



15th February 2023

INTERNATIONAL

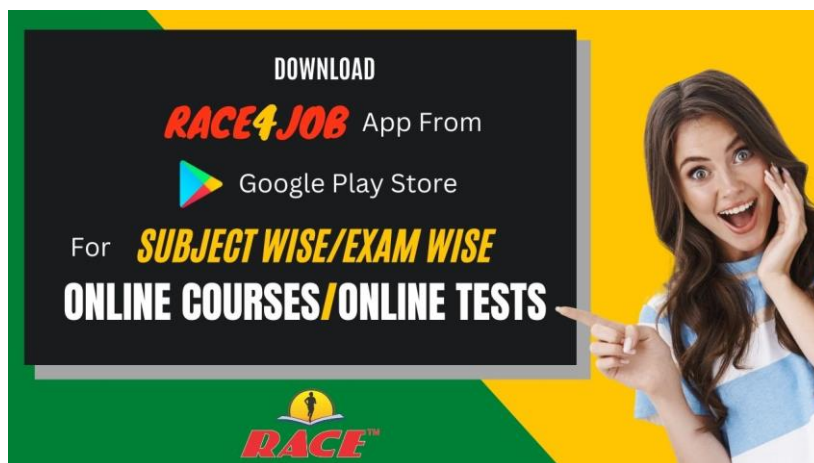
1) Indian Institute of Technology Indore Students won AED 1 million

- The Indian Institute of Technology Indore Students won AED 1 million by winning the gold medal at the World Government Summit in Dubai.
- Niyati Totala and Neel Kalpeshkumar Parikh of The Indian Institute of Technology Indore, were awarded the prestigious medal by Egyptian President Abel Fattah Al-Sisi.

NATIONAL

1) 'HARBINGER 2023 – Innovation for Transformation'

- The Reserve Bank announced its second global hackathon – 'HARBINGER 2023 – Innovation for Transformation' with the theme 'Inclusive Digital Services'.
- The Registration for the hackathon starts from February 22, 2023. It had received 363 proposals submitted by teams from within India and from 22 other countries including the US, UK, Sweden, Singapore, Philippines, and Israel.



2) Pune-based Kudos Finance and Investments and Mumbai-based Credit Gate

- The Reserve Bank of India said it has cancelled the registration of Pune-based Kudos Finance and Investments and Mumbai-based Credit Gate for regulatory lapses in lending practices.
- With cancelled Certificate of Registration(CoR), the two NBFCs should not transact the business of a non-banking financial institution, the RBI said in a statement.

3) ICICI Bank and BNP Paribas



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- ICI Bank and BNP Paribas have signed an initial pact to cater to the banking requirements of European corporates operating in India and Indian companies in the European Union.
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two entities establishes a framework of a partnership between the two banks for providing financial services to corporate customers operating in the India, Europe corridor, private sector lender ICI Bank said in a statement.

4) “historic agreement between Tata-owned airlines and Boeing”

- United States President Joe Biden hailed Air India’s decision to purchase over 220 aircraft from Boeing and called it a “historic agreement between Tata-owned airlines and Boeing.”
- This purchase will support over one million American jobs across 44 states, and many will not require a four-year college degree. This announcement also reflects the strength of US-India economic partnership,” Joe Biden said in an official statement.

5) Namami Gange Programme

- Namami Gange Programme was launched from June 2014 till 31st March 2021 to rejuvenate River Ganga and its tributaries with a budget of Rs.20,000 crore.
- The Government of India has approved Namami Gange Mission-II with a budgetary outlay of Rs.22,500 crore till 2026 including projects for existing liabilities (Rs.11,225 Cr) and new projects/interventions (Rs.11,275 crore).

6) “KhananPrahari”

- The Government of India has launched a mobile app “KhananPrahari” and a web app Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) for reporting unauthorized coal mining activities so that monitoring and taking suitable action on it can be done by the concerned Law & Order enforcing authority.
- The CMSMS has been developed to curb illegal mining and take transparent action as an e-Governance initiative of GoI on the use of Space Technology.



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7) SWARM drones to Indian Army

- NewSpace Research, a Bengaluru-based start-up has delivered SWARM drones to Indian Army, which makes the Army the first major armed force in the world to operationalise these high-density SWARM drones.

- This delivery may possibly be the world's first operational high density swarming UAS (Unmanned Aerial System) induction for military applications, especially given that most swarm drone research is yet to be operationalised across the world. The swarm of 100 drones is capable of hitting targets at least 50 kms away into enemy territory.

8) Paytm Payments Banks Limited

- Paytm Payments Banks Limited (PPBL) has launched Unified Payments Interface (UPI) LITE, enabled by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for multiple small-value UPI transactions.

- This feature will help with faster real-time transactions with a single click through Paytm as the bank aims to drive the adoption of digital payments across the country.

- As a part of its efforts to drive innovation, the Bank said it is the first payments bank to launch such UPI LITE feature.

9) Science Center and Planetarium

- The Science Center and Planetarium will be constructed in Kota, Rajasthan. The Science Center and Planetarium will be one of the best science centers and planetariums in the world. About 35 crore 25 lakh rupees will be spent on these.

- An MoU was signed between the National Council of Science Museums and the Science and Technology Department of the Government of Rajasthan in this regard.

STATE NEWS

1) Chhattisgarh and Bihar allocated the most proportion of their budget towards education in FY23



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- Among the big States in the country, Chhattisgarh and Bihar allocated the most proportion of their budget towards education in FY23.
- While Chhattisgarh allocated 18.82 per cent of the State’s estimated net budget expenditure to education, Bihar allocated 18.3 per cent.
- The States/UTs that have spent a higher portion of their budget expenditure on education are Delhi, Assam, and Himachal Pradesh, which allocated 22 per cent, 20 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively, of their budgets on education this fiscal year.

2) Police Academy in Karnal’s Madhuban

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah has presented the President’s Colour to Haryana Police in recognition of its exceptional service.
- He Shah presented the award on behalf of President Droupadi Murmu in a ceremony at the Haryana Police Academy in Karnal’s Madhuban. In his remarks at the event, Shah also paid tribute to those martyred in the 2019 Pulwama attack.
- He added that the names of the 40 Central Reserve Police Force personnel who died would be written in “golden letters” in India’s defence history.


SPORTS

1) U.S. men’s national team, along with Mexico and Canada

- The U.S. men’s national team, along with Mexico and Canada, will automatically qualify for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- The three countries won the right to host the World Cup in a united North American bid. FIFA historically has given host nations the right to play in the World Cup without going through the usual qualification tournaments, though this is the first time FIFA had to set aside three host bids.
- The tournament is set to expand from 32 teams to 48 in 2026. Another three berths will be awarded to CONCACAF nations via qualifying.

2) Sania Mirza has been roped in as mentor of Royal Challengers Bangalore

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- Sania Mirza has been roped in as mentor of Royal Challengers Bangalore for the inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL), to be played in Mumbai from March 4 to 26. The franchise also announced the signing of Australian Ben Sawyer as head coach. Sawyer is the head coach of New Zealand Women and was part of the Women's World Cup-winning side with Australia last year as the assistant coach.
- Royal Challengers put together a star-studded line-up at the inaugural auction, headlined by Smriti Mandhana, Ellyse Perry, Megan Schutt, Sophie Devine, Dane van Niekerk and Richa Ghosh. The team will open its WPL campaign on March 5, the second day of the tournament, against Delhi Capitals at Brabourne Stadium.



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IMPORTANT DAYS

1) International Childhood Cancer Day

- International Childhood Cancer Day (ICCD) is observed on February 15 every year. The day was observed by the Childhood Cancer International, an umbrella organisation of various child cancer support groups created by parents.
- The day is dedicated to raising awareness and showing support for children and adolescents suffering from cancer. Despite all the advancements in science, childhood cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease among children.

OBITUARY

1) Javed Khan Amrohi has passed away

- Veteran theatre and film actor Javed Khan Amrohi, best known for his roles in the popular DD serial Nukkad and films such as Lagaan and Chak De! India, passed away at the age of 70s.
- After graduating from the Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Amrohi appeared in smaller yet pivotal roles in over 150 films and close to a dozen TV shows.
- He is best known for playing the barber Karim in the late 1980s TV show Nukkad; Anand Akela, one of the suitors of Raveena Tandon's character in Andaz Apna Apna; the cricket commentator in Lagaan, and a support staff of the Indian Women's Hockey team in Chak De! India.



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2) Dutt's sister Lalitha Lajmi passed away

- Eminent Indian painter and late filmmaker Guru Dutt's sister Lalitha Lajmi passed away at the age of 90. She was born to a poet father and a poly-linguistic writer mother in Kolkata in 1932.
- She was a self-taught artist with a keen interest in classical dance. Over the decades, Lajmi has held several exhibitions at international art galleries in Paris, London and Holland. She also featured in Aamir Khan's film Taare Zameen Par, which was released in 2007.
- Lajmi's daughter, Kalpana Lajmi was also a well-known Indian filmmaker who had made award-winning films like Rudali and Daman. Kalpana Lajmi passed away in 2018 due to multiple illnesses. She is survived by her son Devdas.

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