

# GK Now

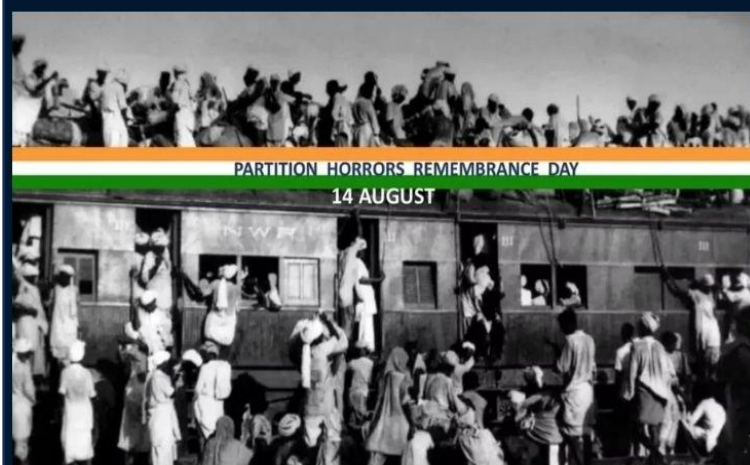
## Monthly Current Affairs

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- 150+ One Liner
- Details Current Affairs
- 150+ MCQs



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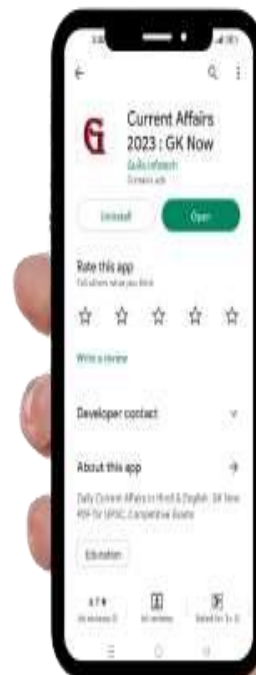
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## Art and Culture Current Affairs



### 69th National Film Awards : Best Actor Allu Arjun and Best Film “Rocketry: The Nambi Effect”

The 69th National Film Awards were announced by Chairperson of the Feature Film Jury Ketan Mehta on 24 August in New Delhi.

#### 69th National Film Awards:

1. **Best Feature Film:** “Rocketry: The Nambi Effect” directed by R. Madhavan.
2. **Best Actor:** Allu Arjun for “Pushpa: The Rise.”
3. **Best Actress:** Alia Bhatt for “Gangubai Kathiawadi” and Kriti Sanon for “Mimi.”
4. **Best Supporting Actress:** Pallavi Joshi for “Kashmir Files.”
5. **Best Supporting Actor:** Pankaj Tripathi for “Mimi.”
6. **Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment:** “RRR.”
7. **Best Film on National Integration (Nargis Dutt Award):** “The Kashmir Files” directed by Vivek Agnihotri.

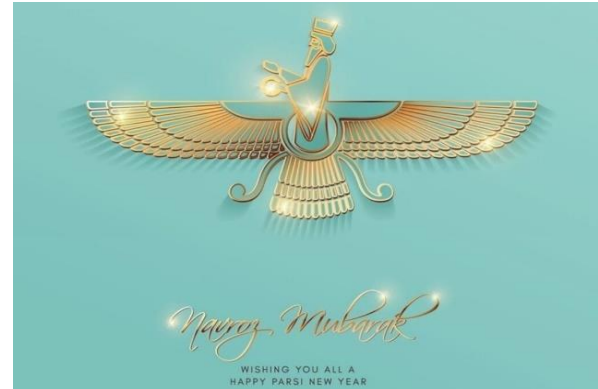
8. **Best Non-Feature Film:** “Ek Tha Gaon” directed by Srishti Lakhera.
9. **Best Direction:** Nikhil Mahajan for the Marathi film “Godavari.”
10. **Best Female Playback Singer:** Shreya Ghoshal for the song “Mayava Chayava” from “Iravin Nizhal.”
11. **Best Male Playback Singer:** Kaala Bhairava for the song “Komuram Bheemudo” from “RRR.”
12. **Best Lyrics:** Chandrabose for the Telugu film “Konda Palam.”
13. **Best Choreography:** Prem Rakshith for “RRR.”
14. **Best Music Direction:** Devi Sri Prasad for “Pushpa: The Rise” and M.M. Keeravaani for “RRR.”
15. **Best Hindi Film:** “Sardar Udham Singh” directed by Shoojit Sircar.
16. **Other Awards for “Sardar Udham Singh”:** Best Cinematography, Best Production Design, Best Costume Design.
17. **Best Child Artist:** Bhavin Rabari for the Gujarati film “Chhello Show.”
18. **Best Direction (Non-Feature Film):** Bakul Matiyani for “Smile Please.”
19. **Total Submissions:** 280 films from 28 languages were submitted for the awards in the year 2021.



## G20 Film Festival from August 16 to September 3, 2023, in New Delhi

The G20 Film Festival is a cultural event that showcases the diversity and creativity of the G20 countries through cinema. It is organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of India, in collaboration with the Directorate of Film Festivals, as part of the G20 Summit 2023 from August 16 to September 3, 2023, in New Delhi, India.

The G20 Film Festival feature 16 award-winning films from different genres and languages, such as **Pather Panchali** by Satyajit Ray (India), **We are Still Here** by Warwick Thornton (Australia), **Ana** by Charles McDougall (Argentina), and **The Cathedral** by Ali Asgari (Iran). The festival aims to reflect the soft power of India and the other G20 nations, as well as to promote dialogue and understanding among different cultures and societies.



## Parsi New Year (Navroz): August 16, 2023.

Parsi New Year, known as Navroz or Nowroz, is celebrated by the Indian Parsi community in Gujarat and Maharashtra. It marks the start of a new year according to the 'Shahenshahi' calendar and coincides with the Iranian New Year on the first day of spring. This year, Parsi New Year is being celebrated on August 16, 2023.

- It is named Jamshed-i-Nouroz after the legendary Persian king Jamshed, who introduced the Parsi calendar.
- The celebration involves wearing new clothes, decorating homes, visiting fire temples, offering prayers, exchanging greetings, and enjoying traditional dishes.
- The Parsi New Year promotes happiness and harmony among diverse cultures, with greetings of "Navroz Mubarak" or "Happy New Year."





## Festival of Libraries 2023 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi from 5 to 6 July 2023

President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Festival of Libraries 2023 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi on July 5, 2023. The two-day Festival is organized by the Ministry of Culture and aims to highlight iconic libraries from around the world.

1. The main objective is to initiate discussions on the modernization and digitization of libraries in India.
2. The festival is a part of the second phase of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav,' aligning with the Prime Minister's vision to promote library development and digitization, and to foster a reading culture in India.
3. The event aims to facilitate the formulation of action-oriented policies for the development of Model Libraries across India, including at the village and community levels.
4. It also marks the launch of a special ranking system for libraries in India, aiming to promote excellence and innovation in the library sector.
5. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar will attend the valedictory ceremony of the festival.



## President Draupadi Murmu Inaugurates “Utkarsh” and “Unmesh” Festivals Celebrating India’s Folk, Tribal Expressions, and Literature in Bhopal

President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated two festivals – “Utkarsh,” India’s folk and tribal expressions festival, and “Unmesh,” an international literature festival in Bhopal on 3 August 2023.

1. The event is organized by the Culture Department of Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with Sangeet Natak Akademi and Sahitya Akademi of the Union Ministry of Culture.
2. The festivals will take place from 3rd to 5th August.
3. Governor Mangubhai Patel and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan were present at the inaugural ceremony.
4. The President emphasized the significance of literature in reflecting and advancing humanity. Literature serves as a connection and takes society forward.
5. The President highlighted the “Amrit Kaal Mein Unmesh” program, which focuses on the

contemporary literary creations and their impact on readers.

6. The term “Utkarsh” means progress, and the President emphasized that the progress of tribal communities will contribute to the overall progress of the nation.
7. The President called upon everyone to take responsibility for preserving tribal traditions, languages, and cultures.



### [Venice Recommended for World Heritage Sites in Danger List by UNESCO](#)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in a recent report, has recommended adding the city of Venice to the list of world heritage sites in danger.

1. The report cites several factors putting the city at risk, including overwhelming tourism, over development, and rising sea levels due to climate change.
2. The aim of including Venice in the endangered list is to encourage better preservation of the city for the future.
3. The UNESCO report criticizes the Italian authorities for lacking a strategic vision to address the issues faced by the picturesque city.
4. The Venice municipality plans to discuss the report with the Italian government.
5. The report reflects concerns over the failure to protect the historic city and its surrounding lagoon.

## Venice, Italy

- Venice is a historic and iconic city located in northeastern Italy, built on 118 small islands in a lagoon.
- It is renowned for its intricate network of canals, picturesque waterways, and stunning architecture.
- The city is often referred to as the “City of Canals” and the “Floating City.”

## History and Culture:

- Venice has a rich history dating back to the 5th century when it was a major maritime power and trading center.
- During the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, Venice flourished as a prominent cultural and artistic hub.
- The city is renowned for its Venetian Gothic architecture, exemplified by landmarks like St. Mark’s Basilica and the Doge’s Palace.

## Unique Transportation:

- Instead of roads, Venice relies on an intricate network of canals and waterways for transportation.
- Gondolas, water taxis, and vaporettos (water buses) serve as the primary means of getting around the city.

## World Heritage Status:

- Venice has been recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for its outstanding cultural and historical significance.
- However, in recent times, concerns have been raised about the impact of mass tourism, climate change, and over-development on the city’s preservation.

## Economy Current Affairs



## India is the largest source of raw material for Human Hair globally

India is the largest source of raw material for Human Hair globally. The Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Anupriya Patel, provided this information in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha on 11 August 2023.

1. In the last fiscal year, India exported Human Hair worth 169.23 million dollars.
2. The PLEX Council is collaborating with the industry to participate in international trade shows.
3. The council is also partnering with the government to train Indian exporters to produce high-value products like wigs.



## RBI Keeps Key Interest Rate Unchanged, Introduces Borrower-Friendly Framework

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has maintained the key interest rate unchanged for the third consecutive time. The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) unanimously decided on 10 August 2023, to keep the repo rate steady at 6.5 percent.

1. The repo rate is the rate at which RBI lends money to commercial banks.
2. The standing deposit facility (SDF) rate is unchanged at 6.25 percent, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate remain at 6.75 percent.
3. The MPC's focus is on gradually withdrawing accommodation to align inflation with the target while supporting economic growth.
4. RBI has revised the Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation target for the current fiscal to 5.4 percent.
5. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das projected a real GDP growth of 6.5 percent for the fiscal year 2023-24.
6. RBI will introduce a framework allowing borrowers to switch from floating to fixed interest rates,

benefiting home, auto, and other loan borrowers.

7. Lenders will need to clearly communicate with borrowers about tenor and Equated Monthly Installments (EMI) under this framework.
8. The decision to introduce the framework follows supervisory reviews that revealed instances of lenders extending floating rate loan tenors without proper communication or borrower consent.





## Record 6.77 Crore Income Tax Returns Filed for 2023-24, 16% Increase Over Previous Year

Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) informed on 1 August 2023 that over 6.77 crore Income Tax Returns (ITRs) have been filed for the financial year 2023-24.

1. The total number of ITRs filed this year is 16% higher than the previous year, which saw 5 crore 83 lakh filings.
2. On the last day of filing, over 64 lakh ITRs were filed, indicating a significant surge in last-minute submissions.
3. The Income Tax Department received over 53 lakh ITRs from first-time filers, suggesting an increase in the number of new taxpayers.
4. More than 46% of the filed ITRs were submitted using the online ITR utility available on the e-filing portal.



## 28% GST on Casinos and Online Gaming

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced on 2nd August 2023 that a 28 percent Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be levied on casinos and online gaming based on their face value.

1. The implementation of the 28 percent GST on online gaming and casinos is scheduled to begin from the 1st of October.
2. The GST Council will review the implementation after six months.
3. In the previous meeting, the GST Council recommended taxing actionable claims supplied in Casinos, Horse racing, and Online gaming at 28 percent, regardless of whether they involve a game of skill or chance.
4. The Council also suggested amending the CGST Act 2017 and IGST Act 2017 to provide clarity on the taxation of supplies in casinos, horse racing, and online gaming.
5. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary, Finance Ministers of States and UTs, and senior officers of the Ministry of Finance.

## Environment Current Affairs

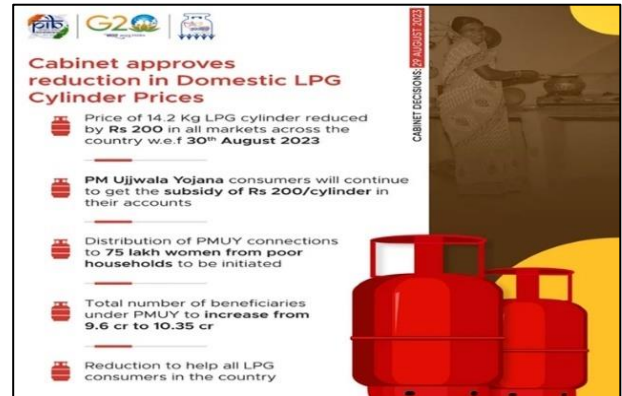


### Massive wildfire in Greece : EU sends Firefighters

A massive wildfire has been raging in northeastern Greece for over a week. The fire, which started on August 19, has tragically claimed the lives of 20 individuals. The fire has scorched an area of over 810 square kilometers, marking the largest wildfire in the European Union (EU).

- Despite efforts, the blaze remains uncontrolled within Dadia National Park, an important habitat for birds of prey in the northeast region.
- Greece has suffered from multiple fires this summer, which the government attributes to the effects of climate change.
- The European Union has dispatched eleven planes and one helicopter, along with 407 firefighters, to assist Greece in tackling a fire north of Alexandroupoli.

## Government Schemes Current Affairs



### Government reduces prices of domestic LPG Cylinder for all consumers

The government has announced a reduction in the price of domestic LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) cylinders by 200 rupees for all consumers on 29 August 2023.

1. **Enhanced Benefit for Ujjwala Beneficiaries:** The reduction amounts to 400 rupees per LPG cylinder for Ujjwala beneficiaries, a government initiative.
2. **Expansion of Ujjwala Scheme:** The government plans to provide 75 lakh new free LPG connections under the Ujjwala scheme.
3. **Ujjwala Scheme's Purpose:** The Ujjwala scheme is aimed at reducing indoor air pollution and promoting the use of clean fuels among impoverished households, ultimately curbing carbon emissions.

## Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 01.05.2016. The main objective of the scheme is to provide deposit free LPG connections to women from poor households. The Government had set a target of 5 Crore LPG connections to be distributed to the poor households under the scheme.



## Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) completed 9 years on August 28, 2023

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) completed nine years on August 28, 2023. Over 50 crore people have been brought into the formal banking system through Jan Dhan Accounts. Over 50 crore new bank accounts have been opened since the scheme's launch. Approximately 56% of Jan-Dhan account holders are women, and about 67% of the accounts are in rural and semi-urban areas. The total deposit balances in Jan Dhan accounts exceed two lakh three thousand crore rupees. More than 33 crore RuPay cards have been issued to Jan Dhan account holders. Around six crore 26 lakh account holders received direct benefit transfers from the Government under various schemes.

## What is Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)

The Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is a financial inclusion program launched by the Government of India. It was initiated on August 28, 2014, with the aim of providing access to financial services to all households in the country, particularly those that were excluded from the formal banking system. The key objectives of the Jan Dhan Yojana include:

1. **Universal Financial Inclusion:** The scheme seeks to ensure that every household in India has access to a bank account, making financial services accessible to even the most marginalized sections of society.
2. **Access to Banking Services:** Under the scheme, account holders are provided with a basic savings account, a RuPay debit card, and access to banking facilities such as deposit and withdrawal services.
3. **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** The Jan Dhan accounts are often used for direct benefit transfers of various government subsidies and welfare schemes. This helps in reducing leakages and ensuring that benefits reach the intended beneficiaries directly.
4. **Credit Facilities:** The scheme also promotes financial literacy and credit availability to the underserved population. It encourages banks to provide overdraft facilities to account holders after a certain period, helping them meet emergency financial needs.
5. **Insurance and Pension Schemes:** Jan Dhan account holders are also eligible for government-backed insurance and pension schemes, providing them with financial security in case of unforeseen events.
6. **Encouraging Saving Habits:** The scheme aims to encourage a culture of saving and financial discipline among the masses.



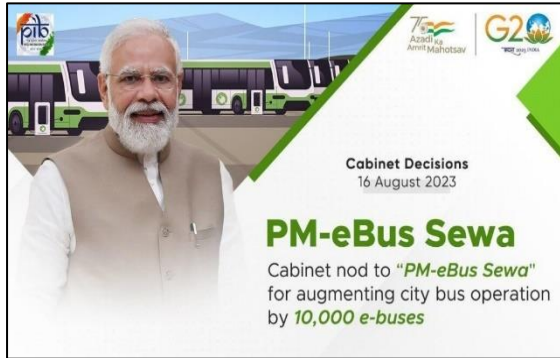
## PM Vishwakarma scheme : A Boost for Traditional Workers

The PM Vishwakarma scheme is a new initiative by the Indian government to support and empower the workers with traditional skills, such as pottery, blacksmithing, construction, tailoring, and boat-building. The scheme was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Independence Day 2023 and approved by the Cabinet with a budget of ₹13,000 crore. The main benefits of the scheme are:

- The workers will receive formal recognition for their skills through the PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card, which will help them access social security schemes, credit facilities, and market linkages.
- The workers will also get training and upskilling opportunities to enhance their productivity and quality of their products and services.
- The scheme will also promote the preservation and promotion of the traditional crafts and culture of India, which are facing challenges due to modernization and competition.

The PM Vishwakarma scheme is expected to benefit around 7 crore workers across the country who are engaged in various traditional occupations





## PM-eBus Sewa: Plan to Deploy 10,000 Electric Buses across 169 cities in India

PM-eBus Sewa is a scheme approved by the Cabinet of India on 16 August 2023 to deploy 10,000 electric buses across 169 cities in India. The scheme aims to enhance city bus operations, reduce air pollution, and promote electric mobility in the country.

The scheme will follow a public-private partnership (PPP) model, where the private sector will invest in procuring and operating the e-buses, while the central and state governments will provide financial support and incentives.

The scheme has a total outlay of ₹57,613 crores, out of which ₹20,000 crores will be provided by the central government. The scheme is expected to create employment opportunities, boost localisation of e-bus manufacturing, and save fuel and carbon emissions.



## Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme extended upto 31 March 2026

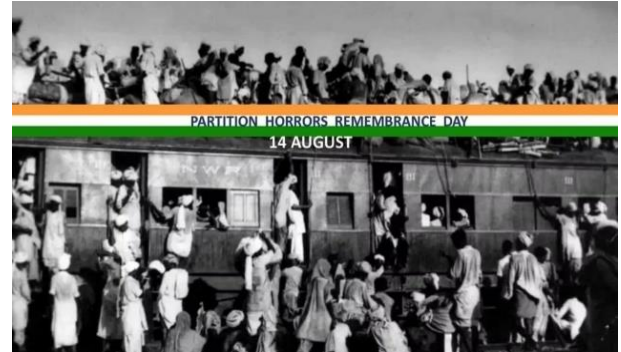
The New and Renewable Energy Minister, R. K. Singh, informed on 1 August 2023 that the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme has benefitted nearly 2.46 lakh farmers.

1. The scheme provides various benefits, including installation of solar pumps, solarization of existing grid-connected agricultural pumps, and installation of grid-connected renewable power plants.
2. The PM-KUSUM Scheme has been extended till 31st March 2026.
3. The initiative aims to provide clean energy to over 3.5 million farmers by solarizing their agriculture pumps and facilitating the setup of 10 GW distributed solar projects.
4. The main objective of the PM-KUSUM scheme is to provide financial and water security to farmers.
5. Farmers will receive a 60% subsidy for setting up tube wells and pump sets, and they will also get 30% of

the total cost as a loan from the Government.

6. The scheme offers farmers the opportunity to earn additional income by selling surplus power to the grid through solar power projects set up on their barren lands.
7. This scheme was launched on 08 March 2019.

## Important Days Current Affairs



### Partition Horrors Remembrance Day on August 14

India observed Partition Horrors Remembrance Day on August 14, 2023, to honor those affected by the violent partition of India in 1947.

- The day was first declared by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2021 to remember the sufferings and sacrifices of Indians during the partition.
- The partition resulted in the creation of India and Pakistan, marked by communal riots, massacres, rapes, abductions, and forced migrations.
- Approximately 15 million people were displaced and up to 2 million people were killed during the partition.
- The day is an occasion to learn from history and ensure such horrors are not repeated.
- Prime Minister Modi addressed the nation, acknowledging the victims of partition and emphasizing the importance of peace and harmony.

- He praised the resilience of partition survivors who contributed to India's development.
- Independence Day is also a time to renew commitment to nation-building.
- The day was marked by various events including candlelight vigils, prayer meetings, exhibitions, seminars, and cultural programs.
- Support for Partition Horrors Remembrance Day came from political parties, civil society groups, religious leaders, and celebrities, advocating for peace and harmony among all communities.



## World Lion Day – 10 August: Celebrating the king of the jungle

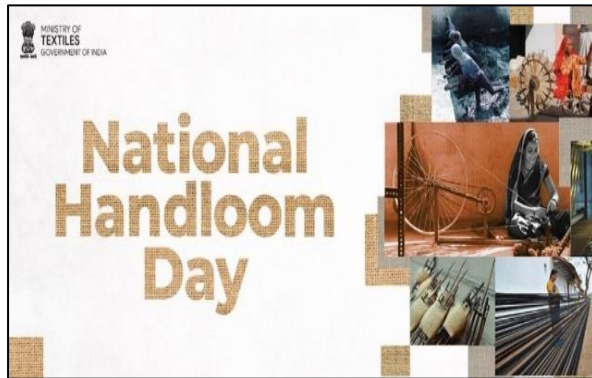
World Lion Day is celebrated on August 10 every year to raise awareness about the majestic and endangered lions and to mobilise support for their protection and conservation.

Lions are the largest and most social of all the big cats. They live in groups called prides and have a complex social structure. They are also the apex predators in their habitats and play a crucial role in limiting herbivore populations.

However, lions are facing many threats such as habitat loss, poaching, human-wildlife conflict, and disease. According to the IUCN, there are only about 20,000 lions left in the wild, mostly in Africa.

World Lion Day enables us to learn more about these magnificent animals and why their survival is vital for the ecological balance and human well-being. It also encourages us to take action to save them from extinction.

The Gir National Park of Gujarat is the only natural home of Asiatic lions in the world. Following the consistent efforts, the number of Asiatic lions has surged to 674 as of June 2020.



### PM Narendra Modi Launches 'Bhartiya Vastra evam Shilp Kosh' E-Portal at 9th National Handloom Day Celebration

Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the 9th National Handloom Day celebration on Monday (7th August 2023) at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, Delhi. During the programme, Mr. Modi also launched the e-portal of 'Bhartiya Vastra evam Shilp Kosh' – a Repository of Textiles and Crafts developed by the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT). The programme was attended by over 3000 handloom and khadi weavers, artisans, and stakeholders from the textile and MSME sectors. It brought together handloom clusters across India, NIFT campuses, Weaver Service Centres, Indian Institute of Handloom Technology campuses, National Handloom Development Corporation, Handloom Export Promotion Council, KVIC institutions, and various State Handloom Departments.

The Government started celebrating National Handloom Day in 2015, with the first celebration held on the 7th of August that year. The date was specifically chosen as an ode to the Swadeshi Movement, which was launched on 7th August 1905 and encouraged indigenous industries and, in particular, handloom weavers.

## International Current Affairs



### BRICS Summit 2023: Historic Expansion and New Members Announced

The 15th BRICS summit was held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 22-24 August 2023. Heads of state or government from Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, along with leaders from 67 other nations attended the summit.

#### Key Announcement at the Summit:

BRICS to Expand as Six New Members Join Fold from January 1st, 2024. The upcoming additions – Argentina, Iran, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, and Egypt.





## Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa re-elected for second term

Incumbent President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe was declared the winner of the presidential elections. The Zimbabwe Electoral Commission announced the election results, Mnangagwa secured an absolute majority and received 52.6% of the vote.

- Mnangagwa's victory maintains the Zanu-PF party's long-standing control over Zimbabwe's politics.
- The Zanu-PF party has held governmental leadership since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980.
- Nelson Chamisa, from the Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) party, received 44% of the vote.
- Opposition party representatives swiftly rejected the results, claiming they lacked proper verification.



## India handed over the B20 (Business 20) presidency to Brazil

India handed over the B20 (Business 20) presidency to Brazil on August 27. Rafael Lucchesi, Director General of SENAI, received the presidency from B20 India Chair N Chandrasekaran.

- B20 is the official G20 dialogue forum involving the global business community.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the B20 Summit.
- EAM Jaishankar also addressed the Business 20 Summit.
- The three-day summit occurred from August 25 to August 27.
- Approximately 1,500 delegates from around 55 countries attended the summit.
- India passed the B20 presidency to Brazil as Brazil prepares to host G20 in 2024.
- B20 India's theme during its G20 Presidency was "Vasudeva Katumbakam" (One Earth, One Family, One Future).



## India is participating in multilateral exercise Bright Star-23

An Indian Air Force (IAF) reached to Egypt to participate in the multilateral exercise Bright Star-23. The exercise involves the Egypt, US, Saudi Arabia, Greece, Qatar, and India is being held at the Cairo west air base from 27 August to 16 September 2023.

- This marks the IAF's first participation in the tri-service exercise.
- The IAF contingent includes MiG-29s, IL-78s, C-130Js, and C-17 aircraft, along with Garud Special Forces.
- The Indian Army personnel are being airlifted by IAF transport aircraft for the exercise.
- The main goal of the exercise is to practice joint operation planning and execution.
- The exercise aims to strengthen relations between the participating nations.



## PM Narendra Modi receive 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour' from the Greek government

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become the first Foreign Head of the Government to receive 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour' from the Greek government. Greek President Katerina N. Sakellaropoulou conferred the Award to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 25, 2023, in Athens.

1. This award is given to Prime Ministers and distinguished individuals who have contributed to enhancing Greece's stature due to their prominent positions.
2. The Order of Honour was established in 1975.
3. The discussions between Prime Minister Modi and the Greek Prime Minister during the visit were extensive and led to significant and productive outcomes.



## Srettha Thavisin Becomes Thailand's New Prime Minister

Srettha Thavisin, a wealthy property developer and political newcomer, has secured the position of Thailand's new Prime Minister by triumphing in a parliamentary vote held on August 22, 2023.

1. Thavisin, 61 years old, took leadership of the Pheu Thai Party, which has an alliance with former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.
2. Thavisin's affiliation with the Pheu Thai Party began just nine months ago. He gained recognition for supporting student-led protests advocating for democratic reforms in Thailand.
3. During the parliamentary session, Thavisin received 375 out of 749 votes, surpassing his competitor Prayut Chan-o-cha.
4. Prayut Chan-o-cha, a former army chief and the previous Prime Minister, came to power through a coup in 2014 and governed Thailand for seven years.



## BRICS Summit 2023: PM Modi announced "India's support for the expansion of BRICS"

During the 15th BRICS Summit's open plenary session in Johannesburg on August 23, 2023, Modi praised BRICS for its significant achievements over approximately two decades.

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the need to make BRICS future-ready by preparing the respective societies for the future.
2. He highlighted the importance of technology in achieving this goal.
3. Modi called for the support of all BRICS countries to include the African Union in the G20.
4. India suggested various ideas to reshape the BRICS agenda, including a railway research network, close cooperation among MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises), online BRICS databases, and support for start-up firms.
5. PM Modi announced that India's support for the expansion of BRICS
6. Modi proposed collaboration with the BRICS Space Exploration Consortium, focusing on space research and weather monitoring.



BRICS summit 2023 theme:  
‘BRICS and Africa: Partnership  
for Mutually Accelerated  
Growth, Sustainable  
Development, and Inclusive  
Multilateralism’

The 15th BRICS summit is being held in Pretoria, South Africa, from August 22 to 24, 2023, under the theme ‘BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development, and Inclusive Multilateralism’.

1. The summit is attended by the leaders of the five member states: Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping, and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.
2. The summit’s goals include strengthening cooperation among BRICS countries on trade, investment, health, education, science and technology, security, and sustainable development.
3. A BRICS-Africa Outreach Dialogue is part of the summit, where BRICS leaders engage with African country leaders and regional organizations.
4. A significant topic of discussion is the potential expansion of BRICS membership to include emerging economies like Turkey, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Egypt, facing challenges and opposition from existing members due to concerns about influence and leverage.
5. The role of Russia within BRICS is also a focus, with Russia aiming to use the platform to counter Western dominance and assert global leadership, especially in light of increasing pressure and sanctions from the West.





