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## History of 29th February

- ◆ **2004** : **International Space Station** traveler **Michel Foyle's Alexander Kelly** landed in space, but returned to the station due to a space suit malfunction.
- ◆ **2000** : **Russian forces occupy** 90 percent of Chechnya, Rwandan Prime Minister **Pierre Celestin Rwigema** resigns from his post.

## Current Affairs related to 29th February

- ◆ **Vietnam has greenlighted an ambitious national theoretical strategy with the goal of producing** an estimated 1.000000.5 million tonnes of clean by 2030, which could be increased to 10.20 million tonnes by 2050. Vietnam has formulated an ambitious national scientific strategy, which aims to be a significant player in the global niche market.
- ◆ **Comoros and Timor Leste became members of the World Trade Organization on the opening day** of the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference. The 13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization is being held in Abu Dhabi from 26 to 29 February 2024. India stressed on flexibilities within existing WTO agreements to address the concerns of developing countries. India highlighted the need to avoid fragmentation of the multilateral trading system and the importance of remaining focused on the WTO agenda rather than non-trade issues.
- ◆ **Information and Broadcasting Minister established CBFC Facilitation Office in Chandigarh.** Its objective is to promote ease of doing business for filmmakers in the region. This was announced at the closing ceremony of Chitra Bharati Film Festival in Chandigarh. Under this, filmmakers from the region will get the facility to screen and submit cuts/revisions of their films, without having to go to Delhi or Mumbai to obtain CBFC certificate for their films.
- ◆ **Dubai government has launched a five-year multiple entry visa for Indian tourists.** Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism has launched this initiative to attract more Indian tourists. Dubai saw a significant growth of 25% in overnight visitors from India in 2023. This five-year multiple entry visa for Indian tourists will deepen economic cooperation, encourage tourism and strengthen trade ties. This new visa will allow tourists to enter the UAE multiple times based on their sponsorship.
- ◆ **Germany is Europe's largest economy and aims to become carbon neutral by 2045.** The German government will allow carbon capture and sub-sea storage technology in some industries. These systems will capture carbon dioxide produced by industrial processes at the point of emission and remove it from the atmosphere. Germany is likely to miss its climate targets and is aiming to capture between 34 million and 73 million tonnes of carbon annually by 2045.
- ◆ **Ahead of the March 15 deadline to cease business,** Paytm founder **Vijay Shekhar Sharma** has resigned as part-time non-executive chairman of Paytm Payments Bank Limited. This includes former Central Bank of India Chairman **Srinivasan Sridhar**, retired IAS officer **Debendranath Sarangi**, former Bank of Baroda Executive Director **Ashok Kumar Garg** and former IAS officer **Rajni Sekhri Sibal**.
- ◆ **In a remarkable display of grit and determination,** **Bhagwan Singh and Mahesh Prithviraj** from Bhopal completed the 2024-sized Pagong Frozen Lake in Leh-Ladakh. World's Largest Frozen Lake Famous for dinosaurs, this prototype is celebrated as the world's largest frozen lake.
- ◆ **Four astronauts Prashant Nair, Angad Pratap, Ajit Krishnan and Shubhanshu Shukla** have been named for India's first manned space mission. Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** revealed the names of four astronauts for the Gaganyaan mission.
- ◆ **Uniform Civil Code, the Assam government decided to repeal the Assam Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Act 1935.** The state Cabinet approved the Assam Repeal Ordinance 2024 to repeal the British-era Marriage and Divorce Act specific to Muslims. Muslim marriages and divorces will no longer be registered under this Act.



## National & International Current Affairs

1. Recently, when will the world's first Vedic clock be inaugurated in Ujjain?

- (A) 29th February (B) 1st March  
(C) 2nd March (D) 3rd March

(B) On March 1, PM Modi will virtually inaugurate the Vedic clock installed on the 85 feet high tower built at Jantar Mantar in Ujjain. The watch will display information about Vedic Hindu calendar, planetary positions, Muhurta and astrological calculations. It will also show Indian Standard Time and Greenwich Mean Time. In this clock the period between two sunrises is divided into 30 parts.



2. Recently, when will the three-day International Geeta Mahotsav start in Colombo?

- (A) 1st March (B) 2nd March  
(C) 3rd March (D) 4th March

(C) The three-day International Geeta Mahotsav will begin in Colombo from March 1. This was announced by Vidur Wickramanayake, Sri Lanka's Minister of Buddhist Administration, Religious and Cultural Affairs. The three-day International Geeta Mahotsav will be organized at Nelum Pokuna Theater Complex with the financial support of Kurukshetra Development Board, Haryana.



