



CURRENT AFFAIR **FEBRUARY**

by Crack Notes

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SPORTS

- Murali Vijay, the cricketer, has officially retired from all formats of the sport.
- Harmanpreet Kaur is now the brand ambassador for Puma India.
- India emerged victorious against West Indies by 8 wickets in the Trination Women's Cricket series held in South Africa.
- New Zealand introduced the 'Debbie Hockley Medal' to honor accomplished female cricketers.
- Anurag Singh Thakur and Lieutenant Governor Sh. Manoj Sinha unveiled the 3rd Khelo India Winter Games Mascot, Theme Song, and Jersey at Raj Bhavan, Jammu.
- The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) declared Saudi Arabia as the host for the 2027 Asian Nations Cup, marking their first time hosting since the event's inception in 1956.
- Qatar is set to host the next edition of the Asian Football Cup from June 26 to July 16, 2023.
- Aaron Finch, an Australian cricketer, has announced his retirement from international cricket.
- Kerala emerged as the champions in the inaugural National Beach Soccer Championships.
- The central ice hockey team of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) secured victory in the 12th IHAI National Ice Hockey Championship for men in Leh, Ladakh.
- LeBron James has surpassed Kareem Abdul Jabbar's long-standing record to become the all-time leading scorer in the NBA.
- The 5th Khelo India Youth Games saw Maharashtra securing the top spot in the medal table, followed by Haryana and Madhya Pradesh.
- Shri Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the 3rd edition of the Khelo India Winter Games in Gulmarg.
- Pakistani wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- The ICC T20 Women's World Cup commenced in South Africa with the opening match between the hosts and Sri Lanka, led by Harmanpreet Kaur from India.
- Indian Olympian Aditi Ashok clinched the 2023 Magical Kenya Ladies Open Title with a final round score of 74.
- Ravichandran Ashwin achieved the distinction of being the fastest Indian to claim 450 Test wickets.
- Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir hosted the third edition of the Khelo India Winter Games.
- Rohit Sharma becomes the first Indian skipper to score centuries in all three formats.
- Real Madrid secured its fifth Club World Cup title by defeating Al-Hilal 5-3 in the final in Rabat, Morocco.
- Smriti Mandhana garnered attention by becoming the most expensive player in the WPL, with RCB bidding ₹3.4 crore.
- Jean-Eric Vergne emerged victorious at India's inaugural E-Prix in Hyderabad as part of Formula E 2023.

- Tennis star Sania Mirza has taken on the role of mentor for Royal Challengers Bangalore in the inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL).
- Race Walkers Akshdeep Singh & Priyanka Goswami triumphed in the National Race Walking Championships, earning spots in the 2023 World Championships & 2024 Olympics.
- The U.S. men's national soccer team, alongside Mexico and Canada, secured automatic qualification for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- Through a united North American bid, these three countries earned the privilege to host the World Cup.
- Eoin Morgan, England's World Cup-winning captain, has announced his retirement from Cricket.
- Virat Kohli becomes the sixth batter to achieve 25,000 runs in international cricket.
- England Test captain Ben Stokes made history by hitting the most sixes ever in Test cricket.
- Saurashtra emerged victorious in the Ranji Trophy final 2022-23, defeating Bengal by nine wickets at Eden Gardens in Kolkata.
- The Tata Group secured title sponsorship rights for the Women's Premier League (WPL) for five seasons as granted by BCCI.
- Indian chess player Vignesh NR achieved the esteemed title of 80th Grandmaster of India.
- Young Indian talent Tilottama Sen secured a bronze medal in the women's 10m Air Rifle event at ISSF World Cup 2023 in Cairo, Egypt.
- Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil clinched the men's 10m air rifle event at the ISSF World Cup 2023 in Cairo.
- Spanish player Carlos Alcaraz claimed the title at the 2023 Argentina Open.
- Sergio Ramos of Spain announced his retirement from international football.
- Daniil Medvedev emerged victorious over Andy Murray, securing the Qatar Open title.
- Australia clinched their sixth ICC Women's T20 World Cup title by defeating South Africa by 19 runs in the final at Newlands.
- Hockey Madhya Pradesh claimed victory in the 13th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship in 2023.
- France's defender Raphael Varane officially retired from international football.

