



Edition-01/2023

January 2023 Current Affairs

Only Monthly Magazine Dedicated to State PCS Prelims Examination

Nehru Vihar:

GF- 20 A-B, Ground Floor,
Vardhman Plaza
011-7190-7315, 9899282107

Karol Bagh:

113 No - 1st Floor, Apsara Arcade,
Karol Bagh Metro Gate No. 7
8700476287

Prayagraj:

In Front of A N JHA Hostel, Science
Faculty
9716521918

68th BPSC MAINS

DAILY ANSWER WRITING

Course Features

- ✚ 60 GS Mini Test (3 Question Each Test)
- ✚ 8 Essay Tests (24 Topics Covered)
- ✚ 4 Hindi Tests (Full Length Tests)
- ✚ 8 GS Full Length Tests

- **Model Answers & Video Discussion** of Each Test
- **Copy Evaluation & Comprehensive Feedback**
- **One To One Discussion**

ONLINE



8,500

OFFLINE

20th Feb

www.MakeIAS.in

9899282107

68th BPSC MAINS

SECTIONAL+ FULL LENGTH

Course Features

- ✚ 8 Sectional Tests
- ✚ 8 Essay Tests (24 Topics Covered)
- ✚ 4 Hindi Tests (Full Length Tests)
- ✚ 8 GS Full Length Tests

- **Model Answers & Video Discussion** of Each Test
- **Copy Evaluation & Comprehensive Feedback**
- **One To One Discussion**

ONLINE



6,500

OFFLINE

20th Feb

www.MakeIAS.in

9899282107

69th BPSC PRELIMS

SECTIONAL+ FULL LENGTH

Course Features

- ✚ 13 GS Sectional Tests
- ✚ 15 GS Full Length Tests
- ✚ 7 Current Affairs Tests

TOTAL - 35 Tests

- All Tests will be according to new pattern.
- **Detail Explanation** of Each Test
- **OMR Checking & Students Ranking System**
- **One To One Doubt Clearing Discussion**

ONLINE



4,500

OFFLINE

25th Feb

www.MakeIAS.in

9899282107

69th BPSC MAINS

DAILY ANSWER WRITING

Course Features

- ✚ 60 GS Mini Test (3 Question Each Test)
- ✚ 8 Essay Tests (24 Topics Covered)
- ✚ 4 Hindi Tests (Full Length Tests)
- ✚ 8 GS Full Length Tests

- **Model Answers & Video Discussion** of Each Test
- **Copy Evaluation & Comprehensive Feedback**
- **One To One Discussion**

ONLINE



9,500

OFFLINE

25th Feb

www.MakeIAS.in

9899282107

UPPCS PRE 2023

MISSION ABHYAAS – 6.0

Course Features

- 101 GS Mini Test (40 Question Each Test)
- 5 CSAT (Full Length Tests)
- 8 Current Affairs Tests
- 10 GS Full Length Tests

- Detail Solution of Each Test
- Bilingual Test & Explanations.
- One To One Online Support.
- Course Running Through Whats App.

ONLINE



1,199
10th MARCH

www.MakeIAS.in

9899282107

UPPCS PRE 2023

SAMAGRA BATCH 3.0

Course Features

- All Subjects Updated Notes.
- 12 Months Current Affairs Magazine.
- Important Topics Video Lectures.
- Shorts Notes for Prelims.

- 101 GS Mini Test (40 Question Each Test)
- 5 CSAT (Full Length Tests)
- 8 Current Affairs Tests
- 10 GS Full Length Tests

ONLINE



2,700
5th Feb

www.MakeIAS.in

9899282107

68th BPSC प्रारम्भिक परीक्षा में पूछे गए करेंट अफेयर्स से संबंधित प्रश्न

MakeIAS मासिक पत्रिका में निम्न तिथि में कवर की गई

1. अगस्त 2022 में भौगोलिक संकेतक टैग	21 अगस्त
2. राष्ट्रीय पोषण माह	1 सितम्बर
3. यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर सूची 2022	यह प्रश्न गलत पूछा गया है
4. महिला और पुरुष क्रिकेटर को समान वेतन	27 अक्टूबर
5. युवा 2.0 योजना योजना	2 अक्टूबर
6. 5 सितारा कचरा मुक्त शहर	4 अक्टूबर
7. परम कामरूप सुपर कम्प्यूटर	13 अक्टूबर
8. 90 वें भारतीय सेना दिवस	8 अक्टूबर
9. द सेवन मून्स ऑफ माली अल्मेडा	18 अक्टूबर
10. निहोन्शू के लिये भौगोलिक संकेत (GI) टैग	19 अक्टूबर
11. टेस्ला ह्यूमनॉइड रोबोट	3 अक्टूबर
12. तियांगोंग (Tiangong) अंतरिक्ष स्टेशन के अंतिम मॉड्यूल	31 अक्टूबर
13. डोनी पोलो हवाई अड्डा	2 नवम्बर

14.	भारतीय मातृभाषा सर्वेक्षण	12 नवम्बर
15.	भारत का पहला पानी पर तैरता वित्तीय साक्षरता शिविर	3 नवम्बर
16.	खाद्य पशु के रूप में अनुमोदित	29 नवम्बर
17.	गंगा जल आपूर्ति योजना	27 नवम्बर
18.	विश्व का सबसे बड़ा ज्वालामुखी मौना लोआ	29 नवम्बर
19.	कोलिन्स डिक्शनरी का वर्ड ऑफ द ईयर	3 नवम्बर
20.	अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सूखा लचीलापन गठबंधन	10 नवम्बर
21.	EQUULEUS अंतरिक्ष यान	4 दिसम्बर
22.	खेलो इण्डिया महिला टूर्नामेंट	20 दिसम्बर
23.	नाभिकीय संलयन सफलता	13 दिसम्बर
24.	गैस मूल्य निर्धारण पर किर्रीट पारिख पैनल	3 जनवरी

1 JAN

Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT)

- India and Saudi Arabia are in talks to sign a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) to obtain formal assistance from each other in investigations related to criminal matters.
- MLAT is a mechanism whereby countries cooperate with each other to provide/receive formal assistance in the prevention/investigation/prosecution of crime to ensure that the offender does not escape or escape due process of law. violate it.
- So far, India has signed the MLAT with 45 countries, but Saudi Arabia is one of the many other countries with which India has not signed the MLAT.

Investor Risk Reduction Access (IRRA) Platform

- Stock exchanges have been directed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to set up an Investor Risk Reduction Access (IRRA) platform.
- The platform will be developed jointly by the stock exchanges to enable investors to liquidate their positions or cancel pending orders in case of disruption in the services provided by the trading members.
- Trading members are those who trade on their own account as well as on the accounts of their clients.
- SEBI has asked stock exchanges and clearing corporations to make IRRA platforms operational by October 1, 2023.

Fatima Shaikh

- The **Andhra Pradesh government** has introduced a lesson on the contribution of '**Fatima Shaikh**' in the textbooks of class VIII. Fatima Shaikh was the **first female Muslim teacher of India** and one of the greatest social reformers and teachers of India.
- She was known for providing shelter to the famous social reformer couple Jyoti Rao Phule and Savitribai, who worked for the education of the girl child.
- Fatima Shaikh is credited with allowing the Phule couple to start the first girls' school in the Bombay Presidency at the former's home in Poona.
- Fatima Sheikh taught in all the five schools run by the Phule couple. She established two schools in Mumbai in 1851 on her own.

States' performance in RTI Responsiveness

- **Satark Nagrik Sangathan (SNS)** recently released the **Accountability Report Card under the Right to Information (RTI) Act 2021-22**, which shows that **Tamil Nadu** is the worst performing state in RTI accountability with a disposal rate of 14%.
- **Maharashtra** is the second worst state in RTI responsiveness with a disposal rate of 23%.
- Only 10 information commissioners provided complete information in response to RTI applications filed as part of this assessment. These included **Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand** and the northeastern states of **Sikkim, Nagaland** and **Tripura**.
- The Bihar State Information Commissioner, which had failed to provide any information under the RTI Act for the assessment published in the year 2020 and 2021, has significantly improved its performance and has a disposal rate of 67%.

Dr. Vikram Sarabhai

- Every year on **30th December**, the death anniversary of Dr. Vikram Sarabhai is celebrated. He is considered the **father of India's space program**.
- In November 1947, he established the **Physical Research Laboratory (PRL)** in Ahmedabad. He established the **Indian National Committee for Space Research** in 1962, which was later renamed the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- He received the **Padma Bhushan** in the year 1966 and was posthumously awarded the Padma Vibhushan in the year 1972. He worked on **India's first satellite Aryabhata**, but he died (on December 30, 1971) before the launch of this satellite in 1975.

One liner current affairs

- **India and Pakistan** exchanged lists of civilian prisoners and fishermen in each other's custody. As per the provisions of the Agreement on Consular Access in 2008, the two countries exchange such lists every year on January 1 and July 1.
- **Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** has been sworn in as the 39th President of Brazil. Lula, 77, won his third presidential election in October, defeating Jair Bolsonaro in a bitter struggle.
- The **Election Commission of India** has developed a prototype for Remote Electronic Voting Machine (RVM) which aims to facilitate voting for domestic migrants across India.
- As a part of '**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**', REC Ltd organized '**Bijli Utsav**' in Assam. REC Limited was established in **1969**. It is a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).
- **Chhattisgarh's Rajnandgaon Police's anti-drug campaign, 'Nijat Abhiyan'**, has been selected for the **prestigious IACP 2022 Award** in the US in the '**Leadership in Crime Prevention**' category of the Institutional category.
- The first '**KR Gowri Amma National Award**' has been given to Cuban social activist **Dr. Aleida Guevara** by the Chief Minister of Kerala.
- According to the recent '**Systemic Risk Survey**' of the **Reserve Bank of India**, global impact, financial market and general risks have increased, while macroeconomic risks have decreased. The survey revealed that people's confidence in the Indian financial system has increased. The 23rd round of this survey was to be conducted in November 2022.
- **Laxmi Singh** has been posted as Police Commissioner in Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh. She has become the **first woman officer** to reach this position in UP.
- Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the **country's second longest cable-stayed eight-lane 'Zuari Bridge'** in Goa. The bridge is on **NH 66** over the tidal stretch of **Zuari River**, between the villages of Agakaim and Courtalim.
- The **RBI** in its latest **Financial Stability Report (FSR)** conducted '**macro-stress tests**' indicating a marginal improvement in the gross NPA ratio of all scheduled commercial banks by **September 2023**.
- The growth rate of the index of eight core industries has increased to 5.4 percent in November 2022. In November 2022 it was 3.2 percent. The weightage of these industries in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) is **40.27 per cent**. In decreasing order of weight of these industries: **Refinery products > Electricity > Steel > Coal > Crude oil > Natural gas > Cement > Fertilizers**.
- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)** announced on January 1 that a **DEXA (dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry)** bone density test will be mandatory for Indian players to be selected for the national team.

- Madhya Pradesh defeated Odisha 6-5 to lift the title of 'Khelo India Youth Games Qualifiers' in Under-18 men's hockey. In the third and fourth place match, Haryana defeated Jharkhand 2-0 to clinch the third place.
- Gujarat's first woman Chief Secretary '**Manjula Subramaniam**' passed away at a hospital in Vadodara due to health complications.
- Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and well-known trade union leader '**PV Chalapathi Rao**' passed away after a prolonged illness. He actively participated in the '**Visakha Steel Plant Movement**' of 1967-1968 and in 1969 for the construction of the '**Polavaram Project**' on the Godavari River.
- Senior Tripura minister and BJP's ruling ally IPFT founder-president **NC Debbarma** passed away.

2 JAN

Demonetisation policy of the center

- The Supreme Court has upheld (4:1 majority) the decision of demonetisation of five hundred and thousand rupees in the year 2016.
- A five-judge constitution bench headed by Justice S. A. Nazeer dismissed 58 petitions challenging the central government's demonetisation decision.
- Justice S. Abul Nazir, B.R. Gavai, A.S. Bopanna, V.P. Ram Subrahmanyam and B.V. Nagaratna's five-judge constitution bench was hearing several petitions challenging the Centre's decisions. Justice Nagaratna dissented from the judgment.

Reserve Bank of India Volume V of History of the Reserve Bank (1997-2008)

- The fifth volume of the History of the Reserve Bank of India was released. This section covers a period of 11 years from the year 1997 to the year 2008.
- The Reserve Bank of India had initiated the process of preparing this section in the year 2015 under the guidance of an **Advisory Committee** headed by **Dr. Narendra Jadhav**, former Member of Parliament and former Principal Advisor and Chief Economist of the Reserve Bank.
- This volume has been prepared by a team of authors led by economic historian Dr. Tirthankar Roy. Other members of the team **K. Kanagasabapati, N. Gopalaswami, F. R. Joseph and S. VS. Dixit** was involved.

One liner current affairs

- **“Virasat”** – A celebration of 75 handwoven sarees of India – The second phase of Sari Mahotsav will be held from January 3 to 17, 2023 at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi. The Ministry of Textiles is organizing this festival.
- The **National Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine (NCISM)** and the **Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS)**, which are the two premier institutions under the **Ministry of AYUSH**, Government of India, to regulate medical education and conduct scientific research respectively, have established Ayurveda colleges and hospitals. With the aim of promoting scientific research in priority health research areas through Ayurveda, the program '**SMART (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals)**' has been launched.
- The **Indian Railways Ministry** has outlined a **five-pronged plan** to become **carbon-neutral** by **2030** as part of the country's commitment to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**.
- The **Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC)** recently reported that **India's first underwater tunnel could be completed by December 2023**. India's first underwater tunnel is being built from inside the **Hooghly river** in **West Bengal**.
- **ISRO, National Center for Earth Sciences, Thiruvananthapuram** and **Andhra University** will jointly set up equipment to forecast rip currents at **Rishikonda and RK (Ramakrishna) beach** in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**.
- A total of 1,668 journalists have been murdered worldwide in connection with their journalistic work over the past two decades (2003-2022), according to the **Reporters Without Borders'** year-end report published on 31 December 2022. The death toll is highest in Syria and Iraq, where a total of 578 journalists have been killed in the past twenty years.
- **Shri Shaktikanta Das** launched the **Medium-Term Strategy Framework 'Utkarsh 2.0'** of the **Reserve Bank of India** for the period **2023-2025**. The first edition of the Strategy Framework (**Utkarsh 2022**), covering the period **2019 to 2022**, was released in July 2019.
- '**World Family Day**' is celebrated every year on **January 1, New Year's Day**. This year the theme for the day is **“Family Together: Building Resilience for a Brighter Future”**.
- **Tata Group stalwart and former director of Tata Sons R.K. Krishnakumar** died in Mumbai due to a heart attack.
- Prominent Lingayat religious leader and renowned saint **Sri Siddeswara Swami Ji** passed away at **Vijayapura Ashram** in **Karnataka** after a prolonged illness.

108th Indian Science Congress

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, addressed the **108th Indian Science Congress (IAC)** through video conference.
- The main theme of this year's ISC is "**Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment**".
- Its first session was held in 1914.
- The 108th Annual Session of IAC will be held at **Rashtasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University**, which is also celebrating its centenary this year.

Spear phishing

- Ahead of the G20 summit, which India will host in **2023**, **CERT-In (India's premier cyber security agency)** has found that individuals and organizations associated with the G20 summit will primarily be targeted by spear phishing.
- Spear phishing is an **attempt to trick a particular person/group into providing personal information over the Internet or by email**, especially by sending emails that appear to be from someone they know.

Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

- On January 1, 2023, the **65th Foundation Day of 'Defence Research and Development Organization'** was organized.
- **DRDO** was established on January 1, 1958 with only 10 laboratories to promote research in the defense sector and its objective was to create the latest technologies for the Indian Armed Forces.
- Presently it functions under the **Department of Defense Research and Development, Ministry of Defence**.
- It is noteworthy that 'DRDO' had also done very important work at the infrastructural level against the Covid-19 pandemic. More than 850 oxygen plants have been set up by this organization with the help of **PM-CARES Fund** and many Covid focused hospitals have also been set up across the country apart from developing a drug called '**2DG**'.

Savitribai Phule

- Savitribai Phule, the **first woman teacher of modern India**, was born on **3 January 1831** in Naigaon, Maharashtra.

- She is remembered as a beacon of women's rights in India. In **1840**, at the age of just nine, she was married to Jyotirao Phule.
- To change the status of women in the country, Savitribai along with Jyotirao established a girls' school in Pune in **1848**.
- Sympathizing with widows, Savitribai established a shelter in **1864** for their upliftment.
- Savitribai Phule breathed her last on 10 March 1897.

Bhima Koregaon Battle Anniversary

- Recently, the **205th anniversary** of the **Bhima-Koregaon battle** was celebrated to pay tribute to the Mahar soldiers who fought against the Peshwa army in the 1818 war.
- The 'Jaystambh' at Bhima-Koregaon commemorates the British EIC soldiers who died in the last battle of the Third Anglo Maratha War (1818).
- With only 834 foot soldiers (~500 Mahars) the British defeated Peshwa Bajirao II's 28,000 strong army in the battle (putting an end to Peshwa supremacy).
- The **Battle of Bhima Koregaon** was fought on 1 January 1818 at Koregaon Bhima between the British East India Company and the Peshwa's army.

One liner current affairs

- President Smt. Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the **Samvidhan Udyan, Mayur Stambh, National Flag Post** and unveiled the statues of Mahatma Gandhi and Maharana Pratap at Raj Bhavan, Jaipur.
- The central government has constituted a high-powered committee to preserve the distinctive culture, language and employment of Ladakh. There will be 17 members in this committee, which will be headed by Minister of State for Home, Nityanand Rai.
- The '**Unique Identification Authority of India**' has introduced a new citizen friendly facility. Under this, they will be helped to make corrections in the address entered in Aadhaar online with the consent of the Head of the House (HOF).
- The **Asian Development Bank** and the Government of India signed a \$300 million loan agreement to upgrade over 300 km of state highways and major district roads in Assam.
- **NTPC Limited** commissioned **India's first green hydrogen blending project**. **Green Hydrogen blending** has been commissioned in the Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network of NTPC Kawas Township, Surat. The project is a joint effort of **NTPC** and **Gujarat Gas Limited**.
- On 1 January 2023, **Croatia** became the **27th country** to join the **European Union** by eliminating dozens of border posts and adopting the '**Euro**' to join Europe's passport-free

travel area (the world's largest). Croatia bid goodbye to its Kuna currency. With this, it also became the 20th member country of the Eurozone.

