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History of 31th March

- ◆ **1774** : The First Office of **Postal Service** Opened in India
- ◆ **1959** : **Buddhist religious** leader the **Dalai Lama** was granted asylum in india after exile from Tibet.
- ◆ **1966** : **Soviet Russia** launched the first lunar mission **Luna 10**.
- ◆ **1889** : The **Eiffel Tower** in **France** was officially opened.

Current Affairs Related to 16th March

- ◆ **The 12th meeting of the India-Italy Military Cooperation Group was held in New Delhi.** Both sides discussed new initiatives to enhance defense cooperation and military-to-military level exchanges between the two countries. A two-day discussion took place between the Directorate of International Defense Cooperation, Headquarters Integrated Defense Staff and the Military Policy and Planning Division of the Italian Defense General Staff. India and Italy have elevated their bilateral relations to the level of strategic partnership.
- ◆ **India's first automobile in-plant railway siding project of Maruti Suzuki was inaugurated** by PM Narendra Modi at Hansalpur in Mehsana district of Gujarat. During his Gujarat visit, PM Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of railway projects worth Rs 85,000 crore. This project has been developed by a special purpose vehicle, Bahucharaji Rail Corporation Limited.
- ◆ **This scheme has been announced to accelerate the adoption of electronic vehicles in India.** A total outlay of Rs 500 crore will be implemented under the scheme for 4 months. This scheme will be applicable from April 1 to July. Only electric two-wheelers and electric three-wheelers will be eligible under the scheme. Registered e-rickshaws, e-karts and L5 automobiles will also be eligible. Apart from this, if a conventional engine is installed in it, then its engine capacity is more than 25 cc. When equipped with electric motor, its motor power is more than 0.25 kW.
- ◆ **The government has extended the service tenure of Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra** by six months. Kwatra is a 1988 batch Indian Foreign Service officer. After extension of tenure, he will remain in office till 31 October 2024 or till further orders, whichever is earlier. He was to retire on 30 April 2024. He was appointed Foreign Secretary in April 2022. He took office as the 34th Foreign Secretary of India on 1 May 2022. He replaced Harshvardhan Shringla.
- ◆ **Naval Exercise Cutlass Express-24 was conducted at Port Victoria, Seychelles.** Indian Navy participated in naval exercise Cutlass Express with INS Tir. The Indian Navy actively participated in the exercise along with 16 friendly foreign countries. Training in theoretical and practical aspects of visit board search and seizure operations, diving operations, and maritime interdiction operations were part of this exercise. During the exercise, Indian divers participated in joint diving operations with divers from the US and Seychelles.
- ◆ **The Cabinet has approved the Inter-Governmental Framework Agreement between India and the United Arab Emirates.** This agreement is on cooperation for the empowerment and operation of the India Middle East Europe Economic Corridor. IGFA aims to further enhance and strengthen bilateral relations between India and the UAE in the ports, maritime and logistics sectors.
- ◆ **The Cabinet has approved the signing of the agreement between India and Bhutan in the field of food security.** This agreement is between Bhutan Food and Drug Authority, Ministry of Health, Royal Government of Bhutan and Food Safety and Standards Authority of India. This agreement relates to cooperation in the areas of food security. The signing of the agreement will ease trade between the two countries. When exporting products to India, a health certificate will be issued by BFDA as evidence of compliance with the requirements laid down by FSSAI.
- ◆ **A \$181 million loan agreement has been signed between India and the Asian Development Bank** to improve urban liveability and mobility in Ahmedabad. The loan agreement will fund development in areas transitioning from rural to urban areas, called peri-urban areas. The project aims to make peri-urban areas of Ahmedabad livable, environmentally sustainable and efficient with strong physical and social infrastructure.

National & International Current Affairs

1. Who has recently received the PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award?

- (A) Ratan Tata (B) Azim Premji
(C) Sudha Murthy (D) None of these

(A) Recently, Sansa's predecessor Ratan Tata has been honored with the prestigious PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award. He was presented the award for his outstanding philanthropic contribution. Ratan Tata has been commended for his remarkable and sustained efforts in the field of philanthropy. His contributions have positively impacted many communities across the country.



