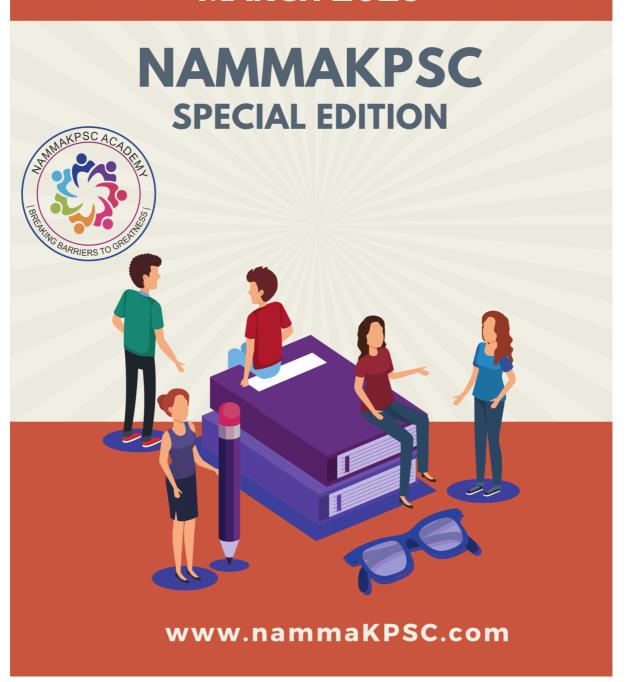


MAHITHI MONTHLY SNIPPETS

MARCH 2023





State Issues

- Karnataka has achieved **126% of the target** given by the Union government in cataract surgeries, as reported by state government, adding that the green laser treatment has also been started in government hospitals for people with diabetes.
- India hosted the first meeting of the Governing Board of BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC), 2023 at Bengaluru.
- Akasa Air will become the second largest domestic airline operating out of Bengaluru
- Kristu Jayanti College organised the G20 University Connect International Conclave on G20 Presidency
- Karnataka is the first State in the country to start mental health screening initiative under Matru Chaitanya, a scheme that provides counselling for pregnant and lactating women.
- Kaveri-2, a software designed to prevent multiple registration of the same property and other fraudulent transactions, will be adopted by all sub-registrar offices in Karnataka. The new software ensures registration of properties in just 10 minutes and relieves public of the ordeal of waiting at the sub-registrar offices for hours or depending on touts.
- Sub-registrar offices in Karnataka are set for a makeover in a citizen-friendly manner on the lines of the passport offices by including facilities for general public like waiting area, restrooms, food area, ramp, and lifts. The Department of Stamps and Registration has prepared a blueprint in this regard. This has already been adopted by the sub-registrar offices in Byatarayanapura of Bengaluru, Sankeshwar, and Belagavi South.
- The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) launched two rescue vehicles on the occasion of World Wildlife Day. The vehicles will rescue ailing and injured animals in all the 243 wards of BBMP.
- Karnataka to get new 300-acre facility to make iPhones. Foxconn, claimed to be the second largest manufacturer of Apple phones globally, was exploring to set up its factory close to an airport in the State.
- D.V. Shylendra Kumar, a retired judge of the High Court of Karnataka passed away.
 He was the first judge of the High Court to open a blog and publish articles on the requirement of transparency in the judiciary besides criticising the Supreme Court's collegium.
- Education Department to usher in transparency in school registration in Karnataka, share information on website
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Department of Space will
 conduct the Space Economy Leaders' Meet (SELM) in Bengaluru, that will be a
 congregation of G20 Heads of Space Agencies and the Heads of G20 Space
 Industries.
- Former Chief Minister **B.S. Yediyurappa** was honoured with **Jagadguru Renukacharya award** at Balehonnur in N.R. Pura taluk in Chikkamagaluru

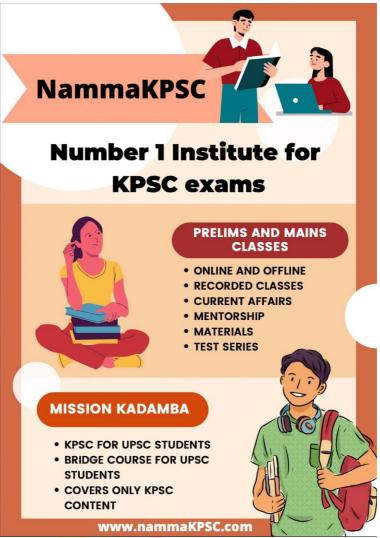
- Human breast milk bank at Vani Vilas Hospital, the Neonatal Intensive Care
 Unit (NICU) is free of formula feed. This the first time that the milk bank,
 started on March 8, 2022, on Women's Day and about to complete a year, has
 made the hospital self-sufficient and the NICU formula feed-free for two
 consecutive months.
- **Archana Muthappa**, Karnataka's first woman Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) certified drone pilot.
- **Kempegowda International Airport** (KIA) has been recognised as the best airport at ACI's ASQ Arrival Survey Globally for the year 2022, by the Airports Council International (ACI) World.
- Union Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya launched 'NaMo Free Dialysis Centre' and 100th Janaushadhi Kendra in Bengaluru South.
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai launched the "Sthree Samarthya Namo Sthree" scheme by directly transferring Rs.100 crore to the beneficiary women self-help groups on the occasion of International Women's Day.
- The Karnataka State Cabinet has decided to grant 2,000 sq.ft land to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) for establishing towers and providing internet connectivity in remote villages of Karnataka under the '4G Saturation Project' of the Centre.
- Prime Minister inaugurated the Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway. It is 6-10 lane access-controlled highway, developed by the ministry of road transport and highway. With a Length of 119 km, it is built on NH-275
- Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is set to buy sprinkler vehicles with inbuilt tracking systems to combat increasing air and dust pollution in the city. Spraying of water on the streets is one of the important measures to reduce the suspended particulate matter (SPM) and dust in the city.
- A women's delegation headed by Deborah Rivas Saavedra, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, Cuba, held Women's Day celebrations during the conference in Bengaluru
- Bengaluru Science and Technology (BeST) Cluster has launched One Health Bengaluru City Consortium to work towards the goal of integrating existing one health efforts, facilitating collaboration, and building a one health framework for the city.
- The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (UAS-B), is hosting an **All-India Agricultural Universities Youth Festival on the GKVK campus.**
- **Bengaluru City** to have 500 Al-based traffic signals in the next three years
- The **G-20-Digital Innovation Alliance** (G20-DIA) regional meet and national roadshow is being held in **Bengaluru**
- "AgriUnifest" is recently inaugurated in Bengaluru
- Truecaller, a caller ID platform, opened its first office outside of Sweden, in Bengaluru. The launch of the office marked a significant milestone in Truecaller's journey in India.



