

## Weekly One Liners 02nd to 08th January 2023

### 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2023 announced

**17th Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award:** 27 Indians living overseas have been chosen by the Indian government for the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA), for outstanding achievements both in India and abroad. The award is the highest honour conferred upon Indians living abroad, including Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) or organisations/institutions established and run by them.

The jury that selected the recipients comprised **Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar as its chairman and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar as its Vice-Chair**, among other distinguished dignitaries from different fields. The awards will be conferred upon the recipients by President Droupadi Murmu during the 17th edition of the PBSA, which is scheduled to be held from 8-10 January in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

#### Theme of 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award

As per the Ministry of External Affairs, the theme for Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2023 will be **"Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India's Progress in Amrit Kaal"**. This theme highlights the importance of the Indian diaspora in contributing to India's progress.

#### List of Overseas Indians Chosen for the Honour

S.no.	Person	Country	Field
1	Jagdish Chennupati	Australia	Science & Technology / Education
2	Sanjeev Mehta	Bhutan	Education
3	Dilip Loundo	Brazil	Art & Culture / Education
4	Alexander Maliakel John	Brunei Darussalam	Medicine
5	Vaikuntam Iyer Lakshmanan	Canada	Community Welfare
6	Joginder Singh Nijjar	Croatia	Art & Culture / Education
7	Ramjee Prasad	Denmark	Information Technology
8	Kannan Ambalam	Ethiopia	Community Welfare
9	Amal Kumar Mukhopadhyay	Community Welfare / Medicine	Germany
10	Mohamed Irfaan Ali (Guyana President)	Guyana	Politics / Community Welfare
11	Reena Vinod Pushkarna	Israel	Business / Community Welfare

S.no.	Person	Country	Field
12	Maqsooda Sarfi Shiotani	Japan	Education
13	Rajagopal	Mexico	Education
14	Amit Kailash Chandra Lath	Poland	Business / Community Welfare
15	Parmanand Sukhumal Daswani	Republic of Congo	Community Welfare
16	Piyush Gupta	Singapore	Business
17	Mohanlal Hira	South Africa	Community Welfare
18	Sanjaykumar Shivabhai Patel	South Sudan	Business / Community Welfare
19	Sivakumar Nadesan	Sri Lanka	Community Welfare
20	Dewanchandrebhose Sharman	Suriname	Community Welfare
21	Archana Sharma	Switzerland	Science & Technology
22	Frank Arthur Seepersad	Trinidad & Tobago	Community Welfare / Education
23	Siddharth Balachandran	UAE	Business / Community Welfare
24	Chandrakant Babubhai Patel	UK	Media
25	Darshan Singh Dhaliwal	USA	Business / Community Welfare
26	Rajesh Subramaniam	USA	Business
27	Ashok Kumar Tiwary	Uzbekistan	Business

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**About the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman**

The Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (Overseas Indian Honour/Award) is the highest Indian award for Non-resident Indian and Overseas Citizen of India or an organisation or institution established and run by Non-Resident Indians or Persons of Indian Origin, constituted by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India in conjunction with the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (Non-Resident Indian Day), to honour exceptional and meritorious contribution in their chosen field/profession. The award is given by the President of India. Since 2016, the Government of India has doubled the number of awardees each year to 30 after a decision to grant the award once every two years.

**Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (PBS) is conferred for outstanding contributions in any of the following areas:**

- "Social and humanitarian causes in India or abroad"
- "Better understanding of India"
- "Support to India's causes and concerns in a tangible way"
- "Building closer links between India, the overseas Indian community and their country of residence;"
- "Welfare of the local Indian community"
- "Philanthropic and charitable work"
- "Eminence in one's field or outstanding work, which has enhanced India's prestige in the country of residence; or"
- "Eminence in skills which has enhanced India's prestige in that country (for non-professional workers)."

**National Affairs**

- **Coffee shipments from India, Asia's third-largest producer and exporter**, rose 1.66 per cent to 4 lakh tonne in 2022 on rise in instant coffee exports and re-exports. Exports stood at 3.93 lakh tonne in 2021. In value terms, coffee export was higher at Rs 8,762.47 crore in 2022 as against Rs 6,984.67 crore in the previous year. India ships both **Robusta and Arabica** varieties, besides instant coffee. (Click here to read the article)
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri **Amit Shah** has laid the foundation stone of the **Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI)** at Devanahalli in Karnataka and inaugurated the residential and administrative complexes of the **Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)**. The residential complexes of ITBP inaugurated by Shri Amit Shah include Residential Quarters, Joint Building, Barracks for 120 Jawans, Staff Officers' Mess and Officers' Mess. (Click here to read the article)
- The **National Commission for Indian System of Medicine (NCISM)** and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), the two prominent institutions under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India for regulating medical education and conducting scientific research respectively, have launched '**SMART (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals)**'. The program aimed to boost scientific research in priority healthcare research areas through Ayurveda colleges and hospitals. (Click here to read the article)

- A **five-judge Constitution Bench** of the **Supreme Court** upheld the **Modi government's** 2016 decision to **demonetise Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 currency notes**, saying the decision was about executive policy and could not be reversed. The court rejected the 58 petitions challenging **demonetisation** and said the decision-making process of the government was not flawed. (Click here to read the article)
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the **Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee National Institute of Water and Sanitation (SPM-NIWAS)** at Joka in Kolkata via video conferencing. SPM-NIWAS has been set up with a budget of Rs 100 crore, on 8.72 acres of land at Joka, Diamond Harbour Road, Kolkata, West Bengal. (Click here to read the article)
- The Government of India is proposing the ban on promotion of Online Betting on the Social Media platforms. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, have recently been recommended for revision by the Central government to control the Indian online gaming market. The suggestion was made to protect consumers from any harm that skill-based games might cause. (Click here to read the article)
- The President of India **Droupadi Murmu** inaugurated Samvidhan Udyan, Mayur Stambh, National Flag Post, Statue of Mahatma Gandhi, and Maharana Pratap at Raj Bhavan, Jaipur on **3rd January 2023**. The President of India virtually inaugurated the **Transmission System for Solar Energy Zones** in Rajasthan and laid the foundation stone for the 1000 MV Bikaner Solar Power Project of SJVN Limited. (Click here to read the article)
- In a draft change of IT rules, the government proposes self-regulatory organizations for international online gaming companies operating in India, but it will not permit betting. The draft online gaming guidelines released on Monday included steps to protect consumers from the risk of gaming addiction and financial loss as well as user authentication. (Click here to read the article)
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi to launch the world's longest river cruise, "**Ganga Vilas**" from Varanasi, **Uttar Pradesh** to Dibrugarh, **Assam** on 13th January 2023. **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** has informed us that all preparations for the arrival of the Prime Minister and the launch ceremony in Varanasi should be finished. (Click here to read the article)
- The **President of India Droupadi Murmu** inaugurated the **18th National Jamboree of the Bharat Scouts and Guides** at Pali, Rajasthan on 4th January 2023. The President of India noted that the Bharat Scouts and Guides is the largest voluntary, non-political, uniformed youth organization and educational movement in the country. (Click here to read the article)