DEFENCE

- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) celebrated its 47th Anniversary on February 1, 2023.
- An exercise called "Exercise Trishakti prahar" took place in North Bengal, involving the Indian Army, Indian Air Force, and CAPF's.
- The Indian Army is conducting welfare activities under 'Operation SADBHAVANA' for children in remote areas of Ladakh, including Army Goodwill Schools and Infrastructure Development Projects.

- Indian Naval Test Pilots successfully executed the maiden landing of LCA Navy and MIG-29K Fighter Aircraft on INS Vikrant.
- The Prime Minister inaugurated India's largest HAL Helicopter Factory in Tumakuru, Karnataka, unveiling the Light Utility Helicopter (LUH).
- The 11th meeting of India-Mongolia Joint Working Group was held in New Delhi to review bilateral defense cooperation.
- Ammunition Cum Torpedo Cum Missile (ACTCM) Barge, Yard 125 (LSAM 15) was launched at M/s Suryadipta Projects Pvt Ltd, Thane.
- Iran unveiled its underground air force base, Oghab 44 ("Eagle" in Persian), capable of storing fighter jets with long-range cruise missiles.
- Aero India 2023's 14th edition was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, themed "The Runway to a Billion Opportunities."
- Indian Navy collaborated with M/s Jeep India for the 'She's Unstoppable' All Women Motor Expedition to promote 'Nari Shakti.'
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited unveiled the scale model design of Hindustan Lead-in Fighter Trainer (HLFT-42) at Aero India 2023.
- Bengaluru's NewSpace Research delivered SWARM drones to the Indian Army, becoming the world's first major armed force to operationalize high-density SWARM drones.
- The US Special Operation Forces and India's National Security Guard conducted "TARKASH" exercise in Chennai, including "Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) terror response" in the drill.
- India and Japan held the 4th edition of "EX DHARMA GUARDIAN" joint military exercise at Camp Imazu in Shiga province, Japan.
- Garuda Aerospace revealed its solar-powered drone "SURAJ" for surveillance at Aero India 2023.
- Indian Air Force introduced 'Vayulink,' an innovative solution for communication and navigation during adverse weather conditions.
- INS Nireekshak received Chief of the Naval Staff Unit Citation for its salvage operations and deep-sea diving capabilities.
- Indian Naval Ship Sumedha participated in NAVDEX 23 and IDEX 23 at Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- The 4th edition of joint military exercise 'DUSTLIK' between the Indian and Uzbekistan Army began in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.
- Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) signed an MoU with Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), DRDO, for the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) program.
- Missile Cum Ammunition (MCA) Barge, Yard 75 (LSAM 7) was launched in Visakhapatnam.
- An Indian Air Force contingent joined Exercise Desert Flag VIII at Al Dahfra airbase in UAE, including the participation of LCA Tejas.

- Indian Navy's INS Sindhukesari docked in Jakarta, Indonesia, showcasing expanding military cooperation with South East Asian nations.
- Indian Air Force joined Exercise Cobra Warrior at the Waddington Air Force Base in the UK, alongside Air Forces from various countries.

NATIONAL

- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh announced that India's Blue Economy resources are globally recognized. The International Seabed Authority designated India as a "Pioneer Investor."
- The United Kingdom was named the Country Partner for BioAsia 2023, an annual healthcare and life sciences event by the Telangana government, to be held in Hyderabad.
- India's G-20 Sherpa, Mr. Amitabh Kant, inaugurated India's first Model G-20 Summit organized by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini's Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's government declared Visakhapatnam as the new capital of the state.
- Hon'ble Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar inaugurated the 36th Surajkund International Crafts Mela, 2023 in Faridabad, Haryana.
- Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat addressed the First G20 Employment Working Group Meeting in Jodhpur, focusing on creating opportunities for decent work and inclusive growth.
- The Maharashtra government chose "Jai Jai Maharashtra Majha" as the state song.
- Shri Bhupender Yadav launched the 'Save Wetlands Campaign' as a holistic approach to wetlands conservation.
- Minister of Tourism G. Kishan Reddy introduced the Visit India Year - 2023 initiative and unveiled the logo in New Delhi.
- Maharashtra topped the list of newly recognized startups and unicorns as per the Economic Survey 2021-22.
- The first G-20 Energy Transition Working Group meeting commenced in Bengaluru.
- Shri Amit Shah laid the foundation stone for a ₹450 crore nano urea plant and IFFCO township in Deoghar, Jharkhand.
- PM inaugurated India Energy Week 2023 in Bengaluru and launched uniforms made from recycled PET bottles under the 'Unbottled' initiative by Indian Oil.
- Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the Tumakuru Industrial Township, South India's first Industrial Corridor Project.
- Indian Railways introduced the WhatsApp Food Delivery Facility 'Zoop' to order food during train journeys using PNR numbers.
- Ladakh's Yaya Tso, renowned for its lake at an altitude of 4,820 meters, is proposed as the region's first biodiversity heritage site (BHS).

- Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the 2nd SCO Young Scientist Conclave in Bengaluru.
- PM Shri Narendra Modi coined the acronym HEALTH to denote cooperation in health care, economic growth, alternate energy, literature and culture, terrorism-free society, and humanitarian collaboration.
- Gandhisagar Floating Festival, Asia's first floating festival, began in Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh.
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and Ashok Leyland introduced India's first Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine (H2-ICE) technology solution for heavy-duty trucks.
- Election Commission of India creatively communicated through 'Main Bharat Hoon' song on social media to increase voter turnout.
- Five Judges were appointed to the Supreme Court of India, increasing the working strength to 32.
- Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw launched 'Digital Payments Utsav' to promote digital transformation, including initiatives to boost awareness and adoption of digital payments.
- Shri Hardeep Singh Puri addressed the First Environment Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) meeting in Bengaluru.
- Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) initiated India's first public issue of municipal bonds to fund a solar power project.
- India's First Glass Igloo restaurant opened in Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir.
- Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated AMRITPEX 2023 - National Philatelic Exhibition in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Celebrations.
- Shri Alkesh Kumar Sharma inaugurated the 1st International Conference on Digital Skilling, a G20 lead event.
- The country's first commercial-scale biomass-based hydrogen plant is under construction in the Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh.
- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the new campus of Aljamea-tus-Saifiyah Arabic Academy in Mumbai.
- Lithium reserves were discovered for the first time in the country, in Jammu division's Reasi district.
- Shri Amit Shah presented the 'President's Colour' to the Haryana Police in Karnal.
- The country's strictest Anti-Copying Law was enacted in Uttarakhand.
- Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat presided over the opening session of DHARA 2023, focusing on urban river sustainability.
- Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia and the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh laid the foundation stone of Rewa Airport in Madhya Pradesh.
- India successfully hosted the First Meeting of G20 Digital Economy Working Group in Lucknow.
- The Reserve Bank of India announced its second global hackathon, 'HARBINGER 2023,' with the theme 'Inclusive Digital Services.'
- PM inaugurated Aadi Mahotsav, the mega National Tribal Festival in Delhi.

- The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, inaugurated the International Engineering and Technology Fair (IETF) 2023 in New Delhi.
- AICTE and BPR&D launched KAVACH-2023, a National Level Hackathon to tackle cyber threats.
- India's first electric AC double-decker bus was inaugurated in Mumbai.
- Ladakh hosted India's first frozen-lake marathon at Pangong Tso.
- Shri Bhupender Yadav released twelve cheetahs at Kuno National Park, using robotic technology to clean all manholes.
- Lexi, a ChatGPT-powered AI chatbot, has been introduced in India to assist e-commerce owners with simplified business information.
- Election Commission launched 'Mission-300' and 'My Vote, My Valentine' campaigns in Meghalaya.
- The 18th World Security Congress organized by UIC and RPF took place in Jaipur, focusing on railway security strategy.
- The i-ATS (Indigenous–Automatic Train Supervision) was deployed on the Delhi Metro, India's first indigenously developed Train Control and Supervision System.
- ELECRAMA 2023's 15th edition was inaugurated by RK Singh, organized by IEEMA with the theme "Reimagine Energy for Sustainable Future."
- The Kerala government launched the robotic scavenger "Bandicoot" to clean sewages in Guruvayur.
- Dr. Jitendra Singh launched VAIBHAV Fellowships for Indian Diaspora abroad on National Science Day.
- The Ajanta Ellora International Festival 2023 took place in Aurangabad, Maharashtra.
- Karnataka Government announced plans to build the country's first Marina at Byndoor to promote coastal tourism.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- The UNESCO World Heritage List added the Ukrainian city of Odessa and included it on the List of World Heritage in Danger.
- The 15th BRICS summit is scheduled to happen in Durban, South Africa, in late August. India will be the Theme Country at the 2025 Madrid International Book Fair.
- Google invested approximately \$300 million in Anthropic, an artificial intelligence startup known for its technology rivaling OpenAI, the creator of ChatGPT.
- India, France, and the UAE established a formal trilateral cooperation initiative for solar and nuclear energy projects, climate change combat, and collaborative military hardware production.
- Australia announced plans to replace the image of Queen Elizabeth II on its \$5 banknote with a design honoring Indigenous culture.
- India and Egypt held the 3rd 'Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism' meeting in New Delhi. A 7-year-old Prince from Bhutan became the country's first digital citizen.

