

# TEACHERS' VISION

WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

## MONTHLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

### JANUARY - 2023

#### IMPORTANT DAYS

- 1. Global Family Day (1st January 2023)** - Global family day is celebrated on the 1st January, and it aims to spread peace and unity across the world. It idolizes the Earth to be one global family to become a better place to live in for one and all.
- 2. World Braille Day (4th January 2023)** - This day marks the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, the inventor of Braille. Braille is an important writing system used by blind people to read. World Braille Day is one of the most important days in January celebrated on an international level.
- 3. World Day of War Orphans (6th January 2023)** - Every year, 6th January is observed to create awareness about the atrocities that war orphans face. This day was founded by the French organization SOS Enfants en Detresses. War Orphans- A child who has lost both parents or, less commonly, one parent through civilian deaths in the war. About the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); Executive Director- Catherine M. Russell Headquarters- New York, USA; Establishment- 1946
- 4. Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas – 9th January 2023:** Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD), also known as the “Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day” is annually celebrated across India on 9th January to highlight the importance of the contribution of the Overseas Indian community to the development of India. i. The tradition of celebrating Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD) on 9th January started in 2003. The day, 9th January, commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India in 1915. The theme of the 17th PBD Convention is “**Diaspora: Reliable partners for India's progress in Amrit Kaal**”.
- 5. World Hindi Day 2023 – January 10:** World Hindi Day or Vishwa Hindi Diwas is annually observed across the globe on 10th January to celebrate and promote the rich cultural and linguistic heritage of the Hindi language and its speakers across the globe. The day, January 10 marks the anniversary of the first time that Hindi was spoken in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1949. The day also marks the anniversary of the 1st World Hindi Conference held from 10th to 12th January 1975 in Nagpur, Maharashtra. The main theme of the World Hindi Conference 2023 is “**Hindi – Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence**”.
- 6. National Road Safety Week from 11th to 17th January 2023 :** National Road Safety Week is annually observed across India from 11th to 17th January to create awareness about the importance of road safety and to highlight the importance of road safety measures to prevent accidents. The observance of the week is led by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways(MoRTH). 2023 marks the

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observance of the 34th Road Safety Week. Road Safety Week 2023 is observed under "Swachhata Pakhwada 2023" to propagate the cause of safer roads for all.

- 7. National Youth Day 2023- January 12 :** National Youth Day is annually celebrated across India on January 12 to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, a Hindu spiritual leader, Philosopher and reformer in India, whose contributions to India's freedom movement and revival of nationalism were enormous. 12th January 2023 marks the 160th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. On National Youth Day 2023, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi inaugurated the 26th National Youth Festival (from 12th to 16th January 2023) in Hubballi, Karnataka. The theme of National Youth Festival 2023 is "Viksit Yuva-Viksit Bharat".
- 8. 7th Armed Forces Veterans Day Observed on January 14, 2023:** On January 14, 2023, the 7th Armed Forces Veterans Day was observed to recognize the contribution of the veterans of the Indian Armed Forces in serving the nation.
- 9. 75th Indian Army Day- January 15, 2023:** On January 15, 2023, the Indian Army (IA) Day was observed which commemorated its 75th anniversary at the Parade Grounds in Bengaluru, Karnataka which was attended by the Union Minister Rajnath, Ministry of Defence. This day recognizes the achievements of the first Indian Commander in Chief of the Indian Army General (later Field Marshal) Kodandera Madappa (KM) Cariappa. On this day, he took over the command of IA from General Sir Francis Robert Roy Bucher, the last British Commander-in-Chief in 1949. Hailed from Karnataka, he led Indian forces to victory in the 1947 war.
- 10. 18th National Disaster Response Force Raising Day - 19th January 2023:** National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Raising Day is annually observed across India on January 19 to commemorate the establishment of the NDRF, under the Ministry of Home Affairs. 19th January 2023 marks the observance of the 18th NDRF Raising Day. The 1st ever NDRF Raising Day was observed on 19th January 2006.
- 11. 24th January- National Girl Child day:** The Ministry of Women and Child Development of the Government of India established National Girl Child Day in 2008. The Ministry of Education will host a celebration with the theme "Self Defence Training for Girls."
- 12. International Day of Education 2023- January 24:** United Nations (UN)'s International Day of Education (IDE) is annually observed across the globe on January 24 to celebrate the role of education in peace and development. 24th January 2023 marks the 5th observation of International Day of Education. The theme of International Day of Education 2023 is "to invest in people, prioritize education". About the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): Director-General- Audrey Azoulay Headquarters- Paris, France Establishment- 1945 (came into force in 1946) Members- 193 Members
- 13. 13th National Voters' Day - 25th January 2023 :** On 25th January 2023, the Election Commission of India (ECI) celebrated the 13th edition of National Voters' Day (NVD) across India to spread awareness about the importance of voting, and participating in the electoral process. The theme of 2023 National

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Voters' Day is 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure'. About Election Commission of India: Chief Election Commissioner- Rajiv Kumar Election Commissioner- Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goel  
Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi.

**14. National Tourism Day 2023 - January 25** : National Tourism Day is annually observed across India on January 25 to raise awareness and promote tourism for India's economic and financial growth and development. Aim:

The day aims to save national heritage and create popular tourist spots across India. About the Ministry of Tourism:

Minister- **G. Kishan Reddy**

**15. 74th Republic Day of India - 26th January 2023** : India celebrated its 74th Republic Day on 26th January 2023. The republic day events and parade were held at the newly-renovated and renamed Kartavya Path (previously known as Rajpath) in New Delhi, Delhi. The Republic day of India marks and celebrates the date on which the Constitution of India came into effect on 26 January 1950. President of India, Droupadi Murmu, led her maiden Republic Day celebrations at Kartavya Path and unfurled the national flag. Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El –Sisi is the chief guest of the 74th Republic Day.

**16. The 17th Data Privacy Day - 28th January 2023** : Data Privacy Day or Data Protection Day is annually observed across the globe on January 28. It is an international initiative to raise awareness about the significance of protecting Data Privacy Day 2023, promoting trust, and respecting privacy. The day commemorates the anniversary of the opening for signature of Convention 108, the global data protection Convention, on 28th January 1981.

28th January 2023 marks the 17th edition of Data Protection Day.

**17. World Leprosy Day - 29th January 2023** : The World Leprosy Day (WLD) is annually observed across the globe on the last Sunday of January to create awareness about the fact that Leprosy, otherwise known as Hansen's disease, still exists and to educate people to end leprosy-related stigma and discrimination. The day also aims to celebrate the people who have experienced leprosy. The theme for World Leprosy Day 2023 is 'Act Now: End Leprosy'. Observance in India: In India, Leprosy Day is annually observed on 30th January to coincide with the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, who did much work with persons affected by leprosy.

**18. Martyrs' Day 2023 - 30th January 2023** : Martyrs' Day, also known as Sarvodaya day or Shaheed Diwas, is annually observed across India on January 30 to pay tribute to all who sacrificed their lives for India. The day also marks the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, who was fondly called 'Bapu'. 30th January 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the Martyrdom Day of Mahatma Gandhi. Martyrs' Day or Shaheed Diwas is also observed across India on March 23 to commemorate the sacrifice of 3 young freedom fighters of India – Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar. 23rd March 2023 marks the 92nd death anniversary of the 3 freedom fighters.

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### NATIONAL AFFAIRS

- 1. Artpark-IISc Join Hands with Google to Launch AI-Powered Project Vaani** : ARTPARK (Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Robotics Technology Park), a not-for-profit organisation backed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore has collaborated with Google Inc. to launch 'Project Vaani', a pan-India inclusive language data initiative for open-sourcing datasets at 'Google for India 2022' event held in New Delhi. This will amplify Government of India (GoI)'s Digital India efforts by including more diverse regional and local languages. Project Vaani aims to compile comprehensive datasets of transcribed text and spoken language from each district in India and are open-sourced via Vaani's website.
- 2. MoRD launches Prajwala Challenge inviting Ideas, Solutions & Actions to Transform Rural Economy** : The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD)'s flagship poverty alleviation program Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) has launched the 'Prajwala Challenge' – Unlock the Rural Economic Opportunity' with an aim to invite ideas, solutions, and actions that can Transform Rural Economy. Prajwala Challenge: Prajwala Challenge is a first-of-its-kind nationwide initiative to provide thoughtful minds with a platform to present new, innovative and scalable pathways for rural economic transformation in India.  
**DAY-NRLM:** DAY-NRLM is one of the flagships of poverty alleviation programs of the MoRD. It aims at creating efficient and effective institutional platforms for the rural poor, enabling them to increase household income through sustainable livelihood enhancements and improve access to financial services.
- 3. GoI Introduces National Geospatial Policy 2022:** Ministry of Science and Technology (MoS&T) notified the 'National Geospatial Policy, 2022' for implementation with immediate effect. The policy was notified following the liberalising of the usage of geospatial data under the draft Geospatial Data Policy in February 2021. The Government of India (GoI) has now defined a 13-year guideline for the growth of India's geospatial data industry, including the creation of a national framework for using geospatial data to improve citizen services and other initiatives. National Geospatial Policy 2022 i. The National Geospatial Policy, 2022 is a citizen-focused policy that aims to strengthen the geospatial sector to support national development, economic prosperity, and a growing information economy. ii. The GoI proposes to establish an "Integrated Data and Information Framework" (IDIF) under which a "Geospatial Knowledge Infrastructure" (GKI) will be developed by 2030. iii. The policy also calls for the establishment of a national apex body, the Geospatial Data Promotion and Development Committee (GDPDC).
- 4. KMRC: India's First Underwater Metro Services to be Operational by December 2023** :The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC) announced that the East-West Metro Corridor project, India's first underwater metro service, in Kolkata will be completed by December 2023. The 16.6 km corridor

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will run through the Hooghly river, connecting Howrah and Kolkata Sealdah railway stations including the north-south line of the Kolkata Metro at Esplanade.