- **India** has taken over the leadership of the **Asia Pacific Postal Union (APPU)** in January 2023. Dr **Vinaya Prakash Singh** will take over the charge of **Secretary General of the Union** for a tenure of 4 years. This is the result of the elections during the **13th APPU Congress** held in August-September 2022. (Click here to read the article)
- **Silent Valley National Park** in the last month identified 141 species of birds of which 17 were new species of birds. A total of 175 species of birds have been spotted in Silent Valley. The bird survey was conducted at Silent Valley on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of December 2022 and marked the **30th Anniversary** of the first bird survey in Silent Valley. The **bird survey** was first conducted in the last week of December 1990, however, due to Covid-19, the anniversary could not be celebrated in December 2020. (Click here to read the article)
- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare **Narendra Singh Tomar** inaugurated the three-day 'North East Krishi Kumbhar-2023' and took part in the 49th Foundation Day celebration of the **ICAR Research Complex** for NEH Region, Umiam. The Minister inaugurated the administrative cum academic block office and Girl's Hostel of the College of Agriculture at Kyrdemkulai, Ri Bhoi district. (Click here to read the article)
- The Uttarakhand **government** has decided to abolish the **revenue policing system** in the state. The Pushkar Singh Dhami government has also announced that revenue villages will be brought under the regular policing system. Law and order in 1,800 revenue villages of Uttarakhand will now be handled by the state police, according to a statement by the Chief Minister's Office. (Click here to read the article)
- India's first green hydrogen blending operation in the **piped natural gas (PNG)** network at **NTPC Kawas**, Gujarat. The project is a joint effort of NTPC and Gujarat Gas (GCL). The power generation company stated that the first molecular of green hydrogen from the project was set in motion by **P Ram Prasad**, Head of Project, Kawas in presence of other senior executives of NTPC Kawas and GCL. After the start of blending and operation, **NTPC Kawas** held an awareness workshop for township residents with help of GCL officials. The foundation stone of the project was laid by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi on 30th July 2022. (Click here to read the article)
- Defence minister **Rajnath Singh** has inaugurated the **Siyom bridge in Arunachal Pradesh**, along with 27 other infrastructure projects completed by the Border Roads Organisation (**BRO**). Built at a cost of 724 crore rupees, these projects will hugely augment India's border infrastructure, mostly along the Chinese border, from Ladakh to Arunachal. (Click here to read the article)

### States in the News

- Kerala Chief Minister **Pinarayi Vijayan** inaugurated **Indian Library Congress** in Kannur, Kerala. The inauguration event of the Indian Library Congress was organized by the People's Mission for Social Development and Library Council. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Election Commission (EC)** is focusing on 929 polling booths across **Tripura**, setting a target of **92 per cent voter turnout** in the assembly elections due early this year. These booths recorded a voter turnout of less than 89 per cent, which was the average across 3,328 booths in the 2018 assembly polls. The EC is also working on '**Mission Zero Poll Violence**' to make the assembly elections peaceful. (Click here to read the article)
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister **Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu** announced to set up of Rs 101 crore **CM's Sukhashraya Sahayata Kosh** for the destitute in the state. Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh informed that 40 Congress MLAs agreed to contribute Rs one lakh each from their first salary for the fund and also requested the MLAs from BJP and other parties to contribute. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Gaan Ngai** of the **Zeliangrong Community** celebrated in Manipur. The Gaan Ngai festival is one of the major festivals of Manipur which is celebrated every year after harvesting. The festival also marks the end of the year when the farmers have stored their foodgrains in their granaries. During the festival, the **Zeliangrong Community** shows their gratitude by offering the Almighty a good harvest and praying for a better and prosperous life in the coming year. (Click here to read the article)
- **Imoinu Day** is celebrated in Manipur as a part of the Meitei Cultural ritual. The traditional festival of Imoinu Day is celebrated on the 12th day of the **Meitei Lunar Month of Wakching**. Every year on this day, people of the valley serve dishes in odd numbers as part of the Imoinu Eratpa ritual. They regard Imoinu Eratpa as a goddess of health, prosperity, abundance, and order of domesticity in Manipur. (Click here to read the article)
- The Union Cabinet has approved the naming of **Greenfield International Airport** at Goa's Mopa as Manohar International Airport after former Defence Minister and **Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar**. The airport was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in December 2022 at Mopa Goa. The airport will be named after the late Manohar Parrikar to honor his contribution to building modern Goa. (Click here to read the article)

