

# TEACHERS' VISION

WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

**WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS 1<sup>ST</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023**

## NATIONAL AFFAIRS

- 1. President Droupadi Murmu inaugurates two-day 'Gaj Utsav' in Assam:** The President of India Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the 'Gaj Utsav-2023' at the Kaziranga National Park in Assam on April 7, 2023. The celebration encompasses Elephants' role in ecology, as an integral part of our religion, mythology, and literature. The festival is being organized by the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) and the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MOEFCC). CM - Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma ➔ Dibru Saikhowa National Park ➔ Akashiganga Waterfalls ➔ Kakochang Waterfall ➔ Chapanala Waterfalls ➔ Kaziranga National Park ➔ Nameri National Park ➔ Manas National Park
- 2. PM Modi launches International Big Cats Alliance to save tiger species:** PM Narendra Modi launched the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) on 9 April 2023 to save 7 big cat species. The alliance will work to conserve the world's seven major big cats, including tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, puma, jaguar, and cheetah. • Under the alliance, the member countries will share their experiences and lay emphasis on research, training, and capacity building.
- 3. President Murmu takes sortie on Sukhoi 30 MKI aircraft in Assam:** President Droupadi Murmu took a historic sortie in a Sukhoi 30 MKI fighter aircraft at the Tezpur Air Force Station in Assam on 8 April 2023. The President, who is the Supreme Commander of the Indian Armed Forces, flew for nearly 30 minutes covering Brahmaputra and Tezpur valley. President Murmu is the third President and second woman President to undertake such a sortie.
- 4. Centre to appoint agency to fact check content on online platforms:** Under the IT Rules amendment notified on 7 April 2023, the union government has announced to appoint an agency to fact check false and misleading information related to government business on digital platforms. The amended rules make it obligatory for intermediaries (internet companies) to not publish, share or host fake, false or misleading information related to the government.
- 5. Jal Jeevan Mission Achieves 60% Coverage Milestone:** Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, 60% of rural households have access to clean drinking water through taps. It added 23.4 million households in the fiscal year ended 2022-23. Of India's total of 190.4 million rural households, 116 million now have a functioning water tap.
- 6. India & Bhutan plan to set up first Integrated Check Post along border:** PM Narendra Modi and King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck held a bilateral meeting in New Delhi on

# TEACHERS' VISION

## WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

April 5. Both countries are examining and considering setting up the first Integrated Check Post along the India-Bhutan border, which would be near Jaigaon. India and Bhutan will also expedite the proposed Kokrajhar-Gelephu rail link project through Govt. of India support.

- 7. Kerala tops GI tag list in FY 2022-23:** Kerala has topped the list of States in the country with the most number of products securing the Geographical Indication (GI) tag in FY23. Between April 2022 and March 2023, 12 products were selected for the recognition with two of them from overseas. Besides the 6 products from Kerala, Mithila Makhana from Bihar was selected for GI recognition followed by Alibag white onion from Maharashtra.
- 8. Apple Inc. To Open Its First India Store In Mumbai:** Apple iPhone maker's first company-owned store in the country will be opened at Mumbai. The store will be named as Apple-BKC. The move is part of the company's landmark move to place big bets on the South Asian nation for everything from manufacturing to sales.
- 9. France invites PM Modi for Bastille Day Parade in July 2023:** France has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit Paris as a guest at the annual Bastille Day parade on 14 July 2023. PM Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron are expected to discuss several major agreements including the Indo-Pacific region, nuclear power, and defense. Former PM Manmohan Singh was invited as the Bastille Day parade guest in 2009.

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- 10. Finland joins NATO as 31st Ally:** Finland became NATO's newest member today (4 April 2023), upon depositing its instrument of accession to the North Atlantic Treaty with the United States at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. The Finnish foreign minister handed the accession document to the US secretary of state who declared Finland a member. Finland's accession is a setback for Russia's Vladimir Putin. NATO: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, also called the North Atlantic Alliance, is an intergovernmental military alliance between 31 member states – 29 European and two North American. **Founded:** 4 April 1949, **Headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium
- 11. Bahrain launches 'Golden License' to attract major investment:** Bahrain launched the Golden License Initiative to encourage investment and job creation in the country on 4 April 2023. It offers various benefits, including priority land allotment for investment and streamlined access to government services such as business licensing and building permit approval. The license will also provide support from Tamkin and the Bahrain Development Bank.

