

Weekly One Liners 23rd to 29th of January 2023

Parakram Diwas 2023 celebrates as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Birth Anniversary

Parakram Diwas 2023:

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti or **Netaji Jayanti** is a national event celebrated in India as **Parakram Diwas** on **January 23** to mark the birth of prominent Indian freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. This year nation celebrates **126th birth anniversary** of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. For the first time, Netaji Jayanti was celebrated as Parakram Divas in 2021 on the occasion of his 124th birthday. In West Bengal, Jharkhand, Tripura, and Assam, it is a recognised holiday. On this day, the Indian government honours Netaji.

Importance of Parakram Diwas:

The purpose of the holiday is to recall and honour Netaji's tremendous devotion to the country and his unwavering spirit. He was crucial to the cause for Indian independence. Netaji was a prominent nationalist, politician, and freedom fighter. This day has been designated to encourage Indians, especially young people, to aspire to his strength, perseverance, selflessness, and patriotic fervour despite oppression. He oversaw the Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj). He was the founder-head of the Azad Hind Government.

About Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

- Netaji' was born on **January 23, 1897, in Cuttack in Odisha**. He acquired a degree in philosophy and was later selected for the Indian Civil Services. He refused to join as he did not want to serve the British Government.
- Later, in 1919, he travelled to England to complete the **Indian Civil Service (I.C.S.)**, finishing fourth in his class with the highest English score. He didn't want to work for the British government, therefore in 1921 he resigned and went back to India.
- **Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das**, who later served as his political mentor, encouraged Netaji to join the **Indian National Congress (I.N.C.)** when he returned to India. Netaji joined the Indian National Congress in 1921.
- He regarded Swami Vivekananda as his spiritual guru and was greatly affected by his ideas. Bose was elected president of the All India Youth Congress in 1923 and later served as president of the Congress in 1938 and 1939.
- Bose was a great student and a true Indian nationalist. At the Scottish Church College, part of the University of Calcutta, Netaji Bose earned a B.A. in philosophy.
- During World War II, in Southeast Asia, Netaji formed and led a 5,000-man force known as the Azad Hind Fauj (Indian National Army) under the slogan 'Delhi Chalo' In order to garner popular support in his home state of Bengal, he also founded a new political party.

- According to government reports, on **August 18, 1945, a plane crash near Tohuku, Japanese Taiwan**, caused Netaji to suffer third-degree burns. Although the authorities announced his death in 2017, there are still a number of rumours about his whereabouts.

Exam related facts

- Netaji started a newspaper called "**Swaraj**".
- He had written a book called "**The Indian Struggle**". The book covers the Indian Independence movement between 1920 and 1942.
- The term "**Jai Hind**" was coined by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- With the slogan "**Give me blood and I will give you freedom**", he awakened the country towards fighting against the British.

ICC Men's and Women's T20I Team of the Year 2022 revealed

ICC Men's and Women's T20I Team of the Year 2022 revealed

The **International Cricket Council** Team of the Year recognises 11 outstanding individuals who have impressed one and all – be it with the bat, the ball or their all-round exploits in a calendar year. Here, we take a look at 11 players who make the cut in the shortest format of the game for men's cricket. Among them were India's star players including the likes of **Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav and Smriti Mandhana**, among others.

ICC Men's T20I team 2022:

Jos Buttler (C), Mohammad Rizwan, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Glenn Phillips, Sikandar Raza, Hardik Pandya, Sam Curran, Wanindu Hasaranga, Haris Rauf, Josh Little.

ICC Women's T20I team 2022:

Smriti Mandhana, Beth Mooney, Sophie Devine (C), Ash Gardner, Tahlia McGrath, Nida Dar, Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh (wk), Sophie Ecclestone, Renuka Singh.

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**Padma Awards 2023 Winners List Announced:
Check All Padma Winners**

Padma Awards 2023 Winners List

Padma Awards 2023 winners List: The Government of India has announced the Padma Awards 2023 Winners List. According to the Padma Awards website, the Padma Awards are India's highest civilian honors after the [Bharat Ratna](#), seeking to "recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved". These Awards are distributed by the [President of India](#) at ceremonial functions which are held at Rashtrapati Bhawan usually around March/ April every year. For the year 2023, the President has approved conferment of 106 Padma Awards including 3 duo cases (in a duo case, the Award is counted as one) as per list below. The list comprises **6 Padma Vibhushan, 9 Padma Bhushan and 91 Padma Shri Awards**. 19 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 2 persons from the category of Foreigners/Non Resident India (NRI)/Person of Indian Origin (PIO) /Overseas Citizen Of India (OCI) and 7 Posthumous awardees.

Notably: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and Padma Shri (distinguished service).

Padma Awards 2023 Highlights

- **ORS icon Dilip Mahalanabis** (Medicine), Samajwadi Party founder and former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister **Mulayam Singh Yadav (Public Affairs)**, and architect **Balakrishna Doshi (Others-Architecture)** have been picked to be awarded Padma Vibhushan posthumously.
- Mahalanabis pioneered the wide use of **ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution)** which is estimated to have saved more than 5 crore lives globally. Mahalanabis demonstrated the effectiveness of ORS while serving in Refugee camps during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War, having returned from USA to serve.

Padma Vibhushan Winners List

S. No	Name	Field	State / Country
1	Shri Balkrishna Doshi (Posthumous)	Others - Architecture	Gujarat
2	Shri Zakir Hussain	Art	Maharashtra
3	Shri S M Krishna	Public Affairs	Karnataka
4	Shri Dilip Mahalanabis (Posthumous)	Medicine	West Bengal
5	Shri Srinivas Varadhan	Science & Engineering	United States of America
6	Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav (Posthumous)	Public Affairs	Uttar Pradesh

Padma Bhushan Winners List

S. No	Name	Field	State / Country
7	Shri S L Bhyrappa	Literature & Education	Karnataka
8	Shri Kumar Mangalam Birla	Trade & Industry	Maharashtra
9	Shri Deepak Dhar	Science & Engineering	Maharashtra
10	Ms. Vani Jairam	Art	Tamil Nadu
11	Swami Chinna Jeeyar	Others - Spiritualism	Telangana
12	Ms. Suman Kalyanpur	Art	Maharashtra
13	Shri Kapil Kapoor	Literature & Education	Delhi
14	Ms. Sudha Murty	Social Work	Karnataka
15	Shri Kamlesh D Patel	Others - Spiritualism	Telangana