- West Bengal **Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee** launched a new campaign "**Didi'r Surakha Kavach**" for her party, Trinamool Congress. The campaign "Didi'r Surakha Kavach" ahead of the panchayat polls due in April. The "Didi'r Surakha Kavach" will begin on 10th January 2023. (Click here to read the article)
- Five-time MLA from **Bhattiyat Kuldeep Singh Pathania** is all set to be the next Speaker of the Himachal Pradesh Assembly. Pathania submitted his nomination papers to Vidhan Sabha secretary **Yash Pal** in the presence of senior leaders including HPCC president Pratibha Singh. Three sets of nomination papers were filed for him. His name was proposed by the Chief Minister **Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu** and was seconded by the leader of the opposition in the house and BJP leader Jai Ram Thakur. (Click here to read the article)
- **Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** launched the **Madhya Pradesh Residential Land Rights scheme (Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu Adhikar Yojana)** to distribute free leases of residential land to selected beneficiaries. The scheme aims to provide **free plots to the poor** living in rural areas for building their houses. The land will be offered **completely free of cost** and along with the plot, the benefits of all other schemes will also be delivered. (Click here to read the article)
- Kerala Chief Minister(CM) **Pinarayi Vijayan** has inaugurated the **Palm leaf Manuscript Museum** with modern audio-visual technology at the renovated Central Archives, Fort area in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The Museum, promoted as "**World's First Palm-Leaf Manuscript Museum**" was set up by the Archives Department in association with the Kerala Museum of History and Heritage at a cost of Rs 3 crore. (Click here to read the article)
- **Octave 2023** is a festival being held under the aegis of the **South Zone Culture Centre, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu** to showcase the indigenous art and culture of Northeast India. Octave 2023 was inaugurated by Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi. (Click here to read the article)
- The eagerly anticipated Purple Fest, Celebrating Diversity, the state's first-ever inclusive festival for people with disabilities (PwDs), will take place in Goa. Panjim will host the festival from January 6-8, 2023, with all the fanfare. (Click here to read the article)

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## International Affairs

- **India and Pakistan** exchanged lists of nuclear installations that cannot be attacked in the event of hostilities, maintaining a tradition dating back to 1992 despite bilateral ties being at an all-time low. The two sides further exchanged lists of prisoners held in each other's jails, and the Indian side sought the early release and repatriation of **civilian prisoners, missing defence personnel and fishermen, along with their boats, from Pakistan's custody.** (Click here to read the article)
- **Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva** took office for a third term as **Brazil's president**, vowing to fight for the poor and the environment and "rebuild the country" after far-right leader **Jair Bolsonaro's divisive administration.** The 77-year-old veteran leftist, who previously led Brazil from 2003 to 2010, took the oath of office before Congress, capping a remarkable political comeback for the metalworker-turned-president less than five years after he was jailed on controversial, since-quashed corruption charges. (Click here to read the article)
- The 10th edition of Dhaka Lit Fest (DLF), the largest international literary festival in Bangladesh, which was postponed three years in a row owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, is scheduled for January 5-8, 2023. The Bangla Academy in Dhaka's historic grounds will serve as the venue for the event. (Click here to read the article)
- **Croatia** has switched to the euro and entered **Europe's passport-free zone** – two important milestones for the country after joining the **European Union (EU)** nearly a decade ago. At midnight, the Balkan nation bid farewell to its **kuna currency** and became the **20th member of the eurozone.** It is now the **27th nation in the Schengen zone,** the world's largest passport-free travel area, which enables more than 400 million people to move freely around its members. (Click here to read the article)
- **China** has appointed **Qin Gang,** its ambassador to the United States and a trusted aide of **President Xi Jinping,** to be its **new foreign minister,** as Beijing and Washington seek to stabilize rocky relations. This decision was made by the **13th National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee.** Qin, 56, replaces **Wang Yi,** who has been foreign minister for the past decade. (Click here to read the article)
- China's **CRR Corporation Ltd.** Launched a **hydrogen urban train,** and it is the first in Asia and the second such train in the world. **Germany** introduced green trains a few months back. The hydrogen trains have a speed of 160 km per hour and the operational range without refueling is 600 km. The trains launched by **Germany** have a record of 1175 km range set. The Indian Railway on the other hand is moving fast to induct the '**World's Greenest Train**' soon. (Click here to read the article)

- The **Indian government** has proclaimed that they have identified **two lithium mines and one copper mine** in Argentina and they are moving forward to acquiring it or taking long term lease. The government of India said that they had sent a **team of geologists to Argentina** to assess and find potential lithium deposits in the month of November 2022. They have been able to identify a possible source of lithium and copper deposits in the south American country. (Click here to read the article)
- **New satellite imagery** reveals the effect of **Europe's 'winter heatwave'** in the thick of the continent's winter skiing season. An image posted by the **European Union's Copernicus Programme** shows a distinct lack of snow surrounding the **Swiss town of Altdorf**, which is close to skiing resorts. In Altdorf, the temperature reached 66.5°F (19.2°C) on **New Year's Day** and did not fall below 60.9°F (16.1°C) during the night, breaking a previous record set in 1864. **Warsaw in Poland** also hit 66°F (18.9°C), smashing its own January record by over 9°F (5°C). (Click here to read the article)
- **US** has approved the **first-ever vaccine for honey bees** which will confer protection from the **American foulbrood disease**, raising hopes of a new weapon against diseases that routinely ravage colonies that are relied upon for **food pollination**. The **US Department of Agriculture (USDA)** has permitted a conditional license for a vaccine, developed by **Dalan Animal Health**, a **US-based biotech company**. The vaccine will be supplied on a "limited basis" to commercial beekeepers in the US and is expected to be available this year. (Click here to read the article)

### Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **IIT Madras** Centre of Excellence working with DRDO on **Advanced Defence Technologies** including Combat Vehicle Technologies. Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) is operating a **Research Centre** dedicated to defence technologies jointly with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to develop advanced technologies for the national defence and security needs of the nation. It was established by DRDO but IIT Madras has now taken over and converted it into a centre of excellence. (Click here to read the article)
- Chief Minister of Odisha **Naveen Patnaik** directed the distribution of **five kilograms of rice** per month free of cost to beneficiaries of the **State Food Security Scheme (SFSS)** for the next one year. The state government has decided to provide 5 kilograms of rice under SFSS to the beneficiaries free of cost for a period of one year starting from January 2023 to December 2023. The total expenditure of the plan will be **Rs 185 crore**. (Click here to read the article)

- The **International Hockey Federation (FIH)** has signed a partnership with the **JSW Group** for the upcoming **FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela**, which will kick-off later this month. The group supports and promotes Olympics in India and has created an Olympic Training Institute in the Inspire Institute of Sport as well as has Olympic training centres across the country. The 15th edition of FIH's flagship event for men will be played from 13 January to 29 January in Odisha, India. (Click here to read the article)