 Russell Market, one of the oldest markets in the city, sports a new look as the beautification project which had been taken up under the Smart City

project

- Napoklu, a small town 21 km away from district headquarters Madikeri, is all set to host the world's largest field-hockey tournament, as the annual Kodava hockey festival will be held after a four-year gap.
- Chief Minister
 Basavaraj Bommai
 unveiled a 108-ft-tall
 statue of Male
 Mahadeshwara at
 M.M. Hills in
 Chamarajanagar
 district
- Government will construct the Second Cubbon Park near Yelahanka.
- Bengaluru-based space start-up Pixxel has been awarded a study



contract from the U.S.'s National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) for commercial hyperspectral imagery (HSI). Pixxel is among the companies to bag the study contract from NRO which develops, acquires, launches, and operates the U.S.'s intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance satellites.

- Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah chaired the Regional Conference on 'Drug Trafficking and National Security' at Bengaluru.
- For the first time in Karnataka, the Election Commission (EC) has chosen a transperson, Manjamma Jogati, as a poll icon to motivate the community to get enrolled and come out to vote. Apart from her, cricketer-turned-coach Rahul Dravid, Jnanpith awardee Chandrashekar Kambar, disability rights activist Ashwini Angadi and Paralympian athlete Girish Gowda are the other poll icons in the State.
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai inaugurated the renovated Bal Bhavan and flagged off the Putani Train. Bengaluru Smart City Limited had taken up



- restoration work of Bal Bhavan along with **South Western Railway (SWR)** to repair the track, which has remained unused for many years.
- Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced that **the Rajiv Gandhi University** of Health Sciences (RGUHS), that controls all the medical colleges in the State, will be renamed after the late former **Chief Minister Kengal Hanumanthaiah**.
- The Foreigners' Restriction Centre for Women (FRCW) has come up at Dibbur Colony near Kyathasandra, Tumakuru.
- The Karnataka state government launched its midwifery initiative in collaboration with the NGO Aastrika Foundation and UNICEF recently at **Vani Vilas Hospital**.
- The health department of Karnataka has decided to provide free cochlear implants to children, below six years of age who have hearing impairments is part of the health department's 'Health for All' mission.
- PM Mitra mega textiles park established in Kalaburagi.

National Issues

- The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has released the 'Foundational Learning Study-2022 (FLS)' report, according to which around 60 to 65% Karnataka students are below the average in proficiency in reading.
- VAIBHAV Fellowship scheme for the Indian Diaspora abroad was launched on National Science day 2023. Vaibhav Fellowship aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's Higher Educational Institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best institutions in the world through mobility of faculty/researcher from overseas institutions to India
- The Two days women -20 inception meeting concludes at Chhatrapati sambhajinagar
- 2-week capacity building programmes started by National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) for civil servants of Bangladesh & Arunachal Pradesh
- **Central Bureau of Communication Goa** Organizes Multimedia Exhibition on International Year of Millets
- Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying to hosted grand start-up Conclave in Hyderabad
- (GSMA) has conferred **Government Leadership Award 2023 to India** for implementing best practices in telecom policy and regulation.
- **Aizawl** will host the **second of four B20 India** events scheduled in the Northeast. Business 20 (B20) is the official G20 dialogue forum for the global business community.
- The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India (North) in association with Real Sports India along with local administration, Amazing Bhaderwah Tourism Association (ABTA) organised the maiden 1st Snow Marathon in Bhaderwah, Jammu
- Former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman K. Kasturirangan, inaugurated the Archival Gallery at Raman Research Institute. The Archival



Gallery is an unique, one-stop place offering visitors an opportunity to learn about the life and science of Indian Nobel Laureate Sir C.V. Raman, who founded the institute in 1948.

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology launched the Grievance Appellate Committee (GAC) portal under the IT Rules, 2021, allowing people dissatisfied with resolution of complaints to social media companies on content takedown requests, to be heard by one of the three committees constituted by the government.
- A two-day Millets Mahotsav was organized at Bhojpur district of Bihar.
- Yangte-Tali in Kra Daadi district of Arunachal Pradesh gets road connectivity for the first time.
- Ministry of Tourism in association with UNEP, RTSOI, and IITTM organises regional workshop at Hyderabad for Southern Region on Development of Sustainable and Responsible Tourist Destinations
- 1st Anti-Corruption working group meeting of G-20 nations held in Gurugram, Haryana
- Ministry of MSME jointly organised SHAKTI NATIONAL CONVENTION 2023 with India SME Forum at New Delhi.
- Greater Panna Landscape Management plan, the Greater Panna Landscape Council (GPLC) has been constituted under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh with members from all the stakeholders.
- NTPC commissions India's first Air cooled condenser at North Karanpura Super Critical plant in Jharkhand. NTPC has commissioned India's first Air cooled condenser installed Super Critical plant to demonstrate its Commitment towards water conservation through reduce, reuse and recycle.
- NTPC Limited transfers renewable energy assets to NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL)
- Indian Navy Participation Women20@g20 at Aurangabad
- Scientists from the Physical Research Laboratory, a unit of the Department of Space, have built a comprehensive three-dimensional thermophysical model for the moon to derive its surface and sub-surface temperatures. According to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), this model will help understanding the local thermal environment of any location on the moon which is an essential aspect for future human exploration and lunar habitat
- The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is organising the 8th edition of the National Conference on Economics of Competition Law in national capital
- National Youth Parliament Festival organized by Ministry of youth affairs and sports. The 4th edition of National Youth Parliament Festival, 2023 was launched with the theme "Ideas for a Better tomorrow: India for the World". The objective of the National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF) is to hear the voice of the youth, who will join various careers in coming years, including public services. NYPF is based on the idea given by the Prime Minister in his Mann Ki Baat Address