Padma Sri Winners List

S. No	Name	Field	State / Country
16	Dr. Sukama Acharya	Others - Spiritualism	Haryana
17	Ms. Jodhaiyabai Baiga	Art	Madhya Pradesh
18	Shri Premjit Baria	Art	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
19	Ms. Usha Barle	Art	Chhattisgarh
20	Shri Munishwar Chanddawar	Medicine	Madhya Pradesh
21	Shri Hemant Chauhan	Art	Gujarat
22	Shri Bhanubhai Chitara	Art	Gujarat
23	Ms. Hemoprova Chutia	Art	Assam
24	Shri Narendra Chandra Debbarma (Posthumous)	Public Affairs	Tripura
25	Ms. Subhadra Devi	Art	Bihar
26	Shri Khadar Valli Dudekula	Science & Engineering	Karnataka
27	Shri Hem Chandra Goswami	Art	Assam
28	Ms. Pritikana Goswami	Art	West Bengal
29	Shri Radha Charan Gupta	Literature & Education	Uttar Pradesh

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S. No	Name	Field	State / Country
30	Shri Modadugu Vijay Gupta	Science & Engineering	Telangana
31	Shri Ahmed Hussain & Shri Mohd Hussain (Duo)	Art	Rajasthan
32	Shri Dilshad Hussain	Art	Uttar Pradesh
33	Shri Bhiku Ramji Idate	Social Work	Maharashtra
34	Shri C I Issac	Literature & Education	Kerala
35	Shri Rattan Singh Jaggi	Literature & Education	Punjab
36	Shri Bikram Bahadur Jamatia	Social Work	Tripura
37	Shri Ramkuiwangbe Jene	Social Work	Assam
38	Shri Rakesh Radheshyam Jhunjhunwala (Posthumous)	Trade & Industry	Maharashtra
39	Shri Ratan Chandra Kar	Medicine	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
40	Shri Mahipat Kavi	Art	Gujarat
41	Shri M M Keeravaani	Art	Andhra Pradesh
42	Shri Areez Khambatta (Posthumous)	Trade & Industry	Gujarat
43	Shri Parshuram Komaji Khune	Art	Maharashtra
44	Shri Ganesh Nagappa Krishnarajanagara	Science & Engineering	Andhra Pradesh
45	Shri Maguni Charan Kuanr	Art	Odisha
46	Shri Anand Kumar	Literature & Education	Bihar
47	Shri Arvind Kumar	Science & Engineering	Uttar Pradesh
48	Shri Domar Singh Kunvar	Art	Chhattisgarh
49	Shri Risingbor Kurkalang	Art	Meghalaya
50	Ms. Hirabai Lobi	Social Work	Gujarat
51	Shri Moolchand Lodha	Social Work	Rajasthan
52	Ms. Rani Machaiah	Art	Karnataka
53	Shri Ajay Kumar Mandavi	Art	Chhattisgarh
54	Shri Prabhakar Bhanudas Mande	Literature & Education	Maharashtra

S. No	Name	Field	State / Country
55	Shri Gajanan Jagannath Mane	Social Work	Maharashtra
56	Shri Antaryami Mishra	Literature & Education	Odisha
57	Shri Nadoja Pindipapanahalli Munivenkatappa	Art	Karnataka
58	Prof. (Dr.) Mahendra Pal	Science & Engineering	Gujarat
59	Shri Uma Shankar Pandey	Social Work	Uttar Pradesh
60	Shri Ramesh Parmar & Ms. Shanti Parmar (Duo)	Art	Madhya Pradesh
61	Dr. Nalini Parthasarathi	Medicine	Puducherry
62	Shri Hanumantha Rao Pasupuleti	Medicine	Telangana
63	Shri Ramesh Patange	Literature & Education	Maharashtra
64	Ms. Krishna Patel	Art	Odisha
65	Shri K Kalyanasundaram Pillai	Art	Tamil Nadu
66	Shri V P Appukkuttan Poduval	Social Work	Kerala
67	Shri Kapil Dev Prasad	Art	Bihar
68	Shri S R D Prasad	Sports	Kerala
69	Shri Shah Rasheed Ahmed Quadri	Art	Karnataka
70	Shri C V Raju	Art	Andhra Pradesh
71	Shri Bakshi Ram	Science & Engineering	Haryana
72	Shri Cheruvayal K Raman	Others - Agriculture	Kerala
73	Ms. Sujatha Ramdorai	Science & Engineering	Canada
74	Shri Abbareddy Nageswara Rao	Science & Engineering	Andhra Pradesh
75	Shri Pareshbhai Rathwa	Art	Gujarat
76	Shri B Ramakrishna Reddy	Literature & Education	Telangana
77	Shri Mangala Kanti Roy	Art	West Bengal
78	Ms. K C Runremsangi	Art	Mizoram
79	Shri Vadivel Gopal & Shri Masi Sadaiyan (Duo)	Social Work	Tamil Nadu

S. No	Name	Field	State / Country
80	Shri Manoranjan Sahu	Medicine	Uttar Pradesh
81	Shri Patayat Sahu	Others - Agriculture	Odisha
82	Shri Ritwik Sanyal	Art	Uttar Pradesh
83	Shri Kota Satchidananda Sastry	Art	Andhra Pradesh
84	Shri Sankurathri Chandra Sekhar	Social Work	Andhra Pradesh
85	Shri K Shanathoiba Sharma	Sports	Manipur
86	Shri Nekram Sharma	Others - Agriculture	Himachal Pradesh
87	Shri Gurcharan Singh	Sports	Delhi
88	Shri Laxman Singh	Social Work	Rajasthan
89	Shri Mohan Singh	Literature & Education	Jammu & Kashmir
90	Shri Thounaojam Chaoba Singh	Public Affairs	Manipur
91	Shri Prakash Chandra Sood	Literature & Education	Andhra Pradesh
92	Ms. Neihunuo Sorhie	Art	Nagaland
93	Dr. Janum Singh Soy	Literature & Education	Jharkhand
94	Shri Kushok Thiksey Nawang Chamba Stanzin	Others - Spiritualism	Ladakh
95	Shri S Subbaraman	Others - Archaeology	Karnataka
96	Shri Moa Subong	Art	Nagaland
97	Shri Palam Kalyana Sundaram	Social Work	Tamil Nadu
98	Ms. Raveena Ravi Tandon	Art	Maharashtra
99	Shri Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari	Literature & Education	Uttar Pradesh
100	Shri Dhaniram Toto	Literature & Education	West Bengal
101	Shri Tula Ram Upreti	Others - Agriculture	Sikkim
102	Dr. Gopalsamy Veluchamy	Medicine	Tamil Nadu
103	Dr. Ishwar Chander Verma	Medicine	Delhi
104	Ms. Coomi Nariman Wadia	Art	Maharashtra
105	Shri Karma Wangchu (Posthumous)	Social Work	Arunachal Pradesh
106	Shri Ghulam Muhammad Zaz	Art	Jammu & Kashmir

Note: * In Duo case, the Award is counted as one.