**5. Manipur: Zeliangrong Community Celebrates Gaan Ngai Festival on 4th January 2023 :**

Zeliangrong or Kabui Community of Manipur celebrates the Gaan-Ngai festival to bring peace, prosperity and unity to the people of Manipur. The festival also marks the beginning of the new year and bids farewell to the old year.

**6. PM Narendra Modi addresses 108th Indian Science Congress through Video Conferencing :**

Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister (PM) of India, virtually inaugurated and addressed the 108th edition of the Indian Science Congress (ISC), also known as ISC 2023, organised at Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj (RTM) Nagpur University, Nagpur, Maharashtra. 108th ISC is a 5-day event, held from 3rd January 2023 to 7th January 2023. The focal theme of the ISC 2023 is "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment". PM Narendra Modi noted that India is being counted among the top countries of the world as India moved to 40th place in the Global Innovation Index in 2022 from 81st place in 2015.

**7. World's First Palm-Leaf Manuscript Museum opens in Kerala :** Kerala Chief Minister (CM) Pinarayi

Vijayan inaugurated the Palm leaf Manuscript Museum with modern audio-visual technology at the renovated Central Archives, Fort area in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The Museum, promoted as "World's First Palm-Leaf Manuscript Museum" was set up by the Archives Department in association with the Kerala Museum of History and Heritage at a cost of Rs 3 crore.

**8. Cabinet approves continuation of Schemes of MDoNER worth Rs 12882.2cr from 2022-23 to 2025-26 :**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has approved the continuation of the Schemes of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) for the balance period of the 15th Finance Commission i.e. from 2022-23 to 2025-26. About Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER): Union Minister- Gangapuram Kishan Reddy

**9. India's Biggest Hockey Stadium was inaugurated in Odisha :** Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister (CM)

of Odisha, inaugurated the Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium, India's largest hockey stadium, in terms of seated (chair) capacity of 20,000, in Rourkela, Odisha. The Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium, named after freedom fighter Birsa Munda, is built over 15 acres of land at the campus of the Biju Patnaik University of Technology (BPUT) in Rourkela.

**10. Purple Fest: Celebrating Diversity": India's First Festival of Inclusion held in Goa :** 'Purple Fest:

Celebrating Diversity' (Purple Fest 2023), India's 1st of its kind inclusive festival commenced at the Entertainment Society of Goa in Panaji, Goa. Purple Fest aims to showcase how to come together to create a welcoming and inclusive world for everyone.

**11. Y20 Summit India Curtain Raiser Event: Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur launches the**

**Themes of the Y20 Summit :** Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, launched the themes of Youth 20 (Y20) Summit, logo, and website in the Curtain raiser event of Y20 Summit India at Akashwani Rang Bhawan New Delhi, Delhi. The Youth20 Group's inception meeting

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will take place in Guwahati, Assam, from 6th to 8th February 2023. India is hosting the Y20 Summit for the 1st time. The Y20 is the official youth engagement group for the G20 (Group of 20), the forum for the world's largest and most advanced economies. The 5 themes of Y20:

Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation & 21st Century skills. Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a way of life. Peacebuilding and Reconciliation: Ushering in an era of No War. Shared Future: Youth in Democracy and Governance. Health, Wellbeing & Sports: Agenda for Youth.

- 12. MV Ganga Vilas': Modi Flagged off World's Longest River Cruise in Varanasi, UP:** Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, flagged off the 'MV Ganga Vilas', the world's longest river cruise in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (UP). The 51-day luxury cruise, passing through 27 river systems, will cover a distance of 3,200 km from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh to Dibrugarh in Assam, via Bangladesh. The first trip of the cruise hosts 32 tourists from Switzerland.
- The river cruise is aimed to promote tourism and create new job opportunities. The expected date of arrival of MV Ganga Vilas in Dibrugarh is on 1st March, 2023.
- 13. India's 1st CoE for Online Gaming to be set up in Shillong by March 2023:** During his two-day visit to Meghalaya, Minister of State for Electronics & Information Technology and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, stated about the launch of India's first Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Online Gaming at Shillong, Meghalaya by March 2023. Objective: To catalyse startups and entrepreneurs from the entire North East Region to build the next generation Online Gaming ecosystem. The CoE will be set up by Digital India Startup Hub through the Software Technology Parks of India. About Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology: Union Minister – Ashwini Vaishnaw (Rajya Sabha Odisha)
- 14. ICAI Releases the First-Ever Audit Standard for Sustainability Information:** The Sustainability Reporting Standards Board (SRSB) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) released Standard on Sustainability Assurance Engagements (SSAE) 3000, "**Assurance Engagements on Sustainability Information.**" This audit standard for sustainability information is the first of its kind in the world, developed by ICAI to assist its members in providing "reasonable or limited" assurance on such information by reporting entities. **Note:** Sanjeev Singhal is the Chairman of the Sustainability Reporting Standards Board (SRSB), ICAI. Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). The ICAI is a statutory body formed by an Act of Parliament under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. It acts as the authority responsible for establishing national standards and accounting rules in India. President – Debasish Mitra Vice President – Aniket Talati Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi
- 15. Adani Enterprises partners with Ashok Leyland & Ballard to Develop Asia's 1st Hydrogen powered mining truck:** Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL), the flagship entity of Adani Group, signed an agreement with Chennai (Tamil Nadu)- based Ashok Leyland and Ballard Power Systems of Canada to start a pilot project to develop a hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Truck (FCET) for mining logistics and transportation. This partnership marks the 1st planned hydrogen-powered mining truck in Asia. FCET

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is planned to be launched in India in 2023. AEL will lead the demonstration project, Ballard Power will supply the FCmove fuel cell engine for the hydrogen truck, and Ashok Leyland will provide the vehicle platform and technical support.

- 16. Gol to Hold the First Global Tourism Summit in April 2023 As Part of Its G-20 Presidency:** As part of its Group of Twenty (G20) presidency, the Government of India (GoI) will host the country's first **"Global Tourism Investors Summit 2023"** in April 2023, with participation from all G20 members. India holds the Presidency of the G20 from December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2023. The Union Ministry of Tourism will organize the Global Tourism Investors Summit 2023, with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) as the industry partner, and it is scheduled to take place in New Delhi, Delhi, from April 10 to 12, 2023.
- 17. Cyclone-I: Inaugural Indo-Egypt Joint Special Force Training Exercise held in Rajasthan:** Exercise Cyclone-I, the first edition of a joint exercise between the special forces of the Indian Army and the Egyptian Army is being conducted in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan with an aim to boost defence co-operation between the India and Egypt. 14 days long exercise is being conducted since 14th January 2023. The exercise aims to boost the defence cooperation between India and Egypt. **Note:** Cyclone I which was planned to be held in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 8th to 22nd January 2022 was postponed. About Exercise Cyclone-I: This first-of-its-kind exercise brings together the special forces of both India and Egypt on a common platform. About Egypt: President- Abdel Fattah El-Sisi Capital- Cairo Currency- Egyptian Pound
- 18. India's Civil 20 Engagement Group Inaugurated at Amritapuri, Kerala:** India's Civil 20 Engagement Group (C20), the official engagement group of India's G20 (Group of 20) leadership representing the voices of non-profit, voluntary citizens' groups in service to society, was inaugurated at Amritapuri in Kollam, Kerala. Key People: The representatives of G20 and C20, government officials and other dignitaries virtually participated in the event. Sri Mata Amritanandamayi (Amma), the chair of C20, Amitabh Kant, Former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India).
- 19. World Economic Forum 2023 Summit held in Davos, Switzerland :** The World Economic Forum (WEF) held its 53rd Annual Meeting, **"World Economic Forum—2023"** [Davos Summit], from January 16 to 20, 2023, in the highest city in Europe, Davos, Switzerland. The theme of the WEF Summit 2023 is **"Cooperation in a Fragmented World."** The WEF hosted the event in collaboration with the Swiss government and the Canton of Graubünden. What is the World Economic Forum? The World Economic Forum (WEF) is an annual gathering of leaders from business, politics, and academia to discuss the most pressing issues confronting the global economy. About Annual Meeting It was the 53rd edition of the Annual meeting of the WEF. The meeting has brought together 2,700 leaders from 130 countr...
- 20. Chandigarh's Administrator Inaugurates North India's largest floating Solar Project of 2000kWp :** Banwari Lal Purohit, Governor of Punjab and Administrator of Chandigarh, inaugurated North India's

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largest floating Solar project of 2000kWp(Kilowatt peak) at Water Works in Chandigarh. He also inaugurated a 500kWp floating Solar Project with Fountains at Dhanas Lake in Chandigarh. The 2000kWp solar project in the water works of Chandigarh is a unique floating project and it is a one of its kind solar plant in North India. Capacity: Annually, these projects will generate a minimum of 35 lakh Units (kWh - kilowatt-hour) of solar energy with 20% module efficiency. Total Cost: The 2000kWp plant at water works has been installed at a total cost of Rs 11.70 crores and the 500kWp plant at Dhanas Lake has been installed at a cost of Rs 3.34 crores. **Note:** The Dhanas lake with a fountain was developed and beautified as a part of the efforts of CREST and the Forest and Wildlife Department.

