

MARCH – 2023

POLITY

1. **International Yoga Festival 2023** will be held in **Rishikesh**.
2. The **‘Catch the Rain 2023’** campaign was introduced by President **Droupadi Murmu** in New Delhi. The campaign’s central idea is the **sustainability of drinking water sources**.
3. **Aurangabad** name changed into **Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar**
4. **The Election Commission** (EC) has selected **Manjamma Jogati, (Karnataka)** a transgender folk dancer, as a poll icon to encourage more members of the transgender community to register and vote.
5. **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority’s** (PFRDA) raises ombudsman age limit to **70 years** from 65 years

OPERATIONS IN NEWS

| Name of the operation | Conducted by | For the purpose of |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| Operation Trishul | CBI | To bring fugitives involved in criminal activities back to India |
| Operation Interflex | UK | part of UK’S Commitment of €2.3 Billion for military aid and support to Ukraine |

COMMITTEES IN NEWS

| Committee Name | Appointed by | Appointed for |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| Justice Deepak Verma committee | | To oversee the transfer and import of captive wild animals in India. |
| Kirit Parikh committee | | To review the existing pricing formula for domestically produced natural gas in India |
| V Thirupugazh committee | Govt of TN | Submitted report on Flood management in Tamilnadu. |

SCHEMES IN NEWS

| Scheme Name | Launched by | Aim/Objective |
|--|---|--|
| Scheme for Economic Empowerment of DNT Communities (SEED) | MOSJE | for providing basic facilities to DNT communities |
| “New India Literacy Programme” (NILP) | Implemented from FYs 2022-23 to 2026-27 | To target of all Non-literates aged 15 years and above , with a target of 5 crore beneficiaries. |
| LEAN scheme | MSME | to provide road map to increase competitiveness for MSME in India |
| SAMARTH | Ministry of Textiles | placement-oriented programme targeting skill development of 10 lakh youth of textiles |

FIRST IN NEWS

1. **Rajasthan** becomes the first state to pass **Right to Health Bill**
2. **Deakin University of Australia – The first foreign university in India** will be in Gujarat to come up in International Financial Tec-City (GIFT) City.
3. **Punjab and Haryana Court – first to use AI chatbot called ChatGPT** to make a decision regarding a **bail application** in a criminal case. The bench led by Justice **Anoop Chitkara**.
4. The **world’s first 200-metre-long bamboo crash barrier** has been installed on a highway connecting Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts in **Maharashtra**.
5. Indian Railways’ first **Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal** commissioned in **Asansol** Division
6. India’s 1st and world’s 2nd -**100% Methanol- powered Prototype Truck** was unveiled in **Bengaluru**. **M100** is an initiative by **NITI Aayog** along with Indian Oil Corporation limited.
7. **Terran 1**, world's first 3D-printed rocket, is failed to reach orbit
8. **Spain** became the **first** country in the world to give mothers and fathers the same parental leave: 16 weeks, non-transferable and fully paid.

9. **India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFP)**, running from **Siliguri** to **Parbatipur** is **first cross border energy pipeline** between India and Bangladesh with a capacity to transport **1 Million Metric Ton Per Annum** of High-Speed Diesel to Bangladesh.
10. **Finland** has installed **world's first sand battery** that can store heat from renewable energy sources for months.
11. **Kashi** declared as **1st Tourism and cultural Capital** of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation.

ECONOMY

1. **Reserve Bank of India** is about to launch a pilot project to assess the functioning of a **QR-code Based Coin Vending Machine (cashless coin dispensation machine)**.
2. **SBI** announced the completion of a **\$1 billion syndicated social loan facility**. It is the largest **Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) loan** by a commercial bank in the Asia Pacific and the **second-largest** social loan globally.
3. **SWAYATT** is a programme that seeks to increase the benefits of **e-Transactions** on government e-Marketplaces (GeM) for **startups, women, and young people**
4. Japan's **Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI)** launched in **2021**, to support the **ASEAN countries** towards achieving **net zero emissions**, including financial assistance of **USD 10 billion for renewable energy**.
5. NSO estimates that India's per capita income in **nominal terms, doubled** to Rs.1,72,000 since 2014-15. In **real terms** the per capita income is increased by **35 %** since 2014-2025.
6. **FinEMPOWER**, a new initiative from BSE and UN Women India, was introduced at the **Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)**.
7. India ranks **2nd** in **Global investment in digital shopping** in which, Bengaluru tops the list in India (London & Partners analysis of Dealroom. co-investment data)
8. India's 1st ever consignment of **GI-tagged Kashmir carpets** flagged off to **Germany**.