# TEACHERS' VISION

## WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

### **BANKING, FINANCE and ECONOMY**

- 12. Govt sanctions 40.82 cr loans worth 23.2 lakh cr under MUDRA Scheme:** Union govt, on 8 April 2023, said that it has sanctioned more than 40.82 crore loans worth 23.2 lakh crore under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) since its inception. About 68% of accounts under the scheme belong to women entrepreneurs and 51% of accounts belong to entrepreneurs of SC/ST and OBC categories. It aims to provide collateral-free loans to micro-enterprises in the country.
- 13. RBI launches centralised portal PRAVAAH for licencing and approval:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched a secured web-based centralized portal named 'PRAVAAH' (Platform for Regulatory Application, Validation, And Authorisation) to simplify and streamline application processes. The portal will show time limits for deciding on the applications/approvals sought. It will bring greater efficiencies into regulatory processes for the regulated entities of RBI. Reserve Bank of India:- ➔ Headquarters:- Mumbai, Maharashtra, ➔ Established:- 1 April 1935, 1934 Act. ➔ Hilton Young Commission ➔ First Governor - Sir Osborne Smith ➔ First Indian Governor - Chintaman Dwarkanath Deshmukh ➔ Present Governor:- Shaktikanta Das
- 14. Bimonthly RBI monetary policy report keep repo rates unchanged at 6.5%:** The RBI monetary policy committee (MPC), on 6 April 2023, announced to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at 6.50 percent. RBI also marginally raises Real Gross domestic product (GDP) growth for 2023-24 to 6.5% from an earlier estimate of 6.4 percent. The standing deposit facility (SDF) would remain unchanged at 6.25%. Retail inflation is expected to moderate to 5.2 per cent in FY2023-24. RBI approves expanding UPI transactions to allow credit card payments. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), on 6 April 2023, approved the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions through credit cards. Currently, UPI allows transactions by linking customers' debit cards to their savings or current accounts. UPI currently accounts for 75% of retail digital payments volume in India.
- 15. Rajasthan Royals signs Fino Payments Bank as Digital Banking partner:** Fino Payments Bank, in April 2023, announced that it has renewed its association with Rajasthan Royals for season 16 of the Indian Premier League (IPL). The partnership is expected to provide innovative digital banking solutions to a wider audience. In 2023, Fino Bank is also powering a grassroots-level talent hunt called "**Cricket Ka Ticket**" to discover India's next cricketing superstar.
- 16. Asian Development Bank cuts India GDP growth forecast to 6.4% for FY24:** The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on 4 April 2023 slashed its estimate for India's economic growth for Financial Year (FY) 2024 to 6.4% from 7.2% forecast in December 2022. It estimates the growth

# TEACHERS' VISION

## WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

rate to be 6.7 per cent in FY25. The report said that inflation will decrease to 5% in FY24 and further slow down to 4.5% in FY25 as inflationary pressures subside. Asian Development Bank (ADB) **Headquarters:** Mandaluyong, Philippines **President:** Masatsugu Asakawa (from 17 January 2020) **Founded:** 19 December 1966

**17. World Bank revises India's GDP growth forecast to 6.3 percent in FY2408:** According to a report released on 4 April 2023 by the World Bank, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is predicted to slow down on April 1 to 6.3% from 6.6% in the fiscal year 2024. The World Bank estimated 2023 fiscal year's growth at 6.9%. It projected the current account deficit to narrow to 2.1% of gross domestic product for the current fiscal year from an estimated 3% in 2022. World Bank **President:** David Malpass, **Headquarters:** Washington, D.C., United States **Founded:** July 1944, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, United States **Parent organization:** World Bank Group

## **INDEXES AND REPORTS**

**18. India rises five places to 101 in latest FIFA rankings:** The Indian men's football team, on 6 April 2023, moved up five places to be at the 101st spot in the Fédération Internationale de football association (FIFA) rankings on 6 April 2023. Argentina topped the FIFA ranking for the first time in 6 years. France is in the 2nd with Brazil at No.3 while Belgium is in fourth place, with England in fifth, followed by the Netherlands and Croatia.

**19. India hosts 6.19 million foreign tourist arrivals in 2022:** According to the report released by Bureau of Immigration, India received 6.19 million Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) during 2022 as compare to 1.52 million during the same period of 2021. Ministry of Tourism, under its Schemes of Swadesh Darshan provides central financial assistance to State Governments for development of tourism infrastructure to provide an enriching tourism experience.

