



CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 1-31, 2023

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Foot Prints

(Compilation of Current Events)

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| SCHEMES | DEFENCE | SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY | EVS | ECONOMY |
| COURT VERDICTS | CONFERENCES & SUMMITS | AWARDS | PERSONALITIES | BOOKS & AUTHORS |
| SPORTS | RANKS & REPORTS | DAYS | OBITUARY | NEWS OF THE MONTH |
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TAMIL NADU

➤ **Climate Change Mitigation and Green Transition**

- ✓ The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) - has partnered with Denmark for research in climate change mitigation and green transition, which includes the development of next-generation fuels and energy systems on March 01.
- ✓ The Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD) and Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India will jointly fund the projects.
- ✓ Under the partnership, Denmark is collaborating with Tamil Nadu to establish the first offshore wind farm in the state.

➤ **Comprehensive Urban Cooling Programme**

- ✓ The Tamil Nadu government - has signed an MoU with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to develop a comprehensive urban cooling programme under Tamil Nadu State Action Plan on Climate Change.
- ✓ UNEP will work with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests.
- ✓ UNEP, in collaboration with the National Institute of Urban Affairs and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, is implementing a national cooling programme to support Indian cities to implement sustainable cooling and heat resiliency strategies.

➤ **Climate Smart Villages**

- ✓ On March 3, Chief Minister - launched a pilot project to convert 10 villages in Tamil Nadu as 'climate smart villages'.
- ✓ Ten villages have already been identified near tourist spots by the Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Department to be converted into climate resilient villages in coordination with the World Resources Institute (WRI).
- ✓ The initiative will concentrate on promoting renewable energy such as solar, and treating and reusing of wastewater among other initiatives.

➤ **Keeladi Museum**

- ✓ On March 5, Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated the state-of-the-art Keeladi museum in Sivaganga district, that was built at the cost of Rs.18 crore.
- ✓ The museum, which has been divided into six blocks over 31,000 sqft, will exhibit around 10,000 artefacts excavated from Keeladi, Agaram and Manalur excavation sites.
- ✓ Keeladi is a village located on the banks of the Vaigai river in the erstwhile Madurai district.

➤ **Free Training Programme**

- ✓ On March 7, Minister for youth welfare and sports Udhayanidhi Stalin - launched a free training programme under the Naan Mudhalvan scheme to help Tamil Nadu college students prepare for recruitment exams for various government jobs.
- ✓ Under the scheme, students will also be trained for IIT JEE, CLAT and other entrance tests to enable them to enrol in IITs, NITs and National Law University.
- ✓ During the event, Higher education minister K Ponmudy said the Naan Mudhalvan scheme would be extended to arts and science colleges from next academic year.

➤ **Thalikku Thangam Scheme**

- ✓ Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR and CE) department - has launched its version of 'Thalikku Thangam' scheme.
- ✓ Under the new scheme, four grams of gold 'thali' and marriage assistance, totally worth Rs.50,000, will be provided to poor couples.
- ✓ The department issued an order in this regard on February 16, as per which 13 items including thali are provided as marriage assistance.

➤ **M-Sand/Crushed Sand Policy**

- ✓ On March 9, the state government - released a new M-sand/crushed sand policy aimed at promoting their usage, regulate their quarries and prevent damage to river ecosystems.
- ✓ The policy seeks to enable M-sand/crushed sand manufacturing units in the state to become compliant with relevant statutes, rules and regulations.

➤ **Smile-School Children's Dental Care Programme**

- ✓ The health department - launched 'punnagai' (smile) oral health screening programme for students at a government school in Nandanam.
- ✓ The health department, along with the school education department, has started the programme called Smile, which will be useful for screening school children and creating awareness about oral diseases, tooth decay, gum problems and finding solutions.

➤ **All Women Production Line**

- ✓ Ashok Leyland unveils all-women production line at Tamil Nadu plant.
- ✓ Indian commercial vehicle manufacturer, Ashok Leyland, has launched an "All Women Production Line" with 100 per cent female employees at its Hosur plant in Tamil Nadu.

- ✓ The initiative to introduce an all-women production line is to promote women empowerment and encourage them take up roles in manufacturing industry.
- **Tamil Nadu Organic Farming Policy 2023**
- ✓ On March 14, the State government - released the Tamil Nadu Organic Farming Policy 2023 to support chemical-free organic agriculture in the state and provide safe food for the people.
- ✓ The policy is aimed strengthening organic certification system, propagation of traditional seeds and encouraging cluster-based dryland cultivation.
- **Booker prize longlist for 2023**
- ✓ Tamil writer Perumal Murugan - has been selected for the International Booker prize longlist for 2023.
- ✓ Murugan makes it to the prestigious list with his 2016 book 'Pyre', translated from Tamil by Aniruddhan Vasudevan.
- ✓ The book is a translation of his original Tamil work 'Pukkuli'.
- ✓ 'Pyre' tells the tale of an inter-caste couple who elope, setting in motion a terrifying story dealing with honour killing.
- **Lakefront Reconnect Competition**
- ✓ The Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) - has launched a 'Lakefront Reconnect Competition' calling for designs from top architectural firms in the country.
- ✓ The competition is for a Rs.100 crore project involving the development of 10 lakefront areas in Chennai by the CMDA and the water resources department.
- ✓ The competition will mainly look at designs of models to replenish and conserve these lakes to re-establish the connection between people and water.
- **Tamil Nadu City Gas Distribution Policy 2023**
- ✓ The City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy 2023 aims to promote the adoption of natural gas by the State as a green and clean fuel.
- ✓ It lays the roadmap for expanding the gas network in the state to cover all districts and to speed up supply of piped natural gas to homes across the State.
- ✓ The policy aims to promote the usage of natural gas-based generators by all telecom operators.
- **Tamil Nadu Logistics Policy and Integrated Logistics Plan 2023**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Logistics Policy and Integrated Logistics Plan 2023 was released by Chief Minister M K Stalin.

- ✓ It proposed to assess connectivity gaps in existing industrial clusters, agricultural aggregation/processing centres, fisheries/marine and animal husbandry clusters and prioritize development of road connectivity.
- **Ethanol Blending Policy (EBP) 2023**
- ✓ The policy is aimed at promoting the state as a green economy and investment hub for cost-effective, alternative green fuel.
- ✓ The policy aims to attract investments worth Rs 5,000 crore in molasses and grain-based ethanol production in the state and achieve self-sufficiency in meeting the estimated ethanol blending requirement of 130 crore litres.
- **Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary**
- ✓ The Tamil Nadu Government has announced the notification of Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, making it the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the state.
- ✓ Spread across 80,567 hectares in the forest areas of Anthiyur and Gobichettipalayam taluks in Erode district, the sanctuary will include reserve forest areas in Anthiyur, Bargur, Thattakarai and Chennampatti. The announcement was made during the state budget recently.
- **Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Bill, 2022**
- ✓ On March 23, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly - re-adopted the 'Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Bill, 2022'.
- ✓ The Bill seeks to ban online gambling and it will be re-sent to the Governor for his assent.
- ✓ Chief Minister M K Stalin, who reintroduced the Bill, said that the state government has "the right to streamline, regulate, and protect" people living in its jurisdiction.
- **PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA)**
- ✓ India's first PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park - is set to be established at E Kumaralingapuram village in Virudhunagar District of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ In this regard, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Central and State governments on March 22.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin and Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal jointly launched the PM MITRA Park during the event.