3. Recently Adani Group launched South Asia's largest ammunition and missile in which state?

- (A) Madhya Pradesh (B) Mizoram  
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Rajasthan

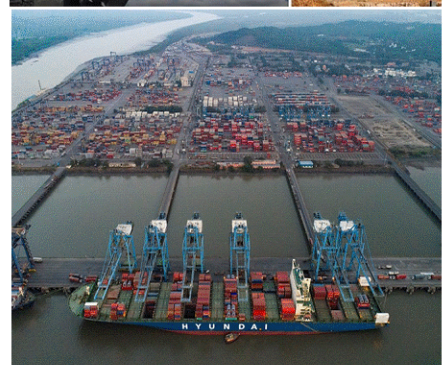
(C) Adani's Kanpur facility, inaugurated by UP CM Yogi Adityanath and General Manoj Pandey, has marked the beginning of India's defense progress. With 4000 shares and investment of Rs 3000 crore, it promises self-reliance. Owned by Adani Defence, the complex marks the first phase of the state defense portfolio.



4. Recently, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management Shillong has established the first Gati Shakti Research Institute in which country?

- (A) India (B) America  
(C) Sri Lanka (D) China

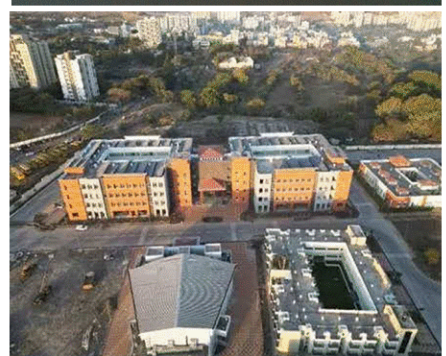
(A) Recently, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has established the first Gati Shakti Research Institute in India in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management Shillong. The objective of this initiative is to conduct academic research in multimodal logistics with particular focus on the North East region. It aims to facilitate knowledge and innovation to enhance logistics efficiency.



5. Which ministry was recently launched by PM Modi in Jhajjar and Pune?

- (A) Ministry of Finance (B) Ministry of Defense  
(C) Ministry of AYUSH (D) None of these

(C) PM Modi inaugurated the Central Yoga and Naturopathy Research Institute in Jhajjar and the National Institute of Naturopathy in Pune. Which is an important step in promoting health care across the country. During the inauguration, Prime Minister Modi boosted the government's population to boost immunity and anti-disease forces among the public.





6. In which state did PM Modi recently inaugurate ISRO's technical facilities?

- (A) Odisha (B) Kerala  
(C) Madhya Pradesh (D) Haryana

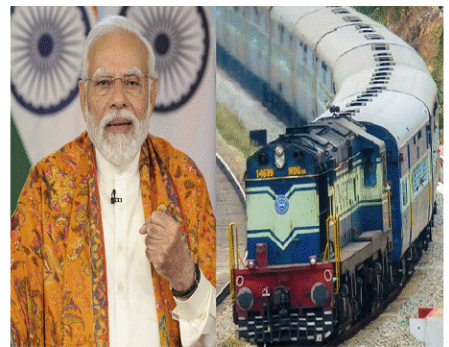
**(B)** PM Modi inaugurated ISRO's technical facilities in Kerala. Three important space infrastructure projects were inaugurated by PM at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram to improve the country's space sector to achieve its full potential.



7. Who recently laid the foundation stone of Sikkim's first railway station?

- (A) Narendra Modi (B) Sarbananda Sonowal  
(C) S. Jaishankar (D) Amit Shah

**(A)** Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Rangpo Railway Station. Sikkim will now be connected to the railway line. Railways will become the third mode of transportation for residents. The government will develop this project in three phases. In the first phase, Sevoke to Rangpo rail project will be developed.



8. Where was the world's third largest mosque inaugurated recently?

- (A) Nigeria (B) Pakistan  
(C) Algeria (D) None of these

**(C)** Unveiling of the Grand Mosque of Algiers, the world's third largest mosque and Africa's largest mosque in Algeria, inaugurated by President Abdelmadjid Tebboune. President Abdelmadjid Tebboune officially unveiled the Great Mosque of Algiers as the third largest mosque in the world in a ceremony held at the Presidential Palace.



9. Recently, Dubai appointed Indian citizens as multi-purpose missionaries for how many years?

- (A) 2 years (B) 5 years  
(C) 7 years (D) 8 years

**(B)** Dubai's Department of Industry and Tourism has launched a 5-year multi-purpose tour to promote travel from India. In 2023, the figure in Indian astrology increased by 25% to a total of 2.46 million. This first highlights the significant growth of Dubai Indian warehousing as India is the top source market for sales in the region.



10. Recently, the Savera program for early screening and detection of breast cancer was launched by the Chief Minister of which state?

- (A) Haryana (B) Rajasthan  
(C) Telangana (D) Tamil Nadu

**(A)** This program has been started by Vedanta Foundation in collaboration with the Health Department in Gurgaon. Under the scheme, visually impaired people will undergo breast cancer screening. The importance of this ability has been understood, tested and used by people associated with the medical world. A normal doctor can detect breast cancer up to one centimeter after examination.

