

OCTOBER Monthly Current Affairs



International
Affairs

National
Affairs

Business

Awards

Important
Days

Sports

Banking

Obituary

Ranking

Sports

-CA Funsta

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Current Affairs

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IMPORTANT DAYS**NATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
October 01	Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) is celebrating its 23rd Raising Day	-
October 08	Indian Air Force celebrates its 91st Air Force Day	'IAF-Airpower Beyond Boundaries'
October 09	Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Day	-
October 10	Good Manufacturing Practice Day (cGMP Day)	"cGMP: Transforming Healthcare".
October 20	National Solidarity Day	-
October 21	National Police Commemoration Day/Police Martyrs Day	-
October 24	62nd Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) Raising Day	-
October 31	National Unity Day/Rashtriya Ekta Diwas	-
October 2 to October 8	69th edition of National Wildlife Week	"Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation"
October (from October 1 to 31)	National Breast Cancer Awareness Month	-
October 30 to November 05	Central Vigilance Commission is observing Vigilance Awareness Week	Say no to corruption; Commit to the Nation

**International Wise**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
October 01	33rd International Day of Older Persons	'Fulfilling the Promises of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for Older Persons: Across Generations.'
	World Vegetarian Day	-
	International Coffee Day	-
October 02	International Day of Non-Violence	-
October 03	World Nature Day	Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet
October 04	World Animal Day/ World Animal Welfare Day/World Animal Protection Day	Big or small, We love them all
October 05	UNESCO's World Teachers' Day	The Teachers We Need for the Education We Want: The Global Imperative to Reverse the Teacher Shortage
October 06	World Cerebral Palsy Day	Together Stronger
October 07	UN's 5th World Cotton Day	Making cotton fair and sustainable for all, from farm to fashion
October 08	World Dyslexia Day/World Dyslexia Awareness Day	Uniquely You



OCTOBER MONTHLY ONE LINERS



<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
October 08	Global Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day	-
October 09	World Post Day	Together for Trust: Collaborating for a safe and connected future
October 10	World Mental Health Day	Mental health is a universal human right
	21st World Day Against the Death Penalty	-
October 11	UN International Day of the Girl Child	"Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership, Our Well-being"
October 12	28th edition of World Arthritis Day	"Living with an RMD at all stages of life".
October 13	UN International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction	"Fighting inequality for a resilient future"
October 14	World Standards Day/International Standards Day	Shared Vision for a Better World: Incorporating Sustainable Development Goal for Good Health and Well-Being
October 15	International Day of Rural Women	"Rural Women, Women with Rights"
	6th Global Handwashing Day	"Clean hands are within reach"
	World Students' Day	'FAIL: stands for First Attempt in Learning'.



OCTOBER MONTHLY ONE LINERS



<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
October 15	World White Cane Day/White Cane Safety Day	-
October 16	World Food Day	Water is Life, Water is Food. Leave No One Behind
	World Anaesthesia Day	Anaesthesia and Cancer Care
October 17	UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty/End Poverty Day	“Decent Work and Social Protection: Putting Dignity in Practice for All”
	World Trauma Day	Embracing Resilience, Overcoming Trauma’s Impact
October 20	20th International Chefs Day	Growing Great Chefs
	World Osteoporosis Day	Step Up for Bone Health-Build Better Bones
October 21	World Iodine Deficiency Day/Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day	-
October 22	International Stuttering Awareness Day/International Stammering Awareness Day	One Size Does NOT Fit All
October 23	International Snow Leopard Day	-



OCTOBER MONTHLY ONE LINERS



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<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
October 24	United Nations Day	The Frontlines of Climate Action
	22nd World Polio Day	-
	UN World Development Information Day	-
October 25	International Dwarfism Awareness Day	-
October 27	UN World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	Your Window To The World
	World Occupational Therapy Day	Unity through Community
	77th Infantry Day	-
October 28	22nd International Animation Day	-
October 29	World Stroke Day	Together we are #Greater Than Stroke
	UN's 1st ever International Day of Care and Support	-
October 30	World Thrift Day/World Savings Day	-
October 31	World Cities Day	Financing sustainable urban future for all
1st Monday of October (October 02, 2023)	World Habitat Day	Resilient urban economies. Cities as drivers of growth and recovery





<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
October 04 to October 10	UN World Space Week	Space and Entrepreneurship
2nd Thursday of October (October 12, 2023)	World Sight Day/World Vision Day/World Eye Day	'Love Your Eyes at Work'.
2nd Friday of October (October 13, 2023)	27th World Egg Day	Eggs for a healthy future
2nd Saturday of May (May 13, 2023) and the 2nd Saturday of October (October 14, 2023)	World Migratory Bird Day	Water: Sustaining Bird Life
22 to 28 October 2023 (Last Week of October)	11th International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week	

SPORTS

Cricket

- Former England Captain Alastair Cook announced his retirement from Professional Cricket - Cook played 161 Tests, 59 of those as England Test Captain from 2012 to 2017.
- ICC Player of the Month for September 2023 - ICC Men's Player of the Month: Chamari Athapaththu (Sri Lanka). ICC Women's Player of the Month: Shubman Gill (India).

Badminton

- Abu Dhabi Masters 2023 - Held at the ADNEC Marina Hall, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Mads Christophersen (Denmark)	Mark Caljouw (Netherlands)
Women's Singles	Unnati Hooda (India)	Samiya Imad Farooqui (India)



Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Doubles	Goh Sze Fei and Nur Izzuddin Rumsani (Malaysia)	Pharanyu Kaosamaang and Worrapol Thongsanga (Thailand)
Women's Doubles	Ashwini Ponappa and Tanisha Crasto (India)	Julie Finne-Ipsen and Mai Suroow (Denmark)
Mixed Doubles	Mads Vestergaard and Christine Busch (Denmark)	Terry Hee Yong Kai and Jessica Tan Wei Han (Singapore)

Football

- 5th edition of the SAFF Men's U19 Championship 2023 - Organised by the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) at the Dashrath Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal. Indian Men's team has grab its 2nd title by defeating Pakistan in the final.
- UEFA announced the host associations of Euro 2028 and 2032 - UEFA Executive Committee has appointed the UK and Ireland as hosts of the final tournament of the 18th edition of UEFA European Football Championship 2028.

Tennis

- 22nd edition of the China Open 2023 - Held in: Beijing Olympic Green Tennis Center, Beijing, China.

Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Jannik Sinner (Italy)	Daniil Medvedev (Russia)
Women's Singles	Iga Swiatek (Poland)	Liudmila Samsonova (Russia)
Men's Doubles	Ivan Dodig (Croatia) and Austin Krajicek (United States)	Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands) and Neal Skupski (United Kingdom)
Women's Doubles	Marie Bouzková (Czechia) and Sara Sorribes Tormo (Spain)	Chan Hao-ching (Taiwan) and Giuliana Olmos (Mexico)

Chess

- World Junior Rapid Chess Championship 2023 - India's Grand Master Raunak Sadhwani won the FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship 2023 title in the open category.

Event	Medal	Winner
Junior Rapid Chess-Open Category	Gold	Raunak Sadhwani (India)
	Silver	Arseniy Nesterov (played under the FIDE flag)
	Bronze	Alexakis Dimitris (Greece)
Junior Rapid Chess-Girls Category:	Gold	Govhar Beydullayeva (Azerbaijan)
	Silver	Xeniya Balabayeva (Kazakhstan)
	Bronze	Zeinep Sultanbek (Kazakhstan)
Junior Blitz-Open Category	Gold	Mahammad Muradli (Azerbaijan)
	Silver	Raunak Sadhwani (India)
	Bronze	Arystan Isanzhulov (Kazakhstan)
Junior Blitz-Girls Category	Gold	Xeniya Balabayeva (Kazakhstan)
	Silver	Amina Kairbekova (Kazakhstan)
	Bronze	Govhar Beydullayeva (Azerbaijan)

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Grandprix

- Qatar Grand Prix (Formula 1 Qatar Airways Qatar Grand Prix) - Held in the Lusail International Circuit in Lusail, Qatar.

Rank	Winner	Country
1	Max Verstappen (Red Bull)	Netherlands
2	Oscar Piastri (McLaren)	Australia
3	Lando Norris (McLaren)	Britain

Others

- International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Olympic Museum and Reliance Foundation signed a cooperation agreement - To promote Olympic Values Education Programme (OVEP) through sport among children in India (but initially implemented in Mumbai).
- The International Olympic Council (IOC) Executive Board has issued a suspension of the Russian Olympic Committee for "breach of charter" - This move comes after the Russian Olympic Committee recognised regional organisations from four Ukrainian territories annexed since the invasion began in 2022.
- Hyderabad will hosts the 2nd edition of the EPrix Formula E Race in February 2024 - The Federation of Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and Formula E have confirmed Hyderabad as the host city of EPrix Formula E Race.

BANKING AND FINANCE

RBI

- RBI has decided to constitute an external working group on expected credit loss (ECL) based framework - For provisioning by Banks to get independent inputs on some of the technical aspects having a bearing on the significant transition involved.
- Fintech Unicorn Slice - approval from RBI for its merger with Guwahati-based North East Small Finance Bank (NESFB)
- RBI has cancelled the licence of Nagar Urban Co-operative Bank - For not complying with various provisions of the Banking \Regulation Act and defaulting on depositors' payments.

- RBI has extended the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) scheme by another two years till December 31, 2025 - It will includes the beneficiaries of the PM Vishwakarma scheme.
- RBI has increased the existing limit for gold loans under the Bullet Repayment Scheme to Rs.4 lakh from Rs.2 lakh - This increment is in respect of Urban Co-operative Banks (UCB) who have met the overall target and sub-targets under Priority Sector Lending as of March-end.
- Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) + Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD/Bhashini) signed a MoU - To explore and develop innovative solutions that foster linguistic inclusivity in the financial services sector.
- RBI's 4th Bi-monthly Monetary Policy of FY 2023-24 of October 2023 - The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI has decided to keep the policy rates unchanged.

Category	Percentage
Policy Repo Rate	6.50%
Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Standing Deposit Facility (SDF)	6.25%
Bank Rate	6.75%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF)	6.75%
Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4.50%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18%

- RBI decided to extend the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for NBFCs to Government NBFCs - The PCA framework is applicable to Government NBFCs except those in Base Layer with effect from October 1, 2024, based on the audited financials as on March 31, 2024/thereafter.
- RBI issued its approval to SBI Mutual Fund to acquire 9.99% of the paid-up share capital in private lender IndusInd Bank.
- RBI - a monetary penalties on RBL Bank, Union Bank and Bajaj Finance due to violation of certain norms
- RBI cancelled the Certificate of Registration of Chennai-based Ind Bank Housing Ltd - Indian Bank and HUDCO (Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd)



are major shareholders in the housing finance company holding 51% and 25% stake, respectively.