- **Disaster Management Plan and State Disaster Management Policy 2023**
- ✓ On March 24, Chief Minister M K Stalin - rolled out state disaster management plan and state disaster management policy 2023 in the Secretariat, Chennai.
- ✓ Under the new policy, the state government will adopt a new culture of prevention, preparedness, and quick response in disaster management.
- ✓ The policy lays out a clear chain of command with well-defined authority, along with the responsibilities of the various stakeholders and earmarks the available resources to ensure efficient utilisation.

- **Tamil Nadu Kasanoi Erappila Thittam**
- ✓ Tamil Nadu has pioneered an initiative across the State to reduce the mortality rate among people with tuberculosis.
- ✓ The initiative – TNKET (Tamil Nadu Kasanoi Erappila Thittam, meaning TB death free project) – which began in April 2022 in 2,500 odd public healthcare facilities that diagnosed TB in 30 districts, has already achieved significant reduction in the number of early TB deaths.

- **Greater Chennai Corporation Budget**
- ✓ Mayor R Priya - presented the Greater Chennai Corporation budget for the financial year 2023-24.
- ✓ The budget focussed on education, transport, solid waste management, stormwater drains, and ward development.
- ✓ It has brought the revenue deficit down to Rs.334. 5 crore from about Rs.780 crore the previous year.

- **Vaikom Satyagraha - TN**
- ✓ On March 30, Chief Minister MK Stalin - announced year-long celebrations to commemorate the centenary of the Vaikom Satyagraha.
- ✓ Vaikom Satyagraha is the historical struggle against untouchability in which social reformer and DK founder Periyar EV Ramasamy played a vital role and got imprisoned for spearheading the protests.

STATE

➤ **Right to Health Bill 2022**

- ✓ On March 21, Rajasthan - became the first state to pass in Assembly the Right to Health Bill 2022.
- ✓ As per the Bill, the people of the state will be entitled for emergency care in public or designated private hospitals without any pre-payment and the requisite fees will be reimbursed by the state government, if the patient is unable to pay.
- ✓ The Bill gives every resident of the state the right to avail free Out Patient Department (OPD) services and In Patient Department (IPD) services at all public health facilities.

➤ **Vaikom Satyagraha**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin and Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan - to jointly inaugurate the centenary celebrations of the Vaikom Satyagraha in Kottayam, Kerala on April 1.
- ✓ The 603-day-long celebrations will begin on April 1 and conclude on November 23, 2025.
- ✓ The Vaikom Satyagraha played a crucial role in announcing modernism in the state of Kerala.

NATIONAL

➤ **8th Raisina Dialogue**

- ✓ The eighth edition of the Raisina Dialogue is to be held in March 2023. The Ministry of External Affairs is hosting the dialogue along with Observer Research Foundation.
- ✓ The dialogue is to be held on geo-strategy and geopolitics.
- ✓ The theme of Raisina Dialogue 2023 - Provocation, Uncertainty, Turbulence: Lighthouse in the Tempest.

➤ **Catch the Rain 2023 Campaign**

- ✓ The 'Catch the Rain 2023' campaign was introduced by the President in New Delhi. The campaign's central idea is the sustainability of drinking water sources.
- ✓ Addressing at the ceremony, the President stated that since India only has 4% of the world's water resources, water management and conservation are India's most pressing challenges.

➤ **India Installs World's First Bamboo Barrier**

- ✓ World's first 200-meter-long Bamboo Crash Barrier has been installed on the Vani-Warora Highway, Vidarbha, Maharashtra.
- ✓ It has been christened Bahu Balli.
- ✓ The recycling value of the bamboo barrier is 50-70%.
- ✓ The bamboo species used in the making of this barrier is Bambusa Balcoa.

➤ **Prevention of Money Laundering Act**

- ✓ The Centre - has brought cryptocurrency trading, safekeeping and related financial services under the ambit of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.
- ✓ The Union finance ministry issued a gazette notification to this effect on March 7
- ✓ Henceforth, Crypto exchanges and intermediaries dealing with virtual digital assets (VDA) will be required to gather KYC details of their clients and users of the platform.

➤ **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)**

- ✓ India - has proposed to launch a mega global alliance 'International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)' under its leadership for the protection and support of seven big cats.
- ✓ It will work towards the protection and conservation of the seven major big cats – tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar and cheetah

✓ The membership to the alliance will be open to 97 “range” countries, which contain the natural habitat of these big cats, as well as other interested nations, international organisations, etc.

➤ **World's Longest Railway Platform**

✓ PM Narendra Modi on 11 March 2023 inaugurated the longest railway platform in the world in Hubballi-Dharwad.

✓ With this, the city has registered its name in the Guinness Book of World Records for having the longest railway platform in the World at Shree Siddharoodha Swamiji station.

✓ The 1,507-metre-long platform has been built at a cost of about 20 crore.

➤ **Green National Highway Corridors Project**

✓ India and the World Bank have recently signed a loan agreement to construct 781 kilometers of green highways across four states in India.

✓ The project aims to build the Green National Highway Corridors Project in 4 Indian states.

✓ The Green National Highway Corridors Project will promote the use of green technologies and climate resilience to demonstrate safe and environmentally friendly highways.

➤ **PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks)**

✓ On March 17, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that seven ‘PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks) mega textile parks’ will be set up in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

✓ The parks are meant to create an integrated textiles value chain – from spinning, weaving, processing or dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing – at a single location.

INTERNATIONAL

➤ **Saudi Yoga Committee**

- ✓ Saudi Arabia - is set to introduce yoga in its universities due to its significance for mental and physical health.
- ✓ To facilitate the smooth introduction of yoga in universities, Saudi government has constituted Saudi Yoga Committee.
- ✓ The committee was striving hard as per Saudi government's 'Vision 2030' to introduce yoga to universities, emphasizing the importance of practising it for health and wellness.

➤ **High Seas Treaty**

- ✓ The United Nations - signed the first 'High Seas Treaty' to protect the ocean bodies of the world that lie outside the national boundaries.
- ✓ The high seas begin at the border of countries' exclusive economic zones, which extend up to 200 nautical miles (370 kilometers) from coastlines, thereby falling under the jurisdiction of no country.
- ✓ The treaty will create a new body to manage conservation of ocean life and establish marine protected areas in the high seas.

➤ **World's Best Airport 2023**

- ✓ Singapore's Gem Changi Airport once again titled 'World's Best Airport 2023'.
- ✓ One of the busiest passenger hubs for South East Asia, Singapore Changi Airport has topped the list of the World's Best Airports for 2023.
- ✓ This beauty has maintained its rank for eight consecutive years.

