1, 1956**. It is the second largest state of India in terms of area. **Andhra Pradesh** was also formed on November 1, 1956.

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated projects such as **Akhaura-Agartala cross-border rail link**, **Khulna-Mongla Port Rail Line**, and the second unit of **Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant** through video conferencing.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation the 77 km long **'New Bhandu-New Sanand Section'** of the **'Western Dedicated Freight Corridor' (DFC)**.
- The world's **first 'Artificial Intelligence Security Summit'** was held in **Buckingham, Britain**.
- **'Delhi Metro Rail Corporation'** launched **'Momentum 2.0 App'** at Shivaji Stadium Metro Station. This is an e-commerce app. Through this, passengers will be able to do virtual shopping.
- **Thailand** is waiving visa requirements for a large number of Indian tourists in a bid to strengthen its tourism sector. Prime Minister **Shrettha Thavisin** said that from November 10,2023 to May 10,2024; Indian tourists will be able to enter Thailand without a visa.
- **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan** meets **UAE Education Minister H.E. Dr. Ahmad Al Falasi** in **Abu Dhabi**. India and UAE Education Ministers sign an **MoU** to strengthen existing **educational cooperation** facilitating student and faculty mobility.
- The bike campaign **'Yashaswini'** organized by **women bikers** of the **Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** concluded at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat on the occasion of **National Unity Day**.
- The Chief Minister of **Haryana** increased the scope of **'Ayushman Chirayu Yojana'** from **Rs 1 lakh 80 thousand to Rs 3 lakh**, and also launched **'cashless health facility'** for government employees, pensioners and accredited journalists.
- **Indian Army** conducts first firing of a **70 mm rocket** and **20 mm gun** mounted on **Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) 'Prachanda'**. **'LCH Prachanda'** represents India's pioneering effort in developing its **first indigenous multi-role combat helicopter**.
- The Government of **Uttarakhand** has announced the establishment of the **'Rajaji Tiger Reserve Conservation Foundation'** with the aim of promoting ecological, economic, social and cultural development in and around the **'Rajaji Tiger Reserve'**.
- **Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Raghuram Rajan** and **economist Rohit Lamba** have written a new book titled **"Breaking the Mold: Reimagining India's Economic Future"**.
- The **Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)** has initiated work on its own ambitious space programme which has been approved by the **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe)**, working under the Department of Space. The project involves the development of **'SS AMU SAT'**, the first satellite programme.
- Global growth is expected to slow to **3 percent** in **2023** and decline to **2.9 percent** in **2024**, one of the lowest growth rates in decades, according to the **International Monetary Fund**.

2 November

15th Asian Shooting Championship

- The championship was held for the first time in **Changwon, Republic of Korea** from 22 October to 2 November 2023.
- **Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar** has won the gold medal in the fifty meter rifle three position event in this competition.
- **India finished second** in the medal tally in the **Asian Shooting Championship** with a total of 55 medals including 21 gold, 21 silver and 13 bronze.
- **China** topped the medal tally with 33 gold, 21 silver and 22 bronze. Host Korea won 16 gold, 22 silver and 19 bronze.

One liner current affairs

- The **International Solar Alliance** has announced a **\$35 million capital infusion** for its **Global Solar Facility (GSF)**, which aims to encourage solar investment in underserved areas, particularly in Africa.
- **India** has signed the **world's first Artificial Intelligence security agreement** with 27 other countries and the **European Union** at a meeting in **Britain**. The two-day '**A.I. 'Safety Summit-2023'**' began at **Britain's World War II Code Breaking Center at Bletchley Park**. The British government has said in a release that this agreement will be known as the '**Bletchley Declaration**'.
- **Saima Wajid of Bangladesh** will be the **regional director for South East Asia** in the **World Health Organization**. **Saima Wajid** is the daughter of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.
- '**Indian Quality Council**', an autonomous organization of '**Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**', **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, hosted the '**International Conference on Sustainable Trade and Standards (ICSTS)**' in New Delhi.
- The **Defense Minister** inaugurates three-day '**India Manufacturing Show**' (6th edition) in **Bengaluru**. It is jointly organized by '**Laghu Udyog Bharti**' and '**IMS Foundation**' and supported by the **Department of Defense Production, Ministry of Defence**. The central theme of this event is '**Make in India, Make for the World**'.
- The **Election Commission** has developed the **Incore App** for candidates and election management. This will facilitate the election officers in the process of nomination, its verification, affidavit, voter number, counting of votes, election results and data management.
- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** participated in the '**NAAM 200**' event to commemorate the **200th anniversary of the arrival of Tamils of Indian origin in Colombo**. (The theme of the conference is – **Connectivity: Partnering for Prosperity**.)
- India-born author **Nandini Das** was honored with the '**British Academy Book Award 2023**' for her global cultural insight for her book '**Courting India: England, Mughal India and the Origins of Empire**'.

It (formerly called the **Nayef Al-Rodhan Award**) was launched in 2013 to honor outstanding non-fiction works.

- **Haryana Government** has announced to increase the social pension amount of each category of beneficiaries to **Rs 3,000** from January 1st. Also, the government will provide free travel in government buses to people with an income of **Rs 1 lakh** and pilgrimage to the elderly.
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has recently made an important announcement regarding '**District Central Cooperative Banks**'. These banks are now allowed to close their unprofitable branches without prior permission from the central bank, although they will require approval from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies of the concerned state.
- 10-year-old talented '**Vihan Talya Vikas**' from **Bengaluru** has won the top prize in the famous '**Wildlife Photographer of the Year Contest**' in the '10 years and below' category. This prestigious competition, known as the '**Oscars of Photography**', is organized by the **Natural History Museum**.
- Engineer-turned-social activist '**Deenanath Rajput**' was honored with the second '**Rohini Nayar Award**' for his outstanding contribution to rural development. Dinanath Rajput's commendable work focuses on **empowering tribal women in Bastar**, Chhattisgarh, which is known for its challenges including Naxalite activities.
- **Global technology giant Nokia** has made a significant breakthrough in the Indian broadband market by joining hands with **Tata Play Fiber** to launch the **country's first WiFi6-ready** broadband network.
- '**MiG-21 Bison aircraft**' took its last flight at **Uttarlai in Barmer district**. It is known as the '**OORIALS**', the squadron has been operating MiG-21s since 1966 and is now being equipped with **Sukhoi-30 MKI aircraft**.
- The statue of legendary cricketer **Sachin Tendulkar** was unveiled on November 1 at **Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium**.
- '**World Vegetarian Day**' is celebrated every year on **01 November**. (Theme – **Celebrating for a Good Cause**)
- Every year, **Halloween Day** is celebrated on **October 31**, the evening before **All Saints' (or All Hallows')** Day. The celebration marks the day before the Western Christian feast of All Saints and initiates the season of All hallow tide, which lasts three days and concludes with **All Souls' Day**.
- Veteran Congress leader and former Assam government minister **Sarat Barkotoky** died in a hospital in **Guwahati**.

3 November

'Silent Conversations: From Margins to the Centre' exhibition

- The President of India, Smt. Draupadi Murmu inaugurated an art exhibition titled "**Silent Conversations: From Margins to the Centre**" in New Delhi on November 3, 2023.

- The exhibition was organized by the **National Tiger Conservation Authority** in collaboration with **Sankala Foundation** to celebrate 50 years of Project Tiger.
- **Project Tiger** is a **wildlife conservation initiative** in India that was started in the year **1973** with the primary objective of protecting and conserving India's national animal, the Bengal Tiger, and restoring its habitat.
- The **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** was established in **2006**.

India's own CAR-T cell therapy

- Recently, the **Central Drugs Standard Control Organization** has granted market authorization for India's first indigenously developed chimeric antigen receptor T cell (CAR-T cell) therapy, **NexCAR19**.
- **India** is now one of the **first developing countries** to have indigenous CAR-T and gene therapy platforms.
- '**NexCar19**' is a type of CAR-T and gene therapy developed indigenously in India by **ImmunoACT**, a company incubated at IIT Bombay.

Avian flu

- British Antarctic Survey (BAS) scientists have identified the presence of **highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)** in the **Antarctic region** for the first time, raising serious concerns for vulnerable populations of penguins and seals in the region.
- The discovery found HPAI in the **brown skua population on Bird Island, South Georgia**.
- **Avian influenza**, often called bird flu, is a highly contagious viral infection that primarily affects birds.
- In 1996, the highly pathogenic avian influenza **H5N1 virus** was first identified in domestic waterfowl in southern China.

IOM's global initiative to address legal identity

- Recently, a Conference on Legal Identity and Rights-Based Return Management was organized by the **United Nations' International Organization for Migration (IOM)** in **Copenhagen, Denmark** to promote dialogue between countries of origin and destination for people without legal identity. .
- The initiative was conducted within the framework of **IOM's Global Program Enhancing Readmission and Legal Identity Capacities (RELICA)**, launched in **2022**.
- IOM was established in the **year 1951** and its head office is in **Le Grand-Saconnex, Switzerland**.

Antarctic Research Station

- Two Chinese icebreaker research ships and a cargo ship have left for Antarctica. The primary objective of this mission is to complete the construction of **China's fifth research station** located on Inexpressible Island near the Ross Sea in the Antarctic.

- 'Ross Sea' is located off the coast of Antarctica. It is **one of the world's last intact marine ecosystems**.
- **China** has four research stations located in Antarctica, including **Great Wall (1985)**, **Zhongshan (1989)**, **Kunlun (2009)** and **Taishan (2014)**.
- India has **two active research centers** in Antarctica named '**Maitri**' and '**Bharti**'.

Road Accidents in India-2022 Report

- The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** has recently unveiled its "**Road Accidents in India-2022**" annual report.
- According to this report, a total of **4,61,312 road accidents** were recorded in various states and union territories of India during 2022. These accidents resulted in the tragic death of 1,68,491 persons and injuries to 4,43,366 persons.
- The figures show an alarming increase of **11.9%** in accidents, **9.4%** in fatalities and **15.3%** in injuries compared to the previous year.
- About **68%** of road accident deaths in the **year 2022** occurred in **rural areas**, while **urban areas** account for **32%** of the total accident deaths in the country.
- For the second consecutive year, **two-wheelers had the highest share in both total accidents and fatality rates in 2022**.
- **Tamil Nadu** recorded the highest number of road accidents in **2022**, accounting for **13.9%** of the total accidents, followed by **Madhya Pradesh** with **11.8%**.
- The highest number of deaths due to road accidents occurred in **Uttar Pradesh** (13.4%), followed by **Tamil Nadu** (10.6%).

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the second edition of the mega food event '**World Food India 2023**' at **Bharat Mandapam**, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. The event aims to showcase India as the '**Food Hub of the World**' and **celebrate 2023 as the International Year of Millets**.
- The **Election Commission** has launched an Integrated Expenditure Monitoring Software-**IEMS**. It is a **new technology** enabled portal that will facilitate online filing of contribution reports, election expenditure statements and audited annual accounts by political parties.
- **Bhutan's King 'Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck'** arrived in **Guwahati** on an eight-day official visit to India.
- The **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances** under the **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions**, Government of India and the French Republic signed a Letter of Intent for cooperation in the field of administration and administrative reforms for the next three years.

- **Minister for External Affairs, Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar** held extensive discussions with **Italy's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani** in **Rome**. He also met with Italy's Defense Minister Guido Crosetto.
- **Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan** said that the participation of women in the country's workforce has increased to **37 percent** in **2022-23**.
- **Gianni Infantino, President of International Football Federation (FIFA)** has confirmed that **Gulf country Saudi Arabia** will host the '**FIFA World Cup 2034**'. The **FIFA World Cup 2026** will be hosted in **Morocco** (Africa) and **2030** will be hosted in **Portugal and Spain** (Europe).

4 November

State Food Security Index (SFSI) 2022- 2023

- The '**State Food Safety Index (SFSI) 2022-2023**' released by the **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)** highlights the performance of Indian states in ensuring food safety.
- The **2022-2023 index** introduced a new parameter, '**Improvement in SFSI Rank**', which **assesses the state's progress** compared to the previous year.
- SFSI was launched in the **year 2018-19** to bring competitiveness and positive change in the food safety ecosystem in the country.
- Over the past five years, 19 of the 20 largest Indian states, including **Maharashtra, Bihar, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh**, have experienced a decline in their SFSI scores for 2022-2023 compared to 2019.
- After adjusting for a new parameter introduced in the index for session 2022-2023, **15** out of 20 states earned a lower SFSI score in 2022-2023 compared to 2019.
- Among larger states in the overall ranking, **Kerala** secured the top ranking, followed by **Punjab** and **Tamil Nadu**. Among smaller states, **Goa** emerged as the leader, followed by **Manipur** and **Sikkim**. Additionally, among the Union Territories, **Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi** and **Chandigarh** secured the first, second and third positions respectively.
- The biggest decline was seen in '**Food Testing Infrastructure**', with the average score across all large states falling from 13 out of 20 in 2019 to 7 out of 17 in 2022 - 2023. In the year 2022-2023, **Gujarat** and **Kerala** performed best in this parameter while **Andhra Pradesh** performed the worst.
- There was also a decline in the score of '**Compliance**' parameters. In this parameter, **Punjab** and **Himachal Pradesh** got the highest marks and **Jharkhand** got the least marks.

Hurun India Philanthropy List 2023

- **HCLTech founder Shiv Nadar** and his family have topped the **Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2023**.

- For the **financial year 2022-23**, he donated a substantial amount of Rs 2,042 crore, making it the fifth consecutive year that Nadar has claimed this distinguished rank.
- **Wipro's founding chairman Azim Premji** and his family were ranked **second** with a noteworthy donation of Rs 1,774 crore.
- Additionally, the name of the youngest philanthropist, **Nikhil Kamath**, was also added to the list, he made a generous donation of **₹110 crore** during FY 22-23.

Knight Frank Prime Global Cities Index (Q3) - 2023

- According to **Knight Frank's Prime Global Cities Index**, **Mumbai** recorded the **fourth highest year-on-year growth** in prime residential prices among global cities, with **Manila** claimed the **top spot**. **Dubai** spotted the **second** place and **Shanghai** spotted **third** place.
- **3 Indian cities** have been included in this index. These cities are **Mumbai, Delhi** and **Bengaluru**. **Mumbai** is ranked **fourth** in this index, **Delhi** is ranked **10th** and **Bengaluru** is ranked **17th**.
- **San Francisco** of the USA is at the last i.e. **46th position**.
- It is a **valuation-based index** that tracks housing price movements across **46 major** cities.

One liner current affairs

- **Minister of State for Science and Technology Dr Jitendra Singh** has said that **India** will be among the **top five global bio-manufacturing hubs** by 2025.
- The **Government of Kerala** has selected renowned writer **T. Padmanabhan** as the recipient of the prestigious **Kerala Jyothi Award**.
- The **Reserve Bank** has said that more than **97 percent** of the Rs 2,000 notes have been returned to it. The **Reserve Bank** had announced the withdrawal of **Rs 2,000** notes on May 19, 2023 and requested people to deposit or exchange them in any bank by October 7, 2023.
- **NTPC Renewable Energy Limited** has announced the commercial operation of its first project – a 50 MW wind project located at Dayapar in the **Kutch region of Gujarat** on November 4, 2023.
- **Jammu Kashmir Police** has started using '**GPS Tracker Anklet**'. It is being used in many countries to monitor the activities of accused released on bail and parole and elements under house arrest. In India, Jammu and Kashmir Police was the **first** to start using it.
- According to the **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** in 2022, Indian farmers faced a total of **\$169 billion** in implicit taxation as a result of export restrictions, duties and permits on various commodities such as wheat and rice.
- **Bhutan** has become the **first country** in the world to successfully sterilize and vaccinate its entire stray dog population.
- The '**Ecological Threat Report 2023**' published by **Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)** warns that the number of people living in countries facing serious ecological threats is expected to increase from the current 1.8 billion to 2.8 billion by 2050.

- The **Philippines** has announced its withdrawal from **China's 'Belt and Road Project'**.
- **Tata Power** has appointed **Dipesh Nanda** as President-Renewables, CEO and MD of its subsidiary **Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL)**.
- **'David Willey'**, a player of the England cricket team has retired from international cricket.

5 November

18 Hunger Hotspot

- According to a recent report by the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** and the **World Food Program (WFP)**, acute food insecurity is increasing in 18 hunger hotspots.
- These hotspots include **22 countries and territories**, with the report covering the period from **November 2023 to April 2024**.
- The selection of these hotspots is based on **expert consensus** and analysis of various factors. The **countries and territories** identified in the report **include** Burkina Faso, Mali, Sudan, South Sudan, Niger, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Djibouti, Yemen, Somalia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Haiti, Includes El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In all these regions, **food security is expected to decline significantly** over the next **six months**.

