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गुनाह छोड़ने में कभी देर ना करें  
क्योंकि  
सफर जितना लम्बा होगा  
वापसी उतनी मुश्किल हो जायेगी...**



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## Sports News

### Shahbaz Nadeem has retired from international and India's domestic cricket



- Spinner Shahbaz Nadeem has retired from all forms of international cricket.
- He now wants to play in T20 leagues around the world.
- Nadeem took 542 wickets in his first-class career and played two Tests for India.
- His Test debut came in 2019 when he was 30 years old. The Jharkhand spinner was called up in place of Kuldeep Yadav. During the Ranchi Test against South Africa, Shahbaz took 2 wickets for 22 runs in the first innings and 2 for 18 in the second innings.

### Union Minister Anurag inaugurated Sansad Khel 3.0 in Hamirpur (Himachal Pradesh)



- Union Minister Anurag inaugurated Sansad Khel Mahakumbh 3.0 in Hamirpur (Himachal Pradesh) which is a great platform for young sports talents.

- On this occasion, Indian cricket team captain Rohit Sharma and coach Rahul Dravid attended as chief guests.
- Anurag Thakur described Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Khelog Tabhi Khiloge' as the inspiration for the grand organization of this Khel Mahakumbh.
- On the inspiration of Prime Minister Modi, about 300 MPs across the country are organizing Sansad Khel Mahakumbh in their respective areas.
- This time volleyball, kabaddi, cricket, basketball and athletics have been included in the Khel Mahakumbh.
- **About Sansad Khel Mahakumbh:**
- It was launched in the year 2018. More than 1400 teams participated in the first MP Khel Mahakumbh 1.0 held in 2018. More than 42,700 youth performed in 5 sports disciplines (basketball, volleyball, football, kabaddi and cricket).

### Indian sailor Vishnu Saravanan won gold medal in Europa Cup



- Indian sailor Vishnu Saravanan won gold medal in Europa Cup 2024 in the ILCA 7 category in Mallorca, Spain.
- The event was organized by Real Club Nautic Port de Pollença. Saravanan topped the 91-boat race with 17 net points.
- Australia's Lawson McAulay won the bronze medal with 22 net points.
- ILCA7 is a category within the ILCA-International Laser Class Association sailing class.
- Saravanan became the first Indian sailor to qualify for consecutive Olympics.



### Services won the Santosh Trophy 2023-24 title



- Runner-up – Goa
- Top Goal Scorer – Phijam Sanathoi Meitei (Manipur – 9 goals)
- Best Player – Sameer Murmu (Services)
- Best Goalkeeper – Sayad Bin Abdul Kader (Services)
- Santosh Trophy is related to Football
- Santosh Trophy 2023-24 was held in Arunachal Pradesh It was the 77th edition of Santosh Trophy
- Winner – Services
- 

### Women's Premier League 2024: RCB won their first WPL title



- Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) won the final of Women's Premier League (WPL) 2024 of India at Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi.
- Runners-up - Delhi Capitals
- Most Valuable Player - Deepti Sharma
- Orange Cap - Ellyse Perry Purple Cap - Shreyanka Patil
- Best Player of the Final - Sophie Molyneux

- Delhi Capitals topped the league table with six wins from eight matches and entered the final.
- 

### Max Verstappen wins Saudi Arabian Grand Prix



- Red Bull's Max Verstappen won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix after starting from pole position. This is Red Bull's second consecutive one-two finish in the 2024 Formula One season. Podium finishers
- Max Verstappen (Red Bull)
- Sergio Perez (Red Bull)
- Charles Leclerc (Ferrari)
- **Race highlights**
- Safety car deployed after Lance Stroll's collision
- Sergio Perez receives a five-second penalty for unsafe pit stop release
- Kevin Magnussen penalised for collision with Alex Albon
- Pierre Gasly (Alpine) retires early due to a suspected gearbox problem

### Sharath Kamal chosen as India's flag bearer at Paris Olympics 2024



- Khel Ratna awardee and two-time Commonwealth Games champion table tennis player Sharath

Kamal will be India's flag bearer at the upcoming Paris Olympics 2024.

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has recently announced this.
- Sharath Kamal will be India's 19th flag bearer at the Olympics.
- Former Indian men's hockey team captain Manpreet Singh and Mary Kom led India as flag bearers at the Tokyo Olympics 2020.

### Ruturaj Gaikwad appointed as new captain by Chennai Super Kings



- Indian Premier League (IPL) franchise Chennai Super Kings (CSK) has appointed opener Ruturaj Gaikwad as its new captain.
- It is worth noting that Mahendra Singh Dhoni has left the captaincy after his successful tenure.
- Ruturaj made his IPL debut in the year 2020.
- He was retained by CSK for Rs 6 crore in the 2022 edition.

### PR Sreejesh and Camilla Carrom appointed as co-chairs of the new FIH Athletes Committee of the International Hockey Federation



- The FIH Athletes Committee plays the role of an advisory body. Its functions include making recommendations to the FIH Executive Board, FIH Committees, Advisory Panels and other bodies.
- Its roles include providing feedback to the FIH on behalf of all athletes.
- Its role includes promoting and developing resources and initiatives for athletes.
- It plays a key role in liaising with the IOC Athletes' Commission and other sports organisations.
- It plays a key role in liaising with the Athletes' Commission of the IOC and other sports organisations.
- The Fédération Internationale de Hockey (FIH) is known as the International Hockey Federation in English.
- The International Hockey Federation is the international governing body of indoor field hockey and field hockey.
- It is headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland.

### Nahid Divecha wins two gold medals at Indian Masters National Badminton Championships 2024



- Maharashtra's Nahid Divecha has won two gold medals at the Indian Masters National Badminton Championships 2024 in Panchkula. Divecha, a member of Bombay Gymkhana and associated with Shuttle Craze Academy, defeated Haryana's Sunita Singh Panwar in straight sets to win the women's 50 singles title.

## Defense News

### DRDO successfully test fired Very Short Range Air Defence System 'Vashorad' off Odisha coast



- Defence Research and Development Organisation- DRDO successfully test fired Very Short Range Air Defence System- 'Vashorad'/ VSHORADS from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off Odisha coast on 29 February 2024.
- Vashorad is a portable air defence system, indigenously designed and developed. VSHORADS is powered by a twin-barrel solid motor and will be used to neutralise low altitude aerial threats at short ranges.
- It has been indigenously developed by Research Centre Imarat (RCI) in collaboration with DRDO laboratories and other industry partners.

### INS Garuda will induct MH 60R Seahawk multi-role helicopter.



- This will mark a significant movement in India's defence modernisation.

- The Indian Navy will commission the Seahawks squadron as INAS 334.
- These helicopters come under a 24-aircraft Foreign Military Sales contract.
- The contract was signed with the US government in February 2020.
- So far, the Navy has inducted six of the 24 MH-60R helicopters.
- The MH 60R Seahawk multi-role helicopter is designed for anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, search and rescue, medical evacuation and vertical replenishment.
- The Sea Hawk is a twin turboshaft engine, multi-mission helicopter of the US Navy.

### 'Samudra Lakshmana' exercise conducted in Visakhapatnam



- Samudra Lakshmana Exercise, an important bilateral maritime exercise between India and Malaysia, is currently being conducted off the coast of Visakhapatnam from February 28 to March 2, 2024.
- Samudra Lakshmana Exercise, an important bilateral maritime exercise between India and Malaysia, is currently being conducted off the coast of Visakhapatnam from February 28 to March 2, 2024.
- This exercise marks the third edition of the exercise Sahyog, involving Indian Naval Ship Kiltan and Royal Malaysian Ship KD Lekir.
- It is designed to foster stronger ties between the Indian and Royal Malaysian Navies and enhance interoperability.



### Joint military exercise "LAMITIYE-2024" to begin between India-Seychelles



- The tenth edition of the joint military exercise "LAMITIYE-2024" will be held between the Indian Army and the Seychelles Defense Force SDF from 18-27 March 2024. The Indian Army contingent left for Seychelles to participate in it.
- 'LAMITIYE' means 'friendship' in the Creole language and is a biennial training event and has been held in Seychelles since 2001. 45 personnel from the Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army and the SDF will participate in the exercise.
- The 10-day joint exercise will include field training exercises, war discussions, lectures and demonstrations. The aim of the exercise is to enhance interoperability in sub-conventional operations in semi-urban environments under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter on Peacekeeping Operations, the Defense Ministry said.
- This exercise will enhance cooperation between the two sides during peacekeeping operations. This exercise will also build and promote bilateral military relations in addition to the exchange of skills, experience and good practices between the two armies.
- Earlier, Indian ship INS Tir participated in Exercise Cutlass Express - 24 (CE- 24) held at Port Victoria, Seychelles from 26 February to 08 March 24 between India, the US and African countries.

**Indian Navy on 06 March 2024 in Kochi**  
**Indian Navy established its new base in**  
**Minicoy Island of Lakshadweep**



- The Indian Navy has established its new base "INS Jatayu" in Minicoy Island of Lakshadweep with the aim of enhancing its operational capabilities in the Indian Ocean region.
- Earlier, the Navy had established INS 'Dweeparakshak' in Kavaratti, Lakshadweep.
- Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar inaugurated the second naval base in Lakshadweep.
- **Indian Navy**
- The Indian Navy is a balanced and well-equipped three-dimensional force capable of operating above, on and below the surface of the ocean and is efficiently protecting our national interests.
- The Navy has the following three commands and each command functions under the control of a Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief:-
- Western Naval Command (Headquarters Mumbai)
- Eastern Naval Command (Headquarters Visakhapatnam)
- Southern Naval Command (Headquarters Kochi)
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### Joint exercise 'Bharat-Shakti' of the three forces of India will be organized in Jaisalmer



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- The joint exercise 'Bharat-Shakti' of the three armies of India (Army, Navy and Air Force) will be organized at Asia's largest field firing range located in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- Top officials of all three armies including Chief of Defense Staff General Anil Chauhan will take part in the Bharat-Shakti exercise to be held on March 12.

### All three armies will participate in the biggest war exercise 'Bharat-Shakti'



- All three armies of India are going to conduct the biggest 'Bharat-Shakti' war exercise at Asia's largest field firing range located in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan.
- Bharat Shakti, starting from March 12, is a major tri-service exercise, in which the Army, Air Force and Navy will demonstrate the capabilities of weapons manufactured in the country.
- Only indigenously developed weapon platforms and systems will be included in the Bharat-Shakti war exercise. Top officials of the three forces, including Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, will participate in this exercise.

### CCS approves ₹15,000 crore 5th generation aircraft project



- The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved the project for design and development of India's fifth generation fighter jet, the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), to be carried out by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The AMCA is envisaged as a 25-tonne twin-engine stealth aircraft with an internal weapon bay and diverterless supersonic intake developed for the first time in India.
- It is intended to transport 5,500 kg of external payload with internal carriage of 1,500 kg of payload and 6,500 kg of internal fuel.

### INS TIRR participates in exercise cutlass express at seychelles



- INS Tir, the lead ship of the First Training Squadron (1TS), participated in Exercise Cutlass Express 24 (CE-24) held at Port Victoria, Seychelles.
- The exercise was inaugurated by Seychelles President Wavel Ramkalawan, dignitaries from India, USA and African countries were present on the occasion.
- As part of Exercise Cutlass Express, Indian Navy actively engaged with participants from 16 friendly foreign countries.

### Exercise 'Tiger Triumph-24' being conducted between India and USA



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- Exercise 'Tiger Triumph – 24' being conducted between India and USA. 'Tiger Triumph – 24' is being conducted on the eastern seaboard from 18 to 31 March.
- 'Tiger Triumph - 24' is in line with the established partnership between India and the US. It is a bilateral tri-service Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) military exercise between the two countries.
- Indian Navy ships with integral helicopters and landing craft, Indian Navy aircraft, Indian Army personnel and vehicles and Indian Air Force aircraft and helicopters as well as Rapid Action Medical Team (RAMT) will participate in this military exercise.
- The US is being represented by US Navy ships. It will include US Marine Corps and US Army soldiers.
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### Indian Navy conducted 'Operation Sankalp' in the Indian Ocean Region



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- The Indian Navy conducted maritime security operations 'Operation Sankalp' in the Indian Ocean Region from 23 December 2023 to 23

March 2024, the Indian Navy has completed 100 days under this mission.

- Indian Navy played a vital role as first responder and as a key preferred security partner under maritime operations in the Indian Ocean Region. CLA
- Indian Navy responded to 18 incidents during this period and played the role of first responder. Indian Navy conducted maritime security operations in three areas Gulf of Aden and surrounding areas, Arabian Sea and East of Somalia.
- For the last 100 days, naval ships, aircraft and special forces went on display and pledged to 'secure the seas'.
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### Notification issued by Department of Defence Production for restructuring DGQA



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- To achieve a major reform towards 'Ease of Doing Business' and self-reliance in the defence sector, a notification has been issued by the Department of Defence Production under the Ministry of Defence for restructuring the Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA).
- It aims to increase the speed of quality assurance processes and testing and reduce unnecessary delays at various levels of decision making.
- This restructuring also led to changes in the quality assurance methodology following corporatisation of OFB and a revised role of the Directorate General of Quality Assurance.
- The changes have been brought about by the inclusion of ordnance factories in new DPSUs and

the government's push towards indigenisation with the increased participation of the private defence industry.

- Hence, a need was felt to restructure DGQA to provide effective and efficient support to the emerging defence manufacturing industry.

### The Indian Air Force (IAF) will conduct Gagan Shakti-2024 exercise from April 1-10.



- The exercise will involve all air force bases and assets across the country.
- The exercise was last conducted in 2018. It sought to test the IAF's preparedness for a two-front war with China and Pakistan.
- Gagan Shakti-2024 follows the Vayu Shakti-2024 exercise. Vayu Shakti-2024 was followed by the tri-services Bharat Shakti exercise.
- 12 air forces from across the world are likely to participate in the exercise that will be hosted by the IAF later this year.

### LCA Tejas Mk-1A completes its maiden flight in Bengaluru



- On March 29, the first Tejas Mk-1A aircraft took its maiden flight from the Hindustan Aeronautics

Limited (HAL) facility in Bengaluru, and the country can expect its early induction into the Indian Air Force (IAF).

- Following the contract secured in February 2021, HAL achieved this significant production milestone with concurrent design and development amid major supply chain challenges in a global geopolitical environment.
- HAL Chief Test Pilot Group Captain KK Venugopal (Retd) flew the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk-1A for 18 minutes.
- Tejas Mk-1A will have advanced electronic radar, improved combat capabilities and better maintenance facilities.

## National News

### Rajasthan gets SC nod for two-child rule for government jobs



- The Supreme Court has upheld the Rajasthan government's two-child eligibility criterion for getting public employment and ruled that it is not discriminatory and does not violate the Constitution.
- The Rajasthan Various Services (Amendment) Rules, 2001 bar candidates who have more than two children from getting government jobs. The apex court dismissed the appeal filed by Ramji Lal Jat.

### New species of sea slug found in Odisha, named after President Murmu





- New sea slug, *Melanochlamys draupadi*, named after President Draupadi Murmu; It has a distinctive brownish-black colour with ruby red spots, measuring up to 7 mm in length.
- Discovered off the Odisha and Bengal coasts by the Zoological Survey of India.
- The research, led by Prasad Chandra Tudu of ZSI, details the morphological, physiological and molecular characters of the slug, published in *Molluscan Research*.