SCHEME

➤ **VAIBHAV Fellowship Scheme**

- ✓ In honor of National Science Day, which is celebrated on February 28th, the Indian Government launched the VAIBHAV Fellowship scheme.
- ✓ The new initiative aims to enhance the research capability of India's higher education institutions by promoting academic and research collaborations with top-performing institutions from around the world.

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

➤ **Young Professionals Scheme**

- ✓ India and the UK - launched the Young Professionals Scheme on February 28.
- ✓ The establishment of the Young Professionals Program between the UK and India is regarded as a significant step in the development of the relationship between the two countries.
- ✓ The scheme is an agreement for three years, effective from March 2023.
- ✓ The scheme will allow degree-holding Indian nationals to live and work in Britain for up to two years.

➤ **Deakin and Wollongong**

- ✓ Australia-based Deakin and Wollongong - will be the first foreign universities to set up campuses in India.
- ✓ The two Australian universities will soon establish campuses in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in Gandhinagar.
- ✓ The universities will sign an agreement on setting up their campuses during Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's maiden visit to India next week.

➤ **McMahon Line**

- ✓ The United States - formally recognized the McMahon Line as the international boundary between India's Arunachal Pradesh and China.
- ✓ In this regard, the US Senate has passed a bipartisan resolution, which was first introduced last month, on March 14.
- ✓ The resolution rejected the claim of China that the north-eastern state, Arunachal Pradesh falls under Chinese territory.

➤ **India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFP)**

- ✓ PM Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina - jointly inaugurated the Rs. 377 crore India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFP) virtually on March 18.
- ✓ The 131.5km pipeline will supply up to 1 million tonnes per annum of diesel from Numaligarh in Assam to Bangladesh.
- ✓ IBFP is the first cross border energy pipeline between India and Bangladesh.

➤ **Defence Cooperation Dialogue**

- ✓ India and the Maldives - conducted the 4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue in Male on March 19.

- ✓ The talks covered the existing bilateral defence exercises, with both countries agreeing to increase the complexity of these drills.
- ✓ Defence Cooperation Dialogue is the highest institutionalised interactive mechanism between the two countries.



CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

➤ **Dharma Dhamma Conference**

- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu - inaugurated the 7th International Dharma Dhamma Conference in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on March 3.
- ✓ The three-day conference with the theme 'Eastern Humanism for the New Era'.
- ✓ The conference aims to bring together religious, political and thought leaders from Dharma-Dhamma traditions to build a philosophical framework for the emerging new world order.

➤ **B2B Conference & Expo on Traditional Medicine**

- ✓ Union Minister of Ayush and Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal - inaugurated the first B2B Conference & Expo on Traditional Medicine on March 2, 2023.
- ✓ The B2B Conference and Expo on Traditional Medicine under the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is scheduled to be held until March 5, 2023, at Guwahati, Assam.

➤ **Yoga Mahotsav, 2023**

- ✓ Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal - inaugurated the Yoga Mahotsav, 2023 on March 13.
- ✓ The Yoga Mahotsav kickstarts the 100 days countdown to International Day of Yoga, which is held on June 21 every year since 2015 following its inception in the United Nations General Assembly in 2014.

➤ **Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi - inaugurated the Global Millets (Shree Anna) Conference at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute campus in Pusa, New Delhi on March 18.
- ✓ The two-day global conference will have sessions on all important issues related to millets (Shree Anna).
- ✓ Based on India's proposal, the year 2023 was declared the International Year of Millets (IYM) by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

➤ **G20 RIIG Conference**

- ✓ The G20 RIIG (Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy Innovation Group) Conference will take place on March 23, bringing together experts, policymakers, and industry leaders from around the world.

- ✓ The conference will focus on the theme of building a sustainable and circular bio-economy, and discussions will cover various topics related to this critical issue.
- **One World TB Summit 2023**
- ✓ On March 24, Prime Minister - addressed the 'One World TB Summit 2023' in Varanasi on the occasion of the World TB Day.
- ✓ During the event, the PM launched various initiatives including the TB-Mukt Panchayat, the official pan-India rollout of a shorter TB Preventive Treatment (TPT), the Family-centric care model for TB and the release of India's Annual TB Report 2023.
- ✓ Stop TB Partnership is a United Nations-hosted organisation that raises the voices of people, communities and countries affected by the disease.
- **Umagine Chennai 2023**
- ✓ Over 12,000 people have registered for Umagine Chennai 2023, Asia's largest summit on technology and innovation, that will happen in Chennai from March 23 to 25, Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services said.
- ✓ At an event organised at the IIT Madras Research Park (IITMRP) ahead Umagine Chennai 2023, the Minister said: "Earlier, for an event like this, we had to travel abroad. But now we are organising it in Tamil Nadu."
- **Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG)**
- ✓ The two-day G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Conference - concluded in Dibrugarh, Assam on March 24.
- ✓ The conference deliberated on ways towards building a sustainable and circular bio-economy.
- ✓ The area of focus during the conference included challenges and opportunities in agriculture, de-carbonization of the industry as well as bio-energy and bioresource management.
- **Summit for Democracy**
- ✓ On March 29, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - addressed the US 'Summit for Democracy' at a leader-level plenary co-hosted by Joe Biden.
- ✓ During his address, PM - hailed India's democracy and the "collective efforts of the citizens of India."
- ✓ The summit focuses on three key points – strengthening democracy and defending against authoritarianism, addressing and fighting corruption, and promoting respect for human rights.

DEFENCE

➤ **Exercise Shinyuu Maitri**

- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in Exercise Shinyuu Maitri with the Japan Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) from 1-2 March 2023.
- ✓ The exercise is being organised on the sidelines of the Indo-Japan Joint Army Exercise, Dharma Guardian.
- ✓ Dharma Guardian is being conducted from 13 February to 2 March at Komatsu, Japan.

➤ **FRINJEX-23**

- ✓ Indian Army and French Army will participate in the 'FRINJEX-23', a joint military exercise on 7- 8 March.
- ✓ The aim of the exercise is to enhance inter-operability, coordination, and cooperation between both forces.
- ✓ The theme for the exercise is based on "Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Operations in a Contested Environment". This exercise will strengthen the Indo-France strategic partnership at the tactical level.

➤ **International Maritime Exercise 2023**

- ✓ The Indian warship INS Trikand has arrived in Bahrain for her first participation in the International Maritime Exercise organised by the US-led Combined Maritime Forces, a 34-nation naval group.
- ✓ INS Trikand hosted Rear Adm Jean Michel Martinet of the French Navy, who is also the Vice Commander of IMX23 & Commander Task Force (East).

➤ **Shaliza Dhani**

- ✓ In the first command appointment for a woman officer in the Indian Air Force, Group Captain Shaliza Dhani has been selected to take over the command of a frontline combat unit in the Western sector, the IAF said on Tuesday.
- ✓ "Having been commended by the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief on two occasions, the officer is presently posted in the Operations branch of a frontline Command Headquarters.

➤ **Express 2023 (IMX/CE-23)**

- ✓ The International Maritime Exercise/Cutlass Express 2023 (IMX/CE-23) is being organized in the Gulf region from February 26 to March 16, 2023.