One liner current affairs

- In the election-bound state of Chhattisgarh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the **'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana' (PMGKY)** will be extended for the next five years. This scheme was started on 30 June 2020.
- Entertainment television channel **'Colors'** has tied up with the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** to promote the government's **Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao** campaign. An attempt has been made to bring social awareness about the neglect of the girl child through **Colors'** new show **'Dori'**.
- **Kerala High Court** has banned bursting of firecrackers in all religious places.
- **Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha** participated in the **'Shikara Utsav'** organized in **New Delhi**. The two-day event was organized by **Kashmir Education, Culture and Science Society**.
- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** appointed **Manoranjan Mishra** as its Executive Director (ED) with effect from November 1, 2023. As ED he will oversee three departments namely **enforcement, risk monitoring and outward investment and operations**.
- The **United States Army** recently launched the **'Minuteman III missile'**, demonstrating its nuclear capability. It is an **intercontinental ballistic missile**.

- The iconic '**Throne Room**' at the Raj Bhavan in **Kolkata**, a testament to the grandeur of the British era, has been renamed to commemorate the legacy of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, the **first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of independent India**.
- The recent visit of the Chinese Communist Party delegation to 'Solomon Islands' (Capital – **Honiara**) has highlighted the growing cooperation between the two countries and its importance for their people.
- The **Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, India** (HSBC India) in collaboration with **National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)** has launched **electronic-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) services** to digitize trade finance. With this, **HSBC India** becomes the **first foreign bank** in India to offer e-BG.
- The **Indian women's hockey team** has won the title of '**Asian Champions Trophy**'. In the final match held in **Roche**, host India defeated former champions Japan 4-0. (Third place - China, Fourth place - South Korea) Earlier, **India** had won this trophy in **Singapore** in the year **2016**.
- **Virat Kohli** scored his **49th** century against South Africa on his 35th birthday in the '**World Cup 2023**', . He also became the **third Indian batsman** to score a century on his birthday.
- The **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** has won the **Asian Football Confederation (AFC)** President's Recognition Bronze Award for grassroots football. AIFF President **Kalyan Choubey** received the award at the **AFC Annual Awards 2022** in **Doha, Qatar**. Football Australia wins '**Gold**' **AFC President's Recognition Award for Grassroots Football**. AFC President's Recognition Award '**Silver**' for Grassroots Football won by the Guam Football Association.
- Renowned musician, composer and writer **Padmashree Leela Omcheri** passed away in **New Delhi** at the age of 94.

6 November

National Skilled Cooking Program (NECP)

- **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**, a Joint Venture of **Public Sector Undertakings** under the **Ministry of Power**, launched its ground-breaking '**National Efficient Cooking Programme**' and **Energy Efficient Fan Program (EEFP)**.
- As part of these programmes, '**Energy Efficiency Services Limited**' will distribute **1 crore efficient BLDC fans** and **20 lakh energy-efficient induction cook stoves** across the country.
- The **National Energy Efficient Cooking Program** has introduced induction-based cook-stoves, which offer a cost advantage of **25 to 30 percent** compared to conventional cooking methods.
- **Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)** was established in the **year 2009** to implement the **National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE)**.

'Jal Diwali' campaign

- The **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** is all set to launch a progressive initiative '**Water for Women, Women for Water Campaign**' under its flagship scheme – **Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT)**.
- The Ministry's '**National Urban Livelihood Mission**' also has participation in this scheme. **Odisha Urban Academy** is its '**knowledge partner**'.
- The celebration of this "**Jal Diwali**" campaign will start from November 7, 2023 and continue till November 9, 2023. The campaign aims to provide a **platform** to involve women in water governance systems.

Project 15B frigate 'Surat'

- Indian Navy's latest, **indigenous, guided missile destroyer, 'Surat'** was unveiled at a ceremony held at Surat on **06 November 2023**.
- Among the latest advanced warship projects under construction, '**Project 15B**' is the construction of the fourth Next Generation **Stealth Guided Missile Destroyer** of this programme, of which 'Surat' is the fourth and final ship.
- The warship is currently under construction at **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited**, Mumbai.
- **Four warships** have been built namely, **Visakhapatnam, Mormugao, Imphal and Surat** under **Project 15B**.

One liner current affairs

- Recently, Information Commissioner '**Hiralal Samaria**' took oath as **Chief Information Commissioner (12th)**.
- Recently, the first meeting of '**Australia-India Education and Skills Council**' (AIESEC) was held at **IIT Gandhinagar**. Established in **2011** as the **Australian India Education Council (AIEC)**, this **bi-national body** strategically guides educational, training and research partnerships between the two countries.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been elected as the **Chairman of the Shri Somnath Trust (SST)** for a **5-year term**, a significant step up from the traditional one-year tenure for the Chairman of the Trust.
- **India** is set to host the prestigious '**World Telecommunications Standardization Assembly**' (WTSA) in **2024**, which is an important step towards the progress of **5G and 6G** networks.
- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)**, **Ministry of Commerce**, Government of India, signed an **MoU** with global retail leader **Lulu Hypermarket** to promote the **export of agricultural products to the Gulf Cooperation Countries (GCC)**.
- **Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare** in collaboration with **Wadhvani Institute for Artificial Intelligence (Wadhvani AI)** has developed '**Krishi 24/7**' platform, the **first Google.org enabled automated AI** for agriculture information monitoring and analysis driven solution.

- The Union Minister for **Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Textiles and Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal** flagged off 100 mobile vans for sale of wheat flour under brand '**Bharat**' from Kartavya Path, New Delhi. This flour will be available at MRP of **Rs 27.50 per kg**.
- Recently **Chile** has become the **95th member** of the **International Solar Alliance**.
- **Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha**, Secretary, Ministry of Steel, today unveiled a groundbreaking ceremony for the Mining operations at **Mount Celia Gold Project** located in **Western Australia**.
- About **12 thousand people** enthusiastically participated in the '**8th Vizag Navy Marathon**' organized by the **Eastern Naval Command** in **Visakhapatnam**.
- The **5th phase** of the much publicized **back-to-village program – B-2-V** is starting in Jammu and Kashmir. The **B-2-V** program aims to fulfill the mission of equitable development in rural areas.
- The **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** started training in the **Master Trainers and Assessors Program** under **PM Vishwakarma Yojana**. This **five-day** training program was organized at '**National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (Noida, Uttar Pradesh)**'.
- Recently **11 Asian and South American countries** signed a historic agreement in **Bogota, Colombia** to save the **world's six surviving species of river dolphins** from **extinction**. The countries that have adopted this declaration include - **Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Colombia, Ecuador, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru and Venezuela**. **Indonesia** also has a representative of the regional government who has responsibility for the **Mahakam River**.
- Recently, the maiden voyage of **India's first international cruise liner, Costa Serena**, was flagged off from **Mumbai**. This initiative is in line with the '**Dekho Apna Desh**' campaign. The development of cruise and lighthouse tourism is part of the '**Sagarmala Project**', which aims to establish India as a major cruise hub in the **Asia-Pacific region** by the year **2030**.
- **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog** today opened applications for '**ATL Marathon 2023-24**'- a flagship innovation challenge organized this year in collaboration with the **Ministry of Education, YuWaah and UNICEF**. **ATL Marathon** is a national-level innovation challenge for **young innovators across India** who can solve community problems of their choice, and develop innovative solutions in the form of working prototypes. This year's **ATL Marathon** is **themed** around "**India's 75th Republic Day**", with several problem statements on which student teams can build projects like **Space, Agriculture, Inclusivity, Disaster management, Mobility, Health, Education & Skill Development**.
- **India's R. Vaishali** has made a mark in chess by winning the '**FIDE Women's Grand Swiss 2023**'. She has become the **first Indian** to win the **Grand Swiss**. On the other hand, **Vidit Gujarathi** also registered his 7th win in this event by defeating **Serbia's Aleksandar Predke** and secured the top position in the open section.
- '**World Tsunami Day**' is celebrated every year by the **United Nations** on 5 November. The **United Nations** designated the day in **2015**.
- The world celebrates the '**International Day for Biosphere Reserves**' on **3rd Nov**, a day established by **UNESCO** during its **41st General Conference** in **2022**.

Deep Evidence of Earth's Formation of the Moon

- Recent research reveals evidence of a **massive collision** deep within Earth's interior more than 4.46 billion years ago, **shedding light on the formation of the Moon and the planet's evolution**.
- This massive impact resulted in the **formation of molten rock** which later collected in space to form the Moon.
- **Two continent-sized blobs** (large, dense areas) within the Earth's mantle, one beneath **Africa** and the other beneath the **South Pacific**, are thought to be remnants of this ancient collision. These blobs, denser than surrounding bodies, may have been created by a collision between young Earth and a Mars-sized object called **Theia**.
- Computer simulations support the idea that most of Theia was absorbed into the **Earth**, forming these blobs, while the residual debris formed the **Moon**.

Zika virus

- Recently the **Karnataka State Health Department** issued an alert after **Zika virus** was detected in mosquito samples from **Talakayala Betta**, Chikkaballapura village.
- Zika virus is a **mosquito-borne flavivirus** spread primarily by Aedes mosquitoes, specifically **Aedes aegypti**.
- It can be transmitted from **mother to fetus during pregnancy**, as well as **through physical contact, transfusion of blood and blood products**.
- Zika virus has an RNA genome and thus has a very **high capacity** to accumulate **mutations**.

One liner current affairs

- An Indian delegation led by **Shri Bhagwant Khuba**, Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers participated in the **2nd World Local Production Forum (WLPF)** held in **The Hague, Netherlands**. This meeting was held from 6 to 8 November 2023.
- In the bid to support and accelerate the success of tech startups across India, **Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)** Secretary **Shri S Krishnan** launched the **LEAP AHEAD** initiative, a joint collaboration of **Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)** and **The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Delhi-NCR**, at the **LEAP AHEAD** summit.
- Union Science and Technology Minister **Dr. Jitendra Singh** has announced about starting '**i-PhD degree**' for the previously educated unemployed. This PhD degree will be related to industry.
- **External Affairs Minister of India Dr. S. Jaishankar** and **Foreign Minister of Malaysia Dr. Zambri Abdul Kadir** co-chaired the **6th India-Malaysia Joint Commission Meeting** held in **New Delhi**.
- '**Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency**', a **Mini Ratna (Category-I)** Enterprise of the Government of India under the administrative control of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy,

has launched a **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Portal** to enhance **transparency** in its CSR initiatives.

- **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan** and Australian Education Minister and MP **Jason Claire** announced the opening of two Australian universities (**Wollongong and Deakin Universities**) in **GIFT City (Gujarat)**.
- **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** has acquired **Mercator Petroleum** for about Rs 148 crore in insolvency proceedings.
- The **National Basketball Association (NBA)** and leading apparel brand '**Bhane**' have joined hands in an unprecedented multi-year partnership to introduce **NBAStore.in**.
- Senior Indian diplomat **Surendra Kumar Adhana** was re-elected as a member of the **United Nations (UN) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)** for a three-year term, **2024-26**, starting from January 1, 2024. He has been a member of ACABQ, an **associate organ** of the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**, since November 2022.
- **Reserve Bank of India** was honored with the '**Changemaker of the Year**' award. **Governor Shaktikanta Das** received it on behalf of **RBI**. The honor was part of the '**Hindu Businessline Changemaker Awards 2023**' held in **New Delhi** on **November 3**.
- In an effort to **promote pilgrimage tourism**, the state of **Kerala** is taking some big steps with the launch of a series of tourism microsites.
- **Sri Lanka's** experienced batsman '**Angelo Mathews**' was given '**time out**' (**2 minutes**) against **Bangladesh** in the **ICC Cricket World Cup** on 06 November and became the first batsman to be given out in this manner in international cricket.
- The '**Battle of Surabaya**' was fought between **Indonesian nationalists** and **British Indian forces**, which lasted from **1945 to 1949**. Indonesia was a **Dutch colony** at the time of the war. Indonesia celebrates every year as '**Heroes Day**'.
- The **International Day to Prevent Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict** is an international day observed annually on 6 November.
- Former **Speaker of Karnataka Assembly Daradahalli Byregowda Chandregowda** passed away.
- Renowned astronaut **Ken Mattingly**, best known for his key role in the safe return of the damaged **Apollo 13** spacecraft to Earth, has died at the age of 87.
- **Indian poet 'Gieve Patel'** passed away at the age of 83. Some of his notable poems include '**How Do You Withstand**' (1966), '**Body**' (1976), '**Mirrored Mirroring**' (1991) and '**On Killing a Tree**'.

8 November

Global TB Report 2023

- The **World Health Organization** released its '**Global TB Report 2023**' on November 7, 2023.
- According to this report, treatment coverage in India has improved to reach **80 percent** of the estimated **TB cases**, which is **19 percent** more than last year.

- India's efforts have resulted in a **16 per cent** decline in **TB cases** by **2022 (since 2015)**, which is almost twice the pace of decline in global TB cases (8.7 per cent).
- The **World Health Organization** has reduced the **TB mortality rate** from 4.94 lakh in 2021 to 3.31 lakh in 2022. This is a decrease of more than **34 percent** in a period of **one year**.

'Pralay' strategic ballistic missile

- India successfully test fired **Pralay Tactical Ballistic Missile** off the coast of **Odisha**.
- The **Pralay missile**, short for '**Pralaya: Apocalypse**', is a **canistered tactical, surface-to-surface, short-range ballistic missile** designed for battlefield use.
- It has been developed by the **Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO)**.
- The project to develop **Pralay** was approved in **March 2015**.

University Grants Commission (UGC)

- The University Grants Commission has announced **rules** for foreign universities to set up and operate their campuses in India.
- Foreign universities will have to take permission from UGC to start new courses on the campus.
- A foreign university wishing to set up a campus in India must be among the **top 500 universities in the world**.
- A foreign university can set up **multiple campuses** in the country, but will have to apply separately for each.
- Campuses of foreign universities in India will not be able to **conduct online or distance education courses**.

US National Gatka Championship

- The **first US National Gatka Championship** was recently concluded at the **Sikh Center of New York Inc.**
- '**New York Gatka Association**' won the overall **trophy** in the first US National Gatka Championship.
- In this, '**Kansas Gatka Association**' secured the **runner-up position** and '**NJ Gatka Association**' secured the **third position**.

One liner current affairs

- The **first India-US Defense Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X)** Investor Meet was held in **Delhi**. During this, **INDUS-X Educational Series-Gurukul** was launched.
- **India** and the **Netherlands** signed a Letter of Intent for cooperation on medical product regulation and enhancing the quality of medical products.
- The **Jharkhand government** has launched '**Abua Bir Dishom Abhiyan**' with the aim of providing land ownership certificates to individuals and communities under the **Forest Rights Act**.

- The **Ministry of Tourism of India**, along with various stakeholders, is actively participating in the **World Travel Market (WTM) London** from November 6 to November 8, 2023. The ministry has set up '**Incredible India Pavilion**' at **WTM 2023, London**.
- The State Cabinet in **Maharashtra** approved the **state's first export promotion policy** to boost exports. This policy will be implemented till **2027-28**.
- Shri Harjinder Singh Dhama has been **re-elected** as the **Chairman of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee** in **Punjab**. He has been elected for the third consecutive time.
- A **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** was signed between **Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs** and **FSR Global** at **IICA Campus Manesar (Gurugram)**.
- Portuguese Prime Minister **Antonio Costa** submitted his resignation to President **Marcelo Rebelo de Souza** due to corruption allegations.
- **Chairman of National Human Rights Commission Justice Arun Mishra** addressed the **14th International Conference of National Human Rights Institutions** in **Copenhagen, Denmark**.
- **Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman** launched **12 Goods and Services Tax (GST) Seva Kendras** at **Gyan Dham School in Vapi in Gujarat**.
- The award of the **19th edition** of the prestigious '**Artist Awards**' organized by the **Carvalho family of Kundapura** in collaboration with **Mand Shobhan, Mangaluru** was given to prominent Konkani singer, lyricist and composer '**Apollinaris D'Souza**'.
- **Mundra Port**, the flagship of **Adani Ports** and **Special Economic Zone**, has become the first port in India to handle 16.1 million tonnes of cargo.
- The **Indian junior men's hockey team** won the '**Bronze Medal**' by defeating Pakistan in a tough match for **3rd-4th place** in the **11th 'Sultan of Johor Cup'** on 4 November 2023. '**Germany**' won the gold medal of this competition by defeating '**Australia**' in the final match. It was organized in **Malaysia** from 27 October to 4 November 2023.
- '**World Radiography Day**' is celebrated every year on 8 November. The theme of **World Radiography Day 2023** is '**Celebrating Patient Safety**'.
- '**National Cancer Awareness**' Day is celebrated in India on **7 November**.

9 November

Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Program (LLLAP)

- As per recent data, the **Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Program (LLLAP)** was reached to more than **6 lakh people** through **14 implementing agencies** under the **Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA)** scheme.
- '**LLLAP**' is an initiative of the **Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice**, Government of India, which aims to increase legal literacy and awareness among the public.