## Malabar 2023 : Multilateral naval exercise held from 11 to 21 August 2023

The 27th edition of the multilateral naval exercise Malabar 2023 has concluded in Sydney, Australia on 21 August 2023. Malabar 2023 is a **multilateral naval exercise** involving the navies of India, USA, Japan and Australia, also known as the **Quad**. The exercise aims to enhance the **cooperation, coordination and interoperability** among the participating nations in the **Indo-Pacific region**. The exercise was held from 11 to 21 August 2023.

- The exercise involved participation from the Indian Navy, Royal Australian Navy, Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force, and the US Navy.
- Representing the Indian Navy were the indigenously built Destroyer INS Kolkata, Frigate INS Sahyadri, and P8I Maritime Patrol Aircraft.
- The sea phase of the Malabar exercise included complex and high-intensity exercises in air, surface, and undersea domains, as well as weapon firings and cross-deck helicopter operations.
- The MALABAR series of maritime exercises began in 1992 as a bilateral exercise between the Indian Navy and the US Navy.
- Over the years, it has expanded to include participation from four prominent navies in the Indo-Pacific Region.



## 15th BRICS Summit in Johannesburg from August 22 to 24, 2023

South Africa is hosting the 15th BRICS Summit in Johannesburg from August 22 to 24, 2023. This marks the first in-person summit in four years due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

- The BRICS Summit is an international relations conference involving the heads of state or government of the five member states: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi, China's Xi Jinping, and Brazil's Jair Bolsonaro will attend the summit in person. Russia's Vladimir Putin will participate virtually.
- The summit's agenda includes discussions on trade, investment, health, security, climate change, the digital economy, and multilateralism.
- One of the aims of the summit is to strengthen cooperation among the BRICS countries and enhance their collective role in global affairs.



## WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine : 17-18 August 2023 in Gandhinagar

The WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine will be held on **August 17-18, 2023** in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat**, India, co-hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Government of India.

The Summit is a historic event that will bring together world leaders, experts, and practitioners to discuss the role and potential of traditional, complementary, and integrative medicine in addressing global health challenges and achieving universal health coverage.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on 16 August 2023, welcomed the Director General of the World Health Organisation, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, who arrived in India to attend the WHO-global Summit.

## Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar Elected as Pakistan's Caretaker Prime Minister

Pakistan has a new caretaker prime minister, Senator Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar, who was sworn in on August 13. He will oversee the national elections scheduled for October 2023.

- Kakar's appointment was the result of consensus between outgoing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and opposition leader Raja Riaz Ahmad.
- Senator Kakar is from Balochistan, a province in Pakistan that has been seeking greater autonomy and resource allocation due to insurgency.
- Kakar's political background includes being elected to the Senate in 2018 and serving as the spokesperson of the Balochistan government from 2015 to 2017.
- He is perceived to have close ties with Pakistan's military leadership, which historically has influenced the country's politics and elections.
- Kakar will lead a cabinet of technocrats and experts, and his main task is to ensure free and fair elections in a context of political instability, economic crisis, security challenges, and diplomatic isolation.



### MALABAR 2023 : maritime exercises between the Indian Navy and the US Navy.

Exercise MALABAR 2023 has commenced on 11 August 2023 in Sydney, Australia. Indian Navy's INS Sahyadri and INS Kolkata are actively participating in the 11-day exercise.

1. The exercise includes the involvement of ships and aircraft from the US Navy, Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force, and the Royal Australian Navy, in addition to the Indian Navy.
2. The MALABAR series of maritime exercises originated in 1992 as a bilateral event between the Indian Navy and the US Navy.
3. Over time, the exercise has grown in prominence and now includes the participation of four significant navies in the Indo-Pacific Region.
4. The exercise serves as a platform for enhancing and showcasing interoperability among the participating navies.
5. It also offers the Indian Navy the opportunity to learn and adopt best practices in maritime security operations from its partner nations.

### Aung San Suu Kyi partially pardoned by the military junta in Myanmar

Aung San Suu Kyi, the champion of Myanmar's democracy, has been pardoned on 1 August 2023 in five out of 19 charges brought against her by the military junta after the coup in 2021.

1. The amnesty was granted on the occasion of Dhamma Cakka Day, an important Buddhist religious day, and it will reduce her 33-year jail term by six years.
2. Suu Kyi, a 78-year-old Nobel Laureate, was transferred from prison to house arrest in the capital, Naypyitaw, the previous week.
3. The Military Junta extended the state of emergency for another six months on Monday, postponing the election that was promised by August of that year.
4. Critics argue that the extension of the state of emergency will prolong the crisis in Myanmar.



## National Current Affairs



### National Smart City Award : MP best state and Indore retains the best city spot

The fourth edition of the India Smart Cities Award Contest (ISAC) winners were announced by the central government on 25 August 2023. The contest was launched in April 2022 during the Smart Cities-Smart Urbanisation event in Surat.

1. Madhya Pradesh was recognized as the top-performing state in this edition of ISAC.
2. Indore, a city in Madhya Pradesh, retained its position as the winner of the National Smart City Award.
3. Tamil Nadu secured the second position among states, while Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh jointly held the third position.
4. Among cities, Surat and Agra ranked second and third respectively, following Indore.
5. Chandigarh received the Union Territory award in the contest.
6. In the previous edition of the contest held in 2020, Uttar Pradesh was the best-performing state, and Surat and Indore were joint winners in the city category.
7. President Droupadi Murmu is scheduled to felicitate the winners of ISAC 2022 awards on September 27, 2023, in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.



### Sachin Tendulkar declared as National Icon of Election Commission of India

Legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, a Bharat Ratna Awardee, has been declared the National Icon of the Election Commission of India (ECI). He addressed an event in New Delhi on 23 August 2023, emphasizing the importance of every vote for the nation's development.

1. This designation aims to raise voter awareness and promote participation in the electoral process.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Sachin Tendulkar and the Election Commission for a three-year partnership.
3. The partnership aims to tackle challenges related to urban and youth apathy towards voting.
4. The collaboration with Tendulkar is intended to boost voters' participation in upcoming elections, particularly the general elections scheduled for the next year.
5. The Election Commission regularly associates with prominent individuals from various fields and designates them as national icons to motivate voters.
6. Previously recognized national icons by the ECI include Pankaj Tripathi, MS Dhoni, Aamir Khan, and Mary Kom.





## [BNCAP: Enhancing Car Safety in India through New Rating System](#)

Bharat New Car Assessment Programme (BNCAP) is a car safety rating system for passenger cars in India launched by Union minister of road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari on August 22, 2023. BNCAP is based on the international standard called the Global New Car Assessment Programme (GNCAP), which assesses the crashworthiness of vehicles.

1. Car safety ratings in BNCAP will range from 1 to 5 stars, reflecting performance in crash tests that evaluate the impact on occupants and pedestrians during collisions.
2. The primary objective of BNCAP is to enhance the safety standards of cars in India, a country with a high rate of road fatalities.
3. BNCAP also intends to empower consumers to make informed decisions about the safety features of the cars they purchase.
4. Implementation of BNCAP is scheduled to start from October 1, 2023, covering all new car models sold in India.



## [India Secures Second Rank at International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics](#)

India achieved the second rank at the 16th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) held in Chorzów, Poland from August 10 to August 20, 2023.

- India secured four Gold Medals and one Silver Medal in the competition.
- The United Kingdom secured the lead with five Gold Medals.
- The Olympiad saw the participation of 236 students from 50 nations, collectively earning a total of 27 gold, 41 silver, and 50 bronze medals across all categories.
- Gold medals were awarded to Rajdeep Mishra from Kota, Rajasthan, Koduru Tejeswar from Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, Md. Sahil Akhtar from Kolkata, West Bengal, and Akarsh Raj Sahay from Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- Sainavaneet Mukund from Bangalore, Karnataka received a silver medal.
- The Indian team was guided by Prof. Surhud More from IUCAA, Pune, and Pritesh Ranadive from HBCSE-TIFR, Mumbai.



## Enhancing Mobile SIM Card Security: Mandatory Biometric Verification and New Measures Introduced by Government

Communication Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw informed on 17 August 2023 that the government has introduced measures to enhance security in the mobile SIM card distribution process.

- Legal action has been taken, with 300 FIRs lodged, and measures such as blocking 66 thousand WhatsApp accounts and eight lakh payment wallet accounts.
  - In the new initiative, Point of Sale engaging in illegal activities will be terminated and blacklisted for up to 3 years.
  - To prevent misuse of printed Aadhaar, demographic details will be captured by scanning the QR code of printed Aadhaar.
- 
- Biometric verification of mobile SIM card dealers will now be mandatory.
  - The bulk connection mechanism for SIM cards will be discontinued.
  - Registration will also be compulsory for all point-of-sale dealers to ensure transparency.
  - These decisions aim to prevent cyber frauds, fraudulent calls, and protect users.
  - The Sanchar Sathi Portal has been instrumental in detecting and deactivating 52 lakh fraudulent connections.
  - Approximately 67 thousand SIM card dealers have been blacklisted due to fraudulent activities.



### President Droupadi Murmu launched India's newest warship 'INS Vindhyagiri' in Kolkata

President Droupadi Murmu launched India's new warship 'INS Vindhyagiri' on August 17, 2023, at GRSE's facility in Kolkata. The warship is an advanced stealth frigate named after the Vindhyagiri mountain range in Karnataka.

- INS Vindhyagiri is the sixth ship of Project 17A Frigates and is equipped with modern technology and gadgets.
- The ship will undergo thorough trials before being commissioned into the Indian Navy's service.
- P17A ships are guided missile frigates, an advancement of the Shivalik class Project 17 frigates.
- These ships have enhanced stealth features, advanced weapons, sensors, and platform management systems.
- INS Vindhyagiri is the last of the three ships constructed by GRSE for the Indian Navy.
- The initial five ships of the project were launched between 2019 and 2022.



### Likaru-Migla-Fukche road will become the world's highest motorable road, reaching an altitude of 19,400 feet.

Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is constructing the Likaru-Migla-Fukche road in Eastern Ladakh. The road is 64 km long and will connect Likaru to Fukche, near the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

- Likaru-Migla-Fukche road will become the world's highest motorable road, reaching an altitude of 19,400 feet.
- Currently, the Umlingla pass at 19,024 feet holds the record for the world's highest motorable pass, built by BRO in 2021.
- The new road will provide an axis between Hanle and CDFD road at Fukche.
- Migla, located at 19,400 feet, is a strategic point along the road.
- The project is allocated a budget of approximately Rs 520 crore.



## India celebrates its 77th Independence Day on August 15, 2023

India celebrates its **77th Independence Day** on August 15, 2023. India got its independence from the United Kingdom on **15 August 1947** from British rule. It is a day to remember the sacrifices of the freedom fighters who fought for India's liberation. It is also a day to celebrate the achievements and diversity of the nation. On this day, the Prime Minister delivers a speech from the Red Fort and hoists the national flag. People across the country also display the tricolour and sing the national anthem.

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the celebrations by hoisting the National Flag and addressing the Nation from the historic Red Fort.
- Prime Minister Modi highlighted government achievements, challenges, and opportunities for the nation.
- Independence Day was celebrated in Indian Embassies abroad, including Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, UAE, and Saudi Arabia.

## President approves 76 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces & CAPF personnel on the eve of 77th Independence Day

President Smt Droupadi Murmu has approved 76 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces and Central Armed Police Forces personnel on Independence Day 2023.

- The awards include:
  - Four Kirti Chakra (posthumous) – awarded to CRPF personnel
  - Eleven Shaurya Chakras (including five posthumous)
  - Two Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry)
  - Fifty-two Sena Medals (Gallantry)
  - Three Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry)
  - Four Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry)
- The President has also approved 30 Mention-in-Despatches to the Army, including one for Army dog Madhu (Posthumous), and one for an Air Force personnel.
- The Mention-in-Despatches are for significant contributions in various military operations, including Operation Rakshak, Operation Snow Leopard, Operation Casualty Evacuation, Operation Mount Chomo, Operation Pangsau Pass, Operation Meghdoot, Operation Orchid, Operation Kalisham Valley, Rescue Operation, and Operation Evacuation.

[List of Gallantry awards approved by the President:](#)





## Bilateral naval exercise 'Zayed Talwar' with UAE from August 8 to 11, 2023, in Dubai

INS Visakhapatnam and INS Trikanth, two Indian Navy ships, participated in a bilateral naval exercise held from August 8 to 11, 2023, at Port Rashid in Dubai.

- The exercise aimed to share best practices and enhance cooperation between the Indian and UAE Navies.
- Rear Admiral Vineet McCarty commanded the ships, facilitating professional interactions with the UAE Naval Force and focusing on maritime operations.
- The bilateral exercise, named 'Zayed Talwar,' aimed to improve interoperability and synergy between the naval forces of both countries, contributing to regional security.
- Captains Ashok Rao and Pramod G Thomas led INS Visakhapatnam and INS Trikanth, respectively, showcasing advanced maritime capabilities during the exercise.
- This joint naval exercise signifies the strengthening diplomatic collaboration between the Indian and UAE navies.

## Bharat Net: Connecting Six Lakh Villages with High-Speed Broadband

The government has allocated one lakh 39 thousand 579 crore rupees to extend Bharat Net in six lakh 40 thousand villages across the country on 5 August 2023.

1. The extension project of Bharat Net is expected to be achieved in nearly two years.
2. The decision for the extension project was taken after the success of a pilot project in 60 thousand Gram Panchayat villages across the country, which was completed in eight months.
3. During the pilot project, Bharat Net reached 1.94 lakh villages, and currently, 5 lakh 67 thousand households have active Bharat Net connections.
4. The extension program is expected to create nearly two lakh 50 thousand jobs.
5. Bharat Net is one of the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programs, built under the Make in India initiative, and implemented by Central PSUs including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.



## [Ajay Kumar Bhalla gets one-year extension as Home Secretary](#)

Ajay Kumar Bhalla, a 1984-batch IAS officer of the Assam-Meghalaya cadre, has been granted a one-year extension as Union Home Secretary by the Centre Government until August 22, 2024.

- This marks the third time Bhalla's tenure has been extended since he assumed the position in August 2019. Originally scheduled to retire in November 2020, he will now continue to serve in his current role.
- As Home Secretary, Bhalla has been responsible for overseeing the internal security situation in India, with particular focus on regions like Jammu and Kashmir and the Northeast.
- Bhalla's responsibilities also include participating in inter-ministerial coordination and dealing with various policy matters, showcasing his wide-ranging expertise and contributions to governance.
- Academically, Bhalla holds a Master's degree in Botany from the University of Delhi, an MBA from the University of Queensland, Brisbane, and a Master's in Philosophy (Social Sciences) from Punjab University. These qualifications further complement his professional capabilities as a seasoned civil servant.