- RBI - a penalty of Rs.12.19 crore on ICICI Bank and Rs.3.95 crore on Kotak Mahindra Bank for non-compliance of certain regulatory norms
- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs.2.5 crore on L&T Finance Ltd - For non-compliance with certain norms concerning non-banking financial companies (NBFCs).
- RBI has given approval to Kotak Mahindra Bank for its Rs.537 crore acquisition of microlender Sonata Finance
- RBI has announced the opening of its sub-office in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh in the northeast of India - With the opening of this office, the RBI now has office in all the 7 States of the north-eastern region, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura.
- RBI - a pilot program for the wholesale segment named 'Digital Rupee-Wholesale (e-W)' of its Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) in the interbank call money market
- Razorpay has secured the top spot at the RBI's 2nd Global Hackathon-'HaRBInger 2023' - For Razorpay's remarkable product 'DrishtiPay', which facilitates easy-to-use, innovative Card and UPI payments for the visually impaired.
- Reserve Bank of India has mandated at least two Wholetime Directors (WTDs) in these banks - To strengthen governance in private sector banks and foreign banks.
- RBI increased the minimum amount for offering non-callable/without premature withdrawal option term deposits from Rs.15 lakh to Rs.1 crore - With this all domestic term deposits accepted from individuals for amount of Rs.1 crore and below shall have remature withdrawal facility.
- RBI released the framework for compensation to customers for delayed updation/rectification of credit information by Credit Institutions (CI) and Credit Information Companies (CIC) - Complainants will be entitled to a compensation of Rs.100 per calendar day in case of their complaint is not resolved within a period of 30 days from the date of the initial filing of the complaint by the complainant with a CI/CIC.
- RBI raised 'bulk deposits' in Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) to raise more funds to Rs.1 crore from Rs.15 lakh - The Bulk Deposit for RRBs mean Single Rupee Term Deposits of Rs.1 crore and above.
- Cooperative banks should approach RBI's Department of Supervision (DoS) for a change in name-for the grant of no objection certificate (NOC), clearly stating the reasons for such change.



Public Sector Banks

Bank of India

- Bank of India (BoI) + Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) signed a MoU - To provide low-interest rate loans to farmers and traders.
- REC Ltd signed an agreement with Bank of India - To co-finance Rs.30,000 crore worth of projects in the power, infrastructure and logistics sectors over the next 5 years under a consortium arrangement.

State Bank of India

- SBI unveiled a 'mobile handheld device' for its financial inclusion customers - For enhancing accessibility and convenience in availing banking services such as cash withdrawal, cash deposit, fund transfer, balance inquiry and mini statement.
- SBI Card has tied up with Reliance Retail-To launch the Reliance SBI Card credit card for customers who shop at its retail outlets access to rewards and benefits.

Indian Bank

- Indian Bank signed an agreement with Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles and Tata Passenger Electric Mobility - To provide inventory financing solutions to their authorised dealers for electric as well as other passenger vehicles.

Bank of Baroda (BoB)

- RBI has ordered BoB to suspend further customer onboarding on its 'bob World' mobile app with immediate effect - The RBI action against the bank is based on certain material supervisory concerns observed in the manner of onboarding of their customers onto this mobile application.
- Bank of Baroda launched BoB LITE Savings Account - It was launched as a part of "BOB Ke Sang Tyohaar Ki Umang" festive campaign to offer customers a hassle-free banking experience without any minimum balance requirement.

Private Sector Banks

HDFC Bank

- HDFC Bank launched a digital platform XpressWay - offers a banking products and services during the festive season, enabling customers to experience the fastest way to bank.



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Axis Bank

- Axis Bank launched the 'Open by Axis Bank', its digital bank proposition in its latest advertising campaign 'Open 2023' - The Open 2023 campaign highlights the top 15 features of the bank's digital offerings.
- Axis Bank + Fibe (previously known as EarlySalary), India's premier Fintech - To launch India's first-ever Numberless Credit Card for tech-savvy Gen Zs.

IndusInd Bank

- IndusInd Bank has introduced a hyper-personalized financial super-app named 'INDIE' - INDIE is a customer centric digital mobile banking application to empower customers with an all-in-one digital financial solution.
- IndusInd Bank has entered into a collaboration with Viamericas Corporation - To offer Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in the US digital inward remittance services on the 'Indus Fast Remit' platform.

ICICI Bank

- ICICI Bank introduced 'iFinance', to provide customers with a consolidated view of their savings and current accounts - ICICI Bank has leverages the Account Aggregator ecosystem to enable users to link their accounts on the Bank's digital platforms.
- Tiger Logistics (India) has partnered with ICICI Bank - To help exporters and importers to track shipment, get information on freight rates and ease documentation process.

Karnataka Bank

- Karnataka Bank launched 3 variants of savings account, KBL Sal Ultimate, KBL Sal Delite and KBL Sal Pride - To meet the financial needs and aspirations of salaried employees under corporate salary category.
- Karnataka Bank has launched a Special Campaign "KBL UTSAV 2023-24" - For Home loans, Car loans, Agri loans and Gold loans from October 19, 2023, to December 31, 2023 for the festive demands.

IDFC First Bank

- Outlook Group + IDFC FIRST Bank launched its highly anticipated retirement planning event "40After40" - The 2-day event will be held at Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai.

Yes Bank

- YES Bank becomes the 1st bank in the country to issue an 'ONDC Network Gift Card' - The ONDC Network Gift Card, issued in partnership with Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), is at the forefront of democratising digital commerce.
- Yes Bank has acquired 2.4 crore additional shares of J C Flowers Asset Reconstruction (JC Flowers ARC), taking its stake to 9.9%.

Federal Bank

- Federal Bank has extended the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) to NRE clients through its mobile banking platform 'FedMobile' - With the integration of UPI, NRI customers residing in countries approved by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) permitting UPI for NRIs can seamlessly utilize UPI features through FedMobile
- Federal Bank inaugurated the 'Mookkannoor Mission' under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan - This initiative was launched on the 106th birth anniversary of its Founder KP Hormis.

Kotak Mahindra Bank

- BLS E-Services Limited has entered into a Master Business Correspondent Agreement with Kotak Mahindra Bank - The Master Business Correspondent Agreement is signed for an initial period of 3 years with the possibility of extension for an additional year, to bring accessible and affordable banking services to the underserved and unbanked segments of the population.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank + National E-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL) - To issue its inaugural electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) through its platform and enhances security by mitigating authentication risks.

RBL Bank

- RBL Bank has launched a digital banking product GO Savings Account - It is a zero-balance account with easy-to-operate features, the product caters to customers of all age groups.

Payments Bank

- Paytm Payments Services - an Alternate ID (ALT ID) based Guest Checkout solution for merchants
- RBI imposed a monetary penalty of Rs.5.39 crore on Paytm Payments Bank - The fine was imposed on the non-compliance of certain provisions of the Reserve Bank of India (Know Your Customer (KYC)) Directions, 2016.



Small Finance Bank

- AU Small Finance Bank launched its first Green Fixed Deposit 'Planet First-AU Green Fixed Deposit' - To support renewable and green projects like solar power, electric vehicles etc.
- AU Small Finance Bank announced the merger of Fincare Small Finance Bank with itself - The merger is subject to approval of the respective shareholders of the AU SFB and Fincare SFB, the RBI and the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

Insurance News

- Star Health and Allied Insurance - surrogacy cover and oocyte donor cover to its women-centric policy 'Star Women Care Insurance Policy'
- Manipal Cigna Health Insurance - the 'Manipal Cigna Accident Shield' with 12 optional covers
- Bharti Group will acquire French insurer AXA's (AXAF.PA) 49% stake in Bharti AXA Life Insurance.
- BimaKavach has received a direct insurance broking licence from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) - The licence will enable the firm to actively market its customised range of insurance products for businesses across India.
- HDFC ERGO General Insurance launched a insurance product Optima Secure - It provides a 4X coverage at no additional cost, thereby redefining the value you get from health insurance.
- IRDAI has constituted a 12 members committee to simplify insurance policy wording - The committee will be headed by L.Viswanathan, a member of the Insurance Advisory Committee, will also include the Secretary Generals of the Life Insurance and General Insurance Council along with the president of the Insurance Brokers Association of India (IBAI).
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance launched the 'Sarvatra Bima' initiative - This pioneering initiative aims to bridge the insurance accessibility and service gap in tier 2 and tier 3 regions of India.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- ADB approved USD 200 million loan For Assam - To strengthen flood and riverbank erosion risk management along the 650 km long main stem of the Brahmaputra River in Assam.



- ADB has partnered with the West Bengal government - To conduct a study for the development of economic corridors in the state
- ADB has approved a USD 181 million loan for Gujarat - To build quality infrastructure and services toward improving urban livability and mobility in the peri-urban areas of Ahmedabad.
- ADB has granted a approval of USD 175 million loan to enhance road connectivity and climate resilience in Madhya Pradesh Road Network Project - The project's key feature involves in upgrading 500 km of state highways and major district roads to a standard two-lane design.
- ADB has approved a USD 400 million policy-based loan to India - For sub-programme 2 of the Sustainable Urban Development and Service Delivery Programme.

SEBI

- Multi Commodity Exchange of India (MCX) has received the approval from SEBI Technical advisory committee to go live with its commodity derivative platform (CDP) - MCX is India's first listed exchange that deals with commodity derivatives and provide a platform for price discovery and risk management.
- Sberbank of Russia has become the first Russian bank to register with the Indian Markets Regulator (SEBI) as a Category I Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI) - FPI involves an investor purchasing foreign financial assets to access equities, bonds, derivatives, mutual funds and guaranteed investment certificates among others.
- SEBI has empanelled 12 entities in regarding Digital Forensic Services to the regulator - To provide assistance to its search team for onsite data acquisition during search and seizure operations

SIDBI

- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) + Indian Post Payments Bank (IPPB) signed a MoU - To extend financial and other support services to MSMEs in rural and remote areas.