## Goa became the first state in India to receive World Bank Climate Fund



- World Bank's India Climate and the Development Partners Meet was organized in Goa's capital Panaji
- During this, the Goa government and Power Finance Corporation signed an agreement with the World Bank for climate action. The objective is to reduce carbon emissions and promote climate-friendly development

## Uttar Pradesh became the first state in India to issue 5 crore Ayushman cards under PM Jan Arogya Yojana



- UP has become the first state in the country to issue five crore Ayushman cards under Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY
- 'Earlier the average number of patients admitted per day under this scheme was 2,000, which has now increased to about 8,000 per day
- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana**
- This scheme was started in 2018 from Ranchi (Jharkhand)
- Insurance cover of up to Rs 5 lakh per family per year is provided
- **Uttar Pradesh Current Affairs**
- Adani Group has unveiled the country's first ammunition-missile manufacturing complex in Kanpur, UP
- Integrated Waste Management Project has been launched in Lucknow

## Ministry of Women and Child Development organized Poshan Utsav



- Ministry of Women and Child Development organized Poshan Utsav.

- The objective of this Poshan Utsav is to promote good nutrition behavior and tell about India's ongoing efforts to combat malnutrition by promoting good nutrition practices.
- Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs Smriti Zubin Irani and Mr. Bill Gates, Co-Chair of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) were present at the event.
- **Other Festivals-**
- 1st National Food Festival 2023 - New Delhi
- Karbi Yuva Mahotsav – Assam
- 1st National Street Food Festival 2023 - New Delhi
- 2nd Divya Kala Mela 2023- Surat (Gujarat)
- Chandubi Festival – Assam
- 

### FSSAI grants 'Eat Right Station' certification to 150 railway stations



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- Food regulator FSSAI has so far granted 'Eat Right Station' certification to 150 railway stations to ensure safe, hygienic and nutritious food options for passengers.
- The Eat Right Station initiative of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is making significant progress in ensuring access to safe and healthy food in these bustling hubs.
- The 'Eat Right Station' certification process involves rigorous audit of food vendors, training of food handlers, adherence to strict hygiene and sanitation protocols and efforts to raise awareness among individuals to make informed food choices.

### Chapchar Kut Festival Celebrated Across Mizoram



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- Chapchar Kut, Mizoram's biggest festival was celebrated with full traditional fervour and celebration across the state.
- The festival has attracted thousands of people who gathered at the Assam Rifles Ground - Lammual - located in the heart of Aizawl city in full capacity.
- Chapchar Kut, the biggest festival of the Mizos, celebrates unity and resilience after the completion of the Jhum operation.
- Originating in the Suepui village in the 15th to 17th centuries, Chapchar Kut symbolizes the spirit of collective joy and celebration.
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### Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first underwater metro in Kolkata



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- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first underwater metro in Kolkata.
- It has been constructed on the Hooghly River in Kolkata.
- This underwater metro tunnel is part of the city's East-West Metro Corridor.

- With the start of this phase of Kolkata Metro, Howrah has become the deepest metro station in the country, which is located 32 to 33 meters below the surface.

### Citizenship Amendment Act implemented in the country: Notification issued



- The central government has issued a notification of the Citizenship Amendment Act i.e. CAA.
- With this, this law has come into force across the country.
- CAA is called Citizenship Amendment Act in Hindi.
- This has cleared the way for non-Muslim refugees from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan to get citizenship.

#### 1. Who will get citizenship:

- People of Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi and Christian communities who came to India from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh before 31 December 2014 after being persecuted on religious grounds will be given citizenship.
- Only people from these three countries will be able to apply for citizenship.

#### 2. What will be the impact on Indian citizens:

- CAA has nothing to do with Indian citizens.
- Indians have the right to citizenship under the Constitution.
- CAA or any law cannot take it away.

### Kei Panyor becomes the 26th district of Arunachal Pradesh



- The headquarters of this district will be Ter Gapin-Sam Sarth
- The people of the Nyishi community were demanding a new district for a long time.
- The headquarters of this district will be in Ter Gapin-Sam Sarth. Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Saturday congratulated the people of the state on the formation of a new district.
- **About Arunachal Pradesh-**
- Capital – Itanagar
- Governor – Kaivalya Trivikram Parnaik
- Chief Minister – Pema Khandu

### PM Modi dedicates Sela tunnel to the nation



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dedicated the Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh to the nation, the new route of which will enable rapid deployment of weapons, troops and equipment in forward areas near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Tawang sector.
- The tunnel has been constructed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) at a cost of Rs 825 crore. It is the world's longest twin-lane tunnel above 13,000 feet.



- The tunnel will reduce travel time to Tawang by at least one hour and also provide all-weather connectivity.

### Celebrated in Zemiayang in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh



- Celebrated in Zemiayang in Tawang district of Arunachal Pradesh
- This festival is a symbol of friendship between India and Bhutan
- Theme 2024: Zero Waste Festival
- **Major Festivals-**
  - Thaipusam Festival 2024 – Tamil Nadu
  - Desert Festival 2024 – Jaisalmer (Rajasthan)
  - Gole Mela Festival 2024 – Udhampur (Jammu and Kashmir)
  - Monlam Chenmo Festival 2023 – Ladakh
  - Mamani Food Festival 2024 – Ladakh

### Bichom became the 27th district of Arunachal Pradesh



- Bichom, formed by separating from West and East Kameng, became the 27th district of Arunachal Pradesh.

- In February this year, the state assembly passed the Arunachal Pradesh (Reorganisation of Districts) (Amendment) Bill, 2024 to create Bichom and Kei Panyor districts.
- A total of 27 villages in West Kameng and 28 villages in East Kameng were made part of Bichom district.
- **About Arunachal Pradesh**
  - Established: 20 February 1987
  - Capital – Itanagar
  - Chief Minister – Pema Khandu
  - Governor – LG (Retd) Kaivalya Trivikram Parnaik

## International News

### Beijing announced as host of 2027 World Athletics Championships



- The World Athletics Council has selected Beijing, China to host the 2027 World Athletics Championships.
- The decision was taken at the 234th World Athletics Council meeting held in Glasgow ahead of the World Athletics Indoor Championships (March 1-3). China will also host the World Athletics Indoor Championships in Nanjing next year.

### France has become the first country in the world to include the right to abortion in its constitution



- France has become the first country in the world to include the right to abortion in its constitution
- Members of both houses of Parliament in France voted to amend the constitution in a special session, with 780 voting in favor and 72 against
- Objective: To strengthen abortion rights
- In 1975, a law was passed in France under which \* abortion was decriminalized

### Sweden formally became a new member of the transatlantic military alliance 'NATO'



- European country Sweden has formally become a new member of the transatlantic military alliance 'NATO'.
- Concerns about Russian aggression have increased in Europe after Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine.
- Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson has announced this.
- **NATO**
- NATO - the North Atlantic Treaty Organization - was formed in 1949 by 12 countries, including the US, Britain, Canada and France.
- Its purpose was to stop the expansion of the Soviet Union - a group of communist states that also included Russia.

### Panama becomes 97th member country of ISA



- Central American country Panama has officially joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- Panama has become the 97th member country of ISA.
- ISA was founded as a joint effort of India and France.
- Currently, 116 countries have signed the ISA Framework Agreement.

### According to the latest data from SIPRI, India is the world's top arms importer between 2019-2023



- According to the latest data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India is the world's top arms importer between 2019-2023.
- Between 2019 and 2023, India imported 9.8% of total global arms imports.
- India is followed by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Ukraine, Pakistan, Japan, Egypt, Australia, South Korea and China.
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute-
- **'SIPRI' is an international institute located in.**
- Formed: 6 May 1966

- Founder: Tage Erlander, Alva Myrdal
- Headquarters: Solna (Sweden)
- Chief: Stefan Lofven

### India and Brazil held their first '2+2' defense and foreign ministerial talks



- India and Brazil explored ways to enhance cooperation in energy, critical minerals, technology and counter-terrorism in their first '2+2' defense and foreign ministerial talks.
- Foreign Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that various key areas of cooperation including defense, space, energy, critical minerals, technology, counter-terrorism and other issues of regional, multilateral and mutual interest were discussed in the talks.
- 2+2 meetings have been held every year with US leaders since the year 2018.

### Global Resources Outlook Report released by UNEP



- The Global Resources Outlook 2024 report was launched during the Sixth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6) at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

- It is the flagship report of the International Resource Panel of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).
- UNEP is responsible for coordinating responses to environmental issues under the United Nations.

#### • UNEP:-

- Founded: 5 June 1972, Nairobi, Kenya
- Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya
- Founder: Maurice Strong
- Executive Director: Inger Andersen (since 2019); Denmark
- Abbreviation: UN Environment; UNEP

### US President announces ban on sale of petrol-powered cars from 2035



- US President Joe Biden has announced the toughest ever regulation on vehicle exhaust emissions in the US to accelerate the auto-industry's shift to electric cars.
- The US is taking a more lenient stance than the EU and the UK, which will ban all sales of petrol-powered cars from 2035.
- This includes a target for 56% of all new US vehicles sold to be electric by 2032 - a massive increase from current levels.
- According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the new regulation will prevent 7 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions over the next 30 years.

### 3rd edition of North East Games 2024 begins in Nagaland





- In Nagaland, the 3rd edition of North East Games 2024 began with a grand opening ceremony at the Regional Centre for Sporting Excellence, Sovima.
- Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio officially declared the 3rd North East Games 2024 open.
- Over 3000 athletes from eight northeastern states are competing in 15 disciplines held at 12 venues in three districts Chumoukedima, Dimapur and Kohima.
- The main attractions of the event include archery, athletics, badminton basketball, boxing, football, lawn tennis, pencak silat, s, table tennis, taekwondo, volleyball and wushu.

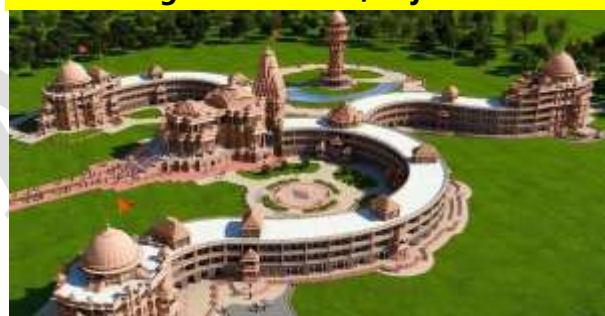
### UNESCO adds 18 sites to Global Geoparks Network



- UNESCO's Executive Board has decided to add 18 sites to the Global Geoparks Network.
- The total number of geoparks reached 213 in 48 countries.

- The new geoparks are located in Brazil, China, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Portugal and Spain.
- Geoparks serve local communities by combining the conservation of their important geological heritage with public access and a sustainable approach to development.
- The UNESCO Global Geopark designation was created in 2015. It recognizes geological heritage of international significance.
- Two UNESCO member countries are joining the network for the first time: New Zealand and the Philippines.

### World's first Om-shaped temple inaugurated in Pali, Rajasthan



- The world's first Om-shaped temple was inaugurated at Jadan village in Pali district of Rajasthan. This temple became the first temple in the world to be designed in this iconic form.
- This architectural masterpiece will not only attract tourists but also boast of an impressive visual presence that will be visible even from space.
- The 'Om shaped' temple is spread across a vast expanse of 250 acres in Jadan village.
- This temple is shaped like the Om symbol and follows the Nagara style commonly seen in North India. It has an elaborate layout that covers an area of about half a kilometre.
- This intricate design pays tribute to the rich cultural and architectural heritage of the region.
- A remarkable aspect of this temple is that it can house 1,008 idols of Lord Mahadev and 12 Jyotirlingas within its sacred boundaries.

### France is set to become the first country to pass a bill to tackle child discrimination.



- The lower house of the French Parliament has passed a bill that will ban discrimination on the basis of hair texture, length, colour or style.
- The bill will amend existing anti-discrimination measures in the labour code.
- The bill will support black people who face discrimination in the workplace because of their hair.
- Olivier Serva, a black MP from the French Caribbean island of Guadeloupe, has drafted the bill.
- The bill has been approved by 44 legislators, while two have voted against it. It will become a law after the approval of the Senate.
- 23 states in the United States have passed laws to protect people from hair discrimination in the workplace and public schools.

## Science and Technology

### Russian space agency Roscosmos launches Iran's imaging satellite 'Pars-1' into space



- Russian space agency Roscosmos successfully launched Iran's imaging satellite 'Pars-1' into space from Moscow's Vostochny spaceport on a Soyuz carrier rocket. Along with this, a Russian weather satellite and 17 small satellites were also sent.
- Meanwhile, Russia's Meteor-M No. 2-4 satellite (also known as Meteor-M2-4), the sixth spacecraft in the Meteor-M series launched in 2009, was also launched, it is designed to explore the Earth's natural resources, monitor global weather.

### Britain has tested a laser weapon that can strike a coin from a kilometer away



- The UK Ministry of Defense (MoD) has successfully tested its first laser weapon named "Dragonfire".
- The high-powered laser is designed to target and neutralise drones, offering a potentially low-cost alternative to conventional missiles.
- The Dragonfire laser weapon is expected to significantly reduce reliance on expensive ammunition, offering a cost-effective solution to air defence.

### Scientists have discovered a 'giant' volcano on Mars.



- This massive volcano named 'Noctis Volcano' stands at a height of 29,600 feet and stretches about 450 kilometres in width.
- The location of the volcano is just south of the Martian equator, in eastern Noctis Labyrinthus, west of Valles Marineris, the planet's vast canyon system.
- Data from several missions including NASA's Mariner 9, Viking Orbiter 1 and 2, Mars Global Surveyor, Mars Odyssey and Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter have been used to make this discovery. ESA's European Space Agency's Mars Express mission was also a part of this effort.

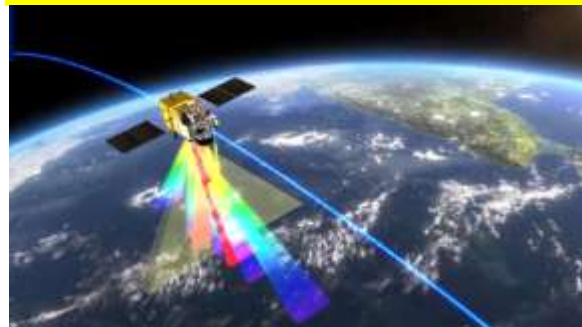
### ISRO successfully tested the landing mission of Reusable Launch Vehicle



- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) on Friday (March 22) successfully landed the Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV LEX-02). This indigenous space shuttle has been named Pushpak.
- It was taken to a height of 4.5 km by helicopter at the Aeronautical Test Range in Chitradurga, Karnataka and left for autonomous landing on the runway.
- ISRO posted on social media platform X and informed that Pushpak's successful landing took place at 7:10 am.
- Earlier, RLV landing experiments have been done in 2016 and 2023. This time's Pushpak aircraft is about 1.6 times larger than the last RLV-TD.
- Pushpak aircraft can bear more weight than RLV-TD. ISRO says that with this technology, rocket launches will now be cheaper than before. Now

the cost of delivering equipment to space will be much less.

### China launches satellite for atmospheric, space environment monitoring



- China added to its fleet of stealth meteorological satellites with the launch of Yunhai-3 (02).
- China successfully launched a satellite for environmental monitoring from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in North China's Shanxi province.
- It will be used for tasks such as detecting atmospheric and marine environment, monitoring space environment, disaster prevention and mitigation.

### China launches 'Queqiao-2' relay satellite to support lunar missions



- China launched its Queqiao-2 relay satellite with a Long March 8 rocket to support upcoming lunar far side and south polar missions.
- Queqiao-2 was installed in its predetermined orbit with a perigee of 200 km and an apogee of 420,000 km.



