

# TEACHERS' VISION

WAY TO GOVERNMENT JOBS

**WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS 24<sup>TH</sup> – 31<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023**

## **NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

- 1. GoI Launches NRCP for Prevention and Control of Rabies:** The Government of India (GoI) launched the National Rabies Control Programme (NRCP) for rabies prevention and control, and the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), released the NRCP strategies, which are as follows: • Provision of rabies vaccine & rabies immunoglobulin through national free drug initiatives Training on appropriate animal bite management, prevention and control of rabies, surveillance and intersectoral coordination Strengthening surveillance of animal bites and rabies deaths reporting Creating awareness about rabies prevention
- 2. PM Modi addressed 'One World TB Summit' at Varanasi** During the One World TB Summit arranged by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) on World Tuberculosis Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted India's powerful pharmaceutical industry as a significant advantage in the global battle against TB. He also mentioned that India has set a goal of eradicating TB by the year 2025.
- 3. Rajasthan became India's 1st state to Guarantee Right to Health:** Prasadi Lal Meena, Minister of Medical & Health, announced that the Rajasthan Assembly had cleared a bill named 'Right to Health' (which was passed in September 2022), becoming the first state in India to do so. i. The 'Right to Health', 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. ii. It also provides similar healthcare services (free of cost) at select private facilities.
- 4. PM Inaugurated new ITU Area Office & Innovation Centre in New Delhi; Launched 6G R&D Test Bed, CBuD App:** Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi inaugurated India's new International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Area office and Innovation Centre at a programme in Vigyan Bhawan, in New Delhi, Delhi. i. The PM unveiled the Bharat 6G (6th Generation) Vision Document and launched the 6G Research and development (R&D) Test Bed. Bharat 6G vision document is prepared by the Technology Innovation Group on 6G (TIG-6G) that was constituted in November 2021. ii. PM also launched the 'Call before u Dig' App, which will reduce the instances of unnecessary digging and damage. The Call Before You Dig (CBuD) app is a tool created to prevent the damage to underlying assets like optical fiber cables.
- 5. Union Minister Giriraj Singh initiates 'Captive Employment' Scheme:** Union Minister for Rural Development Giriraj Singh initiated Captive Employers, a unique initiative under the Deen Dayal

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Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) in New Delhi on 28 March 2023. Captive employers will train Rural Poor Youth and employ trained youth in their companies. In the first phase, 19 Captive Employers are being engaged to provide jobs to over 31,000 rural youth.

6. **Himachal Pradesh's Kangra tea gets European GI tag:** Himachal Pradesh's Kangra tea awarded the European Geographical Indicator (GI) tag on 29 March 2023. The tag will help Kangra tea to get an opportunity to enter the European market. • Kangra tea received the Indian GI tag in 2005. Since 1999, the cultivation and development of tea have improved constantly in the Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh.
7. **SCO National Security Advisors' meet begins in New Delhi on 29 March:** The meeting of the National Security Advisers (NSAs) of member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was hosted by India in New Delhi on 29 March 2023. India is the current chair of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) 2023. The group denounced terrorism in all forms and agreed that its financing is amongst the most serious threats to global peace.
8. **Amit Shah inaugurated Vedic Heritage portal in New Delhi:** Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Vedic Heritage portal in New Delhi. The primary aim of the portal is to communicate the messages enshrined in the Vedas and make it more accessible to the common people. According to Union Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy, the Vedic Heritage portal now has audio-visual recordings of the four Vedas.

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. **QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023: IIT Bombay & IIT Delhi Among Top 50 Engineering institutes:** Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, (Mumbai, Maharashtra) and IIT-Delhi(New Delhi, Delhi) are featured among the top 50 in the subject of Engineering and Technology in the QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University Rankings by Subject 2023. IIT Bombay is ranked 47th and IIT Delhi is ranked 48th. i. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)(Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America(USA)) topped the Engineering and Technology ranking followed by Stanford University in 2nd and the University of Cambridge(Cambridge, England) in 3rd rank. ii. QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023 is the 13th edition of the QS World University Rankings by Subject.
2. **Global Terrorism Index 2023 By IEP:** Afghanistan Most Impacted by Terrorism for Fourth Straight Year, India Ranks 13th: According to the Global Terrorism Index 2023, the 10th edition of the Global Terrorism Index (GTI) by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), Afghanistan remained the nation, most affected by terrorism for the fourth consecutive year, despite assaults