### Books and Authors

- Former IAS officer **Kaki Madhava Rao** has authored a new book titled "**Breaking Barriers: the Story of a Dalit Chief Secretary**" which addresses the details about the dynamics of civil services at the ground level and also fills the gap in the knowledge about micro policies and governance. (Click here to read the article)
- **Simon Sebag Montefiore**, a British historian, discussed his recent book "**The World: A Family History of Humanity**" in an interview with an Indian historian **Manu S. Pillai**. In the book, Simon Sebag Montefiore explores how people and families have played a role in the convergences and divergences in world history. The two-part book was originally published on 27th October 2022, published by Hachette India. Montefiore, the internationally bestselling author of prize-winning books, has been published in 48 languages. (Click here to read the article)
- A Medical book '**Human Anatomy**' in Hindi Manav sharir Rachna Vigyan was released by the Governor of Madhya Pradesh Shri Mangubhai Patel at the function which is a very useful book for the Medical students of all courses related to medical education written by **Dr AK Dwivedi**. (Click here to read the article)
- Parliamentarian and author, **Shashi Tharoor's** latest book **Ambedkar: A Life** was recently launched at the Kitaab Kolkata event. In this new biography, Tharoor tells Ambedkar's story with great lucidity, insight, and admiration. He traces the arc of the great man's life from his birth into a family of Mahars in the Bombay Presidency on 14 April 1891 to his death in Delhi on 6 December 1956. (Click here to read the article)
- Noted economist and popular historian **Sanjeev Sanyal** is set to release his latest book, "Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom,". (Click here to read the article)

**Banking/Economy/Business News**

- The fifth volume of the **Reserve Bank of India's** history is released. This volume encompasses the 11-year period from 1997 to 2008. With this volume, the history of the Reserve Bank of India is now updated up to 2008. The Reserve Bank had initiated the process of preparation of this volume in 2015 under the guidance of an **Advisory Committee chaired by Dr. Narendra Jadhav**, former Member of Parliament and former Principal Adviser & Chief Economist of the Reserve Bank. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Reserve Bank of India's Medium-term Strategy Framework** for the period 2023-2025 - 'Utkarsh 2.0' - was launched by **Shri Shaktikanta Das, Governor, RBI**. The first strategy framework (Utkarsh 2022) covering the period 2019-2022 was launched in July 2019. It became a medium-term strategy document guiding the Bank's progress towards realisation of the identified milestones. Utkarsh 2.0 would allow the central bank to both react and act proactively **to confront socio-economic challenges**. (Click here to read the article)
- According to a government announcement, India's goods and services tax receipts increased 15% year over year in December to Rs 1.49 lakh crore (\$18.07 billion), suggesting robust economic activity throughout the holiday season. In November, revenue from goods and services taxes totaled Rs. 1.46 lakh crore. (Click here to read the article)
- Public sector bank **Punjab and Sind Bank (PSB)** has partnered with **SBI Card** to launch co-brand credit cards for the bank's customers. PSB has also entered the credit card market as a new product segment in its portfolio as a result of this collaboration. Three card variants—the **PSB SBI Card ELITE, PSB SBI Card PRIME, and PSB SimplySAVE SBI Card**—have been launched by both partners. This collaboration also marks the entry of PSB into 'credit cards' as a new product segment under the bank's portfolio. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Reserve Bank of India** said **SBI, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank** remain **domestic systemically important banks (D-SIBs)**. D-SIBs are those interconnected entities whose failure can impact the whole of the financial system and create instability. In addition to the usual capital conservation buffer, D-SIBs will need to maintain **additional Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1)**. (Click here to read the article)
- **India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** processed a **record 7.82 billion transactions** in December, worth a total of **INR 12.82tn (\$174.6bn)**. This represents an increase of 7.12% in volume and 7.73% in value compared to November. On a year-on-year basis, **volume and value increased by 71% and 55% respectively**. (Click here to read the article)
- **Unemployment rate in India** rose to **8.30 per cent** in December 2022, the highest in 16 months, according to data from **Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE)**. It was 8 per cent in the month of November. While **urban unemployment** rose to 10.09 per cent in December, from 8.96 per cent in November, **rural unemployment** moved to 7.44% from 7.55%, the data revealed. (Click here to read the article)
- **India's international financial assets** declined by \$56.5 billion during July-September 2022 with valuation losses accounting for a major part. **Reserve assets** remained the dominant component (62.9% share) of India's international financial assets. The net claims of **non-residents on India** increased by \$34.3 billion during Q2 of FY23 and stood at \$389.6 billion in September. (Click here to read the article)
- The net profit of operating **public sector enterprises** jumped 50.87 per cent to ₹ 2.49 lakh crore during 2021-22, with **ONGC, Indian Oil Corp, Power Grid, NTPC and SAIL** emerging as the top five performers. The net profit of operating **central public sector enterprises (CPSEs)** stood at ₹ 1.65 lakh crore in the previous fiscal. (Click here to read the article)
- It is estimated that the Indian economy grew by 9.7% in the first half of 2022-23, significantly higher than **China's 2.2%, the UK's 3.4% and the USA's 1.8%**. The local banking sector is often a proxy to the trends in India's economy. Take the latest round of a survey by the **Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA)**. Conducted over the first half of 2022 across **25 lenders in India** that account for three-quarters of the sector's assets, it reveals a fair degree of comfort. Unlike last year's majority, only a small fraction of surveyed banks reported rising requests for loan rejigs. (Click here to read the article)
- **HDFC Bank**, India's largest private sector bank, is partnering with **Microsoft** in the next phase of its digital transformation journey and unlocking business value by transforming the application portfolio, modernizing the data landscape and securing the enterprise with Microsoft Cloud. HDFC Bank as a part of its Future Ready strategy is developing in house IPs as well as partnering with several companies including FinTechs' to co -create technology IPs. (Click here to read the article)
- **India** aims to cut spending on **food and fertiliser subsidies** to 3.7 trillion rupees (\$44.6 billion) in the fiscal year from April, down 26% from this, to rein in a **fiscal deficit** that ballooned during the COVID-19 pandemic. Spending on fertiliser subsidies will likely fall to about Rs 1.4 lakh crore. That compares with nearly Rs 2.3 lakh crore this year. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Reserve Bank of India** has launched the **Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH)** which will provide useful inputs for **monetary policy**. In the January 2023 round, the survey will be conducted **across 19 cities**. It aims to capture subjective assessments of **price movements and inflation**, based on individual consumption baskets. (Click here to read the article)