- Microsoft Research's Project ELLORA is preserving 'rare' Indian languages (Gondi, Mundari, and Idu Mishmi), launched in 2015 to support low-resource languages.
- Google introduced an experimental conversation AI service named "Bard" in competition with the popular ChatGPT from OpenAI.
- India welcomed the Republic of Congo to the International Solar Alliance.
- Significant earthquakes with magnitudes of 7.8 and 7.5 hit southern Turkey and western Syria, causing widespread destruction in both countries.
- India initiated 'Operation Dost' to provide assistance to Turkey and Syria following the devastating earthquake.
- South African President Cyril Ramaphosa declared a "State of Disaster" due to the country's electricity crisis during his annual State of the Nation address in Cape Town.
- The World Government Summit 2023 commenced in Dubai with the theme "Shaping Future Governments."
- External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar inaugurated the 12th World Hindi Conference in Fiji, co-hosted by the Governments of India and Fiji.
- PM Narendra Modi engaged in a video call with French President H.E. Emmanuel Macron for the launch of the new Air India-Airbus Partnership. Air India will acquire 250 aircraft from Airbus under this partnership.
- India, the US, and Brazil will establish a global biofuel alliance aimed at promoting cooperation and sustainable biofuel utilization.
- Cyclone Gabrielle struck Auckland, the largest city in New Zealand.
- Air India made a historic agreement to purchase 220 Boeing planes for \$34 billion, reflecting the strong economic partnership between Tata-owned airlines and Boeing.
- The Spanish government passed a groundbreaking law providing paid medical leave to women with severe menstrual pain, the first of its kind in Europe.
- Seattle became the first US city to enact an explicit ban on caste-based discrimination, making history.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY NEWS

- Azad Engineering Private Limited, a Hyderabad-based leader in engineering, has been authorized as the first Indian company to provide critical rotating parts for nuclear turbines.
- ISRO and Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) aim to create a training module for the Indian Spaceflight Programme using Augmented Reality / Virtual Reality / Mixed Reality (AR / VR / MR).
- Jupiter now holds the record for the planet with the most moons. Astronomers have identified 12 new moons orbiting Jupiter, bringing the total count to an unprecedented 92. These moons were

spotted through telescopes in Hawaii and Chile in 2021 and 2022, and their orbits were verified through follow-up observations.

- Skye Air introduced India's inaugural Traffic Management System for Drones.
- Skye UTM is a Cloud-based aerial traffic management system that integrates unmanned air traffic with manned aviation airspace.
- The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare launched the nationwide Sarva Dawa Sevan or Mass Drug Administration (MDA) campaign to Eradicate Lymphatic Filariasis (LF).
- NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar or NISAR, an Earth science satellite developed collaboratively by NASA and ISRO, operates in Low Earth Orbit (LEO). NISAR is set to map the entire globe within a span of 12 days.
- ISRO successfully initiated the second edition of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV-D2) from the first launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- Saudi Arabia is preparing to send its inaugural woman astronaut, Rayyana Barnawi, on a 10-day mission to the International Space Station (ISS) alongside Saudi astronaut Ali Al-Qarni.
- Antaris reported that the world's first satellite entirely conceived, designed, and produced using the company's end-to-end cloud platform, JANUS1, has effectively reached orbit. JANUS-1 was launched aboard the Indian Space Research Organization's (ISRO) SSLV-D2 rocket.
- India's First Hybrid Rocket was launched in Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu. The Martin Foundation, in collaboration with the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam International Foundation and Space Zone India, executed the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Satellite Launch Vehicle Mission-2023.