- The 1,200-kg satellite carries a 4.2-metre parabolic antenna and is part of China's plans for future lunar exploration and a step towards building a lunar base in the 2030s.
- After reaching the moon, the spacecraft will enter a highly elliptical lunar orbit inclined 55 degrees.
- It is specifically designed to support China's Chang'e-6 lunar far side sample return mission scheduled to launch in May.
- The spacecraft will later alter its orbital period to better support the Chang'e-7 and Chang'e-8 missions to the moon's south pole later in the decade.
- The far side of the moon never faces Earth, as the planet's gravity has slowed the moon's rotation over time.

### ISRO will launch START 2024 programme in April-May.



- Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)-2024 will be launched by ISRO.
- ISRO has invited expressions of interest for the START-2024 programme from academic institutions/universities/colleges in India.
- The START-2024 programme will be conducted during April-May, 2024.
- 'START' is an introductory level online training in Space Science and Technology for UG and PG students.
- Postgraduate students and final year undergraduate students of Physical Sciences (Physics and Chemistry) and Technology are eligible for this training.
- Educational institutions who wish to be a part of this initiative of ISRO must apply by April 2, 2024.

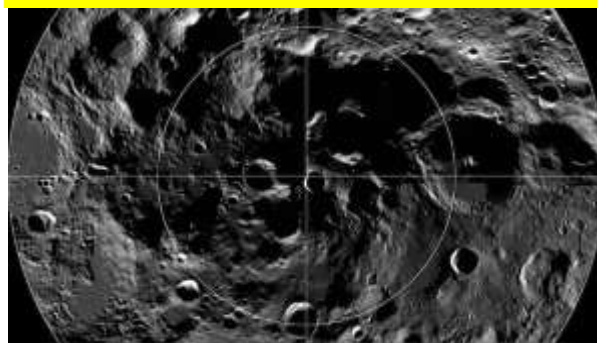
- The 'START' programme will be conducted through the ISRO e-class platform.

### DRDO successfully conducts Mission Divyastra (Agni 5)



- DRDO conducted the first successful flight test of indigenously developed Agni-5 missile with Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology.
- The flight test named 'Mission Divyastra' was conducted from Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha.
- MIRVs have been developed by the US, UK, Russia, France and China.
- The weapon system was tested within a range of 3,550 km.

### Chandrayaan-3 landing site recognised by International Astronomical Union



- The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has recently recognised ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 landing site as 'Shiva Shakti' point. PM Modi had named the Chandrayaan-3 landing site as 'Shiva Shakti' on August 26, 2023.

- It is worth noting that Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander landed on the South Pole of the Moon on 23 August 2023.
- India became the first country to soft land on the South Pole of the Moon.

## Brand Ambassador

### Neeraj Chopra becomes the new brand ambassador of Eveready



- Leading battery brand, Eveready Industries India (EIL) has announced a partnership with reigning Olympic gold medalist and world number 1 in men's javelin throw Neeraj Chopra as its new brand ambassador.
- Through this collaboration, Eveready aims to strengthen its commitment to excellence and innovation by launching the new Ultima Alkaline battery series.
- The brand hopes to increase its connection with the youth by offering long-lasting and value-for-money solutions for high-drain devices used by the new generation in India.

## Awards

### Pradeep Mahajan receives Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024



- Dr Pradeep Mahajan has been honoured with the prestigious Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024 for his contributions to the field of regenerative medicine.
- Mahajan is the Founder and Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of StemRx Hospital & Research Centre as well as StemRx Bioscience Solutions.
- The honour is a testimony to his pioneering efforts and substantial impact in advancing regenerative medicine, providing new hope and innovative treatments to patients across the globe.
- Under Dr Mahajan's leadership, StemRx Hospital & Research Centre has emerged as a leading institution in the field of regenerative medicine.

### Zoya Akhtar and Asma Khan honoured with 'India-UK Achievers' Award



- Renowned filmmaker Zoya Akhtar and British Indian chef Asma Khan were honoured with the annual 'India-UK Achievers' Award in London.
- Akhtar's acclaimed work in cinema and Khan's culinary contributions were celebrated during the event.

- Zoya Akhtar was honoured with the Living Legend Award for her work in furthering the understanding of India.
- Chef Asma Khan of the women-run Darjeeling Express restaurant in London was also honoured.
- The alumnus of King's College London began her career in law. But she has since made her mark in the culinary field.

### Yatin Bhaskar Duggal won first prize in National Youth Parliament Festival 2024



- Yatin Bhaskar Duggal of Haryana has won the first prize in the National Youth Parliament Festival 2024.
- While Vaishna Pichai of Tamil Nadu won the second prize and Kanishka Sharma of Rajasthan won the third prize.
- The National Youth Parliament 2024 is based on the theme 'Young Voices: Engage and Empower for Nation Transformation'. The National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF) is based on an idea introduced by the Prime Minister during his Mann Ki Baat address on December 31, 2017.

### Tiger Woods honoured with USGA's prestigious Bob Jones Award



- enowned golfer Tiger Woods has been selected for the Bob Jones Award, the highest honor of the US Golf Association (USGA).
- This award is the highest honor given to Tiger Woods by the United States Golf Association (USGA).
- This prestigious award recognizes Woods' dedication to sportsmanship, his respect for the traditions of the game, and his significant charitable efforts.

### President Draupadi Murmu presented the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for 2022 and 2023 to a total of 94 artistes from various fields



- The National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama selects eminent personalities in the field of performing arts as Academy Fellows.
- Speaking at the award ceremony, Murmu highlighted the role of performing arts in India's cultural heritage.
- Murmu said that art forms have been given a high place in Indian culture since ancient times.
- Bharat Muni's Natya Shastra has been called the fifth Veda, equating it with the Vedas. The breadth of art forms in his Natya Shastra is not found in any other book. It is rare.
- The President said that there are many examples when artists used their art for social welfare.

### Nita Ambani awarded Humanitarian Award





- Reliance Foundation Chairperson Nita Ambani was honored with the 'Beauty with a Purpose Humanitarian Award' at the 71st Miss World Finale last Saturday.
- She has been given this award for her philanthropic work. On Sunday, the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Center shared a post with Nita Ambani's award on its official Instagram account, giving information about the award given to her.
- This award was given to her by Miss World Organization Chairperson and CEO Julia Morley.
- Host Karan Johar was also present.
- Reliance Foundation Chairperson Nita Ambani was honored with the 'Beauty with a Purpose Humanitarian Award' at the 71st Miss World Finale last Saturday. She has been given this award for her philanthropic work.

### India receives 'Measles and Rubella Champion' award



- India has been given the 'Measles and Rubella Champion' award.

- India was honored with the prestigious Measles and Rubella Champion Award at a ceremony organized by The Measles and Rubella Partnership at the Red Cross Headquarters in the US.
- India has been given this award for exemplary efforts in the prevention of measles and rubella disease.
- As a result of all the efforts, no case of measles has been reported continuously in 50 districts of the country.
- At the same time, no case of rubella has been reported in 226 districts in the last 12 months.
- Measles and rubella are vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD) and MR vaccine is part of India's universal immunization program since 2017.

### Miss Czech Republic became Miss World: Miss Lebanon was the first runner up



- The title of Miss World-2023 has been won by Kristina Pijakova of Czech Republic.
- At the same time, Miss Lebanon Yasmina Jetoan was the first runner up.
- Contestants from 112 countries participated in the event.
- This event took place at the famous Jio World Convention Center in Mumbai.
- The finale was broadcast live in more than 100 countries.

### The 96th Oscar Awards have been announced at the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles



- 
- The 96th Oscar Awards have been announced at the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles (on March 11).
- Oppenheimer won a total of seven awards including the Best Film at the ceremony.
- Cillian Murphy became the Best Actor, Christopher Nolan became the Best Director.
- RRR was seen three times at the Oscars 2024. An edited clip of the best stunt scenes from films around the world was shown at the Oscar ceremony, in which an action scene from RRR was shown.
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## Japanese architect Riken Yamamoto won the Pritzker Prize 2024



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- Japanese architect Riken Yamamoto has won the Pritzker Prize 2024.
- The Pritzker Prize is called the "Nobel Prize of Architecture".
- They have been awarded \$100,000 and a bronze medal.
- David Chipperfield won the Pritzker Prize in 2023.
- **Pritzker Prize-**
- It is an international architecture award.
- Awarded annually to honour a living architect or architects.
- 

## 24 writers received the 2023 Sahitya Akademi Award



- 
- 24 writers received the 2023 Sahitya Akademi Award.
- The awards were given for literary works including nine books of poetry, six novels, five short stories, three essays and a literary study.
- Sanjeev – Hindi Novel "Mujhe Pehchaano"
- Neelam Saran Gaur – "Anurodh in Raag Janaki"
- Sadiqa Nawab Sahar – "Rajdev Ki Amrai" in Urdu
- Swarnjit Savi – "Man Di Chip" in Punjabi
- 

## Greeshma Kuthar and Ritika Chopra receive Chameli Devi Jain Award 2024



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- Freelance journalist Greeshma Kuthar and Ritika Chopra of The Indian Express jointly won the Chameli Devi Jain Award 2024 for Outstanding Woman Media Person of the Year.
- The winners were selected by an independent jury from over 65 entries from women journalists.
- The jury comprises senior journalist Radhika Ramaseshan (Chairperson), author
- Mariam Alavi and Down To Earth Managing Editor Richard Mahapatra.
- The awards were presented to the winners on March 15.

- Ms Kuthar is a freelance multimedia journalist who works for the Ms Chopra is the National Bureau Chief (Government) and National Education Editor at The Indian Express, Delhi.

### Amitav Ghosh wins Erasmus Prize 2024



- Indian author Amitav Ghosh has been awarded the prestigious Erasmus Prize 2024 by the Netherlands-based Praemium Erasmianum Foundation for his significant contribution to the theme of "imagining the unimaginable" through his writings on the climate crisis and the human relationship with nature.
- Born in Kolkata in 1956, Ghosh has produced a wealth of work including historical novels and journalistic essays that transcend boundaries and time periods.
- His writing is based on exhaustive archival research and succeeds in making tangible the key themes of migration, diaspora and cultural identity without losing the human dimension.

### President Draupadi Murmu confers Bharat Ratna awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan



- President Draupadi Murmu presented the Bharat Ratna awards to former Prime Ministers Chaudhary Charan Singh and P V Narasimha Rao, former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur, eminent scientist M S Swaminathan and Deputy Prime Minister L K Advani.
- P V Narasimha Rao, Chaudhary Charan Singh, M S Swaminathan and Karpoori Thakur received this award posthumously.
- LK Advani will be awarded Bharat Ratna at his residence.
- P V Prabhakar Rao received the award from the President on behalf of his father P V Narasimha Rao.
- Chaudhary Charan Singh's grandson and Rashtriya Lok Dal president Jayant Chaudhary accepted the honor from the President.
- This year the government has announced Bharat Ratna to five people.
- **Bharat Ratna winners for 2024:**
  - M. S. Swaminathan
  - L. K. Advani
  - P. V. Narasimha
  - Rao Chaudhary Charan Singh
  - Karpuri Thakur

### Bina Agrawal and James Boyce awarded the first "Global Inequalities Research Prize"



- Bina Agrawal and James Boyce have been awarded the first "Global Inequalities Research Prize" (GIRA) for their significant contributions to understanding global inequalities, particularly the areas of social and environmental inequalities.



- The laureates will be invited to receive their awards and present an overview of their work at conferences in Paris in the fall and spring of 2024.
- These conferences will be held in conjunction with Sciences Po's Socio-Ecological Transition (SET) initiative.

### T.M. Krishna honoured with Sangeet Kalanidhi Award



- Thodur Madabusi Krishna will be honoured with the 2024 Sangeet Kalanidhi Award by the Madras Music Academy
- The Sangeet Kalanidhi Award is considered one of the highest honours in Carnatic music.
- In 2016, she was honoured with the Ramon Magsaysay Award.
- Along with her, Neena Prasad will also be honoured with the Nritya Kalanidhi, a Madras Music Academy recognition in the field of dance.

### Important Days

#### Zero Discrimination Day observed on March 1



- It is an annual day observed by the United Nations and other international organisations.
- The day aims to promote equality before the law and in practice in all member states of the United Nations.
- The day was first observed on March 1, 2014 and was launched by Michel Sidibé, the Executive Director of UNAIDS.
- Theme: "To Protect Everyone's Health, Protect Everyone's Rights"

#### World Civil Defence Day observed on 1 March



#### World Civil Defence Day

- It is observed worldwide to raise awareness about the importance of civil defence and emergency preparedness.
- In 1990, the International Civil Defence Organization designated 1 March as World Civil Defence Day, aimed at promoting the protection of individuals and their properties from accidents, natural disasters and other emergencies.

#### World Wildlife Day and World Hearing Day: 3 March



- **World Wildlife Day**
- On 20 December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly, at its 68th session, in its resolution UN 68/205, adopted the Convention on

International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), establishing 3 March 1973 as World Wildlife Day. It was proposed by Thailand, to celebrate and raise awareness about the world's wild fauna and flora.

- **World Hearing Day**
- WHO celebrated World Hearing Day for the first time on March 3, 2007. In 2016, they decided to declare this day as World Hearing Day.
- Earlier it was known as International Ear Care Day.
- Communication is a fundamental human right and for those who go through this disorder and difficulties, it becomes difficult to connect.
- 360 million people all over the world suffer from the disability of deafness.
- Educating people and teaching them about their rights will help them.

### Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Jayanti: March 5



- Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Jayanti is celebrated as the birth anniversary of Swami Dayanand Saraswati, the founder of Arya Samaj. According to the Hindu calendar, it falls on the tenth day of Krishna Paksha in the month of Phalgun, and is observed on March 5, 2024.
- Swami Dayanand was one of the first to oppose social evils such as animal sacrifice, caste system, child marriage and discrimination against women.
- The wise Dayanand also condemned idol worship and pilgrimages.

- He wrote more than 60 works in his lifetime, of which Satyarth Prakash, which means Light of Truth, was the most popular.
- The book also became an integral part of India's freedom struggle.

### International Women's Day is celebrated all over the world on 8 March



- International Women's Day is celebrated all over the world on 8 March.
- This day started about 115 years ago in America when in 1908 women in America carried out a big movement for their rights.
- The International Women's Day campaign for the year 2024 is based on "Inspire Inclusion" and this year's theme is "Invest in women: Accelerate progress".

### The world's largest literary festival - 'Sahitya Utsav' will be organized from 11- 16 March



- The world's largest literary festival - 'Sahitya Utsav' will be organized by the Sahitya Akademi from 11 to 16 March.

- More than a hundred famous writers and scholars will participate in this festival organized to commemorate the completion of 70 years of Sahitya Akademi.
- Over 190 sessions and over 175 languages of the country will also be represented during the festival.
- The chief guest of the award presentation ceremony will be eminent Odia writer Pratibha Ray.
- The Samvatsar Lecture will be delivered by renowned Urdu writer and lyricist Gulzar at the Meghdoot Open Theatre on March 13.

