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March
MockDrill
PDF No. 2
(PDF in English)



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An important message from Team Smartkeeda

Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of March 2022 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda

स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF मार्च 2022 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढ़ना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



INDEX

National & States Affairs	6
International Affairs	8
Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs	8
Defence Affairs	10
Sports & Games	10
Arts & Cultural Affairs	11
Science & Technology	11
Appointments & Resignations	12
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes	13
Schemes & Initiatives	13
Important Days & Dates	14
Obituaries	15
Meetings, Conferences & Summits	15
Ranks, Reports & Surveys	16
Ordinance, Bills & Acts	17
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships	17



National & States Affairs

51. On March 1, the six-acre “Arogya Vanam” was inaugurated at the Rashtrapati Bhavan by the President Ram Nath Kovind, in the presence of PM Narendra Modi. The structure of Arogya Vanam is made in the shape of a human sitting in yoga posture (Arogya Manav). Arogya Vanam has been conceived and developed with the aim of publicising the importance of Ayurvedic plants and their effects on human organs. The help of the forest department of Gujarat, which created the Arogya Van in Kevadia, was taken for conceptualisation, selection and procurement of plants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- President Ram Nath Kovind – inaugurated “Arogya Vanam” at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi
- The help of the forest department of Gujarat was taken for this “Arogya Vanam”

52. On March 3, Adani Renewable Energy Holding Fifteen Limited, a Wholly-owned Subsidiary of Adani Green Energy Limited participated in a tender issued by Punjab State Power Corporation Limited for procurement of 250 MW Solar Power from ground mounted grid connected solar PV power plants and received the Letter of Award (LoA) to set-up 150 MW Solar Power Project. The fixed tariff for this project capacity is ₹2.34/ kWh for a period of 25 years. With this, Adani Green now has a total renewable energy project portfolio of 20.434 MWac capacity, out of which 5.410 MWac projects are operational. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Adani Renewable Energy Holding Fifteen Ltd – participated in a tender issued by Punjab State Power Corporation & received the LoA to set-up 150 MW Solar Power Project
- Fixed tariff for this project capacity – ₹2.34/ kWh | Period – 25 years
- HQs of Adani Green Energy Ltd – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | MD & CEO – Vneet S. Jaain

53. On March 1, In order to build awareness amongst citizens about good governance, MyGov (under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology) launched the “Sabka Vikas MahaQuiz” series. This is a year-long project and consists of 14 episodes, all hosted at Quiz.MyGov.in. The series aims to sensitise the participants about the various government schemes and initiatives. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- MyGov – launched the “Sabka Vikas MahaQuiz” series to build awareness amongst citizens about good governance
- MyGov platform was launched on – 26 July, 2014

54. On March 1, Goldi Solar, a global solar panel manufacturer and EPC services provider, in partnership with Shree Ramkrishna Knowledge Foundation (SRKKF) laid the foundation stone for the solarization of the village of Dudhala in Southern Gujarat. A 450 KW Solar Rooftop Project will be used to power around 350 houses and public areas such as Anganwadis and gram panchayat. Once complete, this would be the first village to be completely powered with solar panels by a foundation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Goldi Solar + EPC services provider + SRKKF = laid the foundation stone for the solarization of Dudhala village, in Gujarat
- Location of Goldi Solar – Surat, Gujarat | Location of SRKKF – Surat, Gujarat
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – AcharyaDevVrat



55. On March 4, Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia inaugurated the 'Delhi Teachers University' at Outram Lane, Mukherjee Nagar. It is Delhi's first of its kind University. The university would begin its two-year BEd programmes this year, and a four year integrated BEd programme later. Dhananjay Joshi will be the first Vice-Chancellor of the university. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi Teachers University – was inaugurated at Outram Lane, Mukherjee Nagar
- Dhananjay Joshi – to be the first Vice-Chancellor of Delhi Teachers University
- [New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal](#) | [Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal](#) | [Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev](#)