AWARDS NEWS

- Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the India-UK Achievers Honours in London for his significant contributions to economics and politics.
- VK Pandian, Secretary to the Chief Minister of Odisha, was presented with the FIH President's Award during the Finals of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela.
- Neeraj Chopra was nominated for the Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award.
- Musician Ricky Kej won his third Grammy Award for the album "Divine Tides," which he co-created with rock legend Stewart Copeland at the Grammy Awards 2023.
- PM Narendra Modi was recognized as the world's most popular leader with an approval rating of 78 percent in a survey conducted by the US-based consulting firm 'Morning Consult.'
- Author Dr. Peggy Mohan received the 'Mathrubhumi Book of The Year' award at the fourth edition of Mathrubhumi International Festival of Letters (MBIFL 2023) for her book 'Wanderers, Kings and Merchants,' which explores the evolution of language due to migrations.
- VP Nandakumar, Managing Director & CEO of Manappuram Finance Ltd, was honored with the Hurun India's award for his notable accomplishments in the business world.

• The winners of the prestigious "Golden Book Awards" in 2023, celebrating excellence in literature, include:

1. J.K. Rowling – Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets Of Dumbledore
2. Gaur Gopal Das – Energize Your Mind: A Monk’s Guide To Mindful Living
3. Ashneer Grover – Doglapan: The Hard Truth About Life And Start-Ups
4. Ruskin Bond – How To Live Your Life
5. Namita Thapar – The Dolphin And The Shark: Stories On Entrepreneurship
6. Raj Shamani – Build, Don’t Talk – Things You Wish You Were Taught In School

• Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been recognized as one of FORTUNE® magazine's World's Most Admired Companies.

• NTPC Limited, the largest power generating company in India, was honored with the 'ATD Best Awards 2023' by the Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA.

• Visva-Bharati University, founded by Rabindranath Tagore in 1921, is soon to receive the UNESCO 'heritage' tag, becoming the first university of living heritage.

• Journalist A.B.K. Prasad was awarded the Raja Ram Mohan Roy National Award in 2023 for his contributions to journalism.

• Social worker and reformer Dattatreya alias Appasaheb Dharmadikari was honored with the Maharashtra Bhushan award by the state government of Maharashtra.

• Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel received the UNESCO peace prize in Ivory Coast for her efforts in assisting refugees in Germany through the 'Don't Choose Extinction' campaign launched by the UNDP.

• The Sangeet Natak Akademi’s Fellowships (Akademi Ratna) and Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards (Akademi Puruskar) for the years 2019, 2020, and 2021 were presented by Smt Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi.

• The 76th British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA Awards 2023) were held in London, England, with awards given in various categories including Best Film, Leading Actor, Leading Actress, Best Director, and more.

• Dr. Mahendra Mishra was honored with the International Mother Language Award in Dhaka by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

• Sajjan Jindal, chairman of JSW, was bestowed with the title of 'Entrepreneur of the Year 2022.'

• SS Rajamouli's film 'RRR' received several accolades, including 'Best International Film' and awards for best action, stunts, and original song at the Hollywood Critics Association Film Awards.

• Computer scientist Hari Balakrishnan was awarded the 2023 Marconi Prize.

• The Best FIFA Men’s Player 2022 - Lionel Messi

• The Best FIFA Women’s Player 2022 - Alexia Putelas

• FIFA Fair Play Award 2022 - Luka Lochoshvili

• FIFA Puskas Award for the most spectacular goal in 2022 - Marcin Oleksy

- The Best FIFA Men's Goalkeeper 2022 - Emiliano Martinez
- Best FIFA Women's Goalkeeper 2022 - Mary Earps
- Lionel Messi reached the milestone of scoring 700 career club goals.
- Jammu & Kashmir Tourism was recognized for best adventure tourism in the India Today Tourism Survey.

APPOINTMENTS

- Air Marshal AP Singh PVSM AVSM assumed the position of Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS).
- Manuela Roka Botey has been appointed as Prime Minister of Equatorial Guinea, becoming the country's first woman to hold this position.
- Ravi Mittal has been designated as the new Chairman of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India.
- Economics professor and researcher Shamika Ravi has been chosen as a member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM).
- Nikos Christodoulides has been elected as the President of Cyprus.
- Mohammad Shahabuddin Choppu has been elected as the 22nd President of Bangladesh.
- Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of Army Staff.
- Ayushmann Khurrana has been named the National Ambassador of child rights for UNICEF India.
- Lt Gen RS Reen has taken up the role of Director General Quality Assurance.
- Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi has been appointed as the new Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) for the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO).
- Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi has assumed the position of Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command.

