

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 21, 2024

INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India and Brazil First-Ever '2+2' Dialogue**
- ✓ India and Brazil conducted their first-ever '2+2' defence and foreign ministerial dialogue, discussing cooperation in key areas.



- ✓ The talks focused on expanding cooperation in various areas, including energy, critical minerals, technology, and counter-terrorism.
- ✓ The '2+2' defence and foreign ministerial dialogue involves the participation of the defence and foreign ministers of two countries, along with their respective counterparts, to discuss strategic and security-related issues, as well as diplomatic matters.

REPORT

- **World Happiness Report**
- ✓ The **2024 World Happiness Report** has been released, with **Finland** as the happiest country for the **seventh consecutive year**.



- ✓ **Denmark and Iceland** retain their positions at second and third place, respectively, with **Sweden** following closely at fourth.
- ✓ Notably, **Costa Rica and Lithuania** have broken into the top 20 list for the first time, securing ranks 12 and 19, respectively.
- ✓ **India**, on the other hand, ranked **126** out of the **143** countries listed.
- ✓ All of India's neighbouring countries ranked higher, with China at **60**, followed by Nepal at **93**, Pakistan (**108**), Myanmar (**118**), Sri Lanka (**128**), and Bangladesh (**129**).
- ✓ **Afghanistan** retained its status as the unhappiest country in the world for yet another year followed by **Lebanon, Lesotho, Sierra Leone, and Congo**.
- **Gender Inequality Index (GII), 2022**
- ✓ The Gender Inequality Index (GII), 2022 has been released by UNDP in their Human Development Report 2023-24.



- ✓ In GII, India stands at rank 108th out of 193 countries, with a score of 0.437.
- ✓ Gender Inequality Index is a composite metric of gender inequality using three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market.
- ✓ It reflects the gap in human development potential due to inequality between female and male achievements in these areas.
- ✓ GII values range from 0 (equality) to 1 (extreme inequality).
- ✓ A low GII value indicates low inequality between women and men, and vice-versa.

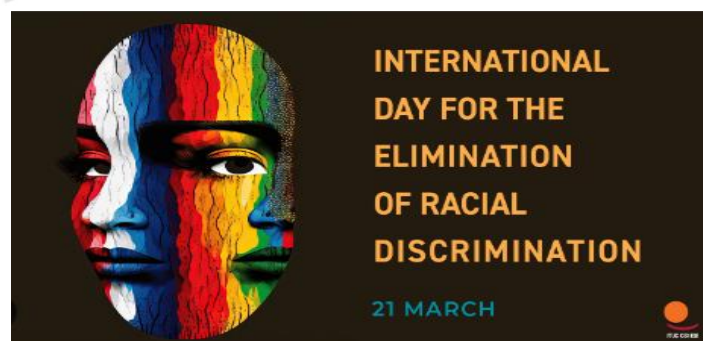
IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ **World Oral Health Day: March 20**

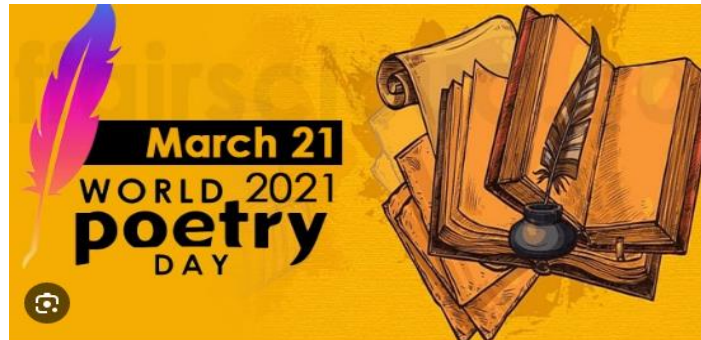
- ✓ On World Oral Health Day on 20 March 2024, the World Health Organization (WHO) is calling for action in the South-East Asia Region and among partners to promote oral health and reduce the burden of oral diseases.



- ✓ Oral diseases are among the most common non-communicable diseases worldwide.
 - ✓ In 2019, there were an estimated 3.5 billion cases of oral diseases and related conditions globally.
 - ✓ The theme for Oral Health Day 2024 is 'A happy mouth is a happy body.'
- ## ➤ **International Day For The Elimination Of Racial Discrimination: March 21**
- ✓ On 21st March every year, we observe the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.



- ✓ This day reminds us about the negative consequences of racial discrimination.
 - ✓ The theme for 2024 is "A Decade of Recognition, Justice, and Development: Implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent".
- ## ➤ **World Poetry Day: March 21**
- ✓ On March 21, people throughout the world celebrate World Poetry Day to honour an expression of language with which they can all identify.



- ✓ Every country's past contains poetry, which unites people through shared humanity and values. Even the most simple poems can spark conversation.
 - ✓ "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants" is the celebratory theme for World Poetry Day 2024, marked annually on March 21st.
- **World Forestry Day: March 21**
- ✓ Every year, we celebrate World Forestry Day on March 21st. In 2024, it falls on a Thursday.



- ✓ Forests are not just trees; they are crucial for our everyday life.
 - ✓ They hold the soil in place, help retain water, and keep our environment balanced.
 - ✓ Forests also provide us with the air we breathe and give us medicine from plants. Without forests and trees, we could not survive.
 - ✓ This year's theme, 'Forests and Innovation: New Solutions for a Better World.'
- **World Down Syndrome Day: March 21**
- ✓ Every year, World Down Syndrome Day is observed on March 21. Down Syndrome is a condition that can affect a person physically and mentally.



- ✓ It makes communication and social interactions challenging. In Down Syndrome, a person has an extra chromosome which affects how their body and brain develop.
- ✓ The date was chosen because it represents the 21st chromosome that causes Down Syndrome.
- ✓ Theme is 'End The Stereotypes'.