- Mega Rozgar Mela hosted by Automotive Skills Development Council in Saraikela, Jharkhand
- NMDC's iron ore mines Kirandul Deposit, and Bacheli Deposit of Chattisgarh have been awarded 5 ratings by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM).
- National Trust to organize a one-day National Level Exhibition at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre New Delhi to showcase talents and skills of Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- "Kashmir Festival" was organized in the Gujarat University
- significant In a towards achievement efforts in recognizing health sector and especially COVID management, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India received the **Porter Prize 2023**. The prize was announced at "The India **Dialog**" organized by Institute for Competitiveness (IFC) and US Asia Technology



Management Center (USATMC) at Stanford University. The theme of the conference was "The Indian Economy 2023: Innovation, Competitiveness and Social Progress".

- Indian Customs EDI Electronic Data Interchange System (ICES) in recently operationalised two Land Customs Stations, Nagarakata in the districts of Jalpaiguri and Kulkuli in the district of Alipurduar in West Bengal.
- First B2B Global Conference and Expo on Traditional Medicine under Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in Guwahati
- Mega Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela is organized at New Delhi
- 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference, organised by the India Foundation in collaboration with Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies at Bhopal
- The initiative to promote "Start-ups, Women and Youth Advantage Through eTransactions" (SWAYATT) on GeM was first launched in February 2019. The intent of SWAYATT 2019 was to promote inclusiveness of various categories of sellers and service providers on the portal, by taking proactive steps to facilitate their training and registrations of such specific category of manufacturers and



sellers, develop women entrepreneurship and encourage participation of MSME sector and Start-ups in public procurement.

- Government e Marketplace (GeM) GeM is a Section 8 company setup under the
 administrative control of the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce
 and Industry, for procurement of goods and services by Central Ministries, State
 Departments, PSEs and Autonomous Bodies. Social inclusion is a core value at GeM
 and we are focused on increasing participation from under-served sellers who face
 challenges in public procurement
- iDEEKSHA is a platform developed under the Accelerating Smart Power and Renewable Energy (ASPIRE) Technical 1 Assistance Programme. ASPIRE is a bilateral program implemented by Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, Government of UK in association with Ministry of Power and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- To celebrate 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in the spirit of Yuva Shakti, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, is organizing 'Yuva Utsava' and 'Yuva Samvad'. Yuva Utsava-India@2047 will be formally launched from Ropar, Punjab. Simultaneously, twelve other venues including Jalgoan in Maharshtra will also host Yuva Utsava on 4th March 2023. Yuva Shakti se Jan Bhagidari" will be the driving force for this grand celebration of 75th Anniversary of India's Independence.
- National Anti-Doping Agency and National Council of Educational Research & Training signs MOU to strengthen the value based sport education amongst school children and teachers
- Samarth is a demand driven and placement-oriented umbrella skilling programme of Ministry of Textiles. The implementation period of the scheme is up to March 2024. The scheme was formulated under the broad skilling policy framework adopted by M/o Skill Development & Entrepreneurship.
- Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan MoU to be signed between Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Brahma Kumaris in Mount Abu
- 7 Floating Jetties Sanctioned under Sagarmala Program in Karnataka. These
 projects are located at Sulthan Bathery, Bandaru ferry, Sandpit Bengre, Northern
 Sandbar, Old Port, Jeppinamogaru Old Ferry, and Kasaba Bengre, and will
 enhance tourism, create employment, and generate wealth in a ripple effect across
 industries throughout the entire geographical region.
- G20 RIIG experts discussed mechanisms to collaborate and work for Sustainable Energy Technologies at the G20 conference on Materials for Sustainable Energy held at Ranchi.
- Ministry of Rural Development has extended its memorandum of understanding with the National Institute of Fashion Technology, NIFT, to provide design support for the products made by Self Help Groups of the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana -National Rural Livelihood Mission, NRLM.
- Multipurpose Mega Farmers Fair in Gumla district of Jharkhand

- NTPC Limited, has been honoured with the CBIP Award 2022 for 'Outstanding Contribution in Power Generation', attributed to its Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Station, the largest power station in the country for its efficiency and high level of generation
- The unique and flagship initiative "Dhara: Ode to Indian Knowledge Systems", taken up under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav by Ministry of Culture has completed one year in February 2023. During its yearlong activities, it has been successful in creating public awareness, stakeholder participation and helped to devise a framework for the promotion and revival of multiple domains of Indian Knowledge Systems. The programme was conceptualized as a series of lectures and discussions dedicated to specific areas of inquiry highlighting India's civilizational achievements
- Maharashtra Government has decided to rename Aurangabad City as Chatrapati Sambhajinagar and Osmanabad as Dharashiv.
- The laws affecting the Indian working woman's pay and pension do not provide for equality with Indian men, dragging India's score in a World Bank index on the life cycle of a working woman down to 74.4 out of a possible 100. A score of 100 on the Index means that women are on an equal standing with men on all the eight indicators being measured, according to the World Bank's Women, Business and the Law 2023 report. India scored higher than the 63.7 average for the South Asian region, though lower than Nepal which had the region's highest score of 80.6.
- High-tension power lines from solar plants in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat often pose obstacles on the flight path of the great Indian bustard, causing them to collide, often fatally, into them.
- The Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) in association with Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu launched a new programme, Executive MBA in Corporate Affairs and Management at New Delhi.
- The Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IIT Ropar) is all set to host **2nd G-20 Education Working Group** meeting on "Strengthening Research and Innovation through collaboration" in Amritsar.
- Moneycontrol India FinTech Conclave to be held at Mumbai
- **5th ASEAN-India Business summit** is being held as part of the ASEAN-India Year of Friendship to commemorate more than three-decade long engagement between India and the 10-member bloc **in Kuala Lumpur**.
- Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying hosts open discussion with pastoralist community of Western Rajasthan at ICAR-NRCC in Bikaner
- Camel Product Processing Utilisation & Training Wing inaugurated at ICAR-National Research Centre in Bikaner
- The 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference was inaugurated at Goa
- NITI Aayog and Asian Development Bank's Independent Evaluation Department (IED) organize Panel Discussion titled Bridge Over Troubled Waters
- The 1st SCO B2B Conference and Expo On Traditional Medicine was held in Guwahati, Assam.