9. **Indrayani Medicity** has been set up in (Pune) **Maharashtra** and it will be the first-of-its-kind city in the country to provide all kinds of specialised treatment under one roof.
10. RBI has granted **Infrastructure Finance company (IFC)** status to Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)
11. A **6 digit HUID** (Hallmark Unique Identification) on Gold Jewellery made from Mandatory from 1st April, 2023.
12. Central government has scaled up its **Right To Repair (RTR) initiative** to cover four sectors i.e., consumer durables, electronic devices, automobiles and farm equipment.
13. **Bureau Of Indian Standards**, Southern Regional office (Chennai) Grants **First Certification Licence** in The Southern Region For Milk And Milk Products to **Nandhini Mega Hi-Tech Powder Plant, Karnataka**.
14. **PM MITRA** park will launched in **7 states** (Pradhan Mantri Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Park)

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Tamil Nadu | Telangana |
| Gujarat | Karnataka |
| Madhya Pradesh | Uttar Pradesh |
| Maharashtra | |

15. **Bank of Baroda** and **TN govt** to launch Co-branded Debit card for **PUDHUMAI PENN** scheme
16. **herSTART**: To encourage and promote women entrepreneurs. A monthly allowance upto Rs.**20000** for one year for women led startups
17. RBI's **Greenfield Data Centre** And **Cybersecurity Training Institute** is to Come Up in **Bhubaneswar**.
18. India exports maximum to USA (18% share)> UAE (6%)> China (5%)> Bangladesh. India's target: \$ 2 trillion export by 2030
19. India's overall exports cross all time high of **\$750 Billion** in the present fiscal year, 2023.

GEOGRAPHY

1. Gold deposits have been found at different locations in three districts of Odisha, including **Deogarh, Keonjhar, and Mayurbhanj**.
2. **Cyclone Freddy** was active for **32 days**, the **longest lived tropical cyclone** on record according to WMO. It affected the Mascarene Islands, Madagascar, and Mozambique.
3. Scientists confirm **existence of a fifth layer** in Earth's core. The fifth layer is made of **iron and nickel**, the same materials that comprise the rest of the inner core.
4. Ministry of Agriculture has allowed IFFCO and Coromandel International (a private company) to start production of **nano-DAP** (Di-Ammonia Phosphate) for 3 years.
5. **Centre of excellence** For horticultural crops Under Mission for integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) will be set up in

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Dragon fruit | Bengaluru |
| Mango & vegetables | Jaipur |
| Vegetables & Flowers | Ponda (Goa) |

6. **PM Pranam** (Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana) – To encourage the **balanced use of fertilisers** in conjunction with **biofertilisers** and **organic fertilisers**.

ENVIRONMENT

1. The **International Energy Agency (IEA)** released the annual **Methane Global Tracker report** in 2023.
2. **March 3** marks the **50th anniversary of CITES** & it is being celebrated by UN General assembly in 2023
3. India has proposed the creation of an **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)** to protect **seven** major big cats, namely- tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar and cheetah.

4. **Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa project (GKMS)** - To provide weather information based crop/livestock management strategies and operations.
5. **Barda wildlife sanctuary in Gujarat** proposed as **2nd** home for **Asiatic lions** to relocate 40 lions from Gir national park
6. **Belgrade** (Serbia) has introduced **liquid tree**, an urban photo-bioreactor, to combat air pollution. It contains water and **Micro algae** to reduce Greenhouse gas emissions.
7. **Aravalli Green wall project** is an initiative to cover green corridors in **5km buffer area** around Aravalli Hill range in four states – **Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Delhi**. (Inspiration: Africa’s Great Green wall programme, 2007)
8. **Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary - 18th wildlife sanctuary** in TN
9. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has imposed a penalty of **Rs 10 crore** on the Kerala government for failing to protect the **Vembanad and Ashtamudi lakes** (Ramsar list of wetlands)
10. **Swachhotsav 2023: 1000 Cities** are targeted to become **3-Star Garbage Free** by 2024.
11. MoEFCC launched **Mission Sahbhagita** in 2022 with a mission of a healthy and effectively managed network of **75 wetlands** of national and international significance.
12. As per latest **ISFR 2021**, (Compared with previous assessment i.e. ISFR 2019)

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total forest cover of the country | In terms of Area | 7,13,789 km ² |
| | In terms of geographical area | 21.72% |
| Total forest cover of the country | | Increased by 1540km ² |
| Tree cover | | Increased by 721 km ² |
| Total forest and tree cover | | Increased by 2261 km ² |

