

January Monthly Current Affairs



Content

Title	Page Number
Important days	03
Sports	05
Obituary	08
Ranking	09
Banking and Finance	11
Business and Economy	16
Books and Authors	17
Appointments	17
Awards and Honors	19
Science and Technology	24
International Affairs	25
National Affairs	28
Defence	40

Current Affairs

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IMPORTANT DAYS

NATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
January 01	DRDO celebrates its 66 th Foundation Day	-
January 09	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas/NRI Day (Non-Resident Indian)	"Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal".
January 11	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day	-
January 12	National Youth Day/Yuva Divas	-
January 15	76 th Indian Army Day	"In Service of the Nation"
January 21	52nd Foundation Day of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura	-
January 23	Parakram Diwas/Courage Day	-
January 24	17 th National Girl Child Day	-
January 25	National Tourism Day in India	"Sustainable Journeys, Timeless Memories".
	14th National Voters' Day	"Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For Sure", a continuation of the 2023 theme
January 26	India celebrate its 75th Republic day	'Viksit Bharat' and 'Bharat: Loktantra ki Matraka'

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
		reflects the country's democratic hopes and goals.
January 27	National Geographic Day	-
January 11 to 17	National Road Safety Week	-

INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANT DAYS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
January 01	Global Family Day	"Embracing Diversity, Strengthening Families".
January 03	International Mind-Body Wellness Day	-
January 04	World Braille Day	-
January 06	World Day of War Orphans	"Orphan Lives Matter" and "Standing Up for War-Affected Children".
January 10	World Hindi Day/Vishwa Hindi Diwas	"Hindi-Bridging Traditional Knowledge and Artificial Intelligence".
January 24	UN International Day of Education	"Learning for Lasting Peace".
January 26	International Customs Day	"Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose".
January 26	International Day of Clean Energy	-

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Theme</u>
January 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day	-
January 31	International Zebra Day	-
Last sunday of January (28th January)	71 st World Leprosy day	"Beat Leprosy".

SPORTS

Cricket

- Australia's David Warner has announced his retirement from One-day International (ODI) cricket

Badminton

- India Open 2024 - It is a Badminton World Federation (BWF) Super 750 tournament held in K. D. Jadhav Indoor Stadium, New Delhi.

Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Shi Yu Qi (China)	Lee Cheuk Yiu (Hong Kong)
Women's Singles	Tai Tzu Ying (Chinese Taipei)	Chen Yufei (China)
Men's Doubles	Kang Min Hyuk-Seo Seung Jae (South Korea)	Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty (India)
Women's Doubles	Mayu Matsumoto-Wakana Nagahara (Japan)	Zhang Shuxian and Zheng Yu (China)
Mixed Doubles	Dechapol Puavaranukroh-Sapsiree Taerattanachai (Thailand)	Jiang Zhenbang and Wei Yaxin (China)

Boxing

- Indian boxer Mandeep Jangra won the US-based National Boxing Association's intercontinental super featherweight title - Mandeep defeats American Gerardo Esquivel at the Toppenish City, Washington.

Tennis

- Germany defeats Poland to clinch the 2nd edition of the United Cup 2024 - Held at the Ken Rosewall Arena in Sydney, Australia.

Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Alexander Zverev (Germany)	Hubert Hurkacz (Poland)
Women's Singles	Iga Swiatek (Poland)	Angelique Kerber (Germany)
Mixed Doubles	Alexander Zverev and Laura Siegemund (Germany)	Hubert Hurkacz and Iga Swiatek (Poland)

- 112th edition of Australian Open 2024 - A Grand Slam level tennis tournament held at Melbourne Park.

Category	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Jannik Sinner (Italy)	Daniil Medvedev (Russian-unflagged)
Women's Singles	Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus-unflagged)	Zheng Qinwen (China)
Men's Doubles	Rohan Machanda Bopanna (India) and Matthew Ebden (Australia)	Simone Bolelli (Italy) and Andrea Vavassori (Italy)
Women's Doubles	Hsieh Su-Wei (Taiwan) and Elise Mertens (Belgium)	Jelena Ostapenko (Latvia) and Lyudmyla Kichenok (Ukraine)
Mixed Doubles	Hsieh Su-wei (Chinese Taipei) and Jan Zielinski (Poland)	Desirae Krawczyk (USA) and Neal Skupski (United Kingdom)

Shooting

- Asian Shooting Championship 2024 - ogesh Singh, Pankaj Yadav, Akshay Jain were the members of the Indian trio that won the team gold in the men's 25m centre fire pistol competition at the Asia Olympic Qualifiers.
- Asian Shotgun Championships 2024 - The Indian contingent won 8 medals (1 Gold, 3 Silver and 4 Bronze) in the Asian Shotgun Championships 2024.
- International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2024 in Cairo, Egypt - India's Rhythm Sangwan and Ujjwal Malik secured the gold in the 10m air pistol mixed team event by defeating Armenian pair Elmira Karapetyan and Benik Khlgatyan.

Chess

- India's Koneru Humpy won the women's individual silver medal at the 2023 World Rapid Chess Championships in Samarkand, Uzbekistan

Men's Medalist		
Rank	Winner	Medal
1	Magnus Carlsen (Norway)	Gold Medal and Trophy
2	Vladimir Fedoseev (Slovenia)	Silver
3	Yu Yangyi (China)	Bronze
Women's Medalist		
1	Anastasia Bodnaruk (Russia)	Gold Medal and Trophy
2	Koneru Humpy (India)	Silver
3	Lei Tingjie (China)	Bronze

- Indian Chess Wizard Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa defeated World Chess Champion Ding Liren in the Tata Steel Masters in Wijk aan Zee, in Netherlands

Wrestling

- Indian wrestler, Ravi Dahiya won his 61kg freestyle bronze medal against Kairat Amirtayev of Kazakhstan - The event was held at the prestigious Grand Prix De France Henri Deglane Wrestling Tournament in Nice, France.

Grandprix

- Madrid will take over from Barcelona as the host of the Spanish Grand Prix from 2026

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Events

- Beach Games 2024 - Madhya Pradesh has emerged as the overall champion at the inaugural Beach Games 2024 and secured a total of 18 medals, including 7 golds.
- Asian Marathon Championships 2024 - Man Singh has become only the second Indian man to clinch a gold medal at the Asian Marathon Championships, following Thonakal Gopi's achievement in 2017.
- WTT Feeder Corpus Christi 2024 held in Texas, USA - Indian Table Tennis Player Sreeja Akula won her maiden international title in the women's single event at the event.
- Naorem Roshibina Devi was named as the International Wushu Federation's (IWUF) Female Athlete of the Year in the Sanda Category - IWUF's athletes committee recognised Roshibina's outstanding achievements among a pool of talented athletes from around the globe.
- Lt. Governor of J&K, Manoj Sinha and Lt Governor Ladakh, BD Mishra (Retd), unveiled the Logo and Mascot for the 4th Khelo India Winter Games 2024- The mascot of the Khelo India Winter Games 2024 is the 'Sheen-e She' or Shan-the snow leopard that is native to the Ladakh region.