- 21. NITI Aayog's AIM, CBSE, Intel India Collaborate to Bring Change in Education Sector :** A tripartite agreement has been inked between the NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission(AIM); Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)- Ministry of Education (MoE); and Intel India to bring a change in the education sector by utilizing future skills, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), in the formal curriculum. It was signed during an event at Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, Delhi which was attended by Dr. Chintan Vaishnav, Mission Director, AIM. Aim of the Agreement: **i.** To increase the pace of tech integration for youth **ii.** To bridge the future skills gap in the country. **iii.** To optimize the current infrastructure (ATLs, etc). About National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog: CEO- Parameswaran Iyer Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi Establishment- 2015
- 22. Indian Railways Introduces "Ideal Train Profile" To Maximize Seat Occupancy :** The Indian Railways has introduced the "Ideal Train Profile" to maximize capacity utilization and revenue generation in reserved mail express trains by analyzing the demand pattern of each individual train on a regular basis. The "Ideal Train Profile" is essentially a decision support tool for seat capacity optimization, as there can be more than 5,000 different ticket-class combinations on a single train journey.
- 23. MoE Released AISHE 2020-21: Enrolment in Higher Education Increases to 4.14 crore :** The Ministry of Education (MoE) released the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-2021. AISHE 2020-21 was the 11th annual Survey and 1st Survey being conducted using an entirely online data collection platform through the Web Data Capture Format (Web DCF), which was Developed by the Department of Higher Education and the National Informatics Centre (NIC).
- 24. Kerala becomes India's 1st State with Full Digital Banking Service :** Kerala has become the first state in India to go fully digital in its banking service. It was declared by the Chief Minister (CM) of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan during an event. Kerala also received three 'Digital India' awards for the advancement in the digital sector viz. silver medal for Ksheerashree portal, platinum award for Digital Workforce Management System, and gold medal for District Administration of Kottayam. It should be noted that Kerala is the only State in India that has declared 'the right to Internet' as a basic right of its citizens.



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- 25. International Kite Festival 2023 Begins In Ahmedabad, Gujarat :** On 8th January 2023, Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat inaugurated the International Kite Festival 2023 at Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. The festival is organised by Gujarat Tourism on the G20 theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. Apart from Ahmedabad, the International Kite festival will also be organised in Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Dwarka, Somnath, Dhordo, and Kevadia. This festival will promote India's G-20 presidency and more than 800 kite flyers from across India and the world will participate and display their unique creations during the festival.
- 26. Union Minister Jitendra Singh releases the Theme of National Science Day 2023 :** On 9th January 2023, Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, released the theme for the National Science Day 2023 titled "Global Science for Global Wellbeing" at National Media Centre in New Delhi, Delhi. The theme indicates India's emerging global role and rising visibility in the international arena. National Science Day (NSD) is annually observed across India on February 28 to commemorate the discovery of the "**Raman Effect**". In 1986, the Indian government declared February 28th to be National Science Day (NSD). Sir C.V. Raman announced the discovery of the "Raman Effect" on 28th February 1928, for which he was given the Nobel Prize in 1930
- 27. Govt Allocates Rs 1037.90 Crore to New India Literacy Programme for A 5-Year Period (FY23-FY27) :** The Government of India (GoI) has allotted Rs. 1037.90 crore for the New India Literacy Programme (NILP), a centrally sponsored programme (CSS), for a 5-year period, from fiscal years 2022-23 (FY23) to 2026-27 (FY27).  
New India Literacy Programme (NILP) i. The Foundational Literacy and Numeracy component of NILP aims to reach 5 crore learners over a 5-year period from FY23 to FY27. ii. The programme has 5 objectives: Foundational Literacy and Numeracy; – Critical Life Skills; Vocational Skills Development; Basic Education; Continuing Education; iii. Financial Outlay - The GoI will contribute Rs. 700 crore out of the total financial outlay of Rs. 1037.90 crore, while the state will contribute Rs. 337.90 crore. The DIKSHA (Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing) portal, developed by the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), provides access to the teaching and learning resources.

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**RAVI DHIMAN**  
CENTER HEAD

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- ❖ We prepare Students for Previous Year & Latest Pattern Based Questions.
- ❖ We have Provided Best Results.

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- 28. MP's Vidisha Becomes India's 1st District for on-Ground Deployment of 5G Use Cases Offered by Startups :** Vidisha, an aspirational district of Madhya Pradesh(MP) becomes India's first district for on-ground deployment of 5G(fifth-generation) use cases offered by startups. This is a joint initiative by Vidisha District Administration and Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, under the guidance of V.L Kantha Rao, Additional Secretary (Telecom) & Administrator of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).
- 29. FSSAI notifies first-ever Regulatory Standards for Basmati Rice :** For the first time in India, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has formulated identity standards for basmati rice (including brown basmati, milled basmati, parboiled brown basmati, and milled parboiled basmati) through Food Safety and Standards (Food Products Standards and Food Additives) First Amendment Regulations, 2023. These standards will be implemented from August 1, 2023. Basmati rice in the Himalayan foothills of the Indian subcontinent and is universally known for its long grain size, fluffy texture and unique inherent aroma and flavour.

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- 1. ILO Report: Half of The World's Workforce Works Too Much or Too Little :** According to the International Labour Organization (ILO) report "Working Time and Work-Life Balance Around the World", more than half of the world's workforce doesn't typically work a nine-to-five schedule. About the International Labour Organization (ILO): ILO is the only tripartite United Nations (UN) agency that brings together governments, employers, and workers from 187 member countries. India is a founder member of the ILO. Director-General – Gilbert Fossoun Hounbo Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland Establishment – 1919
- 2. New members join United Nations Security Council :** On 3rd January 2023, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) officially welcomed Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, and Switzerland, who now hold the two-year seats that they won without opposition in June, in charge of preserving international peace and security. Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland are the 5 countries replacing India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico and Norway, whose terms ended on 31st December 2022. China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US) are permanent UN members.
- 3. 21st edition of Naval Exercise VARUNA between India and France begins:** On January 16, 2023, the 5-day long i.e. till January 20, 2023, the 21st edition of the bilateral naval exercise between the Indian Navy (IN) and French Navy commenced on the Western Seaboard. Initiated in 1993, it is a bilateral exercise between the navies of India and France. However it was christened as 'VARUNA' in 2001.
- 4. European Union Establishes Its First Mainland Satellite Launch Port:** The European Union (EU) has launched its first mainland orbital launch complex, "Spaceport Esrange," a new satellite launch

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and reusable rocket test facility at Esrange Space Center near the city of Kiruna in northern Sweden. It was inaugurated by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, King of Sweden Carl XVI Gustaf, and Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson. The EU will utilize it to complement its current launch capabilities in French Guiana. **Note:** The European Commission is the executive branch of the EU, a 27-nation bloc. 'Spaceport Esrange': Arctic Spaceport.

- 5. ILO Report 'WESO Trends' 2023: Jobs Growth Slow, Unemployment High, More People Pushed to Poverty :** According to the "World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2023" (WESO Trends), released by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the present global economic slowdown is anticipated to worsen social and economic inequalities. As a result, more workers will be forced to accept lower-quality, poorly paid jobs with no job security or social protection, increasing inequality that has already been worsened by the COVID-19 crisis. According to projections, global employment would expand by 1.0% in 2023, a significant drop (less than half the level) from the 2.3% growth rate in 2022. Global unemployment is expected to rise slightly in 2023, by roughly 3 million, to 208 million. This amounts to a 5.8% unemployment rate. The report also defines the 'Global Jobs Gap' as a new, comprehensive indicator of unmet employment needs. About the International Labour Organization (ILO): Director-General- Gilbert Fossoun Houngbo Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland Establishment- 1919
- 6. Nikkei Asia Report: India Surpasses Japan to Become the World's 3rd Largest Auto Market :** According to the Nikkei Asia report, India surpassed Japan as the world's third-largest auto market in 2022. According to preliminary results, India's new vehicle sales were at 4.25 million units, surpassing Japan's 4.2 million units. China remained the global leader in automobile sales in 2021, with 26.27 million units, followed by the United States (US) in second place with 15.4 million vehicles and Japan in third place with 4.44 million units.
- 7. Henley Passport Index 2023: Indian Passport Ranks 85th; Gives Visa-Free Entry to 59 Destinations Worldwide :** According to the 'Henley Passport Index 2023' released by Henley & Partners, a London-based global citizenship and residence advisory firm, the Indian passport ranks 85th in the Henley Passport Index 2023, the world's most powerful passport index, and gives visa-free entry to 59 destinations worldwide. Previously, India was ranked 82nd, 84th, 85th, and 83rd in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, respectively.
- 8. WEF Global Risks Report 2023: Cost of Living Crisis and Digital Inequality Among India's Risks :** The World Economic Forum (WEF) has published 'The Global Risks Report 2023' (18th Edition), which lists the biggest risks for India over the short and medium terms. These risks include cost-of-living crisis, digital inequality, geopolitical competition for resources, natural disasters, and extreme weather events. The Global Risks Report 2023 summarises the findings of the latest Global Risks Perception Survey (GRPS). About the World Economic Forum (WEF): Managing Director (MD) – Saadia Zahidi Established – 1971 Headquarters – Cologny, Geneva Canton, Switzerland

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- 9. India among top 3 nations in Expanding Organic Farming in 2020; Argentina Tops :** According to “The World of Organic Agriculture Statistics & Emerging Trends 2022” report by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL & IFOAM – Organics International(formerly known as the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements), India is among the top 3 countries in the world, where the total area under organic agriculture expanded the maximum in 2020.
- 10. India Likely to Surpass China as the Most Populous Country by 2023 :** India, which presently has 1.38 billion people, is on track to overtake China, which currently has 1.4 billion people, as the world's most populous country in 2023. India's population is expected to reach 1.668 billion in 2050, surpassing China's 1.317 billion at the time. This can be attributable to the fact that China's population began to decline in 2022, for the first time in six decades since 1962. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of China reported that as of the end of 2022, China's population was 1.41175 billion, a decrease of about 850,000 people from the end of 2021. The last time China recorded a decline in population was in 1961, the final year of the Great Famine under former leader Mao Zedong. About People's Republic of China: President – Xi Jinping Capital – Beijing Currency – Renminbi (RMB).
- 11. Veer Guardian 2023: 1st edition of India-Japan Joint Air Defence Exercise held in Japan :** Veer Guardian-2023, a joint Air Exercise between India and Japan involving the Indian Air Force and Japan Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) was held at Hyakuri Air Base, Japan and its surrounding airspace in Omitama and Iruma Air Base in Sayama, Japan from 12th January 2023 to 26 January 2023. This is the inaugural edition of the bilateral Air Exercise 'Veer Guardian 2023' between India & Japan. About the Indian Air force (IAF): Chief of the Air Staff - Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi Established- 1932 About Japan: Prime Minister- Fumio Kishida Capital- Tokyo Currency- Japanese yen
- 12. South Africa to host 15th BRICS summit at Durban in late August 2023 :** Sergei Lavrov, the foreign minister of Russia, and Osman Saleh, the foreign minister of the State of Eritrea, jointly announced South Africa's Durban as a host of the 15th BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) Summit. The summit will be held in August 2023. Previously, South Africa hosted the 5th BRICS Summit from 26 to 27 March 2013. In April 2011, South Africa participated, for the first time, in the 3rd BRICS Summit held in Sanya, China. Since 2009, the BRICS leaders have convened 14 formal meetings and 9 informal meetings.

