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25th January 2023

NATIONAL

1) India's largest Small Finance Bank

- AU Small Finance Bank, India's largest Small Finance Bank, announced the launch of a first-of-its-kind platform in the credit card industry – the SwipeUp platform. With this platform, AU Bank will provide an opportunity to other bank Credit Cardholders to upgrade their card to one of AU Credit Cards. The Bank has provided a platform to compare existing Credit Cards of customers within 2-3 seconds. Thereafter, within minutes they can upgrade credit limit, cashback, reward points with a quick end-to-end digital process so that the Card can match their current lifestyle.



2) Co-WIN platform

- After the success of the Co-WIN platform, the government has now replicated it to set up an electronic registry for routine vaccinations.
- Named U-WIN, the programme to digitise India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) has been launched in a pilot mode in two districts of each state and Union Territory.
- Carrying vaccination cards of children and pregnant women, struggling to keep a tab on the next jab and other such hassles may soon become a thing of the past.

3) 74th Republic Day in India

- This year marks the 74th Republic Day in India. The parade's head guest on January 26 is Egypt's President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi. It's a "wonderful delight to be a guest of honour and participate in India's glorious national day," he said after arriving in India on Wednesday.
- Every year, the parade on Kartavya Path (now called Rajpath) features impressive military and cultural spectacle that showcases India's military prowess.

























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 The Border Security Force's (BSF) Camel Contingent will march with women riders for the first time on Republic Day in 2023.

4) India Energy Week 2023

- India Energy Week 2023 is going to be hosted in Bengaluru from 6th to 8th February 2023. The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India Hardeep S. Puri inaugurated the demo run of an Inland Water Vessel powered by Methanol blended Diesel (MD15).
- The Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Labour, and Employment, Government of India Rameswar Teki was also present during the inaugural ceremony.

5) India has emerged as one of the top three countries in the world

- India has emerged as one of the top three countries in the world where the area under organic agriculture expanded the maximum in 2020. The total increase under organic cultivation globally in 2020 was 3 million hectares (mh), out of which Argentina accounted for 7,81,000 hectares (up by 21 per cent), followed by Uruguay at 5,89,000 hectares (28 per cent) and India at 3,59,000 hectares.



6) United States space agency NASA

- The United States space agency NASA has said the country plans to test a spacecraft engine powered with nuclear fission by 2027, an advancement seen as key to long-haul missions including a manned journey to Mars.
- NASA will partner with the US military's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to develop the nuclear thermal propulsion engine and launch it into space, NASA administrator Bill Nelson said.

7) Government's Common Service Centre Academy

- Oppo India and the Government's Common Service Centre Academy have announced training 10,000 women in cybersecurity and cyber wellness in the country.

























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- The initiative of the partnership between Oppo India and CSC is to empower rural and semi-urban women through the 'Cyber Sangini' Programme, which is supported by the Ministry of Electronics and IT.
- It aims to equip the women with the skills and knowledge needed to become certified 'Cyber Sanginis'.

8) Halwa Ceremony

- On January 26, a traditional "Halwa" ritual will be held to commemorate the completion of the Budget planning process.
- The Halwa ceremony occurs five days before Nirmala Sitharaman, the finance minister, delivers the Union Budget for the fiscal year 2023–2024 on February 1.



9) Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise

- The 2023 edition of Indian Navy's major maritime exercise Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise (TROPEX), is currently underway in the Indian Ocean Region.
- This operational level exercise is conducted biennially and witnesses participation not only by all Indian Navy units but also of Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Coast Guard assets.
- The first exercise of maritime surveillance was held in January 2019. It is also called the biggest war game of the Indian Navy.

STATE NEWS

1) Banwari Lal Purohit

- Union Territory Administrator, Banwari Lal Purohit has inaugurated northern India's largest floating solar power project of 2000kWp worth Rs 11.70 crore at waterworks, Sector 39, Chandigarh.
- The inauguration was held in the presence of MP Kirron Kher. He also inaugurated a 500kWp floating solar project with fountains at Dhanas Lake.

2) 53rd Statehood Day























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- Himachal Pradesh celebrates its 53rd Statehood Day with joy and enthusiasm across the state on 25th January 2023.
- In 1971, on this day, Himachal Pradesh became the 18th state of India.
- The state-level function of Full Statehood Day was held at Hamirpur district, where Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu hoisted the national flag and took a salute from the march past presented by various contingents.

3) Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh celebrated the foundation day of Uttar Pradesh on 24th January. The Uttar Pradesh Diwas is celebrated since 2018 for three days with the participation of all government departments.
- In 2023, the Uttar Pradesh foundation day was celebrated with public participation on the theme of 'Investment and Employment'. The theme aims to focus on investment and employment.



APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS

1) Siddharth Sharma

- The philanthropic arm of the Tata group and largest shareholder in the group holding company, Tata Trusts named Siddharth Sharma, as its CEO and Aparna Uppaluri, as chief operating officer.
- The appointments of the new CEO and COO will come into "effect from April 1, 2023.

SPORTS

1) International Cricket Council's

- The International Cricket Council's (ICC) 92.2 million followers across Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, TikTok and YouTube makes it the most followed international sports federation on social media, according to a study from BCW Sports.























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- The ICC's dominance can be attributed to having a huge fanbase in markets that are highly active on social media.
- The ICC will hope this study supports its case to be included at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games. It has reportedly recommended six-team Twenty20 events for men and women to the International Olympic Committee.

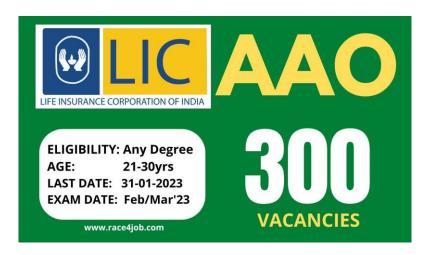
AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1) Dr. Prabha Atre

- Hindustani vocalist Padma Vibhushan, Dr. Prabha Atre was conferred with the the Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award at the hands of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.
- The award was presented to her by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde at Thane near Mumbai.
- The Chief Minister felicitated Dr Atre at a function at Ram Ganesh Gadkari Rangayatan. Shinde presented Dr Atre with a citation and Rs 1 lakh at the program, during which a symphony of 90 flutists was performed to mark her 90th birthday.

2) 'Naatu Naatu'

- The Song 'Naatu Naatu' from India's blockbuster film RRR and two documentaries from the country 'All That Breathes' and 'The Elephant Whisperers' have made it to the final nominations list at the 95th edition of the Academy Awards.
- However, India's official entry Chhello Show (Last Film Show), Gujarati language coming-of-age drama did not score a nomination in the Best International Feature category at the 95th Academy Awards.



IMPORTANT DAYS

1) 13th National Voters' Day on 25th January 2023

- Election Commission of India is celebrating 13th National Voters' Day on 25th January 2023. This day is celebrated on 25 January to mark the foundation day of the Election Commission of India.

























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- Voters' day is dedicated to raising young people's awareness of the importance of voting in their country. It is celebrated every year with a particular theme.
- It not only encourages the youth to participate in the electoral process but also focuses that the Right to vote as the basic right.

OBITUARY

1) Dr Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi,

- Dr Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi, who is widely revered for his contribution in the field of architecture, has passed away. He was 95.
- For his outstanding contribution to the field of architecture, he was conferred with Pritzker Prize in 2018 and the coveted Padma Shri in 1976.
- The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) has announced that Indian architect Balkrishna Doshi will be the recipient of the 2022 Royal Gold Medal.