## [Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba gets third extension](#)

Rajiv Gauba, a 1982 batch IAS officer of Jharkhand cadre, will continue as Cabinet Secretary for another year. The Department of Personnel and Training issued an order stating that the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his extension in service till 30th August 2024. This is the third time Mr Gauba has been given an extension to the post.

The cabinet secretary of India is the top-most executive official and senior-most civil servant of the government of India. The current cabinet secretary of India is **Rajiv Gauba** who took over the post on 30 August 2019.

## Polity Current Affairs



### IPC, CrPC and Evidence Act to be Replaced by Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nyay Prakriya Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Sanhita

The Centre has introduced three new bills in the Lok Sabha that propose a complete overhaul of the country's criminal justice system on 11 August 2023. The three bills are set to replace the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860; the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

#### The new bills are:

- **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023:** This bill aims to replace the IPC and introduce new offences and punishments, such as life imprisonment for rape, death penalty for terrorism, and imprisonment for cybercrimes.
- **Bharatiya Nyay Prakriya Sanhita, 2023:** This bill aims to replace the CrPC and simplify the criminal procedure, such as reducing the number of witnesses, allowing video conferencing, and expediting trials.
- **Bharatiya Sakshya Sanhita, 2023:** This bill aims to replace the Indian Evidence Act and update the rules of evidence, such as allowing electronic evidence, DNA evidence, and narco-analysis.

The bills have been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee for further scrutiny.



### Monsoon session of Parliament ended on 11 August 2023 with both the Houses being adjourned sine die

The Monsoon session of Parliament ended on 11 August 2023 with both the Houses being adjourned sine die amid ruckus by the opposition over the suspension of 12 Rajya Sabha MPs. The session witnessed frequent disruptions and protests over various issues, including the Manipur violence, the Pegasus snooping row, and the farm laws.

The government and the opposition blamed each other for not allowing a discussion on the Manipur situation, where ethnic clashes have claimed several lives and displaced thousands of people. Prime Minister Narendra Modi accused the opposition of playing politics with Manipur and said that the country stands with the state in this difficult time.

The session also saw the passage of 22 bills, including the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2021, which restores the power of states to identify their own backward classes, and the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, which scraps the retrospective tax provision.

## What is Adjournment sine die ?

Adjournment sine die means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period, without naming a day for reassembly. The power of adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House



## Parliament passed the Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023, and the Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023

Parliament passed the Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023, and the Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 on 11 August 2023. The Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 amends the Central Goods and Services Tax Act 2017.

1. The Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 amends the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act 2017.
2. The Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 defines terms like online gaming, online money gaming, and virtual digital assets.
3. Online gaming refers to offering games on the internet or electronic networks, including money gaming.
4. Online money gaming involves players paying or depositing money, including virtual digital assets, with the expectation of winning money.
5. The Integrated Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 excludes online money gaming from the definition of online information and data access or retrieval services.
6. The GST Council recommended a 28 percent tax on the full-face value of bets in Casinos, Horse racing, and Online gaming during its 50th meeting held the previous month.





## No Confidence Motion against NDA Government defeated in Lok Sabha

No-confidence motion against NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi defeated in Lok Sabha on 10 August 2023.

1. NDA's comfortable victory with a voice vote after over 12 hours of debate.
2. Opposition accuses government of failing on promises regarding farmers' distress, unemployment, price rise, corruption, and communal violence.
3. Government defends achievements in infrastructure, health, education, defence, and social welfare.
4. Prime Minister assures support for Manipur and efforts to address the situation.
5. Opposition parties supporting the motion include Congress, TMC, SP, BSP, RJD, NCP, AAP, CPI(M), CPI, AIMIM, and DMK.
6. Parties opposing the motion include BJP, Shiv Sena, JD(U), AIADMK, BJD, TRS, and YSRCP.
7. Congress president Rahul Gandhi attacks Prime Minister on various issues and creates a stir by hugging him.
8. Prime Minister responds by accusing opposition of spreading lies and fear, lacking vision for development, and emphasizing his government's work for welfare and progress in India.



## Indian Parliament Passes Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023

On August 9, 2023, the Indian Parliament passed the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023, with approval from both the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha.

- The Bill focuses on processing digital personal data while respecting individuals' right to protect their data and the lawful need for data processing.
- Personal data can be processed based on individual consent and for specific legitimate purposes.
- The Data Protection Board of India will be established under the Bill to handle personal data breaches and impose penalties.
- Penalties for breaches will be determined based on breach factors like nature, gravity, duration, and type of affected personal data.
- Individuals have the right to correct, complete, update, and erase their personal data if previously consented.
- The Bill resulted from thorough consultations with stakeholders and covers aspects like storage limits, data safeguarding, and accountability.

- The Data Protection Board will be independent and comprise experts in the field.
- The Bill uses inclusive language ("she" and "her" instead of "he" and "his").
- The language of the Bill is designed to be understandable to the general public.
- The Bill does not undermine the provisions of the RTI (Right to Information) Act.



### Parliament Passes Inter-Services Organisation (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill – 2023

The Inter-Services Organisation (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill – 2023 has been passed by the Parliament on 8 August 2023. Inter-Services Organizations are formed to enhance integrated functioning among the three services. The purpose of the bill is to strengthen discipline in the armed forces and boost morale.

1. The bill empowers the Officer-in-Command of Inter-services Organisations to exercise disciplinary and administrative control over service personnel under their command, regardless of their service.
2. The bill applies to regular Army, Navy, and Air Force personnel, as well as individuals from other forces attached to Inter-Services Organisations as notified by the Central Government.
3. The Central Government can establish Inter-services Organisations comprising personnel from at least two of the three services.
4. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh emphasized the need for better

coordination among the Army, Navy, and Air Force to address new challenges.

5. Timely disciplinary and administrative actions are advocated without discrimination of service within Inter-Services Organisations.
6. The bill grants enhanced disciplinary and administrative powers to the heads of Inter-Services Organisations to ensure effective Command, Control, and Discipline.



## [Parliament Passes Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi \(Amendment\) Bill 2023](#)

Parliament has passed the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill 2023, with Rajya Sabha's approval on 7 August 2023.

- The approval in Rajya Sabha was granted through a vote, with 131 MPs supporting the bill and 102 MPs opposing it.
- The Bill had previously been passed in the Lok Sabha the week before.
- The primary purpose of the bill is to amend the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act 1991.
- It grants the Central Government the authority to establish regulations related to the governance of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. This includes matters such as the functions, terms, and conditions of service for officers and employees.
- The bill introduces the concept of the National Capital Civil Service Authority.
- The Authority is comprised of the Delhi Chief minister, the Chief Secretary of Delhi, and the Principal Home Secretary of Delhi.
- The Authority's responsibilities encompass making recommendations to the Delhi Lieutenant Governor concerning the transfer, posting, and disciplinary issues involving officials.
- The Centre had previously issued an ordinance on this subject in May of the same year.



## Rahul Gandhi's Lok Sabha Membership Restored Following Supreme Court Decision

The Lok Sabha Secretariat on 7 August 2023 has reinstated Rahul Gandhi's membership in the Lower House of the Indian Parliament.

- This decision comes after the Supreme Court issued a stay on Rahul Gandhi's conviction in a criminal defamation case.
- Rahul Gandhi is a member of the Lok Sabha and represents the Wayanad constituency in Kerala.
- Earlier this year, in March, he was disqualified from the Lok Sabha due to the conviction.
- Following the restoration of his Lok Sabha membership, Rahul Gandhi promptly arrived at Parliament and paid his respects by offering floral tributes at the statue of Mahatma Gandhi within the Parliament House complex.



## Parliament Passes Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill to Encourage Private Sector Exploration

The Parliament passed the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, with approval from both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 2nd August 2023. The Bill aims to encourage the private sector's involvement in the exploration of critical and deep-seated minerals.

1. It amends the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, which governs the mining sector.
2. The Bill introduces exploration licenses specifically for deep-seated and critical minerals, which are difficult and expensive to explore, including gold, silver, copper, zinc, lead, nickel, cobalt, platinum group of minerals, and diamonds.
3. The proposed exploration license is meant to incentivize and facilitate private sector participation in mineral exploration.
4. The Bill removes six minerals from the list of 12 atomic minerals, which were previously reserved for government entities. Their



exploration and mining will now be open to the private sector as well.

5. The Bill empowers the Central Government to exclusively auction mining leases and composite licenses for certain critical minerals.
6. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi emphasized that the Bill is crucial for India to become the third-largest economy and reduce reliance on imports of precious and critical minerals.
7. The Bill is seen as a game-changer for the mining sector and aims to bring more transparency to the industry.

## Science and Technology Current Affairs



### [Global India AI 2023 Conference on 14-15 October 2023 in India](#)

India to host the **Global India AI 2023 Conference** on 14-15 October 2023. This will provide a platform for discussions on various AI-related topics.

1. Topics of discussion at the conference include **next-generation learning, foundational artificial intelligence models, and AI applications** in healthcare, governance, electric vehicles, and computing systems.
2. The conference will feature the participation of **leading players, experts in artificial intelligence, researchers, startups, and investors** from around the world.
3. The conference aims to **catalyze** India's AI landscape and innovation ecosystem, fostering growth and development in the AI sector.
4. The conference will **showcase** India's vibrant AI ecosystem, featuring initiatives such as **DI Bhashini, India Datasets Program, India AI Future design program for startups, and India AI Future Skills program** aimed at nurturing AI talent.



## World's first 100 percent Ethanol-fueled car launched by Nitin Gadkari

The world's first 100 percent ethanol-fueled variant of Toyota's Innova car has been launched by Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on 29 August 2023 in New Delhi. This world's first electrified flex-fuel vehicle, featuring BS-VI (Stage-II) compliance can function fully on ethanol-based fuel.

1. **Benefits of Ethanol Blended Fuel:** The adoption of ethanol blended is beneficial for the agriculture sector's growth and reducing the country's dependence on oil imports.
2. **Ethanol Blending Achievements:** India achieved 10 percent ethanol blending ahead of the initial target of 2022.

## What is Flex Fuel Technology

Flex fuel technology allows engines to use ethanol-blended petrol or gasoline beyond 20 percent, aiming to reduce carbon emissions, promote sustainable mobility, and decrease dependency on traditional fuels.



## Chandrayaan-3 Rover's LIBS Instrument Reveals Lunar Surface Composition

The Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) instrument onboard Chandrayaan-3 Rover has conducted the first-ever in-situ measurements of the lunar surface near the south pole. These measurements have successfully confirmed the presence of Sulphur (S) in the region, which was not possible using the instruments onboard orbiters.

- LIBS is a scientific technique that involves exposing materials to intense laser pulses to analyze their composition.
- The process generates localized and extremely hot plasma on the material's surface, and the resulting plasma light is analyzed to determine the composition.
- Initial analyses showed the presence of Aluminum (Al), Sulphur (S), Calcium (Ca), Iron (Fe), Chromium (Cr), and Titanium (Ti) on the lunar surface.
- Further measurements revealed the existence of manganese (Mn), silicon (Si), and oxygen (O), while investigation of Hydrogen presence is ongoing.
- The LIBS payload was developed at the Laboratory for Electro-Optics Systems (LEOS)/ISRO in Bengaluru.



## ISRO's Aditya-L1, India's first space-based solar observatory, will launch on 2nd September from Sriharikota

ISRO's Aditya-L1, India's first space-based solar observatory, will launch on September 2nd, 11:50 AM from Sriharikota. The launch vehicle for the Aditya L1 Mission is PSLV-C57.

1. Aditya-L1 will be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrange point L1, about 1.5 million kms from Earth.
2. The halo orbit allows continuous observation of solar activities without obstruction from celestial events like eclipses.
3. The mission's goal is to study solar winds and the Sun's atmosphere.
4. Aditya-L1 will carry seven payloads to observe the photosphere, chromosphere, and corona of the Sun.
5. This study will provide insights into coronal heating, coronal mass ejections, solar flares, and interplanetary medium dynamics.

## National Space Day : August 23

August 23 is designated as National Space Day in India in honor of the triumphant touchdown of Chandrayaan-3's lander on the lunar South Pole on the same day in 2023.

This declaration was pronounced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) Telemetry Tracking and Command Network Mission Control Complex on 26 August 2023.



### ‘Shiv Shakti Point’ : Landing Site of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that the location on the Moon where Chandrayaan-3's lander Vikram touched down will be referred to as 'Shiv Shakti Point'. He made this announcement during his address to ISRO scientists at the ISRO Telemetry Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) in Bengaluru on August 26, 2023.

The decision to name the landing site is in line with the tradition of naming such points. PM Modi arrived at ISTRAC to personally convey this announcement to the scientists involved in the Chandrayaan-3 mission.

### Pragyan Rover of Chandrayaan-3 takes walk on moon, Imprints Tricolour and ISRO Logo on Lunar Surface

Pragyan rover of Chandrayaan-3 has rolled down on the Lunar surface on 24 August 2023. Moon rover Pragyan has ramped down from the Lander and took a walk on the moon. This signifies a giant leap in the Indian space programme. By rolling on the lunar surface, the six wheels of the rover have imprinted Indian tricolour and ISRO logo on the Moon crust. Showing to the world for time immemorial that India landed first near Lunar south pole.

#### **Indian Rover Imprints Tricolour and ISRO Logo on Lunar Surface**

The rover's six wheels have left an indelible mark on the lunar landscape, engraving both the Indian tricolour and the ISRO logo onto the Moon's crust. This act stands as a perpetual testament, proclaiming India's pioneering presence near the lunar south pole for generations to come.

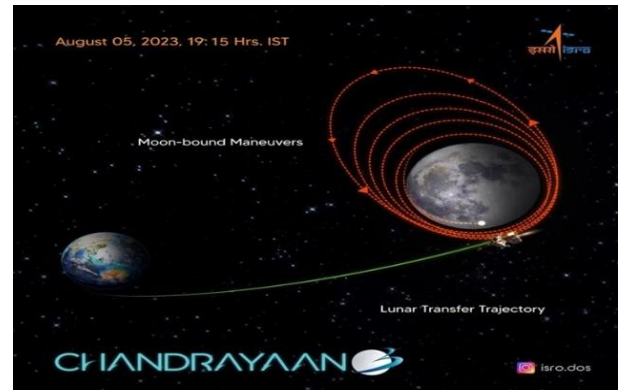
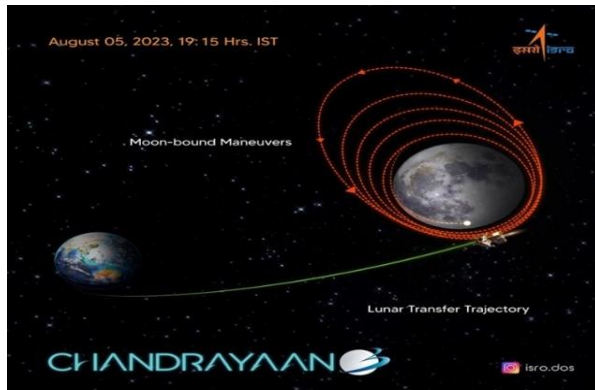




## India's Chandrayaan-3 makes soft landing on moon on 23 August 2023

India achieved a historic feat by becoming the first country to successfully land on the South Pole of the lunar surface. The Vikram lander executed a flawless touchdown near the lunar south pole on 23 August 2023.