BANKING AND FINANCE

RBI

- RBI has decided to enhance the bulk deposit limit for large urban co-operative banks to Rs.1 crore and above from Rs.15 lakh and above - The new bulk deposit limit applies to UCBs in the Tier 3 (with deposits more than Rs.1,000 crore and up to Rs.10,000 crore) and Tier 4 (with deposits more than Rs.10,000 crore) categories.
- RBI released a comprehensive guidelines for Inoperative Accounts and Unclaimed Deposits by banks with effect from April 1, 2024 Tata Pay joins Google Pay, Razorpay and Cashfree among others to secure a much-anticipated payments licence from the RBI - To act as a Payment Aggregator, allow Tata Groups to power all their e-commerce transactions within its subsidiary entities through Tata Payments Limited.
- RBI imposed a penalty of Rs.1 crore on Punjab and Sind Bank and Rs.1.2 crore on Dhanlaxmi Bank - For non-compliance with certain directions on lending activities, KYC and deposit rates.
- The government has extended the tenure of Michael Patra as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India by a year - This is the 2nd time that the Government has extended his tenure by a year.

- RBI plans to tighten the norms for deposit-taking housing finance companies (HFCs) - It reducing the ceiling on quantum of public deposits they can hold, and halving the maximum period for which they can take deposits.
- RBI has proposed a framework for Self-Regulatory Organisation for Financial Technologies (SRO-FT) - It aimed at setting standards for the industry, oversight and enforcement, grievance redressal, and dispute resolution.
- RBI received bids aggregating Rs.3.08 lakh crore for allotment of funds from banks against the notified amount of Rs.2.50 lakh crore at the 15-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auction - The banking system's overall liquidity deficit rose to Rs.3,46,367 crore on January 24 against Rs.3,33,961 crore on January 23 and Rs.1,28,794 crore as on January 1.
- Food delivery major Zomato's subsidiary has received a certificate of authorisation from RBI to operate as a payment aggregator
- RBI imposed a major business restrictions on Paytm Payments Bank - It includes the acceptance of fresh deposits and doing credit transactions after February 29, on March 11, the RBI barred Paytm Payments Bank from onboarding new customers.

Public Sector Banks

SBI

- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched the SBI Green Rupee Term Deposit (SGRTD) of 1,111 days, 1,777 days and 2,222 days tenor - For resident individuals, non-individuals and NRI customers.
- Rural Development Ministry and State Bank of India signed a MoU - To facilitate enterprise financing for rural self-help groups (SHG).

Bank of India

- Bank of India (BoI) has introduced a Super Special 175-day fixed deposit at an interest of 7.50% per annum -For deposits of Rs.2 crore and above to less than Rs.50 crore, amid liquidity tightness in the banking system and credit growth outstripping deposit growth.

Indian Bank

- Indian Bank has introduced the 'Indian Bank One co-branded credit card' in partnership with FPL Technologies

Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)

- IOB has introduced a 'Savings Account Portability Online' - A scheme aimed at offering an easier savings account portability process for customers who move to different locations.
- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) + Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) signed a MoU - For co-lending and loan syndication for a diverse spectrum of Renewable Energy projects across the nation.

Private Sector Banks

HDFC Bank

- HDFC Bank is acted as a sponsor and destination bank for "Trading supported by Blocked Amount in Secondary Market"

Karnataka Bank

- Karnataka Bank + Satin Creditcare Network, a NBFC-Micro Finance Institution (MFI) have entered into a co-lending arrangement - To provide financial support to Joint Liability Groups (JLG) of economically active women in both rural and semi-urban areas and to give impetus to the microcredit facilities segment of the country.
- Karnataka Bank has partnered with fintech company Digivridhhi (DGV) - To offer financial services catering to the needs of dairy farmers and milk societies.
- Karnataka Bank and Clix Capital, India's NBFC signed a digital co-lending partnership through the Yubi Co.lend Platform - The partnership focused on providing loans to the Indian MSME sector, which is one of the biggest contributors to India's GDP and employment growth.

IndusInd Bank

- IndusInd Bank + National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) - TO introduced the "IndusInd Bank Samman RuPay Credit Card", equipped with UPI functionality.

Yes Bank

- Yes Bank became the 1st Indian bank to execute an export finance transaction on the International Trade Financing Services Platform (ITFS) of RXIL Global IFSC Limited (RXIL)

Small Finance Bank

- AU Small Finance Bank has officially unveiled its collaboration with Mastercard, eralding the introduction of the Mastercard Debit Card - This innovative offering is

tailor-made for the bank's Corporate Salary customers and is rolled out with the overarching theme of #Swipe&Save.

Insurance News

- Zuno General Insurance unveiled its newest health insurance offering, "ZunoHealthPlus Policy" - This cutting-edge health insurance scheme is crafted to deliver personalised coverage and advantages to both individuals and families, all at a reasonable premium.
- PayNearby + Star Health and Allied Insurance - Formed a strategic collaboration aimed at enhancing the accessibility and affordability of health insurance coverage across the country, with a particular focus on the semi-urban and rural population.
- General Insurance Council (GIC) in consultation with all general and health insurance companies has launched the 'Cashless Everywhere' initiative
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) launched Jeevan Dhara II - A novel annuity plan, a non-linked, non-participating, individual savings, deferred annuity scheme is designed by LIC to ensure a secure and guaranteed financial future for individuals.

Others

- Karnataka Vikas Grameen Bank has launched a current account catering to the requirements of traders, trusts, partnerships, societies and organisations
- One97 Communications has signed an MoU with Ayodhya Nagar Nigam - To enable mobile payments in Ayodhya using the Paytm-pioneered QR code, Soundbox, and card machines.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) and Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) signed an MoU - To foster an economic growth and bring financial inclusion to rural community beneficiaries under CSR programs.
- National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) launched the UPI-PayNow linkage for cross-border remittances between India and Singapore - It will enable Indians to receive remittances directly into their bank accounts from Singapore and vice-versa.
- Hyderabad DLabs at the Indian School of Business (ISB) launched 'Build for Billions', a startup accelerator programme - It is themed around financial inclusion for the informal economy, in partnership with Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) and Union Bank of India.
- Bajaj Finserv Asset Management Company (AMC) plan to launch a one-stop investment platform for mutual fund distributors - For facilitating them to make all their online transactions without hassle.

- Google India Digital Services (P) Ltd (Google Pay India) + NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) signed a MoU - To expand the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) globally and eliminates the need for international cards, as users are paying foreign merchants directly in the local currency.
- ICICI Bank Canada has launched the app Money2Indi - The app allows customers of any Canadian bank to send money to any bank in India without an account with ICICI Bank Canada.
- Bank of Baroda's wholly-owned subsidiary for cards, 'BOB Financial Solutions Ltd' has been rebranded as 'BOBCARD Ltd' with the tagline of "Credit Reimagined"

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IIT News

- ArcelorMittal has partnered with IIT Madras to create Asia's first hyperloop facility
- IIT Madras + US-based Altair, a technology company providing solutions in simulation, high-performance computing and Artificial Intelligence

Space News

- SpaceX's Falcon 9 launched the 21 Starlink satellites, including its first six "direct-to-cell" satellites, to Low-Earth orbit (LEO) - From Space Launch Complex 4 East (SLC-4E) at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, the United States of America (USA).
- US-based Astrobotic Technology's Peregrine lunar lander has successfully started the historic mission to the Moon - This mission aims to bring America back to the lunar terrain after about 50 years since Apollo 17 in December 1972.
- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (7011.T) launched an H-IIA rocket carrying the Japanese government's Information-Gathering Satellite "Optical-8" - The satellite was carried out with a 500-km altitude sun synchronous orbit (SSO) from Tanegashima Space Centre (TNSC) in Japan.
- NASA and Lockheed Martin have unveiled the X-59 supersonic aircraft, capable of flying at speeds of 925 miles/hr and causing less sonic booms
- SpaceX Falcon 9 launched for the Axiom Mission 3 (Ax-3) from NASA's Kennedy Space Center to the International Space Station (ISS)