**20. Mukesh Ambani becomes richest sports owner in Forbes Billionaire List:** Mukesh Ambani was named the richest sports owner in the Forbes Billionaires 2023 list, released on 5 April 2023. With a net worth of \$83.4 billion, he also regained his spot as Asia's richest person in the list. According to the list, the 25 richest people in the world are worth a collective \$2.1 trillion. With \$211 billion net worth, Bernard Arnault tops the list for the first time.

**21. Global trade growth expected to grow at 1.7% in 2023: WTO:** The world trade organization (WTO) on 5th April 2023 revised its global trade growth outlook for 2023 upwards to 1.7% from October 2023 estimate of 1%. As per the report, the global trade growth for 2024 is expected to

# TEACHERS' VISION

## WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

be 3.2 percent. Global commodity trade volumes are expected to grow by 1.7 percent in 2023, following a 2.7 percent increase in 2022.

**22. IGI ranked world's 9th busiest airport:** Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport has entered the club of the world's top 10 busiest airports by passenger traffic, as per Airports Council International (ACI). The global trade association of airports ranked the Delhi airport at the 9th spot for 2022, the airport handled almost 5.95 crore passengers. As per ACI data, the Delhi airport handled almost 5.95 crore passengers in 2022.

## APPOINTMENTS

**23. Rajib K Mishra takes over as Chairman & Managing Director of PTC India:** Rajib K Mishra took over as the Chairman and Managing Director of Power Trading Corporation of India (PTC) Limited on 30 March 2023. He started working at PTC India Ltd. as the Executive Director in October 2011, overseeing operations, business development, retail and advisory services. He later joined the PTC Board as the Director of Marketing and Business Development on February 24, 2015. Vice Admiral SJ Singh takes charge as new Vice Chief of Indian Navy. Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh assumed the appointment of the Vice Chief of Naval Staff on 01 Apr 2023. He is a graduate of the National Defence Academy, Pune, and was commissioned in 1986 in the Executive Branch of the Indian Navy. In recognition of his distinguished service, the Flag Officer was awarded the Nao Sena Medal in 2009, and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 2020.

**24. Honda motor appoints Tsutsumu Otani as its new President, CEO and MD:** Honda Motor Company Limited on 5 April 2023 appointed Tsutsumu Otani as the President, CEO & Managing Director of Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India. He is currently the Vice President at Honda Motor, Japan. He will succeed Atsushi Ogata, who returns to Shanghai, China. He started his career with Honda Japan in 1997 and held several leadership positions in the company.

**25. Kapil Maheshwari named CEO of Welspun New Energy:** Welspun Enterprises Ltd (WEL), on 5 April 2023, appointed Kapil Maheshwari as CEO and executive director of its wholly-owned subsidiary Welspun New Energy Limited. He has over 20 years of experience in solar energy, storage technologies, power electronics, and green hydrogen space in India, the US, Germany, and various regions. Prior to joining Welspun, He was part of Reliance Industries.

**26. Suzlon board appoints J P Chalasani as Chief Executive Officer:** The clean energy solution provider Suzlon Energy, appointed JP Chalasani as the new chief of the company on 5 April 2023. He was the Group CEO of Suzlon Energy from April 2016 to July 2020. In 40 years of career, Chalasani has worked in companies like Lloyd, Reliance, NTPC, etc.

# TEACHERS' VISION

## WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

### MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

- 27. 'Mircha' rice of Bihar's West Champaran gets GI tag:** Mircha' rice of Bihar's West Champaran has been awarded the GI tag. The size and shape of the grain appear like that of black pepper, hence it is known as Mircha or Marcha Rice. The grains and flakes of this rice have a unique aroma that makes it different. This rice is famous for its aroma, palatability and its aromatic chura (rice flakes) making qualities.
- 28. UP's Banarasi Paan, three other Varanasi-based goods receive GI Tag:** Uttar Pradesh's Banarasi Paan, on 4 April 2023, received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the government. Banarasi Langda Mango, Ramnagar Bhanta (Brinjal), and Adamchini. Rice were also awarded the GI tag. More than 1,000 farmers would receive GI-approved user certificates after registering. With this addition, a total of 22 GI-tagged products belong to the Kashi region.
- 29. National Maritime Day: 5 April:** Every year, 5th April is celebrated as National Maritime Day in India to spread awareness about international trade and the economy. The day also commemorate the maiden journey of India's first commercial vessel from Bombay to London. SS Loyalty, the commercial vehicle owned by Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd., marked its journey from Bombay to London on 5th April 1919.
- 30. Weightlifter Sanjita Chanu banned for 4 years by NADA:** Two-time Commonwealth Games winner Sanjita Chanu has been banned for four years by India's National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) on 6 April 2023. The ban was imposed after Chanu tested positive for the anabolic-androgenic steroid Drostanolone, banned by WADA. Drostanolone is primarily used to treat breast cancer in women but is also used by athletes as a performance-enhancing drug.
- 31. World Health Day: 7 April:** World Health Day is celebrated every year on 7 April to draw attention to a specific health topic of concern to people all over the world. In 1948, the World Health Organization (WHO) held the First World Health Assembly. The date of 7 April marks the anniversary of the founding of WHO in 1948. The theme for World Health Day 2023 is 'Health for All'.
- 32. International Day of Conscience: 5 April:** The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) observes the International Day of Conscience every year on 5 April to recognize the significance of the human conscience. The day promotes the need for the creation of peaceful and friendly relations and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, or religion. The theme for the year 2023 is "Building a Culture of Peace."
- 33. India to buy Hellfire missiles and MK 54 torpedos from the USA:** India announced the purchase of Hellfire missiles and Mark 54 anti-submarine Torpedoes from the USA for its mh-60