56. The Blue Cross of India, an animal welfare charity, launched a first-of-its-kind ambulance for street animals in Chennai in collaboration with Four Paw, the international animal welfare organisation. The Stray Animal Care programme will be called "Hospital on Wheels" with a veterinarian on board to provide on-site treatment for sick and injured street animals. It was launched by Madras High Court Justice Dr. Anitha Sumanth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Blue Cross of India + Four Paw = launched first-of-its-kind ambulance "Hospital on Wheels" for street animals in Chennai
- [HQs of Blue Cross of India – Chennai, Tamil Nadu](#) | [HQs of Four Paw – Vienna, Austria](#)

57. On March 4, Hero MotoCorp Ltd, India's largest two-wheeler maker, announced to make its entry into India's electric vehicle market in July through the 'Vida' brand. The new brand will house the New Delhi-based automaker's emerging mobility initiatives. The company will manufacture the electric vehicles at a factory in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Hero MotoCorp – will enter India's electric vehicle market with its new EV brand 'Vida'
- [HQs of Hero MotoCorp – New Delhi](#) | [Chairman & CEO – Pawan Munjal](#)

58. On March 4, Tata Motors, India's third largest car manufacturer, introduced 'Anubhav', a new showroom on wheels, a doorstep car buying experience for the rural customers. A total of 103 mobile showrooms were deployed across India to enhance the Tata Motors' brand awareness in rural India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Anubhav" - a new 'showroom on wheels' for doorstep car buying experience – introduced by Tata Motors
- [HQs of Tata Motors – Mumbai, MH](#) | [Non-Executive Director & Chairman – Natarajan Chandrasekaran](#)

59. On March 4, in a meeting was called by Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi, the Union government decided to re-establish Village Defence Committees (VDCs) in Jammu with a changed nomenclature to fight militancy, provide hi-tech weapons and ensure equal salary to its members. They will be called 'Village Defence Groups' now. The VDCs were constituted in 1995 in 10 districts of the Jammu region to fight militants. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Union government decided to re-establish Village Defence Committees (VDCs) in Jammu with a changed nomenclature
- VDCs will now be called 'Village Defence Groups' | VDCs were constituted in 1995
- [J & K: Capital – Srinagar](#) | [Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha](#)



International Affairs

60. On March 1, Turkey is set to activate the “Montreux Convention” and ban Russian war vessels from entering the Black Sea through the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits. The Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits, also known as the Turkish Straits or the Black Sea Straits, connect the Aegean Sea and the Black Sea via the Sea of Marmara. It is the only passage through which the Black Sea ports can access the Mediterranean and beyond. Montreux Convention came into effect in the year 1936.

[{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Turkey is set to activate the “Montreux Convention (1936)” & ban Russian war vessels from entering the Black Sea
- Bosphorus & Dardanelles straits – also known as ‘Turkish Straits’ or ‘Black Sea Straits’
- Turkey – Ankara – Lira | President – Recep Tayyip Erdogan

61. On March 4, as western leaders came together to condemn the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Switzerland broke its traditional 200-year old ‘Neutrality Policy’ to sanction Moscow and its leaders. Switzerland implemented the financial sanctions imposed by the European Union on Russian President Vladimir Putin, Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov with immediate effect. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Switzerland – broke its traditional 200-year old ‘Neutrality Policy’ to sanction Moscow & Russian leaders
- Switzerland – Bern – Swiss Franc | President – Guy Parmelin



Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

62. On March 3, Axis Bank has committed a \$150 million (about Rs 1,140 Cr) loan for strengthening India’s healthcare infrastructure by signing an MoU with IPE Global for the ‘SAMRIDH Healthcare Blended Finance Facility’. The continued threat of new variants has reinforced the need to boost investments and partnerships in the health sector. SAMRIDH is an initiative supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Axis Bank + IPE Global = an MoU for the ‘SAMRIDH Healthcare Blended Finance Facility’
- Axis Bank – committed a \$150 million loan for strengthening India’s healthcare infrastructure
- ‘SAMRIDH’ initiative – supported by USAID
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