DRDO

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) launched the "Ugram (ferocious)" assault rifle for the Indian Army

- DRDO successfully conducted a flight test of the New Generation AKASH (AKASH-NG) missile

India in Science & Technology

- ISRO launched India's first X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat)
- ISRO developed a second-generation 'Distress Alert Transmitter' (DAT)

Environment & Energy

- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has become the first in India to produce ISCC-Plus certified chemically recycled polymers
- NHPC has signed an MoU with Gujarat Power Corporation Limited, Government of Gujarat
- Ratle Hydro Electric Power Corporation Ltd has entered into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Rajasthan UrjaVikas and IT Services Ltd - For offtake of power generated from 850 MW Ratle Hydroelectric Project, Kishtwar in the UT of J&K.
- REC Power Development and Consultancy Ltd (RECPDCL) + Gujarat Government signed a MoU - For Rs. 2,094.28 crore for the implementation of the Smart Metering project in PGVCL (Paschim Gujarat Vij Company Ltd.) under Phase 1 of Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).
- REC Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bank of Baroda - To facilitate joint sanctions of loans to fund power, infrastructure and logistics projects in the country over the next three years till 2026.
- ONGC Videsh Ltd has incorporated a wholly owned subsidiary "OVL Overseas IFSC Ltd" in Gujarat's GIFT City
- Hyderabad GODI India Pvt Ltd will be setting up a 12.5 GWh cell manufacturing unit in Telangana with an investment of Rs.8000 crore
- Adani Group + Maharashtra signed an MoU - To invest Rs.50,000 crore over 10 years to set up 1 GW capacity of hyperscale data centre infrastructure in Pune and Mumbai and will be powered by renewable energy.
- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received an approval from the Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry - For the formation of a subsidiary company named "ONGC Green Limited" for green energy and gas business.
- Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd (TPREL) has commissioned a 1000 KW bifacial solar system project in West Bengal
- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has released 'Pahal' the insightful house journal of its Vigilance Department

- Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) will be importing 1 million tonnes (mt) of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Mozambique
- India's GAIL has finalised a significant long-term LNG agreement with Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) Gas
- Tehri Hydro Development Corporation (THDC) has inaugurated the country's largest "National Green Hydrogen Mission"
- NTPC Limited has signed a non-binding MoU with Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) - For partnership opportunities in the proposed bamboo-based Bio-Refinery at NTPC Bongaigaon and other green projects.
- Power Finance Corporation (PFC) received approval from the RBI to set up a wholly-owned finance company in the GIFT City in Gujarat to present new business opportunities for PFC and contribute to the growth of the country's power sector.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Argentina

- Khanij Bidesh India Limited + Catamarca province of Argentina Catamarca Minera Y Energética Sociedad Del Estado (CAMYEN SE) signed an agreement - For the Lithium exploration and Mining project at Catamarca, Argentina at a cost of Rs.200 crore.

Denmark

- India and Denmark have collaborated primarily on green energy and sustainable development

France

- India and France agreed to adopt the Defence Industrial Roadmap - To explore opportunities for partnership in the defence industrial sector and prioritise co-designing, co-development and co-production.

Kyrgyzstan

- Kyrgyzstan has officially declared the Snow Leopard as its National Symbol

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Oman

- The 12th Joint Military Cooperation Committee (JMCC) Meeting - Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane has co-chaired the meeting with Secretary General, Ministry of Defence, Oman Dr. Mohammed Bin Naseer Bin Ali Al Zaabi in Muscat.

Saudi Arabia

- India signed the Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024 with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) - A total of 1,75,025 pilgrims from India are finalized for Haj 2024. Out of these, 1,40,020 seats are reserved for the Haj Committee of India, benefiting first-time pilgrims, while 35,005 pilgrims can proceed through Haj Group Operators.

United Arab Emirates

- India signed a slew of bilateral cooperation agreements with the United Arab Emirates and the Czech Republic at the Vibrant Gujarat summit

Summit/Event

- India is set to chair UNESCO's World Heritage Committee and host the 46th session in New Delhi from 21st to 31st July 2024
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 10th edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar
- 19th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit is being held in Uganda's capital, Kampala

Exercise

- The 1st edition of the India-United Arab Emirates (UAE) joint military exercise "Desert Cyclone 2024" is commenced in Mahajan, Rajasthan
- The maiden Bilateral Maritime Exercise between the Indian Navy and Royal Thai Navy - Indigenously built Indian Naval ships (INS) Kulish and IN LCU 56 participated in the inaugural edition of the exercise.
- The 11th edition of India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise "Khanjar" - The exercise has commenced at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- The 2nd edition of the India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise, "Exercise Cyclone II" commenced in Anshas, Egypt
- Indian Air Force (IAF) French Air and Space Force (FASF) and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force jointly conducted a Exercise Desert Knight

Others

- Russia has taken over the BRICS chairmanship as of January 01 - Russian President Vladimir Putin stressed the commitment to advancing global development and security with the theme of “Strengthening Multilateralism for Equitable Global Development and Security.”
- World Health Organization (WHO) launched the ICD-11, Traditional Medicine Module 2 - The data and terminology relating to diseases based on Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Medicine have been included in the WHO ICD-11 classification.
- United States International Development Finance Corporation (USIDFC) and National Infrastructure Investment Fund (NIIF) - Jointly established a fund to invest in renewable energy and green projects in India.
- 19th Centre of the World Economic Forum’s Fourth Industrial Revolution Network (4IR) will be set up in Hyderabad
- Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities + Supreme Council for Antiquities + Industrial Modernization Center + United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Egypt
- World Health Organization (WHO) has certified Cabo Verde as a malaria-free country, marking a significant achievement in global health

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

President Droupadi Murmu News

- Droupadi Murmu inaugurated a Kaushal Bhawan, a new building of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in New Delhi

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 inaugurated the Rs.17,840 crore Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri-Nhava Sheva Atal Setu
- PM released the 1st installment of Rs.540 crore to 1 lakh beneficiaries of rural housing scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN)
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated a three significant infrastructure projects in Kochi, Kerala at over Rs.4,000 crore
- PM Modi laid the foundation for 8 AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) projects in Solapur, Maharashtra at worth Rs.2000 crore
- PM launched and laid the foundation stone of projects related to the Broadcasting Sector worth about Rs.250 crore

- PM Modi inaugurated the new state-of-the-art Boeing India Engineering & Technology Center (BIETC) campus in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated a grand temple to Hindu god Ram in the flashpoint city of Ayodhya
- PM Modi launched “Pradhanmantri Suryodaya Yojana”, a government scheme - To provide Rooftop Solar (RTS) power systems to 1 crore households.
- PM Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone worth over Rs.19,100 crore in Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh

Ministry News

Ministry of Defence: Shri Rajnath Singh

- Rajnath Singh inaugurated Samvid Gurukulam Girls Sainik School at Vrindavan in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh
- Ministry of Defence has signed two contracts for the procurement of military equipment
- Rajnath Singh approved the proposal of Rs.10 lakh insurance to casual workers employed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) - To build an infrastructure in remote areas to the families of casual paid labourers of BRO in the event of death.