# TEACHERS' VISION

## WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

Romeo multi-role helicopters in April 2023. It is also already inducted into the Indian Navy's P-81 anti-submarine warfare and surveillance planes. India and the US signed a Rs 16,000 crore deal to buy 24 MH-60 Romeo helicopters from Lockheed Martin in 2020.

**34. Kenya to launch its first operational satellite on 10 April:** The Kenya Space Agency is set to launch the country's first operational earth observation satellite on 10 April 2023. Taifa-1, or one nation in Swahili, is scheduled to be launched on April 10 on board the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. In 2018, Kenya launched its first experimental nanosatellite from the International Space Station.

**35. Mahavir Jayanti: 4 April:** Mahavir Jayanti is going to be celebrated on April 4, 2023. It celebrates the birth of Lord Mahavir, the twenty-fourth and last Tirthankara in Jainism. He was born on the 13th day of Shukla Paksha in the month of Chaitra. He was born into the Ikshvaku dynasty as the son of King Siddhartha of Kundagrama and Queen Trishala. He was named 'Vardhaman', meaning "One who grows".

**36. India-Sri Lanka maritime exercise SLINEX 2023 begins in Colombo:** The 10th Edition of the annual India - Sri Lanka Bilateral Maritime exercise SLINEX-2023 began in Colombo on the 3 April 2023. The exercise is being conducted in two phases of three days each, the harbor phase and the sea phase. The Indian Navy will be represented by INS Kiltan and INS Savitri, while the Sri Lankan Navy will be represented by SLNS Vijayabahu and SLNS Samudura.

**37. India-U.S. air exercise 'Cope India' to begin from 10 April:** The Air Forces of India and the U.S. are set to conduct the Cope India exercise from April 10 to 21, 2023 at the Kalaikunda airbase in West Bengal, with Japan as an observer. The Indian Air Force is set to field its SU-30MKI, Rafale, and the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft. The Japanese Air Self-Defence Force (JASDF) participated in Cope India as an observer for the 1st time in Dec 2018.

## **WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIR QUIZ 24<sup>TH</sup> – 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

**1. Which country joined the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) in March 2023?**

- (a) Egypt                      (b) Qatar                      (c) Iran                      (d) Saudi Arabia

**2. Which of the following teams recently became the first-ever Women's Premier League champion?**

- (a) Delhi Capitals              (b) Royal Challengers Bangalore      (c) Gujarat Giants      (d) Mumbai Indians

**3. Who has been awarded the Abel Prize for mathematics in March 2023?**

- (a) Lawrence C. Evans      (b) Carlos Kenig              (c) Luis Caffarelli              (d) Nicola Fusco

# TEACHERS' VISION

## WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

**4.** Who launched an app called 'Call Before u Dig'?

- (a) Piyush Goyal      (b) Narendra Modi      (c) Hardeep Singh Puri      (d) Kiren Rijiju

**5.** Who has been awarded Kerala's highest civilian honour 'Kerala Puraskarnal'?

- (a) Hariharan      (b) Arif Muhammad Khan      (c) M T Vasudevan Nair      (d) Ramchandran

**6.** The 2023 Swiss Open badminton tournament started in which city?

- (a) Zürich      (b) Geneva      (c) Basel      (d) Bern

**7.** Which country retained the top spot in the list of countries impacted by terrorism in the new Global Terrorism Index report?

- (a) Pakistan      (b) Afghanistan      (c) North Korea      (d) Iran

## ANSWERS

1) A  
2) D

3) C  
4) B

5) C  
6) C

7) B

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