

# **Current Affairs**



Grade 1-5



## **Government Initiatives**

# The Ayodhya Ram Temple

The Ayodhya Ram Temple, one of India's largest post-independence temples, combines modern technology with ancient traditions. Designed in the Nagara style by chief architect Chandrakant Bhai Sompura, it follows Vastu Shastra principles, with Gopuram-style entrance and walls depicting Lord Ram's life. The Pran Pratishtha ceremony occurred on January 22, 2024, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The temple spans 54,700 sq. ft. within a 70-acre complex, accommodating around a million devotees, offering a tranquil and spiritually enriching experience.

#### G20 Summit

The G20 summit founded in 1999 is the premier forum for international cooperation on the most important aspects of the international economic and financial agenda. It brings together the world's major advanced and emerging economies. Check out now some of the interesting facts about G20.

- ☆ The member countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States along with the European Union.
- ☆ The G20 was founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis as a forum for the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss global economic and financial issues.
  - ♦ The G20 Summit is held annually with a rotating presidency.
  - ♦ The first G20 Summit was held in 2008 in Washington DC (USA).
  - ♦ The 18<sup>th</sup> G20 summit was held in India between September 09 to September 10, 2023 chaired by Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
  - → The African Union has become the 21<sup>st</sup> member of the G20 during 2023 summit.



# Key Agenda for G20 2023 in New Delhi

The 2023 G20 Summit in New Delhi centers around six crucial agenda priorities:

- ☆ Green development, Climate finance and LIFE: Tackling environmental challenges through sustainable development and climate finance strategies, including Low-carbon Technologies for Fighting Epidemics (LIFE).
- Accelerated, inclusive and resilient growth: Prioritizing inclusive economic growth to benefit all segments of society and fostering resilience against economic shocks.
- Accelerating progress on SDGs: Focusing on accelerating progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ☆ Technological transformation and digital public infrastructure: Addressing the transformative power of technology and the importance of robust digital public infrastructure.
- Multilateral institutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Adapting global institutions to meet the evolving demands of the 21st century through reforms and innovations.
- ☆ Women-led development: Empowering women across all facets of development, recognizing their invaluable contributions to society and the economy.

## The New Parliament

- ☆ India's New Parliament building was inaugurated on May 28, 2023 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Approval for a new Parliament building was requested in the years 2012, 2015, and 2019.
- ☆ In September 2020, Tata Projects Ltd was granted a contract worth 862 crores for the construction of the new Parliament house, and the foundation stone for the new Parliament building was laid.
- ☆ The main structure of the new Parliament was finished in 2022.

# Why a New Parliament Building?

- ☆ The old Parliament building of India, was constructed in 1927.
- ☆ The circular design was not intended to accommodate a bicameral legislature.

- ☆ Cramped and inconvenient seating arrangements during joint sessions.
- ☆ Posed safety risks due to limited space for movement.
- ☆ The century-old Parliament House is no longer adequate for today's increased parliamentary activities and users due to its age and limited facilities.
- ☆ The structure suffered due to ad hoc constructions to accommodate essential services like water supply, air conditioning, CCTV cameras and security equipments.

# The New Parliament Building

- ☆ The triangular form of the building allows for optimal use of space.
- ☆ This architectural masterpiece was designed by Bimal Patel.
- ☆ The new building includes a larger Lok Sabha Hall with a capacity of up to 888 seats and a larger Rajya Sabha hall with up to 384 seats.
- ☆ The structure is built over an area of 64,500 square metres.
- ☆ The new Parliament, constructed on the lines of the Central Vista buildings, is a triangular structure. It houses the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha, the Central Lounge and offices of constitutional authorities.
- ☆ The new building will have six Committee rooms.
- ☆ A central courtyard will make for an open meeting space for Members of both houses.
- ☆ The facility is designed to meet high-level of security standards.
- The new building will feature rainwater harvesting and water recycling systems. Provision of 100% UPS power backup will be made throughout the building, the document states.
- ☆ The new building will also have digital language interpretation and recording infrastructure to produce real-time metadata and programmable microphones.
- ☆ It also integrates the vibrance and diversity of modern India, incorporating regional arts, crafts, and cultural elements.
- ☆ The National Emblem will crown the new Parliament building.
- ☆ The new Parliament House stands as a "Platinum-rated Green Building," reflecting India's dedication to environmental sustainability.



#### Schemes and Initiatives 2023

**PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman:** The PM Vishwakarma Yojana was launched on September 17, 2023 by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi. To empower the traditional 'Vishwakarmas' who create something or the other by working hard with their hands, tools and equipment. It is a scheme launched by MMSME to provide holistic and end-to-end support to artisans and craftspeople through access to collateral free credit, skill training, modern tools, incentive for digital transactions and market linkage support.

**PM-EBus Sewa:** Government of India has launched "PM-eBus Sewa Scheme" on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023 with the aim to augment bus operations by deployment of 10,000 electric buses on PPP model. It is an ecofriendly urban mobility project aiming at Rs 57,613 crore to boost electric mobility and create job opportunities for approximately 55,000 individuals. The initiative involves deploying 10,000 electric buses through a public-private partnership model. It encompasses cities with populations of 3 lakh and above, spanning 169 Segment A cities and 181 Segment B cities, including all the capital cities of union territories, the northeastern region, and hill states.

Amrit Bharat Station Scheme: Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation for 508 railway stations, costing over INR 25,000 crores, on August 06, 2023. The "Amrit Bharat Station" scheme by the Ministry of Railways aims to modernize 1309 stations, providing world-class amenities for an enhanced passenger experience. Each station will have a tailored Master Plan to efficiently meet its specific needs.

Mahila Samman Savings Certificate (MSSC): The Mahila Samman Saving Certificate (MSSC) or Mahila Samman Nidhi is a one-time small savings scheme launched by the Government of India in April 2023 to commemorate the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. It is a small savings scheme for women and girls that seeks to empower women by increasing their participation in investments and providing them with collateral free credit, skill training, modern tools, incentive for digital transactions and market linkage support.

**SMILE:** It stands for Support for Marginal Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise and aims to help marginalized individuals in their recovery by offering medical facilities, counseling, skill development,

and economic support is conducted in collaboration with the State and Union Territories, community-based groups, local urban bodies, NGOs, institutes, and various stakeholders.

# Important Military Exercises

India is playing an enormous interest in establishing a relationship with various countries around the globe. Integration of military exercises is an unavoidable obligation for the contemporary combat zone. Joint military exercises are essential for the cooperation of countries apart from economic and diplomatic cooperation.