### Dandi March: March 12



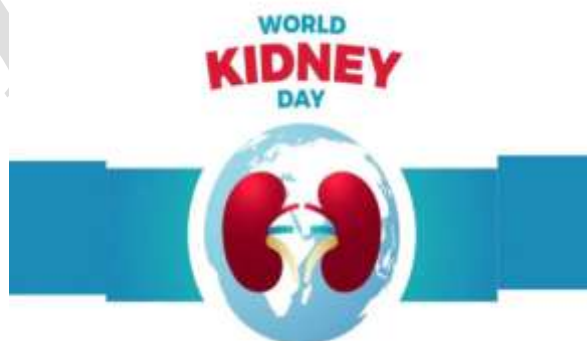
- The Dandi March or Salt Satyagraha was an act of non-violent civil disobedience in colonial India led by Mahatma Gandhi.
- The twenty-four-day march lasted from 12 March 1930 to 6 April 1930 as a direct action campaign of tax resistance and non-violent protest against the British salt monopoly.
- It is also known as the Salt Movement or Namak Satyagraha.
- The Salt Movement was started by Mahatma Gandhi against the British who had brought salt tax to India.
- In this historic Satyagraha, 78 people including Mahatma Gandhi walked from Ahmedabad Sabarmati Ashram to the coastal village of Dandi, which was 390 kilometers.

### Pi Day celebrated on March 14



- The constant value of Pi was first calculated by Syracuse mathematician Archimedes.
- In 1737, Leonhard Euler used the symbol of Pi.
- In 1988, American physicist Larry Shaw celebrated the first Pi Day.
- It is the ratio of the circumference and diameter of the circle.
- The ratio 3.14 is the constant of Pi.

### World Kidney Day celebrated on March 14



- This day is celebrated every year on the second Thursday of March to create awareness among people about the health of the kidney and the various diseases that affect its normal function.
- The theme of this year is- "Kidney Health for All" The theme focuses on achieving optimal kidney care to tackle the growing burden of chronic kidney disease and these challenges at various levels.

### National Vaccination Day celebrated on 16 March





- National Vaccination Day is celebrated every year on 16 March.
- It is also called Immunization Day. This day is also an opportunity to express gratitude towards the hard work of doctors, frontline health care workers engaged in vaccination.
- **History of National Vaccination Day**
- National Vaccination Day is celebrated on 16th of March every year across the country.
- In the year 1995, on March 16, the first dose of oral polio vaccine was given in the country and along with this, the Pulse Polio campaign was started by the government to make India polio free on the same day.

### World Consumer Rights Day Celebrated on 15 March



- World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated every year on 15 March to create more awareness about consumer rights.
- On this day, people discuss measures to create awareness about consumer rights.
- It is different from National Consumer Rights Day.
- **Theme of World Consumer Rights Day 2024:**
- This special occasion is celebrated with different themes every year.

- The theme of World Consumer Rights Day 2024 is 'Fair and responsible AI for consumers'.

### International Day of Happiness: 20 March

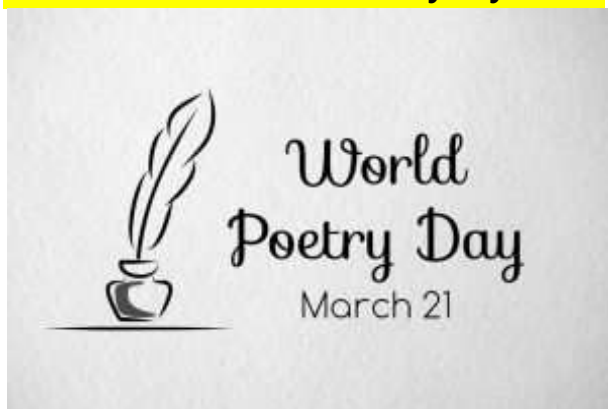


- International Day of Happiness is a global event organized by the United Nations every year on 20 March. In July 2012, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution declaring March 20 as the International Day of Happiness.
- The purpose of this day is to encourage people to live a simple and happy life.
- The theme of International Day of Happiness for this year 2024 is 'Reconnecting for Happiness Building Resilient Communities'.

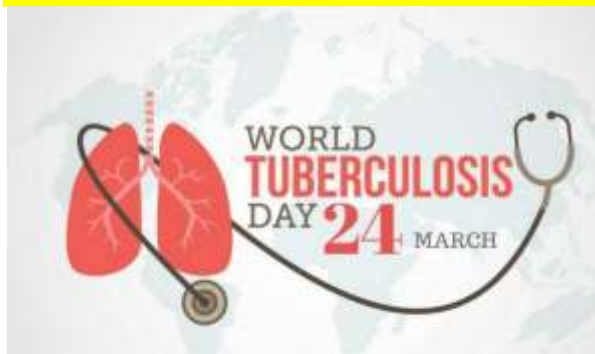
### World Sparrow Day observed on 20 March



- The first World Sparrow Day was observed on 20 March 2010.
- Nature Forever Society of India and Eco-Sys Action Foundation of France started the initiative of celebrating this day to encourage their conservation.
- The House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) is the most widely seen wild bird in the world.

**21 March - World Poetry Day**


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- World Poetry Day is celebrated every year on 21 March.
- This day is dedicated to the celebration of poetry and literature in all forms.
- It is time to recognize the importance of poetry in society and promote its use as a means of expression and communication.
- Theme 2024 - Standing on the shoulders of giants
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**World Tuberculosis Day-2024 celebrated on 24 March**


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- 24 March TB-causing bacterium Mycobacterium tuberculosis was first discovered by Dr. Robert Koch in 1882. To commemorate this, World Tuberculosis Day is observed across the world on this day.
- World Tuberculosis (TB) Day 2024 theme is - "Yes! We can end TB". Its purpose is to increase awareness among people about tuberculosis and how to prevent its spread.
- Tuberculosis is caused by the bacterium Mycobacterium tuberculosis AS and the lungs are the most affected organs. TB can also affect other

parts of the body such as the kidneys, spine and brain.

- Factors such as a weakened immune system, diabetes, malnutrition and tobacco use can increase the risk of developing TB disease.
- The first World TB Day was officially observed in 1983 and has since become an annual event.
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**Christian community across the world celebrated 'Palm Sunday' festival on March 24**


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- According to the Bible, Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week in the Christian calendar, which commemorates Jesus Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, when the crowd welcomed him by waving palm branches placed on the ground in his path.
- This year, Palm Sunday is on March 24. Also known as Passion Sunday, it marks the beginning of Holy Week. According to the biblical teaching, Jesus Christ entered the city riding on a donkey.
- The holiest week of the Christian year includes the story of Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday and their belief in the recurrence of death and resurrection on Easter.
- **Hola Mohalla Festival**
- Mohalla, also known as Hola by the Sikh community, is held from March 25-27, 2024.
- The three-day festival will begin from Takht Shri Keshgarh Sahib in Anandpur, located in Rupnagar district of Punjab.
- The site holds special historical significance as it is one of the five Sikh Takhts.

- The Hola Mohalla festival was established in the late 17th century by the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

### Rajasthan celebrates March 30 as Foundation Day



- Rajasthan Day is celebrated every year on March 30 as Foundation Day as it commemorates the day the state came into existence as a federal unit from 19 princely states.
- The 'Land of Kings' celebrates Rajasthan Day with colourful and invigorating events taking place across the state. The state was earlier known as Rajputana and Rajasthan came into existence and recognition on March 30, 1949. Hence every year 30th March is celebrated as its foundation day. Foundation day also pays tribute to the valour, strong will and sacrifice of the people of Rajasthan.
- The integration of Rajasthan started on 18th March 1948 and was completed on 1st November 1956 in 7 phases i.e. it took 8 years, 7 months and 14 days to complete. The entire credit for this goes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

### Important appointments

**IPS Daljit Singh Chaudhary appointed as new NSG DG**



- Daljit Singh Chaudhary, a 1990 batch IPS officer, was appointed as the Director General of the National Security Guard (NSG) along with his current role as the Director General of SSB.
- The NSG, India's counter-terrorism force popularly known as the "Black Cats", handles counter-terrorism and anti-hijacking incidents.
- He took additional charge of the NSG after the retirement of M.A. Ganapathy for three months or until a regular successor is appointed.
- **Know about the National Security Guard:**
- The NSG, commonly known as the Black Cats, is a counter-terrorism unit of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Established on 16 October 1984 after Operation Blue Star, it aims to counter terrorist activities.
- Empowered by the National Security Guard Act, 1986.
- It is one of the seven Central Armed Police Forces.
- The NSG also takes part in foiling aircraft hijacking operations.

### Shahbaz Sharif became the 24th Prime Minister of Pakistan



- Shahbaz Sharif became the 24th Prime Minister of Pakistan



- Shahbaz Sharif became the 24th Prime Minister of Pakistan
- He received the support of 201 MPs in the National Assembly
- India has stopped the water of Ravi river going to Pakistan by building Shahpur Kandi Barrage Dam. Maryam Nawaz became the first woman Chief Minister of Pakistan's Punjab province

### Border Security Force (BSF) sub-inspector Suman Kumari becomes first woman sniper of Border Security Force



- Border Security Force (BSF) sub-inspector Suman Kumari has become the first woman sniper of Border Security Force.
- Suman recently completed an eight-week sniper course at the Central School of Weapons and Tactics (CSWT) in Indore and achieved 'instructor grade'.
- Suman hails from Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh. She joined the BSF in the year 2021. Border Security Force:-
- Founder: Khusró Faramurz Rustamji
- Established: 1 December 1965
- Animals: Dogs, camels, horses
- Headquarters: New Delhi, India
- Staff: 265,000 active personnel
- Abbreviation: BSF
- Agency executive: Nitin Agarwal, IPS, Director General

### Anurag Agarwal appointed as the head of Parliament Security



- IPS officer Anurag Agarwal has been appointed as the head of Parliament Security.
- Agarwal is a 1998 batch officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre.
- Currently an Inspector General in CRPF has been appointed as Joint Secretary (Security) for three years.
- His appointment order was issued by the Lok Sabha Secretariat.
- The post of JS (Security) is traditionally held by an IPS officer.

### Manish Prasad appointed President and Managing Director of SAP Indian Subcontinent



- German technology major SAP has appointed Manish Prasad as President and Managing Director for SAP Indian Subcontinent.
- He will replace Kulmeet Bawa, who holds the global role for the development and adoption of SAP Business Technology Platform (SAP BTP) for global customers.

- Prasad will help SAP move further into the cloud, enabling customers across all industries to digitally transform with SAP

### Asif Ali Zardari becomes 14th President of Pakistan



- Asif Ali Zardari has won the presidential election in Pakistan today.
- Zardari has become the 14th President of Pakistan.
- He defeated Imran Khan's candidate Mahmood Khan Achakzai by 230 votes.
- Zardari got 411 votes, while Achakzai could get only 118 votes.

### Hansa Mishra appointed as Director in UPSC



- Hansa Mishra (IA&AS) has been selected for appointment to the post of Director in Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
- She has been selected for appointment under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years from the date of assuming charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

- Mishra is a 2010 batch Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS) officer.

### Asha Lakra appointed as member of 'National Scheduled Tribes Commission'



- BJP's National Minister Asha Lakra has been made a member of the National Scheduled Tribes Commission.
- Its notification was issued on Saturday. Asha Lakra is the former mayor of Ranchi.
- In view of her efficiency and activism, she has been made a member of the commission.
- **'National Scheduled Tribes Commission'**
- NCSC is a constitutional body which was established to provide protection to the Scheduled Castes against exploitation and to promote and protect their social, educational, economic and cultural interests.

### Justice Satyendra Kumar Singh will be the new Lokayukta of Madhya Pradesh



- Justice Satyendra Kumar Singh will be the new Lokayukta of Madhya Pradesh

- Justice Satyendra Kumar Singh will take charge of Lokayukta in place of the current Lokayukta Naresh Kumar Gupta
- Madhya Pradesh Lokayukta was established in 1981
- The tenure of Lokayukta is 5 years
- Lokayukta is an anti-corruption institution in a state
- Lokayukta and Up-Lokayukta are appointed by the Governor of the state

### Nayab Saini sworn in as 11th Chief Minister of Haryana



- Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Nayab Saini took oath as the 11th Chief Minister of Haryana on 12 March 2024.
- In a formal ceremony, Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya administered the oath of office and secrecy to Nayab Saini in Chandigarh. He replaced Manohar Lal Khattar.
- Manohar Lal Khattar was the first Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Chief Minister of Haryana.
- Nayab Saini belongs to Other Backward Caste (OBC) Saini community. He was born on 25 January 1970 in a Saini family in Mizapur Mazra, Ambala.
- In 2014, he became MLA for the first time from Naraingarh Assembly. In 2016, he was appointed minister in the Manohar Lal Khattar government.
- In 2019, he was elected as a Member of Parliament from Kurukshetra constituency and in

2023 he was appointed as the head of the Haryana unit of the BJP.

- **Chief Minister of Haryana**
- The state of Haryana was formed on 1 November 1966 following the enactment of the Punjab Reorganisation Act 1966.
- The first Chief Minister of Haryana was Bhagwat Dayal Sharma of the Congress Party.
- The second Chief Minister was Rao Birendra Singh.
- The third Chief Minister was Bansi Lal.
- The fourth Chief Minister was Banarsi Das Gupta.
- The fifth Chief Minister was Devi Lal.
- The sixth Chief Minister was Bhajan Lal.
- The seventh Chief Minister was Om Prakash Chautala.
- The eighth Chief Minister was Hukam Singh.
- The ninth Chief Minister was Bhupendra Singh Hooda.
- The tenth Chief Minister was Manohar Lal Khattar.

### AS Rajeev sworn in as Vigilance Commissioner



- Former Chief Executive of Bank of Maharashtra AS Rajeev took oath as Vigilance Commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission.
- A S Rajeev is a career banker with over 38 years of experience in four banks, namely Syndicate Bank, Indian Bank, Vijaya Bank and Bank of Maharashtra.
- During his tenure as Executive Director in Indian Bank, Indian Bank emerged as one of the strongest and most profitable banks in India with the lowest non-performing assets and highest capital adequacy ratio.



- The Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003, provides for the appointment of one Central Vigilance Commissioner and two Vigilance Commissioners.
- The tenure of the Vigilance Commissioner is four years or till the incumbent attains the age of 65 years.

### Senior bureaucrat Rahul Singh appointed as new CBSE chief



- Rahul Singh, a 1996 batch IAS officer from Bihar, has been appointed as CBSE chairman in a recent bureaucratic reshuffle.
- He replaces Nidhi Chibber, who is now an advisor at NITI Aayog, demonstrating a significant shift in educational leadership.
- The appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, marking a notable administrative change at CBSE.
- CBSE Establishment: 1929

### Putin became President of Russia for the 5th time: got 88% votes



- Putin became the President of Russia for the first time in the year 2000. This picture of him is from

the press conference held after winning the presidential election.

- Vladimir Putin has become the President of Russia for the 5th consecutive time. Putin got 88% votes in the voting held on March 15-17.
- His opponent Nikolay Kharitonov got 4% votes.
- Vladislav Davankov and Leonid Slutsky were third and fourth.
- Prime Minister Modi congratulated Putin on his victory through social media. Said - Congratulations on this election victory. The friendship of both the countries is tested.
- We will work to strengthen it further.

### Before the Lok Sabha elections, former bureaucrats Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Gyanesh Kumar have been selected as the new Election Commissioners



- Before the Lok Sabha elections, former bureaucrats Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Gyanesh Kumar have been selected as the new Election Commissioners.
- Let us tell you that the committee led by PM Modi has approved these names.
- Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chaudhary also participated in this selection process.
- On the basis of the recommendation of the selection committee, President Draupadi Murmu will appoint two members of the Election Commission.

### CP Radhakrishnan gets additional charge of Telangana Governor



- Jharkhand Governor CP Radhakrishnan has been given additional responsibility as Governor-in-charge of Telangana in place of Tamilisai Soundararajan. Earlier, Soundararajan had resigned from her post. He will also take over the additional responsibilities of the Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry.
- Tamilisai Soundararajan has resigned from her constitutional post as Governor of Telangana.
- A press release issued from Rashtrapati Bhavan said that Tamilisai's resignation has been accepted with immediate effect and Radhakrishnan has been appointed to take additional charge of Telangana.
- Radhakrishnan is the third person from Tamil Nadu to hold the post of Governor in Telangana for a consecutive term. Earlier it was ESL Narasimhan, followed by Tamilisai Soundararajan.