- The Supreme Court has held that the statement of a minister cannot be said to be a statement of the government even indirectly, even if the principle of collective responsibility is invoked. A five-judge constitution bench said that no restriction can be imposed on the right of free expression of any citizen except those prescribed under **Article 19-(2)** of the Constitution.
- The Supreme Court has ruled that cinema hall owners will be entitled to lay down rules regarding the sale of food and beverages in theater premises.
- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the **Bailey Suspension Bridge over Chenab River** in **Ramban district** of **Jammu Division** in the **Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir**.
- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the **Siyom Bridge** in **Arunachal Pradesh**. He also inaugurated **27 infrastructure projects** completed by the Border Roads Organisation.
- To enhance security, a police post has been set up on the **Shatrunjay hill** near the town. **Palitana town** is a great center of faith for the people of **Jainism**. The **Shatrunjay river** flows here and the city of Palitana is situated on the banks of this river.
- **India** will take over the leadership of the **Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU)** from this month. Its headquarter is in **Bangkok, Thailand**. Former Member (Personnel), Postal Service Board, Dr. Vinay Prakash Singh will take over as the General Secretary of the Union for a tenure of 4 years.
- In line with the **Kerala government's plan to build a women-friendly tourism network**, the state authorities plan to transform **Aymanam village (a Responsible Tourism (RT) village)** into a **hub of women-friendly destinations** as well as showcase women's talent has been created.
- Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the **Indian Library Congress** on 1 January 2023 at the **Collectorate Ground in Kannur, Kerala**.
- **Tesla CEO Elon Musk** has become the first person in the world to lose \$ 200 billion in wealth. According to the **Bloomberg Billionaire Index**, Musk's wealth has come down to \$ 137 billion, which was at its highest level of \$ 340 billion on November 4, 2021.
- The process to procure 100 more **K9-Vajra** tracked **Self-Propelled Howitzers** has been initiated The **K9-Vajra** is a **155 mm, 52 caliber tracked self-propelled howitzer** made in India by **Larsen & Toubro (L&T)**, with technology transferred from defense major **Hanwha Defense** based on its **K9 Thunder**.
- After being canceled for three consecutive years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the **10th**

edition of Dhaka Lit Fest (DLF), Bangladesh's biggest international literary festival, is all set to take place from January 5-8, 2023.

- **Kaustav Chatterjee** has become the **78th Grandmaster of India**. He achieved this feat during the **MPL 59th National Senior Chess Championship** in New Delhi.
- Bengal's renowned **Rabindra Sangeet** veteran singer **Sumitra Sen** passed away at her home in Kolkata after prolonged illness.

4 JAN

National Green Hydrogen Mission

- The government approved the **National Green Hydrogen Mission** with an initial outlay of Rs 19,744 crore.
- The **objective** of this mission is to make the country a major center for the production, use and export of **green hydrogen**.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced the launch of the **National Green Hydrogen Mission** on August 15, 2021, on the occasion of Independence Day.
- Under this mission, **5 million tonnes of green hydrogen** will be produced annually, which includes a renewable energy capacity of **125 GW**. In this, a target has been set to invest eight lakh crore rupees and create more than six lakh jobs by **2030**.

Intelligent Tray Retrieval System (ITRS)

- Union MSME Minister Shri Narayan Rane, has virtually inaugurated the '**Intelligent Tray Retrieval System**' manufactured by M/s SJK Innovations Pvt Ltd, an MSME-Make in India company for **MOPA (Goa) International Airport**.
- **ITRS** is an **Artificial Intelligence based**, fully automated machine which helps in providing passenger security through advanced screening technology.
- The machine is equipped with advanced tools and image analysis software which makes it easier for the screener to make the right decision on each item being examined.

Mr. Mannathu Padmanabhan

- The Prime Minister has paid tributes to **Mannathu Padmanabhan** on his birth anniversary. He was born on January 2, 1878 in Kerala.
- He was an Indian social reformer and freedom fighter from the southwestern state of Kerala. He participated in the **Vaikom (1924) and Guruvayur (1924) temple-entry satyagraha and anti-untouchability movements**.

- He is considered a reformer and moral guide, a member of the Nair community. He was awarded the **Padma Bhushan** in the year 1966. He died on February 25, 1970.

Rani Velu Nachiyar

- The Prime Minister of India has paid tributes to **Rani Velu Nachiyar** (3 January 1730 – 25 December 1796) on her birth anniversary. She was the **first queen** to fight against British colonial power in India (and the son of the Nawab of Arcot) in the 1780s.
- **Rani Velu Nachiyar**, known to Tamils as **Veeramangai**, was a princess of the Ramnad kingdom of **Ramanathapuram** (Tamil Nadu).
- She succeeded as the **queen of Sivagangai** (Tamil Nadu) in the year 1780 after the death of her husband Muthuvaduganathaperiya Udayathevar.

One liner current affairs

- President Smt. Draupadi Murmu participated in the **National Campaign on the theme 'Rise-Rising India through Spiritual Empowerment'** organized by **Brahma Kumaris** at **Mount Abu, Rajasthan** on January 03, 2023. She also virtually inaugurated the Brahmakumaris Maun Sadhana Kendra in **Secunderabad**.
- The President of India, Smt. Draupadi Murmu, graced the inaugural function of the **18th National Jamboree of Bharat Scouts and Guides** at **Pali in Rajasthan** on January 4, 2023. Theme of the **18th National Scouts and Guides Jamboree: Progress with Peace**.
- On the occasion of New Year, on January 2, the Indian Army deployed a woman officer for the first time in the **world's highest battlefield, Siachen**. **Captain Shiva Chauhan** has been posted as the **first woman officer** in Siachen after rigorous training at the Siachen Summer School.
- **Madhya Pradesh** Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the '**Chief Minister Residential Land Rights Scheme**' in the state. The objective of this scheme is to help poor people living in rural areas to build houses.
- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the Government of India signed a \$350 million loan agreement to improve connectivity of key economic sectors in the state of **Maharashtra**.
- The **Ministry of Jal Shakti** is organizing the first '**All India Water Conference**' of **State Ministers in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**. The title of the conference to be held on January 5 and 6 is **Water Vision for the year 2047**.
- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has approved over Rs 28 crore for a special

interest-free loan of Rs 10,000 to each member of the Grower Welfare Schemes of the **Tobacco Board of Andhra Pradesh**. This will directly benefit more than 28,000 tobacco farmers affected by **cyclonic storm 'Mandus'** in Andhra Pradesh.

- The Government has started the **Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development Scheme-B.I.N.D.** to improve public broadcaster services. It has agreed to.
- The **Doda district** administration in **Jammu and Kashmir** has started an e-library for the convenience of thousands of students in the district.
- The government has approved investment in the **382 MW Sunni Dam Hydro Electric Project** in **Himachal Pradesh**. This project will be built on the **Sutlej river**.
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the renaming of **Greenfield International Airport Mopa, Goa** as '**Manohar International Airport - Mopa, Goa**' as a tribute to Late Shri Manohar Parrikar, former Defense Minister and four time Chief Minister of Goa. Post facto approval has been granted to do so.
- To increase the voter turnout in the Tripura elections to be held early this year, the Election Commission is going to work on **Mission-929** to take the voter turnout above 90 percent. For this, 929 polling stations will be focused.
- Recently, scientists in South Korea have developed a new water purification system that can filter out microplastics quickly and efficiently. an experiment
- More than **99.9%** of contaminants were removed from the water in just 10 seconds.
- A two-year ban on foreigners buying homes in Canada has come into force. In a statement, Federal Housing Minister Ahmed Hussain said the ban was meant to discourage foreigners from buying homes. This restriction will apply to people who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents.
- The **Fit India campaign** of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is launching a special online series '**Fit India-Sunday Talks**' from Sunday 8th January to 26th February. The program will be aired every Sunday at 11 am on **Fit India's official Instagram and YouTube channel**.
- **World Braille Day** is celebrated every year on 04 January. The day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of French educationist **Louis Braille**. **Louis Braille** invented the **Braille script** in 1809.
- **Astronaut Walter Cunningham**, the last surviving member of the first successful space mission under **NASA's Apollo program**, has died at the age of 90. **Cunningham** was one of three astronauts on the **Apollo 7** mission in 1968.

First 'All India Annual State Ministers Conference' on Water

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the '**First All India Annual Conference of State Ministers**' on the theme of water conservation through video message.
- The theme of the conference is '**Water Vision @ 2047**'.
- The Ministry of Jal Shakti is organizing the first **All India Water Conference of State Ministers** in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Assam's Highest Civilian Award 'Assam Baibhav'

- The **Assam government** has decided to honor **Dr Tapan Saikia** with the state's highest civilian award, '**Assam Baibhav**', for his distinguished contribution in the field of cancer care in the state.
- Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced the second highest civilian award '**Assam Sourav**' to five people. The award will be given to famous producer **Krishna Roy**, football player **Gilbertson Sangma**, lawn ball player **Nayanmoni Saikia**, scientist **Dr. Binoi Kumar Saikia** and **Dr. Shashidhar Phukan**.

'Eat Right Station'

- The Varanasi Cantonment Railway Station of the Indian Railways has been awarded the '**Eat Right Station**' certification with a 5-star rating for providing high quality nutritious food to passengers.
- This certification is provided by **FSSAI** to railway stations for following standard food storage and hygiene practices.
- The 5-star rating indicates full compliance by the station in providing safe and hygienic food to the passengers.
- Other railway stations with star certification include **Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Station (Delhi)**; **Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Mumbai)**; **Mumbai Central Railway Station, (Mumbai)**; **Vadodara Railway Station, Chandigarh Railway Station** and **Bhopal Railway Station** are included.

"Hydrogen for Heritage" scheme

- Beginning in the new year **2023**, the **Indian Railways** aims to modernize its heritage lines with the latest technology. To achieve this, the **Ministry of Railways** has announced plans to introduce hydrogen-powered trains on its heritage lines in the second half of the year.

- The scheme, named "**Hydrogen for Heritage**", aims not only to update the appearance and operation of trains, but also to promote the use of green energy in public transport.

Eight heritage routes have been identified for the introduction of these trains –

- Matheran Hill Railway of Central Railway (Length: 19.97 km)
- Darjeeling Himalayan Railway of North Frontier Railway (Length: 88.6 km)

Kalka Shimla Railway (Length: 96.5 km)

- Kangra Valley Railway of Northern Railway (Length: 164 km)
- Bilimora Waghai Route of Western Railway (Length: 62.7 km)
- Mhow Patalpani Route of Western Railway (Length: 58 km)
- Nilgiri Mountain Route Southern Railway (Length: 46 km)
- Marwar Deogarh Madaria Route of North Western Railway (Length: 52 km).

'The Resistance Front-TRF'

- The Central Government has declared '**The Resistance Front-TRF**' a terrorist organization under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act-UAPA**.
- The Resistance Front came into existence in **2019** as a proxy faction of the outlawed terrorist organization Lashkar-e-Taiba.
- This organization is involved in spreading terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir, recruiting terrorists, infiltrating them and smuggling arms and drugs from Pakistan.

One liner current affairs

- **Himachal Pradesh** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu launched the '**Chief Minister Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh**' on 1 January 2023 with an outlay of Rs 101 crore.
- The **Election Commission of India** has made **Bihar's folk singer Maithili Thakur** its state icon. Earlier in the year 2019, **Maithili** and her two brothers were made the brand ambassadors of Madhubani by the Election Commission.
- The **Uttarakhand government** has decided to abolish the revenue police system in the state. The **Pushkar Singh Dhami** government has also announced to bring revenue villages under regular policing. Uttarakhand is the **only state** in the country, where even today the employees and officers of the Revenue Department like **Patwari, Lekhpal, Kanungo and Naib Tehsildar** etc. do the work of the police.
- The **36th meeting** on important issues between **India** and **France** began in **New Delhi**. In this, the Indian delegation was led by **NSA 'Ajit Doval'** and the French delegation was led by Emmanuel Bon, diplomatic advisor to French President Emmanuel Macron.

- The Central Government has banned all tourism activities in the holy place of **Jainism 'Sammed Shikharji'** in Jharkhand.
- In **Himachal Pradesh**, senior Congress leader and five-time MLA Kuldeep Singh Pathania was unanimously elected as the speaker of the state assembly.
- Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai inaugurated the '**3rd National Conference of Heads of Investigative Agencies**' in Jaipur. The two-day conference has been organized by the '**Bureau of Police Research and Development**'.
- France has announced the provision of **AMX-10 RC lightly armed combat vehicles** to **Ukraine** in its conflict with **Russia**.
- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Shri Purshottam Rupala inaugurated **29 Mobile Veterinary Units** and Centralized Call Center in **Thiruvananthapuram**, a remarkable initiative for the benefit of the livestock farmers of Kerala.
- **China** has become the **first country in Asia** and the **second country** in the world to launch hydrogen-powered urban trains. Germany was the first country in the world to introduce **hydrogen-powered trains** in September 2022.
- Last month, **141 species of birds** were identified in **Lee National Park (Kerala)** out of which 17 were new species of birds. A total of 175 species of birds have been observed in **Silent Valley**.
- **Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay** section (762 km) has become the longest fully automatic block signaling section of Indian Railways in **Ghaziabad**.
- Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the "**National Center for Genome Editing and Training**" at **National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute Mohali, Punjab**.
- In Manipur, the **Gaan-Ngai festival** of the **Zeliangrong community** was celebrated on January 4, 2023. **Gan Ngai festival** is one of the major festivals of Manipur which is celebrated every year after the harvesting of crops.
- According to the Government of **India's Public Enterprises Survey 2021-22**, **ONGC** was the **highest profit making company** among the **Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)** in **2021-22**. After **ONGC**, the other CPSEs making the highest profit are **Indian Oil Corporation, Power Grid, NTPC and SAIL**.
- 50 electric buses were launched in **Delhi** by the government on 3 January 2022 with the support of the **Ministry of Heavy Industry's FAME India Phase II** scheme.
- A new product **Jan Aushadhi Special Chyawanprash** was launched in **New Delhi** under **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana**.

17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas 2023

- The **17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** was organized in Indore from **08-10 January 2023** in partnership with the **Government of Madhya Pradesh**.
- The theme of the conference is "**Pravasis: Reliable Partners in India's Progress in the Age of Amrit**".
- Her Excellency Ms. Zaneta Mascarenhas, Member of Parliament of Australia will be the Guest of Honor on the **Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas**.
- Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate the PBD Conference on 09 January 2023 and H.E. Dr. Mohamed Irfan Ali, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana as the Chief Guest and H.E. Mr. Chandrikaprasad Santokhi, Hon'ble President of the Republic of Suriname as the Special Guest of Honor.

Deployment of women peacekeepers in UN mission

- **India** has once again decided to increase the deployment of women peacekeepers in the **United Nations Mission**.
- India's Permanent Representative to the **UN Ruchira Kamboj** tweeted that India is deploying an all-women contingent of peacekeepers as part of its battalion at the **UN Mission in the sensitive region of Abyei, Sudan**.
- **India's Permanent Mission to the United Nations** said this will be India's largest single platoon of women peacekeepers in a **UN mission** since the first all-women contingent was deployed in **Liberia** in **2007**.
- As of October 31 last year, **India** is the **second largest troop contributor** to **UN peacekeeping missions** after **Bangladesh**. **India** has sent 5,5887 soldiers and personnel in a total of **12 missions**.

IIJS Signature 2023

- **Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council** organized the first design centric jewelry exhibition of the calendar **year 2023** – India International Jewellery Exhibition (IIJS SIGNATURE) and Bharat Gems and Jewellery Machinery Expo (IGJME) from 5-9 January 2023 at Bombay Exhibition Center in **Mumbai**.
- The **Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC)** is one of the many export promotion councils initiated by the Government of India, set up by the **Ministry of Commerce**, Government of India in 1966, to give thrust to the country's exports. Since **1998 GJEPC** has been given autonomous status.

- With its headquarters in **Mumbai**, GJEPC has regional offices in **New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Surat** and **Jaipur**, all of which are **major centers** for the industry.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah's visit to Manipur

- Shri Amit Shah inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of **21 development projects** worth about Rs 1311 crore in Moirang, Manipur.
- These include **Churachandpur Medical College** built at a cost of Rs 46 crore, Marging Polo Statue built at a cost of Rs 39 crore, Manipur Olympian Park at Sangaitel, Manipur Exhibition Center at Imphal-East, District Youth Skilling and Employment Center in 5 districts of the state, Fruit Preservation Factory, Neelakuthi etc.
- Shri Amit Shah also unveiled the **165 feet tall tricolor** at the **historic Azad Hind Fauj Headquarters** at Moirang, which is the tallest national flag in the entire **Northeast**.

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi presided over the '**2nd National Conference of Chief Secretaries**' in **New Delhi**. The first such conference was held in **Dharamshala** last year.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the world class hockey stadium in **Rourkela**. The stadium is named after the famous freedom fighter **Bhagwan Birsa Munda**.
- The world's first '**Palm Leaf Manuscript Museum**' has recently been opened in **Thiruvananthapuram**, the capital of **Kerala**, which has enriched the state culturally and educationally.
- '**Imoinu Day**' is celebrated in **Manipur** as a part of '**Meitei cultural rituals**'. The traditional festival of Imoinu Day is celebrated on the 12th day of the Meitei lunar month of Waching.
- In view of the West Bengal Panchayat elections to be held this year, the ruling TMC has started a new campaign. This campaign has been named '**Didir Suraksha Kavach**'.
- Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virender Kumar inaugurated a two-day workshop on '**Issues related to Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities**' in **Panaji, Goa**. The workshop has been organized in Panaji as a part of the country's first-of-its-kind inclusive festival '**Purple Fest: Celebrating Diversity**'.
- The **decennial census**, a comprehensive survey conducted by the Indian government every 10 years, has been postponed until at least 30 September.
- 6-time Grand Slam winner '**Sania Mirza**' announced her retirement from tennis. She said in an interview that the WTA 1000 event in Dubai would be her last tournament.

Digital India Awards - 2022

- The President Smt. Draupadi Murmu gave away the awards to the winners of the **7th edition of Digital India Awards in New Delhi**.
- These awards are given in seven categories. The objective of these awards is to inspire-encourage government organizations as well as start-ups and grassroots digital initiatives.
- **e-NAM**, a flagship initiative of the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**, has won the **Platinum Award in the Digital Citizen Empowerment category** at the **Digital India Awards 2022**.
- **e-NAM** is a digital platform integrating **1260 APMC mandis** across 22 states and 3 union territories. The '**e-NAM portal**' was launched by the central government in **2016**.

World Habitat Awards 2023

- **Odisha's 'Jaga Mission'** is one of the winners of the **World Habitat Awards 2023**.
- The award is presented by World Habitat and is organized in partnership with **UN-Habitat**.
- World Habitat is a charity organization recognized by the **United Nations Department of Public Information**.
- **Jaga Mission** is the **largest land tenure and slum upgradation scheme** in **Odisha** and one of the largest in the world.
- Launched in the **year 2017**, the scheme aims to make **Odisha** the first slum-free state of India.

Phytorid technology

- Municipal Corporation of Tirupati (MCT), **Andhra Pradesh** is all set to take a significant step in water treatment with the country's largest liquid waste treatment plant using **Phytorid technology**.
- The **Phytorid technology** has been developed by the **National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI)** of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
- **NEERI** is an institute established and funded by the Government of India in the year **1958** at Nagpur. It aims at innovation and research in the field of environment and engineering.