- **DISHA** has been launched for a period of **five years i.e. 2021-2026** to further the objective of access to justice. Its objective is to design and integrate various initiatives for citizen-centric access to legal services.

Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

- Recently **Russia** has pulled out of the **Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)**.
- The CTBT bans **all nuclear tests** for both military and civilian purposes.
- This treaty was discussed at the **Conference on Disarmament in Geneva in 1994**, and it was also adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.
- This treaty has **not yet been** signed by **India**.

37th National Games

- The **37th National Games** concluded in **Goa**. The next National Games will be organized in **Uttarakhand**.
- '**Raja Bhalendra Singh Trophy**' was awarded to **Maharashtra** for overall championship in sports.
- The trophy for the **best female athlete** was given to **Pranati Nayak** and **Samyukta Kate** and the trophy for the best male athlete was given to **Srihari Nataraj**.
- **Maharashtra** topped these games with **228 medals** including **80 gold**.
- '**National Games 2023**' medal table
 - **Team - Gold - Silver - Bronze - Total**
 - **Maharashtra - 80 - 69 - 79 - 228**
 - **Services - 66 - 27 - 33 - 126**
 - **Haryana - 62 - 55 - 75 - 192**
 - **Madhya Pradesh - 37 - 36 - 39 - 112**
 - **Kerala - 36 - 24 - 27 - 87**

Uttarakhand Day

- '**Uttarakhand Day**' is celebrated every year on **9 November**.
- Uttarakhand state was formed in the **year 2000**. It is known as '**Land of Gods**' or '**Dev Bhoomi**'.
- It was initially named as '**Uttaranchal**'. Later in the **year 2007** its name was changed to Uttarakhand. The capital of the state is **Dehradun**.
- The state high court is located in **Nainital**.
- The original inhabitants of Uttarakhand are **Uttarakhandi, Kumaoni and Garhwali**.

One liner current affairs

- **Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar** today released '**VAMAN VRIKSHA KALA**', 200th book authored by **Governor of Goa, P S S Pillai**.

- The **Union Ministry of Skill Development** has signed an **MoU** with **Dassault Aircraft Services India Pvt. Ltd.** to provide long term training in the **aviation sector**. This training will be given at the **Indian Skills Institute, Kanpur**.
- For the first time, **100 percent FDI** has been approved in the **defense industry** in India. **Swedish company 'Saab'** has achieved **India's first 100 percent FDI** in a defense project. This approval has been given to establish a factory in **Haryana**.
- **Time magazine** recently featured **Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** in its cover story as the **world's longest-ruling female head of state**.
- **India First Life Insurance** has secured registration to commence life insurance business at **Gujarat International Finance Tech (GIFT) City-International Financial Services Center (IFSC)**.
- Recently, **Bharat Botanics** announced the opening of its state-of-the-art **wood-pressed cold oil processing facility** in **Gondal, Rajkot Gujarat**.
- **UNDP** recently released the **2024 Asia-Pacific Human Development Report** titled '**Making Our Future: New Directions for Human Development in Asia and the Pacific**', which presents a mixed picture of India's development journey. According to this, between the years 2000 and 2022, **India's per capita income is expected to increase from just US\$442 to US\$2,389**.
- A spectacular and rare phenomenon '**Red Aurora**' was recently observed at the night sky observatories of **Hanle and Marak** in **Ladakh**. '**Auroras**' are stunning light displays in the sky, usually occurring near the poles.
- **Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur** has established a Center of Excellence named **ATMAN (Advanced Technologies for Monitoring Air-Quality Indicators)**.
- **IIT Madras** has become the **first Indian Institute of Technology** to set up an international campus on the picturesque **Zanzibar island** in **East Africa**.
- According to a survey conducted by **McKinsey Health Institute** on employees of 30 countries, **India** is at **second place** while **Japan** is at **last place** in the global ranking of employee well-being. **Turkey** ranks **first** in the list followed by **India, China, Nigeria, Cameroon, Sweden, Mexico** and **UAE**.
- Three-time champion '**Max Verstappen**' has won the '**Brazilian Grand Prix 2023**'.
- '**National Legal Services Day**' is celebrated every year on **9 November**.

10 November

Pusa - 2090

- Amidst the challenge of air pollution in the **National Capital Region of Delhi** due to burning of paddy straw, the **Indian Agricultural Research Institute** has developed a high-yielding and short-duration variety of paddy, '**Pusa - 2090**'.
- The new variety of paddy is an improved variety of the currently used **Pusa-44**.
- The new variety ripens in only **120 to 125 days** whereas **Pusa-44** takes **155 to 160 days**.

Asian Archery Championships 2023 (23rd edition)

- **India** ended its campaign at the **Asian Archery Championships** in **Bangkok** by winning a total of 7 medals with 3 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze medals.
- **'South Korea'** stood first in this competition by winning a total of **11 medals** (6 gold, 2 silver and 3 bronze). **'India'** stood **second** in this competition.
- **Indian medal winner**
 - Preneet Kaur (Women's Compound) - Gold Medal
 - Aditi Swami, Priyansh (Mixed Compound) - Gold Medal
 - Preneet Kaur, Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Aditi Swamy (Women's Compound Team) - Gold Medal
 - Jyothi Surekha Vennam (Women's Compound) - Silver Medal
 - Abhishek Verma (Men's Compound) - Bronze Medal
 - Tisha Punia, Bhajan Kaur, Ankita Bhakat (Women's Recurve Team) - Bronze Medal
 - Abhishek Verma, Prathamesh Phuge, Priyansh (Men's Compound Team) - Bronze Medal

One liner current affairs

- The **4th edition** of the bilateral exercise **'Bongo Sagar-23'** between the **Indian Navy** and **Bangladesh Navy** and the **5th edition of the Coordinated Patrol - (Coordinated Patrol-Corporate)** by the navies of both the countries was conducted in the **North Bay of Bengal** from 07 to 09 November 2023. .
- An MoU was signed between **'Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs'** and **'FSR Global'** at **IICA Campus Manesar (Gurugram)**.
- **Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)**, under the aegis of **Ministry of Heavy Industries**, organized the **3rd edition** of its Dialogue **"BHEL Dialogue 3.0 – Research from India"** at **Bharat Mandapam** with domestic trade partners, industry associations, academia and research institutes to promote local suppliers. It successfully organized another initiative of **BHEL "Towards Self-reliance"**.
- **'Bihar Legislative Council'** unanimously passed the amendment bill to increase the reservation in government jobs of the state from **50 to 65 percent** for **Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Extremely Backward Castes and Other Backward Castes**.
- **Amazon** is investing heavily in an advanced **large language model (LLM)** called **'Olympus'**.
- The **5th India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue** was successfully concluded in New Delhi. **Defense Minister Rajnath Singh** and **External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar** co-chaired the two-plus-two ministerial dialogue with **US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin** and **Secretary of State Antony Blinken**.
- **InterGlobe Enterprises**, a major shareholder of **IndiGo**, has announced a strategic partnership with **'Archer Aviation Inc'**, a US based company specializing in electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft. The **objective** of this collaboration is to launch and operate an all-electric air taxi service in India.
- Researchers have identified the most **ancient black hole** ever discovered. This celestial behemoth came into existence during the **Big Bang, 470 million years** after the birth of the universe.

- '**Adani Green Energy Limited**' last week achieved a significant milestone by becoming **India's largest renewable energy company** by reaching an installed capacity of **8.4 GW**.
- The **International Cricket Council** has suspended the membership of Sri Lanka Cricket with immediate effect.

11 November

QS Asia University Rankings - 2024

- Recently '**QS Asia University Rankings: Asia 2024**' has been released by global higher education think-tank '**Quacquarelli Symonds**', in which **148 universities** from India are included in the comprehensive list of total **856 universities** in Asia.
- **Peking University (China)** tops the list, followed by the **University of Hong Kong** and **National University of Singapore (NUS)**, Singapore.
- **IIT Bombay** has retained its top ranking in India and is ranked 40th in Asia.
- **7 Indian institutions** feature in **Asia's top 100**, of which **5** are Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), along with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore and Delhi Universities.

State of Food and Agriculture Report 2023

- Recently the **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** of the **United Nations** has released this report.
- According to it, the total hidden cost of India's agri-food systems has reached approximately **\$1.1 trillion**, making it the **third largest contributor** in the world after **China** and the United States.

Hidden costs in **agri-food systems** involve a variety of factors, including –

- **Environmental costs** – These include costs associated with greenhouse gas emissions, nitrogen emissions, water use, and land-use change.
- **Health costs** – There are hidden health costs that result from lost productivity due to unhealthy dietary patterns.
- **Social costs** – These costs are associated with poverty and productivity loss associated with undernutrition among agri-food workers.
- The hidden costs for China and the US were \$2.5 trillion and \$1.5 trillion, respectively.
- '**Food and Agriculture Organization**' is one of the food aid organizations of the **United Nations based in Rome (Italy)**. Its partner organizations are '**World Food Programme**' and '**International Fund for Agricultural Development**' (IFAD).

One liner current affairs

- The Prime Minister said that the Central Government will soon form a **committee** which will adopt **all possible methods** for the empowerment of the '**Madiga community**'. The '**Madiga community**' is one of the **largest components** of the **Scheduled Castes** in the Telugu states, and demands **declassification of the Scheduled Castes**.
- '**Abundance in Millets**', a song on **Shree Ann** featuring Prime Minister Narendra Modi, gets a Grammy nomination. A song on **Shree ann or millets**, that also features **Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech**, has officially been nominated for this year's Grammy Awards in the **Best Global Music Performance** category.
- As per the announcement of the Central Government, the **winter session** of Parliament will begin from December 4, 2023. This will also be the first plenary session to be held in the new Parliament House.
- **Dilip Chauhan**, Deputy Commissioner in the Office of the Mayor of New York in America, has appreciated the decision of the New York office to declare **Diwali** as a public holiday for the schools for the first time.
- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority** exported the **first batch of bananas** to the **Netherlands** on a pilot basis for the first time. Authority Chairman Abhishek Dev flagged off this consignment from **Baramati, Maharashtra**.
- The **Uttar Pradesh government** has created a **Guinness World Record** for the sixth time by lighting 22 lakh 23 thousand lamps at **51 ghats** of **Ayodhya** including **Ram Ki Pauri**.
- **REC Foundation**, the corporate social responsibility arm of **REC Limited**, has signed an MoU with **Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)**. Under this, an assistance of **Rs 10 crore** will be provided for a project of '**Distribution of Aids and Assistive Devices to Persons with Disabilities**' at 25 places in the country.
- Rear Admiral '**Rajesh Dhankhar**' took over the command of the **Eastern Fleet**, the **Sword Arm of the Eastern Naval Command**, from Rear Admiral **Gurcharan Singh** on 10 November 2023.
- **Dheeraj Boma Devra** won a silver medal at the **Asian Continental Qualification Tournament** in **Bangkok** to give India its **first Paris Olympics quota in archery**.
- '**National Education Day**' is celebrated on 11 November on the occasion of the birth anniversary of **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad**. This day has been celebrated **since 2008**.
- Every year, '**World Science Day for Peace and Development**' is celebrated on **10 November**. This day was declared in the **year 2001** and has been celebrated by the **United Nations** since **2002**.
- Well-known Telugu film actor '**Chandramohan**' passed away in **Hyderabad**. He was 80 years old.

12 November

Ogasawara Island Chain

- **Japan**, known for its stunning landscapes and geological activities, recently witnessed the **birth of another island in its archipelago**.
- The incident was caused by a series of volcanic eruptions near **Iwoto Island** in the **Ogasawara Island Chain**, reflecting the dynamic nature of the country's geography.
- **Iwoto Island**, part of the **Ogasawara island chain**, is about 1,200 km (745 mi) south of Tokyo.
- **Phreatomagmatic eruptions**, which occur when magma interacts with water, created a landmass about 100 meters in diameter.
- **Iwoto Island**, formerly known as '**Iwo Jima**', was the site of a **significant battle** during the **Pacific War**. It is **one of the 111 active volcanoes** in Japan.

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the brave soldiers in '**Lepcha**' of **Himachal Pradesh** on the occasion of Diwali. '**Lepcha Checkpost**' located in **Lahaul-Spiti district** of **Himachal Pradesh** is situated at an altitude of about 2 kilometers from the Chinese border.
- The **33rd Conference** of the '**Asia and Pacific Regional Commission**' of the '**World Organization for Animal Health**' – WOAHA was organized in **New Delhi**.
- The government has announced to give one percent rebate in interest rate to the disabled people taking loans from '**National Disabled Finance and Development Corporation**'.
- The **World Bank** has recently approved a substantial financial assistance package of **US\$ 150 million** to boost **Sri Lanka's financial and institutional sectors**.
- **France** is spending \$1 billion on polar research over the next decade showing its concern about the rapid decline of Earth's ice caps and glaciers. French President Emmanuel Macron said this while hosting a summit with polar countries and scientists.
- The US Air Force's much-awaited **B-21 "Raider" bomber aircraft**, with its distinctive flying wing design, successfully completed its inaugural flight on a historic day at **Air Force Plant 42 in Palmdale, California**.
- **Paylocal**, a payments platform focused on cross-border transactions, has been granted in-principle approval by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for a **payment aggregator (PA) license**.
- Tamil Nadu cadre IAS officer **Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana** has been appointed **Surveyor General of India**. The **Surveyor General of India** is the head of the **Survey of India**. The Survey of India is a department under the **Ministry of Science and Technology of the Government of India**.
- The **US International Development Finance Corporation** has unveiled a major investment of **\$553 million** in **Adani Ports'** container terminal project located in Colombo Port, Sri Lanka.
- **ISRO** has got an important success in its solar mission. **Aditya-L1 mission's payload HEL1OS** has captured the first high-energy X-ray glimpse of solar flares.
- Skirmishes between M23 rebels and government-backed militias in **North Kivu**, the eastern province of the Democratic Republic of Congo, have worsened since October.

- 'Public Service Broadcasting Day' was celebrated on **12th November**. On **November 12, 1947**, **Mahatma Gandhi** appeared on **All India Radio** for the first and last time. Coincidentally, that day was also the Diwali festival. Gandhiji addressed the displaced in **Kurukshetra, Haryana** after partition.
- 'Frank Borman', commander of **Apollo 8** passed away recently, '**Apollo 8**' is the mission that orbited the **Moon 10 times** and subsequently laid the foundation for the lunar landing.

13 November

PM PVTG Development Mission

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched '**PM PVTG Vikas Mission**' especially for vulnerable tribal groups on the occasion of **Tribal Pride Day** on **15th November**.
- It aims to improve the **socio-economic status of particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTG)**.
- The **Prime Minister** had announced the launch of this mission in the budget for the **financial year 2023-24**.
- **75** particularly vulnerable tribal groups live in **22,544** villages in **18 states** and union territories across the country. Their population is about **28 lakhs**. Notably, **Odisha** has the highest concentration of PVTG with **13 clusters**, followed by **Andhra Pradesh** with **12 clusters**.
- Among the tribal communities identified as the most vulnerable, the concept of **PVTG** was introduced by the Government of India in **1975**.

Red Sanders (Red Sandalwood)

- **India's** name was removed from the review category regarding trade in the '**Red Sanders**' variety of **red sandalwood trees** at the recent meeting of the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)** in **Geneva**. With this, farmers will now be able to grow more red sandalwood trees.
- The '**Red Sanders**' variety of red sandalwood has been listed under **Critical Trade Process Review** since **2004**.
- '**Red Sanders**' is a very valuable variety of tree, which is found in some districts of **Andhra Pradesh**. This species has long faced threats from **illegal logging and trafficking**.

42nd Indian International Trade Fair

- The **42nd Indian International Trade Fair** was organized at **Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**.
- The theme of this **14-day fair** was '**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**'.
- '**Bihar**' and '**Kerala**' were the partner states in this fair this time, while **Delhi, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh** were given the status of focus states.

- It is a major event organized by **India Trade Promotion Organisation**. It was started in the year **1980**.
- It is organized every year between 14 and 27 November at **Pragati Maidan, New Delhi**.