### Vinay Kumar appointed as India's next Ambassador to Russia



- The Ministry of External Affairs has appointed senior diplomat Vinay Kumar as India's next Ambassador to Russia.
- Vinay Kumar is currently serving as India's Ambassador to Myanmar.
- Vinay Kumar is a 1992 batch IFS officer.
- India has long-term and extensive cooperation with Russia in the field of defense. India imports most of its weapons from Russia.

### Sanjay Mukherjee will be the new DGP of West Bengal



- The Election Commission on Tuesday appointed IPS Sanjay Mukherjee as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of West Bengal.
- A day earlier, the Commission had removed West Bengal DGP Rajeev Kumar and Home Secretaries of 6 states from their posts.

### Shefali Sharan appointed official spokesperson



- Senior Indian Information Service (IIS) officer Shefali B Sharan has been appointed as the new official spokesperson.

- A 1990-batch officer, Sharan will take over as the Principal Director General (PRDG) of the Press Information Bureau (PIB) after the retirement of incumbent Manish Desai on March 31.
- Sharan has previously served as spokesperson for the Election Commission and the Ministry of Finance.
- She is the fifth woman officer to head the PIB after Neelam Kapoor, Deepak Sandhu, Shakuntala Mahawal and N J Krishna.

### President Draupadi Murmu nominates writer Sudha Murthy to Rajya Sabha



- President Draupadi Murmu has nominated writer Sudha Murthy to Rajya Sabha.
- 73-year-old Murthy was also awarded the Padma Shri in 2006 and the Padma Bhushan in 2023.
- In January, the President nominated Satnam Singh Sandhu as a Rajya Sabha member.
- The President can nominate 12 members to the Upper House.
- Famous writer and social worker Sudha Murthy has been nominated to the Rajya Sabha.
- Sudha Murthy is the wife of famous businessman and Infosys co-founder Narayan Murthy. UK PM Rishi Sunak is her son-in-law.
- Sudha Murthy has been awarded the Padma Shri in 2006 and the Padma Bhushan in 2023.

### Naveen Jindal takes charge as President of Indian Steel Association



- Jindal Steel & Power Chairman Naveen Jindal has taken charge as President of the Indian Steel Association (ISA) with immediate effect.
- Jindal replaces Dilip Oommen, the ISA said in a statement.

### Ashwani Kumar appointed as new President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations



- Ashwani Kumar, partner at Victor Forgings in Jalandhar, has been unanimously elected as the new President of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO).
- Ashwani Kumar is a well-known business entrepreneur and exporter from Jalandhar, Punjab, representing the engineering sector.

### Simon Harris to become Ireland's youngest PM





- Indian-origin Simon Harris, 37, is set to become Ireland's youngest Prime Minister after being elected as the new leader of the ruling Fine Gael party.
- Harris succeeds Leo Varadkar, who unexpectedly resigned citing the party needed a new direction.
- With the support of Fine Gael's coalition partners, Harris is set to take office as Ireland's youngest prime minister, known as Taoiseach, when Parliament reconvenes on April 9, 2024.

### Govind Dholakia appointed new chairman of Surat Diamond Bourse



- Diamond trader Govind Dholakia has been appointed the new chairman of Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB).
- He replaced Vallabh Lakhani, who stepped down from the post last week.
- Lakhani was the first diamond trader to shut his Mumbai operations and move to SDB in Surat.

### Abhay Thakur appointed as India's new ambassador to Myanmar



- Veteran diplomat Abhay Thakur has recently been appointed as India's new ambassador to Myanmar.
- Abhay was a key member of the team that guided the negotiations during India's G20 presidency last year.
- Abhay is a 1992 batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and is currently serving in the Ministry of External Affairs.

### Ritu Raj Awasthi sworn in as judicial member of Lokpal



- Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi took oath as judicial member of Lokpal. The oath was administered by Justice A. M. Khanwilkar, Chairperson, Lokpal of India.
- Additionally, Pankaj Kumar and Ajay Tirkey took oath as Lokpal members.
- The new appointments take place after two existing judicial members namely Justice P.K. Mohanty and Justice Abhilasha Kumari and three members namely D.K. Jain, Archana Ramasundaram and Mahendra Singh completed their tenure in the Lokpal on March 26, 2024.
- Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, before joining as judicial member of Lokpal of India, was serving as Chairperson, 22nd Law Commission of India. Prior to this, he was Chief Justice of Karnataka HC.

## Rankings & Reports

### India's rank remains unchanged at 42 in International IP Index 2024

## International IP Index 2024 Twelfth Edition

- India is ranked 42nd among 55 countries evaluated in the International IP Index for 2024.
- India's overall score also remained unchanged at 38.64 per cent, according to the 12th edition of the International IP Index by the US Chamber of Commerce's Global Innovation Policy Center.
- The index evaluates the IP frameworks of the world's top 55 economies, revealing significant improvements in 20 economies.
- While the United States is once again the world leader, notable progress has been made by Saudi Arabia, Brazil and Nigeria, led by the latter.

### European country Finland is the happiest country in the world, according to the World Happiness Report 2024



- European country Finland is the happiest country in the world, according to the World Happiness Report 2024.
- Finland has remained the happiest country in the world for the seventh consecutive year.

- India remains at 126th position in the World Happiness Index like last year.
- India's neighboring country Pakistan is ranked 108th and Sri Lanka is ranked 128th.
- America is ranked 23rd.
- 10 happiest countries in the world in 2024

#### Rank Country

1. Finland
2. Denmark
3. Iceland
4. Sweden
5. Israel
6. Netherlands
7. Norway
8. Luxembourg
9. Switzerland
10. Australia

### India ranked 62nd on DHL Connectedness Index



- India's position on the DHL Global Connectedness Index has seen a significant increase, reflecting its growing role in the global economy. From 67th position in 2022, India has moved up to 62nd position in 2023, underlining its growing importance in the sphere of globalisation.
- India moved up to 62nd position in the DHL Connectedness Index for 2023, a significant improvement from its 67th position in 2022.
- This upward trajectory underlines India's growing integration in global trade, capital flows, information exchange and movement of people.

### India ranks 134th in Global Human Development Index



- According to the latest report of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on human development, India is ranked 134th in the global Human Development Index (HDI).
- India's neighbours China and Sri Lanka are ranked 75th and 78th respectively in the high human development category. India is classified under 'medium human development'.
- Bhutan is ranked 125th and Bangladesh is ranked 129th.

### Schemes

#### Mauritius joins India's Jan Aushadhi initiative



- PM Modi and Mauritius PM Pravin Jugnauth inaugurated 6 community development projects in Agalega Island of Mauritius
- Mauritius joins India's Jan Aushadhi initiative
- India's instant payment system UPI has been launched in Sri Lanka and Mauritius on 12 February 2024

### Telangana government launches one-time scheme



- The state government has ordered the implementation of 'One Time Scheme' (OTS) in all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Telangana state including Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC).
- Under the OTS, the government has ordered a rebate of 90 per cent on accumulated outstanding interest on property tax, provided the taxpayer pays the principal amount of the dues along with 10 per cent interest in one go by the financial year 2022-2023.
- The OTS is applicable to private and government properties.
- **About Telangana**
- Formation – 2 June 2014
- Capital – Hyderabad
- Chief Minister – Revanth Reddy (replaced K. Chandrasekhar Rao)
- Deputy CM – Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka
- Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Speaker of Telangana Assembly – Gaddam Prasad Kumar

### Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches 'ADITI scheme' during DefConnect 2024 in New Delhi





- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched the 'ADITI scheme' to promote innovations in critical and strategic defence technologies during DefConnect 2024 in New Delhi.
- Under the scheme, start-ups will be eligible to receive grant support of up to Rs 25 crore for their research, development and innovation efforts in defence technology.
- Rs 750 crore has been allocated under this scheme for the period 2023-24 to 2025-26.

### **Telangana government to launch Indiramma Awas Yojana**



- The Telangana government will launch the Indiramma Awas Yojana in the state on March 11.
- Under the scheme, the Congress government will provide financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to build houses to those who already have a residential plot.
- To benefit those who do not have a plot, a piece of land and Rs 5 lakh will be given under the housing scheme.
- In the first phase, 3,500 houses will be sanctioned in each assembly constituency, benefiting a large number of beneficiaries.

### **CM Yogi launches 'MYUVA Yojana' for young entrepreneurs in UP**



- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched an initiative called "Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan (MYUVA)" to support young entrepreneurs.
- The government aims to create one lakh young entrepreneurs every year through this initiative.
- The scheme provides interest-free loans to young entrepreneurs for projects up to Rs 5 lakh.
- The scheme promotes digital transactions in business operations and provides grants to encourage the adoption of digital payment methods.

### **PM Modi launches Mahtari Vandan Yojana in Chhattisgarh**



- PM Narendra Modi has launched Mahtari Vandan Yojana in Chhattisgarh.
- This scheme has been launched in Chhattisgarh to provide financial assistance of Rs 1000 per month in the form of monthly DBT to eligible married women of the state.
- It has been conceived to ensure economic empowerment of women, provide them financial security, promote gender equality and strengthen the decisive role of women in the family.
- This scheme will provide benefits to all eligible married women of the state who are above 21 years of age as on January 1, 2024.
- Widows, divorced and abandoned women will also be eligible for this scheme. About 70 lakh women will benefit from the scheme.

### Jal Shakti Ministry launches Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain 2024



- Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat has launched the "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" Campaign 2024.
- This is the fifth edition of the campaign. The launch of the Catch the Rain campaign was scheduled to take place at the NDMC Convention Centre in New Delhi.
- The theme of Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain Campaign 2024 is Nari Shakti to Jal Shakti.
- The theme revolves around water conservation as well as the role of women

### Tamil Nadu Government launches 'Neengal Nalama' Scheme



- The Tamil Nadu State Government has launched the Neengal Nalama Scheme with the aim to improve the health index and social welfare of all citizens and make them aware about the schemes of the Tamil Nadu Government.
- In this scheme, government officials reach out to the beneficiaries across the state and inquire about any challenges or difficulties faced by them while availing various schemes of the Tamil Nadu government.

- The scheme will be monitored by the Welfare Department of Tamil Nadu, which will ensure that it resolves the problems of the citizens of Tamil Nadu regarding various schemes.

## Economics

### GDP figures better than expected, strong growth of 8.4% in third quarter



- According to data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), India's gross domestic product (GDP) recorded a strong growth of 8.4 percent year-on-year during the third quarter (October-December).
- It was 8.1 percent in the previous quarter.
- The latest GDP figures are better than analysts' expectations.
- GDP figures for the first and second quarters of the current fiscal year have also been revised upwards to 8.2 per cent (from 7.8 per cent) and 8.1 per cent (from 7.6 per cent), respectively.
- GDP forecast for fiscal year 2024 has also been revised upwards to 7.6 per cent from 7 per cent.

### Moody's raises India's 2024 GDP forecast to 6.8%



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- Global rating agency Moody's has raised India's GDP growth forecast for 2024 to 6.8 per cent from 6.1 per cent.
- The increase in forecast was attributed to India's strong economic performance in 2023 and easing global economic challenges.
- India's economy grew at 8.4 per cent during the October-December quarter, surpassing analysts' expectation of 6.6 per cent.
- Moody's attributed this strong growth to the government's capital expenditure and vigorous manufacturing activity.
- GDP growth for 2025 is projected at 6.4 percent.
- 

### India's WPI inflation falls to four-month low of 0.20 percent in February



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- Data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry showed that India's wholesale price inflation fell to a four-month low of 0.20 percent in February on an annual basis, from 0.27 percent in January.
- The sequential WPI rate for February rose by 0.07 percent as against a contraction of (-)0.33 percent in the previous month.
- Food inflation stood at 6.95 percent in February. For the primary articles segment, the inflation rate in February rose to 4.49 percent from 3.84 percent in the previous month.

### Books

### A book on Indian modern art "The Gems of Indian Art" launched



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- Launch of "The Gems of Indian Art", a comprehensive documentation of Harish Khullar's extensive collection of 20th century Indian modern and contemporary art.
- The nearly 300-page book was unveiled by ministers Nitin Gadkari, Arjun Ram Meghwal and S.P.S. Baghel, marking a significant moment in India's art scene.
- Edited by veteran art critic Vinod Bharadwaj, the publication is a distinctive addition to the discussion on Indian contemporary art history, praised for its archival quality by the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA) in New Delhi.

### Death

### Admiral Laxminarayan Ramdas passed away at the age of 91



- 
- He was the former Indian Navy Chief. He served as the 13th Navy Chief between December 1990 and September 1993. He was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 2004. He was honored with



this award for his efforts towards demilitarization and nuclear disarmament of South Asia.

- He is known for playing a heroic role during the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971.
- In December 1971, he was the commanding officer of the Indian Naval unit of the Eastern Fleet.
- He received the Vir Chakra, Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.
- He was also associated with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) as an internal ombudsman.

### Former Pakistan captain Saeed Ahmed dies



- Former Pakistan Test captain Saeed Ahmed died in Lahore at the age of 86.
- Ahmed played 41 Test matches, scoring 2,991 runs with five centuries and 16 half-centuries. He also took 22 wickets with his off-spin bowling.
- Ahmed made his Test debut against the West Indies during the famous drawn Bridgetown Test in 1958 when he was 20 and played his last Test for Pakistan against Australia in Melbourne during the 1972-73 tour.

### Other Important News

**Delhi is the capital with the most polluted air in the world**



- India was the third most polluted air country in 2023.
- According to the World Air Quality Report 2023 by Swiss organization IQ Air, Bangladesh was the country with the most polluted air in the world.
- Pakistan is at number two in this list of 134 countries.
- 96% people in India are breathing 7 times worse air
- According to the report, 1.33 billion i.e. 96% people in India live in such air, in which the level of PM 2.5 is 7 times more than the annual standard of WHO.
- At the same time, the annual PM 2.5 level in 66% of the cities of the country was more than 35 micrograms per cubic meter.

### Pokhara declared tourism capital of Nepal



- To promote its tourism industry, the Government of Nepal has officially declared Pokhara, a city in Gandaki Province, as the tourism capital of the Himalayan nation.
- The announcement was made during a special ceremony held at Barahi Ghat on the banks of Phewa Lake.

- **About Nepal :-**

- Capital of Nepal: Kathmandu;
- Currency of Nepal: Nepalese Rupee;
- Prime Minister of Nepal: Pushpa Kamal Dahal;
- President of Nepal: Ram Chandra Paudel

**Pandavula Gutta declared special  
geoheritage in Telangana**



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- Pandavula Gutta, a geological marvel older than the Himalayan hills, has been officially recognised as the only geoheritage site in Telangana.
- The announcement was made by District Magistrate Bhavesh Mishra. In commemoration of the ongoing Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Telangana State Unit, Southern Region organised a geoheritage walk at Pandavula Gutta.
- The event aims to raise awareness about the region's rich geological heritage, blending education, culture and nature conservation.