- ✓ The exercise aims to enhance maritime security and ensure safe sea lanes for maritime commerce, with over 50 nations and international maritime agencies participating. It is one of the largest multinational maritime exercises.
- **TROPEX-23**
- ✓ The Indian Navy's exercise, called the "Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise for 2023" (TROPEX-23), culminated in the Arabian Sea after running for four months from November 2022 to March 2023.
- ✓ TROPEX-23 witnessed the participation of approximately 70 Indian Navy ships, six submarines and over 75 aircraft.
- ✓ TROPEX is being conducted in many phases to test Navy's transition from peacetime to hostilities.
- **Naval Commanders' Conference 2023**
- ✓ The first edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference 2023 – was recently held onboard India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant.
- ✓ The conference served as a platform for Naval Commanders to discuss important security issues at the military-strategic level.
- ✓ The first phase of the Commanders' Conference was held at sea, and for the first-time, onboard INS Vikrant.
- **Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX)**
- ✓ Indian Navy's indigenously built guided missile frigate, INS Sahyadri participated in a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with French Navy (FN) ships FS Dixmude, a Mistral Class Amphibious Assault Ship and FS La Fayette, a La Fayette Class Frigate, in the Arabian Sea.
- ✓ The partnership exercise was conducted on March 10-11.
- **La Perouse**
- ✓ The third edition of the multilateral naval exercise 'La Perouse' - kicked off in the Indian Ocean on March 13.
- ✓ The biennial exercise La Perouse is conducted by the French Navy, Royal Australian Navy, Indian Navy, Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force, and the United States Navy.
- ✓ It aims to enhance maritime domain awareness and optimise maritime coordination.
- **Bold Kurukshetra**
- ✓ Operation Bold Kurukshetra, a bilateral armour training exercise, was held from March 6-13, 2023, in Jodhpur Military Station in India.

- ✓ It was the 13th iteration, and the Singapore Army and Indian Army both took part. Both armies participated in the first command post exercise in the series, which included computer war gaming and planning components at the battalion and brigade levels.
- **Exercise Sea Dragon 23**
- ✓ The Indian Navy deployed a P8I aircraft to Guam, USA, on March 14, 2023, to participate in the third edition of 'Exercise Sea Dragon 23', a coordinated multi-lateral Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise for Long Range MR ASW aircraft organized by the US Navy.
- ✓ The exercise, scheduled from March 15 to March 30, 2023, will focus on coordinated ASW tactics among the participating countries and will involve advanced ASW drills.
- **AFINDEX-2023**
- ✓ The second edition of Africa-India Field Training Exercise, AFINDEX-2023 - will be held from March 21-30 in Pune.
- ✓ Army Chief's and representatives of Chief's from 21 African countries will be attending the event and 24 African militaries are being represented by their contingents or teams of observers.
- **Konkan 2023**
- ✓ The annual bilateral maritime exercise between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of the United Kingdom (UK) "Konkan 2023" - was held from March 20 to 22 off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea.
- ✓ The exercises covered all domains of maritime operations – air, surface, and sub-surface.
- **Vayu Prahar**
- ✓ Indian Army and the Indian Air force - jointly conducted a Multi Domain Air-Land Exercise Vayu Prahar along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern command
- ✓ The drill which lasted for four days involved the Indian Army, Air Force along with the Special Forces.
- ✓ The exercise was carried out in the second week of March in high-altitude terrain conditions along the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Exercise Cobra Warrior**
- ✓ Indian Air Force (IAF) Mirage-2000 aircraft have been participating in Exercise Cobra Warrior in the United Kingdom over the past three weeks.

- ✓ This joint training exercise has been taking place alongside six other Air Forces, including those from the United Kingdom, Finland, Sweden, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, the United States, and Singapore.
- **Project Himshakti**
- ✓ On March 24, the defence ministry - signed a Rs.3,000 crore contract for procurement of two integrated electronic warfare systems under 'Project Himshakti' for the Indian Army.
- ✓ The contract signed with defence PSU Bharat Electronics is under the "Buy Indian (indigenously designed, developed and manufactured)" category.
- ✓ The project aims to develop indigenous capabilities making the country 'Aatmanirbhar', as per the Make-in-India initiative of the Government.



APPOINTMENT

➤ **Xi Jinping**

- ✓ China's superpower Xi Jinping becomes 5-year President for the third term.
- ✓ He has been the General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party and came into power in 2012.
- ✓ Also, he served as President of the People's Republic of China.
- ✓ His ally, Li Qiang is elected as the new Premier of China along with others for Xi's Cabinet.

➤ **10th Khalkha Jetsun Dhampa Rinpoche**

- ✓ On March 27, Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama - has named an eight-year-old US-born Mongolian boy Aguidau as the reincarnation of a spiritual leader.
- ✓ He has been named as the 10th Khalkha Jetsun Dhampa Rinpoche, the third most important leader in Tibetan Buddhism.
- ✓ It was attended by 5,000 monks and nuns, 600 Mongolians and other members.

➤ **Humza Yousaf**

- ✓ Scotland's governing party, Scottish National Party (SNP) - elected Pakistani-origin Humza Yousaf as its new leader on March 27.
- ✓ This makes him the first person of color and the first Muslim to lead the country.
- ✓ The 37-year-old Glasgow-born son of South Asian immigrants is set to be confirmed as first minister.

AWARDS

➤ **FIFA Awards**

- ✓ On February 27, World Cup champion Lionel Messi - secured the FIFA's best men's player award for the seventh time in 14 years.
- ✓ After steering Argentina to World Cup glory in an epic final against Mbappe's France last year in Qatar, Messi won the best player vote against Mbappe and Karim Benzema.
- ✓ In the FIFA Awards vote, Messi had 52 points, Mbappe 44, and Benzema 34.

➤ **Porter Prize 2023**

- ✓ Porter Prize 2023 was conferred recently to the Indian Government's Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ✓ The award recognized the achievements of the ministry in the health sector, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ✓ It recognized India's successful delivery of more than 2.5 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines and the role of stakeholders like ASHA workers.
- ✓ The Prize is named after Michael E. Porter- an economist and researcher.

➤ **Government Leadership Award 2023**

- ✓ India - has been awarded the GSMA 'Government Leadership Award 2023' for implementing best practices in telecom policy and regulation.
- ✓ The award was presented at the GSMA's Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2023 event in Barcelona.
- ✓ The GSMA's 'Government Leadership Award' recognises world-class leadership in the establishment of sound regulatory policies for mobile connectivity.

➤ **BBC Indian Sportswoman of The Year for 2022**

- ✓ Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu won the 2022 BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year award on 5 March 2023.
- ✓ She becomes the first athlete to win the award twice in a row after winning for the year 2021.

➤ **Avvaiyar Award 2023**

- ✓ On March 8, Chief minister M K Stalin - presented the Avvaiyar Award 2023 to R Kamalam Chinnasami, a 90-year-old writer and social worker based in Ooty at an International Women's Day programme held at Ethiraj College for Women in Chennai.

