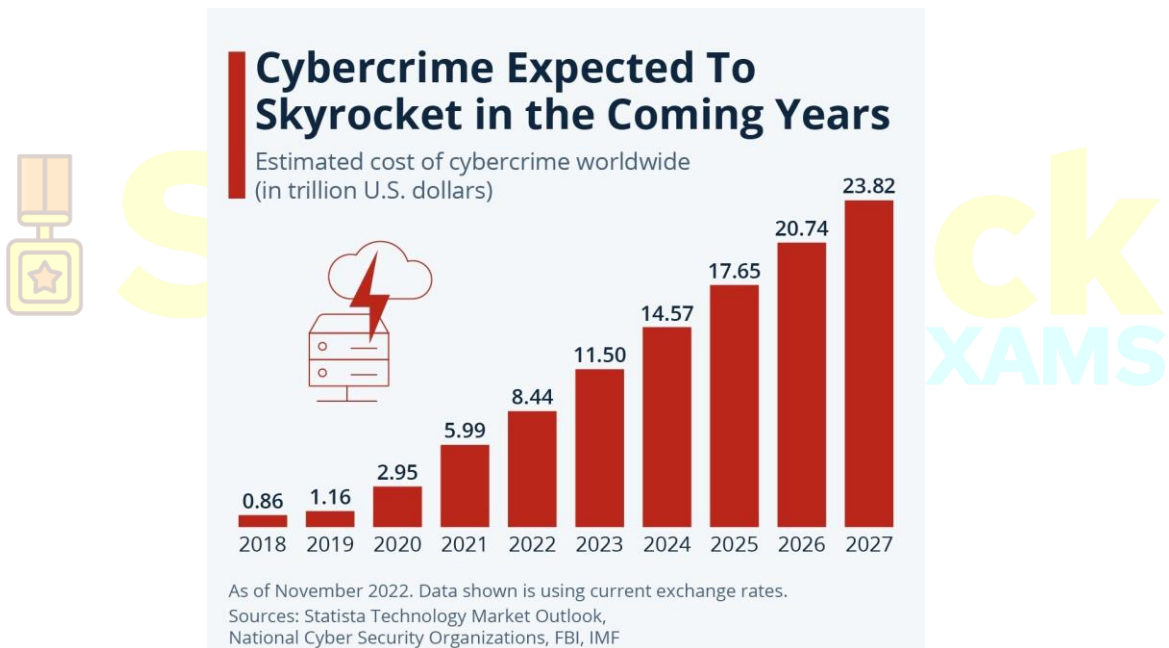


# Daily Current Affairs

## 23 February 2024

### Cybercrime Report

- In 2023, **India ranked as the 80th most targeted country** for cybercrime globally. Local threats affected approximately **34% of users**, resulting in the blocking of **74,385,324 incidents by Kaspersky products**.
- The country's cybersecurity market reached **USD 6.06 billion in 2023**, yet the surge in sophisticated external cyber threats poses a significant challenge for enterprises, according to IDC.



- India placed **80th globally in terms** of local threat targeting in 2023.
- **Nearly 34% of Indian users** experienced local threats, leading to the blocking of over 74 million incidents.
- Includes malicious programs directly on users' devices and removable media, as well as those initially hidden within complex installers or encrypted files.
- About **67% of Indian enterprises** are planning to outsource key aspects of their security landscape to managed security service providers within the next three years.



- The surge in sophisticated cyber threats coupled with the adoption of AI and digital payments necessitates **continuous improvement in cybersecurity** measures to safeguard assets and maintain stakeholder trust.

## Sammakka Saralamma Jatara

- **Medaram Jatara**, known as **Sammakka Saralamma Jatara'**, began this year on February 21 in Medaram, Mulugu district, showcasing Telangana's rich tribal heritage.
- This four-day event, considered the **world's largest tribal gathering**, attracts pilgrims to the remote village of Medaram once every two years.
- The Medaram Jatara holds historical significance as it commemorates the struggle of a mother and daughter duo, Sammakka and Saralamma, against unjust rulers.



- Their courage and resilience have been immortalized through this festival, symbolizing the spirit of tribal communities.
- Tribal devotees, the **Medaram Jatara is not just a festival** but a pilgrimage. It is believed that during this time, the goddesses **Sammakka and Saralamma** descend to bless their devotees.
- The atmosphere is charged with devotion as millions gather to seek blessings and offer their prayers to the divine deities.
- The scale of the Medaram Jatara is staggering, with around one crore pilgrims expected to visit Medaram **during the four-day festival**.



- People from **various tribal communities**, not only from Telangana but also from states like Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and parts of Jharkhand, make the journey to participate in this celebration of faith and culture.
- Recognizing the importance of the Medaram Jatara, the government has made arrangements to ensure the smooth conduct of the festival.
- From security measures to logistical support, efforts are made to facilitate the pilgrims' experience and uphold the sanctity of the event.
- The significance of the **Medaram Jatara is such that** it was declared a state festival in 1998, highlighting its cultural and religious importance. This recognition underscores the festival's role in preserving and promoting tribal heritage and traditions.