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Others

- Groww Mutual Fund - the launch of Groww Nifty Total Market Index Fund, based on the NIFTY Total Market Index
- PepsiCo India + Google Pay -To offer cashback upto Rs.30 on purchase of select Lay's, Kurkure, and Doritos packs for this festival season.
- National Investment and Infrastructure Fund + Japan Bank for International Cooperation to launch a USD 600 million India-Japan Fund - The fund will have JBIC and Government of India as anchor investors.
- NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) + Al Etihad Payments (AEP) for Domestic Card Scheme (DCS) Implementation in UAE - AEP is an indirect subsidiary of the Central Bank of UAE (CBUAE).
- Sharekhan + National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) - To complete the digitalisation of the demat account opening process at the backend.
- Central Bank of UAE subsidiary, Al Etihad Payments (AEP) + NPCI International Payments (NIPL) - To advance the development of the United Arab Emirates' first national domestic card scheme (DCS).
- India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL) has sanctioned a loan worth Rs.8,800 crore - For airports and civil aviation infrastructure development in the country.
- Appointments Committee of Cabinet has appointed 12 general managers as Executive Directors (EDs) of various Public Sector Banks for 3-years term

Name	Designation	Previous Post
Bhavendra Kumar	ED of Canara Bank	Chief General Manager of Canara Bank
Bibhu Prasad Mahapatra	ED of Punjab National Bank	Chief General Manager of Punjab National Bank
Brajesh Kumar Singh	ED of Indian Bank	Chief General Manager of Bank of Baroda
Dhanaraj T	ED of Indian Overseas Bank	Chief General Manager of Indian Bank
Lal Singh	ED of Bank of Baroda	Chief General Manager of Union Bank of India
Mahendra Dohare	ED of Central Bank of India	Chief General Manager of

Name	Designation	Previous Post
		Punjab National Bank
Rajiv Mishra	ED of Bank of India	Chief General Manager of Union Bank of India
Ravi Mehra	ED of Punjab& Sind Bank	General Manager of Punjab& Sind Bank
Rohit Rishi	ED of Bank of Maharashtra	Chief General Manager of Indian Bank
Sanjay Rudra	ED of Union Bank of India	General Manager of Bank of Maharashtra
Shiv Bajrang Singh	ED of Indian Bank	Chief General Manager of Bank of india
Vijaykumar Nivrutti Kamble	ED of UCO Bank	General Manager of Bank of Maharashtra

- Paytm has partnered with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) to launch QR code-based ticketing for metro travel - The commuters can get the mobile QR ticket on the Paytm app under the 'Metro' section, by mentioning the station of entry and destination station on the day of the journey.
- Cashfree Payments + Global Trade Plaza - To simplify cross-border Payments for Indian Exporters.
- Amazon Pay has introduced a 'EMI on RuPay Credit Cards' across eight prominent issuing banks - With the EMI on RuPay Credit Cards, customers will get increased flexibility and affordability to shop during the festive period.
- NPCI Bharat BillPay has partners with Axis Bank to launched a services under the Business-to-Business (B2B) category - The service has gone live with Jio Payments Bank's MyJio app for the Biller Arzoo with Axis Bank as the Biller Operating Unit (BOU).
- Bandhan Mutual Fund launched the Bandhan Nifty Alpha 50 Index Fund - An open-ended index scheme provide investors with an opportunity to invest in a well-diversified portfolio of stocks that generated high alpha over the last one year.
- US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) committed an External Commercial Borrowing loan of USD 30 million to Dalmia Polypro Industries - For



building a greenfield recycling facility in Maharashtra and will support improvements in India's plastic waste value chain and expand the capacity to reduce plastic waste.

- Mobikwik's Payment Gateway Arm, Zaakpay has received an in-principle authorisation from RBI to operate as a Payments Aggregator - The RBI's in-principle authorisation will enable Zaakpay to onboard new merchants onto its platform for processing of online payments and scale the number of merchants associated with the startup.
- Escrowpay has secured India's 1st digital Escrow authorization from IFSCA (International Financial Services Centres Authority), Gujarat - The Digital Escrow Regulatory Authorization is a testament to Escrowpay's unwavering dedication to provide secure and efficient financial solutions to 70 million Small and Medium Enterprises in India.
- Aurionpro Solutions Ltd has joined with MasterCard to introduce a Contactless Payment Solution for public transportation - Commuters will have the convenience of tap and go payments using any digital wallet linked with a MasterCard.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IIT News

- Tata Elxsi has announced a joint venture with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) - To develop advanced Automotive Cyber Security Solutions.
- Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) + IIT Guwahati signed a MoU - For the establishment of Common Engineering Facility Center "Digital Twin Center for Emerging Automotive Systems" in Hub and Spoke model. To develop advanced Automotive Cyber Security Solutions.
- Skill Development and Employment Department + IIT Roorkee signed a MoU - To utilize the technical expertise of IIT Roorkee for the development of the skill capacity of the state's manpower.
- Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Indian Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-IARI) + IIT Kanpur signed a MoU - To support incubators and startups, fostering their growth and success.
- IIT Madras + IndusDC, a deep-tech focused venture studio - To nurture and launch start-ups working towards decarbonisation.
- THDC India Limited + IIT Delhi have signed a MoU - To advance research and development activities in areas related to electric vehicle batteries, green hydrogen, geothermal technology, and waste management and recycling.





Space News

- SpaceX launched a new batch of Starlink internet satellites to low-Earth orbit - The Falcon 9 rocket with 22 Starlink satellites lifted off from Space Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.
- Amazon launched first Test Satellites for Project Kuiper Satellite System - Amazon's communications constellation 'Project Kuiper', aims to compete with SpaceX's Starlink service.
- Spanish startup PLD Space successfully launched the country's first suborbital reusable rocket "Miura 1" into orbit - The first launch of the Miura 1 was lifted off from the El Arenosillo Test Center at the National Institute of Aerospace Technology in Huelva, Spain.
- NASA - a spacecraft from Florida to explore the metal-rich asteroid Psyche
- ISRO launched Gaganyaan's 1st flight Test Vehicle Abort Mission-1 (TV-D1) - It was launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- Pakistan Army successfully conducted a training launch of the Ghauri Weapon System - It is a medium-range, road-mobile, ballistic missile system indigenously developed by Pakistan with an aims to test the operational and technical readiness of Army Strategic Forces Command (ASFC).
- China launched the Shenzhou-17 Manned Spaceship for New Challenging Work in Space Station Mission - The spaceship, atop a Long March-2F carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Northwest China.
- Paras Aerospace has received 2nd Type Certificate from Directorate General of Civil Aviation for it's Agri Drone "Paras-AgriCopter V2.1" - Paras Aerospace is a subsidiary of Paras Defence and Space Technologies Limited.

India in Science & Technology

- Chennai-based KCP-Heavy Engineering Unit handed over the 1st Integrated Air Drop Test-Crew Module structure (IADT-CM) to ISRO - For the purpose of assessing technology readiness for the Gaganyaan spacecraft.
- Pioneer in Light Fidelity (LiFi) technology + Nav Wireless Technologies (NavTech) signed a MoU with Space Applications Centre (SAC) of the ISRO for a tenure of 3-years - This collaboration aims to leverage light-based high-speed communication for satellite communication in space.
- Spaceteck start-up Skyroot Aerospace has signed a 2 MoUs with French companies Promethee Earth Intelligence and ConnectSAT - For the launch of Skyroot's first commercial mission Vikram-1 orbital rocket.





- Data Patterns (India) announced a Licensing and Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement with IN-SPACE - To provide Data Patterns with miniature SAR Radar capability.
- Indian Space Association organised the 2nd Indian Space Conclave 2023 in the Manekshaw Center in New Delhi - The conclave was co-hosted by Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE).
- Skyroot Aerospace has unveiled the indigenously built Vikram-1 rocket for satellite delivery to low earth orbit - Vikram-1 is a multi-stage launch vehicle with a capacity around 300 kg payloads in Low Earth Orbit.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) + Safran Aircraft Engines have inked a MoU - It aimed at advancing ring forging manufacturing for commercial engines.
- 3rd Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile (ACTCM) Barge, LSAM 17 (Yard 127) was launched at M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane - It was launched by Cmde V Pravin, AWPS (Mumbai) with all major and auxiliary equipment/systems sourced from indigenous manufacturers and this Barge is proud flag bearer of "Make in India" initiative of Ministry of Defence.
- 25T Bollard Pull (BP) Tug 'Yard 305-Mahabali' was launched at M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd, Bharuch, Gujarat - It was launched by Cmde Sunil Kaushik, NM, Warship Production Superintendent (WPS) (Mumbai).
- Aligarh Muslim University got approval from the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE) to launch its own Satellite-It has embarked on an ambitious space programme 'SS AMU SAT' has received approval from the IN-SPACE, operating under the aegis of the Department of Space.

Environment & Energy

- REC Limited has launched a mobile application 'SUGAM REC' - For current and future investors in REC's 54EC Capital Gain Tax Exemption Bonds.
- RITES, a PSUs under the Ministry of Railways has been upgraded to become the 16th Navratna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) in India
- Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) + National Informatics Centre Services (NICSI) under the National Informatics Centre, MeitY signed a MoU - For various Information & Communications Technology (ICT) and Digital Transformation.
- Indian Oil Corporation will invest Rs.1,660.15 crore as equity in a newly set up joint venture with energy major NTPC - IOC and NTPC had formed a 50:50 joint venture company, IndianOil NTPC Green Energy to set up renewable energy projects to meet the round-the-clock power requirements of refineries of the oil company.



- NLC India has incorporated a wholly-owned subsidiary of NLC India Green Energy Ltd has commenced its business operations - The new company will focus on renewable energy (RE) projects, helps to expand the RE power generation capacity faster.
- Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) launched India's 1st Gasoline and Diesel Reference Fuel - This is the first time that India is venturing into the production of Reference Gasoline and Diesel Fuels.
- REC Power Development and Consultancy Ltd (RECPDCL) has handed over the project-specific SPV (Special Purpose Vehicle) - SPV was formed for the construction of 'Ramgarh II Transmission Limited' transmission project, to Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL).

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Argentina

- India and Argentina signed a Social Security Agreement (SSA) - To ensure professionals and workers retain benefits and contributions made toward social security, promoting easier mobility between countries.

Dominican Republic

- India signed 2 MoUs in ocean sciences and medical product regulation with the Dominican Republic - These two countries also held discussions on enhancing cooperation in diverse sectors including trade, pharmaceuticals, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), agriculture, food processing, space, higher education, capacity building, Ayurveda and Yoga.

France

- India and France signed a MoU on cooperation in the field of digital technologies
- The 21st edition of India-France Military Sub Committee (MSC) Meeting was held at the Air Force Station, New Delhi - India-France MSC is a forum established to progress defence cooperation between the nations through regular talks at strategic and operational levels between HQ, Integrated Defence Staff and the Joint Staff HQ of French Armed Forces.

Israel

- India - "Operation Ajay" to facilitate the Indians nationals from Israel who wish to come back to India

Kazakhstan

- India and Kazakhstan will begin a 13-day Mega Wargame in the Kazakh Military base of Otar - It focuses on boosting their counter- terror cooperation.

Papua New Guinea

- India and Papua New Guinea signed a MoU - For cooperation in the field of sharing successful Digital Solutions implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation.

Saudi Arabia

- India and Saudi Arabia have signed a MoU in Riyadh -The MoU was signed the fields of Electrical Interconnections, Green/Clean Hydrogen and Supply Chains.