One liner current affairs

- The Government of India has signed a loan agreement of **\$ 400 million** with the '**Asian Development Bank**' under the '**Sustainable Urban Development and Service Delivery Programme**'. It aims to improve urban life through high quality urban infrastructure, better public services and efficient governance systems.
- The government has taken stringent action against nine **Meitei extremist groups** and their associate organizations, primarily operating in **Manipur**. The **Ministry of Home Affairs** issued a notification on Monday, officially banning these groups for a period of **five** years.
- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** met the newly appointed British Foreign Minister 'David Cameron' in **London** and held detailed discussions on realizing the full potential of the bilateral strategic partnership.
- '**Maharashtra**' has secured the **first position** in the country in the implementation of '**Pradhan Mantri KUSUM Yojana**'.
- **Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA)** and **Lean Campus Startups (TRUST)** and **Women Entrepreneurs International Chambers of India (WICI)** India signed an MoU in **Manesar, Gurugram**. It aims to **empower corporate and women entrepreneurs** and enhance their knowledge, skills and competencies in effectively setting up and managing a diverse workforce.
- **Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan** chaired the inaugural session of the **33rd Conference** of the **WOAH (World Organization for Animal Health)** Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific in **New Delhi**.
- The '**AAINA Dashboard for Cities**' portal www.aaina.gov.in has been made live by **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)** on 13th November, 2023 where **Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)** across the country can participate in this pioneering initiative to voluntarily submit their key data on a regular basis, through a simple, easy-to-fill, data entry form on the portal.
- In a significant step towards promoting inclusivity and accessibility, **Chief Justice of India Dr DY Chandrachud**, inaugurated the '**Mitti Cafe**' in the Supreme Court premises today. The Mitti Cafe, a unique initiative, is entirely run by specially-abled staff.
- **South Korean company Samsung** has entered the conversation by introducing its own generative **AI** model called '**Samsung Gauss**'.
- **Consumer electronics startup Seven** has launched smart wearable '**7 Ring**' for easy **contactless payments**.
- **IBM and Amazon Web Services (AWS)** have announced the launch of an Innovation Lab located at the IBM Client Experience Center in **Bengaluru, India**.

- Polish rum company '**Dictador**' announced that it has appointed AI-powered humanoid robot '**Mika**' to lead the firm. This is the **world's first AI human-like robot CEO**.
- Former Indian cricketer '**Virender Sehwag**', former Indian women's test captain '**Diana Edalji**' and great Sri Lankan player '**Arvind de Silva**' have been included in the '**ICC Hall of Fame**'.
- **Australia captain 'Meg Lanning'** has announced her retirement from all formats of international cricket at the age of 31.
- Senior communist leader '**Basudeb Acharya**' died in a private hospital in **Hyderabad**.

14 November

Silkyara Tunnel Accident

- On November 12, a portion of the tunnel under construction from **Silkyara** to **Dandalgaon** in **Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand** collapsed, trapping around 36-40 workers.
- The incident occurred as part of the '**Char Dham All Weather Road Project**', which aimed to reduce the journey between **Uttarkashi** and **Yamunotri** by 26 kilometers.
- Meanwhile, a committee of **six members** has been formed under the chairmanship of **Uttarakhand Landslide Mitigation and Management Center** to investigate the causes of landslides in the under-construction tunnel.

Status of India's Smart Cities Mission

- The latest data from the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** as of November 3, 2023, provides information on the status of **India's Smart Cities Mission**.
- As the mission's June 2024 deadline approaches, the report highlights **geographical gaps** in terms of **highest performing cities, financial achievements and project completion**.
- **Surat (Gujarat)** has emerged as the **top performing city** by leading in completion of projects, utilization of funds and overall parameters.
- **Agra** (Uttar Pradesh), **Ahmedabad** (Gujarat), **Varanasi** (UP) and **Bhopal** (Madhya Pradesh) have ranked among the **top five cities**, showing commendable progress.
- The top **10** include **Tumkuru** (Karnataka), **Udaipur** (Rajasthan), **Madurai** (Tamil Nadu), **Kota** (Rajasthan) and **Shivamogga** (Karnataka).
- The bottom 10 cities are **Kavaratti** (Lakshadweep), **Puducherry**, **Port Blair** (Andaman and Nicobar Islands), **Imphal** (Manipur), **Shillong** (Meghalaya), **Diu**, **Guwahati** (Assam), **Aizawl** (Mizoram), **Gangtok** (Sikkim) and **Pasighat** (Arunachal Pradesh).
- About **22%** of the total projects (1,745 out of 7,947) worth Rs 1.70 lakh crore i.e. **33%** of the total cost are still in progress.

42nd World Medical and Health Games

- Army Medical Corps officer Lieutenant Colonel '**Sanjeev Malik**' has created history by winning five gold medals in the '**42nd World Medical and Health Games**' held in Colombia.
- He has become one of the few selected athletes in these games which started in the year **1978**.
- The World Medical and Health Games are often referred to as the '**Olympic Games**' for health professionals.

J. B. Kripalani

- Recently the Prime Minister of India has paid tribute to Acharya Jeevatram Bhagwandas (JB Kripalani) on his birth anniversary (November 11, 1888 in **Hyderabad, Sindh**).
- He joined Gandhiji's movement in the year **1917** and was also a part of the **Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement** and **Quit India Movement**.
- At the time of independence he was the President of the Indian National Congress (INC). After independence he left Congress, he was one of the founders of **Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party (KMPP)**.
- He moved a no-confidence motion for the **first time** in the Lok Sabha in the year 1963, immediately after the **India-China war (1962)**.
- He was the author of several books, including **Gandhi: His Life and Thought (1970)**. His autobiography '**My Times**' was published posthumously in **2004**.

One liner current affairs

- **British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak** has recently made a major change in his cabinet and dismissed **Home Minister 'Suella Braverman'**.
- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh will attend the '**10th Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)**' of Defense Ministers of **ASEAN** countries in **Jakarta**, the capital of **Indonesia** from November 16 to 17.
- Indian Navy's annual top-level international conference – **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD)** – will be held in **New Delhi** from 15 to 17 November 2023.
- The **National Health Authority (NHA)** and the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** have joined hands to operate the **National Health Claims Exchange (NHCE)**, a digital health claims platform developed by the National Health Authority.
- **World Diabetes Day (WDD)** is observed every year on 14 November, marking the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, who co-discovered **insulin** in the year **1922** with **Charles Best**. Its theme for **2021-23** is '**Access to Diabetes Care**'.
- '**Children's Day**' is celebrated every year on **14 November** to pay tribute to the first Prime Minister of independent India. Jawaharlal Nehru was born on 14 November 1889.
- **Sahara chief 'Subrata Roy'** died on November 14 in Mumbai. Subrata Roy, popularly known as '**Saharashree**', founded **Sahara India Pariwar** in **1978**.

GI tag to products of Uttarakhand

- Recently more than 15 products of Uttarakhand have been given the **coveted GI tag** by the Geographical Indications Registry.

Major products of Uttarakhand receiving GI tag -

- **Berinag Tea** – This tea is in high demand in London tea houses and tea blenders. This tea is made from the leaves of a plant that grows wild in the Himalayas, which are then compressed into a solid mass.
- **Bichu/Bicchua Booti Cloth** – This is Bichu/Bicchua Booti cloth made from Himalayan Nettle fiber.
- **Mandua** – It is a millet grown in Garhwal and Kumaon of Uttarakhand, which is used as a staple food in many parts of the state.
- **Jhangora** – It is a domesticated **millet** grown in the rain-fed areas of the Himalayas in Uttarakhand.
- **Gahat** – It is one of the most important pulses grown in the dry regions of Uttarakhand.
- **Red Rice** – It is grown organically in the **Purola** region of Uttarakhand.
- **Kala Bhatt (Black Soybean)** – This is a variety of soybean called **Glycine max**. It is produced as a food product in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand as well as its border states and Himalayan countries.
- **Malta Fruit** - It is a delicious fruit of dark orange and red color resembling an orange, which is cultivated in the hills of Uttarakhand.
- **Amaranth (Ramdana)** - This is a grain used during fasting, in which excessive amounts of iron and calcium are found.
- **Pahari Toor Dal** – This dal is grown organically in **Uttarakhand**.
- **Writing or wood carving** – This carving is found in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand which is now disappearing.
- **Nainital Candles** - This candle is made in Nainital, Uttarakhand, which is currently becoming extinct due to lack of government support and the arrival of Chinese candles in the market.
- **Rangwali Pichhoda** - This is the traditional dress (Odhni) of Kumaon district, which married women wear on auspicious occasions.
- **Litchi** – It is produced in Ramnagar (Nainital) of Uttarakhand which is famous for its distinctive taste.
- **Peach** – It is produced in Ramgarh valley of Nainital district of Uttarakhand. It is one of the juicy fruits with pink spots.
- **Ramman masks** – It is a dance form. It is presented during the Ramman festival in Chamoli district of **Uttarakhand**. In this the dancer wears a mask over his face and then performs the choreography.
- **Almora Lakhori Chilli** - This is a yellow colored chili variety which is produced in **Lakhauri valley** of **Almora**, hence it is named Lakhori chili.

Birsa Munda's birth anniversary

- The Prime Minister of India paid tribute to Birsa Munda, a tribal leader belonging to the Munda tribe in the **Chota Nagpur plateau region**, on his **birth anniversary** (November 15, 1875).
- **Birsa Munda** introduced the '**Birsait**' sect in response to the British colonial presence and the efforts of missionaries to convert the tribals to **Christianity**.
- He led the '**Munda Rebellion**', the aim of which was to establish **Munda Raj**, or self-rule, and restore the rights of the tribals over their lands and forests.
- He started the '**Ulgulan Movement**' involving **guerrilla warfare**, challenging religious practices and bringing about social changes.
- Acknowledging the tribal contribution, his birth anniversary was celebrated as '**Tribal Pride Day**'.
- He is known as '**God**' and '**Dharti Abba**' by his followers.
- The state of **Jharkhand** was established separately from Bihar on **November 15, 2000** (on the occasion of Birsa Munda's birth anniversary) after the **Bihar Reorganization Act, 2000** was passed by the **Indian Parliament**.

One liner current affairs

- **Indian skydiver 'Sheetal Mahajan'** jumped from a helicopter from a height of 21500 feet in front of the **world's highest peak Mount Everest**. She is the first woman to do so.
- The **Meitei community** in **Manipur** boycotted the '**Ningol Chakouba Utsav**' in support of the families affected by the recent communal clashes in the state. '**Ningol Chakouba festival**' is one of the biggest festivals of the **Meitei community**. This festival symbolizes the unbreakable bond of love between brother and sister.
- A state of emergency has been declared in **Iceland** after a powerful earthquake struck the **Reykjanes Peninsula**, indicating a possible **volcanic eruption** within days.
- The **Asia Pacific Airlines Association (AAPA)** has set a target for its members to adopt **sustainable aviation fuel (SAF)** consumption of **5%** by the **year 2030** to reduce carbon emissions.
- **Pablo Picasso's** famous painting "**Femme à la Montre**" ("**Woman with a Watch**") sold for **\$139 million** at a **Sotheby's auction** in **New York** on November 8, 2023. The sale makes it the **second most expensive Picasso painting** ever sold. Picasso's most expensive painting to date, '**Les Dames d'Alger**' reached \$179.3 million in 2015.
- The **sixth high-level meeting** of the **Energy Dialogue** between **India** and the **Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)** was held on 9 November 2023 at the **OPEC Secretariat** in **Vienna, Austria**.
- **Jocata**, a platform that creates a digital technology ecosystem for financial institutions, in collaboration with **SIDBI** has launched a new **MSME Economic Activity Index 'Sumpurn'**.
- The Prime Minister of India greeted the people on the occasion of **Gujarati New Year**. Gujarati New Year 2023, also known as '**Padwa**' or '**Bestu Varsh**'. It was celebrated on **14 November**.

- Visionary entrepreneur and founder of the famous sweets and snacks brand '**Bikanerwala**' Lala **Kedarnath Agarwal** breathed his last at the age of 86.

16 November

'Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue' (IPRD) - 2023

- The **three-day annual top level regional strategic dialogue 'IPRD-2023'** of the Indian Navy commenced on 15 November 2023 in **New Delhi**.
- On this occasion, Hon'ble Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar was the **chief guest** of the '**Memorial Session**'.
- '**IPRD-2023**' is being organized by the **Indian Navy** in collaboration with the **National Maritime Foundation** as its **knowledge partner**.
- It was established in **2005**, the **National Maritime Foundation** is one of India's leading maritime think-tanks and focuses its research on issues related to India's maritime interests.

Ben Gurion Canal Project

- Recently there has been renewed interest in the '**Ben Gurion Canal Project**', a proposed sea-level canal 160 miles long.
- The '**Ben Gurion Canal Project**' was conceptualized as a transformative infrastructure initiative in the **1960s**. It was named after Israel's founder **David Ben-Gurion (1886–1973)**, which reflects its historical significance.
- It **aims to create an alternative sea route** connecting the **Red Sea** to the **Mediterranean Sea**, bypassing the **Suez Canal**.
- Under this, it is envisioned to reshape global maritime mobility by challenging **Egypt's** monopoly on the shortest **Europe-Asia route**.

Arabian sparrow seer fish

- The team of taxonomists led by principal scientist **E M Abdussamad** discovered **Arabian sparrow seer fish** (*Scomberomorus avirostrus*), which is entirely new to science, and resurrected Russell's spotted seer fish (*Scomberomorus leopardus*).

One liner current affairs

- The **Department of Fisheries**, Government of India is organizing '**Global Fisheries Conference India 2023**' on the occasion of '**World Fisheries Day**'. This conference will be organized in **Ahmedabad** on 21-22 November 2023. (Theme – '**Celebrate Fisheries and Aquaculture Wealth**')

- 'Amini', the **fourth ship** in the **08 x ASW Shallow Water Craft (SWC)** project being built by M/s GRSE for the **Indian Navy**, was launched on 16 November 2023 at **M/s L&T, Kattupalli**.
- The **9th edition** of **India-Sri Lanka joint military exercise 'Mitra Shakti-2023'** began in **Aundh (Pune)**.
- A recent study has identified an association between a significant increase in soy/soybean production in the Amazon and Cerrado regions of Brazil over the past two decades and increased deaths related to childhood cancer (acute lymphoblastic leukemia).
- Recent research has revealed the secrets of '**Pyocystis salinarum**', a small **green algae** that survives in harsh saline-alkaline conditions.
- **Dominica (Caribbean island)** has announced the establishment of the **world's first marine protected area** dedicated to the protection of the **endangered sperm whale**.
- Researchers have recently identified a **new species** of **lizard** in India, specifically in **Vairengte town** of **Mizoram**. Based on the place of its discovery, it has been named '**Cyrtodactylus varengtensis**'. The proposed common name for this new species is '**Vairengte bent-toed gecko**'.
- **Virat Kohli** overtook **Sachin Tendulkar's record of 49 centuries** by scoring his 50th ODI century against **New Zealand** in the '**ICC Cricket World Cup 2023**' semi-final at the **Wankhede Stadium**.
- '**National Press Day**' is celebrated every year on '**16 November**' to commemorate the independent and responsible press. On **16 November 1966**, the 'Press Council of India' took over the work of monitoring the standards of journalism. The **theme** of National Press Day 2023 is – **Media in the age of artificial intelligence**.
- '**International Day of Tolerance**' is celebrated every year on **16 November**.

17 November

Voices of Global South Summit

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that '**Voice of Global South**' is a unique platform representing the changing world in the 21st century. He also virtually inaugurated the Southern Hemisphere Center of Excellence – South.
- India has hosted this summit in **virtual** format.
- '**Global South**' refers to those countries, which are often referred to as developing, less developed or underdeveloped countries. These countries are mainly located in **Africa, Asia** and **Latin America**. Many of these countries were part of Western European colonialism until the **1960s** and **1970s**.
- The '**Global South**' represents more than **85 percent** of the world's population and about **40 percent** of **global gross domestic product (GDP)**.

Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)

- The **3rd Ministerial Meeting** of the **Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)** was held on **14 November 2023** in **San Francisco, California**, hosted by the **US**.

- **Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Textiles and Commerce and Industry**, Shri Piyush Goyal participated in this ministerial meeting.
- 'IPEF' was launched jointly by the United States and other partner countries in the Indo-Pacific region on May 23, 2022, in **Tokyo**.
- IPEF's **14 partner countries** include **Australia, Brunei, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam** and the **United States**.

One liner current affairs

- President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated a two-day international conference and exhibition on '**Aerospace and Aviation in the year 2047**' in **New Delhi**.
- Spain's acting Prime Minister '**Pedro Sanchez**' was re-elected Prime Minister with a majority in the parliamentary vote on Thursday.
- The **US** and **China** have agreed to resume military-to-military communications in an effort to defuse rising tensions.
- **Dr. Mohammed Muizzu** took oath as the **8th President of Maldives** in a program held in Male. Vice President Hussain Mohammad Latif also took the oath of office.
- **OpenAI**, the company behind **ChatGPIT**, has removed co-founder and CEO Sam Altman from the post.
- The '**Ministry of Culture**' is organizing the '**India Art, Architecture and Design Biennial – 2023**' at the **Red Fort**, which will be inaugurated on 8 December 2023. Its **objective** is to provide a global platform to promote art and artists.
- **Indian Naval Ship 'Sumedha'** is on an extended deployment and is currently operating in the Atlantic Ocean along the west coast of Africa. During this period, **INS Sumedha** conducted a 31-day anti-piracy patrol in the **Gulf of Guinea**.
- To **promote sustainable and eco-friendly construction** practices in the domestic housing sector, the **Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)**, a part of the Confederation of Indian Industry, has launched a new rating and certification initiative called '**NEST**'.
- A parliamentary panel has recommended stringent measures for food adulteration in the proposed **Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)**. The committee has suggested imposing a minimum imprisonment of six months and a minimum fine of Rs 25,000 for persons selling adulterated food or drinks.
- The **Ministry of External Affairs** has assigned additional responsibilities to Indian High Commissioner to **Guyana 'Amit Shivkumar Telang'**. Shri Amit Telang will also hold the responsibility of Indian Ambassador to the **Caribbean Community, Saint Kitts, Nevis, Antigua and Bermuda**.
- With an aim to promote '**Dekho Apna Desh**' and '**Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat**' initiatives, Indian Railways is going to launch '**Bharat Gaurav Tourism Train**' in collaboration with IRCTC. This train will start from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal and pass through well-known stations such as

Mumbai, Pune, Solapur, Guntakal, Renigunta, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Kanyakumari, Kochuvelly and return there on 25th November.