63. On March 3, PayU collaborated with VTEX, one of the largest global digital commerce platforms, to offer multiple payment solutions to VTEX merchants. PayU platform will be available for VTEX’s merchants when they are doing business in India. PayU is regulated under the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PayU + VTEX = to offer multiple payment solutions to VTEX merchants
- HQs of PayU Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Prashanth Ranganathan
- HQs of VTEX – London, UK | CEO – Mariano Gomide



64. On March 3, LoanTap, a fintech digital lending platform, announced business collaborations with an NBFC called ArkaFincap Ltd. LoanTap also partnered with NBFC, MAS Financial Services Ltd in a co-lending model for the salaried and MSME segment. With these announcements, LoanTap will have six Co-lending partnerships along with its own NBFC platform. LoanTap recently launched the Limitless Credit Card. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LoanTap + ArkaFincap + MAS Financial Services = business collaborations in a co-lending model
- LoanTap – also launched the ‘Limitless Credit Card’
- HQs of LoanTap – Pune, Maharashtra | Co-founder & CEO – Satyam

65. On March 2, LIC Housing Finance Ltd and Common Services Centers (CSC) entered in a strategic partnership to provide loan facility to citizens through the network of over 4 lakh Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs). LIC HFL offers home loans starting from 6.70% interest rate. The product allows entry age of the borrower to be latest up to 65 years and the loan tenure till attainment of 80 years of age or maximum up to 30 years, whichever is earlier. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LIC HFL + CSC = partnership to provide loan to citizens through the network of over 4 lakh VLEs
- HQs of LIC Housing Finance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Y. Viswanatha Gowd
- HQs of CSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Ajay Prakash Sawhney | MD – Dinesh Kumar Tyagi (set up by MeitY)

66. On March 3, Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited (FGII) launched FG Dog Health Cover, a comprehensive health insurance for pet dogs, along with industry-first ‘Emergency Pet Minding’ cover. The policy premium starts at ₹323 per month. The insurance policy covers pet dogs aged between six months to four years for giant breeds and seven years for small, medium, and large breeds. The exit age is 10 years for small, medium, and large breeds and 6 years for giant breeds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Future Generali India Insurance – launched industry-first ‘Emergency Pet Minding’ health insurance cover for pet dogs
- HQs of FGII – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Anup Rau

67. On March 3, the RBI exempted urban cooperative banks (UCBs) from the 10% cap for their investments in the umbrella organisation. According to norms, investments in non-SLR (statutory liquidity ratio) securities by primary (urban) cooperative banks is to be limited to 10% of a bank’s total deposits as on March 31 of the previous year. Furthermore, the norms mandate that investments in unlisted securities should not exceed 10% of the total non-SLR investments at any time. The RBI exempted the UCBs from both the norms. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI exempted UCBs from the 10% cap for their investments in the umbrella organisation
- According to norms:
 - investments in non-SLR securities by primary UCBs is to be limited to 10% of a bank’s total deposits
 - investments in unlisted securities should not exceed 10% of the total non-SLR investments at any time
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, MH | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April, 1935



68. On March 4, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) announced a strategic partnership to launch the Indian Oil Kotak Co-branded Fuel Credit Card. The collaboration will offer more value to customers in the form of an enhanced rewards programme giving customers value on fuel spends. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kotak Mahindra Bank + IOCL = partnership to launch the Indian Oil Kotak Co-branded Fuel Credit Card
- HQs of Kotak Mahindra Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Uday Kotak | Tagline – “Let’s make money simple”
- HQs of IOCL – New Delhi | Chairperson – Shrikant Madhav Vaidya | Founded in – 1959

Defence Affairs

69. On March 4, the Indian Air Force (IAF) postponed Exercise “Vayu Shakti” that was scheduled to take place at the Pokharan range in Jaisalmer on March 7. The Indian Air Force (IAF) conducts Exercise Vayu Shakti at the Pokharan range every three years to demonstrate its readiness to conduct full spectrum operations. The last one took place in 2019. Ministry of Defence also postponed defence exhibition ‘DefExpo-2022’, which was proposed to be held in Gandhinagar between March 10 and 14. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IAF – postponed exercise “Vayu Shakti” (scheduled to be held at Pokharan range in Jaisalmer)
- Ministry of Defence – postponed ‘DefExpo-2022’ (scheduled to be held in Gandhinagar)
- HQs of IAF – New Delhi | Chief – Air Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari | Vice Chief – Air Marshal Sandeep Singh
- Ministry of Defence: Rajnath Singh | Constituency – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Defence: Ajay Bhatt

