

March Monthly Current Affairs



International
Affairs

National
Affairs

Business

Awards

Important
Days

Sports

Banking

Ranking

Obituary

Sports



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IMPORTANT DAYS

NATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
March 01	47th Civil Accounts Day	-
March 4	National Security Day or Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas	-
March 4	52nd National Safety Day	-
March 6	National Pharmacy Education Day	-
March 07	Jan Aushadhi Diwas	Jan Aushadhi-Jan Upyogi
March 07	National Cereal Day	
March 10	54th Central Industrial Security Force Raising Day	-
March 16	National Vaccination Day	-
March 18	Ordnance Factory Day	-
March 24	188th Raising Day of Assam Rifles	-
March 01 – 07	Janaushadhi Diwas week	-
March 04 to 10	52nd National Safety Week	Our Aim – Zero Harm

INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
March 01	Zero Discrimination Day	“Save lives: Decriminalise
March 01	World Civil Defence Day	-
March 01	First Ever “World Seagrass Day”	-
March 03	World Wildlife Day	Partnerships for wildlife conservation
March 03	World Hearing Day	Ear and hearing care for all! Let’s make it a reality
March 04	World Day of Fight Against Sexual Exploitation	-
March 04	World Obesity Day	Changing Perspectives: Let’s Talk About Obesity
March 05	First ever UN’s International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness	-

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
March 08	International Women's Day	- DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality
March 09	World Kidney Day	Kidney Health for All- Preparing for the unexpected, supporting the vulnerable
March 10	International Day of Women Judges	Women in Justice, Women for Justice
March 12	Mauritius Day	-
March 13	World Rotaract Day	-
March 13 - 19	World Rotaract Week	-
March 14	International Day of Mathematics	Mathematics for Everyone
March 14	26th International Day of Action for Rivers	-
March 15	World Consumer Rights Day	Empowering consumers through clean energy transitions
March 15	1st Ever UN's International Day to Combat Islamophobia	-
March 17	World Sleep Day	Sleep is Essential for Health
March 18	6th Global Recycling Day	Creative Innovation
March 20	International Day of Happiness	Be Mindful, Be Grateful, Be Kind
March 20	World Sparrow Day	I Love Sparrows
March 20	World Oral Health Day	2023: Be Proud of Your Mouth for a lifetime of smiles
March 20	World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People	-
March 20	UN French Language Day	321 million French speakers, billions of cultural content
March 21	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	-

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
March 21	World Poetry Day	Always be a poet, even in prose
March 21	World Down Syndrome Day	With Us Not For Us
March 21	International Day of Forests	Forests and Health
March 21	International Day of Nowruz	-
March 21	World Puppetry Day	Call of the Forest
March 22	World Water Day	-
March 23	World Meteorological Day	The Future of Weather, Climate, and Water across Generations
March 23	Shaheed Diwas or Martyrs' Day	-
March 24	World Tuberculosis Day	Yes! We Can End TB
March 24	International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims	-
March 25	International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade	Fighting slavery's legacy of racism through transformative education
March 25	International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members	
March 25	International Day of the Unborn Child	Dignity the value of children yet to be born
March 26	Purple Day of Epilepsy	
March 27	World Theatre Day	Theatre and a Culture of Peace
March 31	International Transgender Day of Visibility	-
2 nd Wednesday of March (March 08)	No Smoking Day	"Stopping smoking improves your brain health"
March 29 (88th day of the year)	World Piano Day	-

SPORTS

Cricket

- TATA Women's Premier League (WPL) 2023 held at Brabourne Stadium in Navi Mumbai - The Mumbai Indians defeats Delhi Capitals by seven wickets to win the inaugural TATA WPL 2023 Championship.
- ICC Player of the Month of February -Men's Player of the Month: Harry Brook (England).
- Women's Player of the Month: Ashleigh Gardner (Australia).
- Former Australia Test Cricket Captain Tim Paine has announced his retirement from the Sport
- Nepalese Wicketkeeper-Batsman Aasif Sheikh has been declared as the winner of 2022 Christopher Martin-Jenkins Spirit of Cricket Award
- Rajasthan Cricket Association + Vedanta's Hindustan Zinc Ltd signed an MoU - For the construction of the world's 3rd-largest and India's 2nd largest after the Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium and Melbourne Cricket Ground, Australia.

Badminton

2023 Swiss Open Super 300 Badminton

Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Koki Watanabe (Japan)	Chou Tien-chen (Chinese Taipei)
Women's Singles	Pornpawee Chochuwong (Thailand)	Mia Blichfeldt (Denmark)
Men's Doubles	Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty (India)	Ren Xiangyu and Tan Qiang (China)
Women's Doubles	Rena Miyaura and Ayako Sakuramoto (Japan)	Yuki Fukushima and Sayaka Hirota (Japan)
Mixed Doubles	Jiang Zhenbang and Wei Yaxin (China)	Goh Soon Huat and Shevon Jemie Lai (Malaysia)

Football

- 76th Hero National Football Championship for the Hero Santosh Trophy - The Santhosh Trophy was held abroad for the 1st time at the King Fahd International Stadium in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

- Former Liverpool and Lazio midfielder Lucas Leiva announced his retirement from football
- SAFF U-17 Women's Championships 2023 in Bengaluru - All India Football Federation (AIFF) announced that the tournament will be held from June 21 to July 3.
- Hero Tri-Nation International Friendly Football Tournament - The tournament was organised under the aegis of All India Football Federation (AIFF) at Khuman Lampak Main Stadium in Imphal.
- King Mohammed VI of Morocco announced his country's decision to present a joint bid together with Spain and Portugal to host the 2030 FIFA World Cup.

Hockey

- Hockey India awarded with the 'Best Organiser Award' by the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF)

Tennis

- International Tennis Federation (ITF) Women's Open -The tournament was hosted by the Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA) at the KSLTA Stadium in Bengaluru. Brenda Fruhvirtova defeats India's Ankita Raina to clinch the ITF Women's Open Singles Title.
- Indian Wells Masters - Wimbledon Champion Elena Rybakina defeats Aryna Sabalenka to clinched the Title and avenge her loss to the Belarusian in the Australian Open final.

Shooting

- ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship is organised in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh - Manu Baker clinched the bronze medal in the women's 25m pistol event and Doreen Vennekamp of Germany and Ziyue Du of China secured a Gold and Silver medal respectively.

Boxing

- 13th IBA Women's World Boxing Championships 2023 - Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the event at the Indira Gandhi Sports Complex in New Delhi from March 15 to 26.
- IBA Youth World Boxing Championships 2024 - be held in Porec, Croatia and the 2023 IBA Junior World Championships under the age group of 15-16 year to be held in Mexico

Weightlifting

- IWF Youth World Weightlifting Championships 2023 - The event was held In Durres, Albania.