**Practice Questions**

1. **When is Zero Discrimination Day observed every year?**
  - (a) 28 February
  - (b) 29 February
  - (c) 1 March
  - (d) 2 March
2. **Who has recently been appointed as the new Director General of NSG?**
  - (a) IPS Daljit Singh Chaudhary
  - (b) IPS Akash Kulhari
  - (c) IPS Vijay Shekhar
  - (d) none of these
3. **When is World Civil Defense Day celebrated every year?**
  - (a) 2 March
  - (b) 1 March
  - (c) 28 February
  - (d) 27 February
4. **In which of the following states was a new species of sea slug found, which has been named after President Murmu?**
  - (a) Bihar
  - (b) Odisha
  - (c) Tamil Nadu
  - (d) Gujarat
5. **Which country has been selected by the World Athletics Council to host the 2027 World Athletics Championships?**
  - (a) China
  - (b) India
  - (c) Japan
  - (d) America
6. **Recently in which state the two-child rule for government jobs has got SC approval?**
  - (a) Maharashtra
  - (b) Madhya Pradesh
  - (c) Uttar Pradesh
  - (d) Rajasthan
7. **What is India's rank in the International IP Index 2024?**
  - (a) 11th
  - (b) 12th
  - (c) 42nd
  - (d) 32nd
8. **What percent growth did the Indian economy register during the October-December quarter of the current financial year 2023-24?**
  - (a) 6.4 percent
  - (b) 7.4 percent
  - (c) 8.4 percent
  - (d) 9.4 percent
9. **National Birth Defects Awareness Month 2024 was launched by whom?**
  - (a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
  - (b) NITI Aayog
  - (c) Ministry of Education
  - (d) none of these
10. **In which state will the country's first semiconductor fab be established?**
  - (a) Haryana
  - (b) Uttarakhand
  - (c) Tamil Nadu
  - (d) Gujarat
11. **Which of the following days is/are celebrated every year on 3 March?**
  - (a) World Wildlife Day
  - (b) National Safety Day
  - (c) World Hearing Day
  - (d) Both (a) and (c)
12. **VSHORADS seen in the news recently. What is this?**
  - (a) New warship of Indian Navy
  - (b) Low Orbit Satellite Launch Vehicle
  - (c) Very short range drone system
  - (d) Very short range air defense system
13. **Recently, on which river has India stopped the water going to Pakistan by building a dam?**
  - (a) Jhelum River
  - (b) Ravi River
  - (c) Vyas River
  - (d) Indus River
14. **Who has recently launched Iran's imaging satellite 'Pars-1' into space?**
  - (a) SpaceX
  - (b) Roscosmos
  - (c) Blue Origin
  - (d) Newspace India Limited





15. 'Tawi Mahotsav' has started in which state/union territory?
- (a) Tripura
  - (b) Nagaland
  - (c) Ladakh
  - (d) Jammu and Kashmir
16. PM Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of several developmental projects worth more than \_\_\_\_\_ in Bihar.
- (a) Rs 48,000 crore
  - (b) Rs 49,000 crore
  - (c) Rs 50,000 crore
  - (d) Rs 51,000 crore
17. Where was the 'Samudra Lakshman' exercise organized recently?
- (a) Jaisalmer
  - (b) Kochi
  - (c) Visakhapatnam
  - (d) Bangalore
18. Which has become the first country to join India's Jan Aushadhi initiative?
- (a) Sri Lanka
  - (b) Mauritius
  - (c) Bangladesh
  - (d) Bhutan
19. Which state government has launched 'One Time Scheme' (OTS) in all the urban local bodies (ULBs) of the state?
- (a) Maharashtra
  - (b) Tamil Nadu
  - (c) Gujarat
  - (d) Telangana
20. By February 2024, how many railway stations have been awarded 'Eat Right Station' certification by food regulator FSSAI to ensure safe, hygienic and nutritious food options for passengers?
- (a) 100
  - (b) 120
  - (c) 150
  - (d) 175
21. When was National Security Day celebrated recently?
- (a) 2 March
  - (b) 3 March
  - (c) 4 March
  - (d) 5 March
22. Recently, which state's silver tarkashi got GI tag?
- (a) Tripura
  - (b) Gujarat
  - (c) Maharashtra
  - (d) Odisha
23. Which is the first state of India to receive World Bank Climate Fund recently?
- (a) Jammu and Kashmir
  - (b) Goa
  - (c) Assam
  - (d) Odisha
24. Which has become the first state in India to issue 5 crore Ayushman cards under PM Jan Arogya Yojana?
- (a) Uttar Pradesh
  - (b) Chhattisgarh
  - (c) Rajasthan
  - (d) Madhya Pradesh
25. Who has become the first woman sniper of Border Security Force (BSF)?
- (a) Shaliza Dharmi
  - (b) Shiva Chauhan
  - (c) Deepika Mishra
  - (d) Suman Kumari
26. Who recently inaugurated the ASTDS tug named 'Ocean Grace'?
- (a) Rajnath Singh
  - (b) Amit Shah
  - (c) Anurag Thakur
  - (d) Sarbananda Sonowal
27. Where did Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya launch the AYUSH-ICMR Advanced Centre?
- (a) New Delhi
  - (b) Ahmedabad
  - (c) Kolkata
  - (d) Chennai
28. Global Resources Outlook Report is released by whom?
- (a) UNEP
  - (b) World Bank
  - (c) NITI Aayog
  - (d) World Economic Forum
29. 'Aditi Yojana' is related to which of the following areas?
- (a) Health sector
  - (b) Space Technology



- (c) Defense sector  
(d) Education sector
- 30. Indian Navy will induct MH60R Seahawk multi-role helicopter at INS \_\_\_\_ in Kochi on 06 March 2024?**  
(a) INS Imphal  
(b) INS Sandhyak  
(c) INS Garuda  
(d) INS Vikrant
- 31. On which day has Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati Jayanti been celebrated recently?**  
(a) 5 March  
(b) 6 March  
(c) 7 March  
(d) 8 March
- 32. Which state government will launch Indiramma Awas Yojana in the state to provide financial assistance to build houses?**  
(a) Maharashtra  
(b) Tamil Nadu  
(c) Gujarat  
(d) Telangana
- 33. Who has become the 24th Prime Minister of Pakistan?**  
(a) Nawaz Sharif  
(b) Imran Khan  
(c) Gahbaz Sharif  
(d) Raj Sadiq
- 34. Which state will launch a universal life insurance scheme to reduce hardships caused by untimely death?**  
(a) Jharkhand  
(b) Chhattisgarh  
(c) Punjab  
(d) Nagaland
- 35. Who among the following has started 'Poshan Utsav' with the aim of promoting good nutrition?**  
(a) Home Ministry  
(b) Sports Ministry  
(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development  
(d) Ministry of Education
- 36. In which state has Chapchar Kut Mahotsav been celebrated recently?**  
(a) Tripura  
(b) Mizoram  
(c) Assam  
(d) Manipur
- 37. In which state was India's first indigenous green hydrogen inland waterway ship launched?**  
(a) Odisha  
(b) Tamil Nadu  
(c) West Bengal  
(d) Uttarakhand
- 38. Who has been appointed as the head of Parliament security?**  
(a) Anish Dayal Singh  
(b) Sujoy Lal Thousen  
(c) Vineet McCarty  
(d) Anurag Aggarwal
- 39. Who has launched Haj Suvridha mobile application in New Delhi?**  
(a) Anurag Thakur  
(b) Piyush Goyal  
(c) Smriti Irani  
(d) Meenakshi Lekhi
- 40. Who has been honored with the prestigious Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024?**  
(a) Anshika Mahajan  
(b) Sapna Singh  
(c) Ratan Tata  
(d) Pradeep Mahajan
- 41. In which state did PM Modi inaugurate India's first underwater metro?**  
(a) Maharashtra  
(b) Uttar Pradesh  
(c) Karnataka  
(d) West Bengal
- 42. In which city is Sansad Khel Mahakumbh 3.0 being organised?**  
(a) Hamirpur  
(b) Dehradun  
(c) Varanasi  
(d) Patna
- 43. Global rating agency Moody's has increased India's GDP growth forecast for 2024 from 6.1 percent to how much percent?**  
(a) 6.7%  
(b) 6.6%  
(c) 6.8%  
(d) 6.5%



44. 31 year old B Sai Praneeth has announced his retirement. Which sport is he related to?
- (a) Hockey
  - (b) Tennis
  - (c) Badminton
  - (d) football
45. Who has been honored with the 'India-UK Achievers' Award in March 2024?
- (a) Asma Khan and Farhan Akhtar
  - (b) Zoya Akhtar and Asma Khan
  - (c) Zoya Akhtar and Javed Akhtar
  - (d) Farhan Akhtar and Javed Akhtar
46. 'Pars 1' satellite was recently seen in the news. Which country's satellite is this?
- (a) Iran
  - (b) Russia
  - (c) UAE
  - (d) India
47. Which has become the first country in the world to include the right to abortion in its constitution?
- (a) Germany
  - (b) France
  - (c) America
  - (d) Italy
48. Where was India's first green hydrogen plant inaugurated in the stainless steel sector?
- (a) Hisar
  - (b) Bengaluru
  - (c) Bhopal
  - (d) Ranchi
49. Where was the 5th National Youth Parliament Festival-2024 organized?
- (a) Bengaluru
  - (b) Mumbai
  - (c) Kolkata
  - (d) New Delhi
50. Which birth anniversary of former Odisha Chief Minister Biju Patnaik was celebrated on 5 March?
- (a) 102nd
  - (b) 104th
  - (c) 106th
  - (d) 108th
51. On which island of Lakshadweep has the Indian Navy established its new base?
- (a) Minicoy Island
  - (b) Kavaratti
  - (c) Agatti Island
  - (d) Chetlat Island
52. Who has become the 14th player to play 100 test matches for India?
- (a) Rohit Sharma
  - (b) Virat Kohli
  - (c) Ravichandran Ashwin
  - (d) Ravindra Jadeja
53. KE Panayor has become the 26th district of which state?
- (a) Nagaland
  - (b) Assam
  - (c) Meghalaya
  - (d) Arunachal Pradesh
54. Who has inaugurated the 'Chola' building at the Naval War College, Goa?
- (a) PM Modi
  - (b) Amit Shah
  - (c) Rajnath Singh
  - (d) Anurag Thakur
55. With whose collaboration has NITI Aayog launched 'Frontier Technology Labs'?
- (a) Meta
  - (b) Google
  - (c) Microsoft
  - (d) Infosys
56. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated India's first indigenous Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) (500 MW) in which state?
- (a) Maharashtra
  - (b) Tamil Nadu
  - (c) Odisha
  - (d) Andhra Pradesh
57. Which state government has launched an initiative called "Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan (MYUVA)" to support young entrepreneurs?
- (a) Uttar Pradesh
  - (b) Gujarat
  - (c) Rajasthan
  - (d) Maharashtra
58. Who is the author of the book "The Gems of Indian Art"?
- (a) Amitav Ghosh
  - (b) Vikram Seth





- (c) Salman Rushdie  
(d) Harish Khullar
- 59. How many artistes were presented with Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for the year 2022 and 2023 by President Draupadi Murmu?**  
(a) 92  
(b) 93  
(c) 94  
(d) 95
- 60. Spinner Shahbaz Nadeem has retired from all formats of international cricket. Which state is he from?**  
(a) Tripura  
(b) Jharkhand  
(c) Assam  
(d) Bihar
- 61. Whom was recently nominated to Rajya Sabha by President Draupadi Murmu?**  
(a) Uday Kotak  
(b) Ajay Sinha  
(c) Sudha Murthy  
(d) Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore
- 62. When is International Women's Day celebrated every year?**  
(a) 07 March  
(b) 08 March  
(c) 09 March  
(d) 10 March
- 63. Which country has become the new member of military alliance NATO?**  
(a) Brazil  
(b) UAE  
(c) Albania  
(d) Sweden
- 64. Who has won the first prize of the National Youth Parliament Festival 2024?**  
(a) Anshika Singh  
(b) Kanishk Sharma  
(c) Vaishna Pichai  
(d) Yatin Bhaskar Duggal
- 65. Where will the joint exercise 'Bharat-Shakti' of the three armies of India be organised?**  
(a) Srinagar  
(b) Udhampur  
(c) Jaisalmer  
(d) Almora
- 66. Who has recently become a new member of the International Solar Alliance?**  
(a) Panama  
(b) Kenya  
(c) Chile  
(d) Argentina
- 67. The world's largest literary festival 'Sahityotsav' will be organized from 11 to 16 March. It will be organized by which of the following?**  
(a) Reliance Foundation  
(b) KK Birla Foundation  
(c) Sahitya Academy  
(d) Infosys Foundation
- 68. Who has been awarded the prestigious Bob Jones Award of the United States Golf Association (USGA)?**  
(a) Justin Thomas  
(b) Tiger Woods  
(c) Elin Nordegren  
(d) Joe LaCava
- 69. Who has been appointed as the President and MD of SAP Indian Subcontinent?**  
(a) Ganesan Kannabiran  
(b) Manish Prasad  
(c) Pramod Sharma  
(d) Parminder Chopra
- 70. The first India Steam Boiler Expo 2024 was held in which city?**  
(a) Bengaluru  
(b) New Delhi  
(c) Guwahati  
(d) Ahmedabad
- 71. Who was recently awarded the Humanitarian Award? Nita Ambani was awarded the Humanitarian Award during the event?**  
(a) Nita Ambani  
(b) Ratan Tata  
(c) Gautam Adani  
(d) Not many of these
- 72. Who has inaugurated the 5th ONGC para games?**  
(a) Narendra Modi  
(b) Amit Shah  
(c) Hardeep Singh Puri  
(d) Draupadi Murmu
- 73. Which country has been given the Measles and Rubella Champion Award?**



- (a) India  
(b) America  
(c) China  
(d) Japan
- 74. How many armies will be included in the biggest exercise Bharat Shakti?**  
(a) 2  
(b) 3  
(c) 4  
(d) 5
- 75. Who has presented the first National Initiator Award recently in New Delhi?**  
(a) President  
(b) Defense Minister  
(c) Vice President  
(d) Prime Minister
- 76. Who has won the title of Miss World-2023?**  
(a) Miss Sophia  
(b) Christina Pijkova  
(c) Yasmina Zeitoon  
(d) none of these
- 77. Who has become the 14th President of Pakistan?**  
(a) Nawaz Sharif  
(b) Imran Khan  
(c) Asif Ali Zardari  
(d) Raj Sadiq
- 78. Who has recently been appointed member of the 'National Commission for Scheduled Tribes'?**  
(a) Pradeep Verma  
(b) Asha Lakda  
(c) CP Singh  
(d) none of these
- 79. Where will 'Our Constitution, Our Respect Campaign' start?**  
(a) Bikaner  
(b) Chandigarh  
(c) Ahmedabad  
(d) Pune
- 80. Who has recently started 'Krishi Sakhi Adaptation Programme'?**  
(a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare  
(b) Ministry of Rural Development  
(c) Ministry of Cooperation  
(d) both a and b
- 81. When did the Dandi March start?**  
(a) 09 March  
(b) 10 March  
(c) 11 March  
(d) 12 March
- 82. Oscar Awards 2024 was organized in which city?**  
(a) Los Angeles  
(b) Liechtenstein  
(c) Switzerland  
(d) Norway
- 83. Satyendra Kumar Singh has become the Lokayukta of which state?**  
(a) Chhattisgarh  
(b) Rajasthan  
(c) Madhya Pradesh  
(d) Haryana
- 84. When was the last Citizenship Amendment Act implemented in the country?**  
(a) 2018  
(b) 2020  
(c) 2019  
(d) 2016
- 85. Where has Asia's first hi-tech laundry been started?**  
(a) Indus Hospital Jaipur  
(b) Mahatma Gandhi Hospital  
(c) SMS hospital Jaipur  
(d) None of these
- 86. Who has won the title of Santosh Trophy 2023-24?**  
(a) Services  
(b) Goa  
(c) Karnataka  
(d) Kerala
- 87. In which state has PM Modi unveiled the 125-feet tall statue of Lachit Borphukan?**  
(a) Tripura  
(b) Assam  
(c) Meghalaya  
(d) Nagaland
- 88. In which state has Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Sela Tunnel?**  
(a) Tripura  
(b) Sikkim  
(c) Uttarakhand  
(d) Arunachal Pradesh
- 89. Bichom has become the 27th district of which state?**  
(a) Tripura