➤ **Girl Child Empowerment Award 2022-23**

- ✓ The CM presented the Girl Child Empowerment Award 2022-23 to Class XI student M Ilampirai from Salem district for inventing new equipment to prevent deaths during repairing lifts in multi-storey buildings.

➤ **95th Academy Awards - Naatu Naatu Song**

- ✓ SS Rajamouli's RRR - has created history by becoming the first Indian feature film to win an Oscar at the 95th Academy Awards in Los Angeles, United States.
- ✓ The film's 'Naatu Naatu' soundtrack composed by MM Keeravani was awarded the Best Original Song Award.
- ✓ The song had lyrics by Chandrabose, vocals by Rahul Sipligunj and Kaala Bhairava and was shot at Mariinskyi Palace in Kyiv, Ukraine.
- ✓ Earlier, the popular song from RRR won big at the Golden Globes 2023.

➤ **The Elephant Whisperers**

- ✓ The Elephant Whisperers, a Netflix documentary Short Film from Kartiki Gonsalves and Guneet Monga, has won the 95th Academy Awards' Best Documentary Short Film Category.
- ✓ This is the first Indian film to win an Academy Award in this category.
- ✓ The movie is set in the Mudumalai National Park in Tamil Nadu.

➤ **Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) Award**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu - bagged the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) international travel award at the International Travel Bourse-2023, held at Berlin, Germany.
- ✓ The state was chosen for the award under the category of the best tourist destination for heritage and culture.
- ✓ State tourism Minister, K Ramachandran was selected as the best tourism minister across the country.

➤ **Golden & Silver Star at 'Golden City Gate Tourism Awards**

- ✓ The International Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2023 in the categories of "TV/Cinema Commercials International and Country International" were won by the Indian Ministry of Tourism and Government of India, respectively.
- ✓ On March 8, 2023, at ITB, Berlin, Shri Arvind Singh, Secretary (Tourism), Government of India, accepted the honours.

➤ **Governor of the Year**

- ✓ RBI governor Shaktikanta Das - bagged the 'Governor of the Year' award for 2023 conferred by international economic research journal, Central Banking.

- ✓ The journal has cited his work in strengthening the regulations governing the NBFC sector after the IL&FS crisis in 2018, banks' improving asset quality and Covid-19 crisis management as factors for the recognition.

➤ **Sangita Kalanidhi Award**

- ✓ Renowned Carnatic vocalist and Musician Bombay Jayashri - will be conferred the prestigious Sangita Kalanidhi award of the Music Academy.
- ✓ Padma Shri award winner Bombay Jayashri is one of the country's foremost Carnatic musicians, who is known for her melodic and meditative style of singing.

➤ **The Order des Palmes Academiques**

- ✓ The French government - has conferred the prestigious 'The Order des Palmes Academiques' award, one of the greatest honour in the field on two French teachers from Chennai.
- ✓ Sumitra Muthukumar, French teacher at Alliance Francaise of Madras and Navis Sybil Abarna Roy, assistant professor of French in Loyola College are awarded in recognition of their outstanding work and commitment in spreading French language.

➤ **Abel Prize**

- ✓ Argentine-American mathematician Luis Caffarelli - won this year's Abel Prize for his contribution in the field of Mathematics.
- ✓ He was awarded Abel prize "for his seminal contributions to regularity theory for nonlinear partial differential equations including free-boundary problems and the Monge-Ampère equation".

➤ **Wildlife Conservation Award 2023**

- ✓ The Union Territory has awarded wildlife conservationist Aliya Mir for her exceptional efforts in conservation.
- ✓ Aliya is the first woman from Jammu and Kashmir to work for Wildlife SOS and is the first woman in the region to receive this honour.
- ✓ She received the award from Lt. Manoj Sinha at the World Forestry Day celebrations hosted by the Jammu and Kashmir Collective Forests.

ECONOMY

➤ GST - February 2023

- ✓ The gross goods and service tax (GST) revenue collection in the month of February 2023 - stood at Rs 1,49,577 crore.
- ✓ The revenues for the month of February 2023 are 12% higher than the GST revenues in February 2022, which was Rs 1.33 lakh crore.
- ✓ Among the major states, Tamil Nadu recorded a growth of 19%, Karnataka of 18%, Maharashtra of 15%, Uttar Pradesh 14% and Gujarat of 8% in collections for February.

➤ Digital payments - \$10 trillion by 2026

- ✓ Boston Consulting Group (BCG), in collaboration with PhonePe, India's leading digital payments company, today unveiled a report titled, "**Digital payments in India: A US\$10 trillion opportunity**".
- ✓ India's digital payments market will more than triple to \$10 trillion by 2026.
- ✓ In a country witnessing rapid growth, it comes as no surprise that India also has one of the fastest-growing fintech landscapes in the world, driven primarily by the advancement in the digital payments segment.

PERSONALITIES

➤ Rizwana

- ✓ WHO puts Kerala girl on World Hearing Day poster.
- ✓ Rizwana, an MBBS student, underwent cochlear implantation as a child; her case proves that early screening can prevent permanent disability.
- ✓ It is Ms. Rizwana's story that World Health Organisation (WHO) India has chosen to put on its poster on World Hearing Day (March 3) to send out this powerful message to millions.

➤ Surekha Yadav

- ✓ Surekha Yadav, Asia's first woman loco pilot - has now become the first female to operate the newly-introduced semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express train.
- ✓ On March 13, Surekha Yadav achieved the feat as she piloted the semi-high speed train between Solapur station and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai.
- ✓ Hailing from Satara in the western Maharashtra region, Surekha Yadav became India's first female train driver in 1988.

➤ Colonel Geeta Rana

- ✓ Colonel Geeta Rana - has become the first woman officer to take over command of an independent field workshop in the Eastern Ladakh sector with China.
- ✓ Rana's appointment comes after the army, in February-end, began assigning women officers to command roles for the first time, outside the medical stream.
- ✓ Rana trained at the Chennai-based Officers' Training Academy, and was commissioned into the army in 2000.

➤ Ravi Chaudhary

- ✓ The U.S. Senate - has confirmed Indian-American flight test engineer Ravi Chaudhary as the Assistant Secretary of Defence for the US Air Force, one of the top civilian leadership positions in the Pentagon.
- ✓ On March 15, the Senate voted 65-29 to confirm the former Air Force officer's nomination.
- ✓ During his service in the US air force from 1993 to 2015, Chaudhary completed a variety of operational, engineering, and senior staff assignments.

➤ **Krishna Prakash**

- ✓ 1st to swim from Gateway of India to Elephanta Caves.
- ✓ As part of the 'Drowning Prevention Awareness' campaign, Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Krishna Prakash swam from Gateway of India to Elephanta Caves, Mumbai.
- ✓ He completed the expedition of 16.20 kms in just 5 hours 26 minutes and became the first person in history to do so.



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

➤ **Tillyardembiids**

- ✓ Fossils of the oldest known insect and the world's first plant pollinators called "tillyardembiids" were discovered in March 2023 in Russia.
- ✓ They were discovered along the riverbank near the village of Chekarda in Russia.
- ✓ It is estimated to be around 280 million years old, predating the previously-known pollen covered insects by about 120 million years.