**Appointments/Resignations**

- **Bandhan Bank** launched the 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign along with the bank's **brand ambassador** Sourav Ganguly. 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' is an integrated marketing campaign in which the company has emphasized the 'trust' that the brand has been able to earn in a span of seven years as a bank. (Click here to read the article)
- Issues related to **ATM/debit cards and mobile/electronic banking** were the **top grounds of complaints** received at the **Office of Banking Ombudsman (OBO)**, said an RBI report. The coverage of RBIOS was extended to include the non-scheduled Urban Cooperative Banks (UCBs) with a deposit size of Rs 50 crore or above as at the end of the previous Financial Year. **Credit Information Companies (CICs)** were brought under RBI-IOs with effect from September 1, 2022. Between November 12, 2021 and March 31, 2022, a total of 1,86,268 complaints were received under the RBIOS. (Click here to read the article)
- India's economy is expected to grow 7.0% in the current financial year, according to the first advance estimates by the **National Statistical Office (NSO)**. New Delhi had pegged India's growth at **8.7%** in the last fiscal year that ended March 31, 2022. (Click here to read the article)
- Axis Bank has partnered with **OPEN** to provide a fully native digital current account journey for its customers including **SMEs (small and medium enterprises)**, freelancers, homepreneurs, influencers and more. This has been the **bank's first-ever partnership** with a fintech player to launch a fully digital current account. Using this account, customers can avail **250+ banking services and claim up to 50 per cent** cashback through grab-deals. (Click here to read the article)
- **Zerodha-backed GoldenPi Technologies** has become the **first online bond platform provider** to receive a **debt brokerage license** from market regulator **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi)**. The Bengaluru-based fintech firm expects this development to spur greater trust in **online bonds and debentures investment space**. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Reserve Bank of India** gave its approval to **SBI Funds Management Ltd** to acquire up to 9.99% stake in **Equitas Small Finance Bank** through the schemes of **SBI Mutual Fund**, the bank said in an exchange filing. **Franklin Templeton Mutual Fund** and **DSP Mutual Fund** have also received RBI's approval to buy 9.99% stake each in the bank. (Click here to read the article)
- In a major development, **India has surpassed Japan** in terms of auto sales last year to become the **third-largest auto market globally** for the first time. India's total sales of new vehicles stood at around **4.25 million units**, based on preliminary results, topping the **4.2 million sold in Japan**. (Click here to read the article)

- **Ajay Kumar Srivastava** has been elevated as **Managing Director and CEO** of Indian Overseas Bank with effect from January 1, 2023 from his current posting as executive director. He started his banking career as a probationary officer in 1991 with Allahabad Bank where he worked in various capacities in different parts of the country. (Click here to read the article)
- **Bank of Singapore (BoS)**, the private banking arm of Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation (OCBC), announced that it has appointed **Jason Moo** as its new CEO. BoS's announcement comes after Bloomberg's article on Dec 26, 2022. Moo will succeed Bahren Shaari officially from March 6 onwards. (Click here to read the article)
- Folk singer **Maithili Thakur** was appointed the state icon for **Bihar by the Election Commission**. The singer will create awareness among the voters for their participation in the electoral process. This recognition will give her (Maithili) more impetus to spread Bihar's folk music across continents and generate awareness about the importance of participating in the electoral process. (Click here to read the article)
- **Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)** and **Microsoft** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to help Indian Space tech start-ups with technology tools, go-to-market support, and mentoring to help them scale and become business ready. Through this MoU, the space tech startups identified by ISRO will be onboarded onto the Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub. (Click here to read the article)
- **The All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC)** its members have elected **Saiyam Mehra** as Chairman and **Rajesh Rokde** as Vice Chairman of the industry body for a period of two years (2023-24). GJC represents over 6,00,000 industry players comprising manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, distributors, laboratories, gemologists, designers and allied services providers. (Click here to read the article)

TEST SERIES  
ENGLISH



**Karnataka Bank**  
**PO**

**50+ TOTAL TESTS**

- According to the Ministry of Communications, **Vinaya Prakash Singh**, a former Member (Personnel), **Postal Services Board**, was elected as the union's Secretary General and will assume responsibility for the position for a four-year term following the successful elections held during the 13th APPU Congress, which was held in Bangkok during the months of August and September 2022. (Click here to read the article)

### Defence News

- On the occasion of **Chillai Kalan** in the Kashmir Valley, 44 Bn CRPF organized a function "**Jashn - e - Chillai Kalan**" on 26/12/2022 at HMT Complex, Zainakote, Srinagar. During this competition, 54 participants (including 12 Female participants) from Schools/colleges & other educational institutions were present along with their guardians & teachers. All the participants were awarded with appreciation certificates, prizes and the winners and runner ups of each event were awarded with the trophies. (Click here to read the article)
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** Headquarters in New Delhi has marked the **65th Foundation Day** of the Organisation, which is celebrated on 1st January every year. DRDO Chairman Dr S V Kamat addressed the DRDO fraternity on the occasion. He reaffirmed DRDO's commitment towards R&D excellence and briefed about the development of cutting edge technologies for self-reliance in defence. (Click here to read the article)
- Captain Shiva Chauhan** from the Corps of Engineers has been posted at a frontline post in **Siachen Glacier**, in first such operational deployment of an woman Army officer at the **world's highest battlefield**. The officer was posted at the Kumar post, located at an altitude of around 15,600 feet in Siachen, for a three-month stint after she underwent rigorous training. The training included endurance training, ice wall climbing, avalanche and crevasse rescue and survival drills. (Click here to read the article)
- K9-Vajra: The Defence Ministry** has started the process for the procurement of **100 more K9-Vajra** tracked self-propelled howitzers which are built in India by Larsen & Toubro (**L&T**) using technology transferred from South Korean defence major Hanwha Defence. (Click here to read the article)
- India will deploy a platoon of women peacekeepers to UN Mission in Sudan. This will be India's **largest single unit of women Peacekeepers** in a UN Mission since it deployed the **first-ever all-women contingent in Liberia in 2007**. The Indian contingent, comprising two officers and 25 Other Ranks, will form part of an Engagement platoon and specialize in Community outreach, though they will be performing extensive security-related tasks as well. The deployment in **Abyei** will also herald **India's intent of increasing significantly the number of Indian women in Peacekeeping contingents**. (Click here to read the article)