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and fatalities declining by 75% and 58%, respectively. i. India was ranked 13th and was listed among nations with a "high" impact of terrorism. ii. According to the report, the Communist Party of India (Maoist) [CPI-M] is ranked as the 12th deadliest terrorist organisation in 2022. iii. The deadliest terrorist groups in the world in 2022 were Islamic State (IS) and its affiliates, followed by al-Shabaab, Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) and Jamaat Nusrat Al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM). Note – The GTI 2023 is based on data from Dragonfly's TerrorismTracker database and uses 31 December, 2022 as the cut-off date.

- 3. Egypt joins BRICS bank as new member weeks after President Sisi's India visit:** After President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi visited India as a chief guest for the Republic Day celebrations, Egypt has become a member of the BRICS New Development Bank (NDB). According to sources familiar with the matter, Egypt officially joined the NDB on February 20, with a formal notification issued on March 22. The African-Arab nation intends to enhance its infrastructure, and NDB funding can make a significant contribution toward achieving this goal.

## BANKING, FINANCE AND ECONOMY

- 1. NPCI recommends up to 1.1% interchange fee on UPI:** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has notified that an interchange fee of up to 1.1% will be applicable on merchant UPI (Unified Payments Interface) transactions with effect from April 1, 2023. The charge will be levied on UPI payments of over 2,000. The charges are only applicable for prepaid payment instruments (PPI) transactions and there is no charge to customers.
- 2. Indian economy to grow at 6.5% in next decade:** Chief Economic Advisor: Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran on 29 March 2023 announced that the Indian Economy is likely to grow at the rate of 6.5 percent in the coming decade. The Finance Ministry's Economic Survey has projected the economic growth to be 6.5 percent in 2023-24. While the RBI has projected India's economic growth to slow down to 6.4 percent in Financial Year 2024.
- 3. YES Bank issues first electronic bank guarantee with NeSL:** YES Bank has collaborated with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to issue its first electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG). The integration of their digital document execution (DDE) platform has made it possible to completely digitize the previous paper-based process of issuing and maintaining Bank Guarantees.
- 4. India's overall exports cross all time high of USD 750 billion:** Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, on 28 March 2023, announced that India's overall exports crossed US\$ 750 billion. This is an all time high and this achievement of 750 billion comes in the 75th year of

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independence. India's strong macroeconomy, robust foreign exchange reserves, relatively low inflation and entrepreneurial spirit have immensely contributed to the export.

### SPORTS

- 1. India bagged 4 Gold at 13th IBA World Women's Boxing Championship in New Delhi:** India topped the medal tally of the 2023 Mahindra International Boxing Association (IBA) Women's World Boxing Championships (WWBC), the 13th edition of the championships, with 4 gold medals. The 13th edition of the WWBC was hosted by India from 15th to 26th March 2023 at K.D. Jadhav Indoor Hall in New Delhi, Delhi. China secured the 2nd position in the medal tally with 7 medals (3 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze) and Russia secured the 3rd position with 3 medals (1 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze). Indian boxers were awarded the Best Team of the tournament for being the most successful team with 4 gold medals. i. Nitu Ghanghas and Lovlina Borgohain won Minimumweight (48Kg) and Middleweight (75Kg) respectively.
- 2. Mumbai Indians beats Delhi Capital to Become Inaugural Champions of TATA WPL 2023:** Mumbai Indians(MI) team captained by Harmanpreet Kaur(India) defeated the Delhi Capitals(DC) led by Meghann(Meg) Lanning (Australia) to win the inaugural TATA Women's Premier League(WPL) 2023 championship. MI defeated DC by wickets in the finals held in Brabourne Stadium at Churchgate, Mumbai, Maharashtra on 26th March 2023. i. Hayley matthews won the Most Valuable Player and Purple cap (Highest Wicket Taker) awards. ii. Meg Lanning won the Orange cap for being the season's Top Run Scorer and Harmanpreet Kaur won Catch of the season award. iii. The sponsors for the Women's IPL rights for 5 years are awarded to the TATA group. Tata Capital, the financial services arm of the Tata Group, was the title sponsor of the WPL 2023.
- 3. 2023 Swiss Open Super 300: India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty wins doubles title in Basel:** The Yonex Swiss Open 2023, a BWF World Tour Super 300, was held from 21st to 26th March 2023 in St. Jakobshalle, Basel, Switzerland. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, world no. 6 Men's doubles badminton players, won the Men's doubles title defeating China's Ren Xiang Yu and Tan Qiang, World's No 21 doubles pair, at Yonex Swiss Open 2023.

### AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- 1. M T Vasudevan Nair awarded Kerala's highest civilian honour:** The highest civilian honor in Kerala, the "Kerala Jyothi," was awarded to the writer M T Vasudevan Nair. The second-highest award, "Kerala Prabha," was shared by actor Mammooty, former civil service officer T Madhava

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Menon, and writer Omchery NN Pillai. Arif Muhammad Khan, the Governor of Kerala, has presented the inaugural edition of the "Kerala Puraskarngal" awards, which recognize individuals who have made notable contributions to various aspects of social life.

- 2. Salima Tete appointed as the AHF Athletes Ambassador:** National women's hockey team midfielder Salima Tete has appointed the AHF Athletes Ambassador from India for a term of two years. Tete accepted the certificate and the position during the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) Congress in Mungyeong, Korea.
- 3. Luis Caffarelli won the 2023 Abel Prize:** Luis Caffarelli, 74, has won the 2023 Abel Prize "for his seminal contributions to regularity theory for nonlinear partial differential equations including free-boundary problems and the Monge-Ampère equation". The prize includes a monetary award of 7.5 million kroner (roughly \$ 720,000) and a glass plaque designed by Norwegian artist Henrik Haugan.
- 4. Former Brazilian President Dilma Vana Rousseff elected as President of NDB:** On 24th March 2023, the Board of Governors of the New Development Bank (NDB), formerly referred to as the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Development Bank, unanimously elected former President of Brazil Dilma Vana Rousseff as the President of the NDB with an immediate effect. Dilma Rousseff will be president of the BRICS's New Development Bank until 2025. Dilma Rousseff (75 years old), succeeds Marcos Troyjo, who stepped down as the President of NDB on 24th March 2023.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- 1. GRSE launched the 'Most Silent Ship' INS Androth:** Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), a shipbuilding company in India, has launched INS Androth, a vessel claimed to be the "most silent ship in the country" for the Indian Navy. The vessel is the first in a series of eight anti-submarine warfare shallow-watercraft to be delivered to the navy.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

- 1. World Tuberculosis Day 2023 observed on 24 March:** World Tuberculosis Day is observed on March 24th every year to raise awareness about the global epidemic of tuberculosis (TB) and efforts to eliminate the disease. The World Health Organization (WHO) aims to end the TB epidemic by 2030. The organization works with governments, non-governmental organizations, and other partners to increase access to TB prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, and to develop new tools and strategies for TB control.

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### 2. International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members 2023: 25 March:

The United Nations observes the International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members on March 25 every year to honor the memory of Alec Collett, a journalist who died while on a UN mission after being kidnapped. The purpose of this day is to acknowledge the contributions of UN personnel and the risks they take to carry out humanitarian work, as well as to remember those who have lost their lives in service to the UN.

### 3. Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination: 21-27 March:

The Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling Against Racism and Racial Discrimination is an annual event that is observed from March 21 to 27. The purpose of this week is to oppose human rights violations, injustices, and racial discrimination that people face around the world.

### 4. Purple Day of Epilepsy 2023 is observed on March 26th:

Purple Day of Epilepsy is an international day of awareness dedicated to raising understanding and reducing the social stigma associated with epilepsy, a neurological condition. It is celebrated annually on March 26 with the goal of educating people about epilepsy, recognizing the signs of a seizure, and offering support to those who are impacted by it. World Theatre Day 2023 is celebrated on 27th March Every year on March 27, World Theatre Day is celebrated worldwide to promote the significance of theatrical forms. Theatre not only provides entertainment but also serves as an art form that educates and inspires individuals. Many plays are performed on a variety of topics, including social issues, entertainment, and comedy.

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