Events

- Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the Khelo India Dus Ka Dum Tournament at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi - The event featured 10 sports that will be held across 10 cities of the country from March 10 to 31 to celebrate the International Women's Day 2023.
- 4th Asian Kho Kho Championship - India clinched both men and women titles of the Kho Kho Championship.
- Ram Baboo an Indian Race Walker is set to be a new national record in the Men's 35km at the Dudinska 50 2023 meet in Dudince, Slovakia.
- Indian Taekwondo Premier League (TPL) will be scheduled to held in Delhi in June 2023
- All-India Taekwondo Championship - Sports Minister Anurag Thakur inaugurated the 3-day event at the KD Jadhav Indoor Wrestling Hall in Indira Gandhi Stadium in New Delhi

Others

- 9th World Masters Athletics Indoor Championship -held at Torun in Poland; India's 95-year old athlete Bhagwani Devi Dagar bagged 3 gold medal in the event.

OBITUARY

- Former Union Minister and West Bengal BJP's ex-president Satyabrata Mookherjee passed away at the age of 90
- Meghalaya's former Finance minister AH Scott Lyngdoh died at the age of 93 in Shillong
- Veteran Actor-filmmaker Satish Kaushik died at the age of 67 - He was an Indian actor, comedian, screenwriter, director and producer.
- Air Force Veteran Wing Commander Jag Mohan Nath (retd) passes away in Mumbai
- Nobel literature laureate Kenzaburo Oe passed away at the age of 88, he wrote about gruesome tales of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

RANKING

National Ranking

- Kroll 'Celebrity Brand Valuation Report' 2022 - Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh has become the Most Valued Celebrity for endorsements in 2022 with a brand value of USD 181.7 million by replacing Indian batter Virat Kohli.
- QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023 - India is the second most represented country in Asia for number of ranked universities (66), after China (Mainland) (99)
- Indian Institutions in QS World University Rankings by Subject - Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) has released a report by indicating University of Delhi has the highest number of entries (27) among Indian universities, followed by the IIT Bombay (25) and IIT Kharagpur (23).

International Ranking

- 9th World Bank's Women, Business and the Law Report 2023 -The annual World Bank Report covers 190 countries.
- SIPRI Report 2023 - India remained the world's top arms importer but its imports declined by 11% between 2013-17 and 2018-22, according to a report released by the Stockholm-based defence think-tank Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

Swiss firm IQAir released the 'World Air Quality' Report 2022

Rank	5 most polluted countries in the world
1	Chad
2	Iraq
3	Pakistan
4	Bahrain
5	Bangladesh

World Happiness Report 2023 - World Happiness Report was published by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

Rank	Top 5 country in the World Happiness Report
1	Finland
2	Denmark
3	Iceland
4	Israel
5	Netherlands
126	India

- New York city topped the list of world's most expensive cities for Business Travel and Tourism - At a rate of \$796 per day in 2022, according to the consulting firm ECA International.

BANKING AND FINANCE

RBI

- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of over Rs 3 crore (3,06,66,000) on Amazon Pay (India)
- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das launched 'Har Payment Digital Mission' - With the objective of making every citizen a user of digital payments as part of Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW) 2023 from March 6 to 12.
- RBI infused liquidity amounting to Rs.82,650 crore into the banking system - Via the 14-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auction amid tightening liquidity.
- RBI granted an 'Infrastructure Finance Company' status to Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)
- RBI + Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates (CBUAE) have signed a MoU - To enhance cooperation and jointly enable innovation in financial products and services.
- RBI imposed a penalty on Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC) (Rs.5 lakh)and IGH Holdings(Rs.11.25 lakh)
- Public Sector Banks has improved significantly with gross NPA ratio declining from 14.6% in March 2018 to 5.53% in December 2022

- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das laid the foundation stone, - For the establishment of a "Greenfield Data Centre' and 'Enterprise Computing & Cybersecurity Training Institute' in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- RBI allowed India and Tanzania (Tanzanian Shilling) to use national currencies for bilateral trade settlement
- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs.30 lakh on Karur Vysya Bank for non-compliance with certain provisions related to fraud classification, as per the conduction of Select Scope Inspection (SSI) of the bank.
- CRIF Connect Pvt Ltd - RBI license to operate as NBFC account aggregator
- NPCI = interchange charges,for the prepaid payment instruments (PPI) transactions

Public Sector Banks

SBI

- SBI has raised USD 1 billion in its largest syndicated social loan facility- For onward lending to ESG projects, affordable housing and self-help groups (SHGs).
- SBI donates Rs.24 crore to the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru - For the construction of a multi-speciality hospital (Orthopaedics Wing), as a part of its corporate social responsibility activity.
- SBI raised Rs.3,717 crore at a coupon rate of 8.25% through its third Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance in the current financial year.
- SBI + Godrej signed an MoU - To make financial solutions more accessible and affordable, unlocking opportunities for financial inclusion

PNB

- PNB has made the Positive Pay System (PPS) compulsory for cheque payments worth Rs.5 lakh and above -This will come into effect from April 5, 2023.
- Punjab National Bank and Central Warehousing Corporation signed a MoU - To facilitate financing under e-NWR (Electronic Negotiable Warehousing Receipt).

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- Punjab National Bank and Warehousing Development & Regulatory Authority (WDRA) signed a MoU - To facilitate loans to farmers and traders against electronic negotiable warehousing receipt (e-NWR).
- PNB Housing Finance's Rs.2,500 crore rights issue get SEBI's nod

Canara Bank

- Canara Bank, in collaboration with NPCI has launched the Rupay Credit Card through UPI using the BHIM app

Bank of Baroda

- Bank of Baroda + Tamil Nadu Government - Bank of Baroda launched co-branded RuPay Platinum Debit Card in Tamil Nadu exclusively for the Chief Minister's pioneering 'Pudhumai Penn scheme' account holders.

Bank of Maharashtra

- Bank of Maharashtra goes live with "MAHABANK NAKSHATRA" - Bank's own Private Cloud Platform

Indian Bank

- Sri Lanka's Seylan Bank has opened an Indian Rupee (INR) denominated Nostro account in Indian Bank in Mumbai

UCO Bank

- Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Ltd - entered into a bancassurance partnership with UCO Bank for the distribution of health insurance products through the bank's branches across the country

Private Sector Banks

HDFC Bank

- Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) + HDFC Bank - Announced a partnership to launch one of India's most rewarding co-branded travel credit cards named IRCTC HDFC Bank Credit Card.
- HDFC Bank + Flipkart Wholesale launched an industry first co-branded credit card exclusively for Flipkart Wholesale members, the credit card will run on the Diners Club International network with a avail cashback of 5%.

Axis Bank

- Axis Bank has completed its Rs.11,603 crore acquisition of Citibank's India Consumer Business from CBNA and Consumer Business from CFIL
- Axis Bank ties up with ITC Ltd to offer loans and services to farmers who are part of ITC's agriculture ecosystem
- Fintech Startup CheQ + Axis Bank - To provide users with extra rewards on credit card bill payments.
- Axis Bank enables UPI LITE for faster and seamless transactions for its customers
- Axis Bank + NBFC Autotrak Finance Ltd (AFL) - Announced its strategic partnership under the co-lending model through the Yubi Co.Lend platform.