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. The **CE-20 cryogenic engine** successfully completed its test launch. It will power up the **LVM3-M4 rocket's cryogenic upper** stage. And this engine will be used to launch **Chandrayaan-3**
2. The **“Chip 4” or “Fab 4”** alliance includes four of the world's top producers of semiconductors: the **USA, Japan, Taiwan, and Korea**.
3. POTS or **postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome** is a disorder of the autonomic nervous system characterized by a **rapid rise in heart rate** after standing up or lying down.
4. The **Crew-6 mission** is to be launched from the **Kenedy Space Centre of NASA** located in **Cape Canaveral**. It is a joint operation of both **NASA and SpaceX**. It will be carried by the **Falcon 9 rocket** to the International Space Station.
5. **VAIBHAV Fellowship' for NRI researchers** (Ministry of Science and Technology) to bring **Indian-origin researchers** to higher educational institutions in India for a **maximum period of two months** per year
6. The USA handed over **NISAR**, an earth observation satellite jointly developed by **NASA and ISRO**, to the Indian space agency. It is **2,800 kilograms** satellite consists of both **L-band and S-band synthetic aperture radar (SAR)** instruments.
7. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) confirmed that outbreak of **Influenza Sub-type H3N2**, Causing respiratory illness. (Influenza A virus)
8. **Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA)** have discovered **gaseous water** in the planet-forming disc around the **star V883 Orionis**.
9. University of Rochester have created a new superconductor material called **“Reddmatter”**. It was formed by combining **lutetium** with **hydrogen** and **nitrogen**.
10. World Bank and Central government commits **\$1 billion** to India for public healthcare infrastructure. It will support India's flagship **Pradhan Mantri-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM)**.
11. YUVIKA (**YUVA VIGYANI KARYAKARAM**) — Young scientist programme for school children is conducted by ISRO
12. ISRO'S landslide atlas of India: Uttarkhand's **Rudraprayag (1st)** and **Tehri Garhwal (2nd)** tops the landslide Index in India.

13. **Research, Education and Training Outreach (REACHOUT)** under Ministry of Earth Sciences for capacity building in a R&D in Earth System Science (RDESS)
14. **C-Veda** is an **India-United Kingdom (UK) project**, jointly funded by ICMR and **Newton Grant from Medical Research Council**, UK to establish established largest neurodevelopmental database in India
15. The **Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi** has been ranked among the top 50 engineering institutions in the **QS World University Rankings** by Subject 2023
16. Asia's Largest **4m International Liquid Mirror Telescope** was inaugurated at **Devasthal, Uttarkhand**
17. The heaviest launch vehicle of ISRO, **LVM3** in its sixth consecutive successful flight placed **36 satellites of OneWeb** into Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
18. **Oumuamua** is a **comet**. It is the **first interstellar object** found visiting our solar system. Earlier it was thought as alien probe
19. **Tanzania** announces outbreak of deadly **Marburg virus disease**
20. **IIT Madras** researchers develop a cost-effective and portable **3D paper-based** pocket-friendly device **to detect adulteration in milk.**

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. **Windsor Framework** was signed between the **UK and EU**. It is designed to address the problem of the movement of goods between the EU and the UK.
2. Russia used six hypersonic missiles, known as **Kinzhals, or Daggers** on Ukraine.
3. **Bhutan** became the **seventh nation** to graduate from the United Nations (UN) list of Least Developed Countries (LDC) by 2023 end.
4. **Doha Programme of Action (DPoA)** is a 10-year program (2022-2031) which aims to put the 46 most vulnerable countries in the world back on track to achieve UN-mandated Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).
5. International criminal court issues arrest warrant for **Valdimir Putin** for war crimes in Ukraine

6. Russia agreed to extend **Black Sea Grain Deal** for 60 days. BSGI was brokered by **UN** between **Ukraine and Russia** to tackle escalating food prices emanating from supply chain disruptions due to effective **blockage of Black sea**.
7. **Egypt** joins **NDB bank of BRICS** as a 4th new member.
8. United States of America, in a senate resolution, **recognised McMahon Line** as international boundary between China and India.
9. **C+1 strategy** refers to multinational strategy of avoiding investing only in china or moving away from china and diversifying their businesses into other countries.
10. **Saudi Arabia** becomes Shanghai Cooperation Organization **dialogue partner**.

NATIONAL NEWS

1. India will establish the **BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC)** at the premises of **Central Power Research Institute (CPRI), Bengaluru**
2. **Women Icons Leading Swachhata (WINS)** awards is given to highlight the impact of **women in sanitation and waste management** by **MoHUA**
3. **Silver Jubilee** Celebration of **Kudumbashree** programme. It was launched in **Kerala** in **1998**
4. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, felicitated **Thiru. Bomman and Tmt. Belli**, caretakers of young calf '**Raghu**' featured in the Oscar-winning documentary film '**The Elephant Whisperers**' taken at **Mudumalai Elephant Camp** by presenting them a Shield of appreciation and cheque for Rs.1.00 lakh. They belongs to **Kattunayakan tribe**.
5. **Time Magazine** List of **World's 50 Greatest Places of 2023**

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mayurbhanj in Odisha | For rare tigers and ancient temples |
| Union Territory of Ladakh | For Adventure and Eats |