Cooperation in the military field in the Indian armed forces received a motivation post-Kargil. The most significant benefit of joint military exercises is 'strategic signalling'.

Sr.No.	Military Exercise	Participant Nations
1	Sampriti	India & Bangladesh
2	Mitra Shakti	India & Sri Lanka
3	Maitree Exercise	India & Thailand
4	Vajra Prahar	India & US
5	Yudh Abhyas	India & US
6	Nomadic Elephant	India & Mongolia
7	Garuda Shakti	India & Indonesia
8	Shakti Exercise	India & France
9	Dharma Guardian	India & Japan
10	Surya Kiran	India & Nepal
11	Hand in Hand Exercise	India & China
12	SIMBEX	India & Singapore
13	CORPAT	India & Thailand
14	Exercise Indra	India & Russia
15	Ajeya Warrior	India & UK
16	Indradhanush	India & UK
17	Eastern Bridge	India & Oman
18	Ekuverin	India & Maldives
19	Austra Hind	India & Australia



# **Science and Technology**

- ☼ On December 6, Alphabet, Google's parent company, revealed Gemini, its latest and most advanced AI model. This announcement aims to outpace rivals such as OpenAI's GPT-4 and Meta's Llama 2, marking a significant advancement for Google in the dynamic field of artificial intelligence.
- ☼ In November 2023, ISRO's debut solar mission, Aditya L1, achieved a notable milestone by capturing its first high-energy X-ray view of solar flares. The High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL1OS) aboard the Aditya-L1 spacecraft recorded the impulsive phase of solar flares during its initial observation period, beginning around October 29, as reported by the space agency.
- ☼ In the month of November, 2023, IBM and Amazon Web Services (AWS) have revealed the establishment of an Innovation Lab located at the IBM Client Experience Center in Bengaluru, India. This represents a notable extension of their joint services, emphasizing the enhancement of shared clients by leveraging the potential of generative artificial intelligence (AI).
- In the first week of November, Seven, a consumer electronic startup, has introduced the 7 Ring smart ring in India. The new wearable comes with an interesting standout feature, which is the ability to make contactless payments with its help.
- ☼ In November 2023, Chennai-based startup Agnikul launched its groundbreaking rocket, Agnibaan, featuring the world's first 3D-printed engine. The company, incubated at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, is set to conduct a technology demonstrator mission by the end of this year, paving the way for its first commercial launch in 2024.
- ☆ India's Science and Technology Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, revealed Skyroot's Vikram-1 orbital rocket in Hyderabad on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Skyroot's CEO, Pawan Kumar Chandana, aims for a fully commercial launch in late 2024 and highlights the partly commercial nature of Vikram-1's first launch.
- ☆ ISRO successfully conducted a Test Flight Abort Mission for Gaganyaan on October 21, 2023. The mission aimed to demonstrate

- the Crew Escape System's performance and assess various subsystems for the Gaganyaan mission.
- In the month of October 2023 the collaboration between the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA) has led to the development of an engaging educational project known as the "Space on Wheels" program. Specifically crafted to bring the marvels of space exploration to the East Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh, this initiative aims to make the fascinating world of space accessible to students and space enthusiasts in the region.
- In the month of October 2023 the partnership between Qualcomm and Google to produce wearable devices based on RISC-V technology marks a significant step in the development of open-source hardware and its application in consumer electronics.
- ☼ In October 2023, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) has initiated a novel space project, 'SS AMU SAT', sanctioned by IN-SPACe. Spearheaded by AMU's Robo Club, the project aims to build a 3U CubeSat, the first satellite named after AMU's founder, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan.
- ☆ Google has taken a significant step in catering to the educational needs of teenagers with the launch of its AI chatbot, Bard. In a blog posted in the November by Tulsee Doshi, Google's Product Head for Responsible AI, the company outlined its commitment to creating a secure and engaging learning experience for younger users.
- ☆ The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) hosted its annual "One Week One Lab" programme from 11<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023, an exciting event where each of its 37 cutting-edge laboratories situated across the nation will unveil their remarkable research outcomes and accomplishments.
- The Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI) in Hyderabad has formed a major collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Bengaluru. The partnership, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding on September 11, 2023, initiates a five-year collaboration under the National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS) program.
- ☆ In September 2023, the I2U2 alliance, including India, Israel, UAE, and the US, has launched a significant joint space project. This initiative aims to develop a novel space tool for use by policymakers,

- institutions, and entrepreneurs. This comes after India's recent successful lunar mission, marking a key step in the group's space exploration journey.
- ☆ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has achieved an impressive feat on YouTube's live streaming platform. The Chandrayaan-3 Mission Soft-landing LIVE Telecast, broadcasted on August 23, 2023, captured the attention of over 80 lakh peak concurrent viewers (PCVs), making it the most-watched live stream globally.
- A recently identified green comet has raced past Earth and is observed for the first time in over four centuries. Comet Nishimura, named after amateur Japanese astronomer Hideo Nishimura who discovered it on August 11, has become visible after more than 400 years. Nishimura initially detected the comet by capturing extended exposure photographs using a Canon digital camera paired with a telephoto lens.
- ☆ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) launched its lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 on July 14, at 2:35 P.M. from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.
- ☆ China achieved a milestone on April 16, 2023, launching the Fengyun-3 meteorological satellite using the Chang Zheng-4B rocket from Jiuquan Cosmodrome. The satellite monitors severe weather, marking the 471<sup>st</sup> successful launch for the Chang Zheng rocket family, known for reliability.
- ☼ On April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Kenya's inaugural Earth observation satellite, "Taifa-1," was effectively sent into orbit via a SpaceX rocket launched from Vandenberg Base in California. The rocket, part of SpaceX's rideshare program, also transported 50 payloads from various nations, including Turkey.
- The European Space Agency (ESA) initiated the Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer mission (Juice) using an Ariane 5 rocket from French Guiana on April 14. Juice, designed to explore Jupiter and its three largest moons, successfully communicated with Earth-based mission control about an hour after launch, following a successful separation from the rocket.
- ☆ On January 06, 2023 Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated 
  "National Genome Editing & Training Centre" at National Agri-food

- Biotechnology Institute (NABI) Mohali, Punjab. The Minister also, at the same time, inaugurated a 4-day International Conference on Food and Nutritional Security 2023: iFANS
- ☆ An Indian-American aerospace expert is now NASA's chief technologist, advising Administrator Bill Nelson on technology policy and programs at the agency's headquarters. A.C. Charania assumed the role on January 3, 2023 succeeding Indian-American scientist Bhavya Lal, who previously held the position on an acting basis.