1. This achievement is significant as it marks a breakthrough in India's space exploration efforts.
2. The Automatic Landing Sequence (ALS) was initiated by ISRO for the Vikram Landing Module, enabling it to identify a suitable landing spot and perform a soft landing.
3. The landing was a moment of anxiety for 20 minutes before the successful touch, followed by celebrations and jubilation among the ISRO team.
4. ISRO Chairman S Somnath expressed gratitude and emphasized that the success was a result of lessons learned from past failures.
5. The focus now shifts to the Chandrayaan-3 lander and Rover, with plans for the Rover Pragyan to roll down after reviewing data from the lander.
6. The Project Director of Chandrayaan 3 mission, P Veeramuthuvel, credited the team's hard work and hailed the flawless touchdown as a demonstration of India's soft-landing capabilities.
7. The Mission Director, M Sreekanth, thanked the entire ISRO team for successfully accomplishing the challenging task of soft landing on the lunar surface.
8. After the Vikram lander's soft landing, ISRO established communication between the Chandrayaan-3 Lander and MOX-ISTRAC, Bengaluru.
9. Images captured by the Lander Horizontal Velocity Camera during descent were shared on social media by ISRO, revealing the lunar surface at close proximity.



## Chandrayaan 2 Orbiter Establishes Two-Way Communication with Chandrayaan 3 Lander

Two-way communication has been established between the Chandrayaan 2 orbiter and the Chandrayaan 3 lander module Vikram. This enables the Mission Operations Complex at ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network in Bengaluru to communicate with the upcoming Lander Vikram.

- The Chandrayaan 3 lander is set to land near the south pole of the Moon on August 23rd at 6.04 pm.
- ISRO tweeted about the development, referring to the Chandrayaan 2 orbiter formally welcoming the Chandrayaan 3 Lander Module.
- The Chandrayaan 2 orbiter was launched in July 2019 and is still in lunar orbit.
- ISRO has announced that the live telecast of the landing event will start on DD National and other social media platforms at 5.20 pm on August 23rd.

## Russia's Luna-25 Mission Failure; Chandrayaan 3, is scheduled to make a landing on 23 August 2023

Russia's Moon mission (Luna-25) ended in failure as its spacecraft spun out of control and crashed into the moon on 19 August 2023.

- Russia's Luna-25 was a lunar lander mission that aimed to explore the south pole of the Moon.
- It was launched on 10 August 2023 from the Vostochny Cosmodrome in Russia.
- It crashed into the Moon on 19 August 2023 after a failed orbital maneuver.
- It was Russia's first lunar mission in nearly five decades.
- The cause of the crash is still under investigation by Roscosmos, the Russian space agency

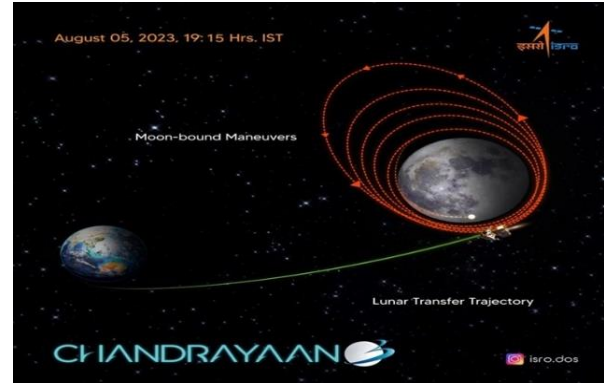
The Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) ambitious mission to the Moon, Chandrayaan 3 spacecraft is scheduled to make a soft landing on the south pole of the lunar surface at around 6:04 pm (Indian Standard Time) on 23 August 2023.



## India's First 3D Printed Post Office at Cambridge Layout, Bengaluru

The first 3D concrete Printed Post Office building was inaugurated in Cambridge Layout, Bengaluru on August 18, 2023. The construction was accomplished using 3D concrete printing technology through a fully automated process. A robotic arm was used to print the concrete layer by layer according to the design, and the entire construction was completed within 45 days.

This marked India's first 3D printed post office, showcasing the application of this innovative technology in construction. The use of 3D printing significantly reduced both the cost and time of construction for the post office building.



## Chandrayaan-3 Mission Advances: Lander Separation Marks Key Milestone on Journey to Lunar Surface

ISRO achieved successful separation of Chandrayaan-3's lander module from the propulsion module on August 17, 2023. The Lander Module, named Vikram, will continue its independent journey to the Moon's surface.

- Vikram and the rover Pragyaan are expected to land on the Moon on August 23.
- The separation of the Lander Module from the Propulsion Module concludes lunar-bound maneuvers for the soft landing.
- Chandrayaan-3's primary goals include demonstrating safe and soft landing, rover exploration, and in-situ scientific experiments on the lunar surface.
- Both the lander and rover are equipped with scientific payloads for these experiments.
- The Chandrayaan-3 mission successfully completed its fifth and final lunar-bound orbit maneuver.
- Launched on July 14, Chandrayaan-3 comprises a lander module, propulsion module, and rover.
- The Propulsion Module will continue its journey to study spectral and polarimetric measurements of Earth from lunar orbit.
- It carries a SHAPE payload designed to aid future discoveries of habitable or life-supporting planets through reflected light observations.



## First space-based Indian observatory to study the Sun – Aditya-L1, is ready for launch in September 2023

The first space-based Indian observatory to study the Sun, Aditya-L1, is preparing for launch in September 2023.

- The observation will be conducted using electromagnetic and particle field detectors.
- Four of the payloads will have direct views of the Sun, while the remaining three will conduct in-situ studies of particles and fields in the surrounding area.
- These studies will provide valuable scientific insights into the propagatory effects of solar dynamics in the interplanetary medium.
- The satellite was developed at the U R Rao Satellite Centre in Bengaluru.
- Aditya-L1 has arrived at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, where the launch will take place.
- The spacecraft is intended to be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrange point L1 of the Sun-Earth system, situated approximately 1.5 million kilometers away from Earth.
- The halo orbit offers the advantage of continuous observation of the Sun without being obstructed by eclipses.
- This positioning will enable enhanced monitoring of solar activities and their impact on space weather in real-time.
- The satellite will carry seven payloads designed to observe the Sun's photosphere, chromosphere, and outermost corona layers.





## MATSYA6000: India's Advanced Manned Submersible for Deep Sea Mining and Exploration

**MATSYA6000 Submersible:** The country has developed a manned scientific submersible called MATSYA6000.

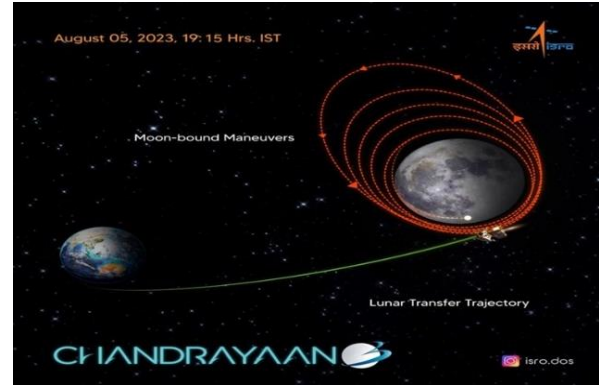
**Capacity and Depth:** MATSYA6000 is capable of carrying three humans for 12 hours and can operate at depths of up to 60,000 meters in the ocean.

**Applications:** The submersible is designed for activities such as deep-sea mining and manned submersible operations.

**Integrated Mining Machine:** An integrated mining machine has been created for exploratory mining of poly-metallic nodules found on the sea bed.

**Locomotion Trial:** A successful locomotion trial of the integrated mining machine took place at the Central India Ocean.

**Deep Ocean Mission:** The Union Minister of Earth Sciences, Kiren Rijju, mentioned that the Deep Ocean Mission has led to significant technological advancements in deep sea mining development.

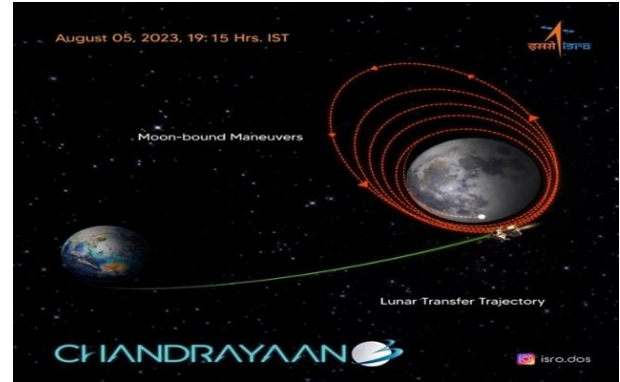


## Race to the Moon: Russia and India Compete with Ambitious Lunar Missions

Russia is preparing to launch a lunar mission, the first in nearly 50 years, in competition with India's Chandrayaan-3 program. The Russian lunar lander, named 'Luna 25', is scheduled for launch with a Soyuz rocket on 11 August 2023.

- Luna 25 aims to touch down on the moon's surface, specifically in the region of the Moon's south pole.
- The mission's primary objective is to assess whether the Moon's south pole region contains ice, potentially important for future human habitation.
- The Luna-25 mission is part of Russia's broader efforts to revive and advance its lunar exploration program.
- Russia has a history of notable achievements in lunar exploration, including several firsts such as impact, flyby, and soft-landing missions.
- Russia intends to collaborate with China on the International Lunar Research Station, targeted to be operational by 2035.
- India is also in the competition with its Chandrayaan-3 mission, aiming to land a rover near the Moon's south pole.
- India's previous lunar mission, Chandrayaan-2, experienced a failed soft-landing attempt in 2019.

- Both Russia and India are vying to be the first to explore the uncharted lunar territory of the Moon's south pole.
- Russia's space agency, Roscosmos, has indicated that there is no collision risk between the Luna 25 and Chandrayaan-3 missions.



### Chandrayaan 3 spacecraft injected into lunar orbit

Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft successfully injected into lunar orbit on 5 August 2023. A retro-burning at the Perilune was commanded from the Mission Operations Complex (MOX), ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) in Bengaluru.

1. Next operation – reduction of orbit – scheduled for 6th August around 11 PM Indian Standard Time.
2. After lunar orbit injection, Chandrayaan-3 will orbit the Moon multiple times and gradually approach the Moon.
3. Once it reaches a 100 km orbit above the lunar surface, the lander and rover will be detached for a soft landing on the Moon.
4. The spacecraft is expected to complete a 40-day journey to make a soft landing near the Moon's south pole around August 23rd.
5. India will be the fourth country to achieve a soft landing on the Moon and the first to do so near the lunar south pole.
6. Chandrayaan-3 was launched on July 14 by the GSLV Mark III launcher.



### Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) Hands Over First RF Seeker of Akash to DRDO

Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has handed over the first Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker of Akash – the Next Generation Weapon System to the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) on 2nd August 2023 in a special ceremony at BDL's Kanchanbagh, Hyderabad.

1. The RF Seeker is a critical and technology-intensive subsystem used in Surface-to-Air Missiles and Air-to-Air Missiles for target tracking in the terminal phase.
2. The RF Seeker has been designed by DRDO's Research Centre Imarat and produced by BDL at its state-of-the-art Seeker Facility Centre in Hyderabad.
3. The Seeker Facility Centre was set up at BDL's Kanchanbagh Unit in Hyderabad.
4. The Chairman and Managing Director of BDL, Commodore A Madhavarao, handed over the 1st RF Seeker to the Secretary, the Department of Defence Research & Development and Chairman DRDO, Dr Samir V Kamat, in a special ceremony at BDL's Kanchanbagh Unit.
5. Dr Kamat highlighted that the establishment of the Seeker Facility Centre at BDL has enabled India to achieve self-reliance in the field of RF seeker production, contributing significantly to the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India).

## Sports Current Affairs



### World Athletics Championships 2023 : Neeraj Chopra won the gold medal in Javelin throw

Neeraj Chopra won the gold medal at the World Athletics Championships 2023 javelin throw final on 27 August 2023 with a throw of 88.17m here in Budapest, Hungary. He secured the gold in his second attempt, with his first throw being a foul.

Neeraj Chopra became India's first-ever World Athletics Championships gold medallist by winning the javelin throw event

Neeraj Chopra is an Indian track and field athlete who is the reigning Olympic champion, World champion and the Diamond League champion in the javelin throw.



## Indian women's Visually Impaired team wins IBSA World Cup final

Indian women's visually impaired cricket team won the T-20 final of the IBSA World Games on 26 August 2023 in Birmingham.

- They defeated Australia by nine wickets in a rain-interrupted match.
- Australia had set a target of 115 runs, but rain reduced the match to 9 overs and the target became 42 runs.
- India reached the revised target in 3.3 overs, losing only one wicket.
- Indian men's visually impaired cricket team is set to play against Pakistan in the finals of the IBSA World Games 2023.



## Magnus Carlsen Clinches FIDE Chess World Cup Title, Defeats Praggnanandhaa in Thrilling Final

In Chess FIDE Chess World Cup 2023 final, Magnus Carlsen of Norway beat India's R. Praggnanandhaa in tie-breaks at Baku in Azerbaijan on 14 August 2023.

- Magnus Carlsen wins FIDE Chess World Cup 2023 by defeating Praggnanandhaa.
- Carlsen wins with a final score of 1.5, Praggnanandhaa with 0.5.
- Carlsen gets the Gold, Praggnanandhaa gets the Silver.
- Carlsen wins his first FIDE World Cup title.
- Praggnanandhaa reaches the final and makes history as the youngest finalist and winner.
- Praggnanandhaa is the first Indian after Viswanathan Anand to reach the final.





## Chess World Cup 2023 Final Reaches Thrilling Draw – Tie-Breaker Match to Decide Winner

The Chess World Cup 2023 final between India's R Praggnanandhaa and Norway's Magnus Carlsen has reached a thrilling climax as the two players have agreed to a draw after 30 moves in the second classical game on 23 August 2023.

The score is now tied at 1-1 after the first game also ended in a draw on 22 August. The final will now be decided by a tie-breaker match, which will consist of two rapid games, followed by blitz games and an Armageddon game if needed.

Praggnanandhaa, who is only 18 years old, has stunned the chess world by becoming the second Indian ever to reach the final of the Chess World Cup after Viswanathan Anand.