6. Odisha govt has declared **Gandhamardhan Hill** range in **Bargarh** and **Balangir** district as **Biodiversity heritage site**

TAMIL NADU NEWS

1. Chennai will host **Umanage, Asia's largest three-day summit** on technology and innovation. It is organised by **Electronics Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited** (ELCOT) in partnership with **France**.
2. Under **Tamil Nadu State Action Plan on Climate Change**, Tamil Nadu government has signed an MOU with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to develop a comprehensive **urban cooling programme**.
3. The Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated the state-of-the-art **Keeladi museum** in Sivagang district on March 5, 2023
4. TN govt unveiled its **"TN Ethanol Blending Policy 2023"**

Targets:

- To meet the estimated Ethanol blending requirement of **130 crore litres**.
 - To attract investments worth **Rs.5000 crore** in molasses/grain-based Ethanol production capacity.
5. The Tamil Nadu Government has announced **"MSME Connect 2023"** – a Vendor development Programme is organised in Chennai to provide **Procurement and Marketing Support (PMS)** for effective implementation of Public Procurement Policy for MSEs.
 6. Monthly Financial assistance Rs 3500 will be given to aged Tamil Scholars by Department of Tamil.

| |
|-------------------------------|
| Age criteria – below 58 years |
|-------------------------------|

| |
|----------------------------|
| Income limit : below 72000 |
|----------------------------|

7. Kamalam chinnasamy was awarded Avvaiyar award
8. Tiruvallur Collector **Alby John Vergheese** was awarded best collector for improving child sex ratio in Thiruvallur district.
9. The Girl Child Empowerment Award 2022-23 to **M. Ilampirai** from **Salem** district for inventing new equipment to prevent deaths during repairing lifts in multi-storey buildings.
10. Cultural outreach events titles **"Maaperum Tamil Kanavu"** to inculcate the heritage of Tamils and Tamil pride among college students.
11. Tamilnadu Kasanoi Erappila Thittam (TN-KET) - to reduce the mortality rate among people with tuberculosis.

12. India's **first PM MITRA Park** is set to be established at **E-Kumaralingapuram** in **Virudhunagar** District of Tamil Nadu
13. **Makkalai Thedi Mayor** scheme was launched in **Chennai corporation**
14. Tamil Nadu govt to celebrate **centenary year of Vaikom Satyagraha**. Annual '**Vaikom Award**' will be presented to individuals or organisations who work for the welfare of the oppressed.
15. **Magalir Urimai Thogai** (Women's entitlement amount) of **Rs 1000** to women heads of eligible households from September 15.
16. **Golden jubilee celebrations** of the state police's women's wing (**1973**) launched by Former CM M Karunanidhi.
 - a. **Navaratna schemes** for women police personnel
 - b. Aval (**Avoid Violence through Awareness and Learning**) scheme is launched, which aims to safeguard and improve the self-defence skills of girls
17. **Punnagai sheme** was launched for the **dental care of students**.

AWARDS / PRIZE

| Award | Awarded by | Awarded to | Known for |
|--|--|--|--|
| Porter Prize 2023 | Institute for Competitiveness (IFC) and Stanford University. | Ministry of Health and Family Welfare | Recognizing the Government's strategy in managing COVID-19 |
| Pritzker prize | Hyatt Foundation | Sir David Alan Chipperfield (London) | Architecture |
| PEN/Nabokov Lifetime Achievement Award. | Pen America | Writer Vinod Kumar Shukla (Chattisgarh) | Hindi writer |
| Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP award) 2022 | Central Board of Irrigation and Power (since 1927) | Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) | For Best Contribution in Solar Energy. |