About the Padma Awards

Instituted in 1954, these civilian awards, are generally announced on the occasion of [Republic Day](#) every year, and these awards seek to recognize 'work of distinction' and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields/disciplines, such as, Art, Literature and Education, Sports, Medicine, Social Work, Science and Engineering, Public Affairs, Civil Service, Trade and Industry etc.

All nominations received for Padma Awards are placed before the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year. The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the Cabinet Secretary and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members. The recommendations of the committee are submitted to the Prime Minister and the President of India for approval.

Republic Day 2023

Republic Day 2023

Republic Day 2023: India to celebrate its **74th Republic Day** on 26th January 2023. On this day, the Constitution of India was adopted in the year 1950. Republic Day is one of the most important **National Holidays in India** which is also known as Gantantra Diwas. 26th January 1950 makes the establishment of the Indian Constitution was prepared by the members of the Constituent Assembly which emerged after the brutal colonial past.

Republic Day is celebrated every year throughout the nation with great fervor and enthusiasm. This year too, **Republic Day 2023** will be celebrated with events like parades, cultural programs, rallies, etc. There will be several colorful events on the Kartavya Path including military parades and other activities. In these activities, school children also take part and showcase their talents.

There are various events held for the first time in Republic day parade 2023:

- For the first time in India's independent history, the iconic 21-Guns Salute to the President during the parade will use 105 mm Indian Field Guns replacing the British-made 25-Pounder guns. This year, only Made-in-India weapon systems, showcased at the Republic Day parade, keeping with the theme of "Atmanirbhar Bharat".
- For the first time, 12 women riders are participate of the Camel Contingent of the Border Security Force (BSF) and among the 16 marching contingents from the armed forces, Central Para Military Forces, Delhi Police, National Cadet Corps (NCC), NSS along with 19 military pipes and drums bands in the Republic Day parade this year.
- A team of "Daredevils" motor cycle riders from Corps of Signals co-led by a woman officer is the part of the parade. Lieutenant Dimple Bhati from the Corps of Signals, part of the Indian Army's Daredevils motorcycle team at the Republic Day parade this year. The women officer had been training with the team for the last one year.

- The newly-recruited **Agniveers** also be a part of the parade for the first time.
- In a first, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) will display a tableau during the Republic Day parade. 'Nasha Mukh Bharat', and a group of people standing in front of it, wearing different costumes of India and holding their arms out, with a banner placed below bearing a line Together We Can Do It.
- Marching down the Kartavya Path for the first time, the combined Band and Marching contingent of the Egyptian Armed Forces, led by Colonel Mahmoud Mohamed Abdel Fattah El Kharasawy. The contingent consist of 144 soldiers, representing the main branches of the Egyptian Armed Forces.
- The Indian Navy's IL-38, showcased during the parade for the first and last time, IL-38 has served Indian Navy for 42 years.
- The biggest drone show in India, comprising 3,500 indigenous drones, light up the evening sky over the Raisina hills during Beating the Retreat ceremony on January 29th.
- For the first time, a 3-D anamorphic projection, organised during the Beating the Retreat Ceremony on the facade of the North and South Block.
- Garud Special Forces of the Indian Air Force are participating for the first time in the Republic Day parade. Squadron Leader Pritam Singh Jaitawat leading the Garud team as part of the IAF contingent.

ICC annual awards 2022 announced: Check the complete list of Winners

ICC annual awards 2022

The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** has announced its first individual award winners in the **ICC Awards 2022**, naming the stars honoured in the Associate, Emerging and T20I categories following a global vote conducted among the specialist panel of media representatives, the ICC Voting Academy and global fans who voted for their favourite stars. Winners in the 13 individual categories were based on overall performances and achievements throughout the calendar year, with winners announced across ICC digital channels.



ICC awards winners for 2022

- **Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy:** Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- **Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy:** Nat Sciver (England)
- **Men's Test Cricketer of the Year:** Ben Stokes (England)
- **Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year:** Babar Azam
- **Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year:** Nat Sciver
- **Men's T20 International Cricketer of the Year:** Suryakumar Yadav (India)
- **Women's T20 International Cricketer of the Year:** Tahlia McGrath (Australia)
- **Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year:** Marco Jansen (South Africa)
- **Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year:** Renuka Singh (India)
- **Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year:** Gerhard Erasmus (Namibia)
- **Women's Associate Cricketer of the Year:** Esha Oza (India)
- **David Shepherd Trophy:** Richard Illingworth (England)
- **Spirit of Cricket Award:** Aasif Sheikh (Nepal)

Gallantry Awards: President Droupadi Murmu approves 412 Gallantry Awards

Gallantry Awards

President of India, **Droupadi Murmu** has approved 412 Gallantry awards and other Defence decorations to Armed Forces personnel and others. These include six Kirti Chakras, including four posthumous, and 15 Shaurya Chakras including two posthumous. These include one Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry), 92 Sena Medals, including four posthumous, one Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry), seven Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry) and 29 Param Vishisht Seva Medals. President has also awarded President's Tatrakshak Medal and Tatrakshak Medal to Indian Coast Guard Personnel for their act of conspicuous gallantry, exceptional devotion to duty and distinguished service.