- **National Capital Region Transport Corporation** has launched the facility of 'One-Tap Ticketing' for **Namo Bharat trains** through 'RRTS Connect' mobile app. With this app, passengers can generate QR codes for travel with a single tap from anywhere within 300 meters of RRTS station premises.
- Popular video calling website, **Omegle** has announced to discontinue its services after 14 years.
- **Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL)** has successfully executed the world's first ship-to-ship **Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)** transfer to reduce shipping costs and significantly reduce emissions. GAIL had built a floating '**CNG station**' on the Ganga river in **Varanasi** just a few months ago.
- '**Rohit Sharma**' has become the batsman who has hit the most sixes in the World Cup, Rohit Sharma has hit 51 sixes in 27 innings of just 27 matches.
- Union Minister Shri Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated the **3rd Hockey India Senior Women's Inter Department National Championship 2023** at **Shivaji Stadium**.
- '**World Philosophy Day**' is celebrated every year on the third Thursday of November. In 2023 this day was celebrated on **16 November**.

18 November

First 'Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award'

- Famous writer **Salman Rushdie** was honored with the first '**Lifetime Disturbing the Peace Award**'. He was presented with this award at a ceremony organized by the '**Upper East Side Vaclav Havel Centre**'.
- The Havel Centre, formerly known as the **Vaclav Havel Library Foundation**, was established in **2012** to advocate for human rights and free expression.
- In October, he also received the **German Book Trade's Peace Prize for 2023**.
- '**Ahmed Salman Rushdie**' is an Indian-born British-American writer.

MMRV Working Group

- The **US**, along with more than a dozen countries and organizations, has established the '**MMRV Working Group**' with the aim of advancing efforts to measure greenhouse gas emissions in the natural gas supply chain.
- The primary objective of the '**MMRV Working Group**' is to enhance measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification (MMRV) of emissions, including methane, carbon dioxide, and other greenhouse gasses.
- The **objective** is to apply these practices across the entire natural gas supply chain, which includes the production, processing, transportation, liquefaction and distribution of natural gas.

Natwar Mori Hydroelectric Project

- Recently the first unit of 30 MW capacity at 'Natwar Mori Hydro Electric Project' (NMHEP) has started supplying electricity to the national electricity grid.
- This hydroelectric project is strategically located on the **Tons**, a major tributary of the **Yamuna**, located in the picturesque **Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand**.
- The foundation stone of this project was laid in the **year 2018** by **Union Minister for Power and renewable energy, RK Singh** and former **Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Trivendra Singh Rawat**.

Appointment of 4 distinguished scholars by NITI Aayog

- In a recent announcement, government think tank NITI Aayog has appointed four distinguished fellows for a one-year tenure with the aim of enhancing their expertise in key social, economic and technological matters.

New members -

- **Anoop Singh** – Anoop Singh is a member of the **15th Finance Commission** and has a notable background of working with the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**.
- **O.P. Aggarwal** – He is a 1979 batch IAS officer. He has extensive expertise in urban transportation.
- **Ajay Chaudhary** – Ajay Chaudhary is one of the co-founders of HCL, a leading Indian multinational IT services and consulting company.
- **V Lakshmikumar** – V. Lakshmikumar is a legal expert with an impressive career of 35 years in law.

N. Shankaraiah

- One of the oldest communist leaders of the country, **N. Shankaraiah** died at the age of 102.
- He dedicated his life to the **principles of communism** and the struggle for a just society.
- Shankaraiah's association with the communist movement began in the **1940s** and he played an important role in the formation of the CPI-M in **1964**.
- He also served as the **CPI-M State Secretary of Tamil Nadu** from **1995 to 2002**. He was the **first recipient** of the '**Thagaisal Tamizhar (Eminent Tamil) Award**' instituted by the **MK Stalin-led DMK government** in 2021.

One liner current affairs

- The **Ministry of AYUSH** and the **World Health Organization** have signed a Traditional and Complementary Medicine '**Project Cooperation Agreement**' in **Geneva**. The main objective of this agreement is to standardize traditional and complementary medical systems, link their quality and safety aspects to the national health system and disseminate them internationally.
- **EU lawmakers** and **member states** have agreed to a deal to revise waste shipment regulation and end the export of waste to developing countries.

- **Ladakh** has recently earned its **fourth Geographical Indication tag** for '**Ladakh Sea Buckthorn**'. '**Sea Buckthorn**' has **orange-yellow** edible berries.
- The **Punjab and Haryana High Court** has struck down the '**Haryana State Employment Act 2020**' for local candidates, which provided for **75 percent reservation** for residents of the state in industries in Haryana.
- Pakistan-based cleantech startup '**She-Guard**' emerged victorious at the '**Climate Launchpad Asia-Pacific**' finals showcasing its innovative biodegradable and plastic-free sanitary product.
- Recently, the low air pressure area formed in the north-west and surrounding areas of '**Bay of Bengal**' took the form of **cyclonic storm 'Midhili'**. **Maldives** has given the name '**Midhili**'.
- The **Lancet Countdown's 8th annual report** on '**Health and Climate Change**' highlights the dangerous convergence of factors threatening the well-being of individuals, public health and health care systems globally.
- The **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission**, a collaborative effort between NASA and ISRO, is making significant progress as it prepares for its scheduled launch in the first quarter of **2024**.
- The UK government's controversial asylum plan to send asylum seekers to Rwanda has been ruled illegal by the Supreme Court. In April 2022, the UK government announced a five-year trial of a scheme that would involve sending some asylum seekers to Rwanda to claim asylum.
- The '**Euclid Mission**', launched in **July 2023**, has shared its first five scientific images. This mission of the '**European Space Agency**' is a space telescope designed to study the structure and composition of the dark universe.
- The **Cambridge Dictionary** has named '**hallucinate**' as its '**Word of the Year**' for **2023**, highlighting the complexities of **artificial intelligence (AI)** and its potential dangers.
- '**IndusInd Bank**' has become the first bank to become active as a '**Financial Information Provider**' under the '**Account Aggregator Framework**' recently launched by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. RBI first announced the **Account Aggregator (AA)** framework in June 2016.
- Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** recently predicted at the '**Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue**' that by the **year 2027**, **India** will become the **world's third largest economy**, leaving behind **Japan** and **Germany**.
- **Mount Etna**, **Europe's most active volcano** and one of the **world's largest volcanoes**, has been erupting continuously since February 2023. It is located on the **east coast of Sicily**, an island of **Italy in the Mediterranean Sea**.
- '**National Epilepsy Day**' is celebrated every year on **17 November** in India. **Epilepsy** is a central nervous system disorder.
- Every year '**International Students Day**' is celebrated on 17 November. The day also marks the anniversary of the Nazi attack on a university in **Prague** in **1939**.

World Premature Day - 2023

- 'World Premature Day' is celebrated every year on **17 November** to raise awareness about the concerns of premature babies and their families around the world.
- This day was created by European origin organizations in the **year 2008**. It has been celebrated as '**World Premature Day**' since **2011**.
- The global theme for World Premature Day 2023 has been decided as '**Small actions, big impact: Immediate skin-to-skin care for every baby everywhere.**'

One liner current affairs

- The **9th edition** of the **India International Science Festival (IISF) 2023** is scheduled to be held in **Faridabad, Haryana** from January 17 to January 20, 2024. The theme of the **9th edition of IISF** is '**Science and Technology Public Outreach in the Ageless Era**'.
- A two-day international event '**Sambhav-2023**' by artists with disabilities (physical and mental) was organized by **ALPANA (Association for Learning Performing Arts and Normative Action Society)** on 18th and 19th November, 2023 in **New Delhi**.
- **Japan** and **India** emerged as the most preferred markets in the **Asia Pacific region** in the recent '**Fund Manager Survey**' conducted by **Bank of America (BofA)**. Japan tops the survey with **45 percent weightage**, followed by **India** with **25 per cent**.
- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has said that the '**Indian Patent Office**' has granted **41,010 patents** in this financial year till November 15, 2023, which is the highest.
- Recently, '**Four-day International Conference on Plant Health Management-2023**' was concluded at '**Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University**'. This important event is organized by the '**Plant Protection Association of India**', an organization with a rich heritage of 50 years in advancing plant protection at the national and international level.
- '**Coconut Development Board**' (CDB) has recently launched '**Hello Coconut**' Friends of Coconut Trees (FOCT) call center facility. The "**Hello Coconut**" call center operates from the **CDB headquarters** in Kochi.
- The **Assam Cabinet** has recently given its approval to the merger of Assam Board of Secondary Education (**SEBA**) and Assam Higher Secondary Education Council (**AHSEC**). The integrated entity will now be known as '**Assam State School Education Board**' (**ASSEB**).
- Recently, famous playback singer **Suresh Wadkar** will be honored with Maharashtra's prestigious '**Lata Mangeshkar Award 2023**'.
- US President '**Joe Biden**' has recently appointed Indian American '**Shakuntala L Bhaya**' as a member of the Council of Administrative Conference of the United States of America.

- 'JSW Infrastructure' has recently announced receiving the award for the development of a Rs 4,119 crore **state-of-the-art, all-weather, deepwater greenfield port** at Keni, Karnataka. 'Keni Port' is strategically located between **Mormugao Port (Goa)** in the north and **New Mangalore Port (Karnataka)** in the south.
- Recently 'Australia' has won the title of '**ICC Men's Cricket World Cup – 2023**' for the sixth time. Australia defeated host India by six wickets in the final at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.
- The **United Nations General Assembly** has declared 18 November as '**World Day for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence**'.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid tribute to former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on her birth anniversary. **Mrs. Indira Gandhi** was the **first and only woman Prime Minister of India**. She became Prime Minister in **1966** after the death of Lal Bahadur Shastri. He was born on 19 November 1917.
- **Daisaku Ikeda**, the former head of **Soka Gakkai**, the **largest religious Buddhist organization** in Japan, has passed away. He was 95 years old. This organization promotes peace and harmony in the world.
- **Padmashree BN Goswami** passed away recently. He is one of the best art historians of the country. Proff. Goswami had recently released his book '**The Indian Cat**'.
- Acclaimed British novelist **Antonia Susan Byatt** has passed away at the age of **87**. Her notable work, '**Position: A Romance**' won her the **prestigious Booker Prize in the year 1990**.

20 November

Chikungunya

- Recently, the **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** in the **United States** approved the **world's first vaccine** for chikungunya.
- European vaccine manufacturer '**Valneva**' has created a breakthrough vaccine called '**Ixchiq**' which represents a major advance in the protection against **chikungunya virus (CHIKV)**.
- **Chikungunya** is a **mosquito-borne viral disease** that was first identified in **1952** during an outbreak in **southern Tanzania**.
- It is a **ribonucleic acid (RNA)** virus belonging to the **Alphavirus** genus of the **Togaviridae** family.

World Children's Day

- '**World Children's Day**' is celebrated on **20 November** to promote the feeling of solidarity among children. 'Children's Day' is celebrated on **14 November** in India.
- **World Children's Day** was **first** celebrated by the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** on **December 14, 1954**.
- November 20 is significant because on this day in **1959**, the **UNGA** adopted the **Declaration of the Rights of the Child**. On 20 November 1989, the UNGA also adopted the "**Convention on the Rights of the Child**".

One liner current affairs

- The second **2+2 ministerial-level** talks between **India** and **Australia** took place in **New Delhi**. **Defense Minister Rajnath Singh** and **External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar** co-chaired it along with **Australia's Defense Minister Richard Marles** and **Foreign Minister Penny Wong**.
- Right-wing leader '**Javier Milei**' has been elected the new President of **Argentina**. **Argentina** is a country located in **South America**, whose capital is **Buenos Aires**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has congratulated '**Luke Frieden**' on assuming the post of Prime Minister of '**Luxembourg**'. '**Luxembourg**' is a small country in **Western Europe**. It shares borders with **Belgium, France** and **Germany**.
- The deadline for the '**Friendship Exchange Agreement**' between **Fukuoka city** of **Japan** and **Delhi** has been extended for three years. This decision was taken during an agreement between **Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal** and **Vice Governor Aki Omagari** from the **Fukuoka Prefecture**. The deadline for the agreement will now continue till **March 31, 2026**.
- The **Chief Minister** of **Haryana** inaugurated the newly constructed campus of '**Shri Vishwakarma Skill University**' at **Dudhaura village** in **Palwal district**. He said that the **country's first skills university** has been established in **Palwal district**.
- Recently the **US** and the **Philippines** signed a historic agreement allowing Washington to export nuclear technology and materials to **Manila**.
- **Shanice Palacio**, 23, from **Nicaragua** won the coveted title of '**Miss Universe 2023**', creating history as the **first Nicaraguan woman** to win the crown. **Thailand's 'Antonia Porslid'** earned the honorable position of first runner-up, while **Australia's 'Morya Wilson'** was crowned the second runner-up.
- '**United Services Institution of India**', the country's oldest think-tank established in the **year 1870** to research and discuss national security and military matters, is organizing its annual '**UN Forum 2023**' in **New Delhi** from **November 21 to 22, 2023**.
- '**54th International Film Festival of India**' started in **Goa**. This year's festival opened with the British film '**Catching Dust**'.
- **Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports Shri Anurag Singh Thakur** said that India will increase the incentive for foreign film production in the country to **40 %** of the expenses incurred with an increased cap limit of **Rs. 30 crore**
- Renowned actress, **Madhuri Dixit** was honored at the **54th International Film Festival of India** with the award '**for making a special mark in Indian cinema**'.
- The launch of '**Missile Cum Ammunition Barge, LSAM 10 (Yard 78)**', the **fourth** Barge of **08 x Missile Cum Ammunition Barge** project, built by **MSME Shipyard, M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd (SEPPL), Visakhapatnam** for **Indian Navy**, was undertaken on **20 Nov 23** at **Guttenadeevi, East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh** (launch site of M/s SEPPL).
- **Kochi**, a vibrant city in the Indian state of **Kerala**, has earned a coveted spot in '**Condé Nast Traveller's list**' of the best places to visit in **Asia** in **2024**.

- India's **Gaganjit Bhullar** has won his **11th Asian Tour title** in the '**Indonesian Masters 2023 Golf Tournament**'.
- **World Toilet Day** is celebrated every year on **19 November** to raise awareness on the importance of toilets and sanitation in our daily lives.
- Former Governor of **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** '**S. Venkataramanan** died on 18 November. Venkataramanan worked in **RBI** between December **1990** and December **1992**.

21 November

36th Annual Conference of 'All India Santhali Writers Association'

- Recently the President of India graced the inaugural ceremony of the **36th Annual Conference and Literary Festival of the All India Santhali Writers' Association** in **Baripada, Orissa**.
- Santhali is a language of the **Munda** branch of the **Austro-Asiatic language family** spoken mainly in the east-central Indian states of **West Bengal, Jharkhand** and **Odisha**.
- Santhali language was included in the **Eighth Schedule** of the Constitution in the year **2003**.
- **Pandit Raghunath Murmu** made significant contributions to Santhali literature, the traditional form of which was oral and included the **Oi Chiki script**, sometimes known as **Oi Chemet**.

Global Fisheries Conference India - 2023

- On the occasion of **World Fisheries Day**, the **Department of Fisheries, Government of India** is organizing a **two-day 'Global Fisheries Conference India 2023'** which started at **Gujarat Science City, Ahmedabad, Gujarat**.
- Under the theme '**Celebrating Fisheries and Aquaculture Wealth**', the conference aims to bring together key stakeholders for meaningful discussions, market insights and networking.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister of Gujarat digitally launched the **Black Spotted Croaker (commonly known as Ghol)** as the **state fish of Gujarat**.
- '**Andhra Pradesh**' was awarded the best maritime state, '**Uttar Pradesh**' was awarded the **best inland state**, '**Assam**' was awarded the **best Himalayan region** and **North Eastern state**.
- **Ramanathapuram (Tamil Nadu)** was awarded as the **Best Maritime District**, **Seoni (Madhya Pradesh)**, **Kamrup (Assam)** won the **Best Inland District** and **Best Himalayan and North Eastern District** respectively and **Anantnag (Jammu and Kashmir)** won the **best district award** under union territory category.