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| | | NTPC Limited | Outstanding Contribution in Power Generation |
| ACI's annual service quality award. | Airport Council International | Cleanest airports in Asia-Pacific - Delhi airport | |
| | | Airport Service Quality (ASQ) - Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) | |
| National award for outstanding performance in Self help group bank linkage | J&K bank | - | Ministry of Rural development |
| 95 th Oscar Academy awards 2023 | Los Angeles, US | Best Documentary Elephant Whisperers | First Indian documentary to win an Oscar. Direction: Kartiki Gonsalves |
| | | Best original song Naatu Naatu' from 'RRR' to lyricist Chandrabose and composer Keeravani | Production: DVV Entertainment Direction: S.S. Rajamouli |
| 32 nd Vyas Samman 2022 Award | KK Birla foundation | Dr Gyan Chaturvedi (Uttar Pradesh) | Hindi author, Padma shri awardee |
| International Booker longlist 2023 | Booker Prize Foundation | Perumal Murugan (First Tamil writer to make it to the longlist of 13 works) | The English translation of Tamil writer Perumal Murugan's novel Pukkuli (Pyre) has been longlisted |
| Governor of the year award 2023 | International publication Central Banking | Shri Shaktikanta Das (Odisha) | RBI Governor |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Prizes 2023 | International Telecommunication Union (ITU) | AuditOnline | Facilitating audits across Panchayati Institutions | Online across Raj |
| 2023 Sangita Kalanidhi award | Madras Music Academy | Bombay Jayashri (Kolkata) | Carnatic Musician | |
| 2023 Abel prize | The Norwegian Parliament (The Storting) | Luis Caffarelli (Argentina) | Renowned Mathematician. For his contribution to regularity theory for non linear partial differential equation | |
| Children's Champion Award 2023 | Delhi Commission for the protection of child rights | Tapoban | Assam based NGO | |
| Wildlife Conservation Award 2023 | Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir | Aliya Mir (Kashmir) | Wildlife Conservation | |
| Foundation of SAARC Writers and Literature (FOSWAL) | SAARC | Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (Bangladesh) | His books: The Unfinished Memoirs, The Prison Diaries, and the New China 1952. | |
| 'Lifetime Achievement Award' | University of Texas | Naveen Jindal (Haryana) | For his accomplishments in industry, politics, and education | |

PADMA AWARDEE FROM TAMILNADU

| Padma Vibhushan | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Padma Bhushan | Ms. Vani Jairam | Art |
| Padma Sri | K Kalyanasundaram Pillai | Art |
| | Vadivel Gopal and Masi Sadaiyan | Social Work |
| | Palam Kalyana Sundaram | Social work |
| | Gopalasamy Veluchamy | Medicine |

PERSONS IN NEWS

| Person | Why in news? |
|--|---|
| Rajesh Malhotra | Appointed as the principal director general of the Press Information Bureau (PIB) |
| Rashmi Shukla | Appointed as the Director-General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) |
| Ales Bialiatski (A candidate for the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize) | He was given a 10-year prison term in Minsk (Belarus). Pro-democracy Activist. |
| Tejal Mehta | First Justice of a district court in US state of Massachusetts. |
| S.S. Dubey | Appointed as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). |
| Manik Saha | Appointed as the Chief minister of Tirpura |
| Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Appointed as the Chief minister of Meghalaya |
| Neiphiu Rio | Appointed as the Chief Minister of Nagaland |
| Salhoutuonuo Kruse and Hekani Jakhalu | 1 st Women MLA's from Nagaland (NDPP Party) |
| Group Captain Shaliza Dhami | 1 st woman to command frontline IAF combat unit. |
| Sachin Tendulkar | Appointed as world's first ' Hand Ambassador ' by Savlon |
| Arun Subramanian | The first Indian American judge of the Manhattan Federal District Court in New York. |
| Gabriel Boric Font | Appointed as the 36th President of Chile (2022-2026) |
| Ajay Bhushan pandey | Chairman of National Financial Reporting Authority |
| Surekha Yadav | Asia's first woman loco pilot. She commands Vande Bharat Express |
| Tablesh pandey | Appointed as the Managing Director of Life Insurance corporation |

| | |
|---|--|
| Deepak Mohanty | Appointed as the chairman of Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) |
| Gianni Infantino | Re-elected as FIFA president for a 4 year term (2023-2027) |
| Nisha Desai Biswal | Nominated for the Post of Assistant Secretary of State of USA |
| Gordon Moore | Intel Co-founder Passed away at the age of 94 |
| Dilma Rousseff | Appointed as the new President of BRICS New Development Bank. |
| Krishna Prakash (An IPS officer) | First person to swim from Gateway of India to Elephanta Caves |
| Lt. Manmeet Colon | Connecticut's first Asian assistant police chief (Indian-origin Sikh woman) |
| Sheikh Mansour | Vice-President of UAE |
| Daniel Mookhey | First politician of Indian-origin to become the treasurer in any Australian state. |

IMPORTANT DAYS

| Day | Date | Theme |
|--|----------|---|
| World Seagrass Day | March 1 | |
| World Civil Defence Day | March 1 | "Uniting the world's leading specialists for the safety and security of future generation" |
| Civil Accounts Day | March 1 | To recognize the contributions of the ICAS towards maintaining the accounts of the Union Government |
| World Wildlife Day | March 3 | Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation |
| National Safety Day | March 4 | Our Aim – Zero Harm |
| International Women's Day | March 8 | "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality" |
| International Day of Women Judges | March 10 | "Women in Justice, Women for Justice". |