BOOK of Month

- Meghnad Desai has written a new book titled "The Poverty Of Political Economy: How Economics Abandoned the Poor."
- Salman Rushdie has released his latest novel "Victory City," an "epic tale" following a 14th-century woman's defiance against a patriarchal world to lead a city.
- BJP national president J.P. Nadda has introduced the book "Modi: Shaping a Global Order in Flux" in Chanakyapuri.
- Army Chief General Manoj Pande has unveiled a book titled "Savdhaan: A Chronicle of Central Command" in New Delhi.

- The book has been authored by Central Command chief Lt Gen Vivek Kassyap and Vikram D Souza, and it was designed and published by the Times Group.

GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

- Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan has introduced the 'Ladli Behna' scheme.
- Scheme Name: Madhya Pradesh Ladli Behan Scheme Beneficiaries: Women of Madhya Pradesh Benefits: Monthly financial assistance of Rs. 1,000.
- The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a campaign named 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' to empower girls from underprivileged backgrounds.
- The Archaeological Survey of India will initiate the 'Smarak Mitra Yojana'.
- This project aims to enhance monuments, heritage sites, and tourist places across India by involving corporate entities, public sector companies, or individuals to 'adopt' them.
- New India Assurance (NIA) has introduced a 'Pay as You Drive' (PAYD) policy, offering a comprehensive motor insurance premium based on vehicle usage. The policy includes Third Party cover and own-damage cover.
- The "Yuva Sangam" registration portal has been launched in New Delhi. It is an initiative by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to strengthen ties between the youth of the North East Region and the rest of India under the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.
- The Sikkim Government has initiated 'Mero Rukh Mero Santati' (Plant a Tree, Leave a Legacy) to plant 100 saplings per child, fostering a strong bond between humans and nature.
- The government has extended the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM) scheme until March 2026 due to pandemic-related disruptions.
- The Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) has launched "Bal Mitra," a WhatsApp chatbot facilitating better communication between children and parents in Delhi. The chatbot provides reliable information about children and their rights.
- The UP government has launched the portal for creating 'Family ID - One Family One Identity' to identify families as a unit for implementing the 'one job per family' proposal.
- Meta has initiated the #DigitalSuraksha campaign in partnership with MeitY for the G20 campaign.
- The Government of India has launched a mobile app called "KhananPrahari" and a web app Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) to report unauthorized coal mining activities.
- Governor of Odisha Prof. Ganeshi Lal unveiled India's first AI Chatbot for the Agricultural sector, 'Ama KrushAI,' at the valedictory session of 'Krusha Odisha 2023.'
- The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has introduced a chatbot called "Aadhaar Mitra" to assist people with queries related to the Aadhaar card.

RANKS & REPORTS WORLD & INDIA

- India's national accreditation system, managed by the Quality Council of India (QCI), has been ranked 5th globally in the recent Global Quality Infrastructure Index (GQII) 2021.
- India maintains its position in the Top 10 of overall quality infrastructure (QI) rankings, holding the 10th position.
- The World Happiness Index 2023 is an annual report published by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network. The top three positions are held by Finland, Denmark, and Switzerland.
- India is ranked 136th among nations in the World Happiness Index 2023.
- India has significantly improved its aviation safety oversight ranking, jumping to the 55th position in ICAO's Aviation Safety Oversight Ranking from the previous 112th position, according to the regulator DGCA.

OBITUARIES

- Vani Jayaram, a recipient of the Padma Bhushan award and a legendary singer, has passed away.
- Elena Fanchini, a World Cup Skiing medallist, has passed away at the age of 37.
- Lalitha Lajmi, an eminent Indian painter and the sister of late filmmaker Guru Dutt, has passed away at the age of 90.
- Tulsidas Balaram, one of the country's finest footballers and a member of the golden era of Indian football (1951-1962), has passed away.
- Balipa Narayan Bhagwat, a renowned Yakshagana singer and screenwriter, has passed away at the age of 85.
- Nandamuri Taraka Ratna, a Telugu actor and politician, has passed away.
- Kanak Rele, a classical dance legend, has passed away at the age of 85.