# Inventions of 2023

- Sony Access Controller for PS5: Play Station's Access Controller, a customizable kit with a joystick and 22 interchangeable components for diverse layouts. Developed over five years in collaboration with accessibility experts, this PlayStation 5-compatible device is designed to meet different physical needs. This makes gaming accessible for everyone.
- ☆ Samba Robotic Toothbrush: Shaped like a U and featuring 12,900 soft bristles, it moves around the gumline and oscillates at both high and low frequencies to cover every tooth and groove, with no motion required of the user.
- ☆ LEGO Braille Bricks: Lego Braille Bricks, once exclusive to schools, are now available for consumers. These bricks, compatible with all Lego products, teach tactile skills to visually impaired children. Modified 2 × 4 bricks feature braille alphabet, numbers, and symbols. Developed for everyone, they encourage sighted children and family members to learn braille.
- Apple Vision Pro: Apple's upcoming Vision Pro, set for early 2024, promises a game-changing experience in virtual and augmented reality. Packed with micro-OLED displays, cameras, microphones, sensors, and a custom R1 chip, it introduces gesture controls for navigation using eyes, hands, and voice. Supporting a wide array of apps, the headset includes an external screen showcasing users' eyes, creating an immersive blend between augmented and virtual reality.
- ☆ Bhout Bag: The first Al-powered boxing bag is laced with sensors and comes with a 3D computer-vision camera, allowing it to



- measure the accuracy, power, speed, and technique of every strikeall in under 250 milliseconds. A connected app utilizes this data to tailor a personalized training session.
- Humane Al Pin: The Humane Al Pin is a wearable gadget utilizing artificial intelligence to engage with the user and surroundings. Projecting its interface onto the user's hands, this screenless device, equipped with sensors, can recognize objects, offer contextual details, and manage other devices. While boasting impressive capabilities, the Al Pin prioritizes user privacy, demonstrating how technology can be potent and considerate of personal information.

# Who's Who

# Governorns and Chief Ministers

Sr. No.	States	Governor Name	Chief Minister Name
1	Andhra Pradesh	Shri Justice (Retd.) S. Abdul Nazeer	Shri YS Jagan Mohan Reddy
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Lt. General Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik	Shri Pema Khandu
3	Assam	Shri Gulab Chand Kataria	Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma
4	Bihar	Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar	Shri Nitish Kumar
5	Chhattisgarh	Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan	Shri Vishnu Deo Sai
6	Goa	Shri P.S. Sreedharan Pillai	Shri Pramod Sawant
7	Gujarat	Shri Acharya Dev Vrat	Shri Bhupendra Patel
8	Haryana	Shri Bandaru Dattatraya	Shri Manohar Lal
9	Himachal Pradesh	Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla	Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu
10	Jharkhand	Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan	Shri Hemant Soren
11	Karnataka	Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot	Shri Siddaramaiah
12	Kerala	Shri Arif Mohammed Khan	Shri Pinarayi Vijayan
13	Madhya Pradesh	Shri Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel	Shri Mohan Yadav
14	Maharashtra	Shri Ramesh Bais	Shri Eknath Shinde
15	Manipur	Sushri Anusuiya Uikye	Shri N. Biren Singh
16	Meghalaya	Shri Phagu Chauhan	Shri Conrad Kongkal Sangma



Sr. No.	States	Governor Name	Chief Minister Name
17	Mizoram	Dr. Kambhampati Haribabu	Shri PU Lalduhoma
18	Nagaland	Shri La. Ganesan	Shri Neiphiu Rio
19	Odisha	Shri Raghubar Das	Shri Naveen Patnaik
20	Punjab	Shri Banwarilal Purohit	Shri Bhagwant Singh Mann
21	Rajasthan	Shri Kalraj Mishra	Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma
22	Sikkim	Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya	Shri PS Golay
23	Tamil Nadu	Shri R. N. Ravi	Shri M. K. Stalin
24	Telangana	Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan	Shri A Revanth Reddy
25	Tripura	Shri Indra Sena Reddy Nallu	Dr. Manik Saha
26	Uttar Pradesh	Smt. Anandiben Patel	Shri Yogi Aditya Nath
27	Uttarakhand	Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh	Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami
28	West Bengal	Dr. C.V. Ananda Bose	Km. Mamata Banerjee

# Administration of Union Territories

Union Territory	Lt. Governor & Administrator	Chief Minister
Andaman and Nicobar Island	D K Joshi (Lt. Governor)	-
Chandigarh	Shri Banwarilal Purohit (Administrator)	-
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	Shri Praful Patel (Administrator)	-
Delhi	Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena (Lt. Governor)	Shri Arvind Kejriwal



Union Territory	Lt. Governor & Administrator	Chief Minister
Jammu and Kashmir	Shri Manoj Sinha (Lt. Governor)	-
Lakshadweep	Shri Praful Patel (Administrator)	-
Puducherry	Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan	Shri N.
	(Addl. Charge)	Rangaswamy
Ladakh	Shri B.D. Mishra (Lt. Governor)	-

# Heads of Important Offices

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	Name of the Officer
1	National Security Advisor	Ajit Doval
2	Cabinet Secretary	Rajiv Gauba
3	Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister	Pramod Kumar Mishra
4	Home Secretary	Ajay Kumar Bhalla
5	Finance Secretary	T. V. Somanathan
6	Defence Secretary	Giridhar Aramane
7	Foreign Secretary	Vinay Mohan Kwatra
8	Law Secretary	Dr. Niten Chandra
9	Secretary General of the Lok Sabha	Utpal Kumar Singh
10	Secretary General of the Rajya Sabha	Pramod Chandra Mody
11	Secretary General of Supreme Court of India	Virendra Kumar Bansa
12	Chairperson of the Railway Board	Anil Kumar Lahoti
13	Solicitor General	Tushar Mehta
14	Principal Scientific Adviser	Ajay K. Sood
15	Chief Economic Adviser	V Anantha Nageswaran

# Heads and Headquarter of Nationalised Banks

Sr. No.	Bank name	Headquarter	Head/ CEO/ MD
1	Bank of Baroda	Vadodara	Mr Debadatta Chand
2	Bank of India	Mumbai	Shri Rajneesh Karnatak
3	Bank of Maharashtra	Pune	Shri A.S Rajeev