Sports & Games

70. The Board of Control for Cricket in India’s (BCCI) Indian Premier League (IPL) Governing Council announced NPCI’s RuPay as an official partner for ‘Tata IPL 2022’ beginning March 26. This will be a multi-year partnership. The 15th edition of Tata IPL 2022 will be co-presented by Dream11 and co-powered by Tata & CRED. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BCCI’s IPL Governing Council announced: NPCI’s “RuPay” as an official partner for 15th edition of “Tata IPL 2022”
- RuPay: Launched by NPCI – in 2012 | Tagline – “One Life. One RuPay.”
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, MH | Chairman – Sourav Ganguly | Secretary – Jay Shah | Founded in – 1928

71. On March 2, Indian shooting ace Saurabh Chaudhary won this year’s first Gold medal in the men’s 10m air pistol event at the “ISSF World Cup 2022” held at Cairo, Egypt. Esha Singh bagged the second medal for the country after she won a silver in the women’s 10m air pistol event. The 19-year Chaudhary also has a Youth Olympic gold medal to his name. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Saurabh Chaudhary – won Gold medal in men’s 10m air pistol event at the “ISSF World Cup 2022” held at Cairo, Egypt
- Esha Singh – won Silver medal in women’s 10m air pistol event at the “ISSF World Cup 2022”

72. Indian boxers Nikhat Zareen (Telangana) and Nitu (Haryana) clinched gold medals at the 73rd Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria. The Indian contingent finished the campaign with three medals including one bronze. Nandini finished in the 81 Kg category with a bronze medal. This tournament was the first from the Golden Belt Series and a testing event for International Boxing Association's World Boxing Tour format. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

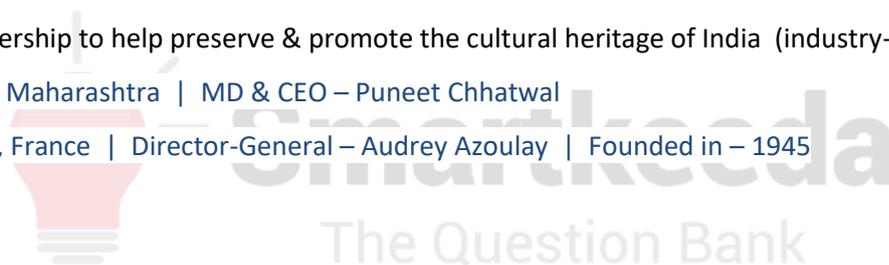
- 73rd Strandja Memorial Boxing Tournament – held in Sofia, Bulgaria | Strandzha Cup – Boxing
- India won 3 Medals – Nikhat Zareen (Gold) | Nitu (Gold) | Nandini (Bronze)
- HQs of IBA – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Umar Kremlyov
- Bulgaria – Sofia – Lev | President – Rumen Radev | PM – Kiril Petkov

Arts & Cultural Affairs

73. On March 3, Indian Hotels Company Ltd (IHCL) partnered with UNESCO to help preserve and promote the cultural heritage of India, as part of an initiative in the post-pandemic world. It is industry-first collaboration to work towards preserving India's cultural heritage. IHCL and UNESCO together will offer experiential tours for travellers at various IHCL hotels. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IHCL + UNESCO = partnership to help preserve & promote the cultural heritage of India (industry-first collaboration)
- HQs of IHCL – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Puneet Chhatwal
- HQs of UNESCO – Paris, France | Director-General – Audrey Azoulay | Founded in – 1945