## **BANKING & FINANCE**

- 1. SBI, HDFC & ICICI Banks in the RBIs 2022 list of D-SIBs :** On January 2, 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the 2022 list of Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) based on the data from March 31, 2022. In this, State Bank of India (SBI), ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank kept the status as D-SIBs, under the same bucketing structure as in the 2021 list of D-SIBs. D-SIBs are

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interconnected entities, whose failure can impact the whole of the financial system and create instability. They are also known as 'too-big-to fail' banks. SBI will be in the 3rd bucket with an Additional Common Equity Tier (CET)-1 requirement as a percentage of Risk Weighted Assets (RWAs) of 0.60%. ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank will be in the 1st bucket with an Additional CET-1 requirement as a percentage of RWAs of 0.20%. Table showing list of D-SIBs with Additional CET1 capital requirement. **Key Points:** i. The additional CET-1 requirement for D-SIBs was launched on April 1, 2016, and became effective from April 1, 2019. ii. The additional CET1 requirement will be in addition to the capital conservation buffer. iii. SBI and ICICI Bank were designated as D-SIBs in 2015 and 2016 respectively while HDFC Bank became D-SIB in 2017.

- 2. ADB, India sign \$220 million loan pact to Strengthen Power Sector in Tripura :** On January 3, 2023, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India (GoI) signed a \$220 million loan pact for Tripura Power Distribution Strengthening and Generation Efficiency Improvement Project. The loan amount will be utilized towards improving energy security, quality of supply, efficiency, and resilience of power sector in Tripura.
- 3. ICICI Bank Introduces First-of-its-Kind Digital Solutions for Exporters :** In a first-of-its-kind industry initiative, ICICI Bank Limited, a leading private sector bank in India, has launched Digital Solutions For Exporters, a comprehensive set of banking and value-added services on a single platform. The initiative intends to improve operational efficiency of exporters by decongesting the current time-consuming manual procedures. Exporters with an ICICI Bank relationship will benefit from the ease of instant and digital Export Packing Credit (EPC). This service is available for export-import transactions through 'Trade Online', the flagship digital platform of ICICI Bank.
- 4. RBI Launches Medium-Term Strategy Framework "Utkarsh 2.0" For 2023-2025 :** The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Shaktikanta Das, has launched the "Utkarsh 2.0" Medium-Term Strategy Framework for the period 2023-2025. Utkarsh 2.0 would enable the RBI to respond to socioeconomic challenges in both a proactive and reactive manner. Utkarsh 2.0 relies on the strengths of Utkarsh 2022 by retaining the six vision statements, as well as the core purpose, values, and mission statement. The first strategy framework, "Utkarsh 2022", covering the period 2019-2022, was launched in July 2019.
- 5. Axis Bank & OPEN Collaborate to Launch a Fully Digital Current Account :** Axis Bank Limited (Axis Bank), India's third-largest private sector bank, has partnered with Open Financial Technologies Pvt Ltd (OPEN), a digital banking firm, to give its customers a fully native digital current account journey. This is Axis Bank's first collaboration with a fintech company to develop a fully digital current account. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), freelancers, homepreneurs (home-based entrepreneurs), influencers, and other clients would benefit from the Fully Digital Current Account. The digital current account authentication process will be entirely online, using the PAN (permanent account number) and Aadhaar, followed by a video KYC (know your customer) process. Open Financial Technologies Pvt Ltd (OPEN) i. OPEN, a neo-banking platform headquartered in Bangalore,

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Karnataka, was founded in 2017. A "neo-bank" is a kind of digital bank that does not have any physical locations. They use artificial intelligence (AI) and technology to give clients personalized services while reducing operating costs. **ii.** OPEN operates the SME neo-banking platform 'Open Money', the embedded finance platform 'Zwitch', and 'BankingStack', the enterprise digital banking platform for banks. **iii.** Open, India's 100th Unicorn, is backed by top global investors such as IIFL Finance, Temasek, Google, Visa, and Tiger Global, among others.

### **6. RBI to Issue Its Maiden Green Bonds for Rs. 16,000 Crore in Two Tranches of Rs. 8,000 Crore Each :**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that the maiden Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) for an aggregate sum of Rs. 16,000 crore will be issued in two tranches of Rs. 8,000 crore each in January and February 2023, with the intention of mobilizing resources for green infrastructure. The proceeds would be used to fund public-sector projects that will help India reduce its carbon emissions.

### **7. RBI Released State Finances Study Report; Advises State against Risk over Reverting to OPS:**

On January 16, 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the annual report titled "State Finances: A Study of Budgets of 2022-23", which provides data and analysis of the fiscal position of State governments in India for FY23. The theme of the Report: "**Capital Formation in India - The Role of States**". Key Fiscal Indicators: **i.** The States' capital outlay-GDP (Gross Domestic Product) ratio is budgeted to increase to 2.9 percent in FY23 from 2.3 percent in FY22. **ii.** The ratio of revenue expenditure to capital outlay (RECO) for the States is budgeted to improve to 5.2 in FY23 from 6.1 in FY22. About the Reserve Bank of India (RBI): Governor – Shaktikanta Das Deputy Governors – Mahesh Kumar Jain, Michael Debabrata Patra, M. Rajeshwar Rao, T. Rabi Sankar Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra Establishment – 1935

### **8. RBI issues Guidelines on Acquisition in Banks; Protean's arm gets RBI nod for AA Licence: i.**

On January 16, 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued 'Acquisition and Holding of Shares or Voting Rights in Banking Companies Directions, 2023' which allowed promoters to hold 26% from the current 15% of the paid-up share capital or voting rights of a bank after the completion of 15 years from commencement of its business. **ii.** This increase in the cap on promoters' stake is based upon the Internal Working Group (IWG) recommendations in 2021. **iii.** If the shareholder intends to get a strategic stake, the board has to inform the RBI even if the shareholding is less than 5%. **iv.** The guidelines also bar investors from countries not compliant with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) rules. **v.** Protean eGov Technologies Limited (formerly NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure Limited), has received approval from the RBI for its wholly owned subsidiary to operate as an Account Aggregator (AA) with an NBFC (Non-Banking Financial Company)-AA certificate.

### **9. RBI Prior Approval Now a Must for Picking Up Over 5% Stake in Banks:**The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) mandated in its "**Reserve Bank of India (Acquisition and Holding of Shares or Voting Rights in Banking Companies) Directions, 2023**" published on January 16, 2023, anyone who intends to make an acquisition that is likely to result in a major shareholding in a banking company

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should first obtain the RBI's prior approval by submitting an application. "Major shareholding" refers to a person's "aggregate holding" of 5% or more of the paid-up share capital or voting rights in a banking company. These directions are issued in accordance with the powers granted by Sections 12, 12B, and 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. The RBI has granted final approval to Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL) for it to operate as a Bharat Bill Payment Operating Unit (BBPOU) under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007. About Paytm Payments Bank Ltd (PPBL): Chairman- Vijay Shekhar Sharma Headquarters- Noida, Uttar Pradesh Establishment- 2017

- 10. PNB Becomes the First PSB to Launch Credit Card Against FDs Digitally:** Punjab National Bank (PNB) has become the first Public Sector Bank (PSB) to introduce a credit card against fixed deposits (FDs) digitally, for customers who do not fulfill the eligibility criteria for regular credit cards. PNB has introduced two types of consumer credit cards: 'PNB Global Gold' and 'PNB Global Classic', which are designed to meet various income levels and customer needs. These are global credit cards that were developed in association with the payment gateway provider, VISA. About the Punjab National Bank (PNB): MD & CEO – Atul Kumar Goel Established –1894 Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi Tagline – The name you can bank upon
- 11. Three Key Takeaways from RBI's Report On State Government Budgets:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released a report titled "**State Finances: A Study of Budgets for 2022-2023**" on January 16, 2023, under the theme "Capital Formation in India: The Role of States." The report is an annual publication that presents information, analysis, and an assessment of state government finances for 2022–2023 (FY23) in comparison to actual and revised/provisional accounts for 2020–2021 and 2021–2022, respectively. Click here to know more. The three key observations from the RBI report are as follows: **i.** The report states that the state's debt to gross domestic product (GDP) ratio continues to be extraordinarily high. **ii.** The report claims that the contingent liabilities of state governments have also significantly increased. **iii.** The report also warns of new concerns, with some states preferring to return to the Old Pension Scheme (OPS).
- 12. LIC launches Guaranteed Return Life Insurance Plan 'Jeevan Azad':** The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has unveiled Jeevan Azad (Plan No. 868), a new non-linked, non-participating plan designed for individual savings and life insurance. The plan offers an attractive combination of protection and savings. About the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC): Chairperson– Mangalam Ramasubramanian Kumar Established – 1956 Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 13. RBI Data: Indians Remitted Nearly USD 2 Billion Under LRS Scheme in November 2022:** According to the most recent Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data on "Outward Remittances under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) for Resident Individuals," Indians remitted about USD 1.99 billion in November 2022 under the LRS. Outward remittances under LRS increased 29% to USD 1.99 billion from USD 1.54 billion in November 2021. Sequentially, the outward remittances under LRS increased by around 3.5%. The data was released in the January 2023 Bulletin of the RBI. Liberalised

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Remittance Scheme (LRS) i. The Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) of the RBI was launched in 2004, with an initial ceiling of USD 25,000. The LRS limit has been gradually revised to align with the current macroeconomic and microeconomic conditions. ii. The scheme allows all residents, including minors, to freely remit up to USD 250,000 each fiscal year for any permitted current or capital account transaction, or combination of both.