• The first edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference of 2023 is scheduled to commence, for the first-time, on board India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant. This is the first time that the conference is

being held outside Delhi.

- The Union Home Ministry notified that authorities prison across States are allowed to conduct authentication of prison inmates through Aadhaar for extending benefits such meeting with relatives and legal aid. The said the Ministry exercise was voluntary. Prison is a State subject.
- ONGC has signed a memorandum of understanding with
 - French major TotalEnergies for exploration of deep-water blocks.



- **Swachhotsav:** A 3-week Women Led Swachhata Campaign launched by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare to associate with Invest India and Industrial community to hold a National Workshop of Bamboo Sector Development and Bamboo Exhibition in **New Delhi.**
- The **Ministry of Tourism** inaugurates a pavilion at **ITB, Berlin 2023**, under its "Incredible India" brand line
- **ECI t**o host the 3rd International Conference on 'Inclusive Elections and Elections Integrity' as the lead for the Cohort on 'Election Integrity'.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched a mission "Har Payment Digital" mission with the aim of making every citizen in the country a user of digital payments
- An agreement was signed between the Assam Tourism Development Corporation and the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation for the cross-promotion of tourism to showcase Assam as an ideal destination for filming, apart from leisure, adventure and wildlife.
- "Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)" is an innovative programme sponsored and managed by the Department of Science & Technology for attraction of talent to Science. The basic objective of INSPIRE is to communicate to the youth of the country the excitements of creative pursuit of science, attract talent to the study of science at an early age and thus build the

- required critical human resource pool for strengthening and expanding the Science & Technology system and R & D base. A **striking feature** of the programme is that it **does not believe in conducting competitive exams** for identification of talent at any level.
- The **fourth Y20 consultation** meeting will be held in Pune at the Symbiosis International University (SIU), Lavale in collaboration with Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India
- India Bags Golden & Silver Star at The International 'Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2023 at ITB, Berlin 2023
- Two-day 'Millet Fair cum Exhibition' organised in Madurai, Tamil Nadu.
- The Gujarat government recently told the High Court, which was hearing a public interest litigation seeking the setting up of virtual traffic courts in the state, that it was already in the process of doing so under the 'One Nation One Challan' initiative
- 3rd Session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) held in New Delhi. NPDRR is Multi-stakeholder platform that aims to Facilitate dialogue, sharing experiences, views, ideas, action-oriented research & explore opportunities in the area of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is likely to launch the second batch
 of OneWeb Satellites. ISRO will launch 36 satellites belonging to OneWeb, the Low
 Earth Observation satellite (LEO) communications company backed by Bharati
 Enterprises from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. In October last
 year, 36 OneWeb Gen-1 satellites were launched as part of a commercial
 agreement between NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) which is ISRO's commercial
 arm and OneWeb Ltd.
- Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) NITI Aayog launched ATL Sarthi, a comprehensive self-monitoring framework to strengthen the ever-growing ecosystem of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL).
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) hosted Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi
- Amritsar to host the **2nd G20 EdWG Meeting** and Seminar on 'Strengthening Research, Promoting Innovation through richer Collaboration'
- India has ranked eighth in the list of countries with the worst air quality index and 12 of the 15 most polluted cities in Central and South Asia are in India, according to the Annual World Air Quality Report released by Swiss air quality technology company, IQAir.
- The Department of Space's Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) announced a **seed fund scheme** aimed at promoting space technology in the country. It provide a grant upto Rs.1 crore to select start-ups on milestone basis, in three or more instalments. As per the Guidelines for IN-SPACe Seed Fund Scheme for Indian Start-ups, only Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) registered start-ups are eligible to apply for the seed



fund and should not have received more than Rs 50 lakh of monetary support under any other Union or State government schemes

- Surekha Yadav, Asia's first woman loco pilot, has become the first woman to operate the newly introduced semi-high-speed Vande Bharat Express train.
- Pyre, the English translation of writer Perumal Murugan's Tamil novel Pookkuzhi, has figured on the long list for the International Booker Prize, 2023. The translator is Aniruddhan Vasudevan, who also translated the writer's Maathorubhagan into English as One Part Woman.
- Taiwan unveiled its first portable attack drone, an unmanned aerial vehicle similar to a U.S. model used in Ukraine's fight against Russia, as China steps up military pressure on the island.
- Athletics legend Dick Fosbury, who revolutionised high jumping with his signature 'Fosbury flop' passed away
- The Singapore Army and Indian Army participated in the 13th edition of Exercise Bold Kurukshetra, a bilateral armour at Jodhpur Military Station, India.
- CCI approves acquisition of **METRO Cash and Carry India Private Limited** by Reliance Retail Ventures Limited
- The National Conference on Digitizing and Georeferencing India with Bhu-Aadhaar (ULPIN) - Bhumi Samvaad IV on implementation of Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) or Bhu-Aadhaar is being organized by Department of Land Resources in New Delhi.
- The Green National Highway Corridor Project to be implemented in four states (Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh) with financial assistance of World Bank
- Indian Railways to become Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030
- "AgriUnifest" is recently inaugurated in Bengaluru
- Manipur government decided to withdraw from the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement with Kuki National Army (KNA) and Zomi Revolutionary Army (ZRA))
- The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the National Standards Body of India has announced the launch of 'Learning Science via Standards', a unique initiative for students for learning science via standards
- The 'Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics,' prepared by the Ministry of Fisheries,
 Animal Husbandry and Dairying after an integrated sample survey, has shown an
 increase in milk, eggs and meat production in the country. The top five meat producing States are Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh
 and Telangana.
- Prime Minister to address **Matua Dharma Maha Mela in West Bengal** to mark 211th birth anniversary of Shree Harichand Thakur
- The Indian Navy's P8I aircraft will participate in Sea Dragon 23, the third edition of the coordinated multilateral anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise for long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft hosted by US navy