Science & Technology

74. On March 4, the Indian Navy successfully test-fired an advanced version of the Brahmos supersonic cruise missile from a stealth destroyer INS Chennai in the Indian Ocean. BrahMos missile flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound. The range of the advanced version of the missile is learnt to have been extended to around 350 km from the original 290 km. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian Navy successfully test-fired an advanced version of 'Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile' from INS Chennai
- Range of the advanced version of the missile – 350 km

75. On March 2, "Building AI Readiness among Young Innovators", a program by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), in partnership with Intel India, was launched on the occasion of National Science Day on February 28 by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science and Technology (I/C). The program aims to build digital readiness among the students from classes 6 to 10, enrolled under DST's 'INSPIRE-Awards MANAK' scheme. The program will be launched in three different phases across India. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Jitendra Singh – launched “Building AI Readiness among Young Innovators” program (developed by DST + Intel India)
- The program aims to build digital readiness among students from Classes 6-10 under ‘INSPIRE-Awards MANAK’ scheme

Appointments & Resignations

76. On March 1, Bharti AXA Life Insurance has announced that it has roped in actress Vidya Balan as its brand ambassador. She will help deepen the narrative of #DoTheSmartThing championed by the brand. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vidya Balan – roped in as brand ambassador of Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- HQs of Bharti AXA Life Insurance – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Parag Raja

77. On March 5, Jet Airways appointed Sanjiv Kapoor as its chief executive officer. He is currently the President of Oberoi Hotels and Resorts. He also led SpiceJet as its COO in 2014-15. Jet Airways also appointed former Sri Lankan Airlines Chief Executive Officer Vipul Gunatilleka as its chief financial officer (CFO). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjiv Kapoor – appointed as the CEO of Jet Airways
- Vipul Gunatilleka – appointed as the CFO of Jet Airways
- HQs of Jet Airways – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Sanjiv Kapoor

78. On March 5, the central government appointed Delhi High Court Chief Justice D. N. Patel (Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel) as the Chairperson of the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). Justice Patel retired as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on March 12, 2022. The Cabinet Appointments Committee approved the appointment of Justice Patel for 4 years. Justice Patel, who hails from Gujarat, was appointed as a judge in March 2004. He was made Chief Justice of Delhi High Court in June 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D. N. Patel – appointed as the Chairperson of the Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal for 4 years
- HQs of TDSAT – New Delhi | Chairperson – D. N. Patel

79. On March 4, Senior advocate Aman Lekhi resigned from the post of Additional Solicitor General of India. He has not given any specific reason for his resignation. Lekhi was appointed to the post in March, 2018 and was re-appointed on July 1, 2020 for a period of three years till June 30, 2023. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Aman Lekhi – resigned from the post of Additional Solicitor General of India
- Solicitor General of India – Tushar Mehta



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

80. On March 3, Hyderabad-based DataCenter Company, CtrlS won the “Award for Sustainability Excellence in Energy Management” by the ASSOCHAM. CtrlS claims to have undertaken 200 innovations and 25 green initiatives to reduce carbon footprint and dependency on fossil fuels. It also engineered 80 innovations in energy efficiency and sustainability space. In December 2020, CtrlS, Asia’s Largest Rated-4 Hyperscale Datacenter provider, was awarded the prestigious “Golden Peacock Award for Eco-Innovation” and had become the World’s first datacenter to be awarded in the datacenter category. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CtrlS – won the “Award for Sustainability Excellence in Energy Management” by the ASSOCHAM
- HQs of CtrlS – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Sridhar Pinnapureddy

81. On March 4, Ministry of Tourism constituted “Swadesh Darshan Awards” in different categories in order to acknowledge the efforts undertaken by the State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and various implementation agencies. Ministry of Tourism under its flagship scheme of ‘Swadesh Darshan’ sanctioned 76 projects in 31 States/Union Territories of India for more than Rs 5500 Cr. The categories of awards are - Best Tourist Interpretation Centre, Best Log Hut Facility, Best MICE Facility, Best Cafeteria, Best Craft Haat/Souvenir Shop facility, Best Sound and Light Show & Best Waterfront Development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Tourism – constituted “Swadesh Darshan Awards” in different categories
- Swadesh Darshan scheme – a scheme of Ministry of Tourism (launched in 2015)