- 14. RBI January 2023 Bulletin: RBI to Direct Inflation Toward a 4% Target by 2024:** According to the article titled "**State of the Economy**" published in the "January 2023 bulletin" of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the RBI's 2023 monetary policy objective is to keep inflation within the required tolerance band (2%-6%) and lead it towards the medium-term target of 4% by 2024, which is the second milestone. The first monetary policy milestone has been reached, with inflation now falling inside the tolerance band. **Key Points:** i. According to provisional data issued by the National Statistical Office (NSO) on January 12, 2023, Retail inflation, as measured by Year-on-year (y-o-y) fluctuations in the all-India Consumer Price Index (CPI), slowed to 5.7% in December 2022 from 5.9% in November 2022. It was driven by a significant drop in food inflation. After remaining above the RBI's tolerance range of 2%-6% for 10 months, it has fallen below 6% for the second consecutive month. Inflation has been declining after reaching 7.4% in September 2022.
- 15. Axis Bank & IISc Signs MoU to Set up Centre for Mathematics and Computing :** Axis Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, Karnataka to establish a Centre for Mathematics and Computing at IISc. About Axis Bank: Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive officer (CEO) - Amitabh Chaudhry Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra Establishment - Axis Bank established in 1993 was the first of the new private banks to have begun operations in 1994. Tagline - Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi
- 16. "PayRup": India's Fastest Payment App Has Been Launched :** PayRup, India's fastest payment app, has been launched. PayRup is built on cutting-edge Web 3.0 technology and offers an enhanced digital payment experience with an exceptional user experience. PayRup was launched by Mahadevappa Halagatti at a launch ceremony held at Lulu Mall in Bangalore, Karnataka. About PayRup: Established – 2017 Headquarters – Bengaluru, Karnataka
- 17. UBI Sanctions 150 Agri Drone Loans for Garuda Kisan Drones under AIF :** On 12th January 2022, Chennai-based Drone Startup, Garuda Aerospace Pvt Ltd, partnered with the Union Bank of India (UBI). Under this partnership, 150 Garuda Agri Kisan drones have received sanction for Loan under the Union Kisan Pushpak Scheme. This partnership is for the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme and capital subsidy under sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM). The UBI has launched the Union Kisan Pushpak Scheme for financing Kisan Drones in the field of digitisation of land records and operations in crop production, spraying of fertilisers, chemicals, growth promoters and pesticides which helps farmers in growing their crop yield and improving their income. About Union Bank of India (UBI): Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - A. Manimekhalai



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Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra Establishment – 1919 Tagline - Good People To Bank With

**18. BOB Financial Solutions Limited launches Vikram Credit Card Dedicated to Soldiers :** BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB), launched 'Vikram - the contactless RuPay credit card' dedicated to the Indian defence, paramilitary, and police personnel on the occasion of 74th Republic Day celebrations i.e. January 26, 2023. It will be offered as Lifetime Free (LTF) and it comes with reward points and an activation gift of a complimentary OTT (Over-The-Top) subscription. About Bank of Baroda (BoB): Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Sanjiv Chadha Headquarters – Vadodara, Gujarat Establishment – 1908 About BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL): MD & CEO- Shailendra Singh Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra Tagline- Credit Reimagined

**19. NSE Ranked 3rd In The Equities Segment & World's Largest Derivatives Exchange in 2022 :** Futures Industry Association (FIA), a derivatives trade body, the National Stock Exchange of India Ltd (NSE India) has once again emerged as the world's largest derivatives exchange in terms of the number of contracts traded in 2022. The NSE India has retained its top spot for a record-breaking 4th year in a row. Furthermore, according to World Federation of Exchanges (WFE) statistics, the NSE was named the 3rd largest exchange in the world in the equity segment by the number of trades (electronic order book) in 2022, up from 4th in 2021. About the National Stock Exchange of India Ltd (NSE India): MD & CEO – Ashishkumar Chauhan Incorporated in – 1992 (commenced operations as a stock exchange in 1994) Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra.

## **ECONOMY & BUSINESS**

- 1. ISRO, Microsoft join hands to Empower Space-Tech Startups in India :** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Microsoft India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to support and promote the growth of space technology startups in India. The MoU aims to empower Indian space tech startups with technology tools and platforms, go-to-market support, and mentoring to help them scale and become enterprise ready. The government has opened up the space sector for private players. More than 100 active startups are based in India and work in the space-tech sector.
- 2. First Advance Estimates of National Income, 2022-23: India's GDP Likely to Grow at 7% in FY23 :** The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI), has released its First Advance Estimates (FAE) of National Income for the financial year 2022–2023 (FY23) at both constant (2011–12) and current prices. According to the NSO's first FAE, the Indian economy will grow at a rate of 7% in FY23, up from 8.7% in FY22. Real GDP, or GDP at constant (2011-12) prices, is estimated to be Rs 157.60 lakh crore in FY23, compared to a Provisional Estimate of GDP of Rs 147.36 lakh crore in FY22, announced on May 31, 2022. Nominal GDP, or GDP at current prices, is estimated to be Rs. 273.08 lakh crore in FY23, compared to a Provisional Estimate of GDP of Rs. 236.65 lakh crore in FY22, announced on May 31, 2022.

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- 3. World Bank Report: Indian Economy to Grow at A Robust 6.6% In FY24 :** According to the latest Global Economic Prospects (January 2023) report released by the World Bank (WB), the Indian economy is projected to grow at a robust 6.6% in fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24), down from an estimated 6.9% in FY23 and 8.7% in FY22.
- 4. IN-SPACE signs MoU with Nascent Info Technologies for GIS Applications :** The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Nascent Info Technologies Private Limited for technical collaboration for the development of various Geographic Information System (GIS) applications. Geographic Information System (GIS) Applications: A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a computer system that maps and examines changes on Earth by analysing and displaying spatially related data from a range of data sources.
- 5. Retail Inflation Eases to One-Year Low of 5.72% In December 2022 :** According to data provided by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Retail Inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) decreased to a one-year low of 5.72% in December 2022. This decrease was primarily caused by a sharp deflation (-15.08%) in vegetable prices and an easing of price pressures in the broader "food and beverages" category. In November 2022, the retail inflation rate was 5.88%.

## AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- 1. BCCI Releases Names of India's Best Players of 2022 in all 3 Formats :** On 31st December 2022, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) released the names of the players who were the best performers of Team India across all 3 formats - One Day Internationals (ODIs), T20 and Test in 2022. 2022 Performances: Test Format: i. In 7 Test Matches, Rishabh Pant scored 680 runs at an average of 61.81 runs per game. His highest total was 146 runs. ii. In 5 Test Matches, Jasprit Bumrah (Fast Bowler) grabbed 22 wickets despite having ongoing injuries. **ODI format:** i. In 17 ODIs, Shreyas Iyer scored 724 runs, with 113 as his top score. ii. In 15 ODIs, Mohammed Siraj took 24 wickets in the 50-over format. **T20I format:** i. In 31 T20Is, Suryakumar scored 1164 runs with the highest score of 117. ii. In 32 T20Is, Bhuvneshwar claimed 37 wickets.
- 2. Capt Shiva Chouhan Becomes 1st Woman Officer to be Deployed at Siachen, World's Highest Battlefield :** Captain Shiva Chouhan, hailing from Rajasthan, has become the first woman officer of the Indian Army to get operationally deployed at Siachen Glacier, Karakoram range in the Himalayas in Ladakh, the world's highest battlefield after training at Siachen Battle School. She is posted at the "Kumar Post" at an altitude of 15,632 feet where night temperatures are close to -25 degree Celsius.
- 3. President Droupadi Murmu Presents Digital India Awards – 2022 (7th edition) :** The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, presented the Digital India Awards 2022, the 7th edition of the Digital India Awards (DIA), in New Delhi, Delhi, on January 7, 2023. The DIA awards are administered by the National Portal of India, which provides a single-window access to information and services offered by

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government institutions at all levels (centre, state, and local bodies). The Digital India Awards 2022 (DIA 2022) were given to the winners in seven various categories, such as: Digital Initiatives at Grassroots Level; Digital Empowerment of Citizens; Digital Initiatives for Ease of Doing Business; Public Digital Platforms - Central Ministries, Departments and States; Data Sharing and Use for Socio Economic Development; Digital Initiatives in Collaboration with Startups; Best Web & Mobile Initiatives Complying with GIGW & Accessibility Guidelines.

**4. India Honours 82 Best Agripreneurs with Awards on National Youth Day 2023:** On the occasion of National Youth Day 2023 (12th January), the government of India presented the National Awards to 82 best Agripreneurs trained under the Central Sector Scheme – Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business (AC&ABC) at the National Agripreneurs Award ceremony was held at NASC Complex, New Delhi, Delhi.

**5. R'Bonney Gabriel of USA crowned Miss Universe 2022:** R'Bonney Gabriel of the United State of America (USA) was crowned 71st Miss Universe 2022 during the Miss Universe 2022 pageant held in New Orleans, Louisiana while Amanda Dudamel of Venezuela was named as the first runner-up, and Andreina Martinez of the Dominican Republic was named as the second runner-up. R'Bonney Gabriel was crowned by the Miss Universe 2021 Harnaaz Sandhu. **Key Points:** i. The Miss Universe 2022 pageant saw the participation from over 80 different nations. R'Bonney Gabriel, a 28 year old, is a fashion designer from Houston, Texas, Notably, Miss USA wins the contest for the first time in eleven years. ii. From India, Miss Diva Universe 2022 Divita Rai entered into the prestigious Top 16 category.