➤ **Megha-Tropiques-1 or MT-1**

- ✓ ISRO - successfully completed the controlled reentry for the decommissioned satellite Megha-Tropiques-1 or MT-1 on March 7.
- ✓ ISRO progressively lowered the satellite's perigee (nearest point to Earth) through a series of 20 manoeuvres, spending about 120kg fuel since August 2022.
- ✓ The latest telemetry has confirmed that the satellite re-entered the Earth's atmosphere and would have disintegrated over the Pacific Ocean.

➤ **NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR)**

- ✓ On March 7, the US consulate, Chennai - said that the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) landed in Bengaluru on a US Air Force C-17 aircraft from Nasa-JPL in California.
- ✓ NISAR, an Earth-observation satellite. It is expected to be launched in January 2024 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Andhra Pradesh.

➤ **Mimeusemia ceylonica**

- ✓ Researchers - have spotted *Mimeusemia ceylonica*, a rare moth species, for the first time in India in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The findings are based on moth surveys conducted twice a month since 2018.
- ✓ According to the researchers, George Hampson recorded *Mimeusemia ceylonica* at Thirukonamalai in Sri Lanka in 1893 and it was not recorded elsewhere across the world since then.

➤ **Influenza Subtype H3N2**

- ✓ The first recorded death from H3N2 this year was of an 82-year-old man in Karnataka's Hassan district.
- ✓ H3N2 is a non-human influenza virus that normally circulates in pigs and has infected humans.
- ✓ This virus is known to be a subtype of Influenza A virus.

➤ **Thiania indica**

- ✓ A group of researchers led by from Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Chennai, have discovered a new species of jumping spider, *Thiania indica*. The spider was discovered during an expedition to Kulathupuzha in the Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary in December 2021.
- ✓ *Thiania indica* belongs to the *Thiania* C.L. Koch genus of Salticidae family.

- **Cyrtopodion Vindhya**
- ✓ A team of wildlife researchers has discovered a new species of naked-toed gecko, named *Cyrtopodion Vindhya*, in the Dahod and Panchmahals districts of Gujarat.
- ✓ This recent discovery brings the number of endemic reptile species described in Gujarat to five in the last 15 years.

- **Trichrysis poseidonia**
- ✓ Researchers from the Shadpada Entomology Research Lab at Christ College, Irinjalakuda, have made an exciting discovery in southern India - a new species of cuckoo wasp.
- ✓ The species has been named *Trichrysis poseidonia* after the Greek God of the Sea, Poseidon, due to apical abdominal teeth's striking resemblance to his trident.

- **Liquid Mirror Telescope**
- ✓ Asia's largest four-metre International Liquid Mirror Telescope - was inaugurated recently at the Devasthal observatory in Uttarakhand.
- ✓ The inauguration of the instrument was done by Union Science & Technology Minister on March 21.
- ✓ It is the largest aperture telescope and the first optical survey telescope of the country.

- **Vernal Equinox**
- ✓ The vernal equinox or March equinox will be observed on March 21, 2023 and marks the beginning of spring in the Northern Hemisphere and autumn in the Southern Hemisphere.
- ✓ During the vernal equinox, the Sun is located directly above the equator, and both hemispheres receive almost equal amounts of sunlight, resulting in day and night being of almost equal length.

- **36 OneWeb Satellites**
- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - launched 36 OneWeb satellites into space onboard LVM-3 on March 26.
- ✓ The spacecraft lifted off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

- ✓ This was the sixth launch for India's heaviest rocket LVM-3 – which includes the launch of Chandrayaan-2 in 2019 – and the second one where it demonstrated the capability of launching multiple satellites in low earth orbit.
- **Gymnothorax Tamilnaduensis**
- ✓ A team of scientists from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has discovered a new species of Moray Eel fish from the Cuddalore coast in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ The new species has been named “Gymnothorax Tamilnaduensis” after Tamil Nadu and has been given the common name of “Tamil Nadu brown moray eel”.



SPORTS

➤ **Rohan Bopanna**

- ✓ On March 18, Indian tennis player, Rohan Bopanna - became the oldest ATP Masters 1000 champion after winning the men's doubles crown at the \$10,143,750 BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, California.
- ✓ The 43-year-old Bopanna and Ebden, 35, defeated top-seeded Wesley Koolhof of the Netherlands and Neil Skupski of Britain in three sets in the final.

➤ **IBA Women's Boxing World Championship 2023**

- ✓ India's **Nitu Ghanghas** - defeated Mongolia's Lutsaikhan Altantsetseg in the finals to win the gold medal in the 48kg category of the IBA Women's Boxing World Championship 2023.
- ✓ **Saweety Boora** defeated 2018 World Champion Wang Lina of China in the 81kg final via a split verdict to win the country's second gold medal.

➤ **Nikhat Zareen**

- ✓ Reigning World champion Nikhat Zareen - defeated two-time Asian champion Nguyen Thi Tam of Vietnam 5-0 in the 50kg category final at the IBA Women's World Boxing Championship at the Indira Gandhi Sports Complex in New Delhi on March 26.

➤ **Lovlina Borgohain**

- ✓ Lovlina Borgohain defeated two-time Commonwealth Games medallist Caitlin Parker of Australia 5-2 in the 75kg final to win her maiden World title.
- ✓ With four gold medals from four finals, India matched their best-ever performance and topped the medal tally.

REPORT

➤ **'Indian States' Energy Transition'**

- ✓ Karnataka and Gujarat – were ranked as the top states in the country that have made maximum progress towards clean electricity transition.
- ✓ This is based on a new report on India's energy transition, prepared by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) along with EMBER.
- ✓ The report – 'Indian States' Energy Transition' – has analysed 16 states, which together account for 90% of India's annual power requirement.

➤ **Landslide Atlas Report**

- ✓ The two hill districts of Rudraprayag and Tehri in Uttarakhand - have been ranked first and second respectively among 147 districts from across the country which have the "maximum exposure to landslide risk in the country".
- ✓ This was revealed in the 'Landslide Atlas' report prepared by National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).
- ✓ The Landslide Atlas of India used the satellite data of ISRO to map all seasonal and event-based landslides like the Kedarnath disaster in 2013 and landslides triggered due to Sikkim earthquake in 2011.

➤ **Literacy Rate in India**

- ✓ According to the data shared by the Ministry of Education, Bihar (61.8 %) has the lowest literacy, followed by Arunachal Pradesh (65.3 %) and Rajasthan (66.1 %). Kerala has the highest literacy rate in India at 94%, followed by Lakshadweep at 91.85% and Mizoram at 91.33%.
- ✓ The literacy rate in rural India is 67.77 per cent as compared to 84.11 per cent in urban India.

➤ **World's Greatest Places Of 2023**

- ✓ Two Indian destinations among Time's 'World's Greatest Places Of 2023'
- ✓ The TIME magazine has released its annual list of the 'World's Greatest Places' for the year 2023.
- ✓ Two Indian destinations have made it to the list.
- ✓ Mayurbhanj and Ladakh, that have been selected for their rare tigers and ancient temples, and adventures and eats, respectively.