- (b) Sikkim  
(c) Assam  
(d) Arunachal Pradesh
- 90. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of NHPC Limited?**  
(a) Rajendra Prasad Goyal  
(b) Manish Prasad  
(c) Pramod Sharma  
(d) Parminder Chopra
- 91. Who has been elected as the new Chief Minister of Haryana?**  
(a) Naib Saini  
(b) Bandaru Dattatreya  
(c) Bhupendra Yadav  
(d) Atul Pradhan
- 92. Who launched "Subhash Abhinandan", a digital exhibition based on the life of Subhash Chandra Bose?**  
(a) Amit Shah  
(b) Rajnath Singh  
(c) Arjun Ram Meghwal  
(d) Anurag Thakur
- 93. What is the generation of Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) that was recently approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)?**  
(a) 2nd  
(b) 3rd  
(c) 4th  
(d) 5th
- 94. Majuli Mask has recently got GI tag. Which state is this from?**  
(a) Tripura  
(b) West Bengal  
(c) Assam  
(d) Manipur
- 95. Where has Union Minister of State Dr. Jitendra Singh announced to establish the first government homeopathic college of North India?**  
(a) Srinagar  
(b) Karnal  
(c) Kathua  
(d) Kishtwar
- 96. PM Narendra Modi has started Mahtari Vandan Yojana in Chhattisgarh. What is the objective of this scheme?**  
(a) To provide 50,000 loans to skilled women  
(b) Providing free LPG connections for poor women  
(c) Providing free sanitary pads for girls  
(d) To provide financial assistance to married women
- 97. Jal Shakti Ministry has launched "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" campaign 2024. What is the theme of this campaign?**  
(a) Nari Shakti to Jal Shakti  
(b) Water flow from Nari Shakti  
(c) Water Power Catch the Rain  
(d) Water is there till tomorrow is there
- 98. On which day is Mauritius Day celebrated every year?**  
(a) 11 March  
(b) 12 March  
(c) 13 March  
(d) 14 March
- 99. Who took oath as Vigilance Commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission?**  
(a) AS Rajeev  
(b) Arindam Bagchi  
(c) Indra Mani Pandey  
(d) NS Rao
- 100. Which INS participated in Exercise Cutlass Express 24 (CE-24) conducted at Port Victoria, Seychelles?**  
(a) INS TIR  
(b) INS Sahyadri  
(c) INS Suvarna  
(d) INS Talwar
- 101. India's first automobile in-plant railway siding project was inaugurated in which state?**  
(a) Himachal Pradesh  
(b) Haryana  
(c) Gujarat  
(d) Tamil Nadu
- 102. According to SIPRI report, which country is the world's top arms importer between 2019-2023?**  
(a) China  
(b) Pakistan  
(c) India  
(d) Iran
- 103. Who recently inaugurated the regional airline service Fly91?**  
(a) Amit Shah  
(b) S Jaishankar  
(c) Rajnath Singh





(d) Jyotiraditya Scindia

**104. In which country has a new scorpion species with eight eyes and legs been discovered recently?**

- (a) Thailand
- (b) Vietnam
- (c) Japan
- (d) India

**105. Who has recently won the ICC Player of the Month Award for the month of February?**

- (a) Annabel Sutherland
- (b) Yashasvi Jaiswal
- (c) Both of the above
- (d) none of these

**106. By whom has the successful operation of Mission Divyastra been carried out?**

- (a) NASA
- (b) DRDO
- (c) ISRO
- (d) none

**107. Who has been awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize 2024?**

- (a) Riken Yamamoto
- (b) Yatin Bhaskar Duggal
- (c) Tiger Woods
- (d) Dr. Pradeep Mahajan

**108. Which state government has launched Ningal Nalama Scheme with the aim of improving the health index and social welfare of all citizens of the state?**

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

**109. Who has been honored with the 'IAA Golden Compass Award' in March 2024?**

- (a) Amitav Ghosh
- (b) Vikram Seth
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri
- (d) Srinivasan Swamy

**110. India's Vishnu Saravanan won gold medal at the Europa Cup 2024 in ILCA 7 category in Majorca, Spain. Which sport is he related to?**

- (a) sailing
- (b) Tennis
- (c) Badminton
- (d) football

**111. Who has been selected as the new Election Commissioner?**

- (a) Sukhbir Sandhu
- (b) Gyanesh Kumar
- (c) Rajeev Sinha
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

**112. Who launched Prasar Bharati's new service PB-'Shabd'?**

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Ajit Doval
- (c) S Jaishankar
- (d) Anurag Thakur

**113. With the recent operationalization of 10 new Vande Bharat trains, how many Vande Bharat trains are now running across India?**

- (a) 80
- (b) 90
- (c) 99
- (d) 102

**114. The committee formed on 'One Nation One Election' submitted its report, who is the chairman of this committee?**

- (a) Raghuram Rajan
- (b) Ramnath Kovind
- (c) Soumya Swaminathan
- (d) Urjit Patel

**115. When is Pi Day celebrated?**

- (a) 14 March
- (b) 15 March
- (c) 16 March
- (d) 17 March

**116. When is World Kidney Day celebrated?**

- (a) 14 March
- (b) 15 March
- (c) 16 March
- (d) 17 March

**117. Ahmednagar of which state has been renamed as Ahilya Nagar?**

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Chhattisgarh

**118. How many writers have been given the Sahitya Akademi Award for 2023?**

- (a) 20



(b) 44

(c) 24

(d) 48

**119. When will 'Hyderabad Independence Day' be celebrated every year?**

(a) 12 September

(b) 18 September

(c) 17 September

(d) 15 September

**120. Gorsam Kora Festival is celebrated in which state?**

(a) Kerala

(b) Arunachal Pradesh

(c) Tripura

(d) Nagaland

**121. The tenure of Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra has been extended by \_\_\_\_ months by the Government of India.**

(a) three

(b) four

(c) six

(d) ten

**122. Which portal has recently been launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to provide credit assistance to the deprived sections?**

(a) DigiReady Certification Portal

(b) Swati Portal

(c) PM Suraj Portal

(d) Grow Portal

**123. The recently discussed 'Democracy Report 2024' has been released by which of the following?**

(a) Reporters Without Borders

(b) NITI Aayog

(c) UNDP

(d) V-DEM Institute

**124. With whom has the Ministry of Rural Development signed an agreement with the aim of making women self-reliant?**

(a) J-Pal

(b) NITI Aayog

(c) World Bank

(d) Asian Development Bank

**125. Defense Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the proposal for expansion of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) with the addition of \_\_\_\_\_ cadet vacancies.**

(a) 2 lakh

(b) 1 lakh

(c) 3 lakh

(d) 4 lakh

**126. When is World Consumer Rights Day celebrated every year?**

(a) 13 March

(b) 14 March

(c) 15 March

(d) 16 March

**127. "Dragonfire" which was seen in the news recently. What is this?**

(a) Hydrogen missile

(b) Nuclear weapon

(c) Anti-Submarine

(d) Laser weapon

**128. What is India's wholesale price inflation in February 2024, according to data from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry?**

(a) 0.20%

(b) 0.25%

(c) 0.29%

(d) 0.35%

**129. Rachin Ravindra has become the youngest cricketer to win the Sir Richard Hadlee Medal. Which team does he play cricket with?**

(a) England

(b) New Zealand

(c) Australia

(d) South Africa

**130. What is the rank of India in the recently released Global Human Development Index?**

(a) 75

(b) 78

(c) 125

(d) 134

**131. Which ministry is included in the top 10 ministries in the Grievance Redressal Assessment Index?**

(a) Union Ministry of Public Grievances and Pensions

(b) Ministry of Rural Development

(c) Home Ministry

(d) Ministry of Law and Justice

**132. Recently the Election Commission announced the Lok Sabha election date of 2024, when will the voting start?**

(a) 12 April



- (b) 19 April
- (c) 4th June
- (d) 16 June

**133. Who has recently received the PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award?**

- (a) Azim Premji
- (b) Sudha Murthy
- (c) Ratan Tata
- (d) none of these

**134. Who has recently received the Chameli Devi Jain Award 2024?**

- (a) Summer Ax
- (b) Ritika Chopra
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) none of these

**135. Recently in which state has Pandavula Gatta been declared as special land heritage?**

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) none of these

**136. When was National Immunization Day celebrated for the first time?**

- (a) 1990
- (b) 1992
- (c) 1995
- (d) 1999

**137. Where has the Indian Navy established its first independent headquarters?**

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Kochi
- (d) Goa

**138. Who has launched India's first LNG powered bus?**

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Nitin Gadkari
- (c) Eknath Shinde
- (d) Nitish Kumar

**139. Which state tops in illegal trade of shark body parts?**

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Rajasthan

**140. Who has been awarded the Erasmus Prize 2024?**

- (a) Zoya Akhtar

- (b) Amitav Ghosh
- (c) Gulzar
- (d) Tiger Woods

**141. Who was recently appointed the Chairman of the Central Board of Secondary Education?**

- (a) Ajay Sinha
- (b) Rahul Singh
- (c) Raghuvar Das
- (d) Vinay Saxena

**142. Who has recently been appointed President of Russia for the 5th time?**

- (a) Vladislav Davankov
- (b) Leonid Slutsky
- (c) Nikolay Kharitonov
- (d) Putin

**143. When was 'National Ordnance Factory' celebrated recently?**

- (a) 14 March
- (b) 16 March
- (c) 15 March
- (d) 18 March

**144. Which team won the title of the second season of the Women's Premier League?**

- (a) Royal Challengers Bangalore
- (b) Delhi Capitals
- (c) Mumbai Indians
- (d) UP Warriors

**145. Who has been recently named as National Icon in the PWD category by the Election Commission?**

- (a) Pramod Bhagat
- (b) Avani Lekhara
- (c) Sheetal Devi
- (d) Sundar Singh

**146. Who has been awarded the Sangeet Kalanidhi Award by the Madras Music Academy?**

- (a) Ashok Khemka
- (b) T.M. Krishna
- (c) Navneet Kumar Sehgal
- (d) Manoj Kumar Sharma

**147. Lakshminarayan Ramdas passed away recently at the age of 91. He was the former chief of which defense force?**

- (a) Indian Army
- (b) Indian Air Force
- (c) Indian Navy





(d) Indian Coast Guard

**148. Which state government has decided to distribute millet and coarse grains seeds free of cost to the farmers?**

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Haryana

**149. With whom will the Indian Army start the joint military exercise 'LAMITIYE-2024'?**

- (a) Japan
- (b) Seychelles
- (c) Indonesia
- (d) Sri Lanka

**150. Who has recently won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix?**

- (a) Sergio Perez
- (b) Max Verstappen
- (c) Charles Leclerc
- (d) none of these

**151. According to IQ Air's World Air Quality Report 2023, what position did India rank among the countries with polluted air in 2023?**

- (a) first
- (b) second
- (c) third
- (d) fifth

**152. Tamilisai Soundararajan was the Governor of which state who has resigned from her post?**

- (a) Tripura
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Nagaland
- (d) Manipur

**153. Which state government has launched 'Mission 414' campaign by the Election Commission to increase the voting percentage?**

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Telangana
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Karnataka

**154. With which country is India organizing Exercise 'Tiger Triumph-24'?**

- (a) France
- (b) Germany
- (c) USA
- (d) Canada

**155. When was 'International Client Day' celebrated recently?**

- (a) 16 March
- (b) 17 March
- (c) 18 March
- (d) 19 March

**156. Which state's police recently launched the digital platform 'Trinetra' App 2.0?**

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Assam
- (c) Uttar Pradesh
- (d) Bihar

**157. Recently 'Yaoundé Declaration' was in discussion, it is related to which of the following?**

- (a) Cyber security
- (b) Artificial Intelligence
- (c) Maritime security
- (d) Malaria disease

**158. Union Minister Arjun Munda laid the foundation stone of 'Centre for Preservation and Promotion of Tribal Culture and Heritage' in which state?**

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Jharkhand
- (c) Assam
- (d) Tripura

**159. What is India's position in the DHL Global Connectedness Index?**

- (a) 62
- (b) 50
- (c) 36
- (d) 60

**160. Where have scientists recently discovered a 'giant' volcano?**

- (a) on earth
- (b) on the moon
- (c) on Mars
- (d) none of these

**161. According to the World Happiness Report 2024, which is the happiest country in the world?**

- (a) Denmark
- (b) Germany
- (c) Finland
- (d) Iceland

**162. Which app has been launched by ISRO to assist the Gaganyaan crew?**



- (a) 'Sakhi'
- (b) 'Help'
- (c) 'Sky'
- (d) 'Able'

**163. When is International Day of Happiness celebrated every year?**

- (a) 18 March
- (b) 19 March
- (c) 20 March
- (d) 21 March

**164. Who has recently been given additional responsibility as the Governor in-charge of Telangana?**

- (a) Anandiben Patel
- (b) Kalraj Mishra
- (c) CP Radhakrishnan
- (d) Mahendra Nath Yadav

**165. Who has been appointed as the new Ambassador of India to Russia?**

- (a) Vinay Kumar
- (b) Parsottam Rupala
- (c) Ajay Nagar
- (d) RK Aggarwal

**166. The Election Commission on Tuesday appointed IPS Sanjay Mukherjee as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of which state?**

- (a) Telangana
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Uttar Pradesh

**167. Who will receive the Saraswati Samman of 2023 for the poetry work 'Raudra Satvikam'?**

- (a) Prabha Verma
- (b) Arunima Sinha
- (c) Dev Rathi
- (d) Jai Kumar

**168. When is World Sparrow Day celebrated?**

- (a) 18 March
- (b) 19 March
- (c) 20 March
- (d) 21 March

**169. Pokhara has recently been declared the tourism capital of which country?**

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Saudi Arabia

- (c) Nepal
- (d) none of these

**170. Who has recently been honored with the Maharashtra Gaurav Award?**

- (a) RK Aggarwal
- (b) Dr. Uma Reley
- (c) Vinay Kumar
- (d) Parsottam Rupala

**171. Where was the 4th Shanghai Cooperation Organization Startup Forum organized?**

- (a) Shanghai
- (b) Moscow
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Tashkent

**172. World Poetry Day is celebrated every year on 21 March. What is the theme of World Poetry Day 2024?**

- (a) Celebrating the forefathers of our nation who paved the way for 70 years of legislation
- (b) Standing on the shoulders of giants
- (c) door to door
- (d) Feel expression and communication.