Federal Bank

- IDFC First and Federal Bank partnered microfinance institutions Sa-Dhan and fintech solutions provider NextGen

City Union Bank

- City Union Bank has launched its first credit card - The card named 'Dhi CUB Visa Signature Credit Card' launched in partnership with credit cards as a service provider 42 Card Solutions.

DBS Bank

- DBS Bank India - an innovative investment solution 'digiPortfolio' on its digibank platform

Yes Bank

- Yes Bank + Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd - To offer home loans at competitive interest rates.
- YES Bank has issued its 1st electronic-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) in partnership with National E-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL)

Kotak Mahindra Bank

- Business Process Management solutions provider One Point One Solutions has expanded its collections portfolio offering in the BFSI segment with Kotak Mahindra Bank and DMI Finance, a pan India credit platform.

Karur Vysya Bank

- Karur Vysya Bank has signed a bancassurance with SBI Life Insurance

Small Finance Bank

- ESAF Small Finance Bank + V-Guard Industries signed an agreement - To provide financing options to customers looking to install solar rooftop power systems.
- Max Life Insurance Company + Ujjivan Small Finance Bank - To offer life insurance solutions to Ujjivan SFB's customers.
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank launched a Special Women's Savings Account named Blossom Women's Savings Account
- Geojit Financial Services + ESAF Small Finance Bank signed an agreement - To offer a special three-in-one bundled account to the bank's customers, savings account holders can open Geojit demat account and trading account for free.

Insurance News

- PNB MetLife India Insurance Company has launched PNB MetLife Genius plan - A new solution to help parents financially prepare to support their children's future.
- Reliance General Insurance has introduced the country's 1st credit score-based discount on insurance premiums
- LIC has reduced its exposure in state-owned NMDC to 11.69% from 13.69% through open market transaction
- IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company (IndiaFirst Life) has received a SEBI's approval to float Initial Public Offering (IPO)
- Jammu and Kashmir Bank has signed a corporate agency agreement with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), the bank will service and solicit LIC's life insurance products through its branch network.
- ICICI Lombard General Insurance launched a 'Anywhere Cashless' feature for health insurance policyholders to avail cashless facilities at any hospital through the 'IL TakeCare' application, even if not part of ICICI Lombard's current network of hospitals.
- The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has agreed on the sale of troubled Silicon Valley Bank to North Carolina-based First-Citizens Bank & Trust Co.

ADB

- ADB has sanctioned a Rs.754 crore loan to waste-to-energy maker SAEL Industries - For the construction of 5 biomass power plants in the districts of Bikaner, Churu, Hanumangarh, Jhunjhunu and Sikar in Rajasthan.



World Bank

- World Bank + India signed two complementary loans of USD 500 million each - To support and enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure.
- Government of India + World Bank have signed a loan assistance of USD 500 million against total project cost of USD 1288.24 million (Rs.7,662.47 crore)
- World Bank has approved a USD 108 million loan to Assam - To improve disaster preparedness and enhance flood forecasting as part of a larger USD 500 million investment program in the state.
- World Bank's approved a USD 363 million loan to Karnataka ➤ To provide a clean drinking water supply to 2 million rural households in the state through a piped water connection in their homes.
- World Bank's approved USD 100 million loan to Odisha - To strengthen its early forecasting systems for improved response to disasters and enhance its social protection coverage for poor and vulnerable households through digital platforms.

SEBI

- SEBI has renewed recognition to AMC Repo Clearing Ltd as a clearing corporation - For the purpose of clearing and settling transactions in repo and reverse repo in the debt securities.
- SEBI extended nomination deadline for existing trading, demat account holders till Sep 30
- SEBI has introduced the "Corporate Debt Market Development Fund", a backstop facility for specified debt funds during market dislocations and to prevent recurrences of events.

SIDBI

- SIDBI sanctioned Rs.1,000 crore loan to Karnataka-based Shri Kshethra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project (SKDRDP) - The loan was sanctioned under its PRAYAAS Scheme for direct credit to micro enterprises under partnership arrangements.

Others

- Commercial Bank, a digital Bank in Qatar announced the launch of UPI remittance service to India using UPI-ID
- India Post has partnered with logistics aggregator Shiprocket to enhance its last-mile delivery services for various e-commerce products



- Income Tax Department has launched a Mobile App for Taxpayers
- HDFC Asset Management Company has filed for India's first Target Maturity Funds tracking Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs)
- Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company (Kotak Mutual Fund) has launched a digital campaign called 'DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality' for digital inclusion of all with the hashtag of #IncludeAll.
- IDFC Mutual Fund is set to be launched as Bandhan Mutual Fund from March 13, the fund houses schemes will be renamed with the word Bandhan replacing IDFC in each of them.
- Bharti Airtel + India Post Payments Bank launched WhatsApp Banking Services
- Zee Entertainment Enterprises Ltd has entered into a one-time settlement agreement with Standard Chartered Bank

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is starting an exercise to prepare a framework for determining logistics cost in the country
- Flipkart launched the 'Flipkart Samarth Krishi' program - The program aims to provide India's farming communities and Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) with national market access and more negotiation power through its platform.
- Svasti Microfinance Pvt Ltd has received USD 5 million through Non-Convertible Debentures
- BSE + UN Women India launched a new programme 'FinEMPOWER' at the BSE
- Business Wire India Pocket HRMS + Bengaluru-based fintech Fi Money to fuel its Mission - To digitalize entire spectrum of Human Resource Management for Digital Bharat.
- India's Wholesale Inflation dipped to 3.85% in February 2023 from 4.73% in the previous month as per the data released by Commerce Ministry.



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- All India House Price Index (HPI) rose 2.8% in the October-December quarter of 2022-23 as compared with 3.1% a year ago as per the data released by the Reserve Bank of India.
- National Stock Exchange (NSE) has received approval from SEBI to launch the rupee-denominated NYMEX WTI Crude Oil and Natural Gas (Henry Hub) futures contracts in its commodity derivatives segment.
- IIFL Finance partnered with actyv.ai to provide bite sized credit to power the 'Buy Now, Pay Later' embedded offering on the actyv.ai platform.
- Logistics Aggregator Shiprocket has collaborated with Global E-Commerce Platform eBay for cross-border shipping solutions to domestic SMEs.
- EPFO marginally raised interest rate on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) deposits to 8.15% for 2022-23 for its subscribers

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Book Name	Author Name	Published By
'Waqt Sakshi Hai'	D.P. Yadav's poetry collection	Vani Prakashan

APPOINTMENTS

National Appointments

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Pankaj Gupta	MD& CEO of Pramerica Life Insurance	Kalpana Sampat
Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party leader Neiphiu Rio	Chief Minister of Nagaland	-
Conrad Sangma	Chief Minister of Meghalaya	-
Dr Manik Saha	13th Chief Minister of Tripura	-
Rohit Jawa	MD& CEO of HUL	Sanjiv Mehta

