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NOVEMBER – 2023

FIRST IN NEWS

1. **Kerala** startup launches **1st e-health kiosk** for better healthcare access.
2. China has approved **world's first flying taxi** named **EHang** in Guangzhou.
3. **Bhutan** becomes 1st country to fully **sterilise its entire street dog's population**
4. Swedish firm **Saab** has become India's 1st **100% FDI** in **defence sector**.
5. **Surat** has become the 1st **warship to be named after a city** in Gujarat.
6. India's 1st AI powered solution **Krishi 24/7** for **agricultural news monitoring and analysis**.
7. The **Jammu and Kashmir Police** introduced **GPS tracker anklets** for the 1st time in India to **monitor the terror accused out on bail**.
8. **Costa Serena** is India's 1st **international cruise liner**. This cruise liner started its journey from **Mumbai Port**.
9. **Kashmir Saffron** has been cultivated in **Kanthallur** village, **Kerala** for the first time.
10. **Uttarakhand** is set to become **1st state** to implement **Uniform Civil Code**.
11. **Uttar Pradesh** has announced India's **1st Telecom Centre of Excellence** at **IIT Roorkee** campus in Saharanpur.
12. **National Suicide Prevention strategy** is the first of its kind in the country, announced by **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** in line with the **WHO's South East-Asia Region Strategy** for suicide prevention

POLITY

1. The **National Medical Commission** launched the **one nation, one registration platform for doctors** across the country
2. **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs** launches **Women for Water, Water for Women Campaign** under its flagship scheme **AMRUT**.

3. **IIT Madras** inaugurated its campus in **Zanzibar, Africa**.
4. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting approved the **Digital Advertisement Policy, 2023** to enable and empower **Central Bureau of Communication**.
5. **Election Commission of India** has designed in-house software for complete **candidate** and **election management** through **ENCORE**.
6. **COLORS** (Entertainment Channel) has collaborated with the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** to support **Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao** initiative through the launch of TV Show **DOREE**
7. The **Competition Commission of India** has become a part of the **18-member** steering committee of the **International Competition Network (ICN)**
 - **ICN** is the **only global body** devoted exclusively to **competition law enforcement**. It has **no formal Secretariat** or **premises**
8. **UGC** has announced regulations to facilitate the entry of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) into India, aligning with the National Education Policy.

Prior approval of the UGC is mandatory to offer any programme in India

FHEIs must be ranked within the top 500 in global rankings
9. **Madras High Court** has created a record in **disposal of cases** by registering its **highest-ever Case Clearance Rate (CCR)** of **114%** in 2022 as against **109%** in 2021.
10. Government of India initiates process of setting up a **committee for sub-categorisation** of the **Madiga community** within the **Scheduled Castes**, in Telangana.
11. Union government **exempts Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In)** from the ambit of the **Right to Information Act (RTI)**.
12. The **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** has consented to accept the **Prisoner Induction Document (PID)** as a valid document for Aadhaar enrolment or update as a special step to **enrol prison inmates** across the country.

13. The **High Court of Punjab and Haryana** invalidated a 2020 Haryana government law that reserved **75% of private-sector jobs for state residents**.
14. The **Supreme Court** launched an online portal that will help citizens file and access applications under the **Right to Information (RTI) Act 2005** in matters related to the **court**.

SCHEMES IN NEWS

Scheme Name	Launched by	Objective
Nayi Chetna - 2.0 campaign	Ministry of Rural Development	To promote awareness against gender-based violence

ECONOMY

1. **IRDAI** has constituted taskforce to review existing **Bancassurance framework**.
 - Bancassurance is a term used for **selling insurance policies** through **banking institutions**.
2. **Energy Efficiency Services Limited** under **Ministry of Power** launched **National Efficient Cooking Programme (NECP)** and **Energy Efficient Fans Programme (EEFP)**
3. **RBI** has increased the **minimum amount** for offering **non-callable term deposits** to **₹1 Crore** from existing **15 lakh** for banks.
4. **Bharat Organics brand** of **National Cooperative Organics Limited** has been launched by Ministry of Cooperation.
5. **Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)** has launched **LEAP Ahead initiative** for **startup** to get access to investment, mentorship and global connect.