Schemes & Initiatives

82. On March 3, the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) was awarded the ‘Special Jury Award’ at the 7th India Industry Water Conclave and 9th edition of FICCI Water Awards, held from 2nd to 3rd March, 2022. Dr. Mihir Shah, who is a distinguished Professor at Shiv Nadar University was the Chair of the Jury. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMCG – awarded the ‘Special Jury Award’ at the 7th India Industry Water Conclave & 9th FICCI Water Awards
- NMCG functions under – Ministry of Jal Shakti | DG – G. Asok Kumar
- HQs of FICCI – New Delhi | DG – ArunChawla | President – Sanjiv Mehta | Founded in – 1927

83. On March 4, Jharkhand government launched “Guruji Credit Card System” (GCCS) in the financial year 2023 for helping students coming from a humble background pursue higher education. A loan of up to Rs 10 lakh will be provided at a simple interest of 4%. The total allocation for education sector is 13.54% of the total budget outlay. The government will also establish mathematics and science laboratories and distribute 42,000 tabs among the teachers. The scheme would be similar to the “Students Credit Card System” introduced by the West Bengal government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jharkhand – to launch “Guruji Credit Card System” in FY 2023 to help poor students pursuing higher education
- Jharkhand: Capital – Ranchi | CM – Hemant Soren | Governor – Ramesh Bais



Important Days & Dates

84. The National Safety Day (NSD) or National Security Day (NSD) is marked every year on March 4 by the National Safety Council of India. It is a day to raise awareness and commitment to the safety protocols that need to be followed to prevent accidents and mishaps at workplaces. The day is also marked to appreciate our security forces which are military, para-military, commandos, police officials, security guards and India's security forces. National Safety Day marks the foundation day of the National Safety Council. This year, the National Safety Council marked the 51st observance of National Safety Day. In 2022, the theme is "Nurture Young Minds - Develop Safety Culture". While 'National Safety Week' was observed from March 4 to March 10, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 4 – 51st National Safety Day or National Security Day or Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas
- 2022's Theme – "Nurture Young Minds - Develop Safety Culture"
- March 4 to March 10 – National Safety Week
- HQs of National Safety Council – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – S. N. Subrahmanyam

85. March 7 is observed as Jan Aushadhi Divas or Generic Medicine Day to create awareness about the use of generic medicines among the people. The day was first celebrated in the year 2019. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers kicked off the Janaushadhi Divas Week from 1st March to 7th March 2022. In 2022, the theme is "Jan Aushadhi-Jan Upyogi". The Government set a target to boost the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) to 10,500 by the end of March 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 7 – 4th Jan Aushadhi Divas or Generic Medicine Day (since 2019)
- 2022's Theme – "Jan Aushadhi-Jan Upyogi"
- March 1 to 7 – Janaushadhi Divas Week – by Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers

86. Every year on March 3, World Wildlife Day is observed to raise awareness about the conservation of wildlife. In 2022, the theme is "Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration". The day is crucial as climate change and several other factors have posed serious dangers to the wildlife, endangering several species. This day was first observed in 2014 by UNGA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 3 – World Wildlife Day by – UNGA (since 2014)
- 2022's Theme – "Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration"

87. World Obesity Day is observed every year on March 4. In 2022, the theme is "Everybody Needs to Act". The day was celebrated for the first time in 2015. According to the World Health Organisation, obesity rates have nearly tripled since 1975. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- March 4 – World Obesity Day (since 2015)
- 2022's Theme – "Everybody Needs to Act"
- HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland | DG – Tedros Adhanom | Member Countries – 194 | Founded in – 1948



Obituaries

88. On March 4, Former Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General (retd) Sunith Francis Rodrigues, who headed the Indian Army between 1990 and 1993, and served as the Governor of Punjab between 2004 and 2010, passed away. He was 88. He also served as the Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Gen Sunith Francis Rodrigues – Former Chief of Army Staff – passed away
- COAS between 1990 & 1993 | Governor of Punjab between 2004 & 2010