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
B Gopkumar	MD& CEO of Axis Mutual Fund	Chandresh Nigam
Siddhartha Mohanty	Interim Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation of India	MR Kumar
Tablesh Pandey and M.Jagannath	Managing Directors of LIC	Raj Kumar and BC Patnaik
Deepak Mohanty	Chairperson of the Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority (PFRDA)	Supratim Bandyopadhyay
Mamta Shankar, IES (1993)	Whole-Time Member (economics) in PFRDA	-
K. Krithivasan	CEO of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)	Rajesh Gopinathan
Anup Bagchi	MD& CEO of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance	N S Kannan
Ashwani Kumar	MD of UCO Bank	-
Shri G. Krishnakumar	Chairman and MD of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	Arun Kumar Singh
Lalit Kumar Gupta	Chairman & MD of Cotton Corporation of India, a PSU under the Ministry of Textile	-
Ratan Kumar Kesh	Executive Director of Bandhan Bank	-
Manmeet K Nanda	MD& CEO of Invest India	Deepak Bagla
Justice Pritinker Diwaker	Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court	Justice Rajesh Bindal

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Justice Ramesh Sinha	Chief Justice of Chhattisgarh High Court	Justice Goutam Bhaduri
Justice K Vinod Chandaran	Chief Justice of Patna High Court	Justice Sanjay Karol
Srikanth Venkatachari	Chief Financial Officer of Reliance Industries	Alok Agarwal (he was the CFO since 2005 and now assume the role of senior advisor to the company)
Rajib K Mishra	Chairman and Managing Director of PTC India Ltd	Deepak Amitabh
SpiceJet's Chairman & MD Ajay Singh	President of ASSOCHAM	Sumant Sinha
Sumil Vikamsey	MD of Hitachi Payment Services	Rustom Irani
Praveer Sinha has been re-appointed as	MD& CEO of Tata Power	-
Niranjan Gupta	CEO of Hero MotoCorp	-
Justice T S Sivagnanam	Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court	Prakash Shrivastava

International Appointments

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Bola Tinubu	President of Nigeria	-
Cindy McCain	Executive Director of UN World Food Programme (WFP)	-
Vo Van Thuong	President of Vietnam	Nguyen Xuan Phuc
Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf al-Sabah	Reappointed as the Prime Minister of Kuwait	-

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Indian-American Arun Subramaniam	1st South Asian District Judge for the Southern District of New York	-
Nepali Congress senior leader Ram Chandra Paudel	3rd President of Nepal	Bidya Devi Bhandari
Xi Jinping	President of the Republic of China	-
Ramsahaya Prasad Yadav	3rd Vice President of Nepal	Nanda Bahadur Pun
Indian-American Software and Robotics Engineer Amit Kshatriya	1st head of NASA's newly-established Moon to Mars Programme	-

Brand Ambassadors

Name	Brand Ambassador
Boxer MC Mary Kom and Bollywood Star Farhan Akhtar	Brand Ambassadors of the IBA Women's World Championships 2023
National Women's Hockey Team Midfielder Salima Tete	Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) Athletes Ambassador from India
Bollywood Actor Ranveer Singh	Brand Ambassador of Star Sports

AWARDS

National Awards

- India wins GSMA Government Leadership Award 2023 - Groupe Speciale Mobile Association (GSMA) conferred Government Leadership Award 2023 to India for implementing best practices in telecom policy and regulation.
- Hindi Writer Vinod Kumar Shukla won US literary award -Vinod Kumar Shukla among the most distinctive and distinguished of contemporary Hindi writers receives the 2023 PEN/Nabokov award for achievement in international literature.
- Porter Prize 2023 -The prize conferred to the Ministry Health and Family Welfare for the achievements of the ministry in health sector especially during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP) Award 2022 - The award function held on the occasion of Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP)

Winner	Category
Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL)	Best Contribution in Solar Energy
Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (OPTCL)	Best Performing Transmission Power Sector
National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd (NTPC)	Outstanding Contribution in Power Generation

- Airports Council International (ACI)'s Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Award - Indra Gandhi International Airport has bagged the 'Best Airport of over 40 Million Passengers Per Annum' under the Best Airports by Size and Region category and also won the Cleanest Airports in the Asia-Pacific region.
- 8th National Photography Awards - 13 photographers have been conferred with National Photography Awards in various categories at a function held in New Delhi.

Winners of the National Photography Awards:

Category	Winner
Lifetime Achievement Award	Sipra Das
Professional Photographer of the Year Award	Sasi Kumar Ramachandran
Amateur Photographer of the Year Award	Arun Saha
Special Mention Awards in the Professional category	Dipjyoti Banik Manish Kumar Chauhan R S Gopakumar Sudipto Das Umesh Harishchandra Nikam
Special Mention Awards in the Amateur category	C S Sreeranj Dr Mohit Wadhawan Ravishankar S L Subhadip Bose Tharun Adurugatla

- Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar for the year 2022 and 2021 - J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha honoured Arushi Kotwal and Harmanjot Singh, the awardees of Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar for the year 2022 and 2021 respectively in Jammu.
- RBI governor Shaktikanta Das has been awarded the 'Governor of the Year Award' for 2023 by Central Banking
- 36th AIU Inter-University Youth Festival 2023 - Chandigarh University has become the Only Private University in India to win AIU's Overall Championship Trophy at the event organized by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) at Jain University, Bengaluru.
- Chameli Devi Jain Award 2022 - Journalist Dhanya Rajendran of The News Minute has been declared the winner of the Chameli Devi Jain Award 2022 for an Outstanding Woman Mediaperson for 2022.
- The Hockey India 5th Annual Awards 2022 - Midfielder Hardik Singh and goalkeeper Savita Punia on Friday won the Hockey India Balbir Singh Award for Player of The Year 2022 in men's and women's category.
- Tamil writer Sivasankari will be awarded the Saraswati Samman 2022 - Announced by the KK Birla Foundation for her 2019 memoir Surya Vamsam.
- Kerala Governor Arif Muhammad Khan has presented maiden 'Kerala Puraskarangal' in Raj Bhavan
- Music Academy announced the Sangita Kalanidhi award for 2023 - Renowned Carnatic Vocalist and Padma Shri awardee Bombay Jayashri has been selected for the Sangita Kalanidhi award for 2023.
- RINL Visakhapatnam received a national level safety Awards "Ispat Suraksha Puraskar" - The annual award function held at SSO Ranchi, organised by JCSSI (Joint Committee on Safety, Health and Environment in the Steel Industry).
- Indian Express announced the the 16th Ramnath Goenka Awards for 2023 in Delhi - A total of 43 winners from 2019 and 2020, who could not be honoured earlier owing to the COVID19 pandemic, were also felicitated this year at the event.
- Uttarakhand has bagged the runner-up award in the best log huts category - For building floating huts and eco-rooms on Tehri lake under the tourism ministry's Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
- University of Texas at Dallas - Indian industrialist Naveen Jindal with a Lifetime Achievement Award

- Indo-Tibetan Border Police has won the 13th All India Police Commando Competition 2023

International Awards

- BBC Awards 2022**

Winner	Category	Sports belongs to
Tokyo Olympic Games Silver Medallist Mirabai Chanu	BBC Indian Sportswoman of the year	Weightlifter
Bhavina Patel	BBC Para Sportswoman of the year	Indian Table Tennis Player
Former captain of Indian Women's Hockey Team Pritam Siwach	BBC Lifetime Achievement Award	Hockey
Nitu Ghanghas	BBC Emerging Player of the year	Indian Boxer
Indian Women's lawn bowls team of Lovely Choubey, Rupa Rani Tirkey, Pinki and Nayanmoni Saikia	BBC Changemaker of the year	The Lawn bowls team won gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games (India's 1st-ever medal in lawn bowls)

- 45th Pritzker Prize 2023 will be held in Athens, Greece in May 2023 - David Chipperfield is the 52nd winner of the prestigious Pritzker Architecture Prize, which is considered the most significant award in International Architecture.
- Skytrax World Airport Awards 2023 - Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi awarded 1 4-star rating and named the 'Best Airport in India and South Asia' and is ranked 36th in 2023.