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| World Rotaract Day | March 13 | Rotary making a difference |
| International Day of Action for Rivers | March 14 | Rights of Rivers |
| International Day of Mathematics 2023 | March 14 (pi = 3.14) | Mathematics for Everyone |
| World consumer Rights Day | March 15 | Empowering consumers through clean energy transitions |
| National Vaccination Day. | March 16 | "Vaccine Prevents the Unwanted" |
| Ordnance Factories Day (India) | March 18 | - |
| Global Recycling Day | March 18 | Creative innovation |
| World Sparrow day | March 20 | I love sparrows |
| International Day of Happiness | March 20 | Be Mindful, Be Grateful , Be kind |
| World Oral Health day | March 20 | Be proud of your mouth for a lifetime of smiles |
| International day for the elimination of racial discrimination | March 21 | Urgency of combatting racism and racial discrimination, 75 years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) |
| World poetry day | March 21 | Always be a poet even in a prose |
| World Water Day | March 22 | Accelerating the change to solve the water and sanitation crisis |
| World Meteorological Day | March 23 | The future of weather, climate, and water across generations |
| Shaheed Diwas | March 23 | To pay tribute to the sacrifice of Bhagat singh, Sukh dev and Raj Guru |
| World Tuberculosis Day | March 24 | Yes! We can End TB |
| Purple Day of Epilepsy | March 26 | "Stigma" |
| Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling | March 21 to 27 | - |

| | | |
|--|----------|---|
| against Racism and Racial Discrimination | | |
| International Day of Zero Waste 2023 | March 30 | Achieving sustainable and environmentally sound practices of minimizing and managing waste. |
| International Transgender Day of Visibility | March 31 | |
| International Day of Drug Checking. | March 31 | |

DEFENCE IN NEWS

| Exercise Name | Countries involved | Exercise Type |
|--|---|----------------------|
| Shinyuu Maitri | India and Japan | Air force |
| FRINJEX-23 | India and France conducted in Thiruvananthapuram | Military |
| Exercise La Perouse | Multilateral-India, USA, Japan, Australia, UK etc. | Naval |
| Bold Kurukshetra | India and Singapore | Military |
| Sea Dragon 23 exercise | Multilateral anti-submarine warfare. | Naval |
| Exercise Cobra Warrior | Airforces from India, Finland, Sweden, South Africa USA, UK, Singapore participates | Air Force |
| Konkan 2023 | India & UK | Naval |
| Exercise Vayu Prahar | Indian Army and Air force. | Multi domain |
| AFINDEX 2023 | 2 nd Africa-India Joint Exercise | Military |
| Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) | Japan and India | Naval |

1. **PALM 400** is an **armed remotely piloted vehicle** (RPV) built by **AVision Systems** (a joint venture between Israeli and Indian firms).
2. **'Abhra'** Weapon System (MRSAM) is a state-of-the-art **medium-range air defence** weapon system and is a joint venture of DRDO and Israeli Aerospace Industries (IAI).
3. The Indian Navy has received a fully **indigenised fuze (YDB 60)** for an **anti-submarine warfare (ASW) underwater rocket, (RGB 60)** manufactured for the first time by a private Indian industry
4. The Indian armed forces are set to deploy a new homegrown system called **Vayulink**, which will help commanders identify friendly forces in a joint battlespace.
5. SIPRI'S Report- **Trends in International Arms Transfers** 2022 – India remains **world's largest arms Importer** between 2018-2011 despite 11% decline in overall imports.
6. **Very Short-Range Air Defence System** (VSHORADS) missile is a Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPADS) designed and developed **indigenously** by **DRDO**. It is meant to target **low altitude aerial** threats at short ranges.
7. **INS Androth** – second in a series of eight Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft.

INDICES

| Report | Released by | Rank | Note |
|---|--|---|---|
| Bloomberg Billionaires Index | Bloomberg News | | Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla - richest person in the world |
| World Air Quality Report | Swiss air quality technology company | India ranked 8 th in worst air quality | Lahore was the most polluted city in the world Delhi ranked 4th out of 50 of the world's most polluted cities in terms of PM2.5 levels in 2022. |
| Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2022 | Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying | - | Top Production a. Milk – Rajasthan b. Egg – Andhra Pradesh (20.41%) |

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | | | Tamil Nadu (16.08%) c. Meat – Maharashtra d. Wool – Rajasthan |
| Global Terrorism index | Institute for Economics and peace | India -13 th | Afghanistan -1 st Pakistan- 6 th |
| UN sustainable Development Report | World Happiness Report 2023 | India – 126 out of 146 | Topped – Finland Bhutan is not listed in report |
| City Finance ranking 2022 | MOHUA | | To provide Critical insights to policymakers into state of finances of urban local bodies |
| UN water Development Report | UNESCO | - | 26% of world's population does not have safe drinking water |
| 'Striving for Clean Air: Air Pollution and Public Health in South Asia' | World Bank | - | 9 out of the world's 10 cities with the worst air pollution are in South Asia. |
| Passport Index | Financial advisory firm Arton Capital | 144 (138 in 2022) | - |