**173. With whom has the Indian Council of Agricultural Research signed an agreement for new technology in the agricultural sector?**

- (a) AgriXLab
- (b) Aarav Agritech
- (c) Dhanuka Agritech Limited
- (d) Crofarm

**174. Indian-origin Leo Varadkar was the Prime Minister of which country, who recently resigned?**

- (a) Ireland
- (b) Finland
- (c) Portugal
- (d) Spain

**175. When is World Forestry Day celebrated every year?**

- (a) 19 March
- (b) 20 March
- (c) 21 March
- (d) 22 March

**176. Who has been appointed as the Director General of All India Radio (AIR)?**

- (a) Anshika Singh
- (b) Shefali Sharan
- (c) Vasudha Gupta
- (d) Joyita Gupta



**177. Which NIA app has been recently inaugurated by Union Minister Amit Shah?**

- (a) compilation app
- (b) Sankalp App
- (c) Sagar Ape
- (d) complete app

**178. Who has taken charge as the President of Indian Steel Association?**

- (a) Naveen Jindal
- (b) Gautam Adani
- (c) Ratan Tata
- (d) Deepak Mehta

**179. Where will India's first battery energy storage gigafactory be located?**

- (a) Delhi
- (b) Chandigarh
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) Ladakh

**180. Which country hosted the 3rd Summit for Democracy?**

- (a) South Korea
- (b) USA
- (c) Japan
- (d) Australia

**181. Who has been selected as the flag bearer for India at the Paris Olympics 2024?**

- (a) Manika Batra
- (b) Sharat Kamal
- (c) Saurabh Chaudhary
- (d) Neeraj Chopra

**182. Who has been recently honored with the 'Aviation Week Laureates Award'?**

- (a) Prime Minister
- (b) RBI Governor
- (c) ISRO
- (d) NITI Aayog

**183. When is World Water Day celebrated every year?**

- (a) 21 March
- (b) 22 March
- (c) 23 March
- (d) 24 March

**184. Recently, for the first time, India has held '2+2' Defense and Foreign Ministerial talks with which country?**

- (a) Australia

- (b) USA
- (c) Russia
- (d) Brazil

**185. When has the USA recently announced a ban on the sale of petrol running cars?**

- (a) Year 2025
- (b) Year 2030
- (c) year 2035
- (d) year 2040

**186. Where is the first match of IPL 2024 played?**

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) Kolkata
- (d) Chennai

**187. Which is the first state to recently launch a portal for real-time information on water in dams, canals?**

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Gujarat

**188. ISRO successfully tested the landing mission of Reusable Launch Vehicle, what name has it been given?**

- (a) 'Pushpak'
- (b) 'Meaningful'
- (c) 'sky vehicle'
- (d) 'Vikram'

**189. Who has been appointed as the new President of Federation of Indian Export Organization?**

- (a) Rajeev Sinha
- (b) Jai Agnihotri
- (c) Ashwini Kumar
- (d) Vinay Kumar

**190. Who has been appointed as the new Mumbai Municipal Commissioner by the Election Commission of India (ECI)?**

- (a) Smita Sarangi
- (b) Arindam Bagchi
- (c) Indra Mani Pandey
- (d) Bhushan Gagrani

**191. Chandrayaan-3 landing site was recognized by the International Astronomical Union, what was it named?**

- (a) 'Atal'
- (b) 'Shiv Shakti'





- (c) 'Meaningful'
- (d) 'Abhay'

**192. Who won two gold medals at the Indian Masters National Badminton Championship 2024?**

- (a) Ashmita Chaliha
- (b) Nahid Divecha
- (c) Malvika Bansod
- (d) Aparna Balan

**193. Recently Simon Harris has been elected the youngest Prime Minister of which country?**

- (a) Indonesia
- (b) Denmark
- (c) Brazil
- (d) Ireland

**194. Who has recently been appointed as the new captain by Chennai Super Kings?**

- (a) Ravindra Jadeja
- (b) Ruturaj Gaikwad
- (c) Ajinkya Rahane
- (d) Shivam Dubey

**195. Who has been awarded the first "Global Inequality Research Award" recently?**

- (a) James Boyce
- (b) Beena Aggarwal
- (c) Dr. Sultan Al Jaber
- (d) both a and b

**196. Who has recently launched Qiqiao-2 relay satellite?**

- (a) Japan
- (b) China
- (c) Russia
- (d) South Korea

**197. Which operation has recently been conducted by the Indian Navy in the Indian Ocean region?**

- (a) Operation Ganga
- (b) Operation Indravati
- (c) Operation resolution
- (d) Operation Karuna

**198. Where was the 148th Inter-Parliamentary Union meeting held recently?**

- (a) Angola
- (b) Switzerland
- (c) Canada
- (d) South Africa

**199. When was World Tuberculosis Day-2024 celebrated recently?**

- (a) 22 March
- (b) 23 March
- (c) 24 March
- (d) 25 March

**200. The recently celebrated 'Palm Sunday' religious festival is related to?**

- (a) Christian
- (b) Parsi
- (c) Jew
- (d) Punjabi

**201. Who has been named as the new Ambassador of India to Myanmar?**

- (a) Abhay Thakur
- (b) Abhishek Saxena
- (c) Deepak Sinha
- (d) Syed Akbaruddin

**202. India has launched 'Operation Indravati' to evacuate its citizens stranded in war-torn \_\_\_\_\_ amid intense fighting between armed groups and the government.**

- (a) Syria
- (b) Ukraine
- (c) Haiti
- (d) Myanmar

**203. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of Surat Diamond Bourse (SDB)?**

- (a) Ganesan Kannabiran
- (b) Neeraj Akhouri
- (c) Govind Dholakia
- (d) Harshvardhan Bansal

**204. Who has been appointed the President of Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA) for two years?**

- (a) Anshika Singh
- (b) Moushumi Chakraborty
- (c) Vasudha Gupta
- (d) Mariam Mammen Mathew

**205. Who has become the first Indian to win the men's singles trophy at the WTT Feeder Series event in Beirut, Lebanon?**

- (a) G. Sathyan
- (b) Sharath Kamal
- (c) Harmeet Desai
- (d) Manav Thakkar

**206. Who has been honored with the 'Devi Shankar Awasthi Samman' of 2023?**

- (a) Deepak Shenoy



- (b) Blue Bendapudi
- (c) Nishant
- (d) Shanti Lakda

**207. Which edition of North East Games 2024 started in Nagaland?**

- (a) 1st
- (b) 2nd
- (c) 3rd
- (d) 4th

**208. Former captain Saeed Ahmed passed away recently at the age of 86. He was related to which sport?**

- (a) weight lifting
- (b) Kabaddi
- (c) football
- (d) Cricket

**209. Recently the International Astronomical Union has named an asteroid after which Indian?**

- (a) Neeraj Chopra
- (b) Salman Khan
- (c) Amitabh Bachchan
- (d) Sachin Tendulkar

**210. Which country has recently banned disposable e-cigarettes and vapes?**

- (a) England
- (b) New Zealand
- (c) Australia
- (d) South Africa

**211. Who took oath as judicial member of Lokpal in March 2024?**

- (a) Anshika Singh
- (b) Moushumi Chakraborty
- (c) Ritu Raj Awasthi
- (d) Joyita Gupta

**212. Luis Montenegro has been named as the Prime Minister of which country?**

- (a) Netherlands
- (b) Portugal
- (c) Brazil
- (d) Finland

**213. Who has been selected for appointment to the post of Director in the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)?**

- (a) Anshika Singh
- (b) Moushumi Chakraborty
- (c) Joyita Gupta

- (d) Hansha Mishra

**214. The Central Government notified how much percent increase in MGNREGA wages for 2024-25?**

- (a) 2-8%
- (b) 4-9%
- (c) 3-10%
- (d) 5-10%

**215. Where has Skyroot Aerospace successfully tested Stage-2 of Vikram-1 rocket?**

- (a) Sriharikota
- (b) Jodhpur
- (c) Bhopal
- (d) none of these

**216. Which country launched satellite for atmospheric, space environment monitoring?**

- (a) India
- (b) China
- (c) Brazil
- (d) USA

**217. Which department of the Defense Ministry has issued notification for restructuring of the Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA)?**

- (a) Defense Research and Development Organization
- (b) Department of Defense Production
- (c) Department of Military Affairs
- (d) Defense Department

**218. On the sidelines of the Inter-Parliamentary Union programme, the Indian parliamentary delegation held a bilateral meeting with the parliamentary delegation of which of the following countries?**

- (a) Armenia
- (b) Kenya
- (c) Libya
- (d) Australia

**219. On March 29, the first Tejas MK-1A aircraft took its maiden flight from the \_\_\_\_ facility in Bengaluru.**

- (a) Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- (b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (c) Mahindra Aerospace
- (d) Aeronautical Development Agency

**220. Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)-2024 will be launched by?**

- (a) ISRO
- (b) NASA
- (c) Aeronautical Development Agency



(d) none of these

**221. UNESCO Executive Board has decided to add how many sites to the Global Geopark Network?**

- (a) 17
- (b) 18
- (c) 20
- (d) 23

**222. President Draupadi Murmu presented Bharat Ratna awards at Rashtrapati Bhavan. How many people have received the Bharat Ratna Award this year?**

- (a) four
- (b) six
- (c) seven
- (d) five

**223. Which of the following exercises will be conducted by the Indian Air Force from April 1-10?**

- (a) Vayu Shakti-2024
- (b) Gagan Shakti-2024
- (c) Bharat Shakti-2024
- (d) Tarang Shakti-2024

**224. When does Rajasthan celebrate its Foundation Day every year?**

- (a) 28 March
- (b) 29 March
- (c) 30 March
- (d) 31 March

**225. Where was the world's first Om shaped temple inaugurated recently?**

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Madhya Pradesh
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Rajasthan

**226. Who became the new MD and CEO of Bank of Maharashtra?**

- (a) Nidhu Saxena
- (b) Harshit Saxena
- (c) Rajeev Kumar
- (d) Rohit Singh

**227. When is International Zero Waste Day celebrated every year?**

- (a) 30 March
- (b) 31 March
- (c) 29 March
- (d) 1 April

**228. Who has recently been appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative of the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction?**

- (a) P R Sreejesh
- (b) Kamal Kishore
- (c) Sadanand Vasant
- (d) Piyush Anand

**229. Who among the following has been appointed as the co-chairman of the new FIH Athletes Committee of the International Hockey Federation?**

- (a) PR Sreejesh
- (b) KB Pathak
- (c) Camilla Carrom
- (d) Both (a) and (c)

**230. Which will become the first country to pass a bill to combat child discrimination?**

- (a) Germany
- (b) France
- (c) Italy
- (d) Norway

## ANSWER KEY

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
(c)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(d)	(c)	(c)	(b)	(d)
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
(d)	(d)	(b)	(b)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(d)	(c)
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
(c)	(d)	(b)	(s)	(d)	(d)	(a)	(a)	(c)	(c)
31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.	37.	38.	39.	40.
(a)	(d)	(a)	(d)	(c)	(b)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(d)





<b>41.</b>	<b>42.</b>	<b>43.</b>	<b>44.</b>	<b>45.</b>	<b>46.</b>	<b>47.</b>	<b>48.</b>	<b>49.</b>	<b>50.</b>
(d)	(a)	(c)	(c)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(d)	(d)
<b>51.</b>	<b>52.</b>	<b>53.</b>	<b>54.</b>	<b>55.</b>	<b>56.</b>	<b>57.</b>	<b>58.</b>	<b>59.</b>	<b>60.</b>
(a)	(c)	(d)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(d)	(c)	(b)
<b>61.</b>	<b>62.</b>	<b>63.</b>	<b>64.</b>	<b>65.</b>	<b>66.</b>	<b>67.</b>	<b>68.</b>	<b>69.</b>	<b>70.</b>
(c)	(b)	(d)	(d)	(c)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(b)	(c)
<b>71.</b>	<b>72.</b>	<b>73.</b>	<b>74.</b>	<b>75.</b>	<b>76.</b>	<b>77.</b>	<b>78.</b>	<b>79.</b>	<b>80.</b>
(a)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(d)	(b)	(c)	(b)	(a)	(a)
<b>81.</b>	<b>82.</b>	<b>83.</b>	<b>84.</b>	<b>85.</b>	<b>86.</b>	<b>87.</b>	<b>88.</b>	<b>89.</b>	<b>90.</b>
(d)	(a)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(d)	(d)	(a)
<b>91.</b>	<b>92.</b>	<b>93.</b>	<b>94.</b>	<b>95.</b>	<b>96.</b>	<b>97.</b>	<b>98.</b>	<b>99.</b>	<b>100.</b>
(a)	(c)	(d)	(c)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(a)
<b>101.</b>	<b>102.</b>	<b>103.</b>	<b>104.</b>	<b>105.</b>	<b>106.</b>	<b>107.</b>	<b>108.</b>	<b>109.</b>	<b>110.</b>
(c)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(d)	(a)
<b>111.</b>	<b>112.</b>	<b>113.</b>	<b>114.</b>	<b>115.</b>	<b>116.</b>	<b>117.</b>	<b>118.</b>	<b>119.</b>	<b>120.</b>
(d)	(d)	(d)	(b)	(a)	(a)	(c)	(c)	(c)	(b)
<b>121.</b>	<b>122.</b>	<b>123.</b>	<b>124.</b>	<b>125.</b>	<b>126.</b>	<b>127.</b>	<b>128.</b>	<b>129.</b>	<b>130.</b>
(c)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(d)
<b>131.</b>	<b>132.</b>	<b>133.</b>	<b>134.</b>	<b>135.</b>	<b>136.</b>	<b>137.</b>	<b>138.</b>	<b>139.</b>	<b>140.</b>
(c)	(b)	(c)	(c)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(b)
<b>141.</b>	<b>142.</b>	<b>143.</b>	<b>144.</b>	<b>145.</b>	<b>146.</b>	<b>147.</b>	<b>148.</b>	<b>149.</b>	<b>150.</b>
(b)	(d)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(b)	(c)	(c)	(b)	(b)
<b>151.</b>	<b>152.</b>	<b>153.</b>	<b>154.</b>	<b>155.</b>	<b>156.</b>	<b>157.</b>	<b>158.</b>	<b>159.</b>	<b>160.</b>
(c)	(b)	(c)	(c)	(d)	(c)	(d)	(b)	(a)	(c)
<b>161.</b>	<b>162.</b>	<b>163.</b>	<b>164.</b>	<b>165.</b>	<b>166.</b>	<b>167.</b>	<b>168.</b>	<b>169.</b>	<b>170.</b>
(c)	(a)	(c)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(c)	(b)
<b>171.</b>	<b>172.</b>	<b>173.</b>	<b>174.</b>	<b>175.</b>	<b>176.</b>	<b>177.</b>	<b>178.</b>	<b>179.</b>	<b>180.</b>
(c)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(a)	(c)	(a)
<b>181.</b>	<b>182.</b>	<b>183.</b>	<b>184.</b>	<b>185.</b>	<b>186.</b>	<b>187.</b>	<b>188.</b>	<b>189.</b>	<b>190.</b>
(b)	(c)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(d)	(b)	(a)	(c)	(d)
<b>191.</b>	<b>192.</b>	<b>193.</b>	<b>194.</b>	<b>195.</b>	<b>196.</b>	<b>197.</b>	<b>198.</b>	<b>199.</b>	<b>200.</b>
(b)	(b)	(d)	(b)	(d)	(b)	(c)	(b)	(c)	(a)
<b>201.</b>	<b>202.</b>	<b>203.</b>	<b>204.</b>	<b>205.</b>	<b>206.</b>	<b>207.</b>	<b>208.</b>	<b>209.</b>	<b>210.</b>
(a)	(c)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(c)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)
<b>211.</b>	<b>212.</b>	<b>213.</b>	<b>214.</b>	<b>215.</b>	<b>216.</b>	<b>217.</b>	<b>218.</b>	<b>219.</b>	<b>220.</b>
(c)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)
<b>221.</b>	<b>222.</b>	<b>223.</b>	<b>224.</b>	<b>225.</b>	<b>226.</b>	<b>227.</b>	<b>228.</b>	<b>229.</b>	<b>230.</b>
(b)	(d)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(a)	(b)	(b)	(d)	(b)



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