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History of 12th March

- ◆ **1922** : Mahatma Gandhi was arrested by the British during a movement to make goods in Europe and work against British rule.
- ◆ **1872** : Sher Ali, the murderer of the unrealized Lord Mayo of India, was hanged.
- ◆ **1954** : The Government of India inaugurated the Sahitya Akademi.
- ◆ **1930** : Mahatma Gandhi started the Dandi March from Sabarmati Ashram.

Current Affairs Related to 12th March

- ◆ **Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain-2024** campaign has been launched by Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat. This campaign will be run till 30 November 2024. It has been launched to recognize and appreciate the role of women in water management, conservation and sustainability. The campaign includes water conservation and rain water harvesting, census, geo-tagging and inventory of all water bodies. The campaign includes setting up Jal Shakti Kendras in all the districts, intensive afforestation, and creating awareness among the public.
- ◆ **Scientists have sequenced the genomes** of 10,000 Indians from different communities to create a database for gene-based treatments.
- ◆ **With advances in artificial intelligence technology, its energy intensive operation** raises serious environmental concerns. Despite these challenges, advanced advances such as spiking neural networks and lifelong learning may provide promising pathways to reducing the carbon footprint of AI with the potential to address the impacts of climate change.
- ◆ **Nepal's PhonePe payment service and NPCI International Payments signed an agreement.** This agreement will facilitate QR code based, person-to-merchant UPI transactions between India and Nepal. In the first phase, Indian consumers will be able to make UPI payments from business stores in Nepal to merchants on the PhonePe network. PhonePe is a payment system operator. It is a subsidiary of Th1Soft Group.
- ◆ **The National Council of Educational and Research Training has introduced an innovative** composite card, which will measure the progress of interpersonal relationships, introspection, creativity and emotional applications, in addition to the child's academic performance in the classrooms. It is a novel approach to evaluating the academic performance of students which is different from the traditional reliance on marks or grades. Instead it is based on a comprehensive assessment system that focuses on various aspects of the student's development and learning experience.
- ◆ **India took an important step in the coal sector by launching an initiative called Coal Logistics Plan and Policy** which aims to modernize coal transportation. Challenges often arise in transportation of coal due to which Indian Railways needs to implement special measures to resolve the disruption in coal supply. The objective of the Coal Logistics Plan and Policy is to enhance coal logistics by making it more affordable, efficient and environment friendly.
- ◆ **Sudha Murthy serves as the chairperson of the Murthy Trust** and is also the author of several books. Murthy is the wife of Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy. He received the Padya Shri Award in 2006 and the Padya Bhushan Award in 2023. Murthy started her career as a computer scientist and engineer at Tata Engineering and became the first woman engineer to be appointed at Tata Engineering and Locomotive Company.
- ◆ **The Indian Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the second rocket launchport** of the Indian Space Research Organization at Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu. Opening up the space sector to private companies is expected to significantly increase commercial launches. This increase in demand could potentially impact existing launch facilities like the Satish Dhawan Space Center in Sriharikota.
- ◆ **The National Creators Awards are an effort to honor company excellence** and its impact in advocating social change, environmental sustainability, education and gaming, among other areas. The National Creators Awards has seen exemplary public participation. In the first round, more than 1.5 lakh nominations were received in 20 different categories. Following this, around 10 lakh votes were cast for digital creators in various award categories in the voting round.

National & International Current Affairs

1. When and till when is Nutrition Fortnight 2024 being organized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development?

- (A) From 9th to 23rd March (B) From 10th to 24th March
(C) From 11th to 25th March (D) From 12th to 26th March

(A) Nutrition Fortnight 2024 is being organized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development from 9 to 23 March. There will be community programs and massive sensitization campaigns during the fortnight. Nutrition and education, dietary practices focused on raising awareness about nutrition and health of pregnant women will be the theme of these events.



2. Who has recently become the first fast bowler in the world to take 