➤ **Atmanirbhar Bharat**

- ✓ The fifth largest economy in the world, India is likely to achieve energy independence by 2047. PM Narendra Modi's Atmanirbhar Bharat will prove to be a gateway for future growth.
- ✓ This can only be possible through clean technology according to a report issued by a leading US Research Institute.
- ✓ Talking about the current scenario, India is almost 80-85 per cent reliant on imports in order to fulfil its oil and coal requirements. However, a significant drop in clean energy costs is a great chance for the country to accelerate its investment in battery storage, renewable energy, etc.



RANKINGS

➤ **Academic Freedom Index Report**

- ✓ India's academic freedom index - is in the bottom 30% among 179 countries, according to the Academic Freedom Index report.
- ✓ The indicators include freedom to research and teach; freedom of academic exchange and dissemination; institutional autonomy of universities; campus integrity; and the freedom of academic and cultural expression.
- ✓ India was behind immediate neighbours Nepal (0.86), Pakistan (0.45) and Bhutan (0.46) and before Bangladesh (0.25) and junta-ruled Myanmar (0.01).

➤ **Electoral Democracy Index 2023**

- ✓ India ranks 108 in the Electoral Democracy Index of the V-dem Democracy report 2023.
- ✓ In 2022, India's ranking was 100th position in Electoral Democracy Index (EDI). This report has named India as one of the top 10 autocratising countries in the last 10 years. India has been ranked 97 in the Liberal Democracy Index.
- ✓ India has been placed in the bottom 50 percent of the LDI index. Denmark is in the first position with a score of 0.89 in the Liberal Democracy Index.

➤ **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)**

- ✓ India remained the world's top arms importer, according to a report released by Stockholm-based defence think-tank SIPRI on March 13.
- ✓ India retained its top position among 167 major arms importers with 11% share.
- ✓ According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), the five largest arms importers in the world during 2018-22 were India (11%), followed by Saudi Arabia (9.6%), Qatar (6.4%), Australia (4.7%) and China (4.7%).

➤ **World Air Quality Index 2022**

- ✓ The Swiss-based company IQAir has released World Air Quality Index for the year 2022 where it has ranked India in the 8th position, earlier it was fifth.
- ✓ African country Chad acquires the first position as it is the world's most polluted country in the world.
- ✓ India and Pakistan are on alert as they have the most polluted cities in the world amid depleting environmental conditions across the globe.

➤ **Global Terrorism Index**

- ✓ Afghanistan remains the country most impacted by terrorism for the fourth consecutive year, despite attacks and deaths falling by 75 per cent and 58 per cent, respectively, the tenth Global Terrorism Index (GTI) report showed.
- ✓ India ranked 13th on the index, marking only a marginal decrease from the previous year.
- ✓ In spite of being among the 25 worst-hit nations on the index, Indian respondents desisted from selecting war and terrorism as the biggest threat to their daily safety.

➤ **Hurun Global Rich List**

- ✓ M3M Hurun Global Rich List was published where Indian businessman Mukesh Ambani acquires 9th rank among the top 10 richest people in the world in 2023.
- ✓ He is the only Indian to have acquired this level and is included as one of the big wealthy personalities around the globe.
- ✓ India comprises 187 billionaires in total and 16 new rich men have been added to the list. While the owner of LVMH beauty company, Bernard Arnault topped the list.

➤ **Global Passport Index 2023**

- ✓ India positioned at 144, Massive Fall in Mobility Score.
- ✓ On March 29 (Wednesday) the Passport Index published Passport Power Ranks for 2023.
- ✓ India's mobility score decline is seen as the largest economic drop at the global level. The score stood at 73 in the year 2022.
- ✓ However, as of March 2023, the score comes to 70.
- ✓ India's ranking significantly declined by 6 places this year and the nation is positioned at 144th in 2023 as compared to 138 in 2022.

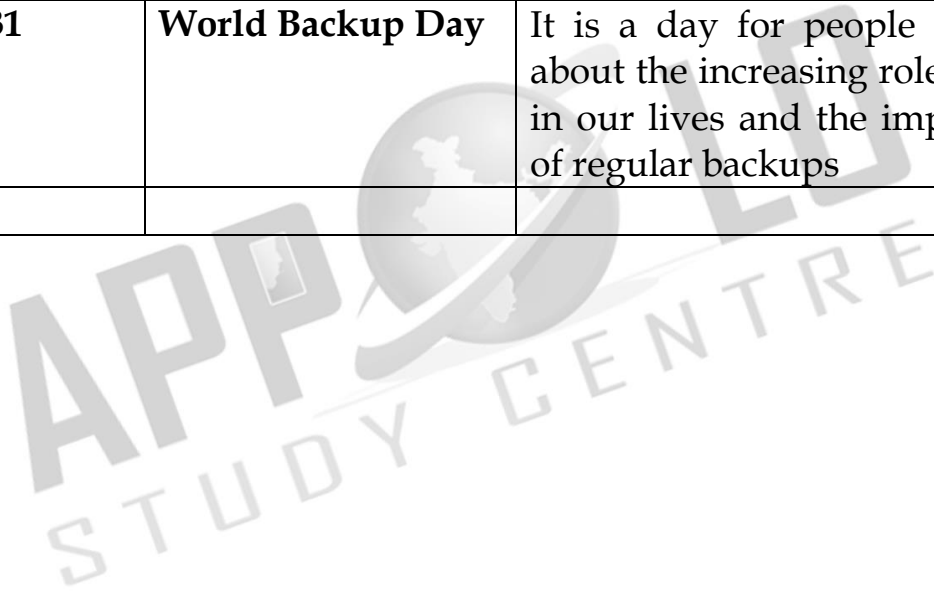
IMPORTANT DAYS

| Date | Day | Theme |
|----------|---|--|
| March 01 | World Seagrass Day | World Seagrass Day is celebrated annually on 1st March to raise awareness about seagrass and its important functions in the marine ecosystem |
| March 01 | World Civil Defence Day | The theme for this year is "Uniting the world's leading specialists for the safety and security of future generations" |
| March 01 | Zero Discrimination Day | On Zero Discrimination Day this year, under the theme "Save lives: Decriminalise" |
| March 03 | World Wildlife Day | The theme for this year's World Wildlife Day is "Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation" |
| March 03 | World Hearing Day | The World Health Organization chose the theme "Ear and hearing care for all" for World Hearing Day 2023 |
| March 04 | National Security Day | The National Safety Council of India announced the theme for this year to be 'Nurture young minds - Develop safety culture' |
| March 04 | National Safety Day | The theme for 2023 National Safety Day is 'Our Aim - Zero Harm' |
| March 04 | World Obesity Day | World Obesity Day returns on 4 March 2023 with the theme: 'Changing Perspectives: Let's Talk About Obesity' |
| March 05 | International Day for Disarmament & Non-Proliferation Awareness | Global public's understanding about how disarmament efforts contribute to enhancing peace and security, preventing and |