6. The **National Highways Authority of India** has accepted 1st **Insurance Surety Bonds** for NHAI Toll Operate Transfer bid for Monetisation.
7. **RBI** has allowed **NRIs** to buy **Sovereign Green Bonds** without any restrictions in **2023-24**.
8. **Deoghar Airport** in **Jharkhand** is the 1st airport in the country to land a **commercial aircraft in low visibility**.
9. **Geographical Indication Tag:**

Product	State
Sea Buckthorn	Ladakh
Kishtwar Saffron	Jammu & Kashmir
Nicobari Hodi craft	1 st application for Andaman and Nicobar

10. **CBG Blending Obligation (CBO)**: Government has announced **mandatory** blending of **Compressed Bio-Gas** in **CNG (Transport) & PNG (Domestic)** segments of **City Gas Distribution** Sector.
11. **Virgin Atlantic** flies **world's first 100% Sustainable Aviation Fuel flight** from London to New York City.

ENVIRONMENT

1. **Saturn's rings will not disappear** permanently **by 2025**. Although they will become almost invisible from Earth during that time, it is a regular occurrence due to the **thinness of the rings**.
2. **Airgun Surrender Abhiyan** initiative of **Arunachal Pradesh** selected as India's best success story on wildlife conservation to present in **UNESCO's International Conference**.

Airgun Surrender Abhiyan	
Aim	To encourage the voluntary surrender of airguns and licensed guns to check their use in hunting birds and other wildlife
Launched in	2021
Launched by	Arunachal Pradesh

3. The **Cell Broadcast Alert System (CBAS)** of the **National Disaster Management Authority** failed to disseminate mass alerts people during recent seismic events in Delhi and surrounding areas.
4. As per **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification's** first data dashboard India has **lost 51 million hectares** of Land to degradation between **2015-2019**.
5. MOEFCC has presented **Eco Warrior Awards 2023** in India's **First Ever Dedicated Awards Show for Indian Forest Service Officers**.
6. The Asian Development Bank and the Global Environment Facility have announced the establishment of Natural Capital Fund (NCF).
 - NCF is a **concessional fund** designed to support projects that enhance **food security** while also protecting and restoring **natural capital** in ADB's **developing member countries** (DMCs).
7. **International Water Management Institute** (a non-profit research organization) and **ICAR** have developed **South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS)** to indicate the **presence of drought** and its **level of severity**.
8. Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has developed an improved rice variety, **Pusa-2090**, as an alternative to Pusa-44, associated with stubble burning.
 - It is a cross between **Pusa-44** and **CB-501**, and matures in **120-125 days** (compared to 155-160 days for Pusa 44), offering a **shorter duration with similar high yields**.

9. The **Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH)** goals. is a **WHO** initiative, established in 2022. It is an **informal voluntary network** which works to realize the ambition set at **COP26** to build climate-resilient and sustainable health systems
10. OECD released a report titled **Towards Eliminating Plastic Pollution by 2040: A Policy Scenario Analysis** revealing that **21 million tonnes of plastics** leak into the environment globally in **2022**.
11. India has been **removed** from the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Review of Significant Trade (RST) for Red Sanders**. (India has been under RST for Red Sanders **since 2004**)
12. **Project Collaboration Agreement** is signed between **WHO** and the **Ministry of Ayush**, which aims to bridge **Traditional and Complementary Medical Systems** with the mainstream of the **National Health System**.
13. **Kerala Responsible Tourism** mission has been selected for **UNWTO's global list of Case Studies**.
14. **Bengaluru** launched its **Climate Action Plan (CCAP)** in line with **C40 Cities commitment** to tackle climate change.

C40 Cities commitment

- ✚ It is a global network of nearly **100 mayors** of the world's leading cities that are united in action to confront the climate crisis.
- ✚ 6 Indian Cities namely **Delhi NCT, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, and Ahmedabad** are parties to it.