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated the people of Manipur on the opening of **'Kangla Nongpok Thong'**. It is a venue for sightseeing and cultural festivals on the east bank of the **Imphal River**, developed by Imphal Smart City Ltd.
- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will visit Kota in Rajasthan. She will participate in the **'Credit Outreach Program'** and interact with the students undergoing coaching.
- The **'International Kite Festival'** is starting from 8 January in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Governor Acharya Devvrat will inaugurate the festival at the **Sabarmati Riverfront**. It is being organized by Gujarat Tourism in line with the **G-20 theme 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'**.
- **India and Japan** are gearing up for the **Indian Air Force and Japan Air Self Defense Force joint military exercise 'Veer Guardian-2023'** from 12th of this month at **Hyakuri Military Airport in Japan**.
- Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai released the logo and mascot of the **National Youth Festival** being held in **Hubli and Dharwad in Karnataka** from 12th to 16th of this month. The theme of the 26th Youth Festival is - **Developed Youth - Developed India**.
- **Kevin McCarthy**, the leader of the Republican Party in America, has become the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the lower house of the Parliament.
- **'Astro Tourism - A Sky Gazing Event'** at **India Gate in Delhi** has been organized by the **National Council of Science Museums** in association with the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library.
- A musical performance and tribal dance festival **'Adi Shaurya - Parv Parakram Ka'** by the Armed Forces as part of the **Republic Day celebrations 2023** and to commemorate the **126th birth anniversary** of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose (celebrated as Parakram Divas) 23 and will be held on January 24, 2023 at the **Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi**.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilizers, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has said that the **country's first coal gasification** based bottom-line fertilizer plant in **Odisha** will be ready by October next year.
- The Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Education organized **'Dhara' on Music and Drama Tradition** in collaboration with **Brihat, Prachyam and Sangam Talks** at **SASTRA (Deemed University)** in **Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu** on January 5-6, 2023. **'Dhara'** is a series of conferences under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to create awareness, preserve and promote multiple domains of the Indian knowledge system.
- The members of the **All India Gems and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC)** have elected Sanyam Mehra as the chairman of the industry body and Rajesh Rokde as its vice-chairman

for a period of two years (2023-24).

- The Governor of Madhya Pradesh Shri Mangubhai Patel released a medical book '**Human Anatomy**' at the function which is a very useful book for medical students of all courses related to medical education written by **Dr. AK Dwivedi** .
- **Tamil Nadu** Governor **RN Ravi** inaugurated '**Octave 2023**'.
- The US has approved the use of the world's first vaccine for bees. It was created to prevent deaths from American foulbrood disease.
- A new record has been created by providing more than 75 thousand approvals through the '**National Single Window System Portal**' for various approvals of the Center, States and Union Territories.
- The Central Government has declared the **People's Anti-Fascist-Front of Jammu and Kashmir- PAFF** and all its major organizations on terror charges under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act.

8 JAN

MV Ganga Vilas

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off **MV Ganga Vilas**, the **world's largest river cruise**, at **Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh** on January 13.
- The cruise will cover a distance of more than **3200 kms** across five states of India and **27 rivers of Bangladesh**.
- The cruise will visit **50 tourist destinations during its 51-day journey**. These include world heritage sites, national parks, river basins and major cities.
- These cities are **Patna in Bihar, Sahibganj in Jharkhand, Kolkata in West Bengal, Dhaka in Bangladesh and Guwahati in Assam**.
- **MV Ganga Vilas Cruise** is **62 meters long and 12 meters wide**. It has three decks and 18 suites, which can accommodate 36 tourists.
- The maiden voyage of MV Ganga Vilas carrying 32 tourists from Switzerland will travel from **Varanasi to Dibrugarh**. The cruise's expected date of arrival at Dibrugarh is March 1, 2023.

Village Defense Committee

- **Upper Dangri village** of Jammu and Kashmir will get a **Village Defense Committee**.
- The VDC was first formed in the mid-1990s as a force multiplier against terrorist attacks in the erstwhile **Doda district** (now Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban districts).

- VDCs have now been renamed as **Village Defense Guards (VDG)**.
- The new plan to set up VDGs in sensitive areas of Jammu and Kashmir was approved by the **Union Home Ministry** in March last year.

Best Police Unit

- The '**Jalna District Police**' and the '**Nagpur City Police**' in **Maharashtra** have won the 'Best Police Unit' award for 2021.
- **Jalna Police** has got the award on Class A and Nagpur Police on Class B basis.
- According to a police circular, police units with less than 6,100 Indian Penal Code cases are placed in 'Category A', while police units with more than 6,100 IPC cases are placed in 'Category B'.

ASI-protected monument

- In the information given by the **Union Ministry of Culture**, it has been said that out of **3,693 Centrally Protected Monuments** in the country, 50 monuments are missing.
- The missing monuments include **11 monuments in Uttar Pradesh**. Along with this, two monuments each have been reported missing in Delhi and Haryana.
- According to the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)**, **14** of these monuments have been lost due to rapid urbanization, while 12 are submerged by reservoirs or dams. The locations of the remaining **24** monuments are untraceable.

Keshari Nath Tripathi

- Former Bengal Governor and senior BJP leader and former Speaker of the former **Legislative Assembly Pandit Keshari Nath Tripathi** passed away. He was 88 years old.
- Along with being a senior advocate of the Allahabad High Court, he also held the post of Speaker of the UP Legislative Assembly for many years. He was the **Speaker of the UP Legislative Assembly thrice**.
- **Pandit Kesrinath Tripathi** was the Governor of West Bengal from 2014 to 2019, during which he was also given the additional charge of the states of Bihar, Meghalaya and Mizoram.

One liner current affairs

- **Chadar trek** has been initiated on the snow covered **Zaskar river** in **Ladakh**. With the opening of this track, winter tourism has started in Ladakh.

- **Joshimath** has been declared a disaster prone area in **Uttarakhand**. Due to land subsidence in Joshimath city, cracks have appeared in many houses recently.
- **IRCON International Limited** started the restoration work of Sri Lanka's Northern Railway with the Indian Line of Credit.
- In **Gujarat**, the world record for flying the highest number of kites on the very first day of the **International Kite Festival** entered the Guinness Book.
- The first meeting of the **Working Group on G-20 Financial Inclusion Indicators** will begin in Kolkata.
- The '**Prime Minister's National Apprenticeship Fair**' organized by the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** will be organized in 242 districts of the country.
- According to a report by '**Nikkei Asia**', **India** has overtaken **Japan** in vehicle sales in the **year 2022** and has become the **third largest** auto market in the world. **China** is at the top of this list, while America is in second place.
- A new book **Revolutionaries: The Other Story of how India Won its Freedom** by economist, member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, and author Sanjeev Sanyal is out in the market.
- The Reserve Bank of India has given its approval to **SBI Funds Management Limited** to acquire up to **9.99%** stake in Equitas Small Finance Bank through the schemes of **SBI Mutual Fund**.
- In terms of employment, the cities of South India are better for women. In this case **Chennai** is at number 1. After this **Pune, Bangalore, Hyderabad** and **Mumbai** are in the list. This figure has come out in a report of **Avtar**.
- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the three-day long '**Eastern Krishi Kumbh-2023**' in **Meghalaya**.
- The Union Home Ministry has declared Dr. Asif Maqbool Dar, associated with the terrorist organization Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, as a terrorist under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967. He is a resident of Jammu and Kashmir and is currently in Saudi Arabia.
- India's squash player '**Anahat Singh**' has won the **girls' Under-15** title at the prestigious British Junior Open tournament in Birmingham. 14-year-old Anahat Singh defeated Egypt's Sohela Hazem 3-1 in the final.
- Two-time former champion **Naomi Osaka** of Japan has withdrawn from the first '**Grand Slam Australia Open**' tennis tournament of the year.
- **Suryakumar Yadav T-Twenty International Cricket** has become the fastest player to score 1500 runs in **T-20 International cricket**. He achieved this feat in 843 balls.

- **Talon Griekspoor** of the Netherlands has won the singles title at the Maharashtra Open tennis tournament in Pune. In the final, Griekspoor defeated Benjamin Bonzi of France 4-6, 7-5, 6-3.
- **Formula E** race was organized in India for the first time on **11 February 2023**. Hyderabad will host the race.

9 JAN

17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the **17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Indore, Madhya Pradesh**.
- The Prime Minister released a commemorative postage stamp '**Go Safe, Go Trained**' and also inaugurated the first-ever digital PBD exhibition on the theme '**Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav - Contribution of Overseas Indians to Indian Freedom Struggle**'.
- Overseas Indians from around 70 countries around the world are participating in this conference organized between 8th and 10th January.

National Science Day 2023

- Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh released the theme of National Science Day 2023 at a function in **New Delhi**.
- The theme of this year's National Science Day is **Global Science for Global Prosperity**.
- National Science Day, It is celebrated every year on **28 February** to commemorate the discovery of the Raman Effect by India's physicist **Sir C.V.Raman**.

Pension to MGNREGA workers by Kerala

- In a first of its kind initiative, the Kerala government has started a Welfare Fund Board for workers registered under MGNREGA and '**Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme**'.
- On attaining the age of 60 years, he will be provided a monthly pension from the board.
- As per the norms, any worker (age 18-55) can take membership of the Nidhi Board. He has to pay a monthly premium amount (fixed at Rs.50) till the age of 55 years.

"UP Global City" campaign

- The **Uttar Pradesh** government has launched a **100-day "UP Global City"** campaign ahead of the '**Global Investors Summit**' and **G-20 Summit**.

- The campaign aims to bring urban areas in the state up to global standards, with a focus on improving urban amenities, air quality, cleanliness and beautification as well as proper waste disposal.
- The campaign was launched by the **state's Urban Development and Energy Minister Arvind Kumar Sharma**.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on **January 9** to take pride in the contribution of the Indian diaspora in the development of the country.
- This time the **17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** convention is being organized on 9th January in Indore, **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The theme of the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is "**Pravasis: Reliable Partners in India's Progress in the Age of Amrit Kaal**".
- Mahatma Gandhi returned home from South Africa on **January 9, 1915**, so the date of January 9 was chosen to celebrate Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.
- On January 8, 2002, the then Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee announced to celebrate Pravasi Bharatiya Divas on a large scale on January 9. Then in 2003 Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was celebrated for the first time.

One liner current affairs

- External Affairs Minister Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar held a bilateral meeting with Panama's Foreign Minister **Janaina Tevane Mencomo** in Indore.
- The '**Aero India Show**' will be held from 13 to 17 February 2023 to showcase equipment from defense companies around the world. This air show, which will be held at an interval of two years, will be organized at the '**Yelahanka Air Force Station**' in **Bengaluru**.
- Union Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Anurag Singh Thakur laid the foundation stone of '**Indoor Stadium**' at '**Indira Gandhi Stadium**' in **Chittorgarh**, Rajasthan.
- To promote social and emotional learning, the state government of **Tripura** has launched a special education program called "**Saharsh**". Its objective is to enable children to study with joy and enthusiasm.
- To tackle the problem of water contamination and increase access to clean and potable water, the **Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER)**, **Pune** has come up with a Macro/Microporous Ionic Biological Framework - iVOFm for purifying polluted water.
- Chief Justice of India '**D Y Chandrachud**' has been selected for the "**Award for Global**

Leadership" by the **Harvard Law School Center** for his lifetime service to the legal profession in the country and around the world.

- India's foreign exchange reserves increased by \$44 million to \$562.85 billion in the week ended December 30, 2022, according to the latest data from the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**. However, the data showed that during the year 2022, India's foreign exchange reserves declined by \$70.1 billion.
- **'Kerala'** has become the **first state** in the country where now the banking sector has gone completely **digital**.
- **Taiwan** has passed new rules that allow local chip firms to turn **25%** of their annual research and development spending into tax credits, part of efforts to keep state-of-the-art semiconductor technologies in the country and maintain the island's technology leadership.
- The **Ministry of Home Affairs** has declared Arshdeep Singh Gill alias Dalla, affiliated with the **Khalistan Tiger Force**, as a terrorist under the **Unlawful Activities Prevention Act**.

10 JAN

Aspirational Block Program

- The Prime Minister has launched the **government's Aspirational Block Program (ABP)**, which aims to improve the performance of backward blocks on various development parameters.
- The **Aspirational Block Program** is on the lines of the Aspirational District Program which was launched in **2018** and covers **112 districts** across the country.
- ABP was announced by Finance Minister Nirmal Sitharaman in her **2022-23 budget** speech as an extension of the **Aspirational Districts Programme**.

World Hindi Day

- World Hindi Day is celebrated every year on **10 January** with the aim of promoting **Hindi language**. **National Hindi Day** is celebrated annually on **14 September**, which mainly focuses on the recognition of Hindi language in India.
- The day was celebrated for the first time in the **year 2006** in the context of commemorating the anniversary of the **First World Hindi Conference** held in **Nagpur** on **January 10, 1975**.
- It marks the day when Hindi was spoken for the first time in the United Nations General Assembly in the **year 1949**.

- In the year 2018, the **World Hindi Secretariat building** was inaugurated in **Port Louis, Mauritius**.

One liner current affairs

- The Union Home Minister inaugurated the '**Jai Hind-Naya Prakash Aur Dhvani Program / Light and Sound Show**' at **Red Fort** on January 10, 2023 in Delhi. This program is in Hindi and English language.
- The governments of India and the UK celebrated **Pravasi Bharatiya Divas** on **January 9, 2023**, by launching the **Young Professionals Scheme**, which will allow 3,000 degree-holding nationals between the ages of 18 and 30 to live and work in each other's countries for a period of two years. The plan was announced at the **G20 summit** in **Bali** in November.
- In exercise of the power conferred by **Article 223** of the Constitution of India, the President has appointed **Justice Nongamikapam Kotiswar Singh**, the senior-most Deputy Judge of the Gauhati High Court, to perform the duties of the Chief Justice of the High Court.
- The **14th edition of the World Spices Congress (WSC)** will be held in Mumbai from 16 to 18 February 2023.
- **DRDO** successfully test-fired short-range ballistic missile '**Prithvi-II**' from the **Chandipur Integrated Test Range** in Odisha.
- The **75th Army Day** celebrations will be held in **Bengaluru** on January 15. For the first time the event is being organized outside the national capital. **Field Marshal 'KM Cariappa'** took over the command of the Indian Army in 1949 from **General 'Sir Francis Roy Butcher'**.
- On the occasion of **World Hindi Day**, the world's biggest **Sarvabhasha Kavi Sammelan-2023** was organized at the **Rang Bhawan Auditorium of All India Radio**. This conference organized by All India Radio was inaugurated by **Dr. Vasudha Gupta, Director General All India Radio**.
- The superhit song **Naatu Naatu** from the Indian film '**RRR**' has won the prestigious '**Golden Globe Award**' for Best Original Song. **MM Keeravani** has composed the music of this superhit film song by film director **SS Rajamouli**. Singers of this song are- **Kala Bhairava & Rahul Sipligunj**.
- **Payments bank Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL)** has appointed **Surinder Chawla** as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- The **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** will organize **Startup India Innovation Week** from January 10 to January 16, 2023.
- The first education group meeting of **G-20 countries** will be held in **Chennai** from January 31 to February 2.

- **State-owned oil marketing company Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)** announced the launch of **Low Smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO)** for the Indian Army in Jammu.
- Former Chief Justice of India and Rajya Sabha member **Ranjan Gogoi** has released a diary of Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma. The name of this diary is '**Chief Minister's Diary No. 1**', it has been written by the CM of Assam Himanta Biswa Sarma himself.
- Before the Australian Open, **Novak Djokovic** had won the 92nd tour title of his career. He defeated Sebastian Korda of America in the final of the **Adelaide International Title**.
- South African all-rounder **Dwaine Pretorius** has retired from international cricket with immediate effect.

11 JAN

83rd Conference of All India Presiding Officers

- Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman **Jagdeep Dhankhar** inaugurated the two-day Presiding Officers' Conference in Jaipur.
- The Governor of Rajasthan '**Kalraj Mishra**' will be the chief guest for the closing ceremony.
- The **83rd Conference of All India Presiding Officers** is being held in Rajasthan after 11 years. Earlier this conference was held in Rajasthan in the year 2011.

Web Portal for 'RAMP'

- In an effort to enhance the implementation capacity and coverage of micro, small and medium enterprises (**MSMEs**) in the country, **MSMEs** minister Narayan Rane recently launched the Rs 6,062.45 crore **World Bank-assisted central government scheme Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) web portal**.
- According to a **World Bank** statement, the scheme was originally announced in 2020 to support Covid-affected MSMEs in the country and aims to improve the performance of 5.55 lakh MSMEs.
- The scheme, which is supported by both the **World Bank** and the **Government of India**, aims to improve the **performance of MSMEs** in the country by supporting institutional and policy reforms, research studies and technology upgradation.

Preservation of Paigah Tombs

- The **US** will provide financial assistance of US\$250,000 (through the US Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation) for the conservation and restoration of **6 Paigah tombs built in the 18th-19th centuries in Hyderabad**.
- The **Aga Khan Trust for Culture** will implement the project.
- The **Paigah Tomb (or Tomb Shams al-Umra)** is a mausoleum belonging to the nobility of the Paigah family who served the **Nizam of Hyderabad (Asaf Jahi dynasty)**.
- The mausoleums made of lime, mortar and marble are among the finest examples of Indo-Islamic architecture (a mix of Asaf Jahi and Rajputana styles).

CPCB Air Quality Data Analysis - 2022

- According to the **CPCB air quality data analysis** by the **National Clean Air Program in the year 2022**, **b** was the top polluted city with an annual average concentration (PM 2.5) of 99.7 ug/m³.
- The analysis found that most of the cities in the list of **top 10 most polluted cities** for the year 2022 are from the Indo-Gangetic plain; for PM 2.5 (**Delhi, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Patna, Muzaffarpur, Noida, Meerut, Gobindgarh, Gaya and Jodhpur**) and PM 10 (**Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Delhi, Noida, Patna, Meerut, Muzaffarpur, Durgapur, Jodhpur and Aurangabad**).
- **Srinagar and Kohima** were jointly ranked as the **cleanest city** in India in the **year 2022**.
- India's current annual average safe limits for PM 2.5 and PM 10 are 40 ug/m³ and 60 ug/m³.

Blackbuck

- **Blackbuck in India** have successfully adapted themselves despite natural and human-caused threats to their existence, according to a new study by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).
- Despite the massive reduction in grasslands across India, statistics show that the number of blackbuck has increased in recent years.
- The scientific name of blackbuck is '**Antelope cervicapra**', which is also known as '**Indian antelope**'. It is a **species of antelope originally endemic to India and Nepal**.
- They are widely found in **Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and other regions (entire peninsular India)**.
- These are most commonly found in **grasslands**, that is, it is considered a symbol of grasslands.
- The blackbuck is a **diurnal antelope**, meaning it is mainly active during the day.

36th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival

- The **University of Kerala** bagged the '**Overall Championship**' at the **36th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival Padma Tarang** at **Sri Padmavati Mahila Vishwavidyalaya (SPMVV)** in **Tirupati**. **Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam** was the runner up.
- Championships were awarded in each of the **five** categories.
 - **Music:** **MGU Kottayam**
 - **Dance:** **Sri Shankaracharya Sanskrit University**
 - **Fine Arts:** **Yogi Vemana University**
 - **Theater:** **University of Kerala**
 - **Literary Programs:** **University of Kerala**

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the **Madhya Pradesh Global Investors Summit (6th Global Investors Summit)** held in **Indore, Madhya Pradesh** through a video message.
- The **Global Tamil Angels** platform was launched at the "**Global Startup Investors Summit**", which was co-organized by **Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission** and **FeTNA International Tamil Entrepreneur Network**.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah released the book **Revolutionaries - The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom** at a function in New Delhi. The author of the book is **Sanjeev Sanyal**, an economist and a member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council.
- Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya released the book **Braving a Viral Storm: India's COVID-19 Vaccine Story in New Delhi**. The co-authors of the book are **Ashish Chandorkar** and **Suraj Sudhir**.
- Center has named the **new Integrated Food Security Scheme** as **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana**. The implementation of the new scheme has started from January 1 this year.
- **IIT. Madras** director **Professor Kamakoti** has said that **Sarang-2023**, India's biggest festival organized by students, will be organized from January 11 to January 15.
- The **French government** has announced to increase the retirement age from **62** years to **64** years by the year 2030.
- The **Copernicus Climate Change Service-C3S** of the **European Union** has said that the **year 2022** was also the **fifth warmest year** in the world.
- **US air traffic** is returning to normal after a computer glitch grounded domestic flights for several hours. The White House said that no evidence of a cyber attack has been found.