Kirti Chakra Awardees

- Major Shubhang of the Dogra Regiment from Indian Army
- Naik Jitendra Singh of the Rajput Regiment from Indian Army
- Jammu and Kashmir police constable Rohit Kumar (Posthumous)
- Sub Inspector Deepak Bhardwaj (Posthumous)
- Head constable Sodhi Narayan (Posthumous)
- Head constable Shrawan Kashyap (Posthumous)

Shaurya Chakra Awardees

- Major Aditya Bhadauria, Kumaon Regiment, Indian Army
- Captain Arun Kumar, Kumaon Regiment, Indian Army
- Captain Yudhvir Singh, mechanised infantry, Indian Army
- Captain Rakesh TR, Parachute Regiment, Indian Army
- Naik Jasbir Singh, Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, Indian Army (Posthumous)

- Naik Vikas Choudhary, Jammu and Kashmir Rifles, (Posthumous)
- Constable Mudasir Ahmad Sheikh, Jammu and Kashmir Police
- Group Captain Yogeshwar Krishnarao Kandalkar, Air Force
- Flight Lieutenant Tejpal, Air Force
- Squadron leader Sandeep Kumar Jhahria, Air Force
- Corporal Anand Singh, Air Force
- Leading aircraftman Sunil Kumar, Air Force
- Assistant Commandant Satendra Singh
- Deputy Commandant Vikki Kumar Pandey
- Constable Vijay Oraon

Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry)

- Major Rakesh Kumar, Indian Army

Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry)

- Late CDR Nishant Singh (Posthumous), Navy

Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry)

- Wing Commander Sumedh Ashok Jamkar, Air Force
- Squadron leader Krishna Kumar Singh, Air Force
- Junior Warrant officer Srikanth Bonam, Air Force
- Sergeant Pankaj Kumar Rana, Air Force
- Corporal Satendra Kumar, Air Force
- Corporal Anthony Mang Kham, Air Force
- Leading Aircraftman Ravinder Singh, Air Force

Uttam Yudh Sewa Medal

- Lieutenant General Ram Chander Tiwari, Indian Army
- Lieutenant General Anindiya Sengupta, Indian Army
- Lieutenant General Amardeep Singh Aujla, Indian Army

President's Tatrakshak Medal (Distinguished Service)

- IG Anand Prakash Badola, TM (0248-M)

Tatrakshak Medal (Gallantry)

- ComdtDurgesh Chandra Tiwari
- Rishi, P/Nvk(R)
- Mohit Kumar Yadav, U/Nvk (RP)

Tatrakshak Medal

- DIG HimanshuNautiyal
- Sant Lal, P/Adh(RO)

National Affairs

- On **Parakram Diwas**, Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** participate in a ceremony to name 21 largest unnamed islands of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The islands would be named after the **21 Param Vir Chakra awardees**. The historic significance of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and to honour the memory of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Ross Islands was renamed as Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Dweep by the Prime Minister during his visit to the Island in 2018. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** distributed **title deeds** or '**Hakku Patra**' to over **52,000 eligible beneficiaries** from the **Lambani nomadic tribes** residing in northern Karnataka. The five families were among the **50,000-plus families** to whom land title deeds were distributed during the programme. The event was organised by the **state Revenue Department at Malkhed**, in the Kalaburagi district of Karnataka. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- After the success of the **Co-WIN platform**, the government has now replicated it to set up an electronic registry for **routine vaccinations**. Named **U-WIN**, the programme to **digitise India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP)** has been launched in a pilot mode in two districts of each state and Union Territory. Carrying vaccination cards of **children and pregnant women**, struggling to keep a tab on the next jab and other such hassles may soon become a thing of the past. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Indian Railways** has successfully concluded the trial of an **Artificial Intelligence Programme** it built to fix the endless problem of the Waiting list. The Indian Railways has also introduced the **Ideal Train Profile** to maximize the capacity utilization and revenue generation in reserved mail express trains by regularly analyzing the demand pattern of every single train. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **South Africa** said that it had reached a deal to transfer more than **100 cheetahs to India** as part of an ambitious project to reintroduce the spotted cats in the **south Asian country**. The environment ministry said an **initial batch of 12 cheetahs** would be flown to India next month, after **eight cheetahs arrived from Namibia** last September. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The six-day mega event "**Bharat Parv**" Event is to be organized by the **Government of India** at the Lawns and Gyan Path in front of Red Fort, Delhi from 26th to 31st January 2023, as part of the Republic Day Celebrations. "Bharat Parv" is under the **Ministry of Tourism** and has been designated as the nodal Ministry for the event. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Over 11 Crore rural households in the country have access to tap water connections as India celebrates its 74th Republic Day. 123 districts and more than 1.53 lakh villages of India have reported '**Har Ghar Jal**' which means every household has access to clean drinking water through the tap. Jal Jeevan Mission was announced by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** on 15th August 2019 to provide every rural household with a tap water connection by 2024. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- PepsiCo Foundation, the philanthropic arm of **PepsiCo and CARE**, have launched '**She Feeds the World**' program in India to strengthen the role of small-scale women producers through sustainable training and economic support. The program, which will be implemented in the Alipurduar and Cooch Behar districts of West Bengal, aims to reach out to more than 48,000 women, men and children and indirectly benefit 1,50,000 individuals. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The biennial air show and aviation expo, **Aero India 2023**, is scheduled for February 13–17. Yelahanka Air Force Station in **Bengaluru**, which has hosted it since 1996, will serve as the venue. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the programme. More than 730 exhibitors from India and other countries will take part in the event this year. ([Click here to read the article](#))

States in the News

- Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik inaugurated an '**International Craft Summit**' in Jajpur. The International Craft Summit is the first-of-its-kind craft summit to feature pioneer craftspersons, culture, and art enthusiasts. **CM Naveen Patnaik** addressed the inaugural event of the International Craft Summit virtually and noted that it is a historic occasion for Odisha. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann launched the '**School of Eminence**', an ambitious project of the Punjab government. **CM Bhagwant Mann** noted that it is a revolutionary step towards ensuring a bright future for students. The Punjab government fixed a budget of Rs 200 crore for the 'School of Eminence' project. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Centre has nominated the **maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo** to seek a UNESCO World Heritage Site tag. The historic maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo were chosen out of 52 sites for the UNESCO World Heritage Site tag. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Union Home Minister Amit Shah awarded the **Aska Police Station** of Ganjam, district of Odisha as the number one police station in the country. Aska Police station was awarded in the annual ranking of Police station for 2022. Aska Police station received the prestigious award along with the certificate of appreciation from **Union Minister Amit Shah**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Himachal Pradesh** celebrates its **53rd Statehood Day** with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023. In 1971, on this day, Himachal Pradesh became the 18th state of India. The state-level function of Full Statehood Day was held at Hamirpur district, where **Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu** hoisted the national flag and took a salute from the march past presented by various contingents. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The third edition of the two-day **Orange Festival** has been organized in **Nagaland's Rusoma village** to mark the harvest of organic oranges in the district. The orange festival was held from 24th to 25th January 2023. The orange festival is held to display the **harvested oranges** from the village. ([Click here to read the article](#))