## FIDE World Cup Final: First Match between R Praggnanandhaa and former world champion Magnus Carlsen ends in draw

The final of the FIDE World Cup 2023 chess tournament took place in Baku, Azerbaijan, starting on Tuesday, August 22. The initial game of the best-of-four series featured a match between Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa and Norwegian World Champion Magnus Carlsen.

1. The first classical game concluded in a draw after 40 moves, with both players displaying cautious and solid gameplay.
2. Despite being only 18 years old, Praggnanandhaa impressed observers by holding his ground against the world's top-ranked player, Magnus Carlsen, who has a significantly higher rating.
3. Praggnanandhaa's path to the final involved defeating World No. 3 Fabiano Caruana in the semifinals, setting a record as the youngest player to achieve this feat.
4. Magnus Carlsen's journey to the final included a victory over Levon Aronian in a closely contested match.
5. The second classical game of the final was scheduled for Wednesday, August 23, followed by two more games on Thursday and Friday.
6. In the event that the score remains tied after the four games, tiebreaks were set to take place on Saturday.



## Indian Men's Cricket Team Squad Announced for Asia Cup 2023: Rohit Sharma to Lead the Team

Chief Selector of BCCI, Ajit Agarkar, has announced the Indian Men's Cricket team for the upcoming Asia Cup 2023.

- The team will be captained by Rohit Sharma, with Hardik Pandya serving as the Vice Captain.
- Notable players in the squad include Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, Suryakumar Yadav, Tilak Varma, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, Shardul Thakur, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, and Sanju Samson.

### About Asia Cup 2023

The **Asia Cup 2023** is a cricket tournament that will feature six teams from Asia: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and one qualifier. The tournament will be held in **Pakistan and Sri Lanka** from **30 August 2023 to 17 September 2023**. The matches will be played as **one-day internationals (ODI)**. The Asia Cup 2023 will be the **16th edition** of the tournament, which was first held in 1984. The current champion is India, who won the 2018 edition in the United Arab Emirates.

## R Praggnanandhaa: The Youngest Indian to Reach the FIDE Chess World Cup Semifinals

R Praggnanandhaa is a young chess prodigy from India who has made history by becoming the first Indian after Viswanathan Anand to reach the semifinals of the FIDE Chess World Cup. He achieved this feat by defeating his compatriot Arjun Erigaisi in a thrilling tie-break on August 17, 2023.

Praggnanandhaa, who is only 18 years old, started playing chess at the age of six and became the second youngest grandmaster in history at the age of 12 years and 10 months. He has won several national and international titles, including the World Youth Chess Championship in 2019. He is currently ranked 40th in the world and has a rating of 2718.

The FIDE Chess World Cup is a prestigious knockout tournament that features some of the best players in the world. It also serves as a qualifier for the Candidates Tournament, which determines the challenger for the World Chess Championship. Praggnanandhaa is one of the four semifinalists, along with Magnus Carlsen, Sergey Karjakin and Jan-Krzysztof Duda. He will face Karjakin, a former world championship finalist, in the next round.



## Spain Wins FIFA Women's World Cup After Thrilling Final Against England

Spain won their first FIFA Women's World Cup title by defeating England 1-0 in the final at Stadium Australia in Sydney on 20 August 2023.

1. The winning goal was scored by captain Olga Carmona with a stunning volley from a corner kick in the 29th minute.
2. Spain's solid defense and goalkeeper Sandra Panos made crucial saves to deny England's attempts to equalize.
3. Spain dominated possession and created more chances, while England struggled with their rhythm and accuracy.
4. This was England's second consecutive final defeat, previously losing to the USA in 2019.
5. Spain's national football team, La Roja, became the second country after Germany to win both the Men's and Women's World Cups.



## Shooters Esha Singh and Shiva Narwal won the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at ISSF World Championship in Baku, Azerbaijan

Shooters Esha Singh and Shiva Narwal won the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championship in Baku, Azerbaijan on August 18, 2023.

- They defeated the Turkish team of Ilayda Tarhan and Yusuf Dikec with a score of 16-10 in the final.
- This victory contributed to India's total medals count, bringing it to two.
- India is currently in the second position on the medals table with one gold and one bronze medal.
- China leads the medals tally with five gold and two bronze medals.





## Priya Malik Clinches Gold at U20 World Wrestling Championships in the woman 76 kg category

Indian wrestler Priya Malik secured a gold medal at the U20 World Wrestling Championships in Jordan on August 17, 2023. She won the gold in the 76 kg category by defeating Germany's Laura Kuehn with a score of 5-0 in the final.

- Priya Malik is the second Indian woman to win a gold medal in this competition.
- Antim Panghal had previously won a gold medal in the previous edition of the championships.
- Priya's victory brings India a total of two gold medals in the ongoing championships, a feat that has occurred only once before, in 2001.
- Another Indian wrestler, Arju won a bronze medal in the 68 kg category by defeating Turkey's Elif Kurt in the bronze medal bout.



## Indian Wrestler Mohit Kumar Creates History with Gold at Under 20 World Championship in Men's 61 kg Freestyle category

Indian wrestler Mohit Kumar made history by winning the Under 20 World Championship in the men's 61 Kg Freestyle category in Amman City, Jordan, on August 17, 2023.

- Mohit secured victory in the final by defeating Russia's Eldar Akhmadudinov with a score of 9-8.
- He became the fourth Indian Freestyle Wrestler to achieve a Junior World Championship title.
- Mohit joins the ranks of Palwinder Cheema (2001), Ramesh Kumar (2001), and Deepak Punia (2019) as male Indian wrestlers who have won gold medals in the U20 World Championships.
- Jaideep won the bronze medal in the 74kg category, defeating Kyrgyzstan's Zhakshylyk Ruslanovich Baitashov.
- Sagar Jaglan clinched a silver medal in the Freestyle 79 kg category.
- Deepak Chahal earned a bronze medal in the Freestyle 97 kg category on the second day of the event.
- The Indian men's freestyle wrestling team has achieved a total of five medals in the competition.





## ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings: Suryakumar Yadav retains top spot

The ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings are a system of ranking the individual performance of cricketers in Twenty20 International (T20I) matches. The rankings are maintained by the International Cricket Council (ICC), the governing body of cricket. The rankings are updated after every T20I series and are based on a points system that takes into account various factors such as runs scored, wickets taken, strike rate, economy rate, etc.

According to the latest rankings updated on 16 August 2023 :

1. Suryakumar Yadav has maintained his position as the top batter in the ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings.
2. Shubman Gill has made a significant improvement, moving up by 43 places to secure the 25th rank.
3. Suryakumar Yadav holds the first position with a total of 907 points.
4. Mohammad Rizwan, the opener from Pakistan, is in the second position with 811 points.
5. Babar Azam, the captain of Pakistan's team, holds the third rank with 756 points.
6. Aiden Markram, a cricketer from South Africa, occupies the fourth place with 748 points.
7. No other Indian batter is among the top 10 in the ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings.



## India Makes History with Fourth Asian Champions Trophy Hockey Title Victory

India wins the Asian Champions Trophy 2023 hockey tournament with a thrilling comeback victory over Malaysia. The final took place at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium in Chennai on August 12.

- India's victory marks their record fourth title in the tournament, surpassing Pakistan's three titles.
- India had previously defeated Japan 5-0 in the semi-final, while Malaysia had beaten South Korea 3-2 in a penalty shootout after a 2-2 draw.
- Malaysia took an early lead through a penalty corner goal by Shahril Saabah, but India equalized with a drag-flick by Harmanpreet Singh.
- Malaysia regained the lead through a field goal by Firhan Ashari, extending it further with another penalty corner goal by Shahril Saabah.
- India narrowed the gap with a field goal by Mandeep Singh.
- India dominated the third quarter and leveled the score at 3-3 with a field goal by Dilpreet Singh.
- India secured the winning goal in the 58th minute through a brilliant field goal by Akashdeep Singh.

- India's captain, Harmanpreet Singh, was named the player of the tournament, while Dilpreet Singh was awarded the emerging player of the tournament.
- Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh was recognized as the best goalkeeper of the tournament.
- The victory also elevated India to the third position in the FIH rankings, trailing behind Belgium and Australia.
- India's next focus will be the FIH Hockey World Cup 2024, scheduled to take place in India from January 13 to February 5.



### [World Athletics Championships 2023: Neeraj Chopra to lead Indian contingent](#)

Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will lead the Indian contingent in the upcoming World Athletics Championships 2023 scheduled in Budapest on from 19 to 27 August 2023.

1. Among the 28 athletes, 15 will be participating in the World Championships for the first time.
2. Shaili Singh, a former Under 20 silver medalist, is the youngest member of the Indian contingent.



## India's Historic Triumph at 31st World University Games: Record-Breaking Medal Haul and Remarkable Achievements

India's athletes achieved a historic performance at the 31st World University Games took place from July 28 to August 8 in Chengdu, China.

- They won a total of 26 medals, including 11 golds, 5 silvers, and 10 bronzes.
- This marks India's best-ever performance at the event, surpassing their previous record of five medals.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the Indian contingent and praised their accomplishment, highlighting their role in inspiring future athletes.
- Notable Indian gold medalists include Neeraj Chopra (javelin throw), Dutee Chand (100m sprint), Annu Rani (women's javelin throw), and Manu Bhaker (10m air pistol).
- The World University Games, known as the Summer Universiade, is a major multi-sport competition for university students.
- The event was organized by the International University Sports Federation (FISU) and featured over 10,000 participants from 170+ countries.



## Indian Archers Make History: Aditi Swami and Ojas Deotale Crowned World Champions at World Archery Championships

Aditi Swami became the first-ever Indian to win the individual World Title at the World Archery Championships in Berlin on 5 August 2023. She won the senior world champion title in the compound women's event by defeating Andrea Becerra of Mexico with a score of 149-147.

1. Aditi Swami also won the junior world title less than two months before the senior championship.
2. Ojas Deotale of India created history by becoming the Men's Individual compound world champion by defeating Lukasz Przybylski of Poland 150-149 in the final.
3. Aditi Swami defeated her 'idol' Jyothi Surekha Vennam in the all-Indian semifinal with a score of 149-145.
4. Jyothi Surekha Vennam won a bronze medal by defeating Ipek Tomruk of Turkey with a perfect score of 150 in the third-place play-off.
5. Aditi Swami, Parneet Kaur, and Jyothi Surekha Vennam secured India's first-ever gold at the World Archery Championships by winning the compound women's team final.



### Indian Women's Archery Team Creates History, Wins First-Ever Gold in World Archery Championships

The Indian women's archery team comprising V. Jyothi Surekha, Aditi Swami, and Parneet Kaur won their first-ever gold medal in the World Archery Championships in Berlin on 4 August 2023.

1. They achieved a convincing victory of 235-229 against top-ranked Mexico in the compound women's team final.
2. This victory marks the first time Indian archers have won a World crown at the elite level, surpassing their previous successes in the World under-21 and under-18 categories.
3. The Indian archers' consistent performance led them to win all four ends, securing the title.
4. Youth Affairs and Sports Minister, Anurag Thakur, congratulated the winning trio and praised their confidence and skills that led India to victory.
5. Mr. Thakur expressed immense pride and joy, hoping that they continue to make history for India and the world.



### Asia's oldest football tournament Durand Cup commenced on August 3, 2023

The Durand Cup, India's annual domestic football competition, with a long and rich history, commenced on August 3, 2023. The ongoing 132nd edition of the Durand Cup features 24 teams from different leagues and regions of India. The matches are being played across four venues in Assam and West Bengal, namely Guwahati, Kokrajhar, Kolkata, and Siliguri. The roster includes teams from the Indian Super League, I-League and the Armed Forces. Army teams from Nepal and Bangladesh have also been included this season.

1. Established in 1888 by Sir Henry Mortimer Durand, then the Foreign Secretary of India, the Durand Cup is the oldest club football tournament in Asia and the third oldest in the world.
2. Initially, the tournament was exclusive to British India Army troops, but it later opened its doors to civilian teams as well.
3. Over the years, the Durand Cup has hosted legendary players and witnessed many memorable moments, making it a prestigious event in Indian football.
4. Beyond being a celebration of football, the Durand Cup also serves as a showcase of India's diversity and culture.





Fernando and K Shanika Lakshani to finish in third place.

- India's T Santhosh Kumar won the men's 400-meter hurdles event.
- Indian javelin thrower Kishore Kumar Jena, who previously won the gold medal, was awarded the Best Male Thrower trophy.

## India bags 14 medals including 9 gold at Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships

Indian contingent concluded the Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships with a total of 14 medals. The medals consisted of nine gold, four silver, and one bronze. On the final day of the event, On 31 July 2023, Indian athletes secured six medals.

- The Indian 4×400 meter mixed relay team (Amoj Jacob, Aishwarya Mishra, Muhammed Anas, and Himanshi Malik) won a gold medal.
- Another Indian relay team (Nihal Joel William, Subha Venkatesan, Mijo Chacko Kurian, and Vithya Ramraj) earned a silver medal.
- Amoj Jacob, along with Muhammed Anas, Rajesh Ramesh, and Muhammed Ajmal, secured another gold medal in the 4×400 meter men's relay event.
- The Indian quartet of Sonia Baishya, Aishwarya Mishra, Subha V, and Himanshi Malik won the gold medal in the 4×400 meter women's relay event.
- In the same event, India's Jisna Mathew and Vithya Ramraj teamed up with Sri Lanka's WS Himaya

## Miscellaneous Current Affairs



### Shweta Sharda Wins Miss Diva Universe 2023, to Represent India at Miss Universe

Shweta Sharda won the Miss Diva Universe 2023 finale in Mumbai on August 27, 2023. She received the crown from the former Miss Diva Universe 2023, Divita Rai. She will represent India in the 72nd Miss Universe pageant this year.

- **Trisha Shetty** from Karnataka was the runner-up of Miss Diva Universe 2023.
- **Sonal Kukreja** was crowned Miss Diva Supranational 2023 at the same event, representing India at Miss Supranational.

### Who is Shweta Sharda?

- Shweta Sharda is a 22-year-old model and dancer from Chandigarh who moved to Mumbai at 16.
- She holds a Bachelor's degree from Indira Gandhi National Open University.
- Shweta has appeared on popular TV reality shows such as Dance India Dance, Dance Deewane, and Dance Plus.
- She has also worked as a choreographer on Jhalak Dikhlaja.

### LIVA Miss Diva Universe

- LIVA Miss Diva Universe 2023 is the 11th edition of the pageant.
- The winner of the pageant represents India in the Miss Universe competition.
- This year's pageant allowed participation from married, divorced, pregnant, engaged, widowed, and transgender individuals for the first time.