- The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**, Government of India is celebrating **Road Safety Week** from 11 to 17 January 2023 under "**Swachhta Pakhwada**".
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been given to rename of the **National Center for Drinking Water, Sanitation and Quality** at Joka, Kolkata as '**Dr. 'Syama Prasad Mookerjee National Institute of Water and Sanitation**'.
- Recently the **Guwahati Wildlife Division of the Assam Forest Department** conducted the second, bird species census after February 2022 at the '**Deepor Beel Wetland**', the only **Ramsar site in Assam**.
- **Earth's protective ozone layer** is slowly but significantly recovering, which will completely cover the hole over the **Antarctic** in about 43 years, according to a new United Nations report.
- Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel celebrated '**Cherchera**' festival at Dudhadhari Math in Raipur, **Chhattisgarh**. This festival of Chhattisgarh is celebrated on the full moon night of the Hindu calendar month of '**Paush**'.
- The **Defense Acquisition Council** (chaired by the Defense Minister) gave the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for procurement of the Very Short Range Air Defense System/VSHORAD (Infrared Homing) Missile System being designed and developed by **DRDO**.
- **iDEX** has signed its **50th Sprint contract** with **Sagar Defense for Autonomous Weaponized Boat Swarms for the Indian Navy**.
- The FIH Men's Hockey World Cup began at the Barabati Stadium in **Cuttack, Odisha**.
- Wales' legendary football player '**Gareth Bale**' recently announced his retirement.
- **Dr Tehamton E Udwadia**, known as the **father** of laparoscopic surgery in India, passed away.

12 JAN

National Youth Festival

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the **26th National Youth Festival** in **Hubli, Karnataka**.
- This program is being organized to honor and cherish the ideals, teachings and contributions of **Swami Vivekananda on National Youth Day**, which is celebrated on his birth anniversary.
- The theme of this festival is '**Developed Youth - Developed India**'.

Henley Passport Index 2023

- **Henley Passport Index** has released a new ranking. This includes 199 passports. But many countries are on the same rank, so the ranking has been released till 109.
- India was at number **87** last year. But this time its ranking has improved and it is at number **85**.
- Indian passport allows travel to **59** countries visa free or visa on arrival.
- According to its report, **Japan's passport is the most powerful in the world**. People holding this passport can travel to 193 countries through visa free or visa on arrival.
- According to the new ranking, Pakistan (106) has the fourth worst passport in the world. Below Pakistan are Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Here are the top **5 strongest passports** in the world -
 - Japan (193 Destinations)
 - Singapore, South Korea (192 Destinations)
 - Germany, Spain (190 Destinations)
 - Finland, Italy, Luxembourg (189 Destinations)
 - Austria, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden (188 Destinations)

Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)

- Neeru Yadav aka '**Hockey Wali Sarpanch**' has started a new initiative to support the farmers of Lambi Ahir village.
- Yadav and **NABARD** have signed an agreement to start **Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)** with the help of **SIIRD** (Society of Indian Institute of Rural Development).
- FPO is a company which was formally established by the farmers.
- The **15th FPO** of this type offered by **NABARD** in **Rajasthan** is "**Sachhi Saheli Mahila Agro Producer Company Limited**", where Yadav is on the board of directors of the company.

Swami Vivekananda

- The **160th birth anniversary** of Swami Vivekananda was celebrated as National Youth Day across the country. Every year **12 January** is celebrated as **National Youth Day** to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.
- It was announced by the Government of India in **1984**. Its motto for the **year 2023** is '**Developed Youth-Developed India**'.
- Swami Vivekananda was a key figure in introducing the Hindu philosophies of **Vedanta** and **Yoga** to the Western world; he is credited with raising Hinduism to the status of a major world religion in the late 19th century.

- He was a chief disciple of the **19th-century mystic saint Ramakrishna Paramahansa** and founded the **Ramakrishna Mission** in **1897**.

One liner current affairs

- **FSSAI** has notified comprehensive regulatory standards for **Basmati rice** for the **first** time. As per these standards, basmati rice should have natural aroma and should be free from artificial colors, polishing agents and artificial fragrances.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari formally inaugurated the **16th edition** of the Auto Expo. It has been organized at two places - **Auto Expo Component Show at Pragati Maidan** in the capital New Delhi and Auto Expo Motor Show at Greater Noida.
- **India** is launching an expedition to explore resources like minerals under the **Samudrayan mission**. In this, three people will go to a depth of 6 thousand meters in the sea and do research. Earth Sciences Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said that the **submarine 'Matsya 6000'** will take three people to sea.
- Over a thousand Indian peacekeepers serving in the **United Nations Mission in South Sudan** have been awarded the **United Nations Medal for Exceptional Service**.
- **Russia** will send a new spacecraft to bring three crew members of the **International Space Station back to Earth**. These members are stranded in space due to the damage of the vehicle. Last month, there was a coolant leak in the **Soyuz MS-22 vehicle**.
- The **first Health Working Group** meeting under the **G20 chairmanship of India** will be held in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala** from January 18 to 20.
- On the occasion of **World Hindi Day**, the High Commission of India signed an MoU to establish a **Hindi Chair at Sabaragamuwa University, Sri Lanka**.
- According to data from the **Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE)**, **Gujarat** has outpaced all other Indian states in attracting new investments from corporations, both domestic and foreign. New investments worth Rs 3.98 trillion were announced for **Gujarat** during the Financial Year (FY) 2022, with Rajasthan emerging as the second most attractive destination for investment in India in FY 2022.
- '**Ayyanur Ammanur**' is a festival celebrated by the **Kota tribe** of the Nilgiris. The Kota tribe is a tribe living in the Nilgiri Hills of the Indian state of **Tamil Nadu**. They are also called '**Kov**' and '**Kotar**'.
- The latest **Ebola epidemic** (the worst in 2 decades) in **Uganda** has been declared over by the **WHO**.

- **Beypore** and **Kumarakom** are two tourist destinations that **Kerala** has included in the Detailed Project Report (DPR) to be submitted to the Center for Phase-II of the Swadesh Darshan project. Beypore has historical significance as a port city. It is world famous for its Beypore Uru (boat) and beautiful beach.
- Recently a team of butterfly observers and researchers discovered a rare butterfly species **White Tuff** in **Kannur, Kerala**.
- **Ted Royal Butterfly**, which was first seen in the year 2017 at **Agasthyakoodam** and in the year 2018 at **Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- According to the recently launched **Asian Waterfowl Census, 2023** (recommended period 7-22 January for AWC), the **Godavari estuary** in **Andhra Pradesh** has become a major and protected habitat for the Indian skimmer (*Rynchops albicollis*). About 250 Indian skimmers were sighted in the **Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- **Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd., Ranchi** (A Consultative Subsidiary Company of Coal India Ltd.) has invented a system and method for generation and control of fugitive dust and has been granted a patent in December, 2022 (Patent No. 416055).
- Union Minister **Sarbananda Sonowal** along with Tripura Chief Minister **Manik Saha** inaugurated the '**School of Logistics, Waterways and Communication**' in **Agartala** which will help businessmen and entrepreneurs of the North Eastern region in studies, research, training etc.
- **Nutrition company Herbalife Nutrition India Pvt Ltd** is partnering with international women cricketer **Smriti Mandhana** as the '**Nutrition Sponsor**'.
- **India's fastest payment app PayRup** launched in India. **PayRup** is built with the best of Web 3.0 technology.
- Film actress, director and screenwriter **Aparna Sen** was presented with the '**Lifetime Achievement Award**' at the five-day **Jaipur International Film Festival**.
- The '**Khelo India Senior Women's National Kho Kho League**' will be held from January 10 to 13 at **Chandigarh University, Punjab**.
- Renowned poet and Jnanpith Awardee Kashmir's first writer '**Professor Rahman Rahi**' passed away. Rahi received the **Sahitya Akademi Award** in 1961 for her poetry collection **Navroz-e-Saba**, and the country's highest literary award, the **Jnanpith Award**, in 2007 for her collection **Siyah Rud Zareen Manz** (In Black Drizzle). was awarded.

Voice of Global South Summit

- The Environment Ministers' session was held virtually as part of the two-day **'Voice of Global South Summit'**.
- The theme of the summit was **"Balancing development with an eco-friendly lifestyle"**.
- The session was attended by ministers from fourteen countries of the Global South. All the countries congratulated India for the **G20 chairmanship** and hoped for a positive outcome on topics related to blue economy, circular economy and land degradation.

Global Risks Report 2023

- The **World Economic Forum's annual 'Global Risks Report'** has highlighted the cost of living crisis as the biggest short-term risk, with climate change the biggest long-term threat.
- This year's edition has been produced in association with professional services firm **Marsh McLennan** and **Zurich Insurance Group**.
- Russia's war in Ukraine and the **COVID-19** pandemic have propelled the energy crisis, food shortages and inflation as the most pressing global issues, the report said.

'Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC Tourist Train'

- Indian Railways to run its Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC tourist train **"Shri Ram-Janaki Yatra: Ayodhya to Janakpur"** on a very special journey covering two most important pilgrimage centers of neighboring **India and Nepal, Ayodhya and Janakpur**.
- This tourist train will start from Delhi on February 17, 2023 and this initiative will strengthen the bilateral ties between the two countries and also promote cultural ties between the two countries.
- This tourist train will also include travel to **Nandigram, Sitamarhi, Kashi and Prayagraj** as additional attractions. There will be two nights stay in hotels in Janakpur and Varanasi respectively, while day halts will include travel to Ayodhya, Sitamarhi and Prayagraj towards the destination.

One liner current affairs

- **Union Minister for Labor and Employment, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Shri Bhupendra Yadav** inaugurated the Regional Office of **Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)** in **Alwar district of Rajasthan**.
- The Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology and Skill Development &

Entrepreneurship, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar said that the **Digital India Startup Hub**, through the **Software Technology Park of India**, will set up **India's first Center of Excellence in Online Gaming in Shillong** by March 2023.

- **Uttarakhand Governor Lt Gen (Retd) Gurmeet Singh** has approved a bill providing for **30% horizontal reservation** for domiciled women citizens of the state in public services and posts.
- The **World Bank** has released the '**Global Economic Prospects**' report. According to this report, the global economy is projected to grow by **1.7% in 2023** and **2.7%** in 2024.
- **Vidisha**, an aspirational district in **Madhya Pradesh** has become the first district in India to deploy innovative **5G** use cases proposed by startups on the ground.
- In line with PM Modi's vision to popularize **Khadi**, the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)** is organizing the **National Khadi Festival-2023** in **Bhopal**.
- Following the Telangana High Court order, senior IAS officer **A. Shanti Kumari** was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Telangana. **Shanti Kumari** has become the first woman Chief Secretary of Telangana.
- **Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex**, a member of the British royal family, has released his memoir titled "**Spare**". The book was written with the assistance of American novelist **J.R. Moehringer**.
- **Avani Chaturvedi**, a woman fighter pilot of the Indian Air Force will for the first time be a part of the Indian contingent for an aerial exercise outside the country. These maneuvers are being conducted at the **Hyakuri** air base in Japan.
- **France football team captain Hugo Lloris** has announced his retirement from international football at the age of 36.
- Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** lauded vaccine maker **Serum Institute of India** and its CEO **Adar Poonawalla** for their contribution in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. He was earlier awarded the **Dr. Patangrao Kadam Memorial Award**.
- Former captain of the Indian cricket team **Mahendra Singh Dhoni** released the autobiography '**Anjaan Sakshi**' by eminent technocrat and educationist **Professor KK Abdul Ghaffar**.
- Renowned Indian classical singer '**Pandit Mani Prasad**' has passed away. He was born on 4 November 1930 in **Wardha**, Maharashtra.

14 JAN

Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Scheme

- **82** best agri-entrepreneurs trained under '**Agri-Clinic and Agri-Business (AC&ABC) Scheme**' recently on **National Youth Day** felicitated for their significant contribution through agri-clinic and agri-business services to farmers to be done.
- This scheme is a **mega flagship scheme** of the government, which was launched by the Government of India in April 2002 in collaboration with **NABARD**.
- The scheme is being implemented by the **National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad** through a network of **136 Nodal Training Institutes (NTIS)** spread across **all states** in different states of the country.

Sethusamudram Project

- **Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin** recently introduced a resolution in the state assembly, seeking to revive the **Sethusamudram project**, a proposed shipping canal project in India that would connect the **Gulf of Mannar** and the **Palk Strait**.
- The project, which has been controversial since its inception, was put on hold by the Indian government in 2007.
- The **Sethusamudram project** aims to build a shipping canal through the shallow waters of the **Palk Bay** and the **Gulf of Mannar**, which will reduce the distance and time required for ships to travel between the east and west coasts of India.

LHS 475 B

- **NASA's James Webb Space Telescope**, a next-generation observatory, has confirmed the discovery of its first planet outside our solar system after spending more than a year in the vacuum of space some 15,00,000 km from Earth.
- According to the research team, **LHS 475b** is an **Earth-sized terrestrial planet** but the researchers do not yet know whether the **exoplanet** or the new planet has an atmosphere.
- Scientists reported that the **exoplanet** is located just **41 light-years away from Earth**, in the constellation Octane.

Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP)

- The current interest rate on **Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP)** account deposits is **7.2%** per annum. The revised rate was announced on December 30.
- **Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP)** is a savings scheme available in the post offices of India in the form of certificates. It was first launched in **1988** by **India Post**.

Makar Sankranti

- Recently, the Prime Minister has greeted the people of the country on the occasion of the harvest festivals of **Makar Sankranti, Bhogi, Lohri and Pongal**.
- Makar Sankranti marks the entry of the Sun into Capricorn as it travels on its celestial path.
- The day marks the beginning of summer and marks the beginning of six months of auspicious time, known to Hindus as **Uttarayan** or the rising of the **Sun**.

7th Armed Forces Veterans Day

- The Indian Armed Forces celebrated the **7th Armed Forces Veterans Day** on January 14, 2023.
- **Field Marshal KM Cariappa**, the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, retired on this day in 1953.
- **Armed Forces Veterans Day** has been celebrated since **January 14, 2017**.
- The ceremony was celebrated at nine places while the main function held at **Dehradun** was presided over by Defense Minister Shri Rajnath Singh.

One liner current affairs

- Science and Technology Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched **Geospatial Hackathon** to promote innovation and start-ups in India.
- The **21st edition of Dhaka International Film Festival**, the biggest film festival of **Bangladesh** began in Dhaka.
- As part of the ongoing cooperation between the Coast Guards of Bangladesh and India, two Indian Coast Guard Patrol Vessels (ICGS-Shaurya and ICGS-Rajveer) arrived in **Chattogram**, Bangladesh on a six-day visit.
- In the book '**Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies**', film critic **Shubhra Gupta** engages prominent people including directors **Mira Nair, Vishal Bhardwaj** and **Anurag Basu** in conversation on the actor's art, craft and legacy.
- **Punjabi** is set to become the newest language taught in Western Australia's public schools. After including **Tamil, Hindi** and **Korean** languages in the curriculum in 2021, it has been decided to teach Punjabi in schools.
- **Tech startup firm IG Drones** has developed **India's first 5G-enabled drone** capable of vertical take-off and landing. This drone has been named **Skyhawk**.
- Former Indian captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni and **Garuda Aerospace** have launched a

surveillance drone named **Droni**.

- Indian-American aerospace industry expert **AC Charania** has been appointed as the new Chief Technologist of the **US space agency NASA**. He replaced fellow **Indian-American Bhavya Lal**, who was acting chief technologist until January 3.
- In **Nonhaburi-Thailand**, top seeded Indian pair of **Yuki Bhambri** and **Saketh Myneni** defeated **Christopher Roongkat** and **Akira Santillan** to clinch the Bangkok Open doubles title.
- Recently the **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights**, which was established in the year **2007** under the **Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005**, celebrated its **18th Foundation Day** on 12 January.
- The former and last king of Greece '**Constantine**' died in a private hospital in Athens. Constantine was 82. In **1964**, at the age of **23**, he ascended the throne as **Constantine II**. He was already very popular for winning an **Olympic gold medal** in sailing.
- Dravidian languages expert teacher and British linguist **Ronald E. Usher** passed away at the age of 15 in London. He was 96 years old.

15 JAN

Miss universe 2022

- Bonnie Gabrielle of the USA has won the **71st Miss Universe title**.
- **India's Harnaaz Sandhu** crowned her.
- The first runner up was **Amanda Dudamel** from **Venezuela** and the second runner up was **Andrina Martinez** from the Dominican Republic.
- This pageant took place in the **city of New Orleans, USA**. In this, **25-year-old Divita Rai** represented India, who could not reach the top 5.
- Divita won the title of **Miss Diva Universe 2022** on 28 August 2022.
- R Bonnie Gabriel, 28, is a model, fashion designer and sewing instructor who makes the environment a priority in her work. She is the first American of Filipino descent to win Miss USA.

Indian Meteorological Department

- January 15, 2023 is the **148th Foundation Day** of the Indian Meteorological Department.
- It was started in **1875**, it works under the '**Ministry of Earth Sciences**'.
- This day is celebrated by the **Ministry of Earth Sciences**.

- **Five observatories** of the **Indian Meteorological Department** have been recognized by the World Meteorological Organization, these observatories are located in **Chennai, Mumbai, Pune, Thiruvananthapuram and Panjim**.

Army Day

- **January 15** is celebrated as **Army Day** in India.
- On the occasion of this day, honor is given to the contribution of martyr brave soldiers working in the defense of the country.
- **Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa** took over as the **first Commander-in-Chief** of the Indian Army from General Sir Francis Butcher (the last British Commander-in-Chief of India) on 15 January 1949, hence Army Day is celebrated on **15 January**.
- **75th Army Day** celebrations were held in **Bengaluru**. This is the first time that the event was organized outside the national capital.

One liner Current Affairs

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi flagged off **Vande Bharata Express train** connecting **Secunderabad (Telangana)** to **Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)** through video conference. This train will be the **eighth Vande Bharata Express** to be introduced by the Indian Railways.
- Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India will set up a '**Global South Center of Excellence**' to research development solutions for developing countries.
- Union Earth Sciences Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has said that by the **year 2025**, the entire country will come under the purview of **Doppler Weather Radar Network**, through which accurate forecasts of difficult weather conditions can be made.
- The first meeting of the **G-20 Infrastructure Group** begins in **Pune**. The theme of the two-day meeting is - **Financing the Cities of Tomorrow for Inclusive, Robust and Sustainable Growth**.
- The two-day Think-20 meeting of the G-20 begins at the **International Convention Center in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.
- **India** has announced to donate 12 thousand five hundred doses of pentavalent vaccine to **Cuba**. The **Pentavalent vaccine** will protect children from five deadly diseases. These include mumps, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenzae type b.
- The annual meeting of the **World Economic Forum** will begin on Monday in **Davos, Switzerland**, which will continue till the **20th of this month**. The theme of the Forum's meeting this year is '**Collaboration in a Big World**'.
- Union Culture Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal has handed over the **9th to 10th century Nataraja**

idol to the Archaeological Department at Chittorgarh Fort in Rajasthan. In the year 2020, this statue was brought back to India from a private museum in London after a long legal process.