### Awards and Recognitions

- Odisha** won the **UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023** for **Jaga Mission**, a 5T initiative of the state. The awards recognise and highlight innovative, outstanding and revolutionary housing ideas, projects and programmes from across the world. The Jaga mission is the land titling and slum upgrading program that aims at empowering the lives of slum dwellers. (Click here to read the article)
- Writer Ambikasuthan Mangad** has been selected for **Odakuzhal Award 2022** for his collection of short stories titled **Pranavayu**. The award consists of Rs 30,000, citation, and plaque. Instituted by the Guruvayurappan Trust, the award is being given for the best collection of short stories in Malayalam. The award will be presented on the occasion of the 45th death anniversary of Mahakavi G. Sankara Kurup, who established the Guruvayurappan Trust, on February 2 at the Ernakulam Samastha Kerala Sahithya Parishad building here. Literary critic Dr. M. Leelavathi will present the award to Ambikasuthan Mangad. (Click here to read the article)
- The recipients of the state's top civil honours for 2022-2023 were revealed by the Assam government. The Assam government presented awards in the Asom Baibhav, Asom Sourav, and Asom Gourav categories. The chief minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, revealed the beneficiaries of the civil awards that will be given out by the state. (Click here to read the article)
- Jalna** district police and **Nagpur** city police in Maharashtra have been awarded the Best Police Unit Awards for 2021 in the state under different classes for maintaining law and order, use of modern technology, and evolving community policing and administration. The Jalna Police got the award in Class A and the Nagpur Police in Class B. The winners were announced by Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Kulwant Sarangal. (Click here to read the article)

### Summit and Conference

- Indian Science Congress's 108th edition was officially inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University is hosting the five-day 108th session of ISC as it commemorates its centennial. He emphasised the nation's expanding energy requirements and urged the scientific community to develop any advances in the area that would help the nation. (Click here to read the article)
- Puducherry Lieutenant governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan** said that the **first G-20 meeting** will be held in **Puducherry** on 31st January. The G20 logo for the meeting was released by Lieutenant Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan at a function held at Beach Road Gandhi Tidal. Dr. Tamisai thanked **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** for giving all the states the opportunity to host the G-20 meetings. He released stickers, posters and badges and also inaugurated a selfie booth in the presence of **Chief Minister Rengasamy**. (Click here to read the article)

- **Ministry of Jal Shakti** organized the "1st All India Annual State Minister Conference on Water" with the theme of "Water Vision@2027" in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on 5th and 6th January 2023. **Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh**, Shivaraj Singh Chouhan, and Union Minister of Jal Shakti **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat** felicitated the occasion. (Click here to read the article)

### Ranks and Reports

- A total of **1,668 Journalists** have been killed worldwide with murders, contract killings, ambushes, war zone deaths, and fatal injuries. These journalists have been killed in connection with their work in the **last two decades** from 2003 to 2022. The reports gave an average of more than **80 journalists** being killed every year. Christopher Deloire, **RSF Secretary General** said that behind the figures, there are the faces, personalities, talent, and commitment of those who have paid with their lives for their information gathering their search for the truth, and their passion for journalism. (Click here to read the article)
- According to a survey by Avtar, a company that specializes in workplace inclusion, **Chennai** is India's top city for women's employment. Pune, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai are the next best cities for women's employment. (Click here to read the article)

### Sports News

- Hockey **Haryana's** women's team won the Khelo India Youth Games **2022 Women's Under 18** Qualifiers after defeating **Madhya Pradesh** (2-0) in the final at Bhubaneswar. In the final match, Pooja and Gurmail Kaur scored a goal each for Haryana to end the contest in their favour. (Click here to read the article)
- In Hockey, **Madhya Pradesh** defeated Odisha 6-5 to clinch Khelo India Youth Games **2022 Men's Under-18** Qualifiers title in Bhubaneswar. In a thrilling final, Jamir Mohammad was the star of the final, scoring a hat-trick, while Ali Ahmed, Mohammad Zaid Khan and captain Ankit Pal scored one goal each for Madhya Pradesh. (Click here to read the article)
- Former World rapid champion **K. Humpy** produced a superlative performance to claim India's first-ever silver medal from the **World blitz chess championship** that concluded in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Humpy defeated China's Zhongyi Tan to win Silver in the 17th and final round. (Click here to read the article)
- Nineteen-year-old Kolkata-based chess player, **Koustav Chatterjee** became India's 78th Grandmaster. He is also the tenth GM from West Bengal. Koustav earned his first GM norm in October 2021 at a Grandmasters' chess tournament in Bangladesh. (Click here to read the article)

- The **Board of Control for Cricket in India** (BCCI) announced that **Yo-Yo Test and Dexa** will be a part of the selection criteria. BCCI has also discussed the player's availability, workload management, and fitness parameters in the team review meeting along with the roadmap of the **ICC Cricket World Cup 2023**. ICC Cricket World Cup is scheduled in October and November, and it is to be hosted by India. (Click here to read the article)
- Saurashtra's **Jaydev Unadkat** made a slice of **Ranji Trophy history**, becoming the first bowler to take a hat-trick in the opening over. The left-arm pacer destroyed Delhi by adding two more in the next over in a career-best eight-wicket haul in the Elite Group B match in Rajkot. Unadkat's hat-trick victims included opener **Dhruv Shorey, Vaibhav Rawal and young Delhi captain Yash Dhull**, all of whom departed for duck. (Click here to read the article)
- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on Thursday **inaugurated** one of the largest hockey stadiums in India in Rourkela ahead of the Men's Hockey World Cup 2023. Built at an estimated cost of **₹261 crore**, the stadium, located in **Sundargarh district**, has been christened as **Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium Complex**. It has been built in **50 acres** in a **record 15 months-time with a seating capacity of 20,000**. The stadium also has practice centres adjacent to it with certified turfs and lighting. The State has also built a **World Cup village**, which has 225 rooms to house the players and officials, within nine months. (Click here to read the article)
- Australia's **Belinda Clark** has become the first female cricketer to have a statue cast in her honour, a bronze sculpture of the trailblazing former captain unveiled outside **Sydney Cricket Ground**. Clark played 15 tests and over 100 limited overs matches between 1991-2005, and became the first cricketer to score a double-hundred in one-day internationals when she made an unbeaten 229 against Denmark in 1997. (Click here to read the article)