15. India has **opposed KJWA** by saying that emissions from the agricultural sectors are **not luxury emissions** but **survival emissions of the poor**.
 - **Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA)** is a special decision under **UNFCCC** that works to reduce GHGs emissions from the Agriculture sector.
16. The **Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS19)** of the **Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)** has begun in **Mumbai**, organized by **Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. **ISRO'S Aditya-L1** Payload **HEL1OS** (High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer) captures **X-ray glimpse of solar flares**
2. India's patent applications rise up by **31.6%**, as per the study released recently by the **World Intellectual Property Organisation** (WIPO).
3. **Aligarh Muslim University** has received permission from **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre** (IN-SPACe) to launch its **own satellite**.
4. **IIT Kanpur** has established a Centre of Excellence named **ATMAN** (**Advanced Technologies for Monitoring Air-quality iNdicators**) to evaluate the **health risks associated with air pollutants**, as well as a comprehensive review of **air quality standards**.
5. **Chandigarh** has launched AI-driven interactive **chatbot 'BIRBAL'** to provide efficient and user-friendly **citizen services**.
6. **Flying Wedge** has become the 1st company to **get Directorate General of Civil Aviation** (DGCA) type certification **for indigenous unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)** technology.
7. Dictator (a spirit brand) based in Colombia has appointed **world's first robot CEO Mika**
8. **Institute of Nano Science and Technology, Mohali**, has developed a nano-biosensor for detecting **lycopene** (A phytochemical with high commercial value).
9. India's efforts in tuberculosis (TB) management have received **international recognition** from the **WHO** in their **Global TB Report 2023**.
10. **Tantalum**, a scarce metallic element was discovered recently in **Sutlej**. **Atomic number** of Tantalum is **73**.
11. **WHO** has launched **Commission on Social Connection (2024–2026)** to improve global connection and **to address loneliness** as a significant health threat globally.
12. **ISRO** has launched **ISRO Robotics Challenge-URSC 2024** (IRoC-U 2024), a robotic challenge for aspirants interested in space mission.

13. **Central Council for Research in Ayurveda Sciences** has launched **Ayurveda Gyan Naipunya Initiative (AGNI)** for **physicians** practicing in the field of Ayurveda.
14. The **Australian government** has announced a **formal apology** to individuals impacted by the **thalidomide tragedy**, a drug prescribed for **morning sickness** during the 1950s and 1960s that led to **severe birth defects**.
15. **National Health Authority** and **IRDAI** have joined hands to operationalize the **National Health Claim Exchange (NHCX)**
16. **Amazon WoW** is a **networking platform for women engineering students** in India, connecting them with Amazon leaders and recruiters.
17. Scientists have discovered strong evidence for the **existence of the unusual nitrogen-9 isotope**.
 - It is characterized by **7 protons** and **2 neutrons**. A normal Nitrogen atom has an atomic number of 7 and an atomic mass of 14 (**7proton and 7 Neutron**)
18. According to a study published by Lancet journal, 5 bacteria types (**E. coli, S. pneumoniae, K. pneumoniae, S. aureus and A. baumannii**) caused nearly **6.8 lakh deaths** in India in **2019**.
19. **Institute of Advanced Studies in Science and Technology** have successfully fabricated a **2D protein monolayer** using **lysozyme** molecules, a model protein for studying diseases like **Amyloidosis**.
 - **Amyloidosis** is a rare condition where the **accumulation of amyloid protein** in organs leads to **dysfunction in vital organs** such as the heart, kidneys, liver, spleen, nervous system, and digestive tract.
20. **Deep Space Optical Communications** is a pioneering technology used in **NASA's Psyche spacecraft** that uses **near-infrared laser signals** for high-bandwidth communication.
 - **16 Psyche** is an **asteriod**, currently orbiting the **Sun** between **Mars and Jupiter**.
21. **Casgevvy** stands as the **world's inaugural licensed gene therapy** employing **Crispr-Cas9 technology** for treating **sickle cell disease** and **thalassaemia**.
22. For the 1st time, Made in India drugs for 4 rare disease was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, namely

Tyrosinemia-Type 1	Gaucher's Disease
Gaucher's Disease	Dravet-Lennox Gastaut Syndrome

23. For **the first time**, scientists were able to visualise plants sensing compounds called **green leaf volatiles (GLVs)** released by other plants in danger.

Name	Type	Country/Institution	Purpose
ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter mission	-	European Space Agency	Observed a luminous Martian night sky in the optical spectrum.
Malligyong-1	Military spy satellite	North Korea	-
Kavro Doma 360	world's 1st uniform rifle protection helmet	Kanpur-based MKU Limited	It's the first anti-rifle helmet in the world that does not have bolts or any metal parts.
Vikram-S	Launch Vehicle	Hyderabad-based space startup Skyroot Aerospace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ India's first privately developed rocket. ➤ It is a single-stage sub-orbital launch vehicle which would carry 3 customer payloads
Integral Field Ultraviolet Spectroscope Experiment (INFUSE) mission		NASA	To study the Cygnus Loop (a supernova remnant)