- **Brazil's President-elect Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** announced Sonia Guajara as the first minister of the new Ministry of Indigenous Peoples, with a mandate to oversee policies ranging from land demarcation to health care.
- The **UAE** has named Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber as the President for the **28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28)**. The conference will be held in Dubai from 30 November to 12 December this year.
- **NPCI** has allowed expatriates from ten countries including US, Canada and UAE to transfer funds (digitally) using UPI from NRE (Non Resident External) or NRO (Non Resident Ordinary) accounts.
- **Fast Patrol Vessel ICG ship 'Kamala Devi'** was commissioned on 12 January at **Kolkata**. This fast patrol vessel was designed, built and delivered by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited to the Indian Coast Guard.
- India beat Sri Lanka by 317 runs in the third and final ODI in **Thiruvananthapuram** to clinch the series 3-0. This is the biggest win in the history of ODI cricket so far.

16 JAN

Bilateral Naval Exercise 'Varuna' - 2023

- The **21st edition** of the bilateral naval exercise **Exercise "Varuna"** between **India** and **France** began on 16 January 2023 off the western seaboard.
- The bilateral exercise between the navies of the two countries was started in the year **1993**, it was named '**Varuna**' in the year **2001**.

'Music in the Park' series

- **Spic Macay** is organizing its hugely popular '**Music in the Park**' series this year in collaboration with **Ministry of Culture** and **New Delhi Municipal Council** called "**Shruti Amrit**".
- Under this, eminent artists from across the country showcase the beauty of Indian classical music. In this series, the **first program** of 2023 took place at Nehru Park in Chanakyapuri, **New Delhi**.
- **SPIC MACAY** - The **Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth**, is a voluntary youth movement that organizes programs and workshops

related to Indian classical, folk music and dance, yoga, meditation, crafts, and other aspects of Indian culture. Promotes tangible and intangible aspects of Indian and world heritage.

- The movement started in **1977** and has branches in more than 850 cities around the world.

One liner current affairs

- **Business-20 i.e. B-20 meeting** will be held in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat** from 22 to 24 January as part of India's **G-20 chairmanship**. This meeting will be done for policy recommendations before the summit.
- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, while presenting the '**National Startup Awards-NSA 2022**' in **New Delhi**, emphasized the need for a robust database to connect government, industries and public with startups.
- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal launched the **MAARG** platform (**Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience and Growth**) on 16 January. The portal will facilitate mentorship between startups and entrepreneurs across sectors, stages and functions.
- European officials and Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf inaugurated the **EU's** first '**Mainland Orbital**' launch complex (in Arctic Sweden) during a visit to Sweden by members of the European Commission. The European Commission is a 27-nation grouping, which includes Sweden.
- **Rajasthan** has become the **first state** in the country to implement '**Blindness Control Policy**'.
- **Captain 'Surabhi Jakhmola'** of the 117 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army will be the **first woman officer** to be posted on a foreign assignment in the Border Roads Organisation. They would be sent to Bhutan under the '**Dantak Project**' (started on April 24, 1961). (BRO was established in the year 1960)
- British national '**Claire Lombardelli**' has been appointed as the new Chief Economist of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- According to the data, trade between **India** and **China** is set to reach an all-time high of USD 135.98 billion in 2022, while New Delhi's trade deficit with Beijing crossed the USD 100 billion mark for the first time.
- The **United Nations Security Council** has declared Pakistani terrorist Abdul Rehman Makki as a global terrorist. Makki is the brother-in-law of Hafiz Saeed, the Lashkar-e-Taiba chief and mastermind of the 26/11 terror attack.
- 11-year-old Falak Mumtaz of Jammu and Kashmir has won the gold medal in the '**23rd National Ski Championship**' held in Jammu.

India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFPL)

- The '**India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline**' will start supplying diesel to Bangladesh on a trial basis from June this year.
- About 131.5 km long pipeline has been constructed to import diesel from India. 126.5 km of this pipeline is in Bangladesh and 5 km in India.
- This international pipeline will transport diesel from **Numaligarh Refinery Limited's Siliguri marketing terminal to Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation-BPC's Parbatipur depot.**
- This project is being constructed with a grant from the **Government of India.**

Business confidence index

- The **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)** released the '**Business Confidence Index**' (for the quarter **October-December 2022**).
- CII is a non-governmental, **non-profit, industry-led and industry-managed** organization.
- It was established in the year **1895** and its headquarter is in **New Delhi.**

National Urban Technology Mission

- Center will launch a **5-year National Urban Technology Mission** for municipal services and urban local bodies.
- The mission will bring technological improvements in the municipal services and infrastructure of India's **4,500** urban local bodies.
- The mission will be operated by the **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.**
- The note prepared by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has fixed the outlay of this 5-year mission at ₹15,000 crore.
- The mission will identify six basic common citizen services that every urban local body will have to provide online. These would essentially include issuing birth and death certificates, providing water and electricity connections, calculation and collection of property tax, and grievance redressal.

The 'Old Fort' of Delhi

- The Archaeological Survey of India will resume excavation at **Purana Qila in Delhi.** This will be the **third round of excavation at Purana Qila** after the excavations in 2013-14 and 2017-18.
- Identified as the ancient settlement of **Indraprastha, Purana Quila** has been continuously inhabited for two and a half thousand years, attested in earlier excavations.

- Artifacts found in earlier excavations include the Painted Slate Ware dating back to 900 BCE and pottery ranging from the Maurya to the Sunga, Kushan, Gupta, Rajput, Sultanate and Mughal periods.
- The 16th century old fort was built by Sher Shah Suri and Humayun, the second Mughal emperor.

National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (NIMAS)

- A 4-member team from Dirang-based National Institute of Mountaineering and Adventure Sports (NIMAS) is all set to start a 6-nation cycling expedition from Hanoi, Vietnam on January 18, 2023, to celebrate the 'Amrit Mahotsav of Independence'.
- The team will cover a distance of about 5300 kms via Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and Malaysia in 50 days before ending their journey at Esplanade Park (INA War Memorial) in Singapore on March 8, 2023.

Local Bubble

- Researchers from the Center for Astrophysics (CfA) at Harvard and the Smithsonian have created a 3D magnetic map of a cavity called the 'Local Bubble'.
- The Local Bubble is a 1,000 light-year-wide cavity or superbubble.
- The Local Bubble is a large, low-density region in the 'interstellar medium' of our Milky Way galaxy.
- The interstellar medium is the substance that fills the space between the stars.

Invasive tree species

- The State EIA Authority of Delhi has asked the State Forest Department to take steps to prevent and destroy 3 fast growing invasive tree species – Prosopis Juliflora, Subabul (River Tamarind) and Eucalyptus as they are adversely affecting the local ecology. are making an impact.
- The most damaging is the Mexican invasive species introduced by the British in the 1930s.
- Eucalyptus from Australia is not aggressive in nature but uses a lot of water as it is a fast growing tree.
- It also came from Mexico and was introduced by the forest department for fuel and fodder.

Jallikattu 2023

- The '**Jallikattu 2023**' has started from January 15 in Avaniyapuram village of Madurai, Tamil Nadu. It is to be organized in three villages of Madurai.
- During the festival of Pongal, especially in Tamil Nadu, cattle are worshiped, with an event known as Jallikattu.
- In the sport of Jallikattu, a **bull is released into the crowd**. In this game, the players present there try to control the bull by holding its hump for as long as possible.

Neelakurinji

- The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF) has included Neelakurinji (*Strobilanthes kunthiana*) in the **list of protected plants under Schedule III of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- Neelakurinji is a **tropical plant species** and is native to the **shola forests** in the Western Ghats.
- It is also found in **Shevaroy Hills** in the **Eastern Ghats**, **Annamalai Hills** in **Kerala** and **Sanduru Hills** in **Karnataka**.

Thiruvalluvar Day

- In present times the day is usually celebrated on 15 or 16 January in Tamil Nadu and is a part of Pongal celebrations.
- **Tiruvalluvar**, also spelled **Valluvar**, was a **Tamil saint-poet**.
- The **Thirukkural** text has been compared to the great books of the world's major religions.

One Liner Current Affairs

- The '**Soul of Steel**' challenge was launched in **Uttarakhand** on January 14, which aims to test a person's endurance at high altitudes. The common area would be **Nanda Devi National Park**. It is an initiative of '**CLAW Global**' and is being supported by the Indian Army.
- According to **Oxfam International's study** titled "**Survival of the Richest**", the **richest 1%** of people in India now own more than **40%** of the country's total wealth, while the bottom half own only **3%**.
- The first meeting of the '**G-20 Health Working Group**' will be held in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**.
- The Indian Army, under the HQ Army Training Command (RTRAC), organized the second edition of the **Hackathon – "Sannya Rankshetram 2.0"** from October 2022 to January 2023. It aims to find solutions to operational cyber challenges, enable rapid deployment of

innovative solutions in the area of **cyber security** and reduce the time to development.

- On January 14, 2023, a celebration was held in **New Delhi** to mark the success of **'Womaniya' on Government e-Marketplace- GeM**, a government website related to online shopping. The number of women entrepreneurs registered on this website is more than 1 lakh 44 thousand which is called **'Womaniya'**. It was started in the year 2019.
- Filmmaker SS Rajamouli's film **'RRR'** has won the **Critics' Choice Award for Best Foreign Language Film** and **Best Original Song for 'Nattu Nattu'** at the **'Critics' Choice Awards 2023'**.
- **National Startup Day** is celebrated annually in India on **16 January** to recognize and promote the country's vibrant startup ecosystem.

18 JAN

MP Sports Mahakumbh

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the **second phase of Sansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23** through video conferencing.
- **Sansad Khel Mahakumbh** is being organized from **2021** by Mr. Harish Dwivedi, MP of Basti district.
- The **first phase of Khel Mahakumbh** was held from **10 to 16 December 2022** and the second phase of Khel Mahakumbh is scheduled from 18 to 28 January 2023.

One liner current affairs

- The **6th edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha** was organized on 27 January 2023 at **Indira Gandhi Memorial High School, Dum Dum** in Kolkata.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, shared an excerpt from the book **Exam Warriors** titled **'Your Exam, Your Methods - Choose Your Own Style'** and urged students to share their ways of preparing for the exams.
- Amid the ongoing anti-corruption campaign in **Vietnam**, President Nguyen Xuan Phuc has announced his resignation.
- External Affairs Minister **Dr. S. Jaishankar** has said that India will provide financial assistance of ten crore **Maldivian Rufiyaa** for community development projects in **Maldives**.
- The **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways** had organized **'Road Safety Week'** from January 11 to 17 under **Swachhta Pakhwada**.
- **NCERT** has released **India's first national assessment regulator, The Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development (PARAKH)**, which sets norms, standards, and guidelines for student assessment and evaluation for all

recognized school boards in the country. Will work on install. Parakh has been launched as a part of the implementation of the '**National Education Policy 2020**'.

- In a historic achievement, **Kerala's Kollam district** has become the **first constitution-literate district** in the country. It was announced by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.
- The biggest decline in the population of **China** has been recorded after the **year 1961**. According to data from **China's 'National Bureau of Statistics'**, the country's population at the end of the **year 2022** was 1.41175 billion, which is less than 1.41260 billion in the year 2021.
- **Shah Rukh Khan** has come at the **fourth position** in the **list of world's richest actors**. This time **Shahrukh Khan** has left behind Hollywood star **Tom Cruise**. The first number in this list is '**Jerry Seinfeld**'. **Shahrukh Khan's** net worth is 770 million dollars (6 thousand 300 crore rupees).
- The **India-France** focus meeting on '**Square Kilometer Array Observatory (SKAO)/Maunakea Spectroscopic Explorer (MSE) and Multiwavelength Synergy**' discussed the astronomy vision and multiwavelength synergy science in mega-projects. This meeting was organized in Bangalore from 9-13 January.
- According to a report by **Guinness World Records (GWR)**, an Italian man, '**Michele Santelia**' has created a world record by typing copies of 81 books in reverse, which is called 'mirror writing'.
- **Reliance-owned Viacom-18 Pvt Ltd** has acquired the rights to broadcast the Women's IPL.
- **Barcelona** won the '**Spanish Super Cup**' by defeating **Real Madrid 3-1** in **Saudi Arabia** on 15 January 2023.
- Popular Italian actress **Gina Lollobrigida** has passed away at the age of 95.
- **Ray Cordeiro**, who worked as a disc jockey (DJ) on Hong Kong radio for six decades, has passed away. He was 98 years old. He holds the unique record of serving as the longest serving Disc Jockey (DJ) in the world.
- The **world's oldest nun Lucile Rando of France** has died at the age of 118. After becoming a nun in 1944, she assumed the name of Sister Andre.
- 16 people, including Ukraine's Interior Minister **Denis Monastirsky**, were killed in a helicopter crash near a children's nursery school on the outskirts of **Ukraine's capital Kiev**.

19 JAN

Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2022

- Recently, the **17th Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) for 2022** was released. This report is issued at an interval of every four years.

- In this report, about 7 lakh children were surveyed in 19,060 villages in 616 districts of the country.
- Proportion of children (6 to 14 years) enrolled in government schools will increase from **65.6%** in 2018 to **72.9%** in 2022.
- The overall enrollment figures for the age group 6 to 14 years to increase from **97.2%** in 2018 to **98.4%** in 2022.
- The proportion of girls aged 11-14 not enrolled in school is set to decline from 10.3% in 2006 to 4.1% in 2018 and **2%** in 2022.
- The proportion of girls aged 15-16 not enrolled in school is set to decline from 13.5% in 2018 to 7.9% in 2022. Only **3 states** have the proportion of unenrolled girls in this age group above 10% – **Madhya Pradesh (17%) Uttar Pradesh (15%) Chhattisgarh (11.2%)**
- In rural India, **78.3%** of children under the age of 3 are enrolled in some form of institution providing early childhood education in 2022, up 7.1 percentage points from 2018.
- According to it there has been a large decline in children's basic literacy levels, with their reading abilities deteriorating much more rapidly than numeracy skills and falling to pre-2012 levels.



MAREX-2023 Exercise

- **Sri Lanka** and the **US** are set to conduct a week-long **joint military exercise** in January 2023 to prepare for disaster relief and maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific amid China's increased military exercises in the strategic region.
- Named **Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT)/Marine Exercise (MAREX) 2023**, the exercise will include participants from the **Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Air Force, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force** and **Maldives National Defense Force**.
- **Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (Exercise CARAT)** is an annual exercise conducted by the **US Pacific Fleet** with **ASEAN** member states in **Southeast Asia**. Currently nine nations participate in the exercise: **Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand**.

Ajanta-Ellora Film Festival

- The eighth edition of this film festival was organized in Aurangabad from 11 to 15 January.
- In this film festival, **Rajasthani film 'Nanera' (Nanaji's house)** has also received the award for best film, best director, best screenplay, best editing.

- **Kannada film Koli Isru (Chicken Curry)** star Akshata Pandavapura has won the Best Child Artist and Best Actress awards.
- In the same film festival, Jeetu Kamal received the best actor award for the Bengali film '**Aparajito**'. Kamal plays the role of Indian cinema legend Satyajit Ray in the film.

One liner current affairs

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, distributed ownership rights letters (**Hakku Patra**) to the eligible beneficiaries of the newly declared revenue villages in **Karnataka**.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has shared a compilation on the role of parents during exam preparation from the book '**Exam Warriors**'.
- The **Ministry of Tourism, Government of India** is participating in the '**Feria Internacional de Turismo**' in **Madrid** from 18th to 22nd January. It is one of the **largest international traveling shows in the world**.
- The '**Kalashnikov AK-203**' is now being produced in India through a joint venture between **Russia's Rosoboronexport** and **India's Government Ordnance Factory Board (OFB)** in **Korwa, Amethi, Uttar Pradesh** under the brand name "**Kalashnikov India**". The facility has the capacity to produce 7,50,000 rifles per year.
- In the **year 2021-22**, a record more than five thousand lakh metric tonnes of sugarcane was produced in India. In the year 2021-22, between October and September, the highest sugar production and consumption in the world took place in India. India is also the second largest sugar exporter in the world after Brazil.
- The **Air Quality Management Commission** has completely banned the use of coal in the National Capital Region.
- In **Kerala**, girl students will now get menstrual leave in all universities under the higher education department.
- Taiwanese electric vehicle company **Gogoro Inc.** has tied up with the state government to set up a battery swapping infrastructure in **Maharashtra** in association with Bellrise Industries.
- Gaming platform MPL has released the '**India Mobile Gaming Report 2022**', according to which the people of **Uttar Pradesh** have left everyone behind in terms of playing online games. **Uttar Pradesh** is followed by **Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar** and **West Bengal** among the states that play the most online games in India.
- Noted writer **K Venu** was awarded the Federal Bank Literary Award 2022 for his autobiography '**Oarnaveshanthinte Katha**'.
- The **Patna Circle** of the **Archaeological Survey of India** has discovered two 1200-year-old

miniature stupas during landscaping activities near the **Sarai Tila** mound within the complex of the world heritage site '**Nalanda Mahavihara**' in Nalanda district of the state. The figures of Buddha are shown on the stupa carved out of stone.

- A '**rare orange bat**', also known as 'painted bat', was spotted in a banana plantation in **Parali Bodal village** of **Kanger Valley National Park** in **Bastar, Chhattisgarh**. It has been seen in **Kerala, Maharashtra and Odisha** and now in **Chhattisgarh**.
- Noted Assamese poet and Jnanpith awardee **Nilamani Phukan** passed away at Guwahati Medical College, Hospital. He was awarded the country's biggest literary award Jnanpith Samman for the year 2021 in Guwahati on 11 April 2022.

20 JAN

Global Firepower Military Index 2023

- The Global Fire Power Report 2023 has ranked **India** as the **4th most powerful army** in the world.
- **145 countries** have been ranked in this report this year. **Global Firepower** ranks countries based on troop strength, national resources, financial status, logistics and geographic scale.
- The most powerful country in the world is the **United States of America**, followed by **Russia, China, India**.
- According to this, **Turkey** has once again emerged as the most powerful country in the Middle East and North African region. Turkey has been placed at the **11th position in the global ranking**.

Girls4Tech STEM initiative

- **Mastercard** recently launched the second phase of **Girls4Tech**, a **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)** education initiative in India.
- The program is a partnership initiative of the **American India Foundation (AIF)** and the MasterCard Impact Fund.
- The Girls4Tech program has expanded to six states in India. It was started in the year 2014.

G-20 summit

- Along with the **G-20 Summit** in India, the **S-20 Summit** is being organized to discuss **science-related topics** on the lines of the **Youth-20 Summit** across the country.

- The first **S-20 meeting** will be held in **Puducherry** on 30 and 31 January. The next meetings will be held in **Agartala, Lakshadweep** and **Bhopal**. The last meeting will be held in **Coimbatore**.
- The **Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore** is organizing this conference.