**6. Captain Surbhi Jakhmola Becomes 1st Woman Officer Posted on Foreign Assignment at BRO:** Captain Surbhi Jakhmola, an Indian Army officer from 117 Engineer Regiment, has been posted in the Project Dantak of Bhutan, she becomes the 1st woman officer to be posted on a foreign assignment at the Border Roads Organisation (BRO). Project Dantak: i. Project Dantak, is an overseas project of the Border Roads Organisation under the Ministry of Defence of India. ii. Project Dantak was established in April 1961 as a result of the vision of His Majesty the Third King of Bhutan, Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, and then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru.

**Over 1000 Indian peacekeepers awarded UN Medals for Outstanding Service in South Sudan:**

Over 1000 Indian Peacekeepers were honoured with the prestigious United Nations (UN) medals for their vital work in the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) in Upper Nile, South Sudan. 1,171 Indian Peacekeepers have received the UN medals. Out of the 1,171 recipients of UN medals in 2023, 5 were women. According to the UN, the Indian contingent will be renowned for its efforts in safeguarding civilians as well as building and repairing critical infrastructure.

**7. UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023: Odisha Wins Bronze Award for Slum Upgradation Program "Jaga Mission":** Odisha has won the "Bronze Award" in the United Nations Human Settlements Programme's (UN-Habitat) "World Habitat Awards 2023" for the Jaga Mission, a 5T programme of the state. [5T: Transparency; Technology; Teamwork; Time & Transformation] Jaga Mission – 'Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission' is India's largest land titling and slum upgrading initiative,

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and one of the largest in the world. Jaga Mission – Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission i. The Jaga Mission is an ongoing project in Odisha aimed at improving the lives of slum dwellers. It uses a comprehensive strategy to combat poverty, focussing on three key issues. ii. The Government of Odisha has set an aspirational target of becoming the first slum-free state in India, and it is leading the Jaga Mission to upgrade all 2,919 slums in the state.

About Odisha: Chief Minister (CM) – Naveen Patnaik Governor – Ganeshi Lal

### **8. 80th Annual Golden Globe® Awards 2023: RRR's "Naatu Naatu" wins Best Original Song Award**

: On 11th January 2023 the Hollywood Foreign Press Association® (HFPA) announced the winners of 80th Annual Golden Globe® Awards 2023, at an event held in Los Angeles, California, United states of America (USA). The Golden Globe awards has been annually presented by HFPA since 1943. Jerrod Carmichael has hosted the award ceremony. **"Naatu Naatu"** from RRR bags Best Original Song Award: **"Naatu Naatu"** Song from SS Rajamouli's Telugu film **"RRR"** won the Best Original Song-Motion Picture. The award was shared among M M Keeravani, composer of the track, and Chandrabose, lyricist of the song. • 'Naatu Naatu' became the first Asian song to win a Golden Globes award. • Keeravani received the trophy during the award ceremony. • The fictional Telugu movie "RRR" starring Ram Charan, Jr NTR, Alia Bhatt, Ajay Devgn and Shriya Saran was also nominated for 'best picture-non English'.

### **9. Gol announces winners of Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for 2023**

: On 23rd January 2023, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, the Government of India (GoI) has selected the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) and Lunglei Fire Station (LFS), Mizoram, for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar (SCBAPP) for 2023 under the Institutional category for their excellent work in Disaster Management. About Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar: Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar(SCBAPP) was instituted by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the Government of India(GoI) in 2018 to recognise and honour the invaluable ...

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- ❖ Small Size Batch.
- ❖ Individual Attention to Each Student.
- ❖ We take Regular Test.
- ❖ We prepare Students for Previous Year & Latest Pattern Based Questions.
- ❖ We have Provided Best Results.

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### **10. Visakhapatnam Railway Station receives 'Green Railway Station Certification' with Highest Platinum Rating:**

Visakhapatnam railway station of East Coast Railway has been awarded the "Green Railway Station Certification" with the highest Platinum rating by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for adopting green concepts thereby reducing the adverse environmental impact. Visakhapatnam station secured 82 out of 100 points in 6 environmental categories, such as sustainable facilities, health, hygiene, energy and water efficiency, smart green initiatives, and innovation and development. IGBC Green Railway Stations rating system: i. IGBC Green Railway Stations rating system is the first of its kind holistic rating in India to address environmental sustainab...

### **11. Padma Awards 2023: President Approves 106 Padma Awards; List Includes 6 Padma**

**Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan, 91 Padma Shri Awards, With 7 Posthumous Awardees :** On January 25, 2023, the Padma Awards 2023 were announced by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on the eve of India's 74th Republic Day. The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, has approved the conferment of 106 Padma Awards for the year 2023. Padma Awards, one of India's highest civilian honours, are given in three categories: Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri. **"Padma Vibhushan,"** India's second-highest civilian honour, is given for exceptional and distinguished service. **"Padma Bhushan"** is given for distinguished service of high order **"Padma Shri"** is given for distinguished service in any field Padma Awards 2023. The 106 Padma Awards in 2023 comprises 6 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan, and 91 Padma Shri Awards, including 3 duo cases (in a duo case, the award is counted as one). There are 19 women among the awardees, as well as 2 persons from the category of Foreigners/ Non-Resident Indian (NRI) / Person of Indian Origin (PIO) / Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) and 7 Posthumous awardees.

## **APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS**

- 1. Indian Army Appoints Lt Gen Arvind Walia as its New Engineer-in-Chief:** Lieutenant (Lt) General (Gen) Arvind Walia, a 1986 batch officer and an alumnus of the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun has been appointed as the next Engineer-in-Chief of the Indian Army. He succeeds Lt Gen Harpal Singh who is superannuating on 31st December 2022.
- 2. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva sworn in as 39th President of Brazil :** On 1st January 2023, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, the veteran left-wing politician, known widely as Lula, was sworn in for the 3rd term as the President of the Republic of Brazil during the inauguration ceremony held at the National Congress, in Brasilia, Brazil. He was sworn in as the 39th president of Brazil by winning the 2022 Brazilian general election against far-right leader Jair Bolsonaro (incumbent President of Brazil (from 2019 to 2022)).
- 3. BharatPe CEO Suhail Sameer Steps Down & CFO Nalin Negi appointed interim CEO :** Suhail Sameer, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BharatPe, a Fintech startup, has announced his

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resignation from the CEO position and will transition into strategic adviser with effect from 7th January 2023. Nalin Negi, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of BharatPe, is set to take over as the interim CEO of BharatPe.

- 4. BSE appoints Sundararaman Ramamurthy as MD and CEO :** industry expert Sundararaman Ramamurthy has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BSE Limited (formerly Bombay Stock Exchange) with effect from 4th January 2023, for a period of 5 years.
- 5. India Takes Over Leadership Of Asian Pacific Postal Union; Vinaya Prakash Singh Elected As Secretary General :** Dr. Vinaya Prakash Singh, former Member (Personnel), Postal Services Board, will take over as Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) for a 4-year term, following the successful elections held during the 13th APPU Congress in Bangkok (Thailand) in August–September 2022. With this, India will take over the leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) in January 2023. Note: India has been a member of APPU since 1973. Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) i. The Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) is an intergovernmental organisation with 32 member countries in the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region. The APPU was established in Manila (Philippines) in 1962 and has been headquartered in Bangkok since 2002. ii. The APPU is the APAC region's only restricted union of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), a specialized institution of the United Nations (UN). It seeks to extend, facilitate, and improve postal relations between member nations and to foster collaboration in the postal services sector.
- 6. RBI approves Appointment of Surinder Chawla as New CEO of Paytm Payments Bank :** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Surinder Chawla as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL). The appointment has been approved by the RBI for a period of 3 years. Surinder Chawla is currently serving as Head of Branch Banking at RBL Bank (formerly known as Ratnakar Bank).
- 7. India Assumes Presidency of 13th International Renewable Energy Agency:** India has assumed the presidency of the 13th assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the first international organisation solely dedicated to renewable energy, which was held from January 13–15, 2023, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE). Union Minister Raj Kumar Singh (R.K. Singh), Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), delivered the opening remarks at IRENA's 13th assembly. 13th Assembly of IRENA. i. The theme of the 13th IRENA assembly is "**World Energy Transitions: The Global Stocktake.**" Objective: To establish energy transition priorities in advance of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28), which will be hosted by the UAE from November 30 - December 12, 2023. About the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA): Director-General – Francesco La Camera Established – 1981 Headquarters – Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates Members – 167 countries & the European Union (EU)

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- 8. Michael Patra reappointed as RBI's Deputy Governor for One Year :** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the reappointment of Michael Debabrata Patra as the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a further period of one year with effect from the 15th January 2023. Michael Debabrata Patra's 3-year tenure comes to an end on 14th January 2023
- 9. UAE Names Oil Chief Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber as COP28 Climate President :** The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has named Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology of UAE and Group Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), as President of the COP28 climate summit. The 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) will be held in Dubai, UAE, from 30th November to 12th December 2023. Conference of the Parties (COP):
- According to UNFCCC, the COP is the convention's top decision-making body.
  - All States that are Parties to the Convention are represented at the COP, which examines the implementation of the Convention and any other legal instruments that the COP adopts.
  - It also makes decisions regarding institutional and administrative arrangements that are necessary to support the Convention's effective implementation.
  - The COP27 Sharm el-Sheikh Climate Change Conference was held in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt in 2022.
- 10. Chris Hipkins Becomes 41st Prime Minister of New Zealand , Jacinda Ardern resigned :** Chris Hipkins (44 years old), leader of the Labour Party, was sworn in as the 41st Prime Minister (PM) of New Zealand by the governor-general Cindy Kiro, King Charles representative in New Zealand, during a ceremony in Wellington, New Zealand. Chris Hipkins took over the premiership succeeding Jacinda Ardern (42 years old), after she tendered her resignation to Governor-General Cindy Kiro on 25th January 2023. Carmel Sepuloni was also sworn in as the deputy PM, the first time that a person with Pacific Island heritage has taken the role. About New Zealand: Prime Minister – Chris Hipkins Governor General – Cindy Kiro Capital – Wellington Currency – New Zealand dollar
- 11. Gol Extends tenure of Sangeeta Verma as Acting Chairperson of CCI :** The Government of India (Gol) has extended the tenure of Sangeeta Verma as acting Chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI). In October 2022, She was appointed as the acting Chairperson of CCI for a period of 3 months following the retirement of Full time chairman Ashok Kumar Gupta on 25th October 2022. About Competition Commission of India (CCI): Chairperson - Sangeeta Verma Headquarters - New Delhi, Delhi Establishment - 2003
- 12. India elected as Vice-Chair at the 12th session of FAO's ITWG on AnGR :** During the 12th Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group (ITWG) on Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) at Rome, Italy from January 18-20, 2023, India was elected as the Vice-Chair and represented the Asia & Pacific region. Dr Bhupendra Nath Tripathi, Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences), ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research), and the National Coordinator, vice-chaired the Session