Women-led startups in India

- Recently, intelligence platform '**Tracxn**' released data on women's participation in Indian startups. According to these data, the highest number of women-led startups in India is in **Bengaluru (1783 startups)** followed by **Mumbai** and **Delhi** respectively.

- **Ahmedabad** has the least number of women-led startups. **Only 181 startups** in Ahmedabad are headed by women.
- Funding for women-led startups has **declined** from 183 startups in 2014 to 7 in 2023.

One liner current affairs

- **NITI Aayog** has launched a new accelerator called **Rapid Innovation and Startup Expansion (RISE)** to support **Australian and Indian circular economy startups**.
- The **14th** edition of India-US joint special armed forces exercise "**Vajra Prahar 2023**" began at the joint training site in **Umroi (Meghalaya)**. The first edition of this exercise was conducted in India in the **year 2010**.
- 75 young creative talents from all over India are set to take on the '**Film Challenge**' to make a short film, all in **48 hours** at **IFFI 54**. **Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur** will launch the '**75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow**' challenge.
- Recently the '**State of the Cryosphere 2023**' report was released by '**International Cryosphere Climate Initiative**'. The report highlights alarming trends including the loss of tropical glaciers, mid-latitude glaciers and polar regions, with a particular focus on the Himalayas.
- Tamil writer **Perumal Murugan's** novel '**Firebird**', which has been expertly translated into English by **Janani Kannan**, won the '**2023 JCB Prize for Literature**'.
- The prestigious '**Indira Gandhi Award for Peace, Disarmament and Development**' for the year **2022** was jointly awarded to the '**Indian Medical Association**' and the '**Trained Nurses Association of India**' on **19 November**.
- **Onattukara Development Agency (OVA)**, the registered owner of **GI-tagged 'Onattukara sesame'** in **Kerala**, plans to increase the area under cultivation of this unique sesame from **600 hectares** to **2,000 hectares**.
- A cargo ship named '**Galaxy Leader**', which was going from **Turkey** to **India**, has been hijacked by **Yemen's Houthi rebels** in the **Red Sea**. There were about **50 crew members** from different countries on board the ship.
- **India's Pankaj Advani** has created history by winning the title of '**World Billiards Championship**' for the **26th time**. Pankaj Advani has won this title by defeating '**Saurav Kothari**'. Pankaj won his first world title in **2005**. He became the first player to achieve a **Grand Double**.
- '**World Television Day**' is celebrated every year on **21 November**. This year's **theme** is '**Accessibility**'. Television was invented in **1924** by **John Logie Baird**, a Scottish engineer. Television in India was launched on **September 15, 1959** in New Delhi with the assistance of **UNESCO**.
- '**World Fisheries Day**' is celebrated every year on **21 November** across the world.
- **International Men's Day** is celebrated every year on '**19 November**'. The theme of the year **2023** is '**Zero Male Suicide**'.
- **Women Entrepreneurship Day** is celebrated every year on **19 November**.

- Founder of Shankar Netralaya, **Dr. S. S. Badrinath** died in **Chennai**. He was 83 years old.
- Former **US First Lady Rosalynn Carter**, often referred to as the '**Steel Magnolia**', has died at the age of 96. She was the wife of President Jimmy Carter.
- Director **Sanjay Gadhvi** who had directed the movie '**Dhoom**' has passed away. He was 56 years old.

22 November

Tantalum

- A team of researchers from the **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar** has discovered '**Tantalum- Ta**', a rare metal with remarkable properties in the sand of the **Sutlej River** in **Punjab**.
- Tantalum is a rare metal with **atomic number 73**.
- It was **first** discovered by **Swedish chemist Anders Gustaf Ekenberg** in the year **1802**.
- It is heavy **brown** in color and is **highly corrosion resistant** in nature which forms an **oxide layer** when exposed to air.

Joint military exercise 'AUSTRAHIND-23'

- An **Indian Armed Forces** contingent comprising 81 personnel left for Australia to participate in the second edition of the joint military exercise '**Austrahind-23**'.
- The exercise will be conducted from 22 November to 06 December 2023 in **Perth, Australia**.
- The Indian Army team includes 60 soldiers from a battalion of **Gorkha Rifles**.
- **Exercise AUSTRAHIND** was started in the year **2022** and the **first edition** was held in **Mahajan, Rajasthan**.

51st International Emmy Awards 2023

- The famous **International Emmy Awards** ceremony was held in **New York** where stars from all over the world from the art and entertainment industry were nominated for **14** different categories.
- **Veer Das** has created history by winning the **Best Comedy trophy** at '**International Emmy 2023**'. '**Vir Das: Landing**' is streaming on Netflix. He has shared this award with '**Derry Girls - Season 3**'.
- Famous producer and filmmaker '**Ekta Kapoor**' was honored for her significant contribution to the world of art and entertainment. She is the **first Indian woman** to be honored with this prestigious honor.

Emmy Awards 2023 winners in major categories –

- Best Drama Series – “The Empress”
- Best Actress – Karla Souza in “La Caida” (The Dive)
- Best Actor - Martin Freeman in "The Responder"
- Best TV Movie/Mini-Series – “La Caida” (Dive)
- Best Non-Scripted Entertainment – “A Ponte – The Bridge Brasil”

Asian Para Archery Championship - 2023

- **India**, led by world number five player **Rakesh Kumar**, overtook **South Korea** and secured the first position in the **Asian Para Archery Championship** in **Bangkok**.
- **India** won 9 medals including **4 gold**, **4 silver** and **1 bronze** in the competition. **South Korea** finished second with three gold, one silver and one bronze medal.
- **India total medals -**
- **Gold medal**
 - Compound Men's Open Team - Rakesh Kumar and Suraj Singh
 - Compound Women's Open Team - Jyoti Baliyan and Sheetal Devi
 - Compound Open Mixed Team - Rakesh Kumar and Sheetal Devi
 - Compound Main Open - Rakesh Kumar
- **Silver medal**
 - Recurve Women's Open Team - Pooja Jatyan and Pooja Khanna
 - Recurve Men's Open Team - Harvinder Singh and Vivek Chikara
 - Men's W-1 Team - Adil Mohammad Nazir Ansari and Naveen Dalal
 - Compound Women's Open - Sheetal Devi
- **Bronze medal**
 - Compound Women Open – Sarita

One liner current affairs

- President Smt. Draupadi Murmu launched '**New Education for New India**', an education campaign of **Brahma Kumaris of Sambalpur** in **Sambalpur, Odisha**. This campaign has been envisioned with the aim of inculcating values and raising the consciousness of students for a better society.
- '**Central Council for Research in Ayurveda**' under the **Ministry of AYUSH** launched '**Ayurveda Gyan Nipunya Initiative – Agni**' campaign in **New Delhi** for the doctors working in the field of Ayurveda. The **objective** of this initiative is to make Ayurveda a mainstream medical system based on scientific authenticity and evidence-based analysis.
- Recently '**National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities**' (NIEPVD) and **National Book Trust, New Delhi** have entered into an MoU which paves the way for the **establishment of a Universal Design Center for Reading** in **Dehradun, Uttarakhand**. '**NIEPVD**' is situated in **Dehradun**.
- Recently, the **Cabinet of Thailand** approved amendments to the **Civil and Commercial Code**, paving the way for **same-sex marriage rights** in the country. The changes in language within the code, replacing 'men and women' with '**individuals**' and '**husband and wife**' with '**marriage partners**' are aimed at providing equal rights to same-sex couples.
- **Kishtwar Saffron (Kumkum)**, a prized spice cultivated and grown in the **Kishtwar region of Jammu and Kashmir**, has recently been awarded the **coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tag**.

- The online orientation programme, **'Karmayogi'** under the **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions** has completed one year since its launch. The objective of this program is to provide all the necessary details related to government policies for newly appointed people recruited through employment fairs. This program was launched on **November 22, 2022**.
- The **United Arab Emirates** has inaugurated the **world's largest solar power plant** at a single location. **'Al Dhafra Solar Photoelectric Power Project'** with a capacity of two giga watts is 35 kilometers away from **Abu Dhabi**.
- An MoU was signed between **'Inland Waterways Authority of India'** and **'Amazon Seller Services Private Limited'** in **New Delhi**. It aims to promote transportation of cargo, customer shipments and products through inland waterways using the **Ganga River National Waterway 1**.
- The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** said that the **'National Highway Authority of India'** will conduct a **safety audit** of all **29 under-construction tunnels** across the country.
- Mamata Banerjee appointed former cricketer and former BCCI president **Sourav Ganguly** as the **'Brand Ambassador of Bengal'** as she unveiled a set of ambitious policies to reshape the **state's economic outlook** at **'The Bengal Global Business Summit'** in Kolkata .
- Addressing the **'F.I.B.A.C-2023'** annual conference jointly organized by **FICCI** and **Indian Banks' Association (IBA)** in **Mumbai**, RBI Governor **'Shaktikanta Das'** said that **NBFCs** will be required to widen the sources of funds and reduce dependence on banks. Should concentrate on doing.
- The **Indian Mission to ASEAN** and the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare** are organizing **'ASEAN-India Srianna Mahotsav'** from 22 to 26 November in **Jakarta**, the capital of **Indonesia**. This event is part of the **International Year of Food 2023**.
- **Center for Research on Startups and Risk Financing (CREST)**, the **Institute of Eminence Research Center of IIT Madras**, announced the development of an exclusive information platform for incubators and accelerators.
- Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha flagged off the **'Gyanodaya Express'** from **Katra Railway Station** in **Reasi district**. Also known as **'College on Wheels'**, it aims to empower around **700 girl students** from **universities** across the Union Territory.
- **Eko**, the **insurtech company** making insurance convenient, transparent and accessible for Indians, has partnered with renowned actor **R Madhavan** as its **'Voice of the Customer'**.
- The delivery of **'Missile Cum Ammunition Barge, LSAM 9 (Yard 77)'**, the third Barge of 08 x Missile Cum Ammunition Barge project, built by **MSME Shipyard, M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd, Visakhapatnam** for **Indian Navy**, was undertaken on 22 Nov 23 at **Naval Dockyard, Mumbai** for **INS Tunir**.
- Every year from 18 to 24 November is observed as **World AMR (Antimicrobial Resistance) Awareness Week (WAAW)**. The theme chosen for **'WAAW 2023'** will be the same as last year i.e. 2022 – **"Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance Together"**.

- Well-known Malayali novelist and short story writer '**P. Valsala**' died at a private hospital in **Kozhikode**. She was 85 years old.

23 November

CII India Nordic Baltic Business Conclave 2023

- The **second edition** of this conclave was held on 22-23 November 2023 in **New Delhi**.
- This initiative, in collaboration with the **Ministry of External Affairs**, Government of India, aims to promote cooperation between **India** and the **Nordic Baltic Eight (NB-8)** countries.
- The **Nordic Baltic Eight (NB8)**, consisting of **Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden**.

Kolkali art

- **Kolkali**, a folk art from the **Malabar region** of **Kerala**, is being displayed to commemorate the arrival in India of **St. Thomas** (one of the disciples of Jesus Christ), who landed at **Muziris** (Cranganore) on the **Kerala coast** in 52 AD.
- With a history of about 200 years, **Kolkali art** is said to incorporate elements of **Kalaripayattu**, a martial art practiced in **Kerala** and **Tamil Nadu**.
- In Tamil Nadu this art form is known as **Kolattam** and in Andhra Pradesh as '**Kolamu**'.

16th World Wushu Championship

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated **Roshibina Devi, Kushal Kumar** and **Chhavi** for winning medals in the recently held '**16th World Wushu Championship**' in America.
- It was held at the **Fort Worth Convention Center** in **Fort Worth, Texas, United States** from November 16 to 20, 2023.
- **India** finished **18th** in the medal table in this competition by winning a total of three medals including one silver and two bronze medals. In this competition, **Roshibina Devi** from India won the silver medal, while **Kushal Kumar** and **Chhavi** won the bronze medal.
- The Chinese team topped the medal list by winning **15 gold medals**. Team **Vietnam and Macau of China** stood **second** and **third** respectively.

ICC launches 'stop-clock system' and 'amends transgender policy'

- Recently the **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has introduced unprecedented measures aimed at bringing revolutionary changes to the rules of the game.
- The introduction of the stop-clock system aims to increase game play efficiency while addressing the persistent problem of time wastage between overs. This initiative will continue from December 1, 2023 to April 2024.

- In addition, **players transitioning from male to female** who have gone through any type of **male puberty** are **now ineligible** to participate in **women's international cricket**, regardless of surgical or gender reassignment treatment.

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the program '**Sant Mirabai Janmotsav**' organized to celebrate the **525th birth anniversary** of Sant Mirabai in **Mathura, Uttar Pradesh**.
- According to a new assessment by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and the **United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**, the number of measles deaths across the globe will increase by **2021-2022** due to declining vaccination rates. There has been an increase of **43%**.
- The **Ministry of Education (MoE)** and **IIT-Kanpur** have launched '**SATHEE**', an innovative online platform aimed at transforming entrance exam preparation in India.
- Comptroller and Auditor General of India '**Girish Chandra Murmu**' has been elected as the Vice-Chairman of the **United Nations Panel of External Auditors**.
- A **Memorandum of Understanding** between the **Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff** and the **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)** was signed on November 23, 2023 in **New Delhi** for **technical collaboration** and joint research and development in the field of **Defence Technology**.
- '**REC Limited**' was awarded the '**Best Employer for Policies in Diversity and Inclusion**' award at the **4th Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Awards and Conference** organized by **ASSOCHAM**. It is a **Maharatna CPSE** under the **Ministry of Power**, established in **1969**.
- The **Department of Social Justice and Empowerment** signed an **MoU** with the **International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)** for the **Drug Free India Campaign** in **New Delhi**.
- **Colonel Sunita BS**, an officer in the **Army Medical Corps**, etched her name in history by becoming the **first woman** to assume the role of **Commanding Officer** at the **Armed Forces Transfusion Centre (AFTC)** in **Delhi Cantt.**
- **Indian Naval Ship 'Sumedha'** made an important port call at **Maputo, Mozambique** on 21 November as part of her extended operational deployment to **Africa**.
- The **International Film Festival of India** has launched the **Best Web Series Award** this year to encourage the country's rapidly growing film sector. **Filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani** has been made the **head of a five-member committee** to select the Best Web Series award.
- The **United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)** recently released its '**14th Emissions Gap Report 2023**', revealing a bleak outlook for limiting global warming to **1.5 degrees Celsius**.
- **Oxfam's** recently released '**Climate equality: A planet for the 99%**' report highlights the stark inequality in carbon emissions, revealing that the **richest one percent** of the global population emits as much carbon as the poorest five billion people covering 66 percent of the world's population.
- An international team of researchers, including scientists from '**Arizona State University**', has discovered a **mysterious layer** in the outermost part of the Earth's core, known as the '**E prime layer**'.

The discovery is attributed to the penetration of surface water into the planet's depths, altering the composition of the outermost region of the metallic liquid core.

- Ahead of the **15th anniversary** of the **26/11 Mumbai attacks**, **Israel** has declared Pakistan-based terrorist organization **Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)** as a terrorist organization.
- The festival of '**Haribodhini Ekadashi**' is being celebrated with devotion and enthusiasm all over **Nepal**. It is a religious ritual dedicated to **Lord Vishnu**.
- **Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports and Department of Information and Broadcasting**, Government of India, formally declared the **Khelo India Para Games 2023** open in **New Delhi**.
- India bid farewell to its leading legal personality, the **country's first woman judge of the Supreme Court, Justice Fatima Beevi**, who passed away at the age of 96.

24 November

National Metallurgist Award 2022

- **Union Minister of State for Steel and Rural Development 'Faggan Singh Kulaste'** presented the '**National Metallurgist Award (NMA) 2022**' on November 22, 2023.
- The prestigious award winners and categories are mentioned below –
 - Dr. Kamachi Mudali Uthandi - Lifetime Achievement Award
 - Dr. Debashish Bhattacharjee - National Metallurgist Award
 - Dr. Rameshwar Sah - Research and Development in Iron and Steel Sector
 - Dr. Niloy Kundu - Young Metallurgist (Environment) Award
 - Agilan Muthumanickam - Award Young Metallurgist Award

World's most expensive retail markets

- According to real estate consultancy company '**Cushman & Wakefield**', **Delhi's Khan Market** is the **22nd most expensive retail market** in the world in terms of rent. The annual rent here is \$217 per square foot.
- **New York's 'Fifth Avenue'** has retained its top ranking as the world's most expensive retail market.
- '**Via Montenapoleone**' of **Milan (Italy)** moved up one place and reached the second position by displacing '**Tsim Sha Tsui**' of **Hong Kong**. At the same time, '**Tsim Sha Tsui**' has slipped to third place in this list.
- '**New Bond Street**' in London retained the **4th position** and '**Avenue des Champs-Élysées**' in **Paris** retained the **5th position**.