SUMMITS

| Summit Name | Hosted in | Purpose of Summit | Hosted by |
|--|-----------|---|---|
| Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela | New Delhi | Theme: 'Nutritional, Food, and Environmental Security through millets (Sree Anna)' | Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) |
| 8th edition of the annual Raisina Dialogue | New Delhi | Flagship conference on geopolitics and geo-strategy | |
| 1st B2B Global Conference & Expo on Traditional Medicine | Guwahati | Under Shanghai cooperation organisation | |

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 4th Edition of National Youth Parliament Festival | New Delhi | Theme: Ideas for a Better tomorrow: India for the World | |
| 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference 2023 | Madhya Pradesh | “Eastern Humanism for the New Era” | - |
| 1st meeting of Governing Board of BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC) | Bengaluru | - | - |
| All India Women’s Folk Art Conference | Mumbai | On the occasion of International Women's Day | Maharashtra Kala academy and Sangeet Nadak Academy |
| 5th ASEAN-India Business Summit | Kuala Lumpur | To commemorate the more than three-decade-long engagement between India and the 10 ASEAN countries | |
| 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference | Goa | The theme of the conference is ' Good Governance: Rule of Law, Welfare of People ' | |
| 11th edition of the Khel Mahakumbh | Sardar Patel Stadium in Ahmedabad | To increase the participation of youth in sports | |
| 3rd session – National platform for Disaster Risk reduction | New Delhi | Theme: “Building Local Resilience in a Changing Climate” | MHA NDMA NDRF NIDM |
| 35th Meeting of Green climate Fund under UNFCCC | Kigali (Rwanda) | | |
| 5th UN conference on LDC5 | Qatar | Theme: From Potential to Prosperity’ | UN |

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Science Conclave and Agro-Tech Expo 2023 | Gurugram University, Haryana. | To introduce farmers and students to CSIR technologies for livelihood generation and sustainable development in rural areas | Ministry of science and technology |
| Global Millets (Shree Anna conference) | New Delhi | To elevate awareness of nutri-cereals (millets) for food security and nutrition | - |
| Saurashtra Tamil sangamam Festival | Gujarat | To celebrate the cultural affinity between Saurashtra and Tamil Nadu | Under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat |
| The Labour20 (L20) Inception Meet | Amritsar | Adopted Universalisation of Social Security and Woman and Future of Work | G20 |
| ONE WORLD TB SUMMIT | Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh | To eliminate the high-burden infectious disease Tuberculosis | MHFW |
| 601st meeting of central board of the Reserve Bank of India | Hyderabad | To assess the current global and domestic economic conditions, and accompanying difficulties. | Chaired by Governor Shaktikanta Das, |
| Combined Commanders' Conference-2023 | Bhopal | Theme: 'Ready, Resurgent, Relevant'. | |
| National Youth Conclave | New Delhi | To bring together young minds to deliberate on the Urban20 (U20) and Youth20 (Y20) priority areas. | National Institute of Urban Affairs, MOHUA, Department of Youth Affairs |

PORTAL IN NEWS

| Portal | Purpose | Launched by |
|---|---|---|
| Grievance Appellate Committee portal | To complain against social media companies. | MeitY |
| PUShp portal | Initiative to ensure availability of power during peak demand season | Ministry of Power |
| iDEEKSHA portal | Industrial Decarbonisation and EE Knowledge-Sharing portal | Ministry of power |
| Jharniyojan portal | Job portal to ensure 75% local quota in private sector. | Government of Jharkhand |
| Annual Information Statements app (AIS) | For taxpayers to provide detailed information about each transaction to taxpayers and receive their feedback | Income Tax Department |
| Call Before You Dig App | Aims to prevent damage of underlying assets like optical fiber cables that occur because of uncoordinated digging and excavation | Department of telecommunication |
| DigiClaim | It is National Crop Insurance Portal's digitized claim settlement module. | Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) |
| Vedic Heritage portal | To communicate message enshrined in vedas and help people in general understanding of vedas | MHA |
| CRISP (Comprehensive Rubber Information System Platform) | To inform growers about rubber cultivation and provides solutions online | Rubber board |

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

| Book Name | Author Name | Released by |
|--|---|---|
| 'India's Vaccine Growth Story – From Cowpox to Vaccine Maitri' | Sajjan Singh Yadav (Additional Secretary) | Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya |
| "As Good as My Word," | KM Chandrasekhar | |
| Mundaka Upanishad: The bridge to Immortality | Karan Singh | Vice-President of India - Jagdeep Dhankar |
| "Bipin: The man Behind the uniform" | Rachna Biswat Rawat | |
| "War and Women" | Dr M A Hasan | Launched during 52nd Session of UNHRC in Geneva Highlights the suffering of Bengali women who were victims of sexual violence perpetrated by the Pakistan Army during the 1971 war |