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

- Amit Shah launched the ‘e-samridhi portal’, a tur dal procurement portal for Farmers
- Ministry of Cooperation + Department of Consumer Affairs + NABARD + National Cooperative Development Corporation + National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India signed an agreement - To set up the world's largest food grain storage and is aims to integrate godowns built at the Primary Agricultural Credit Society (PACS) level with the national food grain supply chain, providing essential market linkages for PACS.
- Amit Shah inaugurated the office building of the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS) in New Delhi at a cost of Rs.175 crore

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways: Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari

- Nitin Gadkari launched 12 National Highway projects in Kerala, covering 105 km and worth over Rs.1464 crore
- Nitin Gadkari sanctioned an allocation of Rs.343.74 crore - For the expansion of the Mangalore-Mudigere-Tumkur section of NH-73.

- National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) + Geological Survey of India (GSI) signed a MoU - To provide services to NHAI for site specific geotechnical consultancy and assist in vetting of Detailed Project Reports (DPR) from geotechnical point of view.

Ministry of External Affairs: Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

- External Affairs Minister has announced that the Indian government has included Farsi (Persian) as one of the nine classical languages in India under the New Education Policy

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

- Piyush Goyal inaugurated the 'Indus Food 2024' exhibition - To showcase the India's vibrant and diverse food ecosystem, being held in India Exposition Mart, Greater Noida.

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

- Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education has launched 'Prerana: An Experiential Learning program' - The program aims to offer a meaningful, unique and inspiring experience to all participants, thereby empowering them with leadership qualities.

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

- Sonowal announced a ₹45,000 crore investment to develop river cruise tourism

Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Panchayati Raj: Giriraj Singh

- Secretary of Ministry of Rural Development, Shailesh Kumar Singh launched a DAY-NRLM's "SARATHI" app

Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Steel: Jyotiraditya Scindia

- Civil Aviation Ministry has inaugurated the 4-day Asia's largest aviation expo "Wings India 24" in Hyderabad



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

- MeitY Secretary S Krishnan launched ERNET India's newly developed integrated web portal for educational institutions
- MeitY Secretary, S Krishnan launched two flagship programs - These programs were named "Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Intelligent Internet of Things (IIoT) Sensors" and India's 1st Graphene Centre "India Innovation Centre for Graphene (IICG)".

Ministry of Earth Sciences: Shri Kiren Rijju

- Ministry of Earth Sciences inaugurated the Young Scientist Conference at the Indian International Science Festival in Faridabad (Haryana)

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

- R. K. Singh has launched the 3rd edition of the Consumer Service Ratings of DISCOMs (CSDR) - This rating covers the performance of DISCOMs for FY 2022-23.
- MoNRE has designated REC as the nodal agency for the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana - It aimed at installing rooftop solar at 10 million households.

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

- Housing and Urban Affairs launched the PAiSA Dashboard and the PM SVANidhi Mission Monitoring Portal - Hardeep Singh Puri launched 2 portals named the refreshed Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access (PAiSA Portal) Dashboard and the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Mission Monitoring Portal

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

- Yadav released the report on the Status of Snow leopards in India during the National Board for Wildlife meeting held in New Delhi

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

- Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) launched the National Single Window System (NSWS) Portal - To streamline, import, clinical investigations and testing of medical devices.



Ministry of Heavy Industries: Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey

- Ministry of Heavy Industries has certified that IPO-bound Ola Electric is eligible to receive subsidies under the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying: Shri Parshottam Rupala

- Parashottam Rupala chaired the National Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture Insurance in hybrid mode at PUSA, New Delhi
- Rupala launched the project of depositing artificial reefs in the seabed in Vizhinjam, Thiruvananthapuram via videoconferencing

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

- Ministry of Culture's tableau on the theme of 'India: Mother of Democracy' clinched 1st spot at Republic Day Parade 2024

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

- Jitendra Singh inaugurated the 9th edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) in Faridabad, Haryana

Ministry of State (Independent Charge) for Statistics and Programme Implementation, Ministry of Planning: Rao Inderjit Singh

- Rao Inderjit Singh launched the MPLADS e-SAKSHI Mobile Application - For revised fund flow procedure under Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme.

State News

Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the upgraded the social welfare pension (YSR Pension Kanuka)

Arunachal Pradesh

- Arunachal Pradesh celebrates 9th edition of the Pakke Paga Hornbill Festival (PPHF) at Seijosa in the Pakke Kessang district

Assam

- Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma launched a scheme 'Mukhya Mantri Mahila Udyamita Abhiyan' - To develop 40 lakh self-help-group (SHG) members as rural micro-entrepreneurs and help them become 'lakhpati baidos (elder sister)'.

Chhattisgarh

- Chhattisgarh government announced the Shri Ramlala Darshan (Ayodhya Dham) Scheme for state residents to visit Ayodhya - The scheme will be implemented by the Chhattisgarh Tourism Board, targeting around 20,000 beneficiaries annually.

Gujarat

- Shanghai-based New Development Bank (NDB) signed an agreement with Gujarat government - For providing a USD 500 million loan for the state's Mukhayamantri Gram Sadak Yojana.
- Kachchhi Kharek/Kutchi dates, the indigenous dates variety of Kutch in Gujarat got a geographical indication (GI) tag

Jharkhand

- Coal India Limited (CIL) + EdCIL signed a MoU for "Digitizing Education in 11 districts of Jharkhand"

Karnataka

- Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar launched the Yuva Nidhi scheme
- Karnataka + Wistron (ICT Service Management Solutions) signed a MoU to set up a laptop manufacturing plant

Kerala

- Kerala launched Kerala Solutions for Managing Administrative Reformation and Transformation (KSMART) software/mobile application
- IIM Kozhikode in collaboration with International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) - IIMK Live (the business incubator and the entrepreneurship development centre of IIM Kozhikode) has launched FINN X, a fintech themed accelerator programme.
- Kerala Drug Control Department launched Operation Amrith
- Kerala Feeds Ltd (KFL) + Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) signed a MoU - For enabling the state PSU to market the central government company's vaccines for humans, livestock and fish.

Maharashtra

- NTPC + Maharashtra signed a MoU - To develop green hydrogen and derivatives projects, including green ammonia and green methanol, with a capacity of upto 1 million tons per annum.

Odisha

- Seven products from Odisha has bagged the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik visited Malkangiri district and inaugurated Malkangiri Airport - The runway was constructed on 233 acres of land at Rs.70 crore.
- Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik announced that the state would set up a melanistic tiger safari, a first of its kind in the world
- Odisha govt launched the LABHA ('Laghu Bana Jatya Drabya Kraya') Yojana - LABHA is a 100% State-funded Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme for Minor Forest Produce (MFP) for tribal empowerment.

Punjab

- Punjab government has set up a 'Sadak Surakhya Force' (SSF), the first of its kind in the country - To improve traffic movement and reduce road fatalities in the state.