One liner current affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the **All India Conference of Directors General and Inspectors General of Police** in **New Delhi**. The three-day conference began in a hybrid format. Home Minister Amit Shah presided over the conference on the first day.
- The **country's first Global Tourism Summit** is to be organized in the country's capital **New Delhi** from 10 to 12 April 2023 by the **Ministry of Tourism**, Government of India. **All G-20 member countries** will be invited to this event.
- **India** has become the **first creditor country** to give assurance to **Sri Lanka** for debt restructuring.
- In **Gujarat**, the **Indian Postal Department** has launched '**Tarang Mail Service**' to deliver parcels and mail by sea. The Indian Postal Department has started **Ropax ferry** service on the **Goga-Hazira** route to deliver mail between **Saurashtra, South Gujarat** and **Mumbai**.
- The '**India International Science Festival 2022 (8th edition)**' is being organized from 21 to 24 January 2023 in **Bhopal**, the capital of **Madhya Pradesh**.
- **Jammu and b** has become the **first Union Territory** of India to **fully adopt** the digital mode of administration. All offline services have now been terminated in the state.
- **Veteran industrialist Mukesh Ambani** has left behind Microsoft's Satya Nadella and Google's Sundar Pichai in the '**Brand Guardianship Index 2023**'. Mukesh Ambani ranks first in India and second in the world in this index. Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang has been ranked first in the index.
- Eminent Nepali ophthalmologist **Dr Sanduk Ruit**, co-founder of the Himalayan Cataract Project, has won the **ISA Award- 2021-2022** for **Service to Humanity**, a top **Bahraini civilian award**.
- The '**Padho Pardesh Scheme**' given to minority students by the **Ministry of Minority Affairs** has been discontinued. Till now the scheme was being run through the designated nodal bank **Canara Bank**.
- **Indian batsman Shubman Gill** became the youngest batsman to score a double century in the **first ODI against New Zealand**. Shubman has become the 5th Indian player to score a double century in ODIs. **Sachin Tendulkar, Rohit Sharma, Virender Sehwag** and **Ishaan**

Kishan have done this before him.

- The **National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)** celebrates its **Raising Day** every year on 19 January. This special force was constituted under the **Disaster Management Act 2005** under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

21 JAN

"Heal in India" initiative

- **Dr. VK Paul**, NITI Aayog member at the closing ceremony of the three-day meeting of the **G20 India Health Working Group** held in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**, said that the Government of India will launch the Heal in India initiative for international people.
- Under this, India aims to make its **health infrastructure** available to patients abroad and to make India a global hub with the aim of medical and value-based healthcare to help patients around the world.

One liner current affairs

- **Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi** will be the chief guest (for the first time) at India's **74th Republic Day** celebrations. **Egypt** has also been invited as the '**guest country**' during India's G20 presidency in 2022-23.
- The three-day **Millets & Organics 2023 – International trade fair** is being organized at **Tripuravasini, Bengaluru** from 20 January.
- On completion of 75 years of diplomatic relations between India and Nepal, the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu organized a concert called '**Sukoon**'.
- The '**G-20 Walkathon Run**' was organized in **four cities** of **Uttar Pradesh**. Chief Minister **Yogi Adityanath** started this race by showing the flag in **Lucknow**. Other senior ministers from **Agra, Noida** and **Varanasi** were present on the occasion.
- The first meeting of the G20 Working Group on Environment and Climate Sustainability will be held in Bengaluru from February 9 to 11.
- **UNESCO** has decided to dedicate the **International Day of Education**, celebrated on 24 January this year, to Afghan girls and women.
- The **Embassy of India in Nepal's capital Kathmandu** organized a 5 kilometer marathon - '**Run for Life**' on the theme of eco-friendly lifestyle. This marathon has been organized in the diplomatic relations between India and Nepal and in the 75th year of India's independence.
- Recently the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** has selected **Hyderabad, Telangana** to set up

the Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR). C4IR (Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution) Telangana will be an autonomous, non-profit organization that will focus on healthcare and life sciences.

- China's proposed 60,000 MW hydroelectric project in **Medog**, Tibet is influencing the design of a proposed hydroelectric project in Arunachal Pradesh's Upper Siang district, according to a National Hydroelectric Corporation report.
- Billionaire Jeff Bezos' e-commerce company **Amazon** has overtaken last year's topper Apple to become the **most valuable brand**, according to valuation consultancy **Brand Finance's** report, "**Global 500 2023**".
- **Indian IT services** companies have strengthened their position in the **2023** rankings of the '**Brand Finance Report**'. **Accenture** has carved a niche for itself as one of the most valuable IT services brands globally. TCS and Infosys continue to be the second and third most valuable brands in this ranking.
- MSN Group launched the '**world's first**' generic **Palbociclib tablets** for advanced breast cancer therapy under the **Palborest** brand.
- To provide education to all, a resolution titled "**Education for Democracy**" was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 18th January. The resolution co-sponsored by India reaffirms the right to education to strengthen democracy.
- Born in Hyderabad, India, **Aruna Miller** has become the first Indian American lieutenant governor of the US state of Maryland. Miller was sworn in as the state's 10th lieutenant governor.
- Indian-American lawyer '**Janani Ramachandran**' has become a member of the Oakland City Council in the state of California. She is the first black lesbian woman to become a member of the 'American City Council', elected from District 4 of the Oakland City Council.
- The **World Bank** has termed Pakistan as the weakest economy in South Asia. According to the **World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report**, Pakistan's economic growth rate will be only 1.7% this year.
- The World Economic Forum has launched a new initiative called '**Giving to Amplify Earth Action**' to meet the \$3,000 needed every year to achieve net zero emissions, protect nature and restore biodiversity by **2050**.
- Tamilnadu Mercantile Bank Limited (TMB) has won the **Best Small Bank award** in the **Best Banks survey for the year 2022**.
- **Maria Branyas Moreira**, an American-origin woman living in Spain, has now become the **world's oldest living person**, according to **Guinness World Records**. **Lucille Randon**, the

world's oldest person, died a few days ago.

- In the ODI played between **India** and **New Zealand** at the **Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Hyderabad**, Indian captain **Rohit Sharma** has become the batsman with the most number of sixes (125) in ODI history in India.
- In the **Men's Hockey World Cup 2023** being played in **Odisha**, Netherlands has defeated its rival Chile by a huge margin of 14-0. With this, Netherlands has taken the record of the biggest win recorded by any team in the history of Hockey World Cup.
- Legendary South African batsman **Hashim Amla** has retired from all forms of cricket, bringing an end to his illustrious two-decade career.
- The **47th Statehood Day of Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya** is being celebrated on 21 January. Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya were granted full statehood on January 21, 1972.

22 JAN

One liner current affairs

- **Vagir**, the fifth submarine, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 23 January. The submarine is built in India under **Project-75** by **Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai**, in collaboration with France-based M/s Naval Group.
- **IIT-Madras** has developed **Bharos (BharOS)**, a mobile operating system that will benefit 100 crore cellphone users in India.
- Indian singer Padma Vibhushan '**Dr Prabha Atre**' has been honored with the **Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award**.
- Shri '**Chris Hipkins**' will take oath as the Prime Minister of **New Zealand**. New Zealand's ruling Labor Party chose her to lead the country, replacing Ms. Jacinda Ardern. Mr. Hipkins has selected Mr. Carmel Cipuloni for the post of Deputy Prime Minister.
- The **country's first hydrogen power train** will be operated on the 119-year-old **Kalka-Shimla rail route**. In the year **2008**, **UNESCO** granted the status of World Heritage Site to the Kalka-Shimla rail route.
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has ordered the first episode of BBC documentary **India: The Modi Question** to be blocked on YouTube.
- Union Defense Minister Rajnath Singh distributed free land rights letters under the **Mukhya Mantri Awasiya Bhu Adhikar Yojana** in **Singrauli, Madhya Pradesh**.
- In exercise of the power conferred by **Article 223** of the Constitution of India, the President appointed Justice Sabina as the Acting Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court.

- The **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS)** organized its **first Mission Olympic Cell (MOC)** meeting on 19th and 20th January out of Delhi and in Bhubaneswar, Odisha during the ongoing Hockey World Cup.
- The **Indian Coast Guard** conducted a week-long '**Maritime Rescue Coordination Center Operations and Search and Rescue Course**' at Mumbai from January 16 to 21, 2023. This special training session was conducted under the '**Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme**' for officers and sailors from maritime security agencies of six friendly countries - **Bangladesh, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Myanmar and Maldives**.
- A national convention was organized at **Bhuj** in Kutch, **Gujarat** to discuss the aspirations, challenges and need for policy dialogue with the government of youth pastoralists from 16 states.
- "**Exercise Cyclone-I**" between the armies of **India** and **Egypt** is underway from January 14, 2023 at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister and Union Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh jointly inaugurated the "**India International Science Festival-2022**" based on the theme "**Moving towards Amrit Kaal with Science Technology and Innovation**" in **Bhopal**.
- A rare species of duck '**Greater Scoop**', locally known as '**Sadangman**', was recently sighted at **Loktak Lake** in Manipur's Bishnupur district after a gap of 94 years.
- Thailand's Kunlavut Witidsarn has won the men's singles title in the India Open Badminton tournament. He defeated **Viktor Axelsen of Denmark** in the final in New Delhi. The women's singles title was won by Aan Si Young of South Korea. She defeated Akane Yamagushi of Japan in the final.

23 JAN

Prime Minister's National Child Award

- President Draupadi Murmu presented the **Prime Minister's National Child Awards** at **Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi**. Eleven children were given these awards for their exceptional achievements in the fields of art, culture, courage, innovation, social service and sports.
- The **Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar** is given to children in the age group of 5 to 18 years for their excellence in six categories - art and culture, bravery, innovation, scholastic, social service and sports.

Winner of the year 2023

Name - Category - State

- Aditya Suresh - Art & Culture - Kerala
- Aditya Pratap Singh Chauhan - Innovation - Chhattisgarh
- Anushka Jolly - Social Services - Delhi
- Hanaya Nisar - Sports - Jammu and Kashmir
- Kolgatla Alan Meenakshi - Sports - Andhra Pradesh
- M Gauravi Reddy - Art and Culture - Telangana
- Rishi Shiva Prasanna - Innovation - Karnataka
- Rohan Ramchandra Bahir - Gallantry - Maharashtra
- Sambhab Mishra - Art & Culture - Odisha
- Shauryajit Ranjit Kumar Khaire - Sports - Gujarat
- Shreya Bhattacharya - Art & Culture - Assam

Naming of 21 big islands of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi named **21 major islands** of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands after Param Vir Chakra awardees.
- Keeping in view the historical importance of the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands** and to honor the memory of Netaji, the **Ross Islands** were renamed as **Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island** by the Prime Minister during his visit to the island in **2018**. **Neil Island** and **Havelock Island** were also renamed as **Shaheed Island** and **Swaraj Island**.
- The **21 Param Vir Chakra** winners named after these islands are - Major Somnath Sharma; Subedar and Honorary Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh, MM; Second Lieutenant Ram Raghoba Rane; Naik Jadunath Singh; Company Havildar Major Piru Singh; Capt GS Salaria; Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa; Subedar Joginder Singh; Major Shaitan Singh; CQMH Abdul Hameed; Lt. Col. Ardeshir Burjorji Tarapore; Lance Naik Albert Ekka; Major Hoshiyar Singh; Second Lieutenant Arun Khetrupal; Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon; Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran; Naib Subedar Bana Singh; Captain Vikram Batra; Lieutenant Manoj Kumar Pandey; Subedar Major (the Rifleman) Sanjay Kumar; and Subedar Major Retd (Honorary Captain) Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav.
- The list includes four Paramveer Chakra winners from Uttar Pradesh, three of these Paramveer Chakra winners - Company Quartermaster Havildar Veer Abdul Hameed (Ghazipur), Naik Jadunath Singh (Shahjahanpur), Lt Manoj Kumar Pandey (Sitapur) posthumously and honorary Captain Yogendra Singh Yadav (Bulandshahr) has been awarded Param Vir Chakra while alive.

Parakram Divas

- In India, **23 January** is celebrated as **Parakram Divas**. This day is also the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, on whose occasion Parakram Divas is celebrated.
- In the year 2021, the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi decided to celebrate Parakram Divas on 23 January.
- Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was born in the year 1897 in a Bengali family in Cuttack, Odisha. His father's name was **Janakinath Bose** and mother's name was **Prabhavati**.
- Netaji passed the **Imperial Civil Service (now IAS)** examination. However, in the spirit of serving the country, he left the job and jumped into the freedom struggle.

One liner current affairs

- **Odisha State Disaster Management Authority** and **Lunglei Fire Station, Mizoram**, both have been selected by the Government of India for the **Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2023** for excellence in disaster management for the year 2023 in the institutional category.
- **Himachal Pradesh** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu announced that Himachal Pradesh aims to become the "**First Green Energy State**" by the end of **2025**.
- Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur launched the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) in the Union Territory of Ladakh. The **14 digit ULPIN** will help in digitization of land records.
- Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar said India has extended a **\$40 million** concessional line of credit for the development of sports infrastructure in the Maldives.
- **Kerala's Wayanad** has become the **first district** in the country to provide basic documents and facilities like Aadhaar card, ration card, birth/death certificate, election ID card, bank accounts and health insurance to all tribals.
- A new book "**India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn**" authored by International Indian Diaspora Dr. Ashwin Fernandes was launched.
- The **American India Foundation (AIF)** inaugurated **India's first STEM Innovation and Learning Center (SILC)** in the presence of **Tamil Nadu's School Education Minister, Thiru Ambil Mahesh Poyyamozhi**. It was inaugurated at Government Higher Secondary School, MMDA Colony, Chennai under Vanavil Mandram Scheme.
- According to the latest '**Global 500-2023**' report published by Brand Finance, **Jio** is the strongest brand in India and is ranked 9th among the 25 strongest brands in the world. Before Jio, there were brands like EY, Coca-Cola, Accenture, Porsche and Google.

- **Odisha State AIDS Control Society** organized an awareness program on **HIV AIDS** on 19 January 2023 under the leadership of **National AIDS Control Organization (NACO)** in coordination with the Department of Sports and Youth Services and Hockey India.

24 JAN

U-win

- The Union Health Ministry has launched the **U-WIN platform** after the success of the Co-WIN app.
- The U-WIN platform is designed to keep digital records of vaccination of women and children in the country.
- With an aim to digitize India's Universal Immunization Program (UIP), the government launched the program on January 11 in 65 districts on a pilot basis in two districts of each state and union territory under the name 'U-WIN'.

Operating System 'BharOS'

- Union Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Communications Minister Ashwini Vaishnav jointly tested the indigenous mobile operating system BharOS.
- **BharOS** is a new **indigenous mobile operating system**. This operating system has been created by **J&K Operations**, an incubated firm of IIT Madras.
- Till now, apart from Apple, almost all other smartphones use the Android operating system.
- Technically, BharOS is not much different from Android. A Government of India funded project, BharOS is an **AOSP (Android Open Source Project)** based operating system. It can be installed on commercial off-the-shelf handsets.

Shanghai Cooperation Organization Film Festival

- Shanghai Cooperation Organization Film Festival will be organized in Mumbai from 27th to 31st of this month.
- Marathi film **Godavari** directed by **Nikhil Mahajan** and Gujarati film '**The Last Film Show**' directed by Pan Nalin have been nominated from India.
- The **SCO** Film Festival is being organized under the Chairmanship of India of SCO.
- It currently has eight member countries. These include **China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan**.

SV Gangadhar

- Prior to the **India Energy Week 2023** to be held in Bengaluru, Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep S. Puri formally launched the demo-run of the Inland Water Vessel powered by Methanol Blended Diesel (MD15) at **Guwahati**.
- **India Energy Week 2023 (IEW 2023)** will be held in Bengaluru from 6 to 8 February.
- The low carbon emission cruise 'SV Gangadhar' launched by Union Petroleum Minister on **Mahabahu Brahmaputra** has 50 seats.
- The vessel will run on MD-15, which means **15% methanol blending in diesel**.

Ujala scheme

- **UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All)** scheme to promote efficient use of energy completes 8 years in January 2023.
- Around 37 crore LED bulbs, around 72 lakh LED tube lights and around 23.60 lakh energy efficient fans have been distributed during these 8 years.
- Based on the Ujala scheme, **CISL (a 100% owned subsidiary of EESL)** has launched the Gram Ujala programme. Its main objective is to reach energy efficiency in rural areas.
- **Ujala Yojana** was launched by PM Modi on **5 January 2015**.

G20-Chief Science Advisors Roundtable (G20-CSAR)

- The '**G20-CSAR Initiative**' has been launched for the first time during **India's G20 Presidency to establish a Global Science Advisory Mechanism**.
- Under G20-CSAR, the chief science experts of all **G20** member countries and invited countries will come together to discuss important issues of science and technology. This initiative will establish a joint global science advisory mechanism for the future.
- The **G20-CSAR** is a government-to-government level initiative. Its full form is G20-Chief Science Advisors Roundtable. For the first time during **India's G20 Presidency**, two high-level G20-CSAR meetings will be held in the country.
- The first meeting of G20-CSAR will be held in **Hyderabad** during 26-28 March 2023 and the second meeting will be held in Bengaluru during 27-29 August 2023.

Charaideo Maidam

- The Central Government has decided to send a proposal to **UNESCO** to nominate Charaideo '**Maidam**' of the Ahom Kingdom as a World Heritage Site.
- It was first included in the **tentative list** of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in **April 2014**.

- The Ahom '**maidams**' are the mausoleums of the royal families located in the Charaideo district. They are also known as the **Pyramids of Assam**.

International education day

- '**International Education Day**' is being celebrated on **24 January** to spread awareness about education globally and to make education accessible to all.
- UNESCO has announced the theme of the **International Day of Education for the year 2023**. This time the theme of International Education Day is '**To Invest in People, Prioritize Education**'.
- The resolution to celebrate **International Day of Education** was first passed in the **United Nations General Assembly** on 3 December 2018. **International Day of Education** was celebrated for the first time on 24 January 2019.

Uttar Pradesh Foundation Day

- Uttar Pradesh celebrated its foundation day on 24 January. From the year 2018, the Foundation Day program is celebrated for three days and all government departments participate in it.
- Earlier Uttar Pradesh was known as the United Provinces. On 24 January 1950, this state got recognition as Uttar Pradesh.

One liner current affairs

- Union Minister Hardeep Puri said that the **country's second CNG terminal** will be built at **Ravidas Ghat in Kashi**. **Gujarat's Bhavnagar has the world's first CNG terminal**, the foundation stone of which was laid by PM Modi in September last year.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance Festival at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. On the occasion of the **126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose**, this event is being organized on the theme of **Adi Shaurya-Parva Parakram**.
- As part of the **G20 summit**, the first meeting of the **Youth20 (Y20)** summit will be held in Guwahati from February 6 to 8.
- Union Minister Narayan Rane inaugurated a one-day '**National SC-ST Hub Conclave**' in **Mumbai** with the objective of providing business support to entrepreneurs belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and promoting inclusive growth.
- The **World Economic Forum (WEF)** in its '**Gender Gap Report**' has acknowledged the need to include women's participation in local bodies.