United States

- North America's first Gandhi Museum opened in Houston, Texas - The 13,000 square-foot museum's architecture is based on Gandhi's 24-spoke Chakra spinning wheel and the statue of Gandhi placed in front of the museum.

United Kingdom

- India-UK 2 plus 2 Foreign and Defence Dialogue was held in New Delhi - To boost collaboration in the areas of trade and investment, defence, critical and emerging technologies, civil aviation, health, energy, culture and strengthening people connections.

United Arab Emirates

- Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India + Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology of United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed a MoU - To collaborate in sharing and development of industries and advanced technologies.

Summit/Event

- Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Minister's Meeting is held in Colombo, Sri Lanka - Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ali Sabry will chair the Council for

Current Affairs

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the next 2 years, taking over from the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, (the current Chair).

- Australia will be a partner country for the Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet in January 2024. - Philip Green, Australian High Commissioner to India made the announcement during the 34th Annual Day celebrations of the Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce in India.
- Indian Textile Industry is set to host world's largest textiles event, "Bharat Tex 2024" from February 26 to February 29, 2024 in New Delhi - The initiative marks India's dedication to become a global textile powerhouse, combining innovation, collaboration and the "Make in India" spirit.
- 7th Edition of Future Investment Initiative (FII) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia - This event will bring together global leaders to explore new investment opportunities aimed at creating a meaningful impact on humanity.
- 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will be held from 20th to 28th of November in Goa - Organized by the National Film Development Corporation.
- Joint bilateral training exercise "Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023" between Indian and Malaysian Army commenced in Umroi Cantonment in Ri Bhoi district of Meghalaya - The Malaysian Army contingent comprises troops from 5th Royal Battalion of Malaysian Army.
- G7 Trade Ministers Meeting was held in Osaka, Japan - The Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal had participated in the meeting, the meeting focused on digitalization of the supply chains

Exercise

- India and Bangladesh has commenced the 11th edition of annual joint military exercise 'SAMPRITI' in Umroi, Meghalaya - Indian contingent comprises troops from a battalion of RAJPUT Regiment led by Brigadier SK Anand, Commander of a Mountain Brigade.
- India and the European Union (EU) has conducted a Maiden Naval Exercise in the Gulf of Guinea off the West African Coast - To boost maritime security cooperation, the exercise followed the 3rd meeting of the EU-India Maritime Security Dialogue in Brussels.

Others

- World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and WHO signed a 4-year MoU - To allow experts of these organizations to collaborate and share information on issues where anti-doping and public health intersect.





- India has been re-elected as the President of the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) General Conference for 3rd successive term - The 21st General Conference & Associated Meetings 2023 of AIBD was chaired by its President Gaurav Dwivedi, CEO PrasarBharati in Port Louis, Mauritius.
- Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) has committed to work with India to expand Travel for LiFE initiative across Asia Pacific region - Ministry of Tourism will set up a PATA desk to strengthen the engagement with PATA on Travel for LiFE and other areas of cooperation in tourism sector.
- European Union lawmakers approved new standards for companies issuing "green" bonds - To help investors pick sustainable companies from those engaged in greenwashing or misleading climate-friendly claims.
- United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres launched a 39-Member Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence (AI) - The 39-member committee comprises tech company executives, government officials and academics from countries spanning six countries.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

President Droupadi Murmu News

- President Droupadi Murmu launched the 4th Agriculture Road Map of Bihar worth Rs.1.62 lakh crore - The Agriculture Road Map focuses on increasing agricultural production in the state and farmers' incomes for the period of next five years (2023-28).

Prime Minister, Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, All important policy issues, All other portfolios not allocated to any Minister : Shri Narendra Modi

- PM Narendra Modi launched 'Sankalp Saptah' in New Delhi - A unique week-long programme 'Sankalp Saptah' for Aspirational Blocks in the country.
- PM Modi inaugurated the India's 1st high-tech sports training centre for individuals with disabilities for Divyang Sports in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh - This centre is named in honour of the former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.
- PM Narendra Modi released a new Garba song titled "Maadi" - The song as penned by PM Modi, sung by Divya Kumar and is composed by the Meet Brothers Manmeet Singh and Harmeet Singh.
- PM Modi launched 511 Pramod Mahajan Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras (PMGKVKs) in Maharashtra via video conferencing - PMGKVKs was established across 34 rural districts in Maharashtra to conduct skill development training





programs across various sectors to provide employment opportunities to rural youth.

- Modi inaugurated the priority section of Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS (Regional Rapid Transit System) Corridor at Sahibabad RapidX Station in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh - RRTS is a new rail-based, semi-high-speed, high-frequency commuter transit system with a design speed of 180 Kmph.
- PM Modi inaugurated the 7th Edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2023 at the Bharat Mandapam, in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi - With the theme of 'Global Digital Innovation' IMC 2023 aims to strengthen India's position as a developer, manufacturer and exporter of technologies including 5G, 6G, Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- PM Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth about Rs.7500 crores in Maharashtra - This project including in the sectors of health, rail, road, oil and gas in Shirdi and Ahmednagar.

Ministry News

Ministry of Defence: Shri Rajnath Singh

- Ministry of Defence (MoD) released the 5th Positive Indigenisation list of 98 items - These items such as certain categories of combat vehicles and drones, sensors, weapons and ammunitions, to give more exposure to domestic industry and reduce dependence on imports of the military hardware.
- Rajnath Singh is on a visit to Italy and France
- Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Cochin Shipyard at an cost of Rs.313.42 crore - For Mid Life Upgrade and Re-Powering of the advanced guided missile frigate "INS Beas".
- MoD has signed a contract with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders - For the Construction of One Training Ship for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) at a cost of Rs.310 crore under the Buy Indian-Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured (IDDM) category in New Delhi.
- Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 1st edition of Indian Military Heritage Festival in New Delhi -Organized by the United Service Institution of India (USI) Centre for Military History& Conflict Studies (CMHCS).

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

- Shri Ram Janmbhoomi Teerth Kshetra received approval from Home Ministry - To accept the contributions from foreign sources for the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya.





- Amit Shah inaugurated the India's 1st Nano DAP (Liquid) Plant of IFFCO at Kalol in Gandhinagar, Gujarat - It was set up by Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) at a cost of Rs.300 crore.
- Amit Shah launched the logo, website and brochure of the newly established National Cooperative Exports Limited (NCEL) - NCEL has an authorised share capital of Rs.2000 crore and intends to focus on exporting the additional products available in the Indian cooperative sector by accessing wider global markets.

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways: Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari

- Nitin Gadkari approved a 7 bridge projects in Arunachal Pradesh under the Setu Bandhan Scheme worth Rs.118.50 crore - The project aimed at enhancing connectivity and fostering economic development in the state, These 7 bridge projects are,
- Nitin Gadkari - the 5th edition of India STEM Summit 2023 in Delhi
- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated a 418 feet national flag, the tallest in the country at the Attari-Wagah border in Punjab's Amritsar district - Indian Army in collaboration with Flag Foundation of India to install the national flag

Ministry of Finance & Corporate Affairs: Smt Nirmala Sitharaman

- Corporate Affairs Ministry has extended the tenure of 16-member Committee on Digital Competition Law (CDCL) till the end of October - The inter-ministerial Panel was Chaired by the MCA Secretary Manoj Govil to meet for the last time in the next fortnight to finalise the draft of the proposed Bill on digital competition law.
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has implemented an 18% Goods and Services Tax (GST) on Corporate Guarantees

Ministry of External Affairs: Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

- External Affairs S Jaishankar is on a 4-day visit to Vietnam and Singapore - Jaishankar unveiled the bust of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore at the International Friendship Park in Bac Ninh Province.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs: Shri Arjun Munda

- Arjun Munda inaugurated the 4th EMRS National Cultural & Literary Fest and Kala Utsav-2023 in Dehradun - The event has been organized by the National Education Society for Tribal Students under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and was hosted by Eklavya Vidyalaya Sangathan Samiti, Uttarakhand.





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

- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) signed a MoU - To boost development of India's infrastructure and logistics sectors and to advance the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan
- Piyush Goyal- a significant initiative to issue system based automatic 'Status Holder' certificates under the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023

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

- Dharmendra Pradhan launched the Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav and Technology & Bharatiya Bhasha Summit in New Delhi - The 2-day summit was organised as part of the 75 days Bharatiya Bhasha Utsav that commenced on 28th September-11th December, 2023.
- Ministry of Skill Development launched the India Skills 2023-24 programme and felicitated 46th World Skills 2022 winners - India secured the 11th position in the World Skills Competition (WSC) 2022, with 2 Silver Medals, 3 Bronze Medals, and 13 Medallions for Excellence.
- MoS for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Electronics & IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar launched a "Heartland Tripura" project - To enhance the employability and skills of the youth of Tripura in partnership with Deloitte India and the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), Agartala.
- Dharmendra Pradhan launched a NCERT's web portal 'Apna Chandrayaan' - For school students by providing activity-based support material such as quiz, puzzles, etc for Mission Chandrayaan-3.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH): Shri Sarbananda Sonowal

- Sonowal addressed the 6th foundation day of All India Institute of Ayurveda in New Delhi - The All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) has got a new Molecular Biology Lab for Advanced Research, Manuscript Unit and Center of Excellence Dakshya.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment: Dr. Virendra Kumar

- MoSJ&E has unveiled the SHRESHTA (Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas) - To provide residential education for Scheduled Caste (SC) students in high schools in targeted areas.



Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Steel: Jyotiraditya Scindia

- Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) Scheme completes 6th Year in 2023 - The scheme focuses on improving unserved air routes in underserved regions of the country and fulfilling the aspirations of the common citizens.

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

- MeitY - 3 indigenously developed AI-powered technologies developed under the Intelligent Transportation System Endeavor for Indian Cities initiative
- IBM inked 3 pacts with IT Ministry in the areas of Semiconductors, Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Computing - The MoU assumes significance as India is taking decisive steps to position itself in cutting-edge new technologies.
- Ministry of Electronics and IT + the Directorate General of Foreign Trade - Jointly launched an online import management system for the issuance of authorization for the import of Information Technology hardware

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

- MoNRE launched a brand-new EV-Ready India Dashboard (evreadyindia.org) in New Delhi - This dashboard is a free digital platform, Developed by policy and industry experts at thinktank OMI Foundation, focussed on near real-time Electric Vehicle adoption and forecasts, associated battery demand, charging density and market growth trends.
- Ministry of Coal + Ministry of New & Renewable Energy have jointly work together for promotion of green energy - MoNRE will provide technical, policy & capacity building support and Ministry of Coal will provide land, capital and undertake implementation of solar energy, green hydrogen and other renewable energy projects.