International Affairs

- **Brazil and Argentina** aim for **greater economic integration**, including the development of a **common currency**, **Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** and **Argentine leader Alberto Fernandez** said in a joint article they penned. They also decided to advance discussions on a common **South American currency** that can be used for both financial and commercial flows, reducing costs of operations and external vulnerability. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Brazil's ministry of health** has declared a medical emergency in the **Yanomami territory**, the **country's largest indigenous** reservation bordering Venezuela, following reports of children dying of malnutrition and other diseases caused by illegal gold mining. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **World's longest calligraphic mural Makkah**: The Grand Mosque Road in Makkah now features the longest calligraphic painting in the world, the most recent addition to the holy city's aesthetic appeal. The **75-metre mural**, created by the artist Amal Felemban, is one of a number of sculptures and installations that already beautify Makkah as part of a programme conducted by the local government to improve its aesthetic appeal and show off Saudi heritage and culture to pilgrims. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **White House** nominated a special envoy for **human rights in North Korea**, moving to fill a post that has been empty since 2017 amid debate over how rights issues fit with efforts to counter **Pyongyang's nuclear weapons programme**. **President Joe Biden** nominated **Julie Turner**, a long-time diplomat and current director of the Office of East Asia and the Pacific in the Bureau of Democracy, **Human Rights** and Labor at the Department of State. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **China** is constructing a new dam on the **Mabja Zangbo river**, geospatial intelligence researcher **Damien Symon** has claimed. The dam will be sitting just a few kilometres north of the **Indian-Nepali-Chinese border trijunction**. Satellite images show work is being done on the Mabja Zangbo river in **Tibet's Burang County** since 2021. While the construction of the dam is not complete, it does pose questions regarding **China's hegemony on water** supplies downstream in the future. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** has announced a new federal investment to build and commercialise the **world's first photonic-based, fault-tolerant quantum computer**. The quantum computer which will have the potential to provide world leading capabilities to help solve complex data problems and could be used in a variety of sectors such as finance, transportation, environmental modelling, and health. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- A **US Military** raid in Somalia killed a key regional leader of the Islamic State group, **Bilal al-Sudani**. The US Military raid was ordered by **President Joe Biden**. Bilal al Sudani was killed during a gunfight after US troops descended on a mountainous cave complex in northern Somalia hoping to capture him. Around 10 of Sudani's Islamic State associates at the scene were killed, but there were no American casualties. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- The **International Hockey Federation (FIH) Partners** with **JSP Foundation for Hockey Development and Men's World Cup Lausanne, Switzerland**. The International Hockey Federation (FIH) is thrilled to announce that it has signed a partnership with JSP Foundation for its development programs. FIH will be working closely with JSP Foundation for some of its key initiatives for hockey development over the coming months. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH)** and Healthcare Sector Skill Council (HSSC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU). The pact between NABH and HSSC aims at recognition of the HSSC certificate for **NABH** accreditation and develops training programs for skilling, reskilling, and upskilling required for healthcare professionals. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Oppo India** and the Government's Common Service Centre (CSC) Academy have announced training 10,000 women in cybersecurity and cyber wellness in the country. The initiative of the partnership between Oppo India and CSC is to empower rural and semi-urban women through the '**Cyber Sangini**' Programme, which is supported by the Ministry of Electronics and IT. It aims to equip the women with the skills and knowledge needed to become certified 'Cyber Sanginis'. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **India and Egypt** signed an MOU to facilitate content exchange, capacity building, and Co-Productions between **Prasar Bharati** and the **National Media Authority** of Egypt. The MoU was signed by Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Youth Affairs, and Sports **Anurag Singh Thakur**, and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of Egypt, Sameh Hassan Shoukry. The MoUs were exchanged between the two countries in the presence of the **Prime Minister of India** and the President of Egypt following the delegation-level talks between the two sides at Hyderabad House in New Delhi. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Atal Innovation Mission - NITI Aayog, Central Board of Secondary Education -Ministry of Education, and Intel India** have collaborated to bring a change in the **education sector** by embedding future skills such as **AI and Tinkering** in the formal curriculum. The larger aim is to align the **NEP 2020's guidance** to increase the pace of tech integration for youth, the need to bridge the future skills gap in the country, and optimize the current infrastructure (ATLs, etc.) towards making **India AI-ready**. Together, they launched the **AIoT Integration** in School Curriculum in September 2022 and initiated a pilot. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Books and Authors

- A book titled "**India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn**" Written by international Indian expat, **Dr Ashwin Fernandes** has released globally. This book was launched by Honourable Minister of Education of India **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan**, at an event at Dr Ambedkar International Centre. This New book launched focuses on India's knowledge supremacy, journey showcasing changing trends in newly emerging India. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Banking/Economy/Business News

- **Payments and financial services unicorn PhonePe** has raised **\$350 million** in funding from **General Atlantic**, a leading global growth equity firm, at a **pre-money valuation of \$12 billion**, making the **Walmart-owned start-up** the most-valued **financial technology (fintech) player** in India. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Indian government bought back bonds maturing in 2024 from the **Reserve Bank of India**, while also issuing **bonds maturing in 2032** worth a similar quantum, the central bank said. The transaction was carried out using **Financial Benchmarks India Pvt Ltd. (FBIL) prices**. The government bought back 6.18% bonds maturing in 2024 worth **226.10 billion rupees (\$2.78 billion)** at a price of 98.62 rupees while it issued **8.28% 2032 bonds** worth 210.26 billion rupees to the RBI at 106.05 rupees. ([Click here to read the article](#))