Tamilnadu

- PM Modi inaugurated the New Terminal Building at Tiruchirappalli International Airport, developed at a cost of more than Rs.1100 crore
- Tamil Nadu has secured a significant investment agreements exceeding USD 4.39 billion with Tata Electronics, Pegatron and Hyundai Motors
- IndoSpace + Tamil Nadu signed a MoU to invest over Rs.2,000 crore in the state - For the state's economic development, signed during the Tamil Nadu Global Investor Meet 2024.
- DBS Bank India + StartupTN, the nodal agency of the Tamil Nadu government in fostering entrepreneurship in the state



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Telangana

- Telangana govt has unveiled a comprehensive electricity policy - To ensure an uninterrupted power supply and extend free power to up to 200 households through the proposed Gruha Jyothi Scheme.

Tripura

- Tripura celebrated the 46th Kokborok Day on 19 January 2024

West Bengal

- Geographical Indications Registry has awarded Geographical Indication (GI) tags to 5 products of West Bengal - It includes Tangail, Korial and Garad are received geographical indication (GI) tags under the goods of Textiles.
- West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee introduced a free training module for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students

Union Territory News

Delhi

- Delhi Lt.Governor VK Saxena inaugurated the 1st international kite festival 'Patang Utsav' at Baansera

Jammu and Kashmir

- J&K has become the 1st Union Territory (UT) to implement the PM Vishwakarma Yojana (PMVY) - PMVY is an initiative that aims to empower and enhance the skills of the craftsman community.

Union Cabinet News

- Union Cabinet has approved the MoU between the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and the Ministry of Natural Resources, Republic of Guyana - For cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector will strengthen the bilateral trade, foster investment in each other countries and help diversifying source of crude oil, thus augmenting the energy& supply security of the country.
- Union Cabinet has approved the signing of MoU between India and United States for International Development/India (USAID/India) - For supporting Indian Railways to achieve Mission Net Zero Carbon Emission by 2030.
- Union Cabinet has approved to rename the Ayodhya airport as 'Maharishi Valmiki International Airport, Ayodhyadham'
- Union Cabinet has approved the MoU between Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Mauritius Research and Innovation Council (MRIC)

- Union Cabinet has approved the overarching scheme “PRITHviVigyan (PRITHVI)” of Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) - For the implementation during the period from 2021-26 at an overall cost of Rs.4,797 crore.
- Cabinet approved the MoU between India and Netherlands - The MoU signed between Central Drugs standard Control Organization (CDSCO) of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport, Kingdom of the Netherlands on behalf of Medicines Evaluation Board, Health and Youth Care Inspectorate, Central Committee on research Involving Human Subjects “on cooperation in the field of Medical products Regulation”.
- Cabinet approved the MoU between India and Dominican Republic - The MoU was signed between the Central Drugs standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Directorate General for Medicine, Foods and Sanitary Products Organizations of Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistant of Dominican Republic on cooperation in the field of Medical Products Regulation.
- Cabinet approved the MoU between India and Republic of Ecuador - The MoU signed between the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Agencia Nacional de Regulacion, Control Y Vigilancia Sanitaria- ARCSA, Doctor Leopoldo Izquieta Perez, The Republic of Ecuador on cooperation in the field of Medical Products Regulation.
- Cabinet approved the MoU between India and Kenya - The MoU signed between the Government of India through the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Government of the Republic of Kenya through the Ministry of Information, Communications and digital Economy on cooperation in the field of sharing successful Digital Solutions implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation.
- Cabinet approved the MoU between India and the European Commission - This MoU signed on Working Arrangements on Semiconductors Ecosystems, its supply chain and innovation under the framework of European Union (EU)-India Trade and Technology Council (TTC).
- Cabinet approved the proposal for equity investment by South Eastern Coalfields Ltd (SECL), Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL), Coal India Ltd (CIL) - The equity investment for a 1x660 MW Supercritical Coal-based Thermal Power Plant through a joint venture of SECL and Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Corporation Ltd (MPPGCL) Anuppur District, Madhya Pradesh.
- Union Cabinet was apprised a MoU between India and Oman - This MoU signed between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of India and the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology of the Sultanate

of Oman on cooperation in the field of Information Technology for a period of 3 years.

- Union Cabinet approved the scheme for the promotion of Coal/Lignite Gasification Projects of Government PSUs and Private Sector

Others

- Coal India Limited (CIL) + National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has signed a MoU - For Setting up of Multi Skill Development Institutes (MSDIs) under each subsidiary.
- The 27th National Youth Festival will be inaugurated by the PM Narendra Modi in Nashik, Maharashtra
- India Meteorological Department (IMD) has celebrate its 150th Year with an inaugural ceremony
- L&T's railway strategic business group has bagged a mega contract at Rs.10,000 crore-Rs.15,000 crore for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed rail project
- National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) launched the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative - To discourage user behavior of using a single FASTag for multiple vehicles or linking multiple FASTags to a particular vehicle.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has launched a new range of 'Sanatan Khadi Vastra' with 20% discount - The design of Sanatan Clothing has been prepared at the Khadi Center of Excellence (COEK) located at NIFT.
- Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) has launched India's first indigenously developed Hepatitis A vaccine, Havisure
- The 63rd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) meeting will be held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- ICAI has signed a MoU with 11 universities and colleges - To extend support to the latter on development of Syllabi, Content Development, Online and recorded lectures and faculty development programmes.
- The Union Government has decided to make study materials for all courses under school and higher education by utilizing 'Anuvadini' app
- Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi has renewed the MoU with the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) - During the 5-year term of MoU, MoRD will work with ROSHNI-Centre of Women Collectives led Social Action (CWCSA), to strengthen interventions for better results of Food, Nutrition, Health and WASH (FNHW) for rural communities.
- Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated a Synopsys' Chip Design Centre at DLF Tech Park in Noida

- Urban Youth Unit at National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) + YuWaah -United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) signed a Statement of Intent - To solidify their commitment to empowering young people for urban governance.
- Vice-President, Jagdeep Dhankhar launched a 'Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Samman' campaign at Dr Ambedkar International Centre
- Bengaluru based Engineering Company, Timetooth has launched a India's first-ever aircraft passenger seat at Wings India 2024
- The 2-day "All India Secretaries' Conference on Water Vision @ 2047-Way Ahead" concluded at Mahabalipuram, Chennai
- PM YASASVI Scheme's Rs 32.44 Crore for Pre-Matric and Rs 387.27 Crore for Post-Matric scholarships released in 2023
- The 63rd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) meeting was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- The government has reduced the import duties on smartphone components and spare parts to 10% from 15%

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

- Gross GST revenue of December is Rs.1,64,882 crore - Out of which CGST-Rs 30,443 crore, SGST-Rs 37,935 crore, IGST-Rs 84,255 crore, cess-Rs 12,249 crore.
- UPI processed record 12.02 billion transactions in December 2022 worth Rs.18.23 lakh crore
- Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation increased by 0.73% in December 2023
- LIC's market capitalisation crossed the Rs 5.92 lakh crore mark
- Foxconn has partnered with HCL Group for semiconductor assembly and testing
- Airbus + CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP) have signed a MoU - To develop new technology pathways as well as test and qualify indigenous sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in India.
- Digital Connexion, a joint venture between Reliance Industries, Canada's Brookfield and US-based Digital Realty, launched its 1st data centre in India at Ambattur, Chennai
- B2B SaaS fintech company, Zaggle has tied up with a Credit Cards as a Service (CCaaS) platform Hyperface - To strengthen fintech's product suite and improve expense management solutions with multi-wallet functionalities.
- Arya.ag, a grain commerce platform, has partnered with Crystal Crop Protection Ltd to provide crop monitoring services across India