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

- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has launched a web portal by containing a statistical data of Chemical Sector in New Delhi - The web portal developed by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals + National Informatics Center.
- Mandaviya Inaugurated the New Facilities at NIMHANS and unveiled a new logo of Tele-MANAS - National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru marked the World Mental Health Day (October 31) by unveiling 3 new

facilities, Centre for Brain and Mind, Platinum Jubilee Auditorium and Academic Facility, and Administrative Office Complex.

- Mandaviya addressed the 76th session of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for South-East Asia

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

- Ministry of Tourism inaugurated the 46th edition of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Travel Mart 2023 - This is being organised at the magnificent International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre, Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

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

- Anurag Thakur has raised the subsidy amount for Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries from Rs.200 to Rs.300 per LPG cylinder - Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was launched in 2016 as a flagship scheme with an objective to make clean cooking fuel such as LPG available to the rural and deprived households.

Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology: Dr. Jitendra Singh

- Jitendra Singh launched the Special Campaign 3.0 in DARPG under the theme of "Digital DARPG" - Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) has taken significant steps under the Special Campaign 3.0 to promote pan-India unified service delivery portals, reduce pendency in public grievances, adopt AI/ Emerging Technologies for effective redressal of public grievances, promote sustainable practices and ensure cleanliness & efficient record management in office.
- Jitendra Singh launched the IGMS 2.0 Public Grievance Portal and Automated Analysis in Tree Dashboard Portal of DARPG - Intelligent Grievance Monitoring System (IGMS) 2.0 Dashboard has been implemented by IIT Kanpur following an MoU with the DARPG for upgrading CPGRAMS with Artificial Intelligence capabilities.



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State News

Arunachal Pradesh

- Arunachal Pradesh + Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (NGI) signed a MoU - To explore the feasibility of harnessing the geothermal potential that the state's numerous hot springs offer.
- Arunachal Pradesh Cabinet approved the constitution of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) with creation of 336 Regular Posts - It was constituted as per the guidelines of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for three tiger reserves of the state, Namdapha, Pakke and Kamlang.

Assam

- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the Mukhya Mantri Lok Sewak Arogya Yojana - An online medical bill reimbursement scheme for Government of Assam's employees, pensioners and their dependents.
- Assam government has formed a new district Bajali - The Bajali district was created by bifurcating the Barpeta district.

Chhattisgarh

- Chhattisgarh launched a housing scheme, Mukhyamantri Gramin Awas Nyay Yojana - To provide a cemented house for 47,000 impoverished individuals residing in the state's rural areas.
- Baiga tribe, a particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) in Chhattisgarh was awarded the habitat rights under the Forest Rights Act 2006 - Baiga has become the 2nd tribal group after Kamar to get habitat rights in Chhattisgarh.

Goa

- Goa CM Pramod Sawant announced that the state will host the International Purple Fest - It celebrates the inclusiveness and empowerment of persons with disabilities, held from January 8 to 13, 2024.
- Goa CM Pramod Sawant launched Swayampurna e-bazaar - It is an online platform that supports self-help groups and women.

Gujarat

- PM Modi launched the developmental projects worth Rs.5,800 crore in Gujarat across multiple sectors rail, road, water and irrigation- To benefit farmers and improves the connectivity around Mehsana, Patan, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha, Mahisagar, Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar.



Haryana

- Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar virtually inaugurated a total of 15 Khelo India Centres (KICs) - Under the Khelo India Scheme, initial and annual financial support is also provided to these coaches as well as these centres are running for the sports training, coaching and operations.

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched the "Mukhyamantri Sukh Ashraya Yojana" from the Ridge Shimla - To provide a comprehensive support to orphans,
- Himachal Pradesh Cabinet approved the 'Van Mitra' Scheme of the Forest Department - One 'Van Mitra' each in 2,061 Forest Beats would be engaged to strengthen the participation of local communities in protection, conservation and development of forest areas by roping in grass root level institutions.
- Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched a Deposit-linked Loan Scheme of the Himachal Pradesh State Cooperative Bank - This deposit-linked loan scheme 'Sapno Ka Sanchay' is an initiative for students in the age group of 10 to 18 years.

Jharkhand

- Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren unveiled the mascot for the Jharkhand Women's Asian Champions Trophy Ranchi 2023 - The Asian Champions Trophy at the Project Bhawan in Dhurva.

Karnataka

- Bangalore International Airport - the South Asia's 1st Aircraft Recovery Training School on the premises of Kempegowda International Airport
- Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah unveiled the emblem of Karnataka Sambhrama-50 - To mark the golden jubilee of renaming the Mysore State as Karnataka on November 1, 1973.
- Karnataka Forest Department + Wildlife Trust of India - To establish a customised version of a special software Hostile Activity Watch Kernel (HAWK) to help them in managing, monitoring forest and wildlife offences on a digital platform.

Kerala

- Kerala Government introduced a Comprehensive Insurance Scheme for MSMEs to support the MSME sector - This initiative aims to safeguard these businesses from





various risks and boosting their confidence to flourish in a competitive business environment.

- Kasaragod district of Kerala has become the 1st district in India to officially designate its own tree, flower, bird and species - The official tree of the district is 'Kanjiram' (Strychnosnux-vomica Linn), a species deriving its name from 'kasara', meaning wormwood.
- Kerala has become the 1st state in India to have hallmarking centres in all 14 districts - It was come after the inauguration of a hallmarking center in Adimali, Idukki district of Kerala.

Madhya Pradesh

- Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan virtually inaugurated the India's largest pumped storage project in the Neemuch district - The project is being developed by Greenko Group, India's largest energy storage company.
- Bhopal's Mahila Thana Police Station became the 1st women Police Station in India to receive ISO 9001:2015 certification - The ISO certificate is issued for 3 years, the Misrod Police Station of Bhopal received the ISO certificate in May 2023.

Maharashtra

- Maharashtra Cabinet approved the 'Lek Ladki Yojana' (Dear Daughter Scheme) for families with annual income up to Rs.1 lakh - This scheme will be implemented for girls born from April 1, 2023, after the "Maji Kanya Bhagya shree Yojana" has been approved.

Manipur

- Manipur CM N.Biren Singh + Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises - To launch the Manipur State Credit Guarantee Scheme (MCGS).

Meghalaya

- Shillong hosted the Green Tourism Conclave for Responsible Tourism in Northeast - It is an initiative of Indian Express Online Media, focused on the promotion of green and responsible tourism in India with a particular emphasis on the Northeastern region and Odisha.

Nagaland

- Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya - Nagaland's 1st Medical College, The Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (NIMSR) in Kohima.



Odisha

- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched the Mission Shakti Scooter Scheme to empower women - Under this scheme the government will provide interest free loan upto Rs.1 lakh to Mission Shakti members to buy scooters.
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched "Mo Odisha Nabin Odisha" scheme - To strengthen the infrastructure with focus on every village and every Panchayat in the state.
- Odisha CM launched the Location Accessible Multi Modal initiative (LAccMI) Yojana from Malkangiri district - To facilitate assured and affordable transportation to the people in rural areas.

Rajasthan

- Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot announced the formation of 3 new districts in the state - The three new districts named Malpura, Sujangarh and Kuchaman City.
- Udaipur is set to become the Country's 1st Wetland City - The Rajasthan government in partnership with the Environment and Forest Department is dedicated to raising Udaipur, also known as the 'City of Lakes' to global recognition by aspiring to achieve the distinction of being India's inaugural wetland city.
- Rajasthan government has launched the 'iStart Talent Connect Portal' at Jaipur's Techno Hub - To boost employment opportunities in the state.

Tamilnadu

- Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin launched a new Samadhan scheme - It offers waivers and concessions to pave the way for the settlement of the pending tax dues of about Rs.25,000 crore under the Tamil Nadu Value Added Tax and other legacy tax legislations.
- Tamil Nadu government launched a flagship program Nilgiri Tahr for the conservation of the state animal - The project with an outlay of Rs.25 crore, aims to develop better understanding of Nilgiri Tahr population, distribution and ecology, addressing proximate threat to Nilgiri Tahr and developing eco-tourism activities at selected sites.

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Telangana

- Telangana CM Chandrasekhar Rao launched a breakfast scheme in schools up to 10th standard - The breakfast scheme in government schools was initially introduced in Tamil Nadu, Telangana becomes the 2nd state to implement this scheme.

Tripura

- Tripura CM Manik Saha launched the 'Yuba Tripura, Natun Tripura, Atmanirbhar Tripura' - To encourage youth to set up industrial and business units in the state.

Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath declared the Gangetic Dolphin as the State Aquatic Animal - Gangetic Dolphin are listed as Endangered in the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.
- Uttar Pradesh CM approved the CM Green Road Infrastructure Development Scheme (Urban) 'CM Grid Scheme' - The Urban Development Department of the Govt of Uttar Pradesh has established an Urban Road Infrastructure Development Agency (URIDA) which will be responsible for implementing the Chief Minister Green Road Infrastructure Development Scheme (Urban) worth Rs.500 crore.

Uttarakhand

- Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhama launched the 'Rozgar Prayag Portal' - The portal was launched during the Uttarakhand Youth Mahotsav-2023 program organized at the Parade Ground in Dehradun.
- Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhama has launched a Nandagaura Yojana Portal - Nandagaura Yojana Portal is an online facility to be annually available to about 50 thousand girls who are permanent residents of Uttarakhand to apply for Rs.11000 on birth and Rs.51000 on passing class 12.

Union Territory News

Delhi

- Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal launched a 15-point Winter Action Plan - To control air pollution in Delhi during the winter season.
- Delhi government has relaunched Jai Bhim Mukhyamantri Pratibha Vikas Yojana - To provide free coaching to medical, engineering and civil services aspirants.





Jammu and Kashmir

- J&K State Taxes Department + Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) signed a MoU - To enhance cooperation and collaboration in capacity building, skill development, and knowledge sharing.

Union Cabinet News

- Cabinet has approved the issue of further Terms of Reference (ToR) to the existing Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II (KWDT-II) - It has been issued under section 5(1) of the ISRWD Act for its adjudication between the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- Cabinet approved the Amendment of Central Universities Act, 2009 for setting up of Sammakka Sarakka Central Tribal University in Telangana - There would be provision of funds of Rs.889.07 crore.
- The Cabinet has approved tenancy regulations for the UTs of Andaman and Nicobar, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu - To provide "a legal framework" for creating an accountable and transparent ecosystem for renting premises in the UTs by balancing the interests and rights of both the landlord and the tenant.
- Cabinet approved the Revised Cost of completion of balance works of North Koel Reservoir Project in Bihar & Jharkhand - Cabinet has given a proposal of Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti to complete the balance works of North Koel Reservoir Project at a revised Cost of Rs.2,430.76 crore (central share: Rs.1,836.41 crore).
- Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of an autonomous body Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) - To serve as an overarching enabling mechanism powered by technology for youth development and youth led development and provide equitable access to youth to actualize their aspirations and build 'Viksit Bharat' across the entire spectrum of the Government
- Union Cabinet has approved the amendment of Second Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 - For specifying the rate of royalty in respect of 3 critical and strategic minerals, namely, lithium, niobium and Rare Earth Elements.
- Cabinet approved the project on Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II- Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) for 13 GW Renewable Energy Project in Ladakh -
- The project is targeted to be set up by FY 2029-30 with a total estimated cost of Rs.20,773.70 crore and central financial assistance at 40% of the project cost Rs.8,309.48 crore.