NATIONAL NEWS

1. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has sent notice to tech giant **Apple** about **'state-sponsored attacks'** alert on iPhones.
2. **Somanath**, Chairman of ISRO, said that he was withdrawing the publication of his autobiography in Malayalam titled **'Nilavu Kudicha Simhangal'**.
3. **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)** has launched **CSR portal** for enhancing transparency in its CSR initiatives.
4. **India** has highest number of universities **QS Asia University Ranking 2024**.
5. **National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO)** data reveals that between **1995 and 2021, 4 out of 5 organ recipients** in India **were men**, highlighting a significant **gender disparity** in healthcare-seeking behavior.
6. **CJI DY Chandrachud** inaugurated **'Mitti Cafe'**, a distinctive establishment **within the Supreme Court premises**, promoting a supportive environment for **individuals with disabilities**.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

1. **India** and **Sri Lanka** re-launch negotiations of the **Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA)**.
2. **India** and **Italy** sign **Mobility and Migration Partnership Agreement** to facilitate movement of workers, students etc, fostering exchange and collaboration.
3. **India** has signed **Host Country Agreement (HCA)** with **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** for hosting **2024 World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly**.
4. **Chile** has become **95th** country to ratify the **International Solar Alliance**.

5. **Russia** has pulled out of **Treaty of Conventional Armed Forces** in Europe.
6. The **Tripura-Bangladesh railway link** (about 12km) was recently inaugurated. This project, known as the **Agartala-Akhaura railway**
7. **Falepili Union agreement** signed by **Australia** which allows up to **280 Tuvalu citizens** to reside, work, and study in Australia.
8. **Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF)** was signed by the 14 IPEF Partners (Includes India) to strengthen its **supply chain and ensure adherence to labour rules**
 - It was launched by **United States President Joe Biden** on May 23, 2022
9. **IUCN** develops **Three Action Plans** outlining conservation needs and priorities for **threatened pollinator species** in the **European Union**.

First Action Plan	Canary Islands' Laurel Forest zone
Second Action plan	Wild bees specialized in teasel plants
Third Action Plan	Hoverfly species

10. **India** and the **United States** have launched **Innovation Handshake agenda**, a collaborative effort aimed at **deepening bilateral ties in technology**.
11. **Border Peace and Tranquility Agreement (BPTA)** of **1993** between **India and china** marked its 30th anniversary recently
12. **India** has been designated as the **Chair of the International Sugar Organisation (ISO)** for 2024.
13. India has launched a 5-day **ASEAN-India Millets Festival** in **Indonesia** to raise awareness and create markets for millets-based products in ASEAN.

TAMILNADU NEWS

1. Tamil Nadu becomes significant contributor to **India's manufacturing sector, with 43%** of the country's **women workforce** in manufacturing employed in the state.
2. **21st Green Building Congress 2023** event was organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry's (CII) in **Chennai**.
3. For the first time, breeding nests of **crab-plovers** spotted at **Vedaranyam Swamp** near Point Calimere.
4. Tamil Nadu launched **Ungalai Thedi, Ungal Ooril** (In your town, looking for you) scheme, to **redress the grievances of the general public**
5. Tamil Nadu launched a mobile application '**Namma Salai**' that helps **identify potholes** in the city with public inputs.

CULTURE

1. **Kozhikode** and **Gwalior** have been declared **Creative Cities of Literature and Music** by **UNESCO**.
2. **54th International Film Festival of India** to be held in **Goa**.
3. A **3,000-year-old geoglyph** in the form of a **circular design** was unearthed near Mudichu Thalapalli in **Telangana**.
4. The song **Abundance in Millets**, featuring Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and singer **Falu**, has been nominated for the **2022 Grammy Awards in the Best Global Music Performance category**.
5. **Angkor Wat in Cambodia** has become the **8th wonder of the world**.
6. **Persian film 'Endless Borders'** has won **Golden Peacock Award** for Best Film at the **54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI)** in **Goa**.