SPECIES IN NEWS

| Species | Why in news? |
|--|---|
| Indian wolf (Canis lupus Pallipes) | In a first, Gujarat forest dept is planning to release 10 Indian Grey wolves bred in capitive breeding from Junagadh's sakkarbug Zoological park |
| Horseshoe Crabs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disappearing from Odisha, Chandipur and Balarmgadi coast. Living Fossils |
| Long tailed ducks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spotted in Kashmir after 84 years. IUCN status – Vulnerable Spread over Arctic and Antartic |
| Smew duck species | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spotted after 116 years in Kashmir |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IUCN – least concern • Spread over Eurasia and Europe |
| “Gymnothorax Tamilnaduensis” | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICAR has discovered a new species of Moray Eel fish • From the Cuddalore coast. • Common Name: Tamil Nadu brown moray eel” |

PLACES IN NEWS

| Place Name | State/Country | Known for |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Sanjay Dubri Tiger Reserve | Madhya Pradesh | A tigress allegedly died of electrocution in a buffer zone |
| Tashiding (Buddhist) Monastery | Sikkim | Bumchu Festival |
| Trindade Island | Brazil | Plastic rocks was found. It is an Important conservation spot for Green turtle |
| Jhamrkotra and Zawar Sites | Rajasthan | Declared as Geoheritage sites. Jhamrkotra – Phosphate rich fossil park Zawar – world’s oldest known zinc-smelting site |
| Butterfly Ecopark | Chottakhola (Tripura) | 1st butterfly park in North east |

SPORTS IN NEWS

1. **Manchester United** won the Carabao Cup title 2023 (Football)
2. Indian Grandmaster **D Gukesh** has been honoured with **Player-of-the-Year** award by the **Asian Chess Federation** (ACF) for clinching the gold medal with a record-breaking score of 9/11 in the **44th Chess Olympiad at Mahabalipuram.**
3. India’s top **triple-jumper Aishwarya Babu**, along with **sprinter S Dhanalakshmi** have been banned by the National Anti-Doping Agency’s (NADA) for 4 years for using a prohibited anabolic steroid.

4. **Max Verstappen** wins season-opening **Bahrain Grand Prix 2023**.
5. Olympic Games silver-medallist weightlifter **Mirabai Chanu** has bagged the **2022 'BBC Indian Sportswoman Of The Year'** award after a public vote.
6. **Jerlin Anika** becomes the **first badminton player** of **Tamilnadu** and first Woman **Deaflympian** to receive the prestigious **Arjuna Award**.
7. **Jeswin Aldrin** set a new national record to win the gold medal in the at the Indian Open Jumps Competition 2023 (8.42m) in Bellary, Karnataka.
8. Indian Wells Masters tennis tournament is also known as "**BNP Paribas Open**".

| Category | Winner |
|------------------------|--|
| Women's Singles | Elena Rybakina |
| Men's Singles | Carlos Alcaraz (Spain) |
| Women's Doubles | Barbora krejcikova/ Katerina Siniakova |
| Men's Doubles | Rohan Bopanna & Matthew Ebden |

9. Red bull's **Sergio Perez** wins **Saudi Arabian Grand Prix 2023**
10. 2023 **Taoyuan Archery Asia Cup** (stage -I)India won 5 gold, 4 silver, and 1 bronze
11. National women's hockey team midfielder **Salima Tete** appointed as the **AHF Athletes Ambassador**
12. In the Women's Premier League (WPL) 2023 final, held at the **Brabourne Stadium** in Mumbai, the **Mumbai Indians won** against the Delhi Capitals by seven wickets.
13. India emerged as a dominant force at the **13th edition of the IBA Women's World Boxing Championship** 2023, held in **New Delhi**.
14. Former Manchester United manager **Sir Alex Ferguson** and ex-Arsenal boss **Arsene Wenger** has been inducted into the Premier League Hall of Fame. This is the first time that **managers** have been included in this prestigious list.
15. **Vedanta's Hindustan Zinc Limited** and **Rajasthan Cricket Association** to build the world's third-largest cricket stadium in **Chonp, Jaipur**. The stadium will be named the **Anil Agarwal International Cricket Stadium**.
16. 13th Edition of the Women's World Boxing Championship held in **NewDelhi**.

| Weight class | Athlete Name | Country | Medal |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Middle Weight | Lovlina Borgohain (75kg) | India (Assam) | Gold |
| Minimum weight | Nitu Ghanghas (48kg) | India (Haryana) | Gold |
| Light Flyweight | Nikhat Zareen (50kg) | India (Telangana) | Gold |
| Light Heavy weight | Saweety Boora (81kg) | India (Haryana) | Gold |

* * * * *

SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY
ZERO CURRENT AFFAIRS