- US President Joe Biden has appointed **Julie Turner** as special envoy for human rights in North Korea.
- Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann launched the ambitious project 'School of Eminence'. The objective of this project is to ensure holistic development of the students along with the rejuvenation of education in government schools so that they become responsible citizens.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla inaugurated the two-day '**Krishi Mahotsav-Exhibition and Training Programme**' in Kota, Rajasthan.
- The **2023 edition** of the Indian Navy's flagship maritime exercise '**TROPEX**' is currently underway in the **Indian Ocean region**. This operational level exercise is conducted biennially and sees participation from not only all units of the Indian Navy but also assets from the Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Coast Guard.
- The **tri-services biennial water-land-air exercise 'AMPEX 2023'** was successfully conducted at **Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh**.
- DRDO will display its tableau during the Republic Day Parade. The theme of the tableau is - Securing the nation through effective surveillance, communication and threat neutralization. The underwater surveillance system will be displayed in the tableau.
- The '**Civil Court Interchange Metro Station**' of Metro Rail being built in Pune, **Maharashtra** will be the deepest metro station in India. The depth of this metro station will be 33.1 meters (108.59 feet) below the ground.
- **Brazil and Argentina** will begin preparations for a common currency.
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the 'International Crafts Summit' in Jajpur.
- '**National Girl Child Day**' is celebrated every year on **24 January** with the aim of encouraging and giving opportunities to the girl child in India. This day was celebrated for the first time in the year **2008** on the initiative of the **Ministry of Women and Child Development**.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, honored the renowned architect 'Dr. wife. Deeply saddened by the demise of Doshi.

25 JAN

National Voter Day

- The **Election Commission of India** was established on the eve of the **first Republic Day** i.e. on January 25, 1950. Therefore, from the **year 2011**, **25 January** is also celebrated as **National Voters' Day**.

- This year the Election Commission is celebrating **13th National Voters Day** on 25th January.
- The theme of the 13th National Voters' Day is '**Nothing like voting, I vote for sure**'.

One liner current affairs

- The Supreme Court has amended its **2018** order regarding Euthanasia. The court removed the condition that required the approval of a magistrate to take a seriously ill person off life support.
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has launched the **country's first Made in India cervical cancer vaccine 'Servvac'**. It is a collaboration between the Serum Institute, Department of Biotechnology, the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- President Draupadi Murmu presented the **National Awards for the year 2022** on the occasion of the **13th National Voters' Day** program organized by the **Election Commission in New Delhi**. The News Services Division of All India Radio was awarded the National Award in the media category for outstanding contribution to voter awareness.
- The Indian Army has floated a tender to buy 100 robotic mules and 48 jet pack suits to add hi-tech equipment to its inventory.
- As part of the Republic Day celebrations, a six-day mega event '**Bharat Parv**' will be organized at the Red Fort in Delhi from January 26 to January 31.
- President Draupadi Murmu has approved the conferment of **Jeevan Raksha Padak Series of Awards – 2022** on 43 persons. Out of these 7 people will be given **Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak**, 8 people will be given **Uttam Jeevan Raksha Padak** and 28 people will be given **Jeevan Raksha Padak**. Four persons are being honored posthumously.
- To enable more digitization in India, India Stack Developer Conference held on January 25, 2023 in New Delhi.
- In Nagaland, the **3rd annual Orange Festival 2023** began at **Rusoma village** in Kohima district.
- **Visakhapatnam Railway Station** under East Coast Railway has been awarded the '**Green Railway Station Certificate**' with the **highest Platinum rating** by the **Indian Green Building Council** for adopting green concepts.
- Recently, there has been a decline in the number of **migratory birds** coming to the '**Ballavpur Wildlife Sanctuary (established in the year 1977)**' This sanctuary is located in **Birbhum district** of West Bengal. It is also known as '**Deer Park**'.
- In order to promote consumption, it has been decided to increase the income support to

farmers from **Rs 6,000** per year to **Rs 8,000** per year in the upcoming budget under the **Central PM-Kisan scheme**.

- Recently, scientists found that corals in **eastern Thailand** are being affected by '**yellow band disease**', which is destroying coral over vast stretches of the ocean floor.
- Recently, norovirus infection has been confirmed in two school children in Kerala. Norovirus is a group of viruses that cause gastrointestinal illness.
- Recently the Bombay High Court, while allowing a married woman to medically terminate her pregnancy of 33 weeks duration, observed that the duration of pregnancy does not matter in cases of severe fetal abnormalities.
- A book titled '**Coaching Beyond: My Days with the Indian Cricket Team**' authored by **R. Sridhar** and **R.Kaushik** were released.
- A **seven-day 'Ops Alert'** exercise was conducted by the '**Border Security Force**' from 21 to 28 January 2023 along the **Indo-Pak International Border** from **Sir Creek to Rann of Kutch** in **Gujarat** and **Barmer** district of **Rajasthan**.
- The annual ethnic '**Mamani Festival**' was organized by the '**Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation**' and Ladakh Tourism Department on January 22 at the historical **Satyang Kung** village and **Chiktan Shagran** in Ladakh.

26 JAN

Women's IPL teams

- Women's IPL teams have been announced. A bid of Rs 4669.99 crore has been made to buy five teams.
- The **Ahmedabad franchise** is the costliest sold. Adani Sports Line Private Limited, owned by Adani, has named the Ahmedabad franchise. He bought it for Rs 1289 crore. It has become the most expensive team of the IPL.
- At the same time, **IndiaWin Sports Pvt Ltd**, owned by Reliance Group, has bought the Mumbai franchise for Rs 912.99 crore.
- **Royal Challengers Sports Pvt Ltd** acquired the Bangalore franchise for Rs 901 crore.
- **JSW GMR Cricket Pvt Ltd** bought the Delhi franchise for Rs 810 crore.
- **Capri Global Holdings Pvt Ltd** acquired the Lucknow franchise for Rs 757 crore.

Best men's and women's T20 team of the year 2022

- The **International Cricket Council** announced the **T20 Team of the Year** for the year 2022 for both men's and women's cricket. This team includes players from all over the world.

- The b has selected 11 players for both the men's and women's teams and India's players have been successful in making it to both the teams. These players are **Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav and Hardik Pandya**, while **Smriti Mandhana, Richa Ghosh, Deepti Sharma and Renuka Singh** have got a chance in the women's team.
- **Jos Buttler**, who led the England team to the **T20 World Cup in Australia** last November, has been named as the captain of the team. **New Zealand** veteran Sophie Devine has been made the captain of the women's team.

January 26: Republic Day

- Jb is celebrated every year as Republic Day across the country, in fact, on **January 26, 1950**, the Constitution of India came into force.
- The Constitution replaced the **Government of India Act, 1935**. The Constituent Assembly accepted the Constitution on 26 November 1949, later it was implemented on 26 January 1950.
- On 26 January 1930, the Indian National Congress, rejecting the British offer of Dominion status, demanded complete independence.

One liner current affairs

- In the annual ranking of police stations for the **year 2022**, Union Home Minister Amit Shah awarded **Aska police station** in **Odisha's Ganjam district** as the number one police station. **Gangapur police station** in **Odisha's Ganjam district** has been adjudged the **second best police station** and **Banbasa police station** in **Champawat district of Uttarakhand** has been adjudged the third best.
- Administrator of Chandigarh and Governor of Punjab **Banwarilal Purohit** recently inaugurated **North India's 'Largest Floating Solar Project'** of 2000 KWP (set up on **Dhanas Lake**).
- The government in **Brazil** has declared a medical-emergency in the **Yanomami region** amid reports of children dying from diseases caused by **illegal gold mining and malnutrition-related conditions**.
- **Vishnu Prasad** was honored with the '**Indian Achievers Award**', the most prestigious scientific honor for the **year 2022**, by Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. He has **69 patents** registered in his name.
- **Dairy cooperative leader Shamal Patel** was unanimously re-elected as the president of the **Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (Amul)**.
- Under the '**Cyber Sangini Program**' supported by the **Ministry of Electronics and IT**, **Oppo**

India and the government's 'Common Service Centre' Academy have announced that they will train 10,000 women in cyber security and cyber wellness in the country.

- Amid tensions along the **Line of Actual Control** in the **eastern sector with China**, Indian Air Force fighter jets will conduct aerial exercises called '**Eastern Akash**' over **Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and other northeastern states**.
- The **Indian Air Force** is going to conduct a major exercise in Northeast India from February 1 to 5. This war exercise has been named '**Pralay**'.
- The **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia** has installed the **world's longest calligraphic mural** (75 meters tall) on **King Abdul Aziz Street**, the road leading to the Grand Mosque in Mecca. It is designed by the artist '**Amal Phelamban**'.
- **SEBI** has released an informative database on the issue of municipal bonds by local bodies.
- Two Indian films, **Aparajito** (The Undefeated) directed by Anik Dutta won the **Best Screenplay Award** in the **Asian Film Competition** section at the **21st Dhaka International Film Festival**. **Ketki Narayan** won the **Best Actress** award for her role in the film **Prapeda (Hawk's Muffin)** directed by Krishnendu Kalesh.
- Jammu and Kashmir government is all set to organize its first '**Saras Mela 2023**' from 4 February to 14 February 2023. The fair will be organized at **Bagh-e-Bahu** in Jammu.
- **Himachal Pradesh** celebrated its **53rd Foundation Day** on **25 January 2023** with great enthusiasm and fervor throughout the state. On this day in 1971, Himachal Pradesh became the **18th state** of India.
- Every year on **25 January 'National Tourism Day'** is celebrated. Thomas Cook was an English explorer who founded Thomas Cook & Son, a world-renowned travel agency. He is the inventor of modern tourism.

27 JAN

Padma Awards-2023

- The Padma Awards are among the **country's highest civilian awards**. **Padma Awards** are given in three categories - **Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri**.
- These awards are given in various disciplines/fields of activities such as arts, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service etc.
- For the **year 2023**, the **President** has approved the conferment of **106 Padma Awards**, including three dual cases (in a dual case, the award is counted as one). The list includes **6 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan and 91 Padma Shri** awardees.

- The list of awardees includes **19 women** and **2 persons** from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 7 posthumous awardees.
- Padma Vibhushan winners 2023 (* - posthumously)

Serial No.	Padma Vibhushan	Related areas	State
1.	Balkrishna Doshi	Other – Architecture	Gujarat
2.	Zakir Hussain	Art	Maharashtra
3.	S.M. Krishna	Public Affairs	Karnataka
4.	Mulayam Singh Yadav *	Public Affairs	UP
5.	Dilip Mahalonobis*	Medicine	W.Bengal
6.	Shrinivas Bardawan	Science and Engineering	USA

Padma Bhushan awardees 2023

No.	Padmabhushan Awardee	Field	State
1.	S.L. Bhairappa	Literature and Education	Karnataka
2.	Kapil Kapoor	Literature and Education	Delhi
3.	Kumar Magalam Birla	Commerce and trade	Maharashtra
4.	Deepak Dhar	Science and Engineering	Maharashtra
5.	Vani Jayaram	Art	Tamil Nadu
6.	Suman Kalyanpur	Art	Maharashtra
7.	Swami Chinna Jeeyar	Other-Spiritual	Telangana
8.	Kamlesh D. Patel	Other-Spiritual	Telangana
9.	Sudha Murthy	Social Service	Karnataka

Gallantry Awards

- President of India Draupadi Murmu has approved **412 gallantry awards** and other defense decorations to Armed Forces personnel and others on the eve of **74th Republic Day**.
- Gallantry Awards are given to soldiers and officers who have made incomparable contributions in the defense of the country.
- Gallantry Awards are announced twice a year. These awards are announced on the occasion of the **first Republic Day** and **second Independence Day**.
- The most important of these gallantry awards is the **Param Vir Chakra**, the highest military award. After this comes the **Mahavir Chakra**, **Kirti Chakra**, **Vir Chakra**, **Ashoka Chakra** and **Shaurya Chakra**.

Indus Water Treaty

- **India** has issued a notice to Pakistan for amendment of the **Indus Water Treaty of September 1960** because of Pakistan's stubbornness.
- In **2015**, **Pakistan** requested the appointment of a neutral expert to investigate technical objections to the **Indian Kishanganga** and **Ratle hydroelectric projects**. In **2016**, Pakistan unilaterally withdrew from this request and proposed to take these objections to the Court of Arbitration.
- The **Kishanganga Hydroelectric Project** is a **run-of-the-river project** being constructed on the **Kishanganga River** and the **Ratle Hydroelectric Project** on the **Chenab River** in **Kishtwar district**.
- **Kishanganga** is a tributary of **Jhelum River**.
- In the operation of the '**Run of the River**' project, reservoirs are not constructed for water storage purposes and the natural flow of water from the height is used to drive micro-turbines for power generation.

International Cricket Council (ICC) Annual Awards 2022

- Male Test Cricketer of the Year - Ben Stokes, England
- Male ODI Cricketer of the Year - Babar Azam, Pakistan
- Men's T20 Cricketer of the Year - Suryakumar Yadav, India
- Male Emerging Cricketer of the Year - Marco Johnson, South Africa
- ICC Cricketer of the Year Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy - Babar Azam, Pakistan
- Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy - Nat Sciver, England
- Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year - Nat Sciver, England

- Women's T20 Cricketer of the Year - Tahlia McGrath, Australia
- Female Emerging Cricketer of the Year - Renuka Singh, India

One Liner Current Affairs

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with students in the **6th edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha** with students, parents and teachers at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi.
- **PepsiCo** and **CARE** have launched the '**She Feeds the World**' program in India. This program is aimed at empowering women in the agriculture sector, which will mainly focus on small scale women producers.
- The **30th 'National Children's Science Congress'** began at Science City, Ahmedabad.
- **Egypt** plans to allot land to Indian industries in the **Suez Canal Special Economic Zone**. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi have welcomed the expansion of Indian investments in **Egypt**.
- **Myanmar's military government** has implemented a new strict law for the registration of political parties. According to this, political parties have to register within sixty days and must have at least one lakh members within 90 days of registration.
- Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Vinay Kumar Saxena launched the '**100 Days to Beat Plastic**' campaign of the **Municipal Corporation of Delhi** from Bansera Park located in Sarai Kale Khan.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently lauded the **Jal Jeevan Mission** for achieving **11 crore tap water connections**. This mission was announced by PM Modi in 2019.
- The exhibition of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, which will run from January 26 to February 1, has started at the World Trade Center in Mumbai.
- Lieutenant Chetna Sharma led the Made in India Missile System "**Akash**" on the line of duty at the Republic Day Parade 2023 on 26 January.
- The Indian documentary film **The Elephant Whispers**, directed by Kartiki Gonsalves, has been nominated in the Documentary Short Subject category at the 95th Academy Awards.
- The **Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways** Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the **National Logistics Portal (Maritime)** in **New Delhi**. It is a **one-stop platform** that aims to connect all stakeholders of the logistics community using information technology.
- **Hepatorenal infection** has been found in one of the **8 cheetahs** translocated to **Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh**. Hepatorenal infection is a condition in which the patient develops kidney problems due to impaired liver function.
- **Sankhya Sagar**, an **artificial lake** in **Madhya Pradesh**, has become almost invisible under a thick layer of water hyacinth (an invasive aquatic plant). Sankhya Sagar was declared a

Ramsar site in July 2022, it helps in maintaining the ecological balance of Madhav National Park.

- The Indian pair of **Sania Mirza** and **Rohan Bopanna** finished second in the final of the **Australian Open mixed doubles**. The Brazilian pair of Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos won their first Grand Slam title by defeating them 7-6, 6-2 at Melbourne Park.
- The **United Nations** marked "**International Holocaust Remembrance Day**" on January 27, 2022, to honor the **6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust**. The theme of "**International Holocaust Remembrance Day**" 2022 is '**Memory, Dignity and Justice**'.
- Former Lok Sabha MP from Rajahmundry and renowned film actress **Jamuna** passed away in Hyderabad this morning. He acted in around 200 films in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Hindi.

28 JAN

Open market sale scheme

- **Food Corporation of India (FCI)** will offload 30 LMT Wheat from Central Pool Stock through various routes under **Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic)**.
- The objective of the '**Open Market Sale Scheme**' is to dispose of the surplus stock of wheat and rice held by the **Food Corporation of India** and to regulate the price of wheat in the open market.
- FCI conducts weekly auctions of wheat under the **Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS)** on the platform of **National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX)**.
- **NCDEX** is a commodity exchange platform in India that provides a platform for trading in various agricultural and other commodities.
- FCI is a **public sector undertaking** incorporated under the **Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**.
- FCI is a statutory body established in the year **1965** under the **Food Corporation of India Act, 1964**.

Pashmina Shawl

- **Kashmir's famous pashmina shawls**, which have been known for centuries for their intricate buta or paisley patterns, have got a '**French touch**' in that the shawls are decorated with abstract paintings instead of intricate embroidery.
- **Pashmina** is a **Geographical Indication (GI) certified** wool that originated from the Kashmir region of India.

- The word '**pashmina**' is derived from a Persian word "**pashm**" which means weaveable fiber which is mainly wool.
- The wool used in weaving pashmina shawls is obtained from domesticated **Changthangi goats** (*Capra hircus*) found in **Ladakh**.

Etikoppaka Toys

- Etikoppaka Toy Craftsman **C.V. Raju** is one of the seven persons from **Andhra Pradesh** who have been selected for this year's Padma award.
- These are traditional toys made by artisans of **Etikoppaka village** on the **banks of Varaha River in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh**. These toys are made of wood and dyed with natural dyes obtained from seeds, lacquer, bark, roots and leaves.
- There are no sharp edges in these toys. They are round on all sides.
- Etikoppaka toys were granted Geographical Indication (GI Tag) in the year **2017**.
- The first product to get **GI tag** in India was '**Darjeeling Tea**' in the year **2004-05**.

Sagar Samrat

- **Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Housing & Urban Development Shri Hardeep Singh Puri** rededicated Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's (**ONGC**) prestigious drilling rig '**Sagar Samrat**' as a **Mobile Offshore Production Unit (MOPU)**.
- **Sagar Samrat**, commissioned in **1973**, was built at the Mitsubishi yard in Japan and sailed from Hiroshima on 3 April 1973.
- It drilled **ONGC's first offshore well** in **1974** in the Mumbai offshore area of the Arabian Sea, then known as Bombay High.
- The Mustang unit of Wood Group, a British engineering and consulting group based in Texas, has undertaken front-end engineering and design for the ship's conversion.

'Visible Emission Line Coronagraph' (VELC)

- The **Institute of Astrophysics** has handed over the '**Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC)**' to **ISRO**.
- VELC will be sent to study the Sun under **ISRO's Aditya L1 project**. This instrument is the largest instrument sent under the **Aditya L1 project**.
- The VELC payload has been designed and fabricated at the **Center for Science and Technology Research and Education (CREST) campus** which is located in **Bengaluru**.