- The Centre has received approval from the Central Govt for the establishment of Khelo India State Excellence Center in Spithuk, Leh - The centre focuses on athletics, boxing, archery, ice hockey, archery, athletics, table tennis, and football in the UT.
- Cabinet approved to release an additional instalment of Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) to pensioners due from 01.07.2023
- Cabinet approved Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for the FY 2022-23 - Union Government has approved payment of PLB of Rs.1968.87 crore to 11,07,346 railway employees.
- Cabinet approved Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25 - The absolute highest increase in MSP has been approved for lentil (masur) at Rs.425 per quintal followed by rapeseed & mustard at Rs.200 per quintal.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the incorporation of Jamrani Dam Multipurpose Project in Uttarakhand - It was approved under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (PMKSY-AIBP) at an estimated cost of Rs.2,584 crore.
- Cabinet approved NPK fertiliser subsidy for 2023-24 Rabi Season - Cabinet approved Rs.22,303 crore subsidy for phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilisers and the nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) rates for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) fertilisers for the 2023-24 Rabi SSseason amid rising international prices.
- Cabinet approved the Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India-Japan on improving Semiconductor Supply Chain - The MoC between Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of India and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan on Japan-India Semiconductor Supply Chain Partnership for a period of 5 years.

Others

- Government of India has notified the constitution of the National Turmeric Board - The National Turmeric Board will focus on the development and growth of turmeric and turmeric products in the country.
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in collaboration with Savitribai Phule Pune University - To organized the soft launch of an online platform "Universalization of Traditional Indian Knowledge System (UTIKS) portal" at Manipal Academy of Higher Education.





- UNICEF launched an innovative, digital 'YouthHub' app in India - To connect young people in India to future job opportunities, especially girls and marginalised youth
- India's first solar-roofed cycling track launched in Hyderabad - The 23km solar-roofed cycling track is launched around Hyderabad's Outer Ring Road and is designed to be environmentally friendly.
- Eight products from Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, J&K, Odisha and Goa got the Geographical Indication (GI) tag

State	Product Name
Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal Yak Churpi (1st-ever yak milk product to get the GI Tag) Khaw Tai (Khamti Rice) Tangsa Textile
Tamilnadu	Udangudi Panangkarupatti
Jammu& Kashmir	Basohli Pashmina Woolen Products Udhampur Kaladi
Odisha	Kendrapara Rasabali
Goa	Goa Cashew (Caju)

- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) has joined the One CGIAR integrated partnership - A Hyderabad based international research institute has joined with a focus on tropical dryland agrifood system innovation.
- Chairperson, National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), Justice Ashok Bhushan inaugurated the 8th BRICS International Competition Conference 2023 in New Delhi - The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has hosted the Conference on the theme of New Issues in Competition Law and Policy Dimensions, Perspective, Challenges.
- 9th P20 Summit will be hosted by Parliament of India in cooperation with Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in New Delhi - Theme of the Summit is Parliaments for One Earth, One Family, One Future, which draws from the ancient Indian philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (The World is one Family).





- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 141st International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session in Mumbai - The Session provides an opportunity for interaction and knowledge sharing among the various stakeholders related to sports
- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) + Coca-Cola India - To launch the Super Power Retailer Program under the Skill India Mission.
- PM Modi inaugurated the 3rd edition of Global Maritime India Summit 2023 in Mumbai via video conferencing - The summit provides an excellent platform for attracting investment in the country's maritime sector.
- REC Limited has signed a MoU with National Informatics Centre Services Inc (NICS) under the National Informatics Centre (NIC) - For various Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Digital Transformation Services.
- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and National Institute of Communication Finance (NICF) signed a MoU - To promote the exchange of knowledge and resource between these institutions for conducting research, training capacity building and advocacy
- India has set up an Inter-Ministerial Group for Climate Negotiations Strategy - To develop a "well thought-out view" on important matters to be discussed during global climate negotiations.
- Department of Land Resources (DOLR) and the National Remote Sensing Center (NRSC) signed a MoU - To monitor the Watershed Development Component of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0) using geo-spatial applications.
- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) and the Skill Council for Persons with Disability (SCPwD) signed a MoU - To synergise the expertise of the SCPwD and the IICA with the aim of equipping the corporates in terms of knowledge, skills and competencies for building and managing a diverse workforce through the various entities created under the aegis of SCPwD and IICA.
- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has granted a approval for India's first-ever indigenous AC and DC combined charging connector standard - It was designed for light electric vehicles (LEVs), is known as IS17017 (Part 2/Sec 7): 2023.
- Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) launched Operation Chakra-II - To combat and dismantle infrastructure of organized cyber-enabled financial crimes in India.
- Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport has ranked as the World's Most Punctual Airport - For the past three consecutive months in the 'On-Time Performance Monthly Report' by the Cirium.
- Competition Commission of India (CCI) has become a member of the steering group of the International Competition Network (ICN) - This is the 1st time that the





CCI has become a member of the ICN's steering group and the membership is for 2 years.

- Department of Consumer Affairs, GoI in collaboration with IIT-BHU to launched Dark Patterns Buster Hackathon 2023 - The objective of the initiative is to provide protection to consumers from all types of unfair trade practices of dark patterns in e-commerce platforms.
- 1st ever Global Conference on Cooperation in Enforcement Matters (GCCEM) is held in New Delhi - Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman presided over as Chief Guest at the inaugural session.
- Union Government has granted a licence to the National Cooperative Union of India - To receive foreign funds for a period of 5 years under the Foreign Contribution Registration Act (FCRA).

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

- Tata Consultancy Services + British retail giant ASDA - To facilitate its digital transformation and implement a new organisation-wide IT operating model, following its separation from Walmart.
- Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the Nokia 6G Lab at its global research and development centre in Bengaluru - project aims to accelerate the development of fundamental technologies and innovative use cases underpinned by 6G technology to address the future needs of the industry and society.
- Tata Motors has inked a pact to sell around 10% stake in its subsidiary Tata Technologies to TPG Rise Climate for Rs.1,613.7 crore.
- Gross GST revenue of September is Rs.1,62,712 crore - Out of which CGST-Rs 29,818 crore, SGST-Rs 37,657 crore, IGST-Rs 83,623 crore, cess-Rs 11,613 crore.
- Chip designer Qualcomm + Google to make wearable devices like smartwatches using chips based on RISC-V technology - RISC-V, pronounced as "risk five", is an open-source technology that competes with costly proprietary technology from British chip designer Arm Holdings.
- Google + Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) - To combat predatory digital lending apps on Play Store in India, announced during the 9th Google for India annual event, which took place at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- HMD Global, the maker of Nokia Phones + DMI Finance launched HMD Easy Pay, a smartphone financing solution - To provide accessible and user-friendly smartphone financing options.





- Boston Consulting Group (BCG) has been appointed by the government to prepare the blueprint for "Vision 2047" - This document will set India's medium-term goals and priorities for becoming a developed economy in the next quarter of a century.

RANKING

National Ranking

- Worst Air Quality Index in India - The data released by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

List of top 10 Indian Cities with the Worst Air Quality

Rank	City	Range
1	Meerut	382
2	Greater Noida	299
3	Bharatpur	280
4	Bundi	268
5	Karnal	266
6	Delhi	263
7	Bahadurgarh	262
8	Faridabad	256
9	Jalgaon	255
10	Manesar	248

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**International Ranking
Ookla's Speedtest Global Index 2023**

Rank	Country with its Median Download Speed
1	UAE (210.89 mbps)
2	Qatar (192.71 mbps)
3	Kuwait (153.86 mbps)
4	Norway (134.45 mbps)
5	Denmark (124 mbps)
47	India (50.21 mbps) (119th place in 2022)

- 360 ONE Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2023
- 12th edition of Hurun India and 360 One Wealth released the 360 ONE Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2023.

Rank	Name	Net Worth
1	Mukesh Ambani	Rs.8,08,700 crore
2	Gautam Adani	Rs.4,74,800 crore
3	Cyrus Poonawalla	Rs.2,78,500 crore
4	Shiv Nadar	Rs.2,78,500 crore
5	Gopichand Hinduja	Rs.1,76,500 crore
6	Dilip Shanghvi	Rs.1,64,300 crore
7	LN Mittal & family	Rs.1,62,300 crore
8	Radhakishan Damani	Rs.1,43,900 crore
9	Kumar Mangalam Birla	Rs.1,25,600 crore
10	Niraj Bajaj	Rs.1,20,700 crore

- 2023 Forbes India's 100 Richest list

Rank	Name	Net Worth
1	Mukesh Ambani	USD 92 billion
2	Gautam Adani	USD 68 billion
3	Shiv Nadar	USD 29.3 billion
4	Savitri Jindal	USD 24 billion
5	Radhakishan Damani	USD 23 billion
6	Cyrus Poonawalla	USD 20.7 billion
7	Hinduja Family	USD 20 billion
8	Dilip Shanghvi	USD 19 billion
9	Kumar Birla	USD 17.5 billion
10	Shapoor Mistry & Family	USD 16.9 billion

- Knight Frank Global Residential Cities Index Q2 2023

Rank	City Name	Global Rank	
		Q2 2023 Rank	Q2 2022 Rank
1	Mumbai	19	95
2	Bengaluru	22	77
3	New Delhi	25	90
4	Chennai	39	107
5	Kolkata	40	114



- Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2023

Rank	Country Name
1	Belarus
2	Bosnia& Herzegovina
3	Chile
4	China
5	Croatia
125	India

- The 15th annual Mercer CFA Institute Global Pension Index (MCGPI 2023)
- Total Countries: 47.

Rank	Country Name	Index Value
1	Netherlands	85
2	Iceland	83.5
3	Denmark	81.3
45	India	45.9

- Global Remote Work Index (GRWI) - The GRWI, developed and published by the cybersecurity firm NordLayer

Rank	Country Name
1	Denmark
2	Netherlands
3	Germany
4	Spain





Rank	Country Name
5	Sweden
6	Portugal
7	Estonia
8	Lithuania
9	Ireland
10	Slovakia
64	India

- Most Financial Technology (Fintech) Unicorns in the World in 2023

Rank	Country	Number of Fintech Unicorns
1	United States	134
2	United Kingdom	27
3	India	17
4-7	China, Brazil, Germany, France	6 each
8-9	Mexico, Singapore	5 each
10	Netherlands	4 each

- Most Expensive Market among Asia Pacific's Prime Office Markets - As per the report released by the Real estate consultant Knight Frank on Asia-Pacific Prime Office Rental Index for Q3 (July-September) 2023.
- Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Global MBA Rankings 2024 - Stanford GSB's MBA programme has been at the top for four years in a row till 2024.