AWARDS/PRIZE

Award	Awarded by	Awarded to	Known for
2023 British Academy Book Prize for Global Cultural Understanding	British Academy	Nandini Das	
Wildlife Photographer of the Year, in London		Vihaan Talya Vikas (Bengaluru) – 10 Year and under category	
Champions of Earth Awards 2023	United Nations Environment Program	Policy Leadership category - Mayor Josefina Belmonte of Quezon City, Philippines	The winners for 2023 are working to eliminate plastic pollution through solutions and legislation
		Inspiration and Action category - Ellen MacArthur Foundation (United Kingdom)	
		Entrepreneurial Vision category - Blue Circle (China)	
		Entrepreneurial Vision category - José Manuel Moller (Chile)	
SKOCH National Award – 2023	SKOCH Group India	Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation	For its ₹1 crore accident relief Sarige

			Suraksha Insurance Scheme.
JCB Prize for Literature	JCB Literature Foundation	Tamil writer Perumal Murugan	For his novel, Fire Bird , an English translation of his Tamil novel Aalandapatchi.
Miss Universe	United States and Thailand-based Miss Universe Organization	Sheynnis Palacios (Nicaragua)	
Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development, 2022	Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust	Indian Medical Association and Trained Nurses Association of India	For their efforts as representatives of the COVID-19 warriors in India.
2023 Booker Prize for fiction		Irish author Paul Lynch	For his novel Prophet Song.
Olympic Cup 2023	International Olympic Committee	Taekwondo Humanitarian Foundation	
2023 Kenneth E. Boulding Memorial Award	International Society for Ecological Economics	Bina Agarwal	For Ecological Economics.
Gansamragini Lata Mangeshkar Award, 2023	Government of Maharashtra	Suresh Ishwar Wadkar	
NASA IMPACT Planet Award 2023		Dr Sujit Roy (BrainAlive co-founder)	For his outstanding contribution to the Geospatial AI

			Foundation Model project.
2023 Global Laureate of Nansen Refugee Awards	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Abdullahi Mire (former refugee from Somalia)	

PERSONS IN NEWS

Person	Why in news?
Saima Wazed (Daughter of Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina)	Elected as the Regional Director of the World Health Organization's South-East Asia region.
Heeralal Samariya	Appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner
Surendra Kumar Adhana	Re-elected on the Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) for the term 2024-26.
Alok Sharma	Appointed as the Director of the Special Protection Group (SPG)
Girish Chandra Murmu,	Elected as the Vice-Chair of UN Panel of Auditors for 2024.
Andry Rajoelina	Re-elected as the President of Madagascar for 3rd time.
B.N. Goswamy (art historian)	Recently passed away. Known for the work on development of miniature painting Tradition

IMPORTANT DAYS

Day	Date	Theme
World Vegan Day	November 1	Celebrating for a Good Cause
International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists	November 2	
International Day for Biosphere Reserve	November 3	It's about Life
World Tsunami Awareness Day	November 5	Fighting Inequality for a Resilient Future
International Day of Radiology	November 8	Celebrating patient safety
World Urbanism Day	November 8	Financing sustainable urban future for all
National Legal Services Day	November 9	Access to Justice for All: Empowering the Marginalised through Legal Awareness.
World Science Day for Peace and Development	November 10	Building Trust In Science
National Ayurveda Day	November 10	Ayurveda for One Health
National Education Day	November 11	Embracing Innovation
Public Service Broadcasting Day	November 12	-
World Pneumonia Day	November 12	Every Breath Counts: Stop Pneumonia in Its Track
World Diabetes Day	November 14	Access to Diabetes Care
World Kindness Day	November 13	Be Kind Wherever Possible

Children's Day (Bal Diwas)	November 14	
National Newborn Week	November 15-21	Safety, quality and nurturing care - birth right of every newborn
Janjatiya Gaurav Divas	November 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda • Dedicated to the memory of brave tribal freedom fighters.
World Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease	November 15	Breathing is Life – Act Earlier
International Day of Tolerance	November 16	-
National Press Day	November 16	Media in the Era of Artificial Intelligence
World Philosophy Day	November 16	Philosophical Reflection in a Multicultural World
International Students' Day	November 17	Learning Beyond Borders: A Global Perspective
National Epilepsy Day	November 17	Stigma
National Naturopathy Day	November 18	Naturopathy for holistic Health
World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week (WAAW)	November 18-24	Preventing antimicrobial resistance together
World Prematurity Day	November 17	Small Actions BIG IMPACT: Immediate Skin-to-Skin Care for Every Baby, Everywhere.
World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims	November 19	Remember. Support. Act.
Women Entrepreneurship Day	November 19	

International Men's Day	November 19	Zero Male Suicide
World Toilet Day	November 19	Accelerating Change
World Children's Day	November 20	For Every Child, Every Right
World Fisheries Day	November 21	Celebrating the Wealth of Fisheries and Aquaculture
World Television Day	November 21	Accessibility
National Constitution Day	November 26	–
National Milk Day	November 26	–
75 th NCC Raising Day	November 26	–
World Sustainable Transport Day	November 26	Sustainable transport, sustainable development
International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People	November 29	–

DEFENCE IN NEWS

1. A 3-day **India Manufacturing Show** was held in **Bengaluru**.
2. India successfully test-fires **surface-to-surface short-range quasi-ballistic missile Pralay**.
3. **Project Kusha** is India's **indigenous long-range Air defence system**.
4. **Indian Navy** has decommissioned **Ilyushin-38 Sea Dragon** long-range maritime patrol aircraft.

5. **Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2023** was organised by **Indian army** in collaboration with **Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS)**.
6. **India** and **Russia** have signed a contract on supply and production of **Igla Air Defence Systems**.
7. **Prachand** is India's first **indigenous multi-role combat helicopter**. It was developed by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.
8. India's **1st National security Strategy** is being formulated. It is a government document that outlines a country's security objectives and the methods to achieve them
9. The 1st ever **INDUS-X Investors Meet**, organized by **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)** and the US Department of Defence.
 - **INDUS-X summit** is a joint initiative between **India** and the **US**, which aims to bolster **defense innovation and technology** collaboration between the two nations.
10. Indian Navy has launched **4th anti-submarine Warcraft** named **Amini** at L&T Shipbuilding's facility in Kattupalli, Tamil Nadu.
11. **Russia** has announced its plan to supply the **Igla-S man-portable air defence missile system** to the Indian armed forces.

Exercise	Parties involved	Exercise type
Sea Guardian-3	China and Pakistan	Naval
BONGOSAGAR-23	India and Bangladesh	Naval
MITRA SHAKTI	India and Sri Lanka	Military
Vajra Prahar	India and U.S	Military
NATPOLREX-IX (9th National Level Pollution Response Exercise)	Indian Coast Guard	It is a marine oil spill preparedness exercise.

PLACES IN NEWS

Place Name	State/country	Known for
Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project (Subansiri river – tributary of Brahmaputra)	Arunachal Pradesh	A massive landslide at National Hydro Power Corporation's Subansiri Hydro project completely blocked the only functional diversion tunnel , thereby obstructing water flow through the river.
Ogasawara island chain (Also known as Bonin Islands)	Japan	A new island near Ogasawara island chain formed through phreatomagmatic eruptions triggered by the interaction of magma with seawater .
Ben Gurion Canal Project	Israel	A theoretical proposal to cut a canal through Israel's Negev Desert , creating an alternative route to the Suez Canal .
Fagradalsfjall Volcano	Reykjanes peninsula in Iceland	Fagradalsfjall Volcano erupted . Now, It is called as the world's newest baby volcano .
Silkyara tunnel	Uttarkhasi district, Uttarkhand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41 labourers trapped in an under-construction tunnel at Silkyara were successfully rescued after 17 days. With this, Operation Silkyara has become the longest rescue operation in the country to evacuate workers trapped in a tunnel or mine.
Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	NTCA recommends declaring the Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary , adjoining Bandipur Tiger Reserve , as a core critical tiger habitat .
Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary	Karnataka	National Green Tribunal has given deadline to address issues causing the delay in notifying the eco-sensitive zone (ESZ) status for Shettihalli Wildlife Sanctuary

INDICES

Report	Released by	Note
2024 Asia-Pacific Human Development report	UNDP	India has emerged among top countries with high income, wealth inequality.
Adaptation Gap Report 2023	UNEP	It provides an update on the global status and progress of the adaptation process across three elements: planning, financing, and implementation.
Inclusiveness Index	Othering and Belonging Institute (OBI) at California University, United States	India is spotted at 117th among 129 nations
Production Gap Report 2023	Stockholm Environment Institute, Climate Analytics, E3G, IISD, and UNEP	The report assesses governments' planned and projected production of coal, oil, and gas against global levels consistent with the Paris Agreement's temperature goal.
Air Quality Index(AQI)	IQAir (a Swiss based air purifier company)	The most polluted city in world: 1. Delhi 2. Lahore