Rank	Global Winners
1	Singapore Changi Airport, Singapore
2	Hamad International Airport Doha, Qatar
3	Tokyo Haneda International Airport, Japan
4	Incheon International Airport Seoul, South Korea
5	Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport, France

- TIME Magazine's Top 50 'World's Greatest Places of 2023' list -India's Mayurbhanj district of Odisha and the UT Ladakh have found a place in TIME Magazine List of 'World's Greatest Places of 2023', which highlights '50 extraordinary destinations to explore'.
- The UN Refugee Agency, UNHCR - the "Best Impact Project Award" for a pilot project using blockchain technology to disburse cash to people displaced or impacted by the war in Ukraine by the Paris Blockchain Week 2023.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- SpaceX launched four astronauts into space - SpaceX launched Four Astronauts (2 US, 1 Russia, 1 UAE) for the Crew-6 mission to the International Space Station for NASA.
- SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket launched 51 Starlink Satellites to low-earth orbit completing the company's 15th mission
- Japan launched H3 rocket from the JAXA Tanegashima spaceport - After the ignition for the 2nd stage of the country's first new rocket series in more than two decades failed due to a power system failure.
- ISRO conducted the parachute deployment tests on rail tracks for Gaganyaan Mission
- ISRO successfully carried out "extremely challenging" controlled re-entry experiment of MT-1 (Megha-Tropiques-1) satellite - It was carried out from the Mission operations Complex in ISTRAC (ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network) in Bengaluru.
- US Air Force handed over NISAR satellite to ISRO - A US Air Force C-17 Globemaster III aircraft carrying the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) has landed in Bengaluru.



- OneWeb launched the deployment of 40 satellites launched by SpaceX - Launched from the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.
- The world's 1st 3D-printed rocket is to blast off from Florida - On the maiden flight of an innovative spacecraft billed as being less costly to produce and fly.
- North Korea conducted a Submarine-launched Cruise Missile Tests
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) + Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) - Jointly manufactured an earth science satellite named NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) at a cost of Rs.470 crore.
- Israel - a new version of its Ofek spy satellite into orbit

DRDO

- DRDO conducted a two consecutive successful flight tests of Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) Missile - It will be tested at the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.
- DRDO has successfully conducted a maiden flight-test of the Power Take off (PTO) Shaft - On Light Combat Aircraft (LCA Tejas) Limited Series Production (LSP) -3 aircraft in Bengaluru.

India in Science & Technology

- Drone manufacturer Garuda Aerospace + agritech e-commerce startup Ninjacart - To offer short-term financing options to farmers, enabling them to access the latest drone technology at affordable rates.
- PM Modi inaugurated the, - New International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Area office & Innovation Centre in India at a programme in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- India aims to roll out 1000 times faster 6G network by 2030 - India has set up a Bharat 6G project to identify and fund research and deployment of the next-generation technology in the country.
- Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar virtually inaugurated the Truecaller's 1st exclusive office space outside Sweden, in Bengaluru.
- Alstom India - delivered the 300th electric locomotive to the Indian Railways
- Kolkata Airport - DigiYatra, check-in with Facial Recognition Technology



Others

- Bharat Electronics Ltd signed MoU with NITK Surathkal in R&D space - For cooperation in research and development for the development of emerging technologies and technical solutions for both defence and non-defence applications.
- 2 more cheetahs from Namibia were released into the Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park
- India's 1st cloned desi Gir female calf named Ganga produced at National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal

Environment & Energy

- NTPC has commissioned India's 1st air-cooled condenser - At North Karanpura super critical thermal plant in Jharkhand to help in water conservation.
- Jindal Steel and Power (JSP) has received India's 1st Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certification - To manufacture India's 1st fire-resistant steel structures at its rail mill and special profile mill in Raigarh, Chhattisgarh.
- India's coal output increased by 15.10% to 784.41 million tonnes (MT) from 681.5 MT during the April-February fiscal.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Australia

- India and Australia inked a critical minerals investment partnership
- PM Narendra Modi and Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese commemorated 75 years of India and Australia's diplomatic relations through cricket at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad and the PM Modi hailed cricket as the "common passion" in India and Australia.

Bangladesh

- PM Modi + Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline via video-conferencing

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Egypt

- Egypt has joined the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB), weeks after President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi visited India as a chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations.

Japan

- India and Japan signed a 2 agreements regarding loan - For Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed railway project & cooperation in Japanese language.

Jordan

- 2nd Consultative Meeting on Defence Cooperation between India and Jordan was held in New Delhi

Maldives

- 4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue between India and the Maldives was held in Male

Mexico

- India + Mexico signed an MoU - For research, technology and innovation collaborations in New Delhi.

United States

- India-US Fifth Commercial Dialogue Meeting was held in New Delhi
- India and the US signed MoU on semiconductor supply chain and innovation partnership
- India and the US decided to launch a Strategic Trade Dialogue - To address export controls, explore ways of enhancing high technology commerce and facilitate technology transfers.

Zambia

- National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) + Zambia signed a MoU - To cooperate in the construction of 1,00,000 housing units with Scirocco Enterprises Ltd of Zambia.