• EXERCISE LA PEROUSE – 2023 biennial exercise is conducted by the French Navy. The third edition of the multilateral exercise La Perouse is scheduled to be conducted in the Indian Ocean Region. This edition will witness participation of personnel, ships and integral helicopters of Royal Australian Navy, French Navy, Indian Navy, Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force, Royal Navy and

the United States Navy.

- Chennai-based National Institute of Ocean **Technology** (INIOT) to set up green, self-powered desalination plant in Lakshadweep. The NIOT, an institute under the aegis of the of Earth Ministry Sciences (MoES), has worked for years on harnessing energy from the ocean.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Global Millets (Shree Anna)



Conference at Subramaniam Hall, NASC Complex, IARI Campus, PUSA New Delhi

- Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have developed a low-cost star sensor for astronomy and small CubeSat class satellite missions. The star sensor named Starberry-Sense can help small CubeSat class satellite missions find their orientation in space. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) said that the Starberry-Sense is ready for launch on the PS4-Orbital Platform by ISRO and can be used for CubeSats and other small satellite missions in the future.
- The Indian Army is set to host the second edition of the Africa-India field training exercise (AFINDEX-23) and African Chiefs Conclave in Pune.
- Svaya Robotics(a Hyderabad-based company), has partnered with two DRDO labs unveils India's first homegrown quadruped robot and exoskeleton.
- The Labour20 (L20) engagement group's inception meet, as part of India's G20 presidency, held at Amritsar, Punjab.
- The second meeting of the **Startup20 Engagement group**, newly formed under India's G20 Presidency, will be held in Gangtok, Sikkim.
- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, launched 'herSTART' a start-up platform of Gujarat University in Ahmedabad.



- **Meghalaya** gets Electric trains for the **first time**. Indian Railways completes Electrification of important sections between Abhayapuri Pancharatna, Dudhnai Mendipathar
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is organising a young scientist programme, Yuva Vigyani Karyakram (YUVIKA), to impart basic knowledge on space technology, space science and space applications to students of Class IX.
- The INS Androth, second in a series of eight Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft, was launched in Kolkata. It was built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers. Propelled by three diesel-driven water jets, these ships can attain a maximum speed of 25 knots. Their primary role is to conduct anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, low intensity maritime operations and mine laying operations. These ships are also capable of full-scale sub surface surveillance of coastal waters and various surface platforms and coordinated ASW operations with aircraft.
- 'City Finance Rankings, 2022' portal goes live, MoHUA invites Urban Local Bodies to participate in the first of its kind initiative across the country can now participate in the Rankings through an entirely digital, 100% paperless, process.
- The **Second G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG)** meeting under India's G20 Presidency is set to take place in **Udaipur**, **Rajasthan**.
- First Plenary Session of Civil 20 India 2023 Inception Conference on the theme 'Balancing Development with Environment' takes place.
- INS Sujata, a ship based at Southern Naval Command, Kochi, visited Port Maputo, Mozambique as a part of Overseas Deployment.
- In a victory for patients fighting for wider access to the crucial anti-tuberculosis drug Bedaquiline, the Indian Patent Office rejected U.S. pharmaceutical giant Johnson & Johnson's attempt to extend its monopoly on manufacturing the drug in India beyond July 2023. This paved the way for generic drug manufacturers such as Lupin and Macleods, among others, to produce Bedaquiline, thus ensuring cheaper and wider access to the drug.
- Hyperspectral images are made up of light from hundreds of colours across the
 electromagnetic spectrum. Since hyperspectral imaging collects many different
 colours of light, any given object will have a unique signature. This enables users
 to obtain information about each pixel in an image, with the goal of identifying
 objects and materials. Hyperspectral imagery has a diverse set of applications in
 various areas, including agriculture, mining, geology, and intelligence and
 surveillance,
- PM lauds the 100% electrification of Railways in Bilaspur Division, Raipur Division,
 Sambalpur Division, Nagpur Division and Waltair Division of Chhattisgarh
- Chief Science Advisers of the G20 Countries to Gather at Ramnagar, Uttarakhand, to Discuss Issues of Mutual Interest on S&T
- NHIDCL, a CPSE under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and CSIR-SERC (Structural Engineering Research Centre), Chennai signed a Memorandum of