- ICICI Lombard has announced that it will acquire a 1.08% stake in Karnataka Bank for Rs.100 crore
- Ola founder Bhavish Aggarwal's artificial intelligence startup Krutrim has raised \$50 million in funding at a \$1 billion valuation
- IIM Bangalore's NSRCEL and SIDBI have signed a MoU - To establish a pre-seed fund, specifically for start-ups in the deep tech and emerging businesses area.
- ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) has launched a landmark project to carry out research for developing lab-grown fish meat
- Bajaj Finserv Health, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bajaj Finserv has acquired an entire stake in Vidal Healthcare Services at an enterprise value of Rs.325 crore
- Bharti Airtel Services has entered into an agreement for the acquisition of 49.45 lakh shares/97.1% stake in Beetel Teletech, another Bharti Group company.
- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has increased its stake in Navin Fluorine International, Indian manufacturers of speciality fluorochemicals, by about 0.24% through open market.
- Tata Consumer Products has acquired a 100% stake in Capital Foods, renowned for marketing products under the brands Ching's Secret and Smith & Jones valued at Rs.5,100 crore.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved 100% acquisition of Wistron Infocomm Manufacturing (India) Pvt Ltd by Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd.
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) gave its approval for the acquisition of a 5.27% stake in Religare Enterprises by entities controlled by the Burman family, as well as a subsequent open offer to buy up to another 26% of the financial services firm.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed the Life Insurance Corp. of India (LIC) to acquire up to 9.99% stake in HDFC bank, currently LIC holds 5.19% stake in HDFC Bank.

Current Affairs

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RANKING

National Ranking

- Uttar Pradesh has consistently ranked 1st for the 3rd consecutive year in recording the highest entries (1,56,22,514) on the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) platform
- Bloomberg Billionaire's Index (BBI) Richest Man in Asia 2024

Rank	Name	Net Worth (in USD billions)
1	Gautam Adani (India)	97.6
2	Mukesh Ambani (India)	94.3
3	Zhong Shanshan (China)	62.9
4	Colin Zheng Huang (China)	50.4
5	Zhang Yiming (China)	43.4
6	Tadashi Yanai and Family (Japan)	37.2
7	Li Ka-shing (Hong Kong)	35.3
8	Ma Huateng (China)	34.0
9	William Ding (China)	33.3
10	Shiv Nadar (India)	31.2

- State's Startup Ranking 2022

Category	Category A (Population above 1 crore)	Category B (Population below 1 crore)
Best Performers	Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu (TN)	Himachal Pradesh
Top Performers	Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and Telangana	Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya
Leader	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand	Goa, Manipur and Tripura

Category	Category A (Population above 1 crore)	Category B (Population below 1 crore)
Aspiring Leader	Bihar and Haryana	Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Nagaland
Emerging Ecosystems	Chhattisgarh, Delhi, and Jammu and Kashmir	Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Ladakh, Mizoram, Puducherry, and Sikkim

- Tamil Nadu consistently maintains the highest Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in higher education (colleges and universities)

Rank	State	GER Percentage
1	Tamilnadu	47%
2	Himachal Pradesh	43.1%
3	Uttarakhand	41.8%
4	Kerala	41.3%

International Ranking

- Henley Passport Index 2024

Rank	Countries	Destinations
1	France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore and Spain	194
2	Finland, South Korea and Sweden	193
3	Austria, Denmark, Ireland and Netherlands	192
4	Belgium, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal and United Kingdom	193
5	Greece, Malta and Switzerland	190
6	Czech Republic, New Zealand and Poland	189
7	Canada, Hungary and United States	188

Rank	Countries	Destinations
8	Estonia, Lithuania	187
9	Latvia, Slovakia, Slovenia	186
10	Iceland	185
80	India	62

- Microsoft briefly surpassed Apple to become the world's most valuable company
- Global Firepower's 2024 Military Strength Ranking

Rank	Country Name	PowerIndex Score
1	The United States of America (USA)	0.0699
2	Russia	0.0702
3	China	0.0706
4	India	0.1023
5	South Korea	0.1416

- Brand Finance Global 500 2024 Report

Top 5 Global 500 – World's Strongest Brands 2024

Rank	Brand Name	BSI Score (Out of 100)
1	WeChat (China)	94.3
2	YouTube (USA)	92.7
3	Google (USA)	92.5
4	Marina Bay (Singapore)	91.8
5	Wuliangye (China)	90.7
17	Reliance Jio (India)	88.9
23	Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)	88.3
24	State Bank of India (SBI)	88.3



Top 5 Global 500 – Most Valuable Brands 2024

Rank	Brand Name
1	Apple (USA)
2	Microsoft (USA)
3	Google (USA)
4	Amazon (USA)
5	Samsung Group (South Korea)

- World's Best-Selling Smartphone in 2023 Report - Apple's iPhone outpaced Samsung's smartphones to clinch the title of the world's best-selling smartphone in 2023, marking the 1st time the South Korean tech giant has surrendered the top position since 2010.
- Top 10 Richest Person in the World List
 - Data released by the Forbes real-time billionaires list.

Rank	Name of Billionaries	Net Worth
1	Bernard Arnault & Family	\$207.6 Billion
2	Elon Musk	\$204.7 Billion
3	Jeff Bezos	\$181.3 Billion
4	Larry Ellison	\$142.2 Billion
5	Mark Zuckerberg	\$139.1 Billion
6	Warren Buffett	\$127.2 Billion
7	Larry Page	\$127.1 Billion
8	Bill Gates	\$122.9 Billion
9	Sergey Brin	\$121.7 Billion
10	Steve Ballmer	\$118.8 Billion
11	Mukesh Ambani	\$104.4 Billion
16	Guatam Adani	\$75.7 Billion

- Corruption Perception Index (CPI) 2023
 - Transparency International, a global civil society annual index has released the report.
 - Total countries: 180.



Rank	Name of Billionaries	Score
1	Denmark	90
2	Finland	87
3	New Zealand	85
4	Norway	84
5	Singapore	83
93	India, Kazakhstan, Lesotha and Maldives	39
180	Somalia	11

AWARDS

National Awards

- Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has announced the 'Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar' 2023

Category	Winner
Identification and nurturing of budding/young talent	Jain Deemed to be University, Bengaluru
Encouragement to sports through Corporate Social Responsibility	Odisha Mining Corporate Limited

- Hero MotoCorp's manufacturing facility in Gurugram bagged the CII National Award for Excellence in Water Management
- Vice Chancellor of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Prof. B.R. Kamboj has been honoured with the prestigious M.S. Swaminathan Award
- Bengali writer Shirshendu Mukhopadhyaya has been awarded the Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar 2023
- SVAMITVA Scheme won the Best Innovation Award at Public Policy Dialogues-2024
- President of India, Droupadi Murmu has presented the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023 - Indore secured the cleanest city title for the 7th consecutive time. However, this year, it shared the honors with Surat, marking a unique joint victory.
- National Institute of Construction Management and Research (NICMAR), Hyderabad has been awarded the platinum certification under the Indian Green Building Council's Green Campus Rating
- President Droupadi Murmu honoured late Savita Kanswal posthumously with Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2022

- REC Ltd has been awarded 'Plaque' under the 'Financial Services Sector (Other than Banking and Insurance)' category at the ICAI Awards - The award given for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the financial year 2022-23.
- Former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Ranjan Gogoi has been bestowed with Assam highest civilian award, Assam Baibhav
- NHPC Limited has been awarded the SCOPE's 'Commendation Certificate' in the category of Effective Implementation of RTI Act
- REC Ltd has been honored with the prestigious Scope Excellence Award in the category of Special Institutional Category (Digitalization)
- Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Awards (Naman Awards) 2024 -Former Indian head coach Ravi Shastri was honoured with the Colonel CK Nayadu Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Uttar Pradesh government honoured Ritu Karidhal Srivastava and Naveen Tiwari with the Uttar Pradesh Gaurav Samman on UP Diwas
- Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar under Institutional category was awarded to 60 Parachute Field Hospital, Uttar Pradesh
- Padma Awards 2024 - President Droupadi Murmu conferred the India's highest civilian Awards 'Padma Awards 2024' in 3 categories as follows Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.