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

89. “Mobile World Congress 2022” event was organized by the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) in Barcelona, Spain. According to the GSMA, 5G connections will surpass 1 billion in 2022 and 2 billion by 2025. By the end of 2025, 5G will account for over a fifth of total mobile connections, and more than two in five people globally will live within reach of a 5G network, according to “The Mobile Economy Report 2022” from the GSMA. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Mobile World Congress 2022” – organized by the GSMA in Barcelona, Spain
- GSMA’s “The Mobile Economy Report 2022”: 5G connections will surpass 1 billion in 2022 & 2 billion by 2025

90. The 5th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2) took place online and in Nairobi from 28 February - 2 March 2022. Hosted by the UN Environment Programme, the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) brings together representatives of the 193 Member States of the UN, businesses, civil society and other stakeholders to agree on policies to address the world’s most pressing environmental challenges. The overall theme for UNEA-5 was “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”. During the session, 175 nations signed a mandate to end the use of plastic by developing a legally binding agreement by 2024. Immediately after UNEA-5.2, the Assembly convened a Special Session of the Assembly from March 3-4, 2022, devoted to the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the creation of UN Environment Programme in 1972 (UNEP@50). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 5th session of the United Nations Environment Assembly – took place in Nairobi, Kenya (hosted by UNEP)
- Theme of the session – “Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”
- 175 Nations signed a mandate to end the use of plastic by developing a legally binding agreement by 2024
- HQs of UNEP – Nairobi, Kenya | Executive Director – Inger Andersen | Founded in – 1972

91. On March 3, Communications and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the 3rd edition of “NIC Tech Conclave 2022” in New Delhi. The two-day event was organized by the National Informatics Centre (NIC). The Theme for Tech Conclave this year is “Next-Gen Technologies for Digital Government”. During the conclave, an ebook titled “75 Digital Solutions from NIC” was released. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the 3rd edition of “NIC Tech Conclave 2022” in New Delhi (organized by NIC)
- Theme – “Next-Gen Technologies for Digital Government”
- HQs of NIC – New Delhi | Director General – Neeta Verma



92. On March 5, Delhi government held a “Business Blasters Investment Summit & Expo” at the Thyagraj Stadium in order to provide a bigger platform to budding young entrepreneurs. During the mega event, more than 100 selected business ideas of student entrepreneurs will be showcased, and will serve as an opportunity for investors to directly invest in the projects of their choice. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Delhi government – held a “Business Blasters Investment Summit & Expo” at the Thyagraj Stadium
- [New Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Lt. Governor – Anil Bajjal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev](#)

93. On March 2, Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat inaugurated the 2nd edition of the ‘Roorkee Water Conclave’ at IIT Roorkee. The Conclave was being jointly organised from March 2 to 4, 2022 by IIT Roorkee and National Institute of Hydrology. The theme of the conclave was, “Water Security for Sustainable Development”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Roorkee + National Institute of Hydrology – organised 2nd ‘Roorkee Water Conclave’
- Theme of the conclave – “Water Security for Sustainable Development”
- [Ministry of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Sekhawat | Constituency – Jodhpur, Rajasthan](#)
- [MoS for Jal Shakti & Food Processing Industries – Prahlad Singh Patel](#)
- [Director of IIT Roorkee – Ajit K. Chaturvedi](#)

94. The 19th edition of India-US Military Cooperation Group (MCG) meeting was held in Agra, Uttar Pradesh on March 1-2, 2022. The meeting was co-chaired by Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC) Air Marshal B. R. Krishna from the Indian side. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 19th edition of India-US Military Cooperation Group (MCG) meeting – held in Agra, Uttar Pradesh
- The meeting was co-chaired by – Air Marshal B. R. Krishna

Ranks, Report & Surveys

95. On March 2, a report titled “How Indians View Gender Roles in Families and Society” is released by the Pew Research Center, a Washington DC-based non-profit organisation. The report is based on a survey of 29,999 Indian adults conducted from November 2019 to March 2020. According to the report, 9 in 10 Indians agree with the notion that a wife must always obey her husband, while 55% of Indians believe that men and women make equally good political leaders. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “How Indians View Gender Roles in Families and Society” – released by Pew Research Center ([US](#))
- According to the report: 9 in 10 Indians agree with the notion that a wife must always obey her husband