Summit/Event

- India hosts 1st meeting of the governing board of BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC) 2023 in Bengaluru
- 23rd BIMSTEC Senior Officials' Meeting was held in Bangkok in virtual mode

- Second Edition of 'World Food India (WFI) 2023' - The event will be organised by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, from November 3rd to 5th this year at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- 1st international conference of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on Shared Buddhist Heritage held in New Delhi
- International Conference on 'Natural farming for Revitalizing Environment and Resilient Agriculture' - 3-day conference was inaugurated by the Manipur Governor Sushri Anusuiya Uikey at the Central Agricultural University of Manipur.
- India participated in 2nd Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) Negotiations round in Bali, Indonesia
- 1st round of the India-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Senior Officers Meeting and Strategic Cooperation Dialogue was held in Riyadh
- 26th edition of 'Elevate Expo' held in Dubai, UAE - 6 startups from India participated in the elevate session were the winners of the National Startup Awards 2022.
- Cultural Exchange Event between Korea-India being held in New Delhi.
- 1st joint conference of army chiefs of India and African countries is being held in Pune
- The 1st meeting of India-Russia Working Group on Roads and Intelligent Transport Systems was held in New Delhi

Exercise

- International Maritime Exercise/Cutlass Express 2023 - The exercise was organised by the US-led Combined Maritime Forces, a 34-nation naval group in the Gulf region.
- India-France conducts the Joint Military Exercise FRINJEX-23 - Held at the Pangode Military Station in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- India and France conduct a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) in Arabian Sea - Participants: Indian Navy's indigenously built guided missile frigate, INS Sahyadri participated in the exercise and French Navy ships FS Dixmude, a Mistral Class Amphibious Assault Ship and FS La Fayette, a La Fayette Class Frigate.
- 3rd edition of La Perouse Exercise kicked off in Indian Ocean
- Singapore Army and Indian Army participated in the 13th edition of 'Bold Kurukshetra' - A bilateral armour exercise held at Jodhpur Military Station, India.

- 2nd edition of the Africa-India Field Training Exercise (AFINDEX- 2023) - AFINDEX- 2023 is held between India and 23 nations of the African continent, and commenced at Foreign Training Node, Aundh, Pune, Maharashtra.
- Annual Bilateral Maritime Exercise 'Konkan 2023' between the Indian Navy and UK's Royal Navy - The exercise was held at the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea.
- Indian Coast Guard conducted the Regional Search and Rescue exercise at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

Others

- Quad Foreign Ministers announced to setting up of Working Group on Counter-Terrorism in New Delhi
- 1st meeting of the India-Central Asia Joint Working Group on Afghanistan was held in New Delhi

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

- Narendra Modi announced the establishment of a 'Startup Bridge' between India and Italy
- PM Modi inaugurated world's longest railway platform in Hubballi-Dharwad in Karnataka - The world's longest railway platform of 1.5 km at Sri Siddhaarooda Railway Station in Hubballi, Karnataka.
- PM Modi inaugurated the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference - The conference was held at Subramaniam Hall, NASC Complex, IARI Campus, PUSA New Delhi.
- PM Modi addressed the 'One World TB Summit' at the Rudrakash Convention Centre in Varanasi - The summit was organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the UN hosted organisation, Stop TB Partnership on March 24 as the World Tuberculosis Day.
- PM Modi has termed the approval of the nano liquid DAP (Di-Ammonium Phosphate) fertiliser as an important step towards making life easier for the farmers.
- PM Modi inaugurated the 118 Km long Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway Project at a public rally in the Mandya district of Karnataka, the project has been developed at a cost of Rs.8480 crore will reduce the travel time between the cities.

President Droupadi Murmu News

- Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference - Organised by the India Foundation + Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies at the Kushabhau Thakre International Auditorium in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- President Droupadi Murmu presented President's Colour Award to INS Dronacharya in honor of its outstanding services

Ministry News

Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Cooperation: Shri Amit Shah

- Amit Shah chaired the Regional Conference on 'Drug Trafficking and National Security' in Bengaluru, Karnataka

Ministry of Defence: Shri Rajnath Singh

- Defence Ministry has signed the contracts with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd and Larsen & Toubro Ltd in New Delhi - For the procurement of 70 HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft and three Cadet Training Ships.
- Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 'Vijay Sankalp Yatra' in Chamarajanagar, Karnataka
- The Defence Ministry announced that, - Prussian blue insoluble formulations, a critical drug developed under the Technology Development Fund, has been granted approval by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI).
- Defence Ministry has signed a contract of Rs.934 crore - For the Normal Refit of Sindhukirti Submarine at Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, Visakhapatnam to achieve Aatmanirbhar Bharat.
- Gol has set a target of achieving defence manufacturing worth Rs.1,75,000 crore, including the defence exports of Rs.35,000 crore by 2024-25.
- MoD signed a contracts for the procurement of improved Akash Weapon System and 12 Weapon Locating Radars, WLR Swathi (Plains) for the Indian Army at an overall cost of over Rs.9,100 crore.

Ministry of Finance & Corporate Affairs: Smt Nirmala Sitharaman

- Nirmala virtually inaugurated the Indian Customs Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) System (ICES) - Inaugurated at the Land Customs Station (LCS) Nagrakata and Kulkuli on India-Bhutan border during her visit to LCS Panitanki on India-Nepal Border in West Bengal.

Ministry of External Affairs: S Jaishankar

- India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) Meeting - Dr. S. Jaishankar co-chaired a virtual meeting of IRIGC-TEC with Deputy Prime Minister of Russia Mr. Denis Manturov.
- MoS for External Affairs and Culture Meenakashi Lekhi flagged off Bharat Gaurav Train "North East Discovery: Beyond Guwahati"

Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar

- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated a 3-day Agri-Science Fair at Pusa-IARI campus - The event was held under the theme of 'Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela'.
- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurated the AgriUnifest in Bengaluru, Karnataka - The 5-day cultural program was organized by the Bangalore Agricultural University and Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
- Narendra Singh Tomar launched a new platform named 'DigiClaim' on the National Crop Insurance Portal for Farmer Insurance Claims

Ministry of Education, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

- Education Ministry hosts 2nd Education Working Group meeting at Amritsar in Punjab

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Chemical and Fertilizers: Mansukh Mandaviya

- Mandaviya launched NaMo Free Dialysis Centre and 100th Janaushadhi Kendra in Bengaluru
- Mansukh Mandaviya addressed the 28th CII partnership summit 2023 - This summit was held on the 'One Health: Integrated, Collaborative and Multisectoral Approach to Optimal Health' in New Delhi.
- Mandaviya launched the 'Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam' initiative - The Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam will be held from April 17 to April 26 at various venues throughout Saurashtra region and Tamil Nadu CM M.K.Stalin will be invited for the event.

Ministry of Railways, Electronics and Information Technology: Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw

- Ashwini Vaishnaw released 'Go Green, Go Organic' cover for Sikkim

- Minister of Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw stated that, - Indian Railways has set a target of becoming Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030 in a written reply to the Lok Sabha.
- MoS for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar stated that the indian government's aim to increase electronics manufacturing capability to Rs.24 lakh crore by 2025-26 and would create 10 lakh jobs.