## Sulabh International' founder and social activist Bindeshwar Pathak passed away

Bindeshwar Pathak, founder of Sulabh International, a social service organization, passed away on 15 August 2023 at the age of 80 due to cardiac arrest at AIIMS New Delhi.

- Born on April 2, 1943, in Bihar, Pathak held a PhD in sociology from Patna University and began his career as a lecturer.
- He founded Sulabh International in 1970, which has constructed over 1.5 million household toilets and 8,500 public toilets across India.
- Pathak developed the Sulabh Shauchalaya System, an eco-friendly toilet technology converting waste into biogas and fertilizer.
- He introduced pay-and-use public toilets, offering clean and affordable sanitation facilities, and rehabilitated manual scavengers.
- Pathak worked for the upliftment of widows by providing them education, vocational skills, and social security.
- He received numerous awards, including Padma Shri (1991), Padma Bhushan (1999), Stockholm Water Prize (2009), and Gandhi Peace Prize (2016).
- Pathak's contributions were praised by prominent figures, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



## Tesla appoints Indian-origin Vaibhav Taneja as CFO

Tesla, the American electric automobile maker, has appointed Indian-origin Vaibhav Taneja as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Taneja, previously the Chief Accounting Officer (CAO) of Tesla, will take on the CFO role alongside his existing responsibilities.

- He will succeed Zachary Kirkhorn, who announced his decision to step down.
- Taneja holds a degree from Delhi University and has over 20 years of finance and accounting experience.
- He joined Tesla in 2017 and has been leading the company's accounting, financial reporting, and internal audit functions.
- This appointment aligns with Tesla's plans to establish India as a significant source of a new supplier ecosystem.
- Tesla is reportedly discussing with Indian government officials to bring its auto parts and electronics chain to India.
- Tesla aims to launch its first electric car in India by early 2024.



## Indian-American Shohini Sinha Appointed Special Agent in Charge of FBI's Salt Lake City Field Office for Counter-Terrorism Expertise

Shohini Sinha, an Indian-American, has been appointed as the special agent in charge of the FBI's field office in Salt Lake City in the US state of Utah.

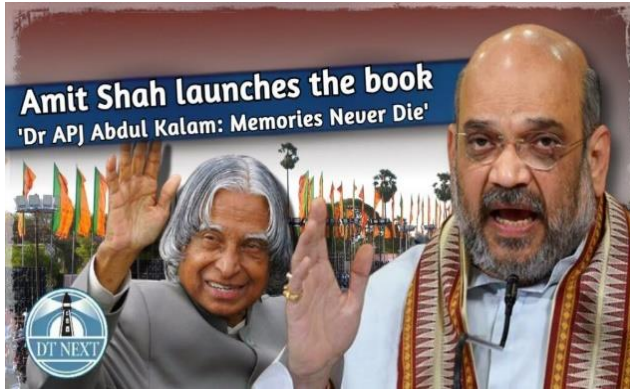
1. Sinha has a notable background in counter-terrorism investigations and has been recognized for her exceptional track record in this field.
2. She previously served as the executive special assistant to the Director at FBI Headquarters in Washington DC before her current appointment.
3. Sinha joined the FBI as a special agent in 2001 and was promoted to supervisory special agent in 2009, working in the Counterterrorism Division in Washington, DC.
4. In 2021, she was selected to serve as the executive special assistant to the FBI Director, further highlighting her leadership qualities and outstanding performance.



## PM Narendra Modi conferred with Lokmanya Tilak National Award in Pune

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honored with the Lokmanya Tilak National Award on 01 August 2023 in Pune, Maharashtra. The award was conferred on him by Deepak Tilak, President of Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust. The Lokmanya Tilak National Award is given every year on 1st August, the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak, to individuals who have made remarkable contributions to the development of the nation.





### Book ‘Memories Never Die,’ tribute to former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

The book titled ‘Memories Never Die’ was unveiled by Union Minister Amit Shah’s on 29 July 2023, during visit to the Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu.

- It serves as a tribute to the life and legacy of the late former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.
- The book was co-authored by Dr. APJM Nasima Maraikayar and scientist Dr. Y. S. Rajan.
- The unveiling ceremony was a significant event during the visit and received attention from the public and political figures.
- The event was graced by the presence of Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Shri. L Murugan, and Tamil Nadu BJP President, Shri. Annamalai.

## MCQ Questions:

**Q.: What is the main objective of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana?**

- a) Providing free education to poor households
- b) Offering interest-free loans to women entrepreneurs
- c) Provide deposit free LPG connections to women from poor households
- d) Distributing free smartphones to rural communities

Ans : c) Provide deposit free LPG connections to women from poor households

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the main purpose of the Global India AI 2023 Conference?**

- a) Showcasing art and culture
- b) Hosting sports events
- c) Providing a platform for AI discussions
- d) Focusing on space exploration

Ans : c) Providing a platform for AI discussions

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the key feature of the world's first ethanol-fueled car launched by Nitin Gadkari?**

- a) It's the fastest car ever built
- b) It can run on multiple types of fuels simultaneously
- c) It functions entirely on ethanol-based fuel
- d) It's a self-driving car

Ans : c) It functions entirely on ethanol-based fuel

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which nations have been newly incorporated into the BRICS alliance?**

- a) Canada, Australia, Japan, Mexico, France
- b) Argentina, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia
- c) United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland
- d) South Korea, Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam

Answer: b) Argentina, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What makes the recent wildfire in northeastern Greece notable?**

- a) It has been burning for three days
- b) It is the largest wildfire in EU history
- c) It has been contained within a city
- d) It has affected primarily urban areas

Answer: b) It is the largest wildfire in EU history

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the purpose of the Laser-Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) instrument onboard Chandrayaan-3 Rover?**

- a) To study the Moon's gravitational field
- b) To capture high-resolution images of lunar craters
- c) To analyze the composition of lunar soil using intense laser pulses
- d) To search for signs of past water presence on the Moon

Answer: c) To analyze the composition of lunar soil using intense laser pulses

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which contestant won the Miss Diva Universe 2023 title?**

- a) Divita Rai
- b) Trisha Shetty
- c) Shweta Sharda
- d) Sonal Kukreja

Answer: c) Shweta Sharda

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the name of India's first space-based solar observatory ?**

- a) SunView-1
- b) Solaris Mission
- c) Aditya-L1
- d) HelioScan-Alpha

Answer: c) Aditya-L1

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the primary objective of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)?**

- a) Providing free education to rural children
- b) Enhancing agricultural productivity
- c) Promoting digital entertainment services
- d) Ensuring financial inclusion for all households

Answer: d) Ensuring financial inclusion for all households

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which women's visually impaired cricket team won the T-20 final of the IBSA World Games in Birmingham?**

- a) Australia
- b) Pakistan
- c) India
- d) England

Answer: c) India

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which nation is the host of the multilateral exercise Bright Star-23 from 27 August to 16 September 2023 ?**

- a) Saudi Arabia
- b) Greece
- c) Qatar
- d) Egypt
- e) India

Answer: d) Egypt

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who recently became India's first-ever gold medallist at the World Athletics Championships?**

- a) Abhinav Bindra
- b) P. T. Usha
- c) Neeraj Chopra
- d) Sushil Kumar

Answer: c) Neeraj Chopra

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the B20 (Business 20)?**

- a) A global business competition
- b) An international business conference
- c) The official G20 dialogue forum with the business community
- d) A financial organization of 20 countries

Answer: c) The official G20 dialogue forum with the business community

[Detail News](#)



**Q.: Who was declared the winner in Zimbabwe's presidential elections?**

- a) Robert Mugabe
- b) Nelson Chamisa
- c) Emmerson Mnangagwa
- d) Nelson Mandela

**Answer: c) Emmerson Mnangagwa**

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What city retained its top position and won the National Smart City Award in the fourth edition of the India Smart Cities Award Contest (ISAC)?**

- A) Chennai
- B) Surat
- C) Agra
- D) Indore

**Answer: D) Indore**

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who became the first Foreign Head of the Government to receive 'The Grand Cross of the Order of Honour' from the Greek government?**

- A) Angela Merkel
- B) Emmanuel Macron
- C) Narendra Modi
- D) Boris Johnson

**Answer: C) Narendra Modi**

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What name did Prime Minister Narendra Modi give to the spot on the Moon where Chandrayaan-3's lander Vikram touched down?**

- A) Moon Touch Point
- B) Lunar Landing Site
- C) Shiv Shakti Point
- D) ISRO Landing Zone

**Answer: C) Shiv Shakti Point**

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Why is August 23 celebrated as National Space Day in India?**

- A) It marks the founding day of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- B) It commemorates the successful landing of the Chandrayaan-3 lander on the lunar South Pole.
- C) It signifies India's first human spaceflight mission.
- D) It celebrates the launch of India's first communication satellite.

Answer: B) It commemorates the successful landing of the Chandrayaan-3 lander on the lunar South Pole.

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who emerged as the winner of the FIDE Chess World Cup 2023?**

- a) R. Praggnanandhaa
- b) Viswanathan Anand
- c) Magnus Carlsen
- d) Ding Liren

Ans : c) Magnus Carlsen

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the significance of the Indian tricolour and ISRO logo being imprinted on the Moon's surface?**

- a) It marks the site for a future lunar colony
- b) It symbolizes India's claim on lunar resources
- c) It showcases India's pioneering presence near the lunar south pole
- d) It represents a partnership with other space agencies

Ans : c) It showcases India's pioneering presence near the lunar south pole

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What film was awarded the "Best Feature Film" at the 69th National Film Awards?**

- a) Gangubai Kathiawadi
- b) Rocketry: The Nambi Effect
- c) Pushpa: The Rise
- d) RRR

Ans : b) Rocketry: The Nambi Effect

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: In which South African city is the BRICS Summit 2023 being held?**

- a) Johannesburg
- b) Cape Town
- c) Durban
- d) Pretoria

Ans : a) Johannesburg

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who recently became Thailand's new Prime Minister?**

- a) Thaksin Shinawatra
- b) Prayut Chan-o-cha
- c) Srettha Thavisin
- d) Joko Widodo

Ans : c) Srettha Thavisin

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who are the finalists in the Chess World Cup 2023?**

- a) R Praggnanandhaa and Viswanathan Anand
- b) Magnus Carlsen and Fabiano Caruana
- c) R Praggnanandhaa and Magnus Carlsen
- d) Fabiano Caruana and Viswanathan Anand

Ans : c) R Praggnanandhaa and Magnus Carlsen

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which country recently achieved the historic feat by becoming the first country to successfully land on the South Pole of the lunar surface?**

- a) China
- b) Russia
- c) United States
- d) India

Ans : India

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who has been declared as the National Icon of the Election Commission of India (ECI)?**

- a) MS Dhoni
- b) Aamir Khan
- c) Sachin Tendulkar
- d) Pankaj Tripathi

Ans : c) Sachin Tendulkar

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What record did R Praggnanandhaa set during the FIDE World Cup 2023 chess tournament?**

- a) Youngest player to reach the final.
- b) Most wins in a single tournament.
- c) Highest rating increase.
- d) Most games played in the tournament.

Ans : a) Youngest player to reach the final.

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the theme of the 15th BRICS summit held in Pretoria, South Africa?**

- a) "Emerging Economies Unite"
- b) "Global Challenges and Collaborative Solutions"
- c) "BRICS: Towards Sustainable Development"
- d) 'BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development, and Inclusive Multilateralism'

Ans : 'BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development, and Inclusive Multilateralism'

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What does BNCAP stand for?**

- a) Bureau of New Car Assessment Programme
- b) Bharat National Car Approval Protocol
- c) Best New Car Assessment Program
- d) Bharat New Car Assessment Programme

Ans :d) Bharat New Car Assessment Programme

[Detail News](#)

**Question: Which organization is responsible for the Chandrayaan missions ?**

- A) NASA
- B) ESA (European Space Agency)
- C) ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation)
- D) JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency)

Answer: C) ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation)

[Detail News](#)



**Question: Who will be captain of Indian Men's Cricket team in the upcoming Asia Cup 2023?**

- A) Shubman Gill
- B) Virat Kohli
- C) Rohit Sharma
- D) KL Rahul

Answer: C) Rohit Sharma

[Detail News](#)

**Question: Which naval exercise recently concluded its 27th edition in Sydney, Australia, involving multiple countries' navies?**

- A) Operation Trident
- B) Exercise Blue Waters
- C) Exercise Malabar 2023
- D) Operation Pacific Unity

Answer: C) Exercise Malabar 2023

[Detail News](#)

**Question: In the 16th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA) held in Poland, India secured which rank and how many medals?**

- A) First rank with four Gold and one Silver Medal
- B) Second rank with five Gold and one Silver Medal
- C) Second rank with four Gold and one Silver Medal
- D) Third rank with three Gold and two Silver Medals

Answer: C) Second rank with four Gold and one Silver Medal

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the name of the Russian space agency?**

- A) RSA (Russian Space Administration)
- B) RKA (Russian Cosmonautics Agency)
- C) Roscosmos (Russian Federal Space Agency)
- D) RFSA (Russian Federal Space Administration)

Ans : C) Roscosmos (Russian Federal Space Agency)

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which nation emerged as the champion of the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023?**

- A) Germany
- B) Spain
- C) USA
- D) France

Ans : B) Spain

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who recently achieved the distinction of being the first Indian, following Viswanathan Anand, to advance to the semifinals of the FIDE Chess World Cup?**

- A) Viswanathan Anand
- B) Arjun Erigaisi
- C) Magnus Carlsen
- D) R Praggnanandhaa

Ans : D) R Praggnanandhaa

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: In which weight category did Priya Malik win the gold medal at U20 World Wrestling Championships in August 2023?**

- a) 68 kg
- b) 76 kg
- c) 80 kg
- d) 85 kg

Answer: b) 76 kg

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who clinched the 10m air pistol mixed team gold at the ISSF World Championship 2023?**

- a) Ilayda Tarhan and Yusuf Dikec
- b) Esha Singh and Shiva Narwal
- c) China's shooting duo
- d) Turkish shooting team

Answer: b) Esha Singh and Shiva Narwal

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Where was India's first 3D concrete Printed Post Office building inaugurated?**

- a) New Delhi
- b) Mumbai
- c) Bengaluru
- d) Chennai

Answer: c) Bengaluru

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: The BRICS Summit is a conference attended by the leaders of which five member states?**

- a) United States, United Kingdom, Canada, France, Germany
- b) Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa
- c) Brazil, Russia, Indonesia, China, South Africa
- d) Belgium, Russia, India, China, South Korea

Answer: b) Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the altitude of Migla, a strategically important point on the Likaru-Migla-Fukche road in Eastern Ladakh.**

- a) 19,024 feet
- b) 19,400 feet
- c) 18,000 feet
- d) 20,000 feet

Ans :b) 19,400 feet

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the significance of the India's new warship name "INS Vindhyagiri", ?**

- a) It is named after a famous Indian naval officer.
- b) It is named after a mountain range in Karnataka.
- c) It represents a historical naval battle.
- d) It symbolizes India's maritime heritage.

b) It is named after a mountain range in Karnataka.