- **Markets regulator SEBI** has launched an information database on **municipal bonds**. As part of efforts to develop the **bond markets**, an outreach programme on **municipal bonds and municipal finance** was organised by SEBI in the national capital. Representatives from various stakeholders, including the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, municipal corporations, stock exchanges, credit rating agencies, merchant bankers and debenture trustees, participated in the programme. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **sovereign green bonds** issued by the Indian government will **not have any restrictions on foreign investment**, the **Reserve Bank of India** said. Such securities will be counted as **specified securities** under the fully accessible route, the central bank said in a notification. The RBI had earlier this month announced an auction of 160 billion rupees (\$1.93 billion) of **sovereign green bonds in two tranches**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Lenders have transferred the entire **Rs 9,234-crore Jaypee Infratech** loan to newly constituted **National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL)**. This is the maiden acquisition by the government-promoted bad loan bank that was set a year ago. Under the arrangement, the NARCL will only acquire Jaypee Infratech loans that are currently held by **9 public sector banks**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **AU Small Finance Bank**, India's largest Small Finance Bank, announced the launch of a first-of-its-kind platform in the **credit card industry** - the **SwipeUp platform**. With this platform, AU Bank will provide an opportunity to **other bank Credit Cardholders** to upgrade their card to one of **AU Credit Cards**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **country's services exports** are doing "**extremely well**" and going by the **current trend** these outbound shipments would register about **20 per cent growth** in this fiscal and cross the **USD 300 billion target** despite global economic uncertainties. With all these stress, where every global leader is talking of "very" tough times, **India's exports rose 9 per cent** year-on-year during April-December 2022-23. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Halwa Ceremony**: On January 26, a traditional "**Halwa**" ritual will be held to commemorate the completion of the Budget planning process. The Halwa ceremony occurs five days before Nirmala Sitharaman, the finance minister, delivers the **Union Budget for the fiscal year 2023-2024 on February 1**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **United Nations (UN)** has cut its **GDP growth forecast** for **India** for calendar year 2023 to 5.8 percent, citing the effect of **tighter monetary policy** and weak global demand. **Growth in India** is expected to remain strong at **5.8 percent**, albeit slightly lower than the estimated 6.4 percent in 2022, as higher interest rates and a global slowdown weigh on investment and exports, the **UN's World Economic Situation and Prospects 2023 report**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- **Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)** has launched a massive district outreach program in all the districts of the country through a revamped **Nidhi Aapke Nikat program**. The aim of this program is to reach all the districts of the country on the same day i.e. 27th of every month. EPFO organized camps in **685 districts of the country**. In the year 2015, Bhavishya Nidhi Adalat was rechristened as Nidhi Aapke Nikat and in the year 2019, the outreach of the Nidhi Aapke Nikat Program was further improved by inviting participation of trade unions. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India** will become the **first major economy** to move to a **T+1(trade plus one)** market settlement cycle when it finally makes the transition on January 27. The **Chinese market** is currently partly T+1. With the move, all stock settlements will be done the next day, making financial transactions faster in the stock market. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Appointments/Resignations

- The appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of **Vikram Dev Dutt** as the next **director general** in the **Directorate of General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)**. He will take over as the head of the aviation regulator on February 28, 2023. He will be succeeding the incumbent DGCA chief **Arun Kumar**. Earlier, Dutt had also served as the CMD of Air India. He had taken charge in January last year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- US President Joe Biden will appoint former COVID policy coordinator Jeff Zients as his new chief of staff, reviving a crucial position as Biden gets ready for a possible re-election campaign and deals with an investigation into his handling of classified documents. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF)** that markets milk and dairy products under the Amul brand has announced the appointment of **Shamalbhaj B Patel** as its chairman and **Valamjibhai Humbal** as vice chairman. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The philanthropic arm of the Tata group and largest shareholder in the group holding company, **Tata Trusts** named **Siddharth Sharma**, as its CEO and **Aparna Uppaluri**, as chief operating officer. The appointments of the new CEO and COO will come into "effect from April 1, 2023". ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The chief executive of Toyota Motor Corp, **Akio Toyoda** will step down as head of the company his grandfather founded, the Japanese automaker. **Koji Sato**, the automaker's 53-year-old chief branding officer, who is also president of Toyota's luxury brand Lexus, will take over as chief executive from April 1, as Akio Toyoda becomes chairman. The current chairman **Takeshi Uchiyamada** will drop his chairman title but remain on the board. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- India's Central Bank has approved **JP Morgan Chase & Co.** to appoint Prabdev Singh as the lender's Chief Executive Officer in the Country. The **Reserve Bank of India** approved a three-year term for Prabdev Singh last week. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Naresh Lalwani** has taken over as the new **General Manager of Central Railway**. He is a senior officer of the Indian Railway Engineering Service of 1985 batch. Before taking over as General Manager, Central Railway, he was working as Senior Deputy General Manager and Chief Vigilance Officer of Western Railway. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Defence News

- **Indian Navy** has carried out a six-day-long mega military exercise along with the **Indian Army** and the **Indian Air Force** near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh. The "largest" biennial tri-services amphibious exercise **AMPHEX 2023** was conducted from January 17 to 22. The exercise is to review the preparedness of the Indian Navy and the Army during the war, national calamities and coastal security enforcement. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** is set to conduct Exercise PRALAY in the northeastern sector of India amid the unresolved contention with China about differing perceptions regarding the **Line of Actual Control (LAC)** between the two nations. The exercise will involve major air bases of the IAF in the northeast in addition to the recently deployed drone squadron. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **2023 edition of Indian Navy's** major maritime exercise **Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX)**, is currently underway in the Indian Ocean Region. This operational level exercise is conducted biennially and witnesses participation not only by all Indian Navy units but also of Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Coast Guard assets. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Indian Air Force will run the massive air exercise Pralay to assess its operational readiness. The significant exercise will take place near the Line of Actual Control in India's northeast, involving all significant Air Force units. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Border Security Force (BSF) announced that in preparation for Republic Day festivities, its troops had begun "Ops Alert" with the goal of enhancing security along the International Border (IB) with Pakistan in the Kutch region of Gujarat and Barmer in Rajasthan. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The inaugural edition of the 16-day bilateral air exercise between the **Indian Air Force and the Japan Air Self-Defence Force** has concluded in Japan. The exercise, '**Veer Guardian 2023**', involved precise planning and skilful execution by both the air forces. The JASDF participated in the exercise with its F-2 and F-15 aircraft, while the IAF contingent participated with the Su-30 MKI aircraft. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Awards and Recognitions

- **R Vishnu Prasad** was awarded "**The most distinguished scientist of the year 2022**" at Vigyan bhawan, Delhi. Prasad, a scientist with 69 patents has been honored with the **Indian Achievers Award** as the most distinguished scientist of the year. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Two Indian films bagged awards for the best script writer and best actress in the **Asian Film Competition section** at the **21st Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF)**, Bangladesh concluded. Anik Dutta directed film **Aparajito (The Undefeated)** got the best scriptwriting award while **Ketaki Narayan** was judged the best actress for her role in Krishnendu Kalesh directed film Prappeda (Hawk's Muffin). ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The Song '**Naatu Naatu**' from India's blockbuster film **RRR** and two documentaries from the country '**All That Breathes**' and '**The Elephant Whisperers**' have made it to the final nominations list at the **95th edition of the Academy Awards**. However, India's official entry **Chhello Show (Last Film Show)**, Gujarati language coming-of-age drama did not score a nomination in the Best International Feature category at the 95th Academy Awards. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Hindustani vocalist Padma Vibhushan, **Dr. Prabha Atre** was conferred with the the **Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award** at the hands of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. The award was presented to her by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde at Thane near Mumbai. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Summit and Conference

- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** is hosting the **2nd International Conference** on the theme 'Use of Technology and Elections Integrity' in New Delhi from 23rd to 24th January 2023. ECI is leading the Cohort on Elections Integrity which was established as a follow-up to the '**Summit for Democracy**' held virtually in December 2021. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- In the 12th Session of the **Intergovernmental Technical Working Group (ITWG)** on Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) India was elected as Vice-Chair and represented Asia & Pacific region. **Dr. B N Tripathi**, Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences), ICAR, and the National Coordinator, vice-chaired the Session and also act as Rapporteur. The 12th Session of the **Intergovernmental Technical Working Group (ITWG)** on Animal Genetic Resources was held in Rome from 18th January to 20th January 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Ranks and Reports

- **India** has emerged as one of the **top three countries** in the world where the area under **organic agriculture** expanded the maximum in 2020. The total increase under organic cultivation **globally in 2020 was 3 million hectares (mh)**, out of which **Argentina** accounted for 7,81,000 hectares (up by 21 per cent), followed by **Uruguay** at 5,89,000 hectares (28 per cent) and **India** at 3,59,000 hectares. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- After his meteoric rise to the position of the **world's third wealthiest man**, **Gautam Adani** has been dragged down to the seventh position on **Forbes' rich list** by **Hindenburg's damning report**. The serious claims have triggered off a storm as **Indian index Sensex** opened **1,000 points lower**, and market regulator **SEBI** increased scrutiny against the **Adani Group**. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Sports News

- **Shuttler Kunlavut Vitidsarn** from Thailand won the **India Open Badminton Championship 2023** by defeating Denmark's **Viktor Axelsen** in the men's singles by 22-20, 10-21 and 21-12. In the Women's Singles category, An Seyoung of South Korea won the title by defeating Japanese **Akane Yamaguchi** by 15-21, 21-16, and 21-12. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **International Cricket Council's (ICC) 92.2 million** followers across Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, TikTok and YouTube makes it the most followed international sports federation on social media, according to a study from BCW Sports. The ICC increased its following by 16 per cent, putting it a massive 40.8 million followers ahead of second-placed Fifa (51.4 million). ([Click here to read the article](#))

Schemes and Commitment News

- The **Atal Pension Yojana** achieved the highest-ever takers in 2022 with a rise of 36 percent in enrolment. In the Atal Pension Yojana, the figures cross the **10 million mark** for the first time in a calendar year. The number of enrolments in 2022 rose to 12.5 million from 9.2 million in 2021. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Science and Technology News

- Kerala reported 3 cases of norovirus, a gastro-intestinal zoonotic disease that is spread by intimate contact or contaminated food. The stomach flu and stomach bug are additional names for norovirus. But norovirus disease has nothing to do with the flu, which is brought on by an influenza virus. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket** carried more than four dozen **Starlink satellites** into the low-Earth orbit in a launch from the **California coast**. The rocket lifted off at 7:43 a.m. California time from **Vandenberg Space Force Base**, located northwest of **Santa Barbara**. Fifty-one Starlink satellites were on board. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Google AI Chatbot**: Sundar Pichai, CEO of Google declared code red at Google in December to plan the development of Google's AI chatbot. According to the New York Times, Google has enlisted the assistance of two of its most well-known engineers, **Larry Page and Sergey Brin**, who no longer participate in day-to-day operations at the company. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **United States space agency NASA** has said the country plans to test a spacecraft engine powered with **nuclear fission by 2027**, an advancement seen as key to long-haul missions including a manned journey to Mars. NASA will partner with the **US military's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)** to develop the nuclear thermal propulsion engine and launch it into space, **NASA administrator Bill Nelson** said. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Maria Valdes and three other scientists came upon a 17-pound meteorite, which is heavier than the majority of bowling balls and pumpkins for Halloween, during an Antarctic mission in late December. The Field Museum in Chicago, where Valdes works, released a statement saying that only one out of every 450 or so meteorites discovered on the icy continent are this huge or greater. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- A team of scientists at Bengaluru's Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR), an autonomous institute of the **Department of Science and Technology**, Government of India, who were working on nitride-based materials has used their background for developing hardware for **neuromorphic computing**. They used ScN to develop a device mimicking a synapse that controls the signal transmission as well as remembers the signal. ([Click here to read the article](#))

- The first nasal vaccination produced in India against Covid-19, the iNCOVACC, was introduced by Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh and Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya. Bharat Biotech has created the vaccine. At Mandaviya's house, the first intranasal vaccine produced in India was introduced to the world. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The European Space Agency's Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer or **JUICE** is the next venture of humanity into the outer Solar System. It will be conducted through examinations of Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, and its three moons with oceans including **Ganymede, Callisto, and Europa**. The spacecraft has just completed its final tests before departing Toulouse, France, for Europe's Spaceport to count down to on **April 2023** launch. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Important Days News

- The **United Nations General Assembly** has proclaimed **24 January** as **International Day of Education**, in celebration of the role of education for peace and development. The fifth International Day of Education will be celebrated on 24 January 2023 under the theme **"to invest in people, prioritize education"**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- On **January 24**, the nation celebrates **National Girl Child Day**. This day was established in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The Ministry of Education will host a celebration with the theme **"Self Defence Training for Girls."** ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Election Commission of India is celebrating **13th National Voters' Day** on **25th January 2023**. This day is celebrated on 25 January to mark the foundation day of the Election Commission of India. The theme for this year's NVD, **'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure'** is dedicated to voters which conveys individual's feeling and aspiration towards participation in the electoral process through power of their vote. Since **2011**, **National Voters' Day** has been celebrated on **January 25** every year, all across the country to mark the foundation day of the Election Commission of India, i.e. 25th January 1950. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **India Energy Week 2023** is going to be hosted in Bengaluru from 6th to 8th February 2023. The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India **Hardeep S. Puri** inaugurated the demo run of an **Inland Water Vessel** powered by **Methanol blended Diesel (MD15)**. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **World Customs Organisation (WCO)** marks **International Customs Day** on **26th January** every year. The occasion commemorates the WCO's maiden session held in 1953. This year, the theme of International Customs Day is **'Nurturing the next generation: Promoting a culture of knowledge-sharing and professional pride in Customs.'** ([Click here to read the article](#))