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and also acted as Rapporteur. What is ITWG? It was created by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO's) Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) at its 7th Session in May 1997. It reviews technical issues, advises and makes recommendations to the Commission and further implements the Commission's programme related to AnGR at global level. About Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO): Director-General- QU Dongyu Headquarters- Rome, Italy Establishment- 1945

### **13. Petr Pavel, Former Chair of NATO Military Committee, elected as new President of Czech**

**Republic** : Petr Pavel (61-year-old), the former chairman of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) military committee, won the runoff vote defeating former Prime Minister (PM) Andrej Babis, to become the 4th President of Czech Republic. He will succeed Milos Zeman who steps down in March 2023 at the end of his 2nd term. About the Czech Republic:

Prime Minister (PM)- Petr Fiala Capital- Prague Currency- Czech Koruna

## **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

### **1. CJI DY Chandrachud launches E-SCR Project for Digital Version of Judgments Reported in SC**

:The Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Yashwant (DY) Chandrachud launched the Electronic Supreme Court Reports (E-SCR) project to provide free access to about 34,000 judgements of SC to lawyers, law students and the common public. This project is an initiative to provide the digital version of the SC's judgments in the manner as they are reported in the official law report i.e. SCRs. The project has been launched as a tribute to the nation in the New Year.

### **2. Gaganyaan: India's 1st Atmanirbhar human space flight to be launched by 2024:** On 1st January 2023, Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister for Science and Technology, announced that the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is ready to launch India's 1st Atmanirbhar human flight "Gaganyaan" by the year 2024.

### **3. Tata Boeing Aerospace Delivers 1st Fuselage for 6 AH-64 Apache Helicopters to Indian Army:**

Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited (TBAL), a joint venture (JV) between Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and The Boeing Company, delivered the first fuselage for six AH-64 Apache attack helicopters ordered by the Indian Army. The first fuselage, which is the primary body of an aircraft, was officially handed over to Lieutenant General Ajay Kumar Suri, Director General and Colonel Commandant of Army Aviation, before being dispatched by TBAL to Arizona in the United States (US) for final assembly. i. The Apache attack helicopter is regarded as the world's most advanced and deadliest attack helicopter, with over 1,275 AH-64 Apaches in operation worldwide. ii. Globally, these helicopters have completed over 4.9 million flight hours, 1.3 million of which have been in combat. Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) i. TASL is a leading private player in aerospace and defence solutions in India. ii. It is a fully owned subsidiary of Tata Sons and the strategic aerospace and defence division of the TATA Group. MD & CEO - **Sukaran Singh**



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Founded - 2007

- 4. Startup IG Drones develops India's first 5G-enabled drone, Skyhawk:** Startup firm IG Drones has developed India's first 5G-enabled drone namely 'Skyhawk' that is capable of vertical take-off and landing (VTOL), and can be used in defence and medical applications, among other sectors. It can carry a 10 kg payload and has an endurance of around five hours. Key Points: **i.** These drones can be controlled with much more precision and can be controlled from the command centre directly rather than being on the field. **ii.** It uses Artificial intelligence (AI) and thermal imaging capabilities which can monitor border intrusion and also during regular patrolling by the defence forces. **iii.** It is IP67 rated and can be controlled via a combination of NavIC + GPS navigational satellites which remain connected in the upper range of 50 to 60 in case of failsafe activation. **iv.** The drone is also capable of operating through satellites in case an internet link is not available.
- 5. India carries out successful test launch of Prithvi-II from Chandipur, Odisha :** India successfully test launched nuclear capable tactical ballistic missile Prithvi-II from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. The missile struck its target with high accuracy. This test was done to test the missile's night time capabilities. It has a range of around 350 km and can carry 500-1,000 kg of warheads. It uses an advanced inertial navigation system to strike the set target. It will be primarily used by the Indian Army.
- 6. Aditya-L1: India's 1st mission to Study the Sun to be launched by June-July 2023 :** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is set to launch the Aditya-L1 mission, 1st Indian space mission to observe the Sun and the solar corona, to the L1 orbit (which is the first Lagrangian point of the Sun-Earth system) by June or July 2023 since the launch window for the mission would close by August 2023. L1 orbit allows Aditya-L1 to look at the Sun continuously.
- Aditya-L1 Mission: **i.** The Aditya-1 Mission, originally known as Aditya-L1, was initially meant to put into an 800-kilometre (km) low-Earth orbit (LEO) as a 400-kg class satellite but it was later decided that the satellite would be launched into a halo orbit around the Sun-Earth system's first Lagrangian Point (L1). **ii.** Aditya-L1 is equipped with a total of 7 payloads, the Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) being the main one.

## **SPORTS**

- 1. Pranesh from TN Becomes India's 79th Chess Grandmaster; Wins Rilton Cup 2022/2023 :** M Pranesh (16-year-old) from Tamil Nadu (TN) became India's 79th Grandmaster (GM) after crossing the 2500 ELO rating and winning the Rilton Cup 2022/2023 held in Stockholm, Sweden. He crossed the 2500-rating threshold and became a GM, having completed his three norms before the Rilton Cup. He won his first norm at the 18th Delhi GM Open in January 2020 and claimed his second norm at the Sunway Sitges International Chess Festival in Spain in December 2021. He won his third norm at the Asian Continental Chess Championship 2022. About GrandMaster (GM): **i.** Grandmaster (GM) is the

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highest title a chess player attain and it is awarded by the world chess organisation FIDE (Fédération Internationale des Échecs - International Chess Federation). To become a GM, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points. ii. The other titles by FIDE include International Master (IM), FIDE Master (FM) and Candidate Master (CD), which are open to all chess players regardless of gender.

- 2. 2023 Hyderabad E-Prix: Hyderabad to host India's 1st ABB FIA Formula E World Championship Race :** Hyderabad, Telangana is set to host the 2023 Hyderabad E-Prix, India's 1st ever ABB FIA (Federation Internationale de l'Automobile) Formula E World Championship race, all-electric motorsports, on 11th February 2023. The 2023 Hyderabad E-Prix is round 4 of the 17 races for the 9th Season of the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship. The 2022–23 ABB FIA Formula E World Championship marks the 9th Season Championship which will be organised between January and July 2023. The race will be held at the new Hyderabad Street Circuit alongside Hussain Sagar Lake, Hyderabad, Telangana.
- 3. FIDE World Rapid and Blitz Championships 2022:** Koneru Humpy wins India's first Silver Medal at World Blitz Championships : Indian Grandmaster (GM) Koneru Humpy, a former world rapid champion, has won a Silver medal in the Women's World Blitz Championship at the FIDE (Fédération Internationale des Échecs) World Rapid and Blitz Championship 2022 held in Almaty, Kazakhstan from 25th to 30th December 2022. Koneru Humpy has won India's 1st ever Silver medal in the World Blitz Chess Championships defeating Zhongyi Tan of China. She finished with an outstanding 12.5 points, just 0.5 points behind Bibisara Assaubayeva of Kazakhstan, who won the gold medal. Koneru Humpy is the 2nd Indian to win a medal at World Blitz, after Viswanathan Anand.
- 4. 5th Khelo India Youth Games 2022: Mascots, Smart Torch, Theme Song Unveiled :** The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh (MP) Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Union Minister of State (MoS) Nisith Pramanik, Ministry for Youth Affairs and Sports (MoYAS) unveiled the Mascots, Smart Torch, Theme Song of the 5th edition of Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) 2022 during an event in Bhopal, MP. KIYG 2022 will be hosted by MP from January 30 to February 11, 2023, in MP's Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Mandla, Balaghat and Khargone (Maheshwar). Mascots: Asha (Female Cheetah) and Mowgli Torch: Amarkantak.
- 5. Hockey India launched Hockeyverse, becomes 1st National Sports Federation to Enter Metaverse :** On 9th January 2023, Hockey India launched the 'Hockeyverse' on their social media platforms ahead of FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela. With this launch Hockey India became the first National Sports Federation to enter the world of metaverse. The Hockeyverse will provide a new virtual experience which has unique attractions such as a replica of the newly built Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium.
- 6. FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023: Germany won its 3rd Hockey World Cup Title :** Germany (Nickname: Die Honamas) won the (Fédération Internationale de Hockey or International Hockey Federation) FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 by defeating the defending champions

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Belgium(Nickname: The Red Lions) by 5-4 in the Penalty shootout during the finals held in Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. This marks Germany's 3rd hockey World Cup title, earlier they won the world cup in 2002 and 2006. FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023, the 15th edition of the Men's FIH Hockey World Cup, is a quadrennial world championship for men's national field hockey teams organised by the FIH. FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 was held at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, Odisha and Birsa Munda International Hockey Stadium in Rourkela, Odisha from 13th to 29th January 2023. About Fédération Internationale de Hockey (FIH - International Hockey Federation): President- Tayyab Ikram Chief Executive Officer (CEO)- Thierry Weil Headquarters- Lausanne, Switzerland.