| | | |
|----------|---|--|
| | | ending armed conflicts |
| March 08 | International Women's Day | Theme 2023 - "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality" |
| March 09 | International Kidney Day | Theme 2023 - "Kidney Health for All - Preparing for the unexpected, supporting the vulnerable" |
| March 14 | International Day Of Mathematics | The theme for 2023 is Mathematics for Everyone |
| March 14 | International Day Of Action For Rivers | It aims to raise awareness about the importance of rivers and the need to protect them from various threats |
| March 15 | World Consumer Rights Day | Theme 2023 - 'Empowering Consumers Through Clean Energy Transitions' |
| March 16 | National Vaccination Day | National Vaccination Day is observed in India to increase awareness for the eradication of polio from the planet earth |
| March 17 | World Sleep Day | The World Sleep Society has announced the theme for this year's Sleep Day as 'Sleep is Essential for Health' |
| March 18 | Global Recycling Day | The theme of Global Recycling Day 2023 is "Creative Innovation" |
| March 20 | World Sparrow Day | Theme 2023 - 'I Love Sparrows' |
| March 20 | International Day of Happiness | Theme 2023 - 'Be Mindful, Be Grateful, Be Kind' |
| March 20 | World Oral Health Day | The three-year continuous theme for World Oral Health Day 2021, 2022 and 2023 is "Be Proud of Your Mouth" |
| March 21 | World Poetry Day | People throughout the world celebrate World Poetry Day to honour an expression of |

| | | |
|-----------------|--|---|
| | | language with which they can all identify |
| March 21 | World Down Syndrome Day | This year's World Down Syndrome Day theme is 'With Us, Not For Us' |
| March 21 | International Day of Forests | The International Day of Forests for 2023 has adopted the theme of "Forests and health" |
| March 22 | World Water Day | The focus of World Water Day 2023 is on the theme of 'Accelerating the change to solve the water and sanitation crisis' |
| March 23 | World Meteorological Day | The theme for 2023 is "The Future of Weather, Climate and Water across Generations" |
| March 23 | Shaheed Diwas or Martyrs' Day | This day marks the anniversary of the execution of three Indian freedom fighters- Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar and Shivaram Rajguru in 1931 |
| March 24 | World Tuberculosis (TB) Day | The theme for World Tuberculosis Day 2023 is "Yes! We can end TB!" |
| March 25 | International Day of Unborn Child | The theme of International Day of the Unborn Child 2023 is "the dignity and value of children yet-to-be-born" |
| March 27 | World Theatre Day | The theme of World Theatre Day 2023 is "Theatre and a Culture of Peace" |
| March 30 | International Day of Zero Waste | International Day of Zero Waste will encourage sustainable consumption and production practices and enhance understanding of the ways zero-waste efforts help to achieve the goals of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda |

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| March 31 | International Transgender Day of Visibility | Transgender Day of Visibility is an important opportunity to celebrate the diversity of gender identities and expressions and to promote understanding and acceptance of the transgender community |
| March 31 | International Day of Drug Checking | The purpose of the day is to educate people about drugs and their effects and to promote harm reduction initiatives to reduce the risks associated with drug use |
| March 31 | World Backup Day | It is a day for people to learn about the increasing role of data in our lives and the importance of regular backups |
| | | |



- a. 1 மற்றும் 2 மட்டும்
d. 1,2 மற்றும் 3 மட்டும்

- b. 2 மற்றும் 3 மட்டும் c. 4 மட்டும்
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

4. Using a website to pour out one's grievances is called

- a. cyber venting b. web hate c. web anger
d. cyber abuse e. Answer not known

ஒரு மனிதனின் வேதனைகளை வலைதளம் மூலம் கொட்டுவதின் முறைக்கு பெயர்
a. சைபர் வென்டிங் b. வெப் ஹேட் c. வெப் ஆங்கர்
d. சைபர் அபியூஸ் e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Books and authors

5. The autobiography 'The Race of my life' is related to

- a. P.T. Usha b. Milkha Singh c. Kapil Dev
d. Mahendra Singh Dboni e. Answer not known

'தி ரேஸ் ஆஃப் மை லைஃப்' என்ற சுயசரிதை யாருடன் தொர்புடையது?

- a. பி.டி. உஷா b. மில்கா சிங் c. கபில் தேவ்
d. மஹேந்திர சிங் தோனி e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

Awards and Honours

6. Maha Vir Chakra award on 26th January 2021 won by

- a. Naik Digendra Kumar b. Major Vivek Gupta
c. Brigadier Sant Singh d. Colonel B. Santosh Babu
e. Answer not known

26 ஜனவரி 2021-ல் மகாவீர் சக்ரா விருது _____ அவர்களுக்கு வழங்கப்பட்டது

- a. நாயக் திகேந்திர குமார் b. மேஜர் விவேக் குப்தா
c. பிரேகிடியர் சாண்ட் சிங் d. கர்னல் B. சந்தோஷ் பாகு
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

7. The Padma Vibushan in the field of Arts for the year 2021 was awarded to _____ in Tamil Nadu.

- a. Narayan Devnath b. K.S.Chitra
c. Bombay Jeyasree d. S.P. Balasubrahmanyam
e. Answer not known

கலைத்துறையில் சாதனைகள் செய்தமைக்காக, 2021 ஆம் ஆண்டிற்கான, தமிழ்நாட்டில் பத்ம விபூஷன் விருது பெற்றவர் யார்?

a. நாராயண் தேவ்நாத்
d. எஸ்.பி.பாலசுப்பிரமணியம்

b. கே.எஸ்.சித்ரா
e. விடைதெரியவில்லை

c. பாம்பே ஜெயஸ்ரீ

Welfare oriented Government schemes and their utility

8. Which one of the following employment schemes is the most momentous to strengthen the livelihood resource base of rural poor?

a. Atmanirbhar Bharat

b. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

c. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana

d. PLI Scheme (Production Linked Incentive)

e. Answer not known

கிராமப்புற ஏழைகளின் வாழ்வாதார ஆதாரங்களை வலுப்படுத்த எந்த வேலைவாய்ப்புத் திட்டம் மிகவும் முக்கியமானது?

a. ஆத்மநிர்பர் பாரத்

b. மகாத்மாகாந்தி தேசிய ஊரக வேலைவாய்ப்பு உறுதித் திட்டம்

c. பிரதம மந்திரியின் முத்ரா திட்டம்

d. உற்பத்தி வழி இணைந்த ஊக்கத் தொகைத் திட்டம்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

9. Which one of the following pair is not matched correctly?

a. SANKALP - Ministry of Skill Development

b. STRIVE - Ministry of MSME

c. SAMPADA - Ministry of Food processing

d. SAUBHAGYA - Ministry of Power

e. Answer not known

கீழே கொடுக்கப்பட்டவைகளுள் எவை சரியாகப் பொருத்தப்படவில்லை?

a. சங்கல்ப் - திறன் வளர்ப்பு அமைச்சகம்

b. ஸ்டிரைவ் - MSME அமைச்சகம்

c. சம்பதா - உணவு செயலாக்க அமைச்சகம்

d. செளபாக்கியா - சக்திதிறன் அமைச்சகம்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை