

# 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023

### **INTERNATIONAL**

## 1) World Health Organization

- The World Health Organization (WHO) reported that a woman from Guangdong, a southern province of China, has died from a rare strain of bird flu that is not commonly found in humans.
- Although three people have been confirmed to have been infected with the H3N8 subtype of avian influenza, this strain does not seem to transmit from person to person. The deceased woman was 56 years old.

#### **NATIONAL**

## 1) Residents of Cambridge Layout

- According to recent news reports, a 3D-printed post office is being built in Bengaluru, India, which will be the first of its kind in the country. Residents of Cambridge Layout are reportedly pleased with this development.
- The cost of constructing this post office is estimated to be 30 to 40 percent lower than that of a traditional building, and it is expected to be completed within 30 days. The 1100 square feet post office will cost around Rs 23 lakh to construct.



# 2) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority

- The term "IRDA" refers to the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority, which functions as the regulator of India's insurance industry.
- IRDA's responsibilities include overseeing the operations of Life Insurance and General Insurance companies in the country, to safeguard the interests of policyholders and regulate the insurance sector.
- The IRDA's primary objective is to regulate the industry and ensure the protection of policyholders. To understand more about the role and functions of the IRDA in the Indian insurance sector, continue reading to discover more about this apex body of insurance providers in India.
- 3) March Eases Below Central Bank's Tolerance Level



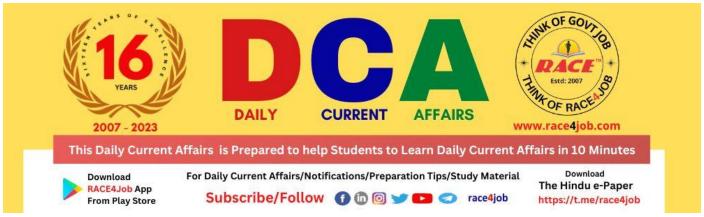












- India's Annual Retail Inflation for March Eases Below Central Bank's Tolerance Level for the First Time in 2023. According to the NSO data, India's annual retail inflation for March eased to 5.66% from 6.44% in February.
- This is a positive development for the economy, as it indicates that inflationary pressures may be easing. The central bank's upper tolerance level for inflation is 6%, so the current rate is below this level, which is a welcome change.

## 4) Trade and Development Report

- As per the latest Trade and Development Report Update released by the United Nations Trade and Development Conference (UNCTAD), India's economic growth is expected to slow down from 6.6% in 2022 to 6% in 2023.
- The report also predicts a decline in global growth in 2023 to 2.1% from the previously projected 2.2% in September 2022.
- However, this projection is based on the assumption that the adverse impact of higher interest rates on the financial sector is limited to the first quarter's bank runs and bailouts.



### 5) Miniratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprise status

- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has granted Miniratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) status to the state-owned Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI), according to a
- SECI, which was established in 2011, is the primary implementing agency for renewable energy schemes/projects of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy aimed at fulfilling India's international
- SECI has played a Central role in the rapid increase of RE generation capacity in the country and has contributed towards the nation's climate commitments, carbon emission reduction strategies and sustainable energy transition.















# 6) International Conference on Defence Finance & Economics

- On April 12, 2023, the Ministry of Defence (Finance) hosted the International Conference on Defence Finance & Economics with the goal of facilitating discussions and partnerships among prominent policymakers, academics, and government officials from both India and other countries.
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## 7) World of Statistics

- World of Statistics has shared the ranking of the world's "most criminal countries". On the list, Venezuela has been ranked top, followed by Papua New Guinea (2), Afghanistan (3), South Africa (4), Honduras (5), Trinidad (6), Guyana (7), Syria (8), Somalia (9) and Jamaica (10), respectively.
- India stood at 77 spots while the US and UK were ahead of India in the criminal ranking country. The USA was at 55th number and the UK at 65th rank, according to the World of Statistics.
- Turkey, Germany, and Japan were among the least criminal countries, ranking at 92nd, 100th, and 135th ranks.