Institution Name	QS Rankings 2024
Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Bangalore	48
Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad	53
Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Calcutta	59
Indian School of Business	78
Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Indore	151-200
Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Lucknow	151-200
Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Udaipur	151-200
International Management Institute Delhi	201-250
Management Development Institute Gurgaon	201-250
XLRI- Xavier School of Management	201-250

AWARDS

National Awards

- Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA) has been conferred with the prestigious “Mahatma Award 2023” - For their exemplary contribution in promoting inclusivity for differently-abled sports-persons in traditional sports.
- Tamil Writer Ambai has received the prestigious Tata Literature Live Lifetime Achievement Award for 2023 - Ambai won the Sahitya Akademi award for her short story collection Sivappu Kazhutthudan Oru Patchaiparavai in 2021.
- The renowned author and philanthropist Sudha Murty was conferred with the Global Indian Award by the Canada India Foundation - She has been conferred by Canada India Foundation at Toronto gala event.
- Kerala Tourism received the prestigious Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Gold Award - Kerala Tourism has received the award in the ‘Marketing Campaign (State&City-Global)’ category.
- Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) secured the ‘Best Innovation in Refinery’ award for 2022-23 - The award was bestowed by the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas at the 26th Energy Technology Meet 2023 in New Delhi.



- Tamil Writer, Author and Activist Sivasankari was honoured with the prestigious Saraswati Samman for the year 2022 - For her memoir written in Tamil, Surya Vamsam at the National Museum in Delhi.
- Hollywood Actor and Producer Michael Douglas receive the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award - For their contributions to the film industry at the 54th International Film Festival Goa.

69th National Film Awards 2023

- The winners of the 69th National Film Awards were announced at the National Media Center in New Delhi.
- President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 69th National Film Awards 2023 at the Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- National Film Awards is a highly prestigious and eagerly anticipated event in India, established in 1954.

Category	Winner
Best Feature Film	Rocketry
Best Director	Nikhil Mahajan, Godavari
Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment	RRR
NargisDutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration	The Kashmir Files
Best Actor	Allu Arjun, Pushpa
Best Actress	Alia Bhatt, GangubaiKathiawadi and KritiSanon, Mimi
Best Supporting Actor	Pankaj Tripathi, Mimi
Best Supporting Actress	Pallavi Joshi, The Kashmir Files
Best Child Artist	BhavinRabari, Chhello Show
Best Screenplay (Original)	ShahiKabir, Nayattu
Best Screenplay (Adapted)	Sanjay Leela Bhansali& Utkarshini Vashishtha, Gangubai Kathiawadi





Category	Winner
Best Dialogue Writer	Utkarshini Vashishtha & Prakash Kapadia, Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Music Director (Songs)	Devi Sri Prasad, Pushpa
Best Music Direction (Background Music)	MM Keeravaani, RRR
Best Male Playback Singer	KaalaBhairava, RRR
Best Female Playback Singer	Shreya Ghoshal, IravinNizhal
Best Lyrics	Chandrabose, Konda Polam's Dham Dham Dham
Best Hindi Film	Sardar Udham
Best Kannada Film	777 Charlie
Best Malayalam Film	Home
Best Gujarati Film	Chhello Show
Best Tamil Film	Kadaiisi Vivasayi
Best Telugu Film	Uppena
Best Maithili Film	Samanantar
Best Mishing Film	Boomba Ride
Best Marathi Film	EkdaKaayZala
Best Bengali Film	Kalkokkho
Best Assamese Film	Anur
Best Meiteilon Film	Eikhoigi Yum
Best Odiya Film	Pratikshya
Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director	Meppadiyan, Vishnu Mohan





Category	Winner
Best Film on Social Issues	Anunaad-The Resonance
Best Film on Environment Conservation/Preservation	Aavasavyuham
Best Children's Film	Gandhi and Co
Best Audiography (Location Sound Recordist)	ArunAsok&Sonu K P, Chavittu
Best Audiography (Sound Designer)	Aneesh Basu, Jhilli
Best Audiography (Re-recordist of the final mixed track)	Sinoy Joseph, Sardar Udham
Best Choreography	Prem Rakshith, RRR
Best Cinematography	Avik Mukhopadhyay, Sardar Udham
Best Costume Designer	Veera KapurEe, SardarUdham
Best Special Effects	Srinivas Mohan, RRR
Best Production Design	Dmitrii Malich and Mansi Dhruv Mehta, Sardar Udham
Best Editing	Sanjay Leela Bhansali, Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Make-up	Preetisheel Singh, Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Stunt Choreography	King Soloman, RRR
Special Jury Award	Shershaah, Vishnuvardhan
Special Mention	1.Late Shri Nallandi, Kadaisi Vivasayi 2.Aranya Gupta& Bithan Biswas, Jhilli 3.Indrans, Home 4.Jahanara Begum, Anur

- REC Limited received the Golden Peacock Award - For its exceptional performance in risk management, given by the Institute of Directors (IOD).
- Kerala Gramin Bank has won four prestigious ASSOCHAM Awards 2023 - The event was held at the 18th ASSOCHAM Annual Summit& Awards on Banking& Financial





Sector Lending Companies named "Bharat@ 100: Financial Transformation in AmritKaal" held in Mumbai.

- Himachal Pradesh has been awarded as the Best-Performing State under the National Tobacco Control Programme - The State had received two WHO awards for tobacco control in 2012 and 2023 (the only WHO awards for Health for Himachal Pradesh).
- Udhampur Military Station of J&K has bagged the 'Best Green Military Station' Award - The Best Green Station Awards were presented by the Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande at the Army Commanders' Conference.
- Jitendra Singh conferred the ANUBHAV AWARDS 2023 - Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoP&PW) hosted the Anubhav Awards 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- UST has recognized as the 2023 Mahatma Awards for its sustainable and impactful contributions to corporate social responsibility (CSR)-UST is a leading digital transformation solutions company.

International Awards

- SASTRA Ramanujan Prize 2023 will be awarded to Mathematician Ruixiang Zhang - For his outstanding contributions in mathematics from analytic number theory, combinatorics, Euclidean harmonic analysis to geometry.

Nobel Prize Winners 2023

- Nobel Prize honour Alfred Nobel and it comprises such categories that are Physics, Chemistry, Physiology and Medicine, Economics, Literature and Peace.
- Nobel Prize winners receive the prize money of 10,00,000 Swedish Krona and have been awarded since 1901.

Category	Winner	Awarded By	Contribution
Physics	Pierre Agostini (USA) Ferenc Krausz (Germany) Anne L'Huillier (Sweden)	Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences	For creating incredibly short pulses of light that can capture processes inside atoms and molecules.
Chemistry	Alexey Ivanovich	Royal Swedish Academy of	For the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots.





Category	Winner	Awarded By	Contribution
	Ekimov (Russia) Louis Eugene Brus (USA) Moungi Gabriel Bawendi (USA)	Sciences	
Physiology and Medicine	Katalin Kariko (Hungarian-American) Drew Weissman (USA)	Karolinska Institute	For their discoveries concerning nucleoside base modifications that enabled the development of effective mRNA vaccines against Covid-19.
Economics	Claudia Goldin (USA)	Sveriges Riksbank, Bank of Sweden	For her research into the factors that explain pay gaps between men and women.
Literature	Jon Fosse (Norway)	Swedish Academy	For his innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable.
Peace	Narges Mohammadi (Iran)	Norwegian Nobel Committee	For her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all and becomes the 19th woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

- DBS Bank has been named "Safest Bank in Asia" by New York-based trade publication Global Finance - This is the 15th consecutive year that DBS has achieved this accolade, extending a track record stretching back to 2009.
- United Nations awarded the Tamil Nadu's Guidance Bureau for Excellence in Investment Promotion at the World Investment Forum in the UAE - Guidance is the nodal agency for investment promotion under the Tamil Nadu's Department of Industries, received the United Nations Promotion Award 2023 for Excellence in Scaling Up Energy Transition Investments.
- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das received the "Best Central Bank Award" for being ranked A+ in the Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards 2023 - The awards





were announced along with RBI Governor, two other central bankers, Thomas J. Jordan of Switzerland and Nguyen Thi Hong of Vietnam earned an 'A+' grade in the Global Finance Central Banker Report Cards 2023.

- Institute of Chartered Accountants of India received 6th edition of ISAR Honours 2023 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) - For its initiative of Sustainability Reporting Standards Board (SRSB) and received the highest score in 2023 ISAR Honours session among 70 initiatives from around the world.
- Sakharov Prize 2023 was posthumously awarded to Kurdish woman Jina Mahsa Amini and the Woman, Life and Freedom Movement sparked by her death in custody in Iran - The Sakharov Prize has been awarded by the European Parliament to individuals and groups for defending freedom of thought and human rights since 1988.
- Gujarat's Dhordo village in the Kutch district - the 'Best Tourism Village' by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
- Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud has received the 'Award for Global Leadership' - The highest professional distinction was given by the Harvard Law School Center of Harvard University, Massachusetts, USA.
- Iranian women's rights campaigner, Narges Mohammadi has conferred the prestigious Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice 2023 - Harmony Foundation's founder-chairman Abraham Mathai has presented the award.
- Two Indian American Scientists were awarded the National Medal of Technology and Innovation by US President Joe Biden - The two Indian-Americans Ashok Gadgil and Subra Suresh were awarded the National Medal of Technology and Innovation and the National Medal of Science, respectively.
- Nita Ambani, Founder of Reliance Foundation has received the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum's (USISPF) 2023 Global Leadership Award - For Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility.