Guru Teg Bahadur 'Martyrdom Day'

- The death anniversary of '**Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji**' is celebrated every year on **24 November** as '**Martyrdom Day**'. He was the **ninth** Sikh Guru.
- Tegh Bahadur was born in the **year 1621** in **Amritsar**. Tegh Bahadur was called '**Tyagamal**' because of his ascetic nature.
- His confrontation with **Aurangzeb's regime**, which culminated in his martyrdom on **November 24, 1675**, symbolized his refusal to compromise on his unshakable principles.

One liner current affairs

- **India-Nepal** joint military exercise '**Surya Kiran – 17th Edition**' was held in **Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand**.
- The **International Sugar Organization (ISO)** announced in its **63rd Council Meeting** that India will be the President of the organization for the **year 2024**. The headquarters of this organization is in **London**. India has been the largest consumer and second largest producer of sugar in the world.
- **India** and the **European Union** have signed an MoU to make semiconductor supply chains more resilient.
- The traditional buffalo race, '**Kambala**' will be held in **Bengaluru** for the first time. '**Kambala**' is a buffalo race held in the districts of coastal **Karnataka** (Udupi and Dakshina Kannada) during the winter months when farmers harvest their paddy crop.
- Regarding water conservation, Meghalaya Chief Minister **Conrad K. Sangma** launched '**Meghalaya Water Smart Kid Campaign**'.
- **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Development Authority (APEDA)** facilitated cashew exports to **Bangladesh, Qatar, Malaysia** and the **US** on '**National Cashew Day**' on November 23, 2023. After **Côte d'Ivoire**, **India** is the **second largest** producer and exporter of cashew with a share of over **15 per cent**.
- Recently the book '**Mapping of the Archives in India**' was released. This book has been written by **Professor Ramesh Chandra Gaur** and **Vismay Basu**.
- The **Embassy of Afghanistan** has announced the permanent closure of its diplomatic mission in **New Delhi**.
- '**Odh**', a fresh and thought-provoking short film set on the waning beaches of Goa, won the **Best Film Award** at the **75 Creative Minds of Tomorrow (CMOT)** held at the **54th International Film Festival of India** in Goa.
- Microsoft announced **Aparna Gupta's** appointment as the **Global Delivery Center (GDC)** leader, which is a part of the **Industry Solutions Delivery** and the broader Microsoft Customer and Partner Solutions (MCAPS) organization.
- **SATHI (Sophisticated Analytical and Technical Support Institute)** program under the '**Department of Science and Technology**' has been canceled recently. It was launched in the **year 2020**, aims to establish centers equipped with advanced analytical tools, promote collaboration and resource-sharing between institutions.

- The '**Langlands Program**' is named after mathematician **Robert Langlands** of the **Institute for Advanced Study** at Princeton. In **2018**, he was awarded the **Abel Prize**, one of the **most prestigious prizes in mathematics**, for his program. This program was started in **1967**.
- The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** board has shifted next year's **Men's Under-19 World Cup** from **Sri Lanka** to **South Africa**.
- **Max Verstappen** has won the '**Las Vegas Grand Prix 2023**' by defeating Ferrari rival **Charles Leclerc** and **Red Bull** teammate **Sergio Perez**.
- The former **110m hurdles** world record holder, **Colin Jackson**, has been announced as the **International Event Ambassador** for the upcoming edition of **Tata Steel Kolkata 25K** event scheduled on Sunday, 17th December 2023.
- On November 21, 2023, the **All India Football Federation (AIFF)** and the Government of **Odisha** signed an MoU to establish the **AIFF-FIFA Talent Academy** in collaboration with **FIFA**.
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has paid tribute to '**Lachit Borphukan**', the commander of **Ahom Empire**, on the occasion of **Lachit Divas**. He provided effective leadership to his army in the '**Battle of Saraighat**' in the year **1671**, due to which the Mughal army's attempt to capture **Assam** failed.
- '**World Heritage Week**' is organized every year from **19** to **25 November**.

25 November

BBC 100 Women 2023

- The **British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)** has released the list of the most inspiring and influential women around the world for the year **2023**.
- These include human rights lawyer **Amal Clooney**, **Hollywood actress America Ferrera**, **feminist icon Gloria Steinem**, former US First Lady **Michelle Obama**, **beauty business entrepreneur Huda Katan** and **Ballon d'Or title-winning footballer Aitana Bhanmati**.
- '**BBC 100 Women 2023**' which includes four Indian women. **Actress Dia Mirza**, **cricketer Harmanpreet Kaur**, **photographer Aarti Kumarrao** and **Tibetan Buddhist nun Jetsunma Tenzin Palmo**.

Article 311(2)(c)

- Recently, the **Jammu and Kashmir** government fired four employees who posed a "**threat to the security of the state**." They have been terminated under **Article 311(2)(c)** of the Constitution.
- According to **Article 311(2)**, no civil servant shall be dismissed or removed from office or reduced in rank except after an inquiry in which the officer has been informed of the charges against him and a hearing in respect of those charges. Reasonable opportunities have been provided.
- **Exceptions to Article 311(2)**

- **2(a)** – It involves the dismissal, removal from office or reduction in rank of a person on the ground of his conduct which has led to his conviction on a criminal charge; Or
- **2 (b)** - When the authority having jurisdiction to dismiss or remove from office or reduce the rank of a person determines that it is not reasonably practicable to hold an inquiry for any reason, and is for reasons to be recorded in writing by that authority Must be entered in; Or
- **2(c)** – Where the President or the Governor, as the case may be, is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the State it is not advisable to hold such inquiry.

Atmospheric wave experiment

- Amid growing disruptions to satellite communications and GPS systems, **NASA** has unveiled an '**atmospheric wave experiment**' that highlights the critical need to understand space weather.
- The imminent launch of **AWE** has the potential to provide unprecedented insight into these interconnected dynamics by observing Earth's extreme weather events influencing space phenomena in **atmospheric gravity waves (AGWs)**.
- Space weather is a term used to describe changing conditions in the space environment around Earth and other planets, which are influenced by the Sun's activity and the interaction between the solar wind and the planets' magnetic fields.
- **Space weather** can affect various aspects of human activities and technologies, such as **satellite-based communications, navigation and power systems**, as well as the **health and safety of astronauts and aviation and space exploration**.

One liner current affairs

- Giving a big boost to '**Make in India**' in **Karnataka**, Prime Minister Narendra Modi flew in the indigenous Tejas fighter plane in **Bengaluru**.
- **Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways**, Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the eighth edition of '**India Water Impact Summit**' at **Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi** on November 22, 2023. The theme of **India Water Impact Conference, 2023** is '**Development vis-à-vis Land, Water and Rivers**'.
- Union Minister for Education and Skill Development, Dharmendra Pradhan laid the foundation stone of **National Skill Training Institute – NSTI Plus** in **Jatni, Odisha**. This institute will accommodate institutes like **National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development, National Skill Development Corporation and Skill India International Centre**.
- **Indian immunologists** released the vaccine '**Mabela**' to protect children from '**Measles**' and '**Rubella**'. The vaccine, developed in partnership with Vietnam's Polyvac Institute, was released in **Ooty, Tamil Nadu** as part of the **25th celebrations** of the **IIL Division Human Biological Institute**.
- Union Minister of State for Communications **Devusingh Chauhan** inaugurated '**Hamfest 2023**' in **Ahmedabad, Gujarat**.

- Kerala's pioneering 'Responsible Tourism (RT) Mission' has won global praise by securing a place in the prestigious list of case studies curated by the **United Nations World Tourism Organisation**.
- Telangana has unveiled the world's first '3D-printed temple', a groundbreaking structure located at **Burugupalli** in **Siddipet** district.
- **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** Chairperson **Madhabi Puri Buch** has officially launched the **Investor Risk Reduction Access (IRRA)** platform at the **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)**.
- **Ishwak Singh** has won the **Best Actor** award at the **Stars Asian International Film Festival (SAIFF)** for his performance in the film '**Berlin**', **Smita Tambe's** captivating performance in **Joram** won her the **Best Actress** award.
- Indian IT giant **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** has achieved remarkable success in **Spain** by securing top positions in service delivery quality and commercial competitiveness, according to an independent survey conducted by **Whitelane Research**.
- **Berkshire Hathaway**, backed by world famous investor **Warren Buffett**, has sold its entire 2.46 percent stake in **Paytm's** parent company '**One97 Communications**' in the open market for **Rs 1,371 crore**.
- India's **Vidya Pillai** has won the title of '**World Six Red Women's Snooker Championship**' in Qatar's capital **Doha**. She defeated her own country's '**Anupama Ramachandran**'.
- 15-year-old '**Anahat Singh**' has become the **second youngest player** to win the **National Squash Championship** title.
- ICC has taken a big decision and banned former West Indies batsman '**Marlon Samuels**' for **6 years**.
- Every year, '**International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**' is marked by the United Nations on **25 November**.

26 November

Constitution Day

- '**Constitution Day**' is celebrated on **26 November**. The Constituent Assembly formally accepted the Constitution on **26 November 1949**, which came into effect from **26 January 1950**.
- In the **year 2015**, the government had decided to celebrate **26 November** as Constitution Day to promote constitutional values among the citizens.
- On this occasion, President **Draupadi Murmu** unveiled the statue of **Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar** in the Supreme Court.

Livestock Integrated Sample Survey (March 2022-February 2023)

- **Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying**, **Shri Parshottam Rupala** released the data 2023 based on '**Livestock Integrated Sample Survey (March 2022-February 2023)**' at an event organized on the occasion of '**National Milk Day**' in **Guwahati**.

Following are the salient features of basic animal husbandry data –

- The total milk production in the country is estimated at 230.58 million tonnes during the year 2022-23, registering an increase of **22.81 per cent** over the last 5 years from 187.75 million tonnes in the year 2018-19. The highest milk producing state during the year 2022-23 was **'Uttar Pradesh'**, whose share in total milk production was **15.72%**. This was followed by **Rajasthan (14.44%), Madhya Pradesh (8.73%), Gujarat (7.49%) and Andhra Pradesh (6.70%)**.
- The **total egg production** in the country is estimated at 138.38 billion. Compared to the estimated production of 103.80 billion eggs during the year 2018-19, an increase of **33.31 percent** was recorded in the last 5 years during the year 2022-23. Moreover, there has been an annual increase of 6.77 percent in production during the year 2022-23 as compared to the year 2021-22. The major contributor to the total egg production of the country has been from **'Andhra Pradesh'**, which has a share of 20.13% in the total egg production, followed by **Tamil Nadu (15.58%), Telangana (12.77%), West Bengal (9.94%) and Karnataka (6.51%)**. % is the place.
- The total meat production in the country is estimated to be 9.77 million tonnes during the year 2022-23, registering an increase of **20.39 per cent** over the last 5 years as compared to the estimate of 8.11 million tonnes in the year **2018-19**. There was an increase of **5.13 percent** in the **year 2022-23** compared to the **year 2021-22**. The major contributor to the total meat production is from **'Uttar Pradesh'** with **12.20%** share followed by **West Bengal (11.93%), Maharashtra (11.50%), Andhra Pradesh (11.20%) and Telangana (11.06%)**.
- The total wool production in the country during the **year 2022-23** is estimated at **33.61 million kg** as compared to the estimated 40.42 million kg during the year 2018-19, registering a negative growth of **16.84 per cent** over the last 5 years. However, the production has increased by **2.12 percent** in 2022-23 as compared to the **year 2021-22**. **'Rajasthan'** is the **major contributor** with **47.98%** share in the total wool production, followed by **Jammu and Kashmir (22.55%), Gujarat (6.01%), Maharashtra (4.73%) and Himachal Pradesh (4.27%)**.

Floating Mobile Refueling CNG

- In a significant step towards a pollution free **Varanasi**, the city's second floating **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Mobile Refueling Unit (MRU)** station at **Ravidas Ghat** was inaugurated today by **Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep Singh Puri**. This is the country's second such station built to fill **CNG in boats**, after the **Namo Ghat CNG station** here.
- Both the above stations have been developed by **Maharatna PSU GAIL (India) Limited** under the control of the **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**.

Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) Scheme

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** has extended the **Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme** for an additional two years, now effective till **December 31, 2025**.

- The scope of the PIDF scheme has been expanded to include beneficiaries of **PM Vishwakarma Yojana**.
- The PIDF initiative aims to encourage the deployment of payment acceptance infrastructure in various sectors.
- The PIDF scheme, launched in **January 2021**, initially focused on **Tier-3 to Tier-6 centers, north-eastern states and Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh**. Beneficiaries of **PM Svanidhi Yojana** were included in Tier-1 and 2 centers in August 2021.

One liner current affairs

- The Central Government has changed the name of **Ayushman Bharat – Health and Wellness** to '**Ayushman Arogya Mandir**'. Its tagline is '**Aarogyam Paramam Dhanam**'.
- Irish writer '**Paul Lynch**' has been awarded the '**Booker Prize for the year 2023**' for his novel '**Prophet Song**'. This novel tells about Ireland in the grip of **totalitarianism**.
- In **Malaysia**, the visa requirement for Indian citizens coming to the country will be abolished from December 1 this year. Now Indian citizens can stay in **Malaysia** without a visa for 30 days.
- The '**9th National Level Pollution Response Exercise**' (**NATPOLREX-IX**) was conducted by the '**Indian Coast Guard**' on 25 November 2023 at **Vadinar, Gujarat**.
- **Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways** and **AYUSH**, **Sarbananda Sonowal** participated in **Yoga and Ayurveda in Neuroscience: Therapeutics and Research Approaches (YANTRA), 2023** organized at **National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS)** in collaboration with **Jignasa**.
- Courier company **Blue Dart** has launched digital parcel locker service in post offices in partnership with India Post.
- A book, **Thread by Thread**, on the life of **Shambhu Kumar** or '**the**' **S Kumar** was released by **Kapil Dev**. The book has been written by noted journalist and author **Sathya Saran** and published by Penguin Random House.
- The country's oldest and largest industry body **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)** has named '**Anish Shah**' as its elected president.
- **OneWeb India** has become the first company to receive approval from India's space regulator, **In-Space**, for satellite broadband.
- The **world's largest iceberg** is now moving forward after being stuck on the seafloor for more than 30 years. This iceberg named **A23a** was separated from the Antarctic coastline in **1986**. But it quickly sank into the **Antarctic's 'Weddell Sea'** and became an island of ice.
- **Bandhan Bank** approved the reappointment of **Chandrashekhar Ghosh** as its **Managing Director** and **Chief Executive Officer** for three years.

- The **Asian Development Bank** has approved a substantial loan of **\$170 million** to promote the modernization of water supply services in the rapidly growing city of **Kochi** in the Indian state of **Kerala**.
- According to the **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**, the **United States** has distributed a whopping \$677 billion in aid to 213 countries from 2001 to 2023.
- '**Ujjwala**' – a sparrow, was unveiled as the official mascot of '**Khelo India – Para Games 2023**'. These games will be organized in **Delhi** for the first time.
- **Pakistan's spin-allrounder 'Imad Wasim'** announced his retirement from international cricket on 24 November.
- In India, '**National Milk Day**' is celebrated on **26 November**. It was celebrated for the first time in the year 2014.

27 November

Guru Nanak Jayanti

- The President of India greets citizens on the occasion of Guru Nanak Jayanti.
- Guru Nanak Jayanti, also known as '**Guruparv**', is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the **first Guru and founder of Sikhism**.
- The festival is celebrated on the fifteenth lunar day of the month of **Kartik**, which usually falls in November.
- **Guru Nanak Dev Ji** (1469-1539) was born in a village called **Talwandi Rai Bho** (later renamed **Nankana Sahib**) near **Lahore**.
- Guru Nanak Dev Ji initiated inter-religious dialogue in the **16th century** and held talks with most of the religious sects of his time.
- The works written by **Guru Nanak Dev Ji** were integrated into the '**Adi Granth**' by the fifth Sikh Guru, **Guru Arjan Dev Ji** (1563–1606). Later expanded by the 10th Sikh Guru, **Guru Gobind Singh Ji** (1666-1708), it evolved into the '**Guru Granth Sahib**'.

National Cadet Corps (NCC)

- **National Cadet Corps/National Cadet Corps (NCC)** celebrated its **75th Raising Day** on November 27, 2023. This is the **world's largest uniformed youth organization**.
- NCC was formed in **1948** (on the recommendation of **H.N. Kunzru Committee-1946**) and has its roots in the youth institutions formed in the British era, such as the University Corps or the University Officer Training Corps. It was created under the **Indian Defense Act, 1917** with the aim of meeting the shortage of personnel in the Indian Army.
- Later in the year **1949**, NCC was expanded to include Girls Division so that equal opportunities could be provided to women willing to defend the country.