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises: Narayan Tatu Rane

- Narayan Rane launched the forum 'FIRST' - To Support Digitization of MSMEs in India.
- MSME Technology Centers Conclave 2023 held at Jyoti Chitran Society in Guwahati
- Minister for MSME launched the MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme (MCLS) and National SC/ST Conclave - Under the MSME Champion Scheme in the event organised at the NDMC Convention Centre, New Delhi.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH: Shri Sarbananda Sonowal

- Sonowal inaugurated the 1st B2B Global Conference & Expo on Traditional Medicine - The conference was held under the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) at Guwahati.
- Ayush Ministry Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the, - 26th Convocation of Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidyapeeth and 28th National Seminar on topic Usage of Trina Dhanya (Millets) in contemporary lifestyle at New Delhi.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the India's 1st National Centre of Excellence in Green Port & Shipping in Gurugram, Haryana

Ministry of Civil Aviation and Steel: Jyotiraditya Scindia

- Ministry of Civil Aviation organised the 2nd edition of Chintan Shivir in New Delhi
- Jyotiraditya addressed Aviation Summit 2023 by CAPA India

Ministry of Power, New and Renewable Energy: Raj Kumar Singh

- Power Minister has launched a High Price Day Ahead Market (HP-DAM) and Surplus Power Portal (PUSHP) portal - To ensure greater availability of power during the peak demand season at a price higher than the ceiling of Rs.12 per unit by a certain category of sellers.
- Raj Kumar inaugurated "National Conference on Biomass-3P-Pellet to Power to Prosperity" in New Delhi

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas Housing & Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri

- MoHUA launched Swachhotsav under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0 - Swachhotsav is 3-week women-led swachhata campaign to recognize and celebrate the transition from women in sanitation to women-led sanitation.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Youth Affairs & Sports: Anurag Singh Thakur

- Anurag Singh Thakur launched YuvaUtsava - India@2047 in Ropar, Punjab

Ministry of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj: Giriraj Singh

- Ministry of Ayush + Ministry of Rural Development signed a MoU - To collaborate in developing skilled personnel by imparting training to rural poor youth and women's for the Ayush healthcare system under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya-Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY).
- MoRD signed MoU with 19 Captive Employers under Recruit, Train & Deploy model.

Ministry of Heavy Industries: Mahendra Nath Pandey

- Heavy Industries Ministry announced the - Sanction of Rs.800 crores under FAME (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles) India Scheme Phase II to the PSU Oil Marketing Companies- Indian Oil (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum (HPCL) for setting up 7432 public fast charging stations across the country.

**Ministry for Environment, Forest and Climate change, Labour and Employment:
Bhupender Yadav**

- Bhupender Yadav - e-passbook for the EPFO members and inaugurated the creche facility in 63 regional offices of EPFO

**Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution,
Textiles: Piyush Goyal**

- "SAMARTH" (Scheme for Capacity Building in Textiles Sector) Scheme of Ministry of Textiles - SAMARTH is a demand driven and placement-oriented umbrella skilling programme that aims to provide incentives and create jobs in the organised Textile Industry and related sectors.

- MoS for Commerce & Industry, Anupriya Patel inaugurated the 23rd INDIASOFT conference - Organised by Electronics & Computer Software Export Promotion Council at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi

Ministry of Culture, Tourism, Development of North Eastern Region: Kishan Reddy

- 'Dhara: An Ode to Indian Knowledge Systems' Initiative - The Ministry of Culture's flagship initiative "Dhara: Ode to Indian Knowledge Systems" has completed one year in February 2023 under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- Ministry of Tourism inaugurated a pavilion at ITB, Berlin 2023 under its "Incredible India" brand line

Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and Minister of State in the Department of Space: Jitendra Singh

- Jitendra Singh addressed the 'Kashmir Festival' in the Gujarat University
- Jitendra Singh addressed the inaugural session of the Regional Conference on Good Governance-Innovation in Bhopal
- Jitendra Singh launched the "One Week One Lab" event at CSIR-IICT (Indian Institute of Chemical Technology) in Hyderabad
- Jitendra Singh inaugurated Asia's largest 4-meter International Liquid Mirror Telescope at Devasthal in Uttarakhand
- Jitendra Singh announces integrated strategy to achieve 'TB Mukta Bharat'

State News

Andhra Pradesh

- Principal Secretary of School of Education + Andhra Pradesh Govt launched an online portal for facilitating admissions under Section 12(1)(c) of the Right to Education Act (RTE) to promote socially inclusive access to education for all children in the state.

Assam

- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the Mission Lifestyle for Environment' (LiFE) in the state

Goa

- Goa CM Pramod Sawant Cabinet gave a nod to extend the scheme by providing government jobs to the children of freedom fighters.

Haryana

- Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar launched a financial aid scheme 'Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Antyodaya Parivar Suraksha Yojana'

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh government decided to implement the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) from April 1 in the state

Jharkhand

- Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren inaugurated the Jharniyojan Portal - The portal was created by the Department of Labour Planning, Training and Skill development in the CM's chamber at the Jharkhand Legislative Assembly.
- Jharkhand celebrates its biggest Tribal Festival Sarhul on 24th March

Karnataka

- Karnataka CM Basavaraj Bommai launched the self-employment scheme 'Swami Vivekananda Yuvashakti Sangha scheme' - The women's self-help groups have been active for the last so many years but a self-employment scheme has been formulated for the 1st time for youths and the CEO of zila panchayats must prioritize this.

Kerala

- Kerala govt announced a big scheme to support women entrepreneurs in the state

Madhya Pradesh

- Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched a unique scheme 'Ladli Bahna' - To make women financially independent and each woman will get Rs.1000 per month in the age group of 23-60 years in the state.
- Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan declared 'Mauganj' as the 53rd district of the state

Maharashtra

- World's 1st 200m long Bamboo Crash Barrier installed in the Vani-Warora Highway in Vidarbha, Maharashtra
- Japan International Cooperation Agency has extended an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan

Manipur

- Yaoshang festival has begun in Manipur

Odisha

- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched the 2nd version of the 'Odisha SDG Indicator Framework (OSIF 2.0)'
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik unveiled the iconic Dakota aircraft of legendary leader Biju Patnaik (former CM of Odisha) for public viewing at the Bhubaneswar Airport on the occasion of Biju's 107th birth anniversary.
- Odisha government has granted a freehold status for residential projects to the land and houses were allotted by the Development Agencies (DA) and Odisha State Housing Board (OSHB).

Rajasthan

- Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot announced the creation of 19 new districts and 3 new divisions

Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu + United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) signed MoU - To develop a comprehensive Urban Cooling programme of support in the State to meet the objectives under the TN State Action Plan on Climate Change.
- Erode district will get Tamil Nadu's 18th wildlife sanctuary
- India's first PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park is set to be established in Virudhunagar District of Tamil Nadu, as per the MoU signed between the Central and State governments.

Telangana

- Telangana IT Minister K T Rama Rao introduced a "Single Window" mechanism

Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath launched 'UP Rahi' app to ensure hassle free bus travel
- Uttar Pradesh set to get its third international cricket stadium in Varanasi after Lucknow and Kanpur

Uttarakhand

- Uttarakhand - the 1st state to complete computerisation of Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies (MPACS)

Union Territory News

Jammu and Kashmir

- J&K launched a Doda Online Services Terminal (DOST) Help Desk for online services
- J&K Lt.Governor Manoj Sinha opened a Asia's largest Tulip Garden on the foothills of Zabarwan in Srinagar to discovers the mesmerizing beauty of 16 Lakh tulip flowers.

Ladakh

- India's 1st Night Sky Sanctuary being set up in Ladakh will give a fillip to Astro Tourism in the Union Territory and generate revenue as well as livelihood.
- Lt. Governor of Ladakh BD Mishra (Rtd) - the 3rd Ladakh Literary Conference at Syed Mehdi Memorial Hall Kargil.