- Understanding (MoU) for sharing knowledge on innovative ideas and technologies in the field of highway engineering.
- Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah chaired the Regional Conference on 'Drug Trafficking and National Security' at Bengaluru.
- India is the third largest fish producing country, contributing 8 percent to the global fish production and ranks second in aquaculture production.
- Assam Rifles celebrates 188th Raising Day and Director General's Conclave
- Ministry of Defence, signed a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Hyderabad for procurement of two Integrated Electronic Warfare Systems 'Project Himshakti' at an overall cost of approximately Rs 3,000 crore.
- 1st G20 Trade and Investment Working Group under India's G20 Presidency is scheduled in Mumbai.
- One World TB Summit was held in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
- The **Urban Climate Film Festival** will be launched at the M.L. Bhartia Auditorium, Alliance Française, Lodhi Estate, **New Delhi**. The inaugural session will be chaired by Shri Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa.
- RINL Visakhapatnam received national level safety Awards "Ispat Suraksha Puraskar" during annual award function held at SSO Ranchi and on 22-03-2023 organised by JCSSI.
- 'Sagar Manthan', the Real-time Performance Monitoring Dashboard of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways(MoPSW). It tracks the progress of their projects & Key Performance Indicators.
- UIDAI and SETS join hands to conduct R&D in deep-tech including Quantum Computing, IoT Security and Cyber Security
- Second Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group meeting to begin at Gandhinagar
- Southern India's Tamil Nadu has announced a guaranteed monthly income for women heads of households. This makes it the first state in the country to put in place such a universal basic income scheme, potentially benefiting around 10 million women from less privileged backgrounds. The scheme, called Magalir Urimai Thogai (Women's Right to Assistance).
- Float-on float-off operation of started in Chennai Port
- 1st International Quantum Communication Conclave, to learn latest advancements in quantum tech organized at New Delhi.
- 1st India-Africa Army Chiefs' Conclave held in Pune.
- Rajasthan, Gujarat and Karnataka account for over 50% installed capacity in Solar Energy
- Chenab bridge will pave the way for trains to run seamlessly along the Udhampur-SrinagarBaramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, and prove to be a crucial link between Kashmir and rest of India.
- **Tapoban**, an Assam-based NGO that cares for special and autistic children has won **the Children's Champion Award 2023** in the health and nutrition category



International Affairs

- Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni be the chief guest and keynote speaker at the 8th Raisina Dialogue
- India and the Republic of Lithuania agreed to work in deep tech Start-Ups and in manufacturing of semiconductor chips
- British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has struck a new deal with the European Union on post-Brexit trade rules for Northern Ireland
- China announced the visit
 of its Foreign Minister Qin
 Gang to India for G-20
 Foreign Ministers meeting(
 Delhi), the first such highlevel visit from the country
 in almost one year.
- India, Australia to sign
 agreement on mutual recognition of qualifications which locks in the rules for
 mutual recognition to access education in both countries
- Iran's only Asiatic cheetah cub despite days of treatment for kidney failure. Pirouz,
 10 months old, had been the only survivor of three endangered cheetahs.
- Hong Kong scraps one of world's last COVID-19 mask mandates
- Sri Lanka bans strikes ahead of mass protest.
- China, Japan, and India are the sri lanka's top three bilateral lenders. India and the Paris Club, of which Japan is a member, have already sent their written assurances to the IMF.
- Two Australian government universities, Deakin University and University of Wollongong, will be the first foreign education institutions to set up campuses in GIFT City, Gujarat.
- Iran declared two German diplomats as personae non gratae and ordered them to leave the country, accusing Berlin of interfering in Tehran's judicial affairs. The move came after Germany expelled two employees of the Iranian embassy in response to Iran sentencing a German national to death.
- SpaceX launches U.S., Russia, UAE astronauts to space station
- H.E. Mr. Bola Ahmed Tinubu won the Presidential elections in Nigeria
- Japan's Asia Energy Transition Initiative (AETI), launched in 2021, initially supported the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries towards achieving net zero emissions, including financial assistance of \$10 billion for





renewable energy. Japan now looks forward to supporting India's clean energy transition by including the country in the AETI. It aims to achieve both sustainable growth and carbon neutrality in Asia.

- Explorer 2, Departing from Sanya's Institute of Deep Sea Science and Engineering (IDSSE), the vessel has made increasingly frequent forays into some of the least explored parts of the world's oceans, carrying with it one of the most advanced deep-sea submersibles, as well as China's ambitions to dominate the still evolving, yet highly competitive, field of deep sea exploration. Only the U.S., France and Russia have similar capabilities. The Striver explored the Mariana Trench
- The South Korean and U.S. militaries announced they will hold their biggest joint field exercises in five years, as the U.S. flew a long-range B-1B bomber to the Korean Peninsula in a show of force against North Korea.
- The maiden Joint Military Exercise FRINJEX-23 between Indian Army and French Army will be conducted at Pangode Military Station, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- South Korea pushes to end disputes with Japan over wartime forced labour, aiming to end a "vicious cycle" in the Asian powers' relations and boost ties to counter the nuclear-armed North Korea
- India Day Celebrations At PDAC-2023 In Toronto
- India and the United States signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) that
 will pave the way for creating a semiconductor sub-committee under the
 Commercial Dialogue between the U.S. Department of Commerce and India's
 Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and the Ministry of
 Commerce.
- India and Australia have signed an audiovisual co-production agreement under which private, quasi-government or governmental agencies of the two countries enter into contracts to produce films together.
- U.S. closes down Silicon Valley Bank, the biggest bank failure since 2008 crisis
- **Cyclone Freddy**, packing powerful winds and torrential rain, killed at least 70 in Malawi and Mozambique on its return to southern Africa. Freddy, set to become the longest-lasting storms, barrelled through southern Africa.
- The U.K. government called **Russia the "most acute threat**" to Britain's security and termed **China an "epoch-defining"** challenge, as it **released a 'refresh' of its foreign and security policy, the** Integrated Review 2023 (IR2023), two years after the first version (IR2021) was released.
- MNRE has agreements with Australia, Finland, Germany and UAE for promotion of bilateral cooperation in renewable energy
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) hosted Conference on B20 Indonesia Global Dialogue in partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi
- Taiwan unveiled its first portable attack drone, an unmanned aerial vehicle similar to a U.S. model used in Ukraine's fight against Russia, as China steps up military pressure on the island.