2. Recently, the Chief Minister of which state launched India's first LNG powered bus?

- (A) Rajasthan (B) Gujarat
(C) Kerala (D) Maharashtra

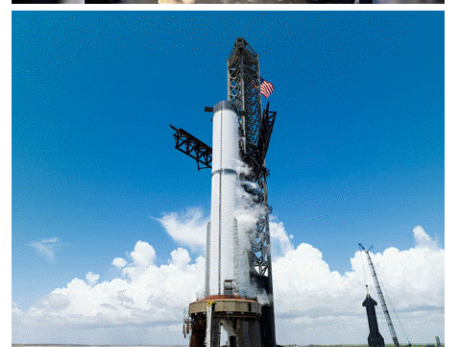
(D) Maharashtra's first LNL fuel bus converted from diesel was inaugurated by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. The initiative aims to convert 5000 diesel buses of Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation into LNG fueled buses in the first phase to reduce carbon emissions and tackle rising diesel prices.



3. Who has recently launched the world's most powerful rocket Starship?

- (A) SpaceX (B) NASA
(C) CNSA (D) None of these

(A) Recently, the world's most powerful rocket Starship was launched from Boca Chica, Texas. The third test of the world's most powerful rocket Starship was almost successful. It was launched from Boca Chica, Texas. SpaceX, the company of world's third richest businessman Elon Musk, has built this rocket.



4. How many prisons in India have been certified as Eat Right Campus by FSSAI recently?

- (A) 60 (B) 70
(C) 80 (D) 100

(D) In its efforts to ensure access to safe and nutritious food for prisoners and prison staff, food regulator FSSAI has certified around 100 prisons across the country as Eat Right Campuses. Which is an important milestone in the aim of promoting safe and healthy eating habits across various campuses.



6. Who has recently launched a new fuel called Ethanol 100?

- (A) Narendra Modi (B) Nitin Gadkari
(C) Hardeep Singh Puri (D) Rajnath Singh

(C) Recently Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri unveiled Ethanol 100 fuel which offers clean emissions and high efficiency. Available at 183 outlets in five states. Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri unveiled Ethanol 100, an automotive fuel aimed at reducing emissions and promoting sustainability.



6. Recently, RBI has imposed a fine of Rs 29.55 lakh on which bank?

- (A) Bandhan Bank (B) Yes Bank
(C) Bank of India (D) UCO Bank

(A) Recently RBI has imposed a fine of Rs 29.55 lakh on Bandhan Bank. RBI said that the tenders given by valid shareholders were considered after considering the tenders given by the valid shareholders. RBI said that no decision can be taken on any group or its objectives based on shortcomings in any group or non-governmental group.



7. Who has won the title of the second season of WPL?

- (A) Delhi Capitals
(B) Mumbai Indians
(C) Royal Challengers Bangalore
(D) None of these

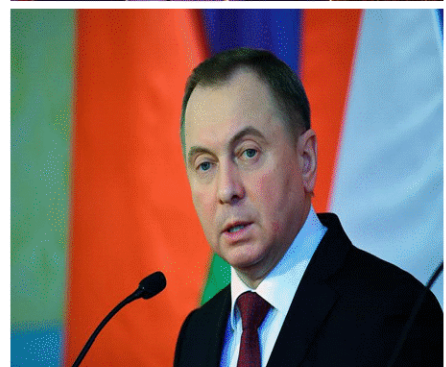
(C) Royal Challengers Bangalore created history by winning the Women's Premier League 2024 title. This franchise won the title for the first time by ending a drought of 16 years. Smriti Mandhana-led RCB defeated Delhi Capitals by 8 wickets with three balls to spare in the final of WPL 2024.



8. Which country's Foreign Minister Sergei Yelink has recently reached India to promote bilateral relations?

- (A) Belarus (B) Germany
(C) Malaysia (D) None of these

(A) After meeting Foreign Minister S Jaishankar, Foreign Minister of Belarus Sergei Aleinik said that bilateral issues were discussed openly between the two sides. Sergei Aleynik said that we assessed our friendly relations. India was one of the first countries to recognize the independence of Belarus.



9. Who has been recently appointed as the Chairman of One Kotak by Kotak Bank?

- (A) Kishore Makwana (B) Sanjay Kumar
(C) Jaideep Hansraj (D) None of these

(C) Kotak Mahindra Bank has appointed Jaideep Hansraj, current MD and CEO of Kotak Security, as Group President One Kotak with effect from April 1, 2024. The move marks a strategic shift towards optimizing the group's financial group model and enhancing its client offering through collaborative efforts across subsidiaries.



10. On which planet has a huge volcano named Noctis been discovered recently?

- (A) Venus (B) Mars
(C) Jupiter (D) Saturn

(B) During the 55th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference held in Texas, scientists at the SETI Institute reported the discovery of a giant volcano and a possible bed of buried glacier ice in the eastern part of the Tharsis Volcanic Province near the Martian equator. Is.