## 8) "Freedom in the World 2023 Report"

- The recent report by Tibet Press highlights that, according to the Freedom in the World Index for 2023 published by international watchdog Freedom House, Tibet is the country with the least freedom in the world. The report, titled "Freedom in the World 2023 Report" was released by Freedom House on March 9 and identified Tibet, South Sudan, and Syria as the "least-free countries" in the world.
- This is the third consecutive year that Tibet has been ranked at the bottom of the list in Freedom House's surveys conducted in 2021 and 2022.
- The report stated that residents of Tibet were deprived of basic rights, both Chinese and Tibetan, and that the Chinese government is ruthless in suppressing any signs of dissent among Tibetans.















## 9) Stanford University's AI Index report

- Stanford University's AI Index report states that India is ranked fifth in terms of investments received by startups offering AI-based products and services in 2022.
- AI startups in India received a total investment of \$3.24 billion, surpassing countries such as South Korea, Germany, Canada, and Australia.
- However, India is still behind the US, China, the UK, and Israel in terms of AI investments received.

#### **STATE NEWS**

## 1) Gond painting of Madhya Pradesh

- The well-known Gond painting of Madhya Pradesh has been granted the coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tag, which safeguards and acknowledges the work of tribal artists and requires approval from a committee for non-tribal artists to use the art.
- A GI tag is a symbol used on items that are exclusively produced in a specific geographical region and have characteristics or a reputation that are associated with that location.
- This tag is applied to a variety of goods, including food products, handicrafts, industrial items, agriculture products, and alcoholic beverages. The GI Tag certifies that only the registered and authorised user is permitted to use the name of the popular product.





### 2) National Capital Region Transport Corporation

- The National Capital Region Transport Corporation has named India's first semi-high-speed regional rail services as 'RAPIDX'.
- These trains will operate on the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridors, which are being constructed to link important urban nodes across the National Capital Region (NCR). The name 'RAPIDX' has been selected because it is simple to read and pronounce in different languages. The brand's logo features a green leaf symbol that represents the brand's objective of decarbonization.
- The brand intends to reduce the number of vehicles on the road, thereby decongesting the National Capital Region (NCR). Furthermore, the brand aims to incorporate green energy into its operations by installing solar panels at stations and depots and gradually increasing the use of blended power in traction.















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## 3) Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary

- According to a recent census report on tigers in the country, Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary has been identified as a new area where photographic evidence of tigers has been captured for the first time.
- The sanctuary was established in 1988 and is located in Shravasti, Balrampur, and Gonda districts of Uttar Pradesh. It spans across 452 sq km and is positioned on the border of India and Nepal. It is renowned for its natural resources and named after King Soheldev, with the Shivalik ranges of the Himalayas located nearby.
- Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary is a significant area within the Bhabar-Tarai eco-system region, which is renowned for its diverse range of flora and fauna.

### **IMPORTANT DAYS**

## 1) Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Day 2023

- On April 13, 1919, the Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place in Amritsar, Punjab, which is remembered as a tragic event and a symbol of the atrocities committed against the Indian people during the British colonial era.
- The massacre played a significant role in India's fight for independence, as it increased the nation's determination to achieve self-rule and break free from British subjugation. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre Day 2023 marks 104 years since the tragic incident that is seen as a turning point in Indian History.
- It was this that led to Gandhi's full commitment to the cause of Indian nationalism and independence from Britain.

#### **OBITUARY**

### 1) Dr. Zafrullah Chowdhury has passed away

- Dr. Zafrullah Chowdhury, a renowned public health activist and veteran fighter of the Liberation War, passed away in Dhaka, Bangladesh at the age of 81. He had been admitted to Gonoshasthaya Nagar Hospital the previous week, and had been on life support since Monday due to kidney-related ailments and other age-related health problems.
- Dr. Zafrullah Chowdhury, who was also a vascular surgeon, was a trailblazer in public health. In 1972, he established the Gonoshasthaya Kendra with the goal of providing low-cost and high-quality medical care to disadvantaged communities.
- Over time, the organization has grown to encompass a network of seven hospitals and 50 sub-centres, which offer reasonably priced healthcare services to the citizens of Bangladesh.