- Every year, **International Holocaust Remembrance Day** is observed on **January 27** to reflect on the atrocities inflicted by **Adolf Hitler**, which resulted in the deaths of an estimated six million Jews. The day commemorates the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in January 1945 from Nazi control. The theme **"Home and Belonging"** guides United Nations Holocaust remembrance and education in 2023. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Data Protection Day, or Data Privacy Day**, is celebrated on **January 28**. The aim is to create more awareness about the right to data protection and the various ways in which people can keep their data more safe. Let's first understand the history and significance. The theme for this year is **'Think Privacy First'**. In this digital age, it is pragmatic to prioritize data privacy, both for individuals and businesses. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Obituaries

- Former Vice Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal **Harjeet Singh Arora** passed away at the age of 61. Air Marshal Harjit Singh Arora PVSM, AVSM, ADC (25 June 1961 - 21 January 2023) was an officer of the Indian Air Force and served as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff from 1 October 2019 to 30 June 2021. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **Dr Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi**, who is widely revered for his contribution in the field of architecture, has passed away. He was 95. For his outstanding contribution to the field of architecture, he was conferred with **Pritzker Prize in 2018 and the coveted Padma Shri in 1976**. The **Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)** has announced that Indian architect Balkrishna Doshi will be the recipient of the 2022 Royal Gold Medal. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- 'Ironman of India' **Sabir Ali**, who won the decathlon gold at the **1981 Asian Athletics Championships** in Tokyo, passed away. He was 67. Ali, who retired from Railways, won the title in the Japanese capital with a tally of 7,253 points beating Japan's Nobuya Saito (7,078) and China's Zu Qilin (7,074). He also won two silver medals at the South Asian Federation Games held in Kathmandu and Dhaka. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Veteran Telugu film actor and former parliamentarian **J Jamuna** passed away at the age of 86. She was born in Hampi on August 30, 1936, Jamuna made her film debut at the age of 16 with Puttillu (1952) made by Garikapati Raja Rao of Praja Natya Mandali, cultural wing of the Communist Party of India (CPI). Before that she acted in several stage plays on behalf of Indian People's Theatre Association floated by Raja Rao. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Miscellaneous News

- The **American India Foundation** (AIF) inaugurated India's first STEM Innovation and Learning Center (SILC) in the presence of the Minister for School Education, **Thiru Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi**. STEM Innovation and Learning Center is inaugurated under the scheme of Vanavil Mandram at the Government Higher Secondary School, MMDA Colony, Chennai. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Lieutenant Governor **R K Mathur** launched the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) in the Union Territory, with both hill councils of **Kargil and Leh** welcoming the initiative. The 14-digit ULPIN would help in the digitization of land records and also reach a conclusive land titling. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- The **Jammu and Kashmir** Government is set to host their first SARAS Fair 2023 from 4th February to 14th February 2023. In the SARAS Fair 2023, artisans and women's **self-help groups** from across the country will showcase their crafts, Handicrafts, handloom, and food. The fair would be organized at Bagh-e-Bahu, in Jammu. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Union Territory Administrator, **Banwari Lal Purohit** has inaugurated **northern India's largest floating solar power project** of 2000kWp worth Rs 11.70 crore at waterworks, Sector 39, Chandigarh. The inauguration was held in the presence of MP Kirron Kher. He also inaugurated a 500kWp floating solar project with fountains at Dhanas Lake. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- **East Coast Railways' Visakhapatnam railway station** has received the prestigious '**Green Railway Station Certification**' with the highest Platinum rating. The certificate has been awarded by the **Indian Green Building Council (IGBC)** for adopting green concepts. It secured 82 out of 100 points in six environmental categories. ([Click here to read the article](#))
- Google celebrates the **74th Republic Day** of India with a creative masterpiece by a Gujarat-based guest artist **Parth Kothekar**. The Google Doodle finely illustrates the **Republic Day** Parade, along with some iconic landmarks like Rashtrapati Bhavan, the India Gate, the Daredevil motorcycle riders, and the CRFP marching contingent. ([Click here to read the article](#))

Static Takeaways

- Chief of Naval Staff: Admiral R Hari Kumar;
- Indian Navy Founded: 26 January 1950;
- Indian Navy headquarters: New Delhi.
- International Hockey Federation Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland;
- International Hockey Federation CEO: Thierry Weil;
- International Hockey Federation Founded: 7 January 1924, Paris, France;
- International Hockey Federation Founder: Paul Léautéy;

- International Hockey Federation Motto: FairPlay Friendship Forever.
- Election Commission of India Formed: 25 January 1950;
- Election Commission of India Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Election Commission of India First Chief Election Commissioner: Sukumar Sen;
- Election Commission of India Current Chief Election Commissioner: Rajiv Kumar.
- AU small finance bank Headquarters: Jaipur, Rajasthan;
- AU small finance bank MD & CEO: Sanjay Agarwal;
- AU small finance bank Chairman: Raj Vikash Verma.
- World Customs Organisation Founded: 26 January 1953;
- World Customs Organisation Secretary General: Kunio Mikuriya (January 2009 - present).
- Toyota Motor Corp Founded: 28 August 1937, Japan;
- Toyota Motor Corp Founder: Kiichiro Toyoda.
- Central Railway Founded: 5 November 1951, Mumbai;
- Central Railway Headquarters: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai.
- Indian Air Force Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Indian Air Force Founded: 8 October 1932, India;
- Indian Air Force Air chief Marshall: Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria;
- Japan Air Self-Defence Force Founded: 1 July 1954, Japan.
- Japan Air Self-Defence Force Headquarters: Tokyo, Japan.
- Central Provident Fund Commissioner in. Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO): Neelam Shami Rao;
- Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) Founded: 4 March 1952.
- PepsiCo Foundation CEO: Ramon Laguarta (3 Oct 2018-);
- PepsiCo Foundation Headquarters: Purchase, Harrison, New York, United States;
- PepsiCo Foundation Founded: 1965;
- PepsiCo Foundation President: Ramon Laguarta.

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