Sr. No.	Bank name	Headquarter	Head/ CEO/ MD
4	Canara Bank	Bangalore	Shri K. Satyanarayana
			Raju
5	Central Bank of India	Mumbai	Shri Matam Venkata Rao
6	IDBI Bank	Mumbai	Rakesh Sharma
7	Indian Bank	Chennai	Shanti Lal Jain
8	Indian Overseas	Chennai	Shri Ajay Kumar
	Bank		Srivastava
9	Punjab and Sind	New Delhi	Shri Swarup Kumar Saha
	Bank		
10	Punjab National	New Delhi	Atul Kumar Goel
	Bank		
11	State Bank of India	Mumbai	Dinesh Kumar Khara
12	UCO Bank	Kolkata	Shri Ashwani Kumar

# List of Best Intelligence Agencies of the World

Intelligence Agency	Country
Central External Liaison Department	China
Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation	Australia
K.G.B/G.R.U	Russia
Bureau of State Security (B.O.S.S)	South Africa
M.I (Military Intelligence)-5 and 6, Special Branch, Joint Intelligence Organisation	United Kingdom
Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), Intelligence Bureau (IB)	India
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)	USA
MOSSAD	Israel
Mukhabarat	Egypt
Naicho	Japan
SAVAK (Sazamane Etelaat va Amniate Kechvar)	Iran
Al Mukhabarat	Iraq
DGSE (Direction General de Securite Exterieur)	France
Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)	Canada



# **Awards & Prizes**

## Filmfare Awards 2024

The 69th edition of the Filmfare Awards 2024 took place on January 28, 2024 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The event featured hosting by Karan Johar, and performances by Kareena Kapoor, Karisma Kapoor, Varun Dhawan, and Kartik Aaryan among others.

Follow the below table to know the Filmfare Awards 2024 Winners name list.

Category	Winner
Best Film	12 <sup>th</sup> Fail
Best Director	VidhuVinod Chopra (12 <sup>th</sup> Fail)
Best Actor in a Leading Role (Male)	Ranbir Kapoor (Animal)
Best Actor in a Leading Role (Female)	Alia Bhatt (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani)
Best Film (Critics')	Joram (Devashish Makhija)
Best Actor (Critics')	Vikrant Massey (12 <sup>th</sup> Fail)
Best Actress (Critics')	Rani Mukerji (MrsChatterjee vs. Norway), Shefali Shah (Three of Us)
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Male)	Vicky Kaushal (Dunki)
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Female)	Shabana Azmi (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani)
Best Lyrics	Amitabh Bhattacharya ("Tere Vaaste" – Zara Hatke Zara Bachke)
Best Music Album	Animal (Pritam, Vishal Mishra, Manan Bhardwaj, Shreyas Puranik, Jaani, Bhupinder Babbal)
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Bhupinder Babbal (ArjanVailly – Animal)
Best Playback Singer (Female)	ShilpaRao (Besharam Rang – Pathaan)
Best Story	Amit Rai (OMG 2), DevashishMakhija (Joram)
Best Screenplay	Vidhu Vinod Chopra (12 <sup>th</sup> Fail)

Category	Winner
Best Dialogue	Ishita Moitra (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani)
Best Background Score	Harshavardhan Rameshwar (Animal)
Best Cinematography	Avinash Arun Dhaware (Three of Us)
Best Production Design	Subrata Chakraborty, Amit Ray (Sam Bahadur)
Best Costume Design	Sachin Lovelekar, Divvya Gambhir, Nidhhi Gambhir (Sam Bahadur)
Best Sound Design	Kunal Sharma (Mpse) (Sam Bahadur) Sync Cinema (Animal)
Best Editing	Jaskunwar Singh Kohli- VidhuVinod Chopra (12 <sup>th</sup> Fail)
Best Action	Spiro Razatos, AnlArasu, Craig Macrae, Yannick Ben, KechaKhamphakdee, Sunil Rodrigues (Jawan)
Best VFX	Red Chillies VFX (Jawan)
Best Choreography	Ganesh Acharya ("What Jhumka?" – Rocky Aur Rani Kii PremKahaani)
Best Debut Director	Tarun Dudeja (Dhak Dhak)
Best Debut Male	AdityaRawal (Faraaz)
Best Debut Female	AlizehAgnihotri (Farrey)
Lifetime Achievement Award	David Dhawan

## Oscars Awards 2023

The Academy Awards, or Oscars Awards 2023, which were originally held in 1929, recently celebrated their 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Oscars Awards 2023 held on March 13 IST in Los Angeles' Dolby theatre. It was hosted by popular late night show host Jimmy Kimmel.

Category	Winners
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Picture	Everything Everywhere All At Once
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Actress	Michelle Yeoh (Everything Everywhere All at Once)
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Actor	Brendan Fraser (The Whale)
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Director	Daniel Kwan and Daniel Schienert (Everything Everywhere All at Once)



Category	Winners
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Film Editing	Everything Everywhere All at Once
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Original Song	"Naatu Naatu" (RRR)
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Sound	Top Gun: Maverick
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Adapted Screenplay	Women Talking
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Original Screenplay	Everything Everywhere All at Once – Daniel Kwan and Daniel Schienert
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Visual Effects	Avatar: The Way of Water
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Animated Feature Film	Guillermo del Toro's 'Pinocchio'
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Actress in a Supporting Role	Jamie Lee Curtis in 'Everything Everywhere All at Once'
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Actor in a Supporting Role	Ke Huy Quan in 'Everything Everywhere All at Once'
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Documentary Feature Film	'Navalny' by Daniel Roher, Odessa Rae, Diane Becker, Melanie Miller and Shane Boris
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Live Action Short Film	'An Irish Goodbye' by Tom Berkeley and Ross White
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Cinematography	'All Quiet on the Western Front' by James Friend
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Makeup and Hairstyling	Adrien Morot, Judy Chin and Annemarie Bradley for 'The Whale'
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Costume Design	Ruth Carter for 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever'
Oscars Awards 2023 Best International Feature Film	'All Quiet on the Western Front' – Germany
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Documentary Short Film	'The Elephant Whisperers' by Kartiki Gonsalves and Guneet Monga
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Animated Short Film	The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Original Score	All Quiet on the Western Front



Category	Winners
Oscars Awards 2023 Best Production	All Quiet on the Western Front
Design	

# Sahitya Akademi Awards 2023

The Sahitya Akademi, established in 1954, promotes Indian language literature. Recently, it announced the 2023 awards in 24 languages, recognizing outstanding works in poetry, novels, short stories, essays, and literary studies. The awards were approved by the Executive Board under the chairmanship of Sri Madhav Kaushik, President of Sahitya Akademi.