SUMMITS

Summit Name	Hosted in	Purpose of Summit
1st Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safety Summit.	Bletchley Park, U.K.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bletchley Declaration: Aims to enhance global collaboration on artificial intelligence (AI) safety.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bletchley Park, the historic site known for its crucial role in World War II
5th Edition of ICC Sustainability Conclave 2023 (by Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals)	New Delhi	Theme: Integrating Sustainability & Business Strategy for the Chemical Industry – Addressing Challenges and Opportunities
2nd Edition of the Mega food event ‘World Food India 2023’	New Delhi	–
33rd Conference of WOA Regional Commission for Asia and Pacific	New Delhi	WOAH- World Organization for Animal Health
G20 Standards Dialogue 2023 (By Bureau of Indian Standards)	New Delhi	–
Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Summit 2023	San Francisco, United States	Theme: Creating a Resilient and Sustainable Future for AI India – Observer status
2 nd edition of the Voice of Global South Summit (VOGSS)	India conducted in a virtual format	Theme: Global South: Together for Everyone's Growth, Everyone's Trust
Emissions Gap report	UNEP	–
World Climate Action Summit (WCAS)	Dubai	Part of COP-28 session
India-OPEC Energy Dialogue	Vienna, Austria	–
9 th edition of the India International Science Festival	Faridabad, Haryana	Theme: Science and Technology Public Outreach in Amrit Kaal.

Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue 2023	NewDelhi	Theme: Geopolitical Impacts upon Indo-Pacific Maritime Trade and Connectivity
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PORTAL IN NEWS

Portal	Purpose	Launched by
AAINA Dashboard for Cities	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs	To create a robust database of the key performance metrics of Urban Local Bodies
SATHEE (Self-Assessment Test and Help for Entrance Exams)	Online coaching platform	Ministry of Education and IIT-Kanpur
FASTER 2.0 portal	It is designed to promptly inform jail authorities, trial courts, and high courts about court orders for the release of prisoners	CJI DY Chandrachud
Investor Risk Reduction Access (IRRA) platform	It is a platform that will act as a 'safety net' for investors in case of technical glitches faced by a trading member or a stock broker registered with SEBI.	SEBI
Amplifi 2.0 portal	To provide raw data from Indian cities on a single platform for academics, researchers, and stakeholders, aiming to support data-driven policymaking	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Book Name	Author Name	Note
White Holes: Inside the Horizon	Carlo Rovelli	–
Snakes of Himachal Pradesh	Omesh Kumar Bharti	Released by Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu (Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh)
Building Partnership: India and International Cooperation for Maritime Security	Capt Himadri Das	Released by Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar during the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue in New Delhi.
India's Moment: Changing Power Equations Around the World'	Professor Mohan kumar	Released by Vikram K. Doraiswam (High Commissioner of India to UK)

SPECIES IN NEWS

Species	Why in News?
Zaglossus attenboroughi	Long-beaked echidna named after David Attenborough and last seen in 1961, has been rediscovered in a remote region of Indonesia .
Nidirana noadihing in Arunachal Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also called as music frog Distinct feature that both male and female frogs are vocal

SPORTS IN NEWS

- Former captain Diana Edulji** became the **1st Indian woman cricketer** to be inducted into the **ICC Hall of Fame**.

2. Sri Lankan player **Angelo Mathews** has become the 1st cricketer to get **‘Timed Out’ in International Cricket.**
3. The mascot for the **Khelo India Para Games 2023** is **‘Ujjwala’ – a sparrow.**
4. International Cricket Council has introduced **‘Stop Clock’** in Men’s One Day International and T20 International cricket to regulate time taken between overs.
5. **Danielle McGahey**, the **first transgender player** in international cricket, who will no longer be able to compete in **women’s international games.**

Event/Cups	Venue	Note
Sultan of Johar Cup 2023	Malaysia	Indian Men hockey team has won bronze medal
3rd edition of FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 title	Isle of Man	Vidit Gujrathi and Vaishali
Women’s Asian Champions Trophy 2023	Ranchi	Indian Women’s hockey team has won by defeating Japan
8th Ballon d’Or award (by France Football Magazine)		Lionel Messi (Argentina)– Men category Aitana Bonmati (Spain)–women category
Kumamoto Masters title (Badminton)	Japan	Won by Viktor Axelsen
IBSF World Billiards Championship title	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Pankaj Advani
Davis Cup 2023 World Championship	Malaga, Spain	Italy has defeated Australia
ICC Men’s One Day International (ODI) Cricket World Cup 2023	Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Australian men cricket team has won 2023 by defeating India.

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