## Turtle Conservation Reserve

- **Forest Department in Uttar Pradesh's Gonda district**, in collaboration with the **Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation India** establish a turtle conservation reserve along the **Sarju river, a tributary of the Ghaghra river**.
- **Gonda district is known for its turtle diversity**. The proposed reserve will encompass a **2-kilometer stretch of the Sarju river**, teeming with a diverse array of plant species, avifauna, fishes, and water snakes.



- This plan will focus on the **conservation of turtles** and aim to safeguard the entire **biodiversity of the region**.
- It encompasses the protection of over 30 fish species, 50 bird species, various plants, and two species of water snakes.
- Attention will be given to curbing pollution and enhancing water quality in the river.
- Shailendra Singh, the Director of the Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation India, highlighted the biodiversity of the Sarju river.
- Notably, Sarju is home to **nine turtle species**, with eight of them listed under **Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act**.
- The presence of the '**crowned river turtle**' is particularly significant, as it nests and lays eggs in river water, unlike other turtle species found in the region.



## Bag Less School

- In a bold move aimed at revolutionizing the **educational landscape**, the **Madhya Pradesh government** has announced a groundbreaking initiative – the introduction of a **'bag-less school' policy**.
- This policy, set to be implemented once a week from the upcoming academic **session of 2024-25**, marks a significant departure from traditional educational norms and underscores the government's commitment to student welfare and holistic development.



- Central to this initiative is the establishment of clear weight limits for students' school bags, as outlined in a notice issued by the state government.
- The **weight limits vary according to students'** respective classes, ranging from 1.6 to 2.2 kg for classes 1 and 2, to 2.5 to 4.5 kg for classes 9 and 10.

- This **meticulous categorization reflects** a nuanced understanding of the physical strain that heavy school bags can impose on young learners, and underscores the government's proactive approach to mitigating this issue.
- Education Minister, in elucidating the rationale behind the **'bag-less school'** initiative, articulates a vision wherein students are afforded the opportunity to revel in the joy of learning unencumbered by the burden of heavy bags.



- By designating one day each week as 'bag-less,' students will be encouraged to participate in a diverse array of activities – **from games and sports to cultural programs and music** – fostering a holistic and enriching educational experience.
- **This initiative not only seeks to alleviate the physical strain** on students but also aims to nurture their overall well-being and emotional resilience.

## Skill India Centre Inaugurated In Sambalpur

- Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, spearheaded the inauguration of **the first Skill India Centre (SIC) in Sambalpur, Odisha.**



- The event witnessed the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including the Secretary, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, and CEO, NSDC and MD, NSDC International, Shri Ved Mani Tiwari.
- Shri Pradhan emphasized the **importance of skill training programs** in upgrading the skills of the youth in demand-driven industries.



- The **aim is to empower over 1200 students** through this centre and equip them with the necessary skills for the 21st-century job market.
- He highlighted the need for a **skilled workforce to drive India's development** journey forward.
- The centre boasts **best-in-class infrastructure, cutting-edge** technologies, and modern facilities to facilitate effective learning.
- It will provide a **unique combination of classroom** and work-based learning to empower youth with industry-specific skills.
- Collaborative efforts will harness the potential of demographic dividends to catalyse rural development and spur socio-economic growth.

## **PM Modi Emerges As Most Popular Global Leader**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has again emerged as the **most popular global leader with 78 percent approval rating**.
- This was unveiled in a survey conducted by a US-based global decision intelligence agency Morning Consult.

- In the survey, **President of Mexico Andrés Manuel López Obrador** has secured the second place with **65 percent approval rating** followed by Argentina President Javier Milei at the third with an approval rating of 63 per cent.
- **US President Joe Biden is on the 11th position** among the world leaders while Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on 17th and UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on 20th position. As per the agency's website, the latest approval ratings are based on the data that was collected from January 30 to February 5.



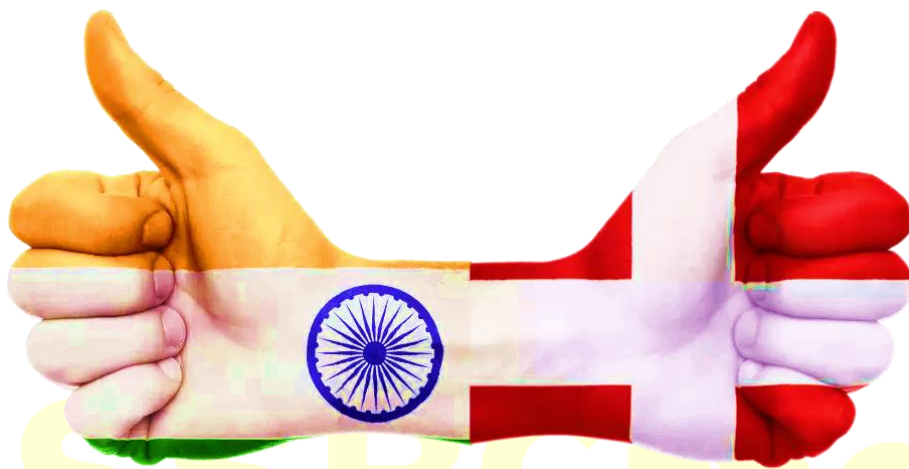
## India & Denmark

- **India and Denmark** have agreed to work towards expanding their partnership into new areas, including defence, security and new technology.
- **External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar** met the visiting Danish Foreign Minister **Lars Løkke Rasmussen** at the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi.
- During the meeting, the two Ministers exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.