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the name of the Lander Module in the Chandrayaan-3 mission that is expected to land on the Moon's surface?**

- a) Luna
- b) Explorer
- c) Vikram
- d) Apollo

Answer: c) Vikram

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which portal has played a crucial role in detecting and deactivating fraudulent connections and blacklisting SIM card dealers?**

- a) CyberGuard Portal
- b) SecureSIM Portal
- c) Sanchar Sathi Portal
- d) FraudBlock Portal

Answer: c) Sanchar Sathi Portal

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who recently made history by winning a gold medal at the Under 20 World Championship in men's 61 Kg Freestyle wrestling category?**

- a) Ramesh Kumar
- b) Sagar Jaglan
- c) Mohit Kumar
- d) Deepak Punia

Answer: c) Mohit Kumar

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: How many electric buses will be deployed under PM-eBus Sewa scheme?**

- A) 5,000
- B) 10,000
- C) 15,000
- D) 20,000

Answer: B) 10,000

[Detail News](#)



**Q.: What is the main objective of the PM Vishwakarma scheme?**

- a) Providing financial aid to farmers
- b) Supporting traditional artisans and craftspeople
- c) Promoting digital literacy in rural areas
- d) Enhancing urban infrastructure

**Ans :** b) Supporting traditional artisans and craftspeople

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who is the Director General of the World Health Organisation (WHO) who visited India to attend WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine?**

- a) Dr. Margaret Chan
- b) Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- c) Dr. Adhanom Ghebreyesus Tedros
- d) Dr. Narendra Ghebreyesus

**Ans :** b) Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who holds the top spot in the ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings for batters, as per rankings updated on 16 August 2023?**

- a) Shubman Gill
- b) Babar Azam
- c) Suryakumar Yadav
- d) Mohammad Rizwan

**Ans :** c) Suryakumar Yadav

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Where is the G20 Film Festival being held?**

- a) Mumbai, India
- b) Tokyo, Japan
- c) New Delhi, India
- d) Beijing, China

**Ans :** c) New Delhi, India

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: How many Kirti Chakra awards were approved by President Smt Droupadi Murmu on Independence Day 2023?**

- a) 2
- b) 4
- c) 6
- d) 8

Ans : b) 4 – All are awarded (posthumous) to CRPF personnel

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the name of the first Indian space-based observatory designed to study the Sun?**

- a) Aditya-L1
- b) Solaris-I
- c) HelioSat-1
- d) SunProbe-1

Ans : a) Aditya-L1

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: On August 15, 2023, India celebrated its \_\_\_\_\_ Independence Day.**

- A) 75th
- B) 76th
- C) 77th
- D) 78th

Ans :C) 77th

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who established Sulabh International, a renowned social service organization?**

- a) Mahatma Gandhi
- b) Bindeshwar Pathak
- c) Mother Teresa
- d) Azza Hazare

Ans : b) Bindeshwar Pathak

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: The Parsi New Year is celebrated according to which calendar?**

- a) Gregorian calendar
- b) Lunar calendar
- c) Shahenshahi calendar
- d) Hijri calendar

Ans : c) Shahenshahi calendar

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who is the new caretaker prime minister of Pakistan overseeing the national elections in October 2023?**

- a) Shehbaz Sharif
- b) Raja Riaz Ahmad
- c) Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar
- d) Imran Khan

Ans : c) Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: India wins Asian Champions Trophy 2023 in Hockey. Who was India's opponent in the final?**

- a) Pakistan
- b) Japan
- c) Malaysia
- d) South Korea

Ans : c) Malaysia

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: When is Partition Horrors Remembrance Day observed in India?**

- a) August 15
- b) August 14
- c) September 1
- d) July 4

Ans : b) August 14

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which bill proposes to replace the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860?**

- A) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023
- B) Bharatiya Nyay Prakriya Sanhita, 2023
- C) Bharatiya Sakshya Sanhita, 2023
- D) None of the above

Ans : A) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What does the Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2023 define?**

- a) Definitions of agricultural products
- b) Definitions of export and import duties
- c) Expressions of online gaming, online money gaming, and virtual digital assets
- d) Regulations for e-commerce platforms

Ans : c) Expressions of online gaming, online money gaming, and virtual digital assets

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is true about India's role in the Human Hair industry?**

- a) India is the largest importer of Human Hair.
- b) India is the primary consumer of Human Hair products.
- c) India is the largest source of raw material for Human Hair in the world.
- d) India is the leading manufacturer of Human Hair products.

Ans : c) India is the largest source of raw material for Human Hair in the world.

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the term used for terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period, without naming a day for reassembly?**

- A) Adjournment motion
- B) Adjournment sine die
- C) Prorogation
- D) Dissolution

Answer: B) Adjournment sine die

[Detail News](#)



**Q.: Which two navies participate in the MALABAR exercises?**

- a) Indian Navy and Russian Navy
- b) Indian Navy and Chinese Navy
- c) Indian Navy and US Navy
- d) Indian Navy and French Navy

Ans : c) Indian Navy and US Navy

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: How did the NDA defeat the no-confidence motion in the Lok Sabha?**

- A) By a voice vote
- B) By a division vote
- C) By a walkout
- D) By a secret ballot

Ans : A) By a voice vote

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the repo rate, as defined in the context of the RBI's monetary policy?**

- a) The rate at which banks lend money to RBI
- b) The rate at which RBI lends money to banks
- c) The rate at which RBI lends money to the government
- d) The rate at which banks lend money to each other

Ans : b) The rate at which RBI lends money to banks

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who will lead the Indian contingent in the upcoming World Athletics Championships 2023?**

- a) Shaili Singh
- b) Neeraj Chopra
- c) P T Usha
- d) Hima Das

Ans : b) Neeraj Chopra

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the main focus of the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023?**

- a) Regulating social media platforms
- b) Ensuring free access to digital services
- c) Protecting individuals' personal data and enabling lawful data processing
- d) Promoting digital entrepreneurship

Ans : c) Protecting individuals' personal data and enabling lawful data processing

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the primary purpose of the MATSYA6000 submersible developed by the country?**

- a) Underwater photography
- b) Deep sea tourism
- c) Deep sea mining and exploration
- d) Marine life observation

Ans : c) Deep sea mining and exploration

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the name of the bilateral exercise conducted with the UAE Navy?**

- a) 'Maritime Synergy'
- b) 'Naval Friendship'
- c) 'Zayed Talwar'
- d) 'Oceanic Unity'

Ans : c) 'Zayed Talwar'

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which national park is known as the natural habitat of Asiatic lions?**

- a) Jim Corbett National Park
- b) Kaziranga National Park
- c) Gir National Park
- d) Bandipur National Park

Ans : c) Gir National Park

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: In which city did the 31st World University Games take place?**

- a) New Delhi, India
- b) Beijing, China
- c) Chengdu, China
- d) Tokyo, Japan

Ans : c) Chengdu, China

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the name of the Russian lunar lander set to launch on this mission?**

- a) Chandrayaan-3
- b) Luna 25
- c) Artemis
- d) Lunar Rover-1

Ans : b) Luna 25

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the primary focus of the Inter-Services Organisation (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill – 2023?**

- a) Enhancing inter-service competition
- b) Strengthening discipline in the armed forces
- c) Expanding military personnel recruitment
- d) Promoting international cooperation

Ans : b) Strengthening discipline in the armed forces

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Why was Rahul Gandhi disqualified from the Lok Sabha earlier this year?**

- a) He was involved in a corruption scandal.
- b) He was found guilty of criminal defamation.
- c) He voluntarily resigned from his position.
- d) He violated parliamentary ethics and rules.

Ans : b) He was found guilty of criminal defamation.

[Detail News](#)

**Who has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Tesla?**

- a) Zachary Kirkhorn
- b) Elon Musk
- c) Vaibhav Taneja
- d) Rajeev Jain

Ans : c) Vaibhav Taneja

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the main purpose of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill 2023?**

- a) To establish a new political party in Delhi
- b) To amend the Indian Constitution
- c) To empower the Central Government to make rules for Delhi's administration
- d) To grant more powers to the local government in Delhi

Ans : c) To empower the Central Government to make rules for Delhi's administration

[Detail News](#)

**Question: Why was the date 7th August specifically chosen to celebrate National Handloom Day?**

- A) It marks the birth anniversary of a renowned handloom weaver.
- B) It commemorates the launch of the Swadeshi Movement.
- C) It is the Independence Day of India.
- D) It is the day when the National Institute of Fashion Technology was established.

Answer: B) It commemorates the launch of the Swadeshi Movement.

[Detail News](#)

**Question: When is the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft expected to make a soft landing near the Moon's south pole?**

- A) July 14
- B) August 23
- C) September 11
- D) October 5

Answer: B) August 23

[Detail News](#)

**Question: Who became the first-ever Indian to clinch the individual World Title at the World Archery Championships final in Berlin?**

- A) Ojas Deotale
- B) Jyothi Surekha Vennam
- C) Parneet Kaur
- D) Aditi Swami

Answer: D) Aditi Swami

[Detail News](#)



**Question: Which of the following statements is true about Bharat Net?**

- A) Bharat Net is one of the world's largest urban broadband connectivity programs.
- B) Bharat Net is one of the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programs.
- C) Bharat Net is one of the world's largest satellite communication initiatives.
- D) Bharat Net is one of the world's largest social welfare schemes.

Answer: B) Bharat Net is one of the world's largest rural broadband connectivity programs.

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Which officer has been granted a one-year extension as Union Home Secretary by the Centre?**

- A) Ajay Kumar Bhalla
- B) Rajesh Sharma
- C) Sunil Verma
- D) Ramesh Gupta

Answer: A) Ajay Kumar Bhalla

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What historic achievement did the Indian women's archery team accomplish in the World Archery Championships held in Berlin?**

- A) They won their first-ever gold medal in the compound women's team final.
- B) They secured a victory against Mexico in the under-21 category.
- C) They emerged as the top-ranked team in the World Archery Championships.
- D) They won the World crown at the elite level for the third time in a row.

Answer: A) They won their first-ever gold medal in the compound women's team final.

[Detail News](#)

**Question: What is the main objective of the Festival of Libraries 2023 held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi from 5 to 6 July 2023?**

- A) To showcase iconic libraries from across the world
- B) To promote cultural events at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
- C) To celebrate India's independence anniversary
- D) To initiate a conversation on modernization and digitization of libraries in India

Answer: D) To initiate a conversation on modernization and digitization of libraries in India

[Detail News](#)

**Q: Which club football tournament is the oldest in Asia and the third oldest in the world?**

- A) Durand Cup
- B) FA Cup
- C) Copa Libertadores
- D) AFC Champions League

A) Durand Cup

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the Radio Frequency (RF) Seeker used for in missiles?**

- a) Initial phase tracking
- b) Mid-course phase tracking
- c) Terminal phase target tracking
- d) Intercepting enemy missiles

c) Terminal phase target tracking

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who inaugurated the national festival of India's folk and tribal expressions "Utkarsh" and the international literature festival "Unmesh" in Bhopal?**

- a) Governor Mangubhai Patel
- b) Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- c) President Draupadi Murmu
- d) Culture Department of Madhya Pradesh

c) President Draupadi Murmu

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who is the current cabinet secretary of India ?**

- a) Ajit Doval
- b) Rajiv Gauba
- c) Sanjay Kumar Mishra
- d) Tapan Deka

b) Rajiv Gauba

[Detail News](#)

**Question: In which area has Indian-American Shohini Sinha been appointed as the Special Agent in Charge of the FBI?**

- A) Washington DC
- B) New York City
- C) Salt Lake City, Utah
- D) Los Angeles, California

Answer: C) Salt Lake City, Utah

[Detail News](#)

**Question: From which date will the 28% GST on casinos and online gaming be implemented?**

- A) 1st of November 2023
- B) 1st of September 2023
- C) 1st of October 2023
- D) 1st of December 2023

Answer: C) 1st of October 2023

[Detail News](#)

**Question: How many Income Tax Returns (ITRs) were filed for the financial year 2023-24?**

- A) 5.83 crore
- B) 6.64 crore
- C) 6.77 crore
- D) 7.46 crore

Answer: C) 6.77 crore

[Detail News](#)

**Question: What is the main objective of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill?**

- A) To increase government control over the mining sector
- B) To allow government entities exclusive rights for mining deep-seated minerals
- C) To encourage private sector participation in the exploration of critical and deep-seated minerals
- D) To remove atomic minerals from the list and limit exploration of minerals

Answer: C) To encourage private sector participation in the exploration of critical and deep-seated minerals.

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: What is the full form of PM-KUSUM, an initiative by the Government of India aimed at providing clean energy solutions to farmers?**

- A) Pradhan Mantri Kheti Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan
- B) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Upkaran Mahabhiyan
- C) Pradhan Mantri Kheti Urja Subsidy evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan
- D) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan

Answer: D) PM-KUSUM: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: On which important Buddhist religious day was Aung San Suu Kyi pardoned, leading to a reduction in her jail term?**

- A) Vesak
- B) Poya
- C) Dhamma Cakka Day
- D) Asalha Puja

Answer: C) Dhamma Cakka Day

[Detail News](#)

**Question: What risks does UNESCO's report highlight as reasons for recommending Venice to be added to the list of world heritage sites in danger?**

- A) Economic instability and unemployment.
- B) Pollution and environmental degradation.
- C) Overwhelming tourism and over development.
- D) Political unrest and social conflicts.

Answer: C) Overwhelming tourism and over development.

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: Who has been honored with the Lokmanya Tilak National Award 2023?**

- a) Amit Shah
- b) Narendra Modi
- c) Nitin Gadkari
- d) Medha Patkar

b) Narendra Modi

[Detail News](#)



**Question: Who co-authored the book 'Memories Never Die,' a tribute to the life and legacy of the late former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam?**

- a) Dr. APJM Nasima Maraikayar and Amit Saha
- b) Dr. APJM Nasima Maraikayar and scientist Dr. Y. S. Rajan
- c) Arundhati Roy and Mulk Raj Anand
- d) Vikram Seth and scientist Dr. Y. S. Rajan

b) Dr. APJM Nasima Maraikayar and scientist Dr. Y. S. Rajan

[Detail News](#)

**Q.: How many gold medals did the Indian contingent win at the Sri Lanka Athletics National Championships 2023?**

- A) Four
- B) Six
- C) Nine
- D) Eleven

C) Nine

[Detail News](#)