- **Pranesh M** became India's 79th Grandmaster, having completed his three norms prior to this event. IM Pranesh M emerged as the winner of the **Rilton Cup, the first tournament of the FIDE Circuit**. The 16-year-old from India, seeded 22nd, made a clean sweep of the field in Stockholm, winning eight games and finishing a full point ahead of IM Kaan Kucuksari (Sweden) and GM Nikita Meshkovs (Latvia). (Click here to read the article)

### Schemes and Committess News

- The **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM)** has launched the **Prajwala Challenge**. The **Prajwala Challenge** has been launched to invite ideas, solutions, and actions that can transform rural development. It will provide a platform where **ideas are invited from individuals**, social enterprises, start-ups, the private sector, civil society, community-based organizations, academic institutions, incubation centers, investors, etc having the potential to transform the rural economy. (Click here to read the article)
- The second phase of the Sari Festival "**VIRAASAT**"- **Celebrating 75 handwoven Saris of India** will begin from 3rd to 17th January 2023 at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi. The Sari Festival VIRAASAT is organized by the Ministry of Textile. In the second stage phase, there are 90 participants from different parts of the country. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Union Cabinet** approved an initial outlay of Rs 19,744 crore for the **National Green Hydrogen Mission**. Addressing the nation on its **75th Independence Day in 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi** launched a **national mission for green fuels** in line with the Centre's stated target of making India **energy-independent before completing 100 years of Independence**. The mission will have four components that aim at enhancing **domestic production of green hydrogen** and **promote the manufacturing of electrolyzers** — a key constituent for making **green hydrogen**. (Click here to read the article)
- **Prasar Bharati's** broadcast infrastructure and network, the **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** approved a scheme worth more than **Rs 2,500 crore** for **Doordarshan and All India Radio**. Under the scheme, eight lakh DD Free Dish DTH set top boxes (STBs) will also be distributed to people living in remote, tribal, LWE, border areas and 'aspirational' districts. (Click here to read the article)
- The **Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)** in India has established a **High Powered Committee (HPC)** to address issues related to the protection of **Ladakh's culture, language, land, and employment opportunities**. A 17-member committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of **Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai**. (Click here to read the article)

### Science and Technology News

- **Indian Space and Research Organization (ISRO)**, National Centre for Earth Sciences (NCES), and the Andhra University (AU) have researched and concluded that constant rip current zones at blue flag-certified **Rushikonda beach** and RK Beach have become a danger to the beach visitors. Between 2012 to 2022, over **200 people** drowned in the sea at various beaches in and around Visakhapatnam and 60 percent of deaths occurred in RK Beach. (Click here to read the article)
- In 2022, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) reached new heights as it experimented with new tests to confirm its human spaceflight mission, built new facilities to train its astronauts, and created a new connection with the private sector by putting India's first privately made rocket to the test. The year 2023 won't be any different. Instead, since the roster is set, it might be a year of bigger, bolder, and braver expeditions from India to space. (Click here to read the article)
- Union Minister **Dr Jitendra Singh** today inaugurated "**National Genome Editing & Training Centre**" at **National Agri-food Biotechnology Institute (NABI)** Mohali, Punjab. The Minister also, at the same time, inaugurated a **4-day International Conference on Food and Nutritional Security 2023: - iFANS** (Click here to read the article)

### Important Days News

- The **Government of India** sponsored the proposal for **International Year of Millets (IYM) 2023** which was accepted by the **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**. The declaration has been instrumental for the Government of India to be at the forefront in celebrating the IYM. **PM Narendra Modi** has also shared his vision to make IYM 2023 a '**People's Movement**' alongside positioning India as the '**Global Hub for Millets**'. (Click here to read the article)
- **Global Family Day** is celebrated on January 1, each year. The day creates a sense of unity, community and brotherhood across nations and cultures through the idea of families. This day is celebrated to discourage unwarranted negative attitudes towards other cultures, nations, which may breed hatred, encourage social aloofness and lead to violence. (Click here to read the article)
- **World Braille Day**, marked on **January 4**, emphasises the significance of Braille as a form of communication for the partially sighted and blind. The United Nations has been commemorating the day since 2019. World Braille Day also commemorates the birth anniversary of **Louis Braille**, who was born on **January 4, 1809**. After losing his sight during childhood, the French educator devised the Braille technique. (Click here to read the article)

- The **World Day of War Orphans** is observed on January 6 every year with an aim to raise awareness about children orphaned in wars. These children are subjected to hardships that are more than just physical neglect after losing their caregivers. It is an important event to note that the aftermaths of war are not just harsh on a single part of the society. (Click here to read the article)

### Obituaries

- Statement released by the Vatican, the former Pope **Benedict XVI** has passed away in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican. He was 95 years old. The head of the Catholic Church, former Pope Benedict, was the first pope in 600 years to resign. (Click here to read the article)
- **R Krishnakumar**, a close confidante of Ratan Tata and a group veteran, passed away. Kerala-born Krishnakumar, who had served at multiple positions in the group, including heading its hospitality arm Indian Hotels, was 84. He had been active with the Tata Trusts after his retirement from executive roles and was reportedly a part of the team which worked alongside Ratan Tata in the Cyrus Mistry ouster episode. **In 2009, Krishnakumar was awarded Padma Shri.** (Click here to read the article)
- Noted Rabindra Sangeet exponent, **Sumitra Sen** has passed away at the age of 89. She will be remembered for her rendition of songs like Jokhon Porbe Na Mor, Sokhi Vabona Kahare Bole and Mone Ki Dwidha. Her rendition of Aaj Jyotsna Raate Shobai Gekhhe Bone in Ritwik Ghatak's classic movie Komal Gandhar has remained a steadfast interpretation of the song. She was honoured with the **Sangeet Mahasamman award** by West Bengal government in 2012. (Click here to read the article)
- On October 11, 1968, three men boarded NASA's **Saturn IB** and had what the agency described as a "**perfect launch**" into space in the first crewed Apollo mission. On Tuesday, **Walter Cunningham**– the last surviving astronaut on that mission who helped pave the way for humans to walk on the moon – died in Houston. Walter was a fighter pilot, physicist and entrepreneur, above all, "**he was an explorer.**" (Click here to read the article)
- **Gianluca Vialli**, the former Italy and Chelsea striker, has died aged 58 after a long battle with **pancreatic cancer**. Gianluca Vialli was an Italian football player and manager who played as a striker. Vialli started his club career at Cremonese in 1980 in his native Italy where he made 105 league appearances scoring 23 goals. His performances impressed Sampdoria who signed him in 1984, and with whom he scored 85 league goals, won three Italian cups, Serie A and the European Cup Winners Cup. (Click here to read the article)