### **7. Winners of ICC Awards 2022 announced: India's Suryakumar Yadav & Renuka Singh Among**

**Winners :** The International Cricket Council (ICC) announced the winners of the ICC awards 2022, India's Suryakumar Yadav has won the ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year 2022 while compatriot Renuka Singh has won the ICC Emerging Women's Cricketer of the Year 2022 award. About International Cricket Council (ICC): Chair– Greg Barclay Chief Executive– Geoff Allardice Headquarters– Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) Establishment– 1909

### **8. Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn wins India Open Badminton title 2023, Korean An Seyoung wins**

**Women's Singles :** Shuttler Kunlavut Vitidsarn from Thailand won the India Open Badminton Championship 2023 by defeating Olympic champion Axelsen of Denmark to claim his maiden Super 750 tournament title in the men's singles by 22-20, 10-21 and 21-12. i. In the Women's Singles category, An Seyoung of South Korea won the title by defeating Japanese Akane Yamaguchi by 15-21, 21-16, and 21-12. Republic of Korea's An Se Young became the first player from her country to win the women's singles title. The Championship, officially named '**Yonex-Sunrise India Open 2023**' was held at KD Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi, Delhi from January 17 - 22, 2023. It was the second tournament of the HSBC BWF World Tour Super 750.

## **OBITUARY**

- 1. Former Tata Sons Director Padma Shri Awardee R.K. Krishna Kumar Passed Away :** On 1st January 2023, Tata group veteran and Former Director of Tata Sons, Padma Shri Awardee Rayaroth Kuttambally Krishna Kumar passed away in Mumbai, Maharashtra at the age of 84. In 2009, R.K. Krishnakumar received the Padma Shri award, India's 4th highest civilian honour, for his contributions to Indian Trade and Industry.
- 2. Jnanpith Winning Assamese Poet Nilmani Phookan Passed Away:** On 19th January 2023, Nilmani Phookan, a renowned Assamese poet and recipient of the Jnanpith Award and Padma Shri Awardee, passed away in Guwahati, Assam at the age of 89. He was born in 1933 in Dergaon (present-day Golaghat), Assam.

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About Nilmani Phookan: i. Nilmani Phookan started his career as a lecturer in 1964 at Arya Vidyapeeth College, Guwahati until his retirement in 1992. ii. He infused French symbolism into his Assamese poetry, which is evident in his poetry. His poems are inspired by the European symbolist movement in poetry. iii. The notable works of Nilmani Phookan are Surya Heno Nami Ahe Ei Nadiyedi (1963), Manas-Pratima (1971), Phuli Thaka Suryamukhi Phultor Phale (1971), and Gulapi Jamur Lagna. In 2020, he won the 56th Jnanpith Award, India's highest literary award. He was the 3rd recipient of Jnanpith from Assam after Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya and Mamoni Raisom Goswami.

**3. Greece's Last King & 1960 Olympic Gold Medalist Constantine II Passed Away :** On 10th January 2023, Constantine II, the former and last King of Greece who ruled Greece before the country became a republic in 1974 passed away in Athens, Greece, at 82. He was born on 2nd June 1940 in Psikhikó near Athens, Greece.

**4. Renowned Poet & Kashmir's 1st Jnanpith Awardee Abdur Rehman "Rahi" Passed Away :** On 9th January 2023, Kashmir's 1st Jnanpith awardee Professor Abdur Rehman Rahi, a renowned Kashmiri poet, translator, and critic, passed away at Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). He was born in Srinagar in 1925. About Abdur Rehman Rahi:

i. Abdur Rehman Rahi was a well-known poet who translated several famous authors' works into the Kashmiri language. As a translator, he did a translation of Baba Farid's Sufi poetry to Kashmiri from Original Punjabi.

**5. Former West Bengal Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi Passes Away :**

Keshari Nath Tripathi, former governor of West Bengal (July 2014 – July 2019) and 3-time Uttar Pradesh (UP) Assembly Speaker passes away at the age of 88 years in Prayagraj (Allahabad), Uttar Pradesh(UP). He was born on 10th November 1934, in Prayagraj (Allahabad), Uttar Pradesh(UP).

**6. Padma Awardee Dr Tehemton E Udwadia "Father of laparoscopic surgery" Passed Away :**

On 7th January 2023, Padma Awardee Dr Tehemton Erach Udwadia, an Indian Surgeon and Gastroenterologist, who was known as the 'father of laparoscopic surgery in India' passed away in Mumbai, Maharashtra, at the age of 88. He was born on 15th July 1934 in the Bombay Presidency, British India (now Mumbai, Maharashtra, India).

## **BOOKS & AUTHORS**

**1. Former IAS Kaki Madhava Rao Authored a New Book "Breaking Barriers" :** Former IAS officer Kaki Madhava Rao has authored a new book titled "Breaking Barriers: the Story of a Dalit Chief Secretary" which addresses the details about the dynamics of civil services at the ground level and also fills the gap in the knowledge about micro policies and governance.

**2. Shashi Tharoor's Latest Book "Ambedkar: A Life" Launched :** Renowned Author Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament (MP - the Lok Sabha - Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala), has launched his latest book "Ambedkar: A Life", a biography of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar at the Kitaab Kolkata

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Event, which was organised by the Prabha Khaitan Foundation (PKF) at the ITC Sonar presented by Shree Cement.

- 3.** Ex-CJI Ranjan Gogoi Releases Assam CM's Book "Mukhyamantrir Diary 1" :Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament (MP) and former Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi launched the book "Mukhyamantrir Diary 1" authored by Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister (CM) of Assam. The book chronicles the daily activities of the Himanta Biswa Sarma, during the 1st year of his tenure as CM.

## **STATE NEWS**

- 1.** **Chhattisgarh CM Celebrates Traditional 'Cherchera' Festival in Raipur** :On 6th January 2023, Bhupesh Baghel, Chief Minister (CM) of Chhattisgarh, celebrated the traditional Cherchera festival, an important harvest festival of Chhattisgarh which is popularly known as the "Rice bowl of India", at Dudhadhari Math in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The festival is celebrated on the full moon night of 'Paush' Hindu calendar month in the happiness of taking the crops to their homes after cultivation. The festival usually falls in the month of January
- 2.** **HP CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu Launched Rs 101 crore CM's Sukhashray Sahayata Kosh for the Needy** : On 1st January 2023, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Chief Minister (CM) of Himachal Pradesh (HP), launched CM's Sukhashray Sahayata Kosh with an outlay of Rs 101 crore for higher education for needy children especially orphans, destitute women and senior citizens with immediate effect. All 40 Congress Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) have agreed to deposit their first month's salary into the fund.
- 3.** **Defence Minister Inaugurates 2 Infrastructures in J&K and Ladakh to Improve Road Connectivity** : Union Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh virtually inaugurated 2 infrastructure projects - Maitra Bridge in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir(J&K) and the double-lane Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri road connecting the Ladakh region with J&K. The 2 projects are aimed to improve road connectivity in J&K and Ladakh
- 4.** **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Inaugurates Siyom Bridge in Arunachal Pradesh; Dedicates 28 BRO Infrastructure Projects Worth Rs. 724 Crore** : Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defense (MoD), dedicated to the nation 28 infrastructure projects of the Border Roads Organization (BRO) worth Rs. 724 crores in seven bordering States/Union Territories (UTs), during an event held at the Siyom Bridge along the Along-Yinkiong Road in Arunachal Pradesh. The Siyom Bridge, which is crucial from a strategic perspective, was physically inaugurated during the event, while the other projects were virtually dedicated to the nation.
- 5.** **Himachal Pradesh Targets to be 1st 'Green Energy State' by 2025**: Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Chief Minister(CM) of Himachal Pradesh(HP) announced that Himachal Pradesh targets to become the "first Green Energy State" by the end of 2025. This will be achieved by harnessing hydro, hydrogen and solar energy and switching on to green products that enhance the premium and advantage in export.

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**Key Points:** i. The CM also directed all the concerned departments including, Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd, (HPSEBL), Himachal Pradesh Energy Development Agency (HIMURJA), Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) and Department of Energy, to initiate action in this direction and make policy changes, wherever required. ii. He also recommended opening all the solar power projects(SPP) up to 5 MW capacity for allotment. About Himachal Pradesh: Chief Minister- Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu Governor- Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar.

- 6. UP govt launched UP Global City campaign to make urban bodies on par with global standards**  
: On 7th January 2023, The Uttar Pradesh (UP) Government launched a statewide 100-day 'UP Global City' campaign to transform the lifestyles of urban bodies of UP on par with global standards. The campaign was launched by Arvind Kumar Sharma, Minister of Urban Development, the government of UP. The 100-day 'UP Global City' campaign has been launched in all 762 urban bodies of UP.
- 7. Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma launches Shared School Bus System & Agriculture Response Vehicle Scheme**  
: Conrad K Sangma, Chief Minister (CM) of Meghalaya, flagged off 30 Shared School Bus systems and unveiled Prime Tourist Vehicles and an agriculture response vehicle scheme at a function held at U Soso Tham Auditorium, Shillong, Meghalaya. About Meghalaya: Chief Minister (CM)- Conrad K Sangma Governor- Brig. (Dr.) B D Mishra (Retd.) Capital- Shillong Wildlife Sanctuary- Siju Wildlife Sanctuary; Narpuh Wildlife Sanctuary
- 8. Delhi CM Launched Realtime Pollution Factors Gathering Mechanism**  
: Delhi's Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal launched mechanisms such as a real-time source apportionment 'supersite' and a mobile air quality management van to collect pollution data in real-time to identify factors that are responsible for increasing air pollution at any place in Delhi. Through this initiative, Delhi has become the first city in the country to get a real-time source segmentation of air pollution. The super site facility is located at Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya premises near ITO (Income Tax Office). The project has been initiated by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) in collaboration with IIT(Indian Institute of Technology) Kanpur, IIT Delhi, and TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute). The pollution forecasts from the super site will also help the government in taking policy decisions to combat pollution.

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**SUMIT KOUNDAL**  
EXPERTISE IN REASONING



**RAVI DHIMAN**  
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- ❖ Individual Attention to Each Student.
- ❖ We take Regular Test.
- ❖ We prepare Students for Previous Year & Latest Pattern Based Questions.
- ❖ We have Provided Best Results.