- As **2024 marks 75 years of diplomatic ties** between India and Denmark, both ministers unveiled a joint logo.
- **During the meeting, the Ministers** noted the significant outcomes under the umbrella of the Indo-Danish Green Strategic Partnership and agreed to finalise a mid-term review of the Green Strategic Partnership at the earliest in 2024.
- Both sides also decided to explore the possibilities of a Danish contribution to the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative.



- They agreed to work towards an enhanced strategic perspective for a Comprehensive Green Strategic Partnership once the existing Joint Action Plan ends in 2026.
- The Ministers also signed a mobility and migration partnership agreement between **India and Denmark** and decided to explore the possibilities of establishing a partnership on the recruitment of Indian healthcare professionals for employment in Denmark.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. India Placed \_\_\_\_\_ Globally On Local Threats AT Cybercrime Report

- A. 80<sup>th</sup>
- B. 81th
- C. 82th
- D. 83th

**ANSWER: A**

2. Mr. Lars Løkke Rasmussen Seen In News Relates To

- A. Finland
- B. Sweden
- C. Denmark
- D. Greece

**ANSWER: C**

3. Country's First Skill India Centre Inaugurated In

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Odisha
- C. Gujrat
- D. New Delhi

**ANSWER: B**

4. Sammakka Saralamma Jatara Seen In News Is Celebrated

- A. Every Year
- B. Once in Three Years
- C. Once In Two Years
- D. Once In Six Months

**ANSWER: C**

5. Purpose Of EU's Launched 'Mission Aspides' In Red Sea

- A. Counterterrorism Operations
- B. Humanitarian Aid Delivery
- C. Protection Of Commercial Vessels From Attacks By Iran-backed Houthi Rebels
- D. Environmental Conservation Efforts

**ANSWER: C**

**6. Which State Secured ₹740 Crore Under Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan**

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Bihar
- D. Odisha

**ANSWER: A**

**7. What Is Quasar, Recently Seen In The News**

- A. Active Galactic Nucleus
- B. Novel Mineral
- C. Invasive weed
- D. Patrol vessel

**ANSWER: A**

**8. Mukhya Mantri Harit Vikas Chhatravriti Yojana, Is Launched By Which State**

- A. Uttarakhand
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Himachal Pradesh

**ANSWER: D**

**9. Which Organization Has Launched 'Global Initiative On Digital Health**

- A. World Health Organization
- B. UNICEF
- C. United Nations
- D. European Union

**ANSWER: A**

**10. Which State Become 1<sup>st</sup> NE State In India To Achieve 100% Saturation Of Har Ghar Jal Under Jal Jeevan Mission**

- A. Assam
- B. Manipur
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Sikkim

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Lough Neagh Lake, Is Located In Which Country**

- A. Ireland
- B. Cyprus
- C. Malta
- D. Poland

**ANSWER: A**

**12. Kapilavastu Relic, Is Associated With Which One Of The Following**

- A. Adi Shankaracharya
- B. Goswami Tulsidas
- C. Mahavir
- D. Buddha

**ANSWER: D**

**13. Which One Of Following Banks Signed A Pact For UPI-NPI Linkage**

- A. Reserve Bank of India & Nepal Rastra Bank
- B. Reserve Bank of India & Nepal Investment Mega Bank
- C. State Bank of India & Nepal Rastra Bank
- D. State Bank of India & Nabil Bank

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Vaitarna River, Originates From Which One Of Following**

- A. Powai hills
- B. Anaimudi hills
- C. Trimbakeshwar Hills
- D. Nilgiri hills

**ANSWER: C**

**15. Which Organization Launched 'Global Initiative On Digital Health**

- A. World Health Organization
- B. UNICEF
- C. United Nations
- D. European Union

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Which State Recently Collaborated With World Bank To Set Up A Blended Finance Facility**

- A. Goa
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Rajasthan

**ANSWER: A**

**17. Chars In News, Are Riverine Areas Associated With Which River**

- A. Ganga River
- B. Yamuna River
- C. Brahmaputra River
- D. Narmada River

**ANSWER: C**

**18. Where Were Major Iron Ore Deposits Recently Uncovered In Rajasthan**

- A. Karauli
- B. Sikar
- C. Tonk
- D. Dungarpur

**ANSWER: A**

**19. Which Company Recognized As India's Most Valuable Unlisted Firm According To The Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 List**

- A. Parle Products
- B. Serum Institute Of India
- C. Railtel Ltd
- D. Divi's Laboratories

**ANSWER: B**

**20. Elizabeth I Was Contemporary Of Which Mughal Ruler**

- A. Babur
- B. Humayun
- C. Akbar
- D. Jahangir

**ANSWER: C**