### Miscellaneous News

- A team of astronomers led by scientists at the **Indian Institute of Astrophysics** and their international collaborators decided to study the most massive globular cluster system in our galaxy, **Omega Centauri**. They have detected strange hot stars in the cluster using the Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (UVIT) image on AstroSat. They have found that these hot stars emitted much less ultraviolet radiation than expected from theoretical models and in comparison, with stars of another **globular cluster, M13** has similar overall properties. (Click here to read the article)
- India's first underwater metro service, **The Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation (KMRC)** said that the East-West Metro Corridor project, is expected to be completed by **December 2023**. With this, another feather is being added to the crown of Kolkata Metro, the first metro railway in the country. Kolkata Metro, which started its journey in 1984, is being expanded to cover the whole city and its outskirts. The underwater metro, which will be running through the Hoogly river will connect the twin cities of Howrah and Kolkata. (Click here to read the article)
- Union Home and Cooperation Minister **Amit Shah** inaugurated **Mega Dairy** at Mandya in Karnataka. The mega dairy inaugurated at a cost of Rs 260 crore would process 10 lakh liters of milk per day and the will have the capacity to increase it upto 14 lakh liters per day. 10 lakh liters of milk is processed, prosperity reaches the homes of lakhs of farmers. There are 15,210 village level cooperative dairies in Karnataka, in which about 26.22 lakh farmers deliver their milk daily and through 16 district level dairies, Rs 28 crore is deposited into the accounts of 26 lakh farmers every day. (Click here to read the article)
- 50 electric buses were launched in Delhi with support under the **FAME India Phase II scheme** of the Ministry of Heavy Industries. In 2019, the government approved Rs 10,000 crore for a period of three years. Out of total budgetary support, about 86 percent of the fund has been allocated for incentives so as to create demand for electric vehicles. (Click here to read the article)
- **Ghaziabad-Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay section** (762 KM) becomes the longest fully **automatic block signalling section** of Indian Railways. In order to increase line capacity to run more trains on existing High Density Routes of Indian Railways, Automatic Block Signalling (ABS) is a cost effective solution. Indian Railways has been rolling out Automatic Block signalling on a mission mode. (Click here to read the article)
- The TRF came into existence in **2019** as a proxy outfit of the **Lashkar-e-Taiba**, a proscribed terrorist organisation. Home Ministry said that **TRF** is recruiting youth through online mediums for the furtherance of terrorist activities. Centre has declared The Resistance Front (TRF) as a terrorist organisation under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, UAPA**. (Click here to read the article)

- The **Ministry of Culture** has informed the parliament that fifty of India's 3,693 centrally protected monuments have been missing. The submission of the missing report was done by the Ministry of Culture on **8th December 2022** to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism, and Culture as part of a report titled '**Issues relating to Untraceable Monuments and Protection of Monuments in India.**' Many monuments and sites were lost to activities like **urbanization**, the construction of dams and reservoirs, and even encroachment. **14 Monuments** have been lost due to rapid urbanization; 12 monuments are submerged by reservoirs while 24 are untraceable. There are total of 50 monuments missing. (Click here to read the article)
- Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying Parshottam Rupala inaugurated 29 **Mobile Veterinary Units (MVU)** and a Centralized call center in **Thiruvananthapuram**. It is a major step for benefit of the livestock farmers in Kerala. (Click here to read the article)

### Static Takeaways

- Indian Overseas Bank Founded: 10 February 1937, Chennai;
- Indian Overseas Bank Founder: M. Ct. M. Chidambaram Chettyar;
- Indian Overseas Bank Headquarters: Chennai.
- Brazil's Capital: Brasilia;
- Brazil Currency: Brazilian Real.
- West Bengal Capital: Kolkata;
- West Bengal Chief minister: Mamata Banerjee;
- West Bengal Official animal: Fishing cat.
- National Dairy Development Board Headquarters location: Anand;
- National Dairy Development Board Founded: 1965;
- National Dairy Development Board Founder: Verghese Kurien;
- National Dairy Development Board Chairman: Meenesh Shah.
- Larsen & Toubro managing director and chief executive officer: S.N. Subrahmanyam
- Uttarakhand Governor: Gurmit Singh;
- Uttarakhand Chief minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami;
- Uttarakhand Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer).
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) Founded: 7 May 1960;
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) Founder: Jawaharlal Nehru;
- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) Director General: Lt. Gen. Rajeev Chaudhary.
- Minister of State for Electronics and IT: Rajeev Chandrasekhar.
- HDFC Bank CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan;
- HDFC Bank Founded: August 1994, Mumbai;
- HDFC Bank Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Bank of Singapore Founded: 29 January 2010;
- Bank of Singapore Parent organization: Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation, Limited
- Bihar Governor: Phagu Chauhan;
- Bihar Chief minister: Nitish Kumar;
- Bihar Capital: Patna.
- Himachal Pradesh Chief minister: Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu;
- Himachal Pradesh Official animal: Snow leopard;
- Himachal Pradesh Capitals: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter).
- Himachal Pradesh Governor: R V Arlekar.
- DRDO founded: 1958
- DRDO Agency executive: Dr Sameer V Kamath, Chairman
- DRDO Headquarters: DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi.
- NASA Founded:- 29 July, 1958
- NASA HQ'S:- Washington, D.C.
- NASA Administrator:- Bill Nelson.
- International Hockey Federation Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland;
- International Hockey Federation CEO: Thierry Weil;
- International Hockey Federation Founded: 7 January 1924;
- International Hockey Federation Founder: Paul Léautey;
- International Hockey Federation Motto: FairPlay Friendship Forever.