Language	Title and Genre	Name of the Author
Assamese	Dr. Pranavjyoti Deka Shrestha Galpa (Short Stories)	Pranavjyoti Deka
Bengali	Jabar Pari (Novel)	Swapnamoy Chakraborti
Bodo	Si-Ufari Sarni (Short Stories)	Vinod Sona Minj
Dogri	Daun Sadiyan Ek Seer (Poetry-Ghazal)	Vijay Verma
English	Requiem in Raga Janki (Novel)	Neelum Saran Gour
Gujarati	Sairandhree (Epic Novel)	Sandeep Joshi
Hindi	Mujhe Pahachano (Novel)	Sanjeev
Kannada	Mahabharata Anushandhana Bharata (Poetry)	Lakshmesh Tolpadi
Kashmiri	Yath Wavah Halis Toong Tsolay Zaley (Essays)	Manshoor Banhali
Konkani	Varsal (Short Stories)	Mahabaleshwar Sail
Maithili	Bodha Sanketan (Essays)	Basukinath Jha
Malayalam	Malayala Novelinete Deshakalangal (Literary Study)	E.V. Ramakrishnan
Manipuri	Yangkhoibagi Nanglo Helli (Poetry)	Sorokhaibam Gambhini
Marathi	Ringan (Novel)	Kusumkhatri Rana
Nepali	Nepali Lokshitya Ra Loksanskritiko Pariyocha (Essays)	Juddhar Rana



Language	Title and Genre	Name of the Author
Odia	Aprastuta Prutyu (Poetry)	Ashutosh Parida
Punjabi	Mann Di Chip (Poetry)	Swarnjit Savi
Rajasthani	Manak Mati (Poetry)	Gaje Singh Rajpurohit
Sanskrit	Shunye Meghghanam (Poetry)	Arun Ranjan Mishra
Santali	Jaba Baha (Short Stories)	Taraceen Baskey (Turia Chand Baskey)
Sindhi	Hathu Hikro Pahinjaro (Ghazal)	Vinod Asudani
Tamil	Neeraviyal (Poetry-Short-Stories)	Rajasekaran (Devibharathi)
Telugu	Rameshwaram Kaakulu Marikonni Kathalu (Short Stories)	T. Pattabhi Satyam
Urdu	Rajdev Ki Amrai (Novel)	Sadiqua Nawab Saher

#### National Film Awards 2023

The 69th National Film Awards winners were revealed at the National Media Center in New Delhi, showcasing a group of talented individuals who have made a significant impact on India's film industry. These awards, considered prestigious in filmmaking, reflect the dedication and creativity of those contributing to the nation's cinematic heritage. President Droupadi Murmu conferred the 69th National Film Awards on October 17 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

Category	Winner
Best Feature Film	Rocketry
Best Director	Nikhil Mahajan, Godavari
Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment	RRR
Nargis Dutt Award for Best Film on National Integration	The Kashmir Files
Best Actor	Allu Arjun, Pushpa
Best Actress	Alia Bhatt, Gangubai Kathiawadi and Kriti Sanon, Mimi
Best Supporting Actor	Pankaj Tripathi, Mimi
Best Supporting Actress	Pallavi Joshi, The Kashmir Files
Best Child Artist	Bhavin Rabari, Chhello Show

Category	Winner
Best Screenplay (Original)	Shahi Kabir, Nayattu
Best Screenplay (Adapted)	Sanjay Leela Bhansali & Utkarshini Vashishtha, Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Dialogue Writer	Utkarshini Vashishtha & Prakash Kapadia, Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Music Director (Songs)	Devi Sri Prasad, Pushpa
Best Music Direction (Background Music)	MM Keeravaani, RRR
Best Male Playback Singer	Kaala Bhairava, RRR
Best Female Playback Singer	Shreya Ghoshal, Iravin Nizhal
Best Lyrics	Chandrabose, Konda Polam's Dham Dham Dham
Best Hindi Film	Sardar Udham
Best Kannada Film	777 Charlie
Best Malayalam Film	Home
Best Gujarati Film	Chhello Show
Best Tamil Film	Kadaisi Vivasayi
Best Telugu Film	Uppena
Best Maithili Film	Samanantar
Best Mishing Film	Boomba Ride
Best Marathi Film	Ekda Kaay Zala
Best Bengali Film	Kalkokkho
Best Assamese Film	Anur
Best Meiteilon Film	Eikhoigi Yum
Best Odia Film	Pratikshya
Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director	Meppadiyan, Vishnu Mohan
Best Film on Social Issues	Anunaad – The Resonance
Best Film on Environment Conservation/Preservation	Aavasavyuham
Best Children's Film	Gandhi and Co
Best Audiography (Location Sound Recordist)	Arun Asok & Sonu K P, Chavittu
Best Audiography (Sound Designer)	Aneesh Basu, Jhilli



Category	Winner
Best Audiography (Re-recordist of the final mixed track)	Sinoy Joseph, Sardar Udham
Best Choreography	Prem Rakshith, RRR
Best Cinematography	Avik Mukhopadhayay, Sardar Udham
Best Costume Designer	Veera Kapur Ee, Sardar Udham
Best Special Effects	Srinivas Mohan, RRR
Best Production Design	Dmitrii Malich and Mansi Dhruv Mehta, Sardar Udham
Best Editing	Sanjay Leela Bhansali, Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Makeup	Preetisheel Singh, Gangubai Kathiawadi
Best Stunt Choreography	King Soloman, RRR
Special Jury Award	Shershaah, Vishnuvardhan
Special Mention	<ol> <li>Late Shri Nallandi, Kadaisi Vivasayi</li> <li>Aranya Gupta &amp; Bithan Biswas,</li> <li>Jhilli</li> <li>Indrans, Home</li> </ol>
	4. Jahanara Begum, Anur
Best Non-feature film	Ek Tha Gaon
Best Direction (Non-feature film)	Bakul Matiyani, Smile Please
Best Debut Non-Feature Film of a Director	Paanchika, Ankit Kothari
Best Anthropological Film	Fire on Edge
Best Biographical Film	Rukhu Matir Dukhu Majhi and Beyond Blast
Best Arts Films	T.N. Krishnan Bow Strings to Divine
Best Science & Technology Films	Ethos of Darkness
Best Promotional Film	Endangered Heritage 'Warli Art'
Best Environment Film (Non-feature film)	Munnam Valavu
Best Film on Social Issues (Non-feature film)	Mithu Di and Three Two One
Best Investigative Film	Looking For Challan