Padma Vibhushan (5):

- Padma Vibhushan is one of India's highest civilian honors, awarded for exceptional and distinguished service in various fields.

S.No	Winner	Field	State
1.	Ms. Vyjayantimala Bali	Art	Tamil Nadu
2.	Shri Konidela Chiranjeevi	Art	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Shri M Venkaiah Naidu	Public Affairs	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Shri Bindeshwar Pathak	Social Work	Bihar
5.	Ms. Padma Subrahmanyam	Art	Tamil Nadu

Padma Bhushan (17):

- Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian award, recognizes distinguished service of high order in various fields.

S.No	Winner	Field	State/Country
1.	Ms. M Fathima Beevi	Public Affairs	Kerala
2.	Shri Hormusji N Cama	Literature & Education	Maharashtra
3.	Shri Mithun Chakraborty	Art	West Bengal
4.	Shri Sitaram Jindal	Trade & Industry	Karnataka
5.	Shri Young Liu	Trade & Industry	Taiwan
6.	Shri Ashwin Balachand Mehta	Medicine	Maharashtra
7.	Shri Satyabrata Mookherjee	Public Affairs	West Bengal
8.	Shri Ram Naik	Public Affairs	Maharashtra
9.	Shri Tejas Madhusudan Patel	Medicine	Gujarat
10.	Shri Olanchery Rajagopal	Public Affairs	Kerala
11.	Shri Dattatray Ambadas Mayaloo alias Rajdutt	Art	Maharashtra
12.	Shri Togdan Rinpoche	Others – Spiritualism	Ladakh
13.	Shri Pyarelal Sharma	Art	Maharashtra
14.	Shri Chandreshwar Prasad Thakur	Medicine	Bihar
15.	Ms. Usha Uthup	Art	West Bengal
16.	Shri Vijaykanth	Art	Tamil Nadu
17.	Shri Kundan Vyas	Literature & Education – Journalism	Maharashtra

Padma Shri (110)

- The Padma Shri Awards 2024 have been announced, honouring 110 distinguished individuals across various fields for their exceptional service.
- President Droupadi Murmu has approved the Gallantry awards to 80 Armed Forces personnel on the eve of 75th Republic Day - Among this, six Kirti Chakras, including three posthumous; 16 Shaurya Chakras, including two posthumous; 53 Sena Medals, including seven posthumous; one Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry) and four Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).
- President approves Tatrakshak Medals to six Indian Coast Guard personnel

Category	Winner
President’s Tatrakshak Medal (Distinguished Service)	Inspector General (IG) Bhisham Sharma, TM (0247-L)
Tatrakshak Medal (Gallantry)	Comdt(Commandant) Sunil Dutt (0662-D) Comdt (JG) Saurabh (0735-S)
Tatrakshak Medal (Meritorious Service)	Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Anil Kumar Parayil (0265-C) DIG Jamal Taha (4085-J) Dipak Roy, P/Adh (AR), 011111-Z

- Bina Modi, Chairperson of Modi Enterprises was honoured with the 'Outstanding Business Woman of the Year-2023' Award

International Awards

- 81st edition of the Golden Globes - Held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles, California.

Category	Winner
Best Film-Drama	Oppenheimer
Best Actress-Drama	Lily Gladstone, Killers of the Flower Moon
Best Film-Musical or Comedy	Poor Things
Best Actor-Musical or Comedy	Paul Giamatti, The Holdovers



Category	Winner
Best TV Series-Drama	Succession
Best Actress in a TV Series-Drama	Sarah Snook, Succession
Best TV Series – Musical or Comedy	The Bear
Best Limited Series, Anthology Series or TV Movie	Beef
Cinematic and Box Office Achievement	Barbie
Best Original Song	What Was I Made For? by Billie Eilish and Finneas (Barbie)
Best Original Score	Ludwig Göransson, Oppenheimer
Best Actor – Drama	Cillian Murphy, Oppenheimer
Best Actress – Musical or Comedy	Emma Stone, Poor Things
Best Director	Christopher Nolan, Oppenheimer
Best Animated Film	The Boy and the Heron
Best Actor in a TV Series – Drama	Kieran Culkin, Succession
Best Actress in a TV Series – Musical or Comedy	Ayo Edebiri, The Bear
Best Non-English Language Film	Anatomy of a Fall
Best Performance in Stand-Up Comedy on TV	Ricky Gervais, Ricky Gervais Armageddon
Best Actor in a TV Series – Musical or Comedy	Jeremy Allen White, The Bear
Best Screenplay	Justine Triet and Arthur Harari, Anatomy of a Fall
Best Supporting Actor in a TV Series	Matthew Macfadyen, Succession
Best Supporting Actress in a TV Series	Elizabeth Debicki, The Crown



Category	Winner
Best Actor in a Limited Series, Anthology Series or TV Movie	Steven Yeun, Beef
Best Actress in a Limited Series, Anthology Series or TV Movie	Ali Wong, Beef
Best Supporting Actor	Robert Downey Jr, Oppenheimer
Best Supporting Actress	Da'Vine Joy Randolph, The Holdovers

- A 22-year-old US Air Force officer, Madison Marsh is the Miss America 2024 - Madison, a 2nd lieutenant in the US Air Force and master's student at the Harvard Kennedy School's public policy program, won the beauty pageant in Orlando, Florida.
- 75th Emmy Awards

Category	Winners
Best Limited Series	Beef (Netflix)
Best Actress, Comedy	Quinta Brunson, "Abbott Elementary"
Best Actor, Comedy	Jeremy Allen White "The Bear"
Best Actress, Drama	Sarah Snook, "Succession"
Best Actor, Drama	Kieran Culkin, "Succession"
Best Actress, Limited Series or TV Movie	Ali Wong, "Beef"
Best Actor, Limited Series or TV Movie	Steven Yeun, "Beef"
Supporting Actress, Comedy	Ayo Edebiri, "The Bear"
Supporting Actor, Comedy	Ebon Moss-Bachrach, "The Bear"
Supporting Actress, Drama	Jennifer Coolidge, "The White Lotus"
Supporting Actor, Drama	Matthew Macfadyen, "Succession"
Supporting Actress, Limited Series or Movie	Niecy Nash-Betts, "Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story"
Supporting Actor, Limited Series or Movie	Paul Walter Hauser, "Black Bird"
Variety Talk Series	"The Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (Comedy Central)
Scripted Variety Series	"Last Week Tonight with John Oliver" (HBO)