One liner current affairs

- **Mr Christopher Luxon** has been sworn in as the Prime Minister of **New Zealand**.
- **South East Asia's** first '**Night Sky Century**' will soon be opened in **Hanle, Ladakh**. The **Dark Sky Reserve** will form a part of the **Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary** in **Hanle village** in **eastern Ladakh**. It is being built in collaboration with the **Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru**, which is affiliated with the **Department of Science and Technology, Government of India**.
- **Asia's largest open trade fair 'Bali Jatra'** is being celebrated to commemorate the glorious ancient maritime heritage of **Odisha**. It was launched on the banks of **Mahanadi** in **Cuttack**.
- On the first death anniversary of actor **Vikram Gokhale**, on the request of **Cine and Television Artists Association (CINTAA)** and **CAWT**, the **Maharashtra government** in his memory has decided to name the road adjacent to CINTAA Tower in **Andheri** as **Natshrestha Vikram Gokhale Marg**.
- **Australia's biodiversity-rich northern rainforests**, designated as **World Heritage Sites**, face increasing threats, according to the recently released '**State of the Wet Tropics**' report. The report, presented by the conservation authority for the **UNESCO-listed 'Queensland' Wet Tropics**, outlines the declining health of species such as the ringtail possum.
- **Peru** has experienced the catastrophic loss of more than half of its glacier surface over the past six decades, according to scientists at **Peru's National Institute of Research of Mountain Glaciers**.
- Recently the **third session** of the '**Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee**' (**INC-3**) concluded at the **Headquarters of United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)** in **Nairobi, Kenya**. This session focused on the development of an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution incorporating concerns related to the marine environment. **INC-4** and **INC-5** are scheduled to be hosted by **Ottawa, Canada** a few months from now and by **Buzan, South Korea** in November 2024, respectively.
- The Indian men's doubles pair of '**Satwik Sairaj**' and '**Chirag Shetty**' had to face defeat in the final of the **China Masters 750** tournament. In the final played on November 26 in **Shenzhen city** of China, the Indian pair was defeated by the Chinese pair of **Liang Wei Keng** and **Wang Chang**.
- **Anish Bhanwala** has become the **first Indian shooter** to win a medal in the men's 25m rapid fire event at the **ISSF World Cup Final** in **Doha**.
- In a decisive step towards promoting sustainable and environment-friendly transport, the **United Nations General Assembly** has designated **26 November** as '**World Sustainable Transport Day**'. **World Sustainable Transport Day 2023** focuses on the theme '**Sustainable Transport, Sustainable Development**'.
- The **Yogi led government of Uttar Pradesh** has declared **November 25** as '**Meat-Free Day**' (No Non-Veg Day). The Yogi government has taken this decision in view of the **birth anniversary** of '**Sadhu TL Vaswani**'.

Stealth destroyer ship 'Imphal'

- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh unveiled the crest of Project 15B, a **stealth destroyer guided missile destroyer** under '**Project 15B category**' in **New Delhi**.
- According to the **Defense Ministry**, the crest design depicts **Kangla-Palace** on the left and **Kangla-Sa** on the right.
- **Kangla Palace** is an important **historical and archaeological site of Manipur**. **Kangla-sa** is a **mythological figure** from the history of Manipur, consisting of a symbol consisting of a **dragon's head** and a **lion's body**. It is also the **state symbol of Manipur**.
- The **Yard 12706 (Imphal)** is the **third frigate** in the series of four stealth destroyers under the **Project 15B** category of **Guided Missile Destroyers**, named after the city in the **North-Eastern Region**.

54th International Film Festival of India

- The 54th International Film Festival of India unveiled its prestigious **Golden Peacock Awards** recognizing excellence in various categories. The award consists of a cash prize of **Rs 40 lakh**, a certificate and a Golden Peacock Medal.
- The prestigious '**Golden Peacock**' for the Best Film was awarded to the Persian language film, '**Endless Borders**' directed by **Abbas Amini**. The film tells the story of an Iranian teacher's difficult journey amid the turmoil caused by the rise of the **Taliban** in **Afghanistan**.
- Bulgarian director **Stefan Komanderev** won the **Silver Peacock Award for Best Director** for **Blaga's Lessons**, a powerful exploration of moral compromise in the face of deception.
- **Actor Pouria Rahimi Sam** has been unanimously chosen **Best Actor** (Silver Peacock Award) for his role in the Persian film '**Endless Borders**' directed by **Abbas Amini**. The jury selected the actor for his "**rich acting and dialogue with his colleagues, children and adults in challenging shooting conditions**".
- French actress **Melanie Thierry** has been honored with the **Silver Peacock Award for Best Actress** for '**Party of Fools**'.
- Critically acclaimed Indian filmmaker **Rishabh Shetty** has received the **Special Jury Award for 'Kantara'**.
'**Drift**', a French, British and Greek co-production directed by **Anthony Chen**, received the prestigious '**ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal**'.

One liner current affairs

- **Union Minister of Women and Child Development Smriti Irani** launched the **National Outreach Program of Anganwadi Protocol for Children with Disabilities**. Under this, the social model for inclusive nutrition of disabled people has been included.

- According to **Standard & Poor's Global**, India's economic growth is likely to increase by **6.4 percent** in the financial year **2024-25**.
- An MoU was signed between the **Department of Social Justice and Empowerment** and **Ram Chandra Mission** in **New Delhi** regarding the **Drug Free India Campaign**. The '**Drug Free India Campaign**' was announced by the Prime Minister on **15 August 2020** from the ramparts of the **Red Fort**.
- The **Ministry of Tourism**, Government of India in collaboration with the **Ministry of Culture**, **Sangeet Natak Akademi** and **State Government of Andhra Pradesh** successfully organized the prequel program of the festival named '**Krishnaveni Sangeeta Neerjanam**'. It will be organized in **Vijayawada** from **10 December to 12 December 2023**.
- The **Ministry of AYUSH** has been awarded the Gold Medal by '**India Trade Promotion Organisation**' for excellent performance in the '**Ministry and Departments**' category of the Indian International Trade Fair.
- The **Ministry of Defense** has signed a contract with **M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)**, Haridwar on **November 28, 2023** for the procurement of **16 Upgraded Super Rapid Gun Mounts** along with associated equipment/accessories for the Indian Navy under the procurement.
- Heart-warming Hindi comedy-drama series '**Panchayat Season 2**' has won the prestigious **1st Best Web Series (OTT) Award 2023** at the **54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)** held in **Goa**. Directed by **Deepak Kumar Mishra** and written by **Chandan Kumar**, 'Panchayat Season 2' presents the complex story of an urban graduate **Abhishek Tripathi**.
- Hollywood actor and producer **Michael Douglas**, famous for his excellence in cinema, was honored with the prestigious '**Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award**' at the **54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)** in **Goa**.
- **NTPC Bongaigaon** has been recognized for its outstanding achievements in **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** and **Environment Protection** with two prestigious awards from the **Greentech Foundation**. It was awarded a trophy in the Environment Protection category at the '**22nd Annual Greentech Environment Awards 2023**' and in the rural Development category at the '**10th Annual Greentech CSR India Awards**'.
- **200 participants** representing **10 ASEAN member states**, including India, attended the **4th edition** of the annual **ASEAN India Grassroots Innovation Forum (AIGIF)** launched in **Langkawi, Malaysia** on **28 November 2023**. It is an **annual event** that focuses on promoting stronger relations between India and the United States based on cooperation in science, technology and innovation.
- **Madhya Pradesh's 'Damoh district'** is poised to become home to the country's largest tiger reserve. The Central Government has given the green signal to the merger of '**Nauradehi Sanctuary**' with '**Durgavati Sanctuary**' in **Damoh**, creating a huge tiger reserve spread over **2,300 square kilometers**.
- India's leading hydropower company **NHPC Limited** has won the second prize under the '**Annual Report**' category of the '**PRSI National Awards 2023**'. The award was presented during the

International Public Relations Festival organized by the **Public Relations Society of India (PRSI)** in **New Delhi** from 25 to 27 November 2023.

- **Punjab** has won the **13th Hockey India Senior Men's National Hockey Championship** by defeating **Haryana**.
- Red Bull's triple world champion **Max Verstappen** ended Formula One's most impressive season with a record 19th win in 22 races at the **Abu Dhabi Grand Prix**.

29 November

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

- The government has extended the **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana** for another **5 years** from January 1, 2024.
- Under this scheme, **5 kg food grains** are given free of cost to more than **81 crore poor people** in the country. **Antyodaya families** are provided **35 kg** of food grains free of cost every month.
- Its **objective** is to ensure **food and nutrition security** at an estimated cost of **Rs 11 lakh 80 thousand crore for 5 years**.
- This scheme was first introduced in the **year 2020** during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Pradhan Mantri Tribal Justice Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)

- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the **Pradhan Mantri Tribal Justice Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)** with a total outlay of Rs 24,104 crore.
- Under this, focus will be on **11 important areas** through **9 concerned ministries**.
- The Prime Minister had announced this campaign from **Khunti (Jharkhand)** on the occasion of 'Tribal Pride Day'.
- Additionally, 'Pradhan Mantri PVTG Vikas Mission' will be launched to improve the **socio-economic conditions** of **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**. An announcement about this was made in the **Budget Speech 2023-24**.

One liner current affairs

- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu inaugurated a national conference on '**Integration of Yoga in School Education System-Manifesting the thought**', organized by Kaivalyadhama as part of its centenary year celebrations at **Lonavala, Maharashtra**.
- The Union Cabinet has also approved the Central Scheme to provide '**drones**' to women **self-help groups**. Under this scheme, drones will be provided to 15 thousand selected self-help groups during **2023-24 to 2025-26**, which will be used to rent to farmers for agriculture related services.

- The Union Cabinet has approved the continuation of **'Fast Track Special Court'** for another **3 years**. This scheme will now continue till **31 March 2026**. The special court has been created to deliver speedy justice, provide immediate relief to victims and strengthen the preventive framework for sexual offenders.
- In a historic development, the Government of India and the Government of Manipur signed a peace accord with the **Valley-based Manipur's oldest armed group**, the **United National Liberation Front (UNLF)**, in **New Delhi**. The UNLF was formed in **1964** and operates both within and outside Indian territory.
- **Union Minister for Women and Child Development** Smriti Zubin Irani unveiled the **Gender Inclusive Communication Guide**.
- The **Indian High Commission** has signed important agreements for the construction of **10,000 houses** in the plantation areas of **Sri Lanka** as part of the fourth phase of the **'Indian Housing Project'**. The fourth phase of the project is spread across 11 districts and 6 provinces of **Sri Lanka**, in line with India's commitment to build 60,000 houses under the **Indian Housing Project**.
- The **Central Government** has recently included **Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)** in the list of organizations exempted from the **Right to Information Act (RTI), 2005**. CERT-In is the national agency under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology** responsible for responding to computer security incidents.
- In a significant step aimed at transforming the rural landscape through dairy farming, the **Assam government** has signed an MoU with the **National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)**.
- On November 22, the Cabinet led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar passed a resolution urging the Center to **grant special category** status to **Bihar**. The demand is based on the findings of the **'Bihar Caste-Based Survey, 2022'**, which shows that almost **one-third** of the population of Bihar is suffering from poverty.
- The **28th European Union Film Festival (EUFF)** will be held in **'New Delhi'** from 1 to 10 December.
- The Gujarat Forest Department presented its proposal to make **Barda Wildlife Sanctuary** the second home after **Gir National Park** to the lions as part of **"Project Lion @ 2047"**. Project Lion is an initiative launched by the Government of India in **2021** to conserve and protect the **Asiatic Lion** and its habitat.
- **Dave Sharma**, who became the **first Indian-origin MLA** in the **Parliament of Australia** in **2019**, will return to politics after his victory in the New South Wales Liberal Senate race.

30 November

High level virtual dialogue 'Mahasagar'

- **MAHASAGAR'** is an outreach initiative of the **Indian Navy** for high-level virtual interactions between naval chiefs of different countries.

- The **first edition** of the high-level virtual dialogue **MAHASAGAR** was organized by the **Indian Navy** on 29 November 2023.
- During this, **Chief of Naval Staff Admiral, R Hari Kumar** held discussions with heads of navies/maritime agencies of different countries and senior leadership of coastal areas adjacent to Indian waters. These included **Bangladesh, Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Sri Lanka and Tanzania.**
- Its **theme** was '**Collective Maritime Approach towards countering common challenges**'.

Pakadwa marriage

- The **Patna High Court** has annulled a forced marriage, commonly known as '**pakadwa marriage**', that took place a decade ago.
- The court ruled that the marriage was invalid because the important "**Saptapadi**" ritual, in which seven vows are taken around the sacred fire as per the '**Hindu Marriage Act, 1955**', was not included.
- '**Pakadwa Vivah**' is a kind of '**forced marriage**'. It is prevalent in **Bihar**, often involving the kidnapping of young men for the purpose of marriage.
- These marriages are usually arranged through threats, sometimes endangering the lives of the individuals and their families.

One liner current affairs

- **National Water Mission, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti** is going to organize '**Jal Itihas Utsav**' on December 01, 2023 at **Shamsi Pond, Jahaz Mahal, Mehrauli, Delhi**. The event marks the culmination of the "**Water Heritage Fortnight**" being celebrated in **75 'Natural Water Heritage Structures'** in different districts of the country and also marks the successful completion of the nationwide campaign '**Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain**' 2023.
- **Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupendra Yadav** inaugurated the **India Pavilion** at **COP-28** in **Dubai**. The **theme** of this pavilion is **Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**.
- The Central Government has approved Rs 1658 crore for the reconstruction plan of '**Joshimath**' affected by ground subsidence and landslides.
- **Mahe, Malvan and Mangrol**, the first three ships of **08 x ASW Shallow Water Craft (CSL)** project being built by **CSL, Kochi** for the **Indian Navy**.
- The **World Bank** funded **National Agricultural Higher Education Project** and **Indian Agricultural Research Project New Delhi, Modern Agricultural Science Technology Center for Climate Adapted Agriculture and Water Management** has been launched at **Mahatma Phule Agricultural University, Rahuri** in **Ahmednagar** district of **Maharashtra**.

- The **Karnataka High Court** recently highlighted that marriage does not entitle one spouse to obtain the **Aadhaar data of the other without a fair hearing**. The Court rejected the notion that marriage dissolves the identities of the spouses, and asserted that every individual's right to privacy is paramount.
- The **Board of Directors of HDFC Bank** has approved the appointment of former **NABARD Chairman Harsh Kumar Bhanwala** as **Additional Independent Director**.
- **Merriam-Webster Dictionary's Word of the Year for the year 2023** has become '**Authentic**', which means - '**not false or imitated**' and '**true to one's own personality**.'
- **HDFC Securities**, a leading investment services provider in India, has successfully launched its mobile trading app, **HDFC SKY**, on **Amazon Web Services (AWS)** cloud.
- **Cambodia's 'Angkor Wat Temple'** has become the **eighth wonder** of the world, surpassing **Italy's Pompeii**. This **800 years old** temple was built by **King Suryavarman II**. It was originally dedicated to the **Hindu god Vishnu**, but later it was changed to become a Buddhist temple. This is the largest temple in the world.
- **IndiGo** announced the launch of an **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**-powered chat assistant named '**6ESkai**' to handle customer queries in different languages.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the '**Hot Cooked Meal**' scheme to provide hot cooked food to children at **Anganwadi centers** from **Ayodhya**. Along with this, the Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone of **3 thousand 401 Anganwadi centers** in **35 districts** at a cost of **Rs 403 crore**.
- **Dr. Poonam Khetrapal Singh**, **World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Director for South-East Asia**, has drawn attention to the worrying prevalence of physical and/or sexual violence against women globally. The WHO regional director's statements coincide with the launch of the annual campaign, '**16 Days of Activism for No Violence against Women**', which will run from **25 November** to **10 December**.
- According to the '**India 2023: An assessment of extreme weather events**' report by **Down to Earth magazine** and **Center for Science and Environment**, **India** has faced a **series of disasters** in the first nine months of this year, ranging from heat waves and cold waves to including cyclone, lightning, heavy rain, flood and landslides.
- The fascinating annual '**Raas Mahotsav**' concluded in '**Majuli**', **Assam**. **Majuli**, the **world's largest river island** situated in the **Brahmaputra**, is the center of Assamese **Neo-Vaishnavism**.
- **India's 'AstroSat' space telescope** has reached an important milestone by detecting its **600th gamma-ray burst (GRB)**, marking the continued performance of its **Cadmium Zinc Telluride Imager (CZTI)** eight years after its launch.
- **Italy** has won '**Davis Cup-2023**' after **47 years**. The team defeated **28-time champion Australia** in **Malaga, Spain**. It was defeated **2-0**. The **2023 Davis Cup** was the **111th** edition of the Davis Cup, a tournament between national teams in **men's tennis**.

- Every year, **29 November** is celebrated by the **United Nations** as **International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**.
- Former US Secretary of State and Nobel Prize winner '**Henry Kissinger**' passed away in Connecticut. He was one hundred years old.

MakelIAS