- With \$230-bn funds, **South Korea to build 'world's largest' chip centre mostly from Samsung Electronics**. The plan is part of the government's
 drive to invest heavily in six key technologies, including chips, displays and
 batteries, all areas where the country's tech giants are well-established already.
- Russia races to retrieve drone wreckage from Black Sea as U.S. vows to 'protect our equities'
- Poland to be first NATO member to give MiG-29 fighter jets to Ukraine
- British authorities said that they are banning the Chinese-owned video-sharing app TikTok from government mobile phones on security grounds, following similar moves by the U.S. and EU. The ban applies with immediate effect to work phones and other devices used by government Ministers and civil servants.
- Japan and South Korea agreed to resume regular visits between their leaders and take steps to resolve a trade dispute during a highly anticipated summit in Tokyo, in what Japan's Prime Minister called a "big step" to rebuild the two nations' security and economic ties as they try to overcome a century of difficult history.
- Gianni Infantino has been re-elected president of FIFA until 2027 after standing unopposed at the congress of world football's governing body.
- The **Global Terrorism Index (GTI)** is a report published annually by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP). **Afghanistan tops the index** while Pakistan is ranked 6th and **India ranked 13th** marking only a marginal decrease from the previous year.
- Magellan spacecraft of NASA records volcanic activity on Venus
- MQ-9A 'Reaper' The U.S. drone that was forced down by Russian jets in the Black Sea is one of the most advanced remotely piloted aircraft that are operated by many countries, including India
- The **Dubai-based Emaar** has become the first overseas company to invest in a mega-mall in Srinagar, a first since the Centre ended Jammu and Kashmir's special constitutional position under Article 370 in 2019.
- Kuwait's constitutional court nullified last year's legislative elections and ruled in favour of reinstating the previous parliament, state media said, as a political crisis roils the oil-rich Gulf state.'
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) cleared a \$3-billion Extended Fund Facility
 (EFF) for Sri Lanka, potentially unlocking more loans for the debt-ridden island
 nation that is struggling to recover from last year's economic meltdown. Identifying
 corruption as a key issue, an IMF "governance diagnostic mission" has started
 assessing Sri Lanka's governance and anti-corruption framework in its first such
 exercise in Asia.
- U.S. President Joe Biden will announce that he is designating two wilderness areas
 in Nevada and Texas as national monuments, as well as considering a new marine
 sanctuary in the Pacific.
- Operation Interflex is a part of the U.K.'s commitment of £2.3 billion for military aid and support to Ukraine, the five-week course is being undertaken at four locations across the country



 The UAE Food Bank, in collaboration with various partners, has announced an ambitious initiative to distribute three million meals and food parcels to disadvantaged individuals and families during Ramadan.

Environment

 The Environment Climate Sustainability Working group meeting held at Gandhinagar

 Olive Ridley turtles the have trusted Gahirmatha and Rushikulya beaches of Odisha for a long time now. Every year, they come ashore from the Bay of Bengal for a mass nesting season, also known as arribada, which in Spanish means arrival from the sea. Its IUCN status is vulnerable . They spend their life in ocean inhabiting in the tropical,



subtropical of pacific, Indian and Atlantic sea.

- Jerdon's narrow-mouthed frog, endemic to the higher altitudes of Western Ghats 'rediscovered' after 89 years. It is classified as 'Near Threatened' in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species
- India has ranked eighth in the list of countries with the worst air quality index and 12 of the 15 most polluted cities in Central and South Asia are in India, according to the Annual World Air Quality Report released by Swiss air quality technology company, IQAir.
- **Zebrafish larvae** can recognise difference between numbers of black bars within 96 hours of hatching. The findings suggest that **numerical abilities may be hardwired** in zebrafish.
- Sasha, one of the cheetahs brought from Namibia, died of a kidney ailment at the Kuno National Park in Madhya Pradesh.



• Aravalli Green Wall Project, a major initiative to green 5 km buffer area around the Aravalli Hill Range in four states was launched to celebrate the International Day of Forests at Tikli Village in Haryana.

Sports

- P.B. Abhinand won 84th National sub-junior table tennis championships
- India-A wins women's snooker World Cup
- Off-spinner R. Ashwin jumped to the top of the latest ICC Men's Test bowling rankings, replacing England pacer James Anderson
- **Just Fontaine**, the **French football** great who scored a record 13 goals at the 1958 World Cup, passed away
- Indian GM D. Gukesh has been honoured with player-of-the-year award by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF)
- RoundGlass Punjab wins I-League title.
- Karnataka came up with a dominant performance to prevail over a fighting Meghalaya in the final of the 76th National football championship for Santosh Trophy. This was the first trophy for Karnataka which had previously won four times as Mysore, after a gap of 54 years after 1968-69).
- Rest of India beat Madhya Pradesh to win Irani Cup. Irani Trophy is also known as MasterCard Irani Trophy. It is a test match format cricket tournament in India. It is played annually between the incumbent Ranji Trophy winners and the Rest of the India Cricket Team. It is organized by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).
- Mirabai Chanu wins BBC Indian Sportswoman-of-the-Year award
- Khelo India Dus ka Dum tournament to be organized in 10 cities to celebrate International Women's Day 2023
- India wins the 2nd Junior World Kabaddi Championship 2023 after beating Iran in the Final
- The World Transplant Games, organised by the World Transplant Games Federation, are aimed at raising public awareness on the benefits of organ donation at Perth in Australia.
- An Se Young and Li Shi Feng take the singles honours at All England Open badminton
- Rohan Bopanna became the oldest tennis player ever to win the Masters 1000 title.
- Pankaj Advani retains Asian billiards title with facile win over Damani
- ATK Mohun Bagan Football Club is an Indian professional football club based in Kolkata, wins maiden title of The Indian Super League (ISL), the top of the Indian football league system. It is the country's primary football competition, organised by the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and their commercial partners Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL).
- Lovlina Borgohain and Nikhat Zareen on won gold medal at World Boxing Championships



• Mumbai Indians won the inaugural Women's Premier League in a thrilling final against Delhi capitals.

Person in news

- Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi takes charge as chief of Western Naval Command
- Noted Carnatic vocalist and guru Neela Ramgopal passed away
- Hekani Jakhalu made history by becoming the first woman to be elected to the Nagaland Assembly.

• Senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rashmi Shukla has been appointed

Director-General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)

The Supreme Court formed an expert committee headed by **Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre** (retd), a former judge of the court, to investigate Hindenburg report on the Adani Group. The committee includes former Chairman of the



State Bank of India O.P. Bhatt, retired Bombay High Court judge Justice J.P. Devadhar, former chief of the New Development Bank of BRIC countries K.V. Kamath, co-founder of Infosys Nandan Nilekani and securities expert and lawyer Somasekhar Sundaresan.

- **Ryuho Okawa,** the leader of the **Japanese "Happy Science**" cult who claimed to be able to communicate with the spirits passed away
- Indian GM D. Gukesh has been honoured with player-of-the-year award by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF)
- A court in Belarus sentenced Nobel Peace Prize winner and human rights activist Ales Bialiatski to 10 years in prison for financing protests and other crimes, in a case that rights groups say was politically motivated.



- Shri S.S. Dubey took charge as Controller General of Accounts (CGA)
- Shaliza Dhami is first woman to be appointed to an IAF command post.
- Ram Chandra Paudel sworn in as Nepal's third President
- **Nobel literature laureate Kenzaburo Oe**, whose darkly poetic novels were built from his childhood memories during **Japan's postwar occupation** and from being the parent of a disabled son, has died. Oe, who was also an outspoken anti-nuclear and peace activist. **"A Personal Matter"**, published one year after the birth of his mentally disabled son in 1963 is the story of a father coming to terms through darkness and pain with the birth of a brain-damaged son.
- Athletics legend Dick Fosbury, who revolutionised high jumping with his signature 'Fosbury flop' passed away
- Eric Garcetti set to be U.S. Ambassador to India
- **Dhanya Rajendran,** co-founder and editor-in-chief of The News Minute portal, has been declared the winner of the **Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Woman Mediaperson for 2022,**
- batteries, all areas where the country's tech giants are well-established already.
- The doctor who exposed **China's cover-up of the SARS epidemic in 2003** died. **Jiang Yanyong,** then a doctor in a Beijing military hospital, angered officials when he informed foreign media of attempts to downplay the outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, revealing the existence of hundreds of earlier cases.
- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das Named 'Governor Of The Year' At Central Banking Awards 2023
- **Gianni Infantino** has been **re-elected president of FIFA until 2027** after standing unopposed at the congress of world football's governing body.
- Ramsahay Prasad Yadav elected as third Vice-President of Nepal
- Carnatic vocalist Bombay Jayashri has been selected for the Sangita Kalanidhi award of the Music Academy for 2023. The Nritya Kalanidhi award for dance will go to Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari. It is the title awarded yearly to a Carnatic musician by the Madras Music Academy
- Doodle celebrates the 80th birthday of Dr. Mario Molina, a Mexican chemist who successfully convinced governments to come together to save the planet's ozone layer. A co-recipient of the 1995 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, Dr. Molina was one of the researchers who exposed how chemicals deplete Earth's ozone shield, which is vital to protecting humans, plants, and wildlife from harmful ultraviolet light.
- Charukeerthi Bhattaraka Swami, head of the Jain mutt at the renowned pilgrimage centre of Shravanabelgola, passed away. A scholar in Prakrit and Sanskrit, the 74year-old had led a team of experts to translate ancient Jain scripture Dhavala into Kannada in 39 volumes from the National Institute of Prakrit Studies and Research that he set up in 1993.
- Humza Yousaf set to become Scotland's youngest First Minister.



Important Days in news

- National Science Day is celebrated in India on February 28th each year to mark the discovery of the Raman effect by Indian physicist Sir C. V. Raman on 28 February 1928. The theme of National Science Day 2023 is 'Global Science for Global Wellbeing'
- World Hearing Day is held on 3 March each year to raise awareness to prevent deafness and hearing loss and promote ear and hearing care across the globe. Theme for current year is "Ear and hearing care for all!"
- World Wildlife Day will be celebrated on 3rd March. This year is theme "Partnerships for wildlife conservation".
- The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has announced 6th March as the National Pharmacy Education Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Professor Mahadeva Lal Schroff and to recognise his contribution to establishing pharmacy education in India.
- International Women's Day is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 as a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women. This year's theme, "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality,"
- World Consumer Rights Day, 2023 to be celebrated on 15th March, 2023. Theme
 of the World Consumer Rights Day, 2023 is "Empowering consumers through
 clean energy transitions"
- Global Recycling Day is observed every year on March 18 with an aim to spread awareness about the rapid pace at which our natural resources are depleting and the need for recycling to slow it down. Theme for the year is "Creative Innovation"
- The International Day of Happiness is celebrated throughout the world on 20 March. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly on 28 June 2012. The International Day of Happiness aims to make people around the world realize the importance of happiness within their lives. The theme for the 2023 International Day of Happiness is "Be Mindful. Be Grateful. Be Kind."
- The world observes **World Sparrow Day every year on March 20** to raise awareness about the bird, it is also called as 'Gauraya Diwas'. The theme for World Sparrows Day 2023 is "I Love Sparrows."
- World Down Syndrome Day takes place every year on March 21. The Theme for World Down Syndrome Day 2023 is "With Us Not For Us".
- The International Day of Forests is **celebrated on March 21** every year to highlight the importance and significance of forests and raise awareness about forest restoration. The theme for each year is chosen by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and the theme is **'Forests and health.'**
- The martyrdom day of **Shaheed Bhagat Singh**, **Sukhdev and Rajguru** is annually observed on **March 23**, the day on which in 1931, the three were hanged in the **Lahore conspiracy case**.



FIFA awards 2022

- Best FIFA men's player: Lionel Messi
- Best FIFA women's player: Spain's Alexia Putellas
- Best FIFA Men's Coach: Lionel Scaloni
- Best FIFA Women's Coach 2022: Sarina Wiegman
- Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper: Emiliano Martínez
- Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper: Mary Earps
- FIFA Puskas Award for the most spectacular goal: Marcin Oleksy