Category	Winners
Writing for a Variety Series	"Last Week Tonight with John Oliver" (HBO)

- Best FIFA (International Federation of Association Football) Football Awards ceremony 2023 was held in London, United Kingdom

Category	Winners
Best FIFA Men's Player	Lionel Messi (Argentina)
Best FIFA Women's Player	Aitana Bonmati (Spain)
Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper	Ederson Moraes (Brazil)
Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper	Mary Earps (England)
Best FIFA Men's Coach	Pep Guardiola (Club-Manchester City)
Best FIFA Women's Coach	Sarina Wiegman (England)
Puskas Award	Guilherme Madrugua (Brazil)
FIFA Fair Play Award	Brazil National Team for stand against racism
FIFA Best Special Award	Marta (Brazil)
FIFA Fan Award	Hugo Daniel "Toto" Iniguez (Argentina)

- FIFA President Gianni Infantino has received the award for International Sports Personality of the Year

ICC Awards 2023

Category	Winners
ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year	Australia skipper Pat Cummins was announced as the winner of the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy for the ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year 2023.
ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year	Veteran Indian batter Virat Kohli
ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year	Usman Khawaja (Australia)
Rachael Heyhoe Flint Award for ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year	England's all-rounder Nat Sciver-Brunt
ICC Women's ODI Cricket of the Year	Chamari Athapaththu (Srilanka)
ICC Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year	Dutch Cricketer Bas de Leede
ICC Women's Associate Cricketer of the Year	Queentor Abel (Kenya)

Category	Winners
ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year	India's T20I beast Suryakumar Yadav for the 2nd successive year
ICC Women's T20I Cricketer of the Year	Hayley Matthews (West Indies)
ICC Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year	New Zealand Cricketer Rachin Ravindra
ICC Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year	Marufa Akter (Bangladesh)
David Shepherd Trophy for ICC Umpire of the Year 2023	Richard Illingworth (England)
ICC Spirit of Cricket Award 2023	Zimbabwe Men's Team (A heartwarming moment from the 2023 ICC Men's Cricket WorldCup Qualifier in Zimbabwe won the ICC Spirit of Cricket Award 2023. Where West Indies failed to qualify for the CWC 2023)

APPOINTMENTS

National Appointments

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Canara Bank Chief General Manager P.Santhosh	MD& CEO of National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL)	Natarajan Sundar
CEO of APSEZ's Karan Adani	As MD of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ)	Gautam Adani
Former Executive of Yes Bank and TerraPay, Ritesh Pai	CEO of PhonePe	-
Former IPS officer, Sheel Vardhan Singh	Office and Secrecy as Member of UPSC	-
Jagrut Kotecha	CEO for PepsiCo India	Ahmed El Sheikh
Justice Sanjiv Khanna	Executive Chairperson of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)	Justice S. K. Kaul

Nitish Kumar	22nd Chief Minister of Bihar	-
Praveen Achuthan Kutty	MD and CEO of DCB Bank	Murali M Natarajan
Principal Commissioner, Finance, Planning and Investment Department, Arunachal Pradesh, Sharat Chauhan	Secretary of the Union Territory of Puducherry	Rajeev Verma
Puneet Chhatwal	Chairman of Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism & Hospitality (FAITH)	Nakul Anand
Raghuram Iyer	CEO of the Indian Olympic Association	-
Ravindra Kumar Tyagi	Chairman and MD of Power Grid Corporation	Sreekant Kandikuppa
Sanjiv Aggarwal	MD & CEO of the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIFL)	Rajiv Dhar (interim CEO & MD since May 2023)
Senior IPS officer Daljit Singh Chaudhary	Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)	-
Senthil Pandian C	India's next ambassador to the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Geneva	Brajendra Navnit
Shashi Singh	President of the All India Rubber Industries Association (AIRIA)	Ramesh Kejriwal
Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Group Chief Economic Advisor, SBI	Part-Time Member of the 16th Finance Commission	-
Tarun Khulbe	CEO & Whole Time Director of Jindal Stainless Ltd (JSL)	-

Vice Admiral Dinesh K.Tripathi	Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS)	Vice-Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh
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International Appointments

Name	Designation	Succeeded by
Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey	4th Secretary General of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)	Tenzin Lekphell of Bhutan
Bernardo Arevalo	Guatemala's President	-
Gabriel Attal	Youngest Prime Minister of France	Elisabeth Borne
Sheikh Hasina	Re-elected as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh	-
Spain's Finance Minister Nadia Calviño	1st Women President of the European Investment Bank	Werner Hoyer
Tshering Tobgay	Prime Minister of Bhutan	Lotay Tshering

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Book Name	Author Name	Published by
"Assam's Braveheart Lachit Barphukan"	Arup Kumar Dutta	The book has been published in English language and translated in 24 Scheduled Indian languages
"A Promised Nation Hon'ble Shri Narendra Modi- the Maker of New India"	-	-
"Modi: Energising a Green Future"	Edited by RK Pachnanda, Bibek Debroy, Anirban	Pentagon Press in association with Dr.

	Ganguly and Uttam Kumar Sinha.	Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation
"Sanskritike Ayaam"	Manorama Mishra	National Book Trust
'Ek Samandar, Mere Andar'	Sanjeev Joshi, Deputy CEO of BrahMos Aerospace	-

OBITUARY

- Prominent Indian-American legal scholar, Professor Ved Prakash Nanda passed
- Football Legend Franz Beckenbauer passed away at the age of 78
- Renowned Urdu poet Munawwar Rana passed away at the age of 71 in Lucknow
- Noted Malayalam Music Director K.J.Joy passed away
- Renowned Canadian director and producer Norman Jewison Passed away at the age of 97 in Los Angeles, the USA - Jewison is a three-time Oscar nominee in 1999 received an Academy Award for lifetime achievement.
- Dr. Nitya Anand, the developer of India's first oral contraceptive pill 'Saheli' has passed away at the age of 99

DEFENCE

- Indian Navy's P8I aircraft landed at Guam to participate in 4th edition of Exercise Sea Dragon-24 - Exercise Sea Dragon-24 is an Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise by the US Navy.
- Indian Navy received the first indigenously made Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) 'Drishti 10 Starliner' from the Adani Defence and Aerospace
- MoS for Defence Ajay Bhatt flagged off the indigenously developed and manufactured Astra Missiles for supply to the Indian Air Force (IAF)
- Admiral R Hari Kumar, Chief of the Naval Staff has inaugurated the unique CO2 based Air Conditioning plant at INS Shivaji in Pune
- Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has received an order of Rs.695 crore from Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders for the supply of spares related to missile systems
- Indian Army + Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) - To enhance defense technology, paving the way for a more robust and technologically advanced armed forces, also focusing on areas such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, digital infrastructure and healthcare.

- Indian Navy launched the 'Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile Barge, LSAM 19 (Yard 129)' - It is the 5th Barge of 11 x ACTCM Barge Project, built by MSME Shipyard, M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane for Indian Navy, was undertaken at M/s Suryadipta Project Pvt Ltd (Launch site of M/s SPPL).
- Akasa Air and CFM International announced an agreement to purchase over 300 CFM LEAP-1B engines - To power its latest order of 150 Boeing B737 MAX family aircraft.
- Indian Navy will set up a Very Low Frequency communication transmission station in Vikarabad district of Telangana

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