Union Cabinet and Centre News

- Centre sanctioned 8 floating jetty projects in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approves listing of IREDA on stock exchanges through initial public offer by the government
- Centre has cleared the 3rd Electronics Manufacturing Cluster for Karnataka
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved Minimum Support Price (MSP) for raw jute for 2023-24 season.
- Centre - has increased the upper age limit by 5 years of ombudsman of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) to 70 years from 65 years.

NITI Aayog

- Atal Innovation Mission - NITI Aayog launched ATL Sarthi, a comprehensive self-monitoring framework to strengthen the ecosystem of Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across the country.
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) - 3 new resources aimed at fostering innovation and creativity among youth

G20 News

- G20 meeting of Anti-Corruption Working Group held in Gurugram, Haryana
- 1st G20 Foreign Ministers' Meet commenced on multilateralism, food and energy security
- Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering Conference on Materials for Sustainable Energy was held under India's G20 Presidency in Ranchi, Jharkhand
- G20-Themed Flower Festival held at Delhi
- Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the 4th Y20 Consultation Meeting in Pune
- G20 Young Entrepreneur Alliance (YEA) India Summit - Young Indians (YI) is a part of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) will set to host the G20 Young Entrepreneur Alliance (YEA) India Summit in Delhi from 13-15 July 2023.
- Mohanlal Sukhadia University organised a 'G20 University connect- Engaging Young Minds' at Udaipur in Rajasthan
- L20 engagement group's inception meeting held in Amritsar
- 1st G20 Trade and Investment Working Group (TIWG) Meeting held in Mumbai
- 3-day G20 International Yoga festival and Millet Fair 2023 to be held in Vrindavan
- G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Conference is held in Dibrugarh, Assam
- 2nd G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) meeting kicked off at Udaipur in Rajasthan to identify mechanisms for mobilisation of timely and adequate resources for climate finance.
- 2nd G20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting held in Gandhinagar with focus on ecosystem restoration and enriching biodiversity, encouraging resource efficiency and circular economy and promoting a sustainable and climate resilient blue economy.
- 2nd G20 Tourism Working Group meeting is to be held in Siliguri, Darjeeling from April 1 to discuss the broad aspects of the 5 priorities of the Tourism Working Group.

- Piyush Goyal along with Lithuania Ambassador to India Diana Mickeviciene flagged off 'Gandhi Darshan, G-20 Yuva Slum Daud' at Amardev Public School in New Delhi.
- Ramnagar in the Nainital district of Uttarakhand hosts 1st G20 summit in the state
- 2nd G20 Sherpas meeting under India's G20 Presidency was held at Kumarakom in the district of Kottayam, Kerala
- 2nd Agricultural Deputies Meeting of the Agricultural Working Group (AWG) of G20 to be held in Chandigarh
- The 1st Meeting of G20 Chief Science Advisers Roundtable (CSAR) held at Ramnagar, Uttarakhand

Others

- 2nd Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) meeting held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- India's unemployment rate rose to 7.45% in February from 7.14% in January
- 8th National Conference on Economics of Competition Law
- 2nd meeting of Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion held in Hyderabad
- Gold Jewellery with 6-digit HUID number can be sold from April 1, 2023
- NAFED to begin procurement of Kharif Onion from 3 mandis (markets) in Gujarat
- 1st Supreme Audit Institution 20 (SAI20) Meeting in Guwahati
- A total of 22 languages of India are included in the 8th Schedule to the Constitution of India
- 1st international conference on Shared Buddhist Heritage will commence in New Delhi
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) launched a Centre of Excellence (CoE) - For Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Startups' (CII CIES) at T-Hub (an innovation ecosystem) in Hyderabad.
- 2-day Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Tourism Ministers' Meeting has begun in Kashi (Varanasi), Uttar Pradesh
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has launched an E-Waste Management Initiative - A special initiative "Sound Management of waste Disposal" as a part of BPCL's sustainability efforts towards the reduction and recycling of e-waste and to further strengthen sustainable development goals.
- 37th edition of Aahar 2023: Asia's biggest International Food and Hospitality Fair held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi

- Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) + Society for Electronic Transactions and Security (SETS) signed MoU - For the development of tools and products in R&D and emerging tech areas like Cyber Security, IoT Security, Mobile Device Security, Financial Network Slice Security and Hardware Security, etc.
- Election Commission of India (ECI) hosts 3rd International Conference on 'Inclusive Elections and Elections Integrity' as the lead for the Cohort on 'Election Integrity' in virtual format.
- National Security Advisor Ajit Doval - the 18th meeting of Secretaries of Security Councils of SCO Member States

Defence

- Government has approved the procurement of 70 HTT-40 Basic Trainer Aircraft - From Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) for the Indian Air Force at a cost of over Rs.6,828 crore.
- Indian Navy has received the 1st fully indigenised fuze YDB-60 - For underwater Anti Submarine Warfare (ASW) Rocket RGB-60 used from major warships.
- Indian Navy test-fired in the Arabian Sea the ship-launched version of the BrahMos supersonic missile - BrahMos missile had DRDO-designed indigenous 'seeker and booster'.
- 1st edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference held at sea and for the 1st-time onboard Indigenous Aircraft Carrier INS Vikrant
- Indian Navy has test-firing the Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) - From the frontline warship INS Visakhapatnam validating capability to engage Anti Ship Missiles.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) signed a MoU with Kerala Electrical & Allied Engineering (KEL) - For the joint research and development of a lightweight bailey bridge with a carbon fiber composite deck.
- Group Captain Shaliza Dhama has become the 1st woman officer in the Indian Air Force to command a front line combat unit, she will command a missile squadron in the Western sector.
- Indian Navy's INS Sumedha, an indigenously designed and built Offshore Patrol Vessel celebrates its 9th anniversary - The ship is built by Goa Shipyard Ltd and commissioned into the Indian Navy on 07 March 2014, is a capable and potent part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet.



- Colonel Geeta Rana is the 1st woman officer to command EME unit near China border
- Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with HAL - For the procurement of six Dornier-228 aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF) from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd at a cost of 667 crore rupees.
- Indian Navy has announced instituting two awards in the memory of India's 1st Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat
- India approved capital acquisition of a plethora of indigenously-developed military hardware - The hardware including indigenous BrahMos missiles, marine diesel engine, artillery gun system, electronic warfare suits and utility helicopters at a cost of Rs 70,584 crore as part of a mega procurement plan.
- Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) has received an international order for the world's 1st zero-emission feeder container vessel
- National Security Guard (NSG) conducts a full-fledged anti-hijack drill at Jammu Airport
- Asia's 1st woman loco pilot Surekha Yadav became the 1st female to operate the newly-introduced semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express train between Solapur Station and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai.
- The Government has given approval to 45 Companies/Joint Ventures operating in the Defence Sector with foreign OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) to encourage indigenous design, development and manufacture of defence equipment in the country and reducing dependency on imports in coming years.

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