96. India installed a record 10 gigawatt (GW) of solar capacity during calendar year 2021, registering a year-on-year rise of 212%, according to the Mercom India Research report titled “Annual 2021 India Solar Market Update”. The country had made 3.2 GW of solar capacity installations during 2020. Cumulative solar installed capacity in India was approximately 49 GW at the end of December 2021. Rajasthan, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were the top three states for cumulative large-scale solar capacity accounting for 50% of the installations in the country as of December 2021. Rajasthan led the capacity addition with 4.5 GW of solar capacity installation in 2021. Rooftop installations registered a y-o-y increase of 138% in 2021 and recorded 1.7 GW of rooftop solar capacity in 2021. Gujarat (with 27% share) led the states for cumulative rooftop solar installations, followed by Maharashtra (14%) and Rajasthan (10%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Annual 2021 India Solar Market Update” – by Mercom India Research
- India installed 10 GW of solar capacity during 2021 (y-o-y increase of 212%)
- Cumulative solar installed capacity in India – 49 GW (by Dec 2021)
- Top 3 states for cumulative large-scale Solar Capacity: Rajasthan, Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh
- Rooftop installations registered a y-o-y increase of 138% in 2021
- India recorded 1.7 GW of rooftop solar capacity during 2021 (y-o-y increase of 138%)
- Top 3 states for cumulative rooftop solar installations: Gujarat, Maharashtra & Rajasthan

Ordinance, Bills & Acts

97. The Assam government extended the controversial Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) in the entire state for 6 months more with effect from February 28. The act empowers security forces to conduct operations anywhere and arrest anyone without any prior warrant. The AFSPA was imposed in Assam in November 1990 and has been extended every six months since then after a review by the state government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Assam – extended “Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA)” for 6 months more with effect from February 28
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

98. On March 4, Ministry of Science & Technology has decided to promote a unique start-up in the latest daylight harvesting technology in order to reduce carbon footprint and improve the building’s energy efficiency. For this purpose, Hyderabad-based Skyshade Daylights Private Limited (the only start-up company in India for daylight harvesting technologies) signed an MoU with Technology Development Board (a statutory body of Department of Science & Technology). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Technology Development Board + Skyshade Daylights = an MoU for Daylight Harvesting Technologies
- Location of Skyshade Daylights – Hyderabad, Telangana | Location of TDB – New Delhi (a body of Dept. of S&T)



99. On March 3, India signed a Host Country Agreement (HCA) with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for establishment of Area Office & Innovation Centre at New Delhi. The agreement was signed during the “World Telecommunications Standardisation Assembly-20 (WTSA-20)” held in Geneva, Switzerland. WTSA is a 4-yearly global conference of ITU. India has proposed to host the next WTSA to be held in 2024. ITU is the United Nations specialised agency for information and communication technologies - ICTs. ITU currently has a membership of 193 countries and over 900 private-sector entities and academic institutions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “World Telecommunications Standardisation Assembly-20 (WTSA-20)” – held in Geneva, Switzerland
- India proposed to host the next WTSA to be held in 2024
- India + ITU = signed a Host Country Agreement to establish Area Office & Innovation Centre at New Delhi
- [HQs of ITU – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [Secretary General – Houlin Zhao](#)

100. On March 3, India’s Reliance Industries would invest Rs 1670 Cr to form a joint venture (JV) with US-listed Sanmina Corp for making electronic products in Chennai. The JV aims to make hardware for 5G communications, cloud infrastructure, healthcare systems, and defense and aerospace. Reliance will hold a 50.1% stake in the JV after the investment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Reliance Industries + Sanmina Corp (US) = partnership to form a JV for making electronic products in Chennai
- [HQs of Reliance Industries Ltd – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#) | [Chairman – Mukesh Ambani](#) | [Founded in – 1973](#)





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