Current Affairs

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67th Ballon d'Or Awards
Ballon d'Or 2023 complete Winners List

- Ballon d'Or-Lionel Messi (Inter Miami, Argentina)
- Ballon d'Or Feminin-Aitana Bonmatí (FC Barcelona Femení, Spain)
- Kopa Trophy-for the best male U-21 player Jude Bellingham (Real Madrid, England)
- Yachine Trophy-for the best male goalkeeper Emiliano Martínez (Astona Villa, Argentina)
- Gerd Müller Trophy-for the highest-scoring male striker ErlingHaaland (Manchester City, Norway)
- Socrates Award-to acknowledge humanitarian work Vinicius Junior (Real Madrid, Brazil)
- Club of the Year-Manchester City and FC Barcelona Femeni

APPOINTMENTS

National Appointments

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Actor Rajkumar Rao	As the National Icon of the Election Commission of India (ECI) for the upcoming elections	-
Air Marshal Sadhna S Nair	Director General Hospital Services (Armed Forces)	-
Ajay Jhunjhunwala	Re-elected as the President of the Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA)	-
Amardeep Singh Bhatia	Chairman of the Tea Board	-
Anirban Mukherjee	Global CEO of PayU	Laurent Le Moal
Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extension of Amit Agrawal	As the CEO of of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)	-
Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has extended the tenure of Dinesh Kumar Khara	As the Chairman of the State Bank of India (SBI)	-



Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has extended the tenure of Ashwini Tewari	As the MD of SBI	-
Ashok Vaswani	MD& CEO of Kotak Mahindra Bank	Dipak Gupta
Biranchi Narayan Sahoo	Executive Director of SEBI	-
Delhi High Court Judge Siddharth Mridul	Chief Justice of the Manipur High Court	Justice Muralidharan (Acting Chief Justice Since February, 2023)
Indian Revenue Service Officer, Anupama Anand	Secretary of the Competition Commission of India (CCI)	Sugata Ghosh Dastidar
Indra Sena Reddy Nallu	20th Governor of Tripura	Satyadeo Narain Arya
Ipsita Dasgupta	Senior Vice President& MD of HP's India market	Gurpreet Singh Brar
IRTS Officer Sanjay Kumar Jain	Chairman&MD of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)	Mahendra Pratap Maal
K N Madhusoodanan	Part-time Chairman of Dhanlaxmi Bank	G Subramonia Iyer
K.N. Shanth Kumar	Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Press Trust of India (PTI)	Aveek Sarkar
Meenesh Shah	Elected to the Board of International Dairy Federation (IDF)	-
Muneesh Kapur	Executive Director of RBI	-
MyGov Chief Executive Akash Tripathi	CEO of the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM)	Amitesh Kumar Sinha



Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Navneet Munot	Chairman of the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI)	A Balasubramanian
Raghubar Das	26th Governor of Odisha	Ganeshi Lal
Ramaswamy Narayanan	Chairman & MD of General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re)	Devesh Srivastava
Sanjay Kulshreshtha	Chairman & MD of Housing and Urban Development Corporation	-
Sri Lankan Captain Kumar Sangakkara	As the New Chair of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) World Cricket Committee	England captain Mike Gatting
Vice Admiral Tarun Sobti	Deputy Chief of Naval Staff	Vice Admiral Sanjay Mahindru
VJ Kurian	Non-executive part time Chairman of South Indian Bank	Salim Gangadharan

International Appointments

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Additional Secretary and Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, Diplomat Arindam Bagchi	As India's Next Permanent Representative to the United Nations and related global bodies in Geneva	Indra Mani Pandey
Amitava Mukherjee	Additional Charge as the Chairman cum MD of NMDC (National Mineral Development Corporation)	-
Daniel Noboa	Youngest President of	Guillermo Lasso



Name	Designation	Succeeded by
	Ecuador	
Indian School of Business' Professor Sarang Deo	As the Member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Tuberculosis by WHO	-
Mohamed Muizzu	President of Maldives	Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
Oscar-Winning Actress Michelle Yeoh	Elected as a Member of International Olympic Committee (IOC)	-
President & CEO of Nucor Corporation, Leon Topalian	Chairman of the World Steel Association	
Robert Fico	Prime Minister of Slovakia	Ludovit Odor
Senior Diplomat Indra Mani Pandey	Secretary General of BIMSTEC	-
Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar	17th King of Malaysia	Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah
Swarup Mohanty	Vice Chairman of Mirae Asset Financial Group of South Korea	Choi Hyun Man
The President of Indian Co-operative Network for Women (ICNW) and the Working Women's Forum (India), Nandini Azad	Re-elected to the International Raiffeisen Union (IRU) Board	-

Brand Ambassadors

Name	Brand Ambassador
Sachin Tendulkar	'Global Ambassador' for ICC Men's Cricket One Day International (ODI) World Cup 2023





Indian Cricketer, Mahendra Singh Dhoni	Brand Ambassador for Reliance Retail's JioMart
Asian champion in Men's Javelin Neeraj Chopra	Laureus Ambassador
Indian Fast Bowler Mohammed Shami	Brand Ambassador for Puma India
Mahendra Singh Dhoni	Brand Ambassador of State Bank of India (SBI)

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Book Name	Author Name	Published by
"Breaking the Mould: Reimagining India's Economic Future"	Former Governor of RBI, Raghuram Rajan and Economist Rohit Lamba	Penguin Random House India
'The Reverse Swing Colonialism to Cooperation'	Veteran Journalist Ashok Tandon	-

OBITUARY

- Former Union Health Minister and Senior BJP leader Sartaj Singh passed away in Madhya Pradesh - Singh served as the Union Health minister in 1996 when the government led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee was.
- Former Tamil Nadu all-rounder and BCCI match referee and coach D.J. Gokulakrishnan passed away at the age of 50 - The former bowling all-rounder has played 39 first-class and 45 list-A matches for Tamil Nadu, Assam and Goa between 1993 and 2004.
- Sahitya Akademi Award Winner and Veteran Journalist from Jammu and Kashmir Ghulam NabiKhayal passed away - Khayal won the national award for his book 'GaashikMinaar' in 1975.
- Louise Gluck, the Nobel Prize-winning author and a former poet laureate of the USA was passed away - Gluck was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2020 and also won a Pulitzer Prize in 1993 for her poetry collection "The Wild Iris".





- Nari Shakti Award winner Karthyayani Amma passed away at the age of 101 - She topped in the Akshara Laksham project of Kerala's adult literacy programme and the oldest learner under the Literacy Mission in the state.
- Former President of Finland, Martti Ahtisaari passed away at the age of 86 - Nobel peace laureate of 2008 Martti Ahtisaari, who served as Finland's 10th president between 1994 and 2000.
- Former Chief Election Commissioner of India Manohar Singh Gill passed away - MS Gill was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2000 for his exceptional and distinguished services as a civil servant.
- Padma Shri Recipient and Spiritual Guru Bangaru Adigalar passed away - He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2019 for his spiritual services to the society.
- England World Cup Winner and Manchester United great Bobby Charlton passed away - Charlton plays 758 matches for the Red Devils by scoring 249 goals.
- Former India Captain and one of the greatest left-arm pinders, Bishan Singh Bedi passed away at the age of 77
- Former Union minister Babanrao Dhakne passed away after a brief illness at the age of 86 - He was the minister of state for energy in the Union government led by Chandra Shekhar.
- Eminent Assamese Academician, Linguist, Singer and Lyricist Birendra Nath Datta passed away at the age of 88 - He was awarded the 12th Jagaddhatri-Harmohan Das Literary Award for his work "Sankar Madhavar Manisha Aru Asomar Sanaskritic Uttaradhikar."
- Former IAF Vice-Chief, Air Marshal P.K. Barbora (Retd) passed away at the age of 72- He was a recipient of the Param Vishisht Seva Medal and Vayu Sena Medal.
- Professor Saleemul Huq, Prominent Climate Change Expert and Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Developmen passed away.

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DEFENCE

- Indian Army has initiated the Jammu and Kashmir Special Scholarship Scheme 2023 as part of Operation Sadbhavana - The primary objective of the scheme is providing educational opportunities to underprivileged yet dedicated students.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd has handed over the first LCA Tejas twin-seater aircraft to the Indian Air Force - The twin-seater variant has all the capabilities to support training requirements of IAF and augments itself to the role of fighter as well and is a light-weight all-weather multi-role 4.5 generation aircraft.
- Indian Navy has developed an indigenous navigation system and an anti-swarm drone - This drone is capable of building walls around its own warships or assets to protect them from any attack by enemy drones.
- Department of Fisheries + National Fisheries Development Board + Indian Coast Guard - Jointly organised the Sagar Parikrama, Phase-IX in Thiruvandanai, Tamil Nadu.
- Indian Navy conducted an Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise "CHAKRAVAT 2023" in Goa - The exercise is an outcome of PM's directive promulgated during the Combined Commanders' Conference in 2015.
- Indian Navy implemented a new initiative of 360-degree appraisal mechanism for officers being considered for various promotion - The mechanism will address the shortfall in the present assessments by encompassing large-scale surveys from suitably identified peers and subordinates for every officer being considered for promotion.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport of Mumbai has commissioned Asia's first 'Disabled Aircraft Recovery Kit' (DARK) to help stranded aircraft - DARK with the maximum weight of 390 tonnes including the world's biggest aircraft, the Boeing 777-300ER and others that may be involved in runway excursions or other incidents.
- Indian Coast Guard (ICG) conducted the 2-day coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' - To test the defense preparedness of security agencies in the event of an emergency.
- ICG conducts 21st National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board Meeting in Kolkata - The meeting was chaired by the Director General of ICG, Rakesh Pal, being the Chairman of NMSAR, held to discuss the policy issues, formulate guidelines/procedures and consider recommendations for reviewing the National Search and Rescue plan.



- Indian Army won the gold medal at the Cambrian Patrol Competition 2023 International Military Exercise in Wales, UK - A team from 3/5 Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force) was represented as the Indian Army at the Cambrian Patrol Exercise in Wales.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) has tested the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile In the Bay of Bengal - The BrahMos air-launched missile was fired from a Su-30MKI fighter jet in strengthening India's military capabilities.
- Yard 12706 (Imphal), the third Project 15B stealth guided missile destroyer was delivered to the Indian Navy - It was designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau (WDB) and built by M/s Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai.
- Indian Navy - host 9-day mega naval exercise named 'Milan' from February 19 to 27, 2024 in the Arabian Sea
- Indian Navy conducted the Exercise Prasthan 2023 in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh - Under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command for security of offshore development area.
- Indian Army's 1st Vertical Wind Tunnel was installed at a Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh - Army Chief General Manoj Pande has virtually inaugurated Indian Army's first Vertical Wind Tunnel (VWT) to refine the Combat Free Fall (CFF) skills of armed forces personnel.
- The 6th Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Subordinate Officers' Conclave was organised in New Delhi - The theme of the conclave was 'Towards an Inclusive Approach'.
- DSC A 21 is the 2nd ship of 05 x Diving Support Craft (DSC) project is being built by M/s Titagarh Rail Systems Ltd, Kolkata for the Indian Navy - It was undertaken at Titagarh, Kolkata onto the Hooghly River.
- Indian Air Force has deployed its three S-400 Air Defense Missile Squadrons along borders with China and Pakistan-It will boost India's defence system.
- Indian Army's Light Combat Helicopter (LCH) 'Prachand' successfully carried out the firing of 70mm rockets in both day and night conditions.



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