Category	Winner
Best Exploration Film	Ayushman
Best Educational Film	Sirpigalin Sirpangal
Best Short Fiction Film	Dal Bhat
Best Animation Film	Kandittundu
Best Film on Family Values	Chand Saanse
Best Cinematography (Non-feature film)	Bittu Rawat, Pataal
Best Audiography (Re-recordist of the final mixed track) (Non-feature film)	Unni krishnan, Ek Tha Gaon
Best Production Sound Recordist (Location/Sync Sound) (Non-feature film)	Suruchi Sharma, Meen Raag
Best Editing (Non-feature film)	Abhro Banerjee, If Memory Serves Me Right
Best Music Direction (Non-feature film)	Ishaan Divecha, Succelent
Best Narration/Voice Over (Non-feature film)	Kulada Kumar Bhattacharjee, Hathibondhu
Special Mention (Non-feature film)	<ol> <li>Aniruddha Jatkar, Baale Bangara,</li> <li>Srikanth Deva, Karuvarai,</li> <li>Sweta Kumar Das, The Healing Touch, 4. Ram Kamal Mukherjee, Ek Duaa</li> </ol>
Special Jury Award (Non-feature film)	Shekhar Bapu Rankhambe, Rekha
Best Book on Cinema	Music by Laxmikant Pyarelal: The Incredibly Melodious Journey by Rajiv Vijayakar
Best Film Critic	Purushothama Charyulu
Best Film Critic (Special Mention)	Subramanya Bandoor

## Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2023

Veteran actor Waheeda Rehman, who ruled the silver screens during the 1960s and 70s has been named as the recipient of the prestigious Dadasaheb Phalke Lifetime Achievement Award



## The Abel Prize 2023

The Abel Prize is a prestigious international mathematics award named after the Norwegian mathematician Niels Henrik Abel. It was established by the Norwegian government in 2001 and is often referred to as the "Nobel Prize of Mathematics" because of its significance and prestige in the field of mathematics. Luis Caffarelli won this prize for his seminal contributions to regularity theory for nonlinear partial differential equations including free-boundary problems and the Monge-Ampère equation

#### Golden Book Awards 2023

The 2023 winners of the prestigious "Golden Book Awards" have been announced. This esteemed event honors the finest literature, with over 75,000 books published in India considered for nomination across various genres like fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and children's books. A panel of literary experts, including Dr. Kailash Pinjani, Dr. Deepak Parbat, and Murali Sundaram, judged the awards based on criteria such as originality, creativity, and impact on the literary world. The winners of Golden Book Awards 2023:

Title	Author
Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets Of Dumbledore	J.K Rowling
Energize Your Mind: A Monk's Guide To Mindful Living	Gaur Gopal Das
The Seven Spiritual Law Of Success: A Practical Guide To Achieving Your Dreams	Deepak chopra
The Wisdom Bridge: Nine Principles To A Life That Echoes In The Hearts Of Your Loved Ones	Kamlesh Patel
Diary Of A Wimpy Kid: DiperOverlode	Jeff Kinney
Doglapan: The Hard Truth About Life And Start-Ups	Ashneer Grover
How To Live Your Life	Ruskin Bond
The Dolphin And The Shark: Stories On Entrepreneurship	NamitaThapar
Ultimate Secrets To Wealth	Sneh Desai, Sunil Tulsiani & Brian Tracy

Title	Author
Build, Don't Talk – Things You Wish You Were	Raj Shamani
Taught In School	
The Magic Of Thinking Rich	Bhupendra Singh Raathore
Network Marketing In 60 Minutes	Deepak Bajaj
A Country Called Childhood: A Memoir	Deepti Naval
Family Run To Family Led	Sumita Goswamy
An Enticing Career	Subadrallan
Always Be Unique	Aadya Dube
Chimaera	Navin Reuben Dawson
Urvi	Rajeev Kumar Dubey
The Mysteries Of The Universe-Where Fact Is	Dr Soumendra Nath
More Interesting Than Fiction	Bandyopadhyay
Secret to overcome stammering and	Ankush Pare
becoming an effective speaker	
Padagha ( Japanese Version – Bussokusekika )	Parag Pandya
Foreign Engine In Flight – A Light Of Passage In Poems	Moasenla R. Jamir
Superstar Of My Life – Saibaba	Gowri Venket
Self-Worth As Your First Impression – Signature Of Your Expression	Dr Sreeveni V
The Extra In Ordinary	Ashutosh Madhukar Marathe
Buddhavelicham	Dr K. Sreekumar
Now You Breathe – Overcoming Toxic	Rakhi Kapoor
Relationships And Abuse	какііі карооі
The Tales of The Uncommon Commons	Chandrima Chowdhury
The Awakening	Dr P. Madhurima Reddy
Property Shastra – A Vedic Guide To Buy The Right Property	Aashish Patidar
10x Ceo To The Board Joy To Yoy	S. Ilanchezhiyan
VidyarthiBetal	Kiran Sidde
Travel And Thoughts	Osama Regaah



# Jnanpith Award 2023

Goan writer Damodar Mauzo has received the prestigious Jnanpith Award, the country's highest literary honour, from state Governor P S Sreedharan Pillai. Addressing a gathering after presenting the award on May 27, 2023, the governor said Mauzo is the "epitome of the Konkani literary culture."

# Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2023

Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry announced the National Sports Awards 2023. The awardees had received their awards from the President of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Badminton duo Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty received the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, the country's highest sporting honour, from President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.

# *Arjuna Awards 2023*

On January 9, 2024, the President of India confered the National Sports Awards 2023 at a ceremony in Rashtrapati Bhavan at 11:00 AM. This year, 26 athletes will receive the Ariuna Awards for their exceptional achievements in Sports and Games in 2023. The awardees are selected based on thorough evaluation and recommendations by a Committee, with the final list compiled by the Government, as per a press release from the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. The National Sports Awards, held annually, recognize outstanding contributions and performances in the field of sports.