One liner current affairs

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, attended the **1111th incarnation festival** of Lord **Devnarayan** at Malaseri Dungri in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan on 28 January. **Lord Shri Devnarayan Ji** is worshiped by the people of Rajasthan and his followers are spread across the country.
- Home Minister Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of the '**National Forensic Science University**' at the University of Agricultural Sciences campus in Dharwad, North Karnataka. This will be the seventh such university in India.
- The Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology inaugurated a PCB (Printed Circuit Board) recycling center with a capacity of 1 tonne per day at the Center for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET) in **Hyderabad**.
- A two-day meeting of the **Startup-20 Engagement Group** began in **Hyderabad** on 28 January 2023 under the **G20 chairmanship of India**.
- Recently the inaugural edition of bilateral air exercise '**Veer Guardian 2023**' between **Indian Air Force (IAF)** and **Japan Air Self Defense Force (JASDF)** concluded in Japan. This is the **first bilateral air exercise** between **India** and **Japan**.
- Recently, the **Punjab** State Government has airlifted 25 lakh doses of **Goat Pox Vaccine** to conduct a free vaccination campaign for the early prevention of Lumpy Skin Disease in cattle. **LSD** is caused by infection with **lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV)** of cattle or buffalo.
- The **Republic of South Africa** and the **Republic of India** have signed an MoU to cooperate in the **reintroduction of the cheetah** in the Asian country. As per the agreement, an initial batch of **12 cheetahs** are to be brought from South Africa to India during **February 2023**.
- **Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)**, a premier **CPSE** under the **Ministry of Coal**, has constructed the '**Chandrashekhar Azad Eco-Park & Coal Museum**' in **Odisha**.
- The Academy of Letters of Brazil (ALB) in a Plenary Session held on **January 19, 2023**, ratified the election of poet-diplomat **Abhay K** as a foreign corresponding member of the Academy.

29 JAN

Amrit Udyan

- President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated the '**Amrit Udyan**' at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- This garden will be open for the general public from 31st January to 26th March except every Monday. This time this garden will be open for about two months.
- The Mughal Garden in Rashtrapati Bhavan will now be known as **Amrit Udyan**.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

- India was elected as the Vice-Chair at the **12th session of FAO's Intergovernmental Technical Working Group (ITWG) on Animal Genetic Resources (AGR)** for Food and Agriculture and represented the Asia and Pacific region.
- It was organized in '**Rome**' during January 18-20, 2023.
- The '**United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization**' is a specialized agency of the **United Nations** that studies research topics related to agricultural production, forestry and agricultural marketing.
- **World Food Day** is celebrated every year on 16 October to mark the anniversary of the establishment of FAO in the **year 1945**.
- It is one of the **United Nations food aid organizations based in Rome (Italy)**. Its partner organizations are the **World Food Program and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**.

Hockey World Cup 2023

- **Germany** has won the **Hockey World Cup 2023**. The team defeated **Belgium** in a penalty shootout in the final played at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.
- Before the final, a third place match was played between **Netherlands** and **Australia**. The Netherlands won the bronze medal by winning the match 3–1.
- The German team has become the world champion for the third time. At the same time, Belgium could not defend its title.

ICC Spirit of Cricket Award 2022

- Nepal's wicketkeeper '**Asif Sheikh**' has been named as the recipient of the '**ICC Spirit of Cricket Award 2022**' for his decision not to run out Ireland's **Andy McBrine** while attempting a run.
- Asif has thus become the first player from Nepal to win the **ICC Spirit of Cricket Award**.
- The award is given every year by the ICC to recognize a player or team that upholds the spirit of the game.

One liner current affairs

- The Beating the Retreat ceremony concluded at the historic **Vijay Chowk** in **New Delhi**. It marks the end of the four-day long Republic Day celebrations.
- President of the **77th session of the United Nations General Assembly 'Csaba Korosi'** arrived in **New Delhi** on a three-day visit to India. This is his **first** bilateral visit to any country

after assuming office in September last year.

- **Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** has announced a new federal investment to build and commercialize the world's first photonic-based, fault-tolerant quantum computer.
- **Michelle Yeoh** became the first Asian to receive a **Best Actress Oscar nomination** in January 2023 for her film "**The Everything Everywhere All at Once**". Of Malaysian origin, Michelle Yeoh has also won the **Golden Globe Award** in the Best Actress category for her performance in the film '**Everything Everywhere All at Once**'.
- Under the '**Monument Mitra Scheme**' announced by the **Ministry of Culture** in January 2023, the government will hand over 1,000 monuments to the private sector for their maintenance. The **Ministry of Tourism** has transferred this scheme to the **Ministry of Culture**.
- Indian Railways has introduced the '**Ideal Train Profile**' to maximize capacity utilization and income generation in reserved Mail Express trains by regularly analyzing the movement of demand in each train.
- India's '**Women's Under-19 Cricket Team**' has won the title of '**T-Twenty World Cup**'. India defeated England by 7 wickets in the final in South Africa.
- Hyderabad-based Navratna mining company '**National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**' has signed an MoU to rope in world champion boxer **Nikhat Zareen** as its brand ambassador.
- **Belarus' Aryna Sabalenka** won the Australian Open by defeating Kazakhstan's Elena Ryabkina in the final. This is **Sabalenka's first singles Grand Slam** title.
- **Novak Djokovic** of **Serbia** has won the Men's Singles title in Australian Open Tennis. **Djokovic defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece** in the final. With this win, Djokovic has also become the world's top singles player in the rankings.
- New Zealand Cricket announced the introduction of the '**Debbie Hockley Medal**' to honor an outstanding female cricketer. **Cricketer Debbie Hockley** played 118 ODIs and 19 Tests for New Zealand from 1979 to 2000. Hockley was the fourth woman to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame in 2013.
- **Sabir Ali**, the '**Iron Man of India**' who won the **decathlon gold** at the **1981 Asian Athletics Championships** in Tokyo, passed away. He was 67 years old.
- Odisha Health Minister **Naba Kishore Das** died during treatment at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar. He was allegedly shot at by a Police Assistant Inspector of Police on duty during an event at Brajrajnagar in **Jharsuguda district**.

Republic Day - 'Best Tableau' of 2023

- **Uttarakhand's tableau** has been adjudged the best among **17 states** and union territories participating in the parade on the **Kartavya Path** in **New Delhi** on the occasion of Republic Day.
- It featured the world famous tourist destination **Corbett National Park** and the famous **Choliya dance**.
- The second place was won by the **tableau of Maharashtra** and the third place was won by the **tableau of Uttar Pradesh**.
- The contingent of the Punjab Regiment Center has been awarded the best marching contingent among the three services. The **Central Reserve Police Force** has been selected as the best marching contingent.
- In the Central Ministries and Departments category, the tableau of the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs** has been adjudged the winner.
- **Gujarat's tableau** has been adjudged the **best** in the popular choice category, followed by **Uttar Pradesh's second** and **Maharashtra's third**.
- The marching contingent of the Indian Air Force has been adjudged the best marching contingent among all the three services.

All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) -2020-2021

- The Ministry of Education has released '**AISHE 2020-2021**'.
- The **Ministry of Education** has been conducting the **All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)** since **2011**, under which all higher education institutions located in the Indian territory, which are providing higher education in the country, have been kept.

The salient features of the survey are as follows:

- **Enrollment in higher education** increased from 3.85 crore in 2019-20 to 4.14 crore in 2020-21. Since 2014-15, enrollment has continued to register a steady increase of about 72 lakh (21 percent).
- **Enrollment of girl students** increased from 1.88 crore in 2019-20 to 2.01 crore. Since the year 2014-15, a continuous increase of about 44 lakh (28 percent) has been registered.
- The **percentage of female students** in total enrollment has increased from 45 per cent in 2014-15 to around **49 per cent** in 2020-21. The total number of registered universities/university-like institutions is 1,113, colleges 43,796 and autonomous institutions 11,296.

- During 2020-21, the **number of universities has increased by 70**, and the number of colleges by 1,453.
- Since 2014-15, there has been an **increase of 353 universities** (46.4 per cent).
- The Institutes of National Importance have almost doubled from 75 in 2014-15 to 149 in 2020-21.
- Since 2014-15, **191 new higher education institutions** have been set up in the **North Eastern states**.
- **Rajasthan (92), Uttar Pradesh (84) and Gujarat (83)** have the maximum number of universities.
- The total strength of faculty/teachers is 15,51,070 of which about **57.1 percent** are male and **42.9 percent** are female.

'Global Trans-Fat Elimination' Report

- The **World Health Organization** recently released a report on "**Global Trans-Fat Elimination**".
- WHO initiated trans fat elimination in **2018**. **2023** was the target year to completely eliminate trans fat.
- Trans fats are **unsaturated fats**. Excess intake of trans fat leads to heart disease and bad cholesterol.

Commission related to sub-categorization within OBC

- In **2017**, the President of India appointed a commission that was formed under **Justice G. Rohini**.
- The main objective of this commission was to examine the **OBC sub-categories** in the country and prepare a report. The commission was constituted by the President in exercise of his powers under **Article 340**.
- This commission was to submit its report within **12 weeks**. The commission has recently got its 14th extension. The tenure of the commission has been extended by six months till July 31, 2023.

Twenty Point Program (TPP)

- The **National Statistical Office, NSO**, recently released a progress report on the **Twenty Point Program (TPP)**.
- Currently, TPP works on more than 50 schemes. **TPP plans** and reporting are quarterly.

- The Government of India started **TPP (Twenty Point Programme)** in **1975**. It has been revised twice since its launch, once in **1982** and again in **1986**.
- The **main objective** of this program is to **eradicate poverty** and improve the lives of rural people by using 20 points. During the **2022-23 budget**, the central government increased the budget for this program by **36%**.

Annual Death Penalty Report, 2022

- The **National Law University** was established under the **NLUA Act of 2007**. **Project 39A** is a group affiliated with the university and recently released a report titled Annual Death Penalty Report, 2022.
- According to this report, the number of death row prisoners in India is expected to increase to 539 in 2022. In 2021 this number was 490.
- Of all crimes, **crimes related to sexual violence received the maximum death sentence**. About one-third of executions were for sexual violence.
- The death sentence was not awarded in the courts of **Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Telangana and Manipur**.
- **Gujarat and Jharkhand** have the **highest** number of death sentences in **Uttar Pradesh**.

India's first model G-20 summit

- The **Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership (IIDL)** recently organized the **Model G-20 Summit**.
- This institute is known for training and research. The **United Nations Economic and Social Council** has recently granted **Special Consultative Status** to IIDL.
- **Shri Amitabh Kant**, Indian Sherpa of **G-20** inaugurated the summit. It was conducted at the Mumbai campus of IIDL.
- The Institute of Democratic Leadership is a **non-profit organization**. It is also called **RMP institute** as it was established in the memory of an Indian politician and former Member of Parliament **Shri Rambhau Mhalgi**.

World Federation of Exchanges

- In **2022**, the daily average turnover of the '**National Stock Exchange**' is expected to reach **Rs 470 crore**. With this **NSE** has become the **largest derivatives exchange** in the world. This is the fourth time in a row that NSE is holding this position. Apart from derivatives, this exchange was ranked third in equities. This rank and data are based on the data presented by the '**World Federation of Exchanges**'.

- The **World Federation of Exchanges (WFE)** maintains data on stock exchanges in different parts of the world. It is basically a **trade union**. It is based in **London** and was established in **1961**.

Hindenburg Research Report

- Hindenburg is a research company that conducts financial research in various parts of the world.
- Hindenburg recently released his research report on the **world's third richest man** and his business firm **Adani Group**. According to this report, the Adani group was involved in fraud schemes and stock manipulation.
- As per the report, the Adani group manipulated **USD 218 billion** in shares.
- Hitting back at the Hindenburg report, **Gautam Adani-led Adani Group** has termed the allegations as baseless and misleading.

5th Khelo India Youth Games

- The **fifth Khelo India Youth Games** has begun in **Madhya Pradesh**. The youth games will be held till February 11.
- Union Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Anurag Thakur, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan inaugurated these games amid a colorful program at Tatyia Tope Nagar Stadium in Bhopal.
- About six thousand players from all over the country will display their sporting skills for more than 900 medals, including about three hundred gold medals, in 27 sports events of these games.
- Eight cities of **Madhya Pradesh Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Mandla, Balaghat and Maheshwar** and **Delhi** are hosting various sporting events.
- **Khelo India Youth Games** started in **2018**. Then the name of these games was Khelo India School Games.

One liner current affairs

- Noted actresses **Dolly Zohoor** and **Ilyas Kanchan** will be honored with the '**Lifetime Achievement Award**' for their contribution to the film industry of **Bangladesh**. The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of Bangladesh** made this announcement in the notification issued for the **National Film Awards-2021**.
- Former Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of Nepal '**Rabi Lamichhane**' has received the Nepalese citizenship certificate from the District Administration Office in Kathmandu.

The Supreme Court of Nepal had canceled Lamichhane's membership as a Member of Parliament and had given orders.

- Union Agriculture and Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Food Processing Industries Minister Pashupati Kumar Paras inaugurated the first meeting of the **International Financial Structure Working Group** under India's chairmanship of G-20 in Chandigarh. The theme of the G-20 under the chairmanship of India is '**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**' or '**One Earth, One Family, One Future**'.
- The inaugural meeting of Science-20, belonging to the **G-20 group**, was held in **Puducherry**.
- **V Rama Subba Reddy**, known as the '**Man of Millet**' of **Andhra Pradesh**, has thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for mentioning him in his Mann Ki Baat programme. **Subba Reddy's Anuppur** based startup **Sattva Millets** and Food Products displayed 30 of its products at the preview event of **International Millets Year-2023** in **New Delhi**. The company was invited by the **Ministry of Agriculture** for the event.
- **Atal Pension Yojana** was launched in the year **2015**. The main objective of this scheme is to provide income security to the Indian citizens. In 2022, it acquired 1.25 crore (over 5 crore) new subscribers.
- Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel announced that his government will provide unemployment allowance to the people of Chhattisgarh in the financial year 2023-24.
- **January 30** is celebrated as **Martyrs Day** in India. Mahatma Gandhi died on this day in 1948. Gandhiji was assassinated by Nathuram Godse.
- **January 30** is observed as **World Leprosy Day**. World Leprosy Day is celebrated in the world on the last Sunday of January, but in India this day is celebrated on 30 January on the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

31 JAN

Economic survey

- The **Economic Survey** presented in the Parliament by Finance Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** has said that **India's GDP** will grow from the baseline value of **11%** in the nominal term in the financial year **2023-24**. At the same time, the Indian economy is estimated to be **6.5%** in real terms.
- It has also been said in the survey that the country's economy has been **8.7%** in the **financial year 2022**.
- India is the **third largest economy** in the world in terms of **PPP (Purchasing Power Parity)**. At the same time, it is at number five in terms of exchange rate.

International Science Film Festival of India -2022

- ISFFI 2022 is organized in Bhopal city of **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The festival was celebrated as a major component of the **eighth edition** of the **India International Science Festival** from January 21 to 23.
- Four foreign and nine Indian films have been awarded in this science festival.
- The English film '**Hanle: India's First Dark Sky Reserve**', produced by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, has won the **first prize** under the category '**Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development**' at the **International Science Film Awards**. The second prize in this category went to '**Borshi - The Fish**' produced by **Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata** in Bengali and English languages.
- The first prize under the category '**Science, Technology and Innovation to combat Climate Change**' went to the film '**Struggle for Survival**' directed by **Vipul Kirti Sharma** and produced by **Ashok Sharma**.
- Under the third category titled '**Science, Technology and Innovation for a Better Life**', the first prize went to American filmmaker **Tiffany Dieter's** film '**Biophysical Field Methods: Gobabeb**', the second prize went to Indian filmmaker **Deepak Kumar's** film '**Exploring the Great Indian Legacy**' and The third prize went to the film '**Saving the Himalayan Yak**' produced by **Vigyan Prasar (Department of Science and Technology)** and directed by **Rakesh Andania**.

M-Sand Project

- **Coal India Limited's subsidiaries** will commission **five M-Sand plants** by **2024**, focusing on cheap and high-quality sand production.
- Sand is classified as a "**minor mineral**" under the **Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957**.
- **M-Sand** is a form of artificial sand, which is made by crushing hard stones, mainly rocks or granite, into **fine particles**, which are then **washed** and **pulverized**. It is widely used as a substitute for river sand for construction purposes.

Kelp Forest

- A recent study has shown that **kelp forests** are declining due to climate change.
- **Ecklonia Radiata**, a dominant kelp species in the **Southern Hemisphere**, has been found to be vulnerable to climate change, especially in areas near the **Equator**.
- **Kelp forests** are **underwater ecosystems** formed in shallow water areas by the dense growth of many different species.

- **Kelp** are large brown algae found in **cool, relatively shallow waters** near the coast.

National Commission for Women

- The **Foundation Day of the National Commission for Women** is celebrated every year on **January 31**, on this occasion President Draupadi Murmu will address the **31st Foundation Day program** of the National Commission for Women.
- The theme of the event is '**Empowering Women Empowering India**', which aims to honor the success of women who have excelled in their journey of life and left an indelible mark on public life.
- The National Commission for Women was established in **January 1992** as a **statutory body** under the **National Commission for Women Act, 1990**.

World Neglected Tropical Disease Day

- **World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day** is observed every year on **30 January** to raise awareness of neglected tropical diseases as a significant public health challenge so that we can make progress towards their elimination.
- NTDs are a group of infections most common in marginalized communities in developing regions of **Africa, Asia** and the **America**.
- These diseases are caused by a variety of pathogens such as **Viruses, Bacteria, Protozoa** and **Parasites**.

One liner current affairs

- PM Narendra Modi attended the **NCC rally at Cariappa Ground in Delhi** and released a special day cover and a commemorative coin of **Rs 75** denomination to mark the completion of **75 years of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)**.
- Tourism Minister **G Kishan Reddy** launched **Visit India Year-2023** in **New Delhi** and also unveiled its logo.
- **Petr Pavel**, former chairman of the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Military Committee**, became the new President of the **Czech Republic** on 28 January 2023.
- **Assam** will host the **G-20 Long Term Financial Working Group meeting** under the chairmanship of India. This meeting will start in Guwahati from Thursday. The theme of the meeting is **One Earth, One Family, One Future** and its motto is **Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**.
- A **G-20-style summit** was organized for students from over **20 schools** in Bengaluru. Member of Parliament from Bengaluru South Tejasvi Surya organized it with the aim of **India**

getting the **G-20 chairmanship** and to inspire the youth.

- A delegation of the German Parliament '**Bundestag**' called on Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla at Parliament House.
- A meeting of the Senior Cyber Group of the **Quad** was held in **New Delhi**.
- In Delhi, discussions were held to further strengthen cyber security cooperation. The **Quad** is a grouping of India, the **US, Australia and Japan** that aims to support and ensure a "**free, fair and prosperous**" Indo-Pacific region.
- Voxsen University has launched '**Project Aspiration**' with its strong belief of developing its ecosystem and empowering the community around the campus. Voxsen University envisages the project for the aspiring girls of classes IX-XII, Telangana Model School and Junior College.
- The presence of the extinct **swallowtail butterfly** from its previously known ranges from Myanmar and southern China to Vietnam has been recorded in **India for the first time**. This is the '**extremely rare**' Nobel Helen (*Papilio noblei*) butterfly, which has been identified at three locations in **Namdapha National Park** (Arunachal Pradesh).
- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission organized an exciting mega '**Khadi Fashion Show**' on January 29, 2023 on the white ground of the Salt-Pan in the '**Rann of Kutch**'. This mega event organized in the Rann of Kutch was the **first** such event of KVIC.
- Former wrestler **Babita Phogat** has been included in the panel of the inspection committee constituted to probe the allegations against the **Wrestling Federation of India**. Babita Phogat is the **sixth** member of this inspection committee. The committee is headed by **Khel Ratna** awardee MC Mary Kom.