Sr. No.	Recipient	Sport
1	Ms. Aditi Gopichand Swami	Archery
2	Shri Ojas Pravin Deotale	Archery
3	Ms. Parul Chaudhary	Athletics
4	Shri Sreeshankar M	Athletics
5	Shri Mohameed Hussamuddin	Boxing
6	Shri Mohammed Shami	Cricket
7	Ms. R Vaishali	Chess
8	Ms. Divyakriti Singh	Equestrian Dressage
9	Shri Anush Agarwalla	Equestrian



Sr. No.	Recipient	Sport
10	Ms. Diksha Dagar	Golf
11	Ms. Pukhrambam Sushila Chanu	Hockey
12	Shri Krishan Bahadur Pathak	Hockey
13	Ms. Ritu Negi	Kabaddi
14	Shri Pawan Kumar	Kabaddi
15	Ms. Nasreen	Kho-Kho
16	Ms. Pinki	Lawn Bowls
17	Ms. Esha Singh	Shooting
18	Shri Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar	Shooting
19	Shri Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu	Squash
20	Ms. Ayhika Mukherjee	Table Tennis
21	Ms. Antim	Wrestling
22	Shri Sunil Kumar	Wrestling
23	Ms. Naorem Roshibina Devi	Wushu
24	Ms. Sheetal Devi	Para Archery
25	Shri Illuri Ajay Kumar Reddy	Blind Cricket
26	Ms. Prachi Yadav	Para Canoeing



# **Sports and Entertainment**

- ☼ Ultimate Kho Kho (UKK) is all set to enthrall audiences with its grand second edition, scheduled to commence on December 24, 2023 and conclude on January 13, 2024. The Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Cuttack, Odisha, played host to this high-octane sporting event, promising excitement and entertainment to the millions of fans eagerly anticipating its return.
- Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar clinched the gold medal in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions event 2023 at the Asian Shooting Championship 2023. Tomar's impressive score of 463.5 in the final secured the top spot, making him the most successful Indian shooter at the event.
- ☆ The All India Football Federation (AIFF) to establish a world-class football academy is set to materialize in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on November 21, 2023. The AIFFFIFA academy, initiated under the FIFA Talent Development Scheme (TDS), will be inaugurated by Mr. Arsene Wenger, Chief of Global Football Development at FIFA. The inauguration of the AIFF-FIFA academy in Bhubaneswar marks a significant milestone in Indian football.
- Novak Djokovic made history on November 19, by securing his seventh ATP Finals title in Turin, Italy. The world number one defeated local favorite Jannik Sinner in a commanding fashion with a 6-3, 6-3 victory. In the doubles category, Rajeev Ram and Joe Salisbury successfully retained their ATP Finals title with a convincing 6-3, 6-4 victory over Marcel Granollers and Horacio Zeballos.
- In a thrilling final match, Hockey Punjab emerged victorious over Hockey Haryana to clinch the gold medal at the 13th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2023. The tournament was held from November 17 to 28, 2023, at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

## Asian Games 2023

India won medals in more than 50% of the 40 odd events in the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Hangzhou, China. At the end of the 2022 edition of the Games held in September/October 2023 the pessimists were silenced and stunned as Indian team surpassed the coveted 100-medal-mark for the first time ever in the 72-years-old history

of the Asiad. With an unprecedented haul of 107 medals that included 28 gold, 38 silvers and 41 bronze medals, India set a new benchmark at the Asian Games 2023 in Hangzhou, China.

India's Asian Games 2023 medals tally: By sport

Events	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Shooting	7	9	6	22
Athletics	6	14	9	29
Archery	5	2	2	9
Squash	2	1	2	5
Cricket	2	0	0	2
Kabaddi	2	0	0	2
Badminton	1	1	1	3
Tennis	1	1	0	2
Equestrian	1	0	1	2
Hockey	1	0	1	2
Rowing	0	2	3	5
Chess	0	2	0	2
Wrestling	0	1	5	6
Boxing	0	1	4	5
Sailing	0	1	2	3
Wushu	0	1	0	1
Golf	0	1	0	1
Bridge	0	1	0	1
Roller Skating	0	0	2	2
Table Tennis	0	0	1	1
Canoe Sprint	0	0	1	1
Sepaktakraw	0	0	1	1
Total	28	38	41	107

☆ On October 7, 2023, India achieved a historic milestone by securing its 100th medal at the Asian Games for the first time. This remarkable feat is a testament to the dedication of Indian athletes and coaches. The women's kabaddi team, renowned for their dominance in the sport, clinched India's 100th medal by defeating Chinese Taipei 26-25 in an exciting final.

- ☆ The 11<sup>th</sup> Sultan of Johor Cup in 2023 occured in Johor, Malaysia. Hockey India has revealed the 20-member Indian junior men's hockey team for the tournament, took place from October 27 to November 4. Notably, this edition included eight teams, an expansion from the usual six.
- ☆ Mondo Duplantis, the Swedish pole vault sensation and reigning world and Olympic champion, brought the athletics season to a spectacular close at the 2023 Diamond League Final in Eugene on September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- ☆ Anahat Singh clinched the gold medal in the U-17 division at the esteemed Asian Junior Squash Individual Championships. This remarkable triumph further enhances her impressive list of accomplishments, highlighting her outstanding talent and determination during the championship held from August 16 to 20.
- ☆ The 132<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Durand Cup, India's oldest football tournament was commenced at Kolkata from 03 August to 03 September 2023.
- ☆ The Para Athletics World Championships took place at the Charlety Stadium in Paris from July 8 to 17, featuring over 1200 athletes from 107 nations. Ajeet Singh showcased outstanding skills, winning the gold medal in the Men's javelin throw F46 category with a remarkable 65.41 meters throw.
- ☆ The Indian women's hockey team wins the title of Torneo del Centernario 2023 by defeating hosts Spain 3-0 in Terrassa, Barcelona on 30th July.
- ☆ The KIIT hosted the inaugural Janjatiya Khel Mahotsav, which is a spectacular sporting event that came to a close on June 12. The event has attracted around 5,000 indigenous athletes and 1,000 officials who represent 26 states.
- ☆ The 16<sup>th</sup> Special Olympics World Games, the world's largest inclusive sports event, occurred in Berlin, Germany, from June 17 to June 25, 2023. Thousands of athletes with intellectual disabilities from across the globe participated in 26 sports, highlighting their remarkable talents and determination. The Games aimed to promote recognition and inclusion, showcasing the exceptional spirit of these athletes.

# World Happiness Report 2023

The World Happiness Report 2023 has been released. According to the World Happiness Index for 2023, Finland is the happiest country in the world for the sixth year in a row. Researchers looked at six important variables to determine where people are happy in the world: social support, money, health, independence, charity, and lack of corruption. The survey discovered that, despite a number of converging crises, overall life satisfaction is on par with levels prior to the epidemic. India has been ranked 126<sup>th</sup> out of 146 countries, which is an improvement of nine positions from its 2022 ranking. However, India's ranking is lower than even war-torn countries like Russia and Ukraine. Top 10 country in the list of 2023 World Happiness Report:

Rank	Country		
1	Finland		
2	Denmark		
3	Iceland		
4	Israel		
5	Netherlands		
6	Sweden		
7	Norway		
8	Switzerland		
9	Luxembourg		
10	New Zealand		
126	India		

# **Animated Movies of 2023**

Justice League: Warworld Release Date: 25 July, 2023

"Justice League: Warworld follows Superman, Wonder Woman, and Batman in a dark, R-rated animated adventure across universes to save a planet. It's the latest Tomorrowverse installment after the wellreceived Legion of Super-Heroes."



#### Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem

Release Date: 02 August. 2023

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, including Leonardo, Donatello, Michelangelo, and Raphael, emerged as iconic figures in 80s pop culture, transitioning from a popular comic strip to a widely-loved animated TV series. The franchise expanded to include action figures, lunch boxes, video games, and various movie adaptations, with different generations favoring specific films based on their upbringing.

#### The Inventor

#### Release Date: 25 August, 2023

"The Inventor" is a captivating film that chronicles the life of the renowned polymath Leonardo da Vinci, tracing his journey from Italy to the French court where he created groundbreaking designs. The movie, featuring an outstanding voice cast including Stephen Fry, Marion Cotillard, and Daisy Ridley, not only celebrates da Vinci's genius and legacy but also competes for Best Feature Film at the Annecy International Animation Film Festival, impressing audiences with its stunning visuals and screenplay.

**PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie** Release Date: 29 September, 2023

The adorable search and rescue pups return in PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie, where an enchanted meteor grants them superpowers. Skye, Chase, and the brave canines confront Mayor Humdinger to safeguard their special gifts from falling into the wrong hands. This seguel to the 2021 film and TV series features a star-studded voice cast, including Taraji P. Henson, Kim Kardashian, Chris Rock, and Kristen Bell.

## **Trolls 3: Trolls Band Together**

#### Release Date: 17 November, 2023

From a popular toy trend to a global animated sensation, trolls take the spotlight again in Trolls 3: Band Together. The plot focuses on Branch reconnecting with his long-lost boy band brothers, while his relationship with Poppy develops further. Get ready for another explosion of colour and music.



#### Wish

#### Release Date: 22 November, 2023

Released for Disney's 100th anniversary, "Wish" explores the origin of the wishing star, a significant element in Disney stories. The film follows Ashna, voiced by Ariana DeBose, as she battles formidable challenges to save her community in the kingdom of Rosas, aided by classic magic. Packed with Easter eggs referencing older Disney classics, the movie features a unique art style that combines traditional 2D and modern CGI, making it one of Disney's most anticipated animated projects in a while.

# Migration

#### Release Date: 22 December, 2023

"Illumination, known for hits like Despicable Me and Minions, is set to release its 16th feature film, Migration. The family adventure-comedy follows a duck family persuading their cautious father to embark on an unforgettable vacation. With a strong history of successful franchises, including The Secret Life of Pets and Sing, this upcoming animated movie is a must-watch for fans of the genre."

Chicken Run: Dawn of the Nugget Release Date: 15 December, 2023

More than two decades post the initial Chicken Run, enthusiasts of Aardman's distinctive and occasionally irreverent humor eagerly await the sequel, Dawn of the Nugget. The film reunites Ginger and Rocky after their successful escape from the chicken farm. However, their peaceful life is disrupted when they uncover a perilous scheme to transform numerous chickens into convenient chicken nuggets, compelling them to embark on a mission to rescue the threatened poultry.

## **Fun Facts**

- ☆ In Sweden, there's a hotel made entirely out of ice! It melts in the spring, so a whole new hotel has to be built every year.
- Recycling a single glass bottle, rather than producing a new one, can produce sufficient electricity to run a computer for approximately 20 minutes.
- ☆ On Venus, precipitation takes the form of metal snow, which is quite different from the fluffy white snow on Earth. It's a remarkable phenomenon to envision a planet where the skies release metallic snowfall. Venus is truly out of this world!
- ☆ Croatia replaced its national currency, the Kuna, with the euro.
- ☆ Avocado is a fruit, not a vegetable. They're technically considered a single-seeded berry.
- ☆ The Eiffel Tower can be 15 cm taller during the summer, due to thermal expansion meaning the iron heats up, the particles gain kinetic energy and take up more space.
- ☆ Human teeth are the only part of the body that cannot heal themselves. Teeth are coated in enamel which is not a living tissue.
- ☆ It's illegal to own just one guinea pig in Switzerland. It's considered animal abuse because they're social beings and get lonely.
- ☆ The unicorn is the national animal of Scotland. It was apparently chosen because of its connection with dominance and chivalry as well as purity and innocence in Celtic mythology.
- ☆ The Armenian-Turkish land border opened for the first time in 35 years on 11 February 2023.
- ☆ Italy banned the use of OpenAI's ChatGPT over data security concerns.
- ↑ NASA announced the astronauts for the first trip to the moon in over 50 years.
- ☆ Tarsiers have the biggest eyes of all mammals relative to their bodies. Fach one is around the same size as its brain.
- ☆ Barbie's official birthday is March 9, 1959, the day she was unveiled to the toy industry during New York Toy Fair.



- ☆ Shinchan Full Name is "Shinnosuke Shin Nohara" and his nickname is Shinchan.
- ☆ A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
- ☆ An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- ☆ Most people can't lick their elbows.
- ☆ Mars has lower gravity than Earth.
- ☆ More than 480 million people have played Monopoly.
- ☆ The opposite sides of a dice always add up to seven.
- ☆ Pigs can't look up into the sky it's physically impossible.
- ☆ There isn't any term in the dictionary that perfectly rhymes with the word "orange."
- ☆ Bees are found everywhere in the world apart from Antarctica.
- ☆ Caterpillars have 12 eyes!
- ☆ Dogs can smell 100,000 times better than humans.
- ☆ Monkeys can go bald in old age, just like humans.
- ☆ Frogs drink water through their skin.
- ☆ Owls can't move their eyeballs.
- ☆ Octopuses have blue blood and nine brains.
- ☆ Owls can't move their eyeballs.
- As well as having unique fingerprints, we all have unique tongue prints.
- ☆ The human eye can distinguish about 10 million different colours.
- ☆ Your heart is about the same size as your fist.
- ☆ The human nose can detect and recognise three trillion different scents.
- Australia has the most amount of reptiles in the world (over 750 different species!)
- You might think that stars are all the same, but each star is a different colour depending on its temperature.
- ☆ There are more stars in space than there are grains of sand on a beach.
- ☆ Water covers 70% of Earth.
- ☆ The sunset on Mars appears blue.



# **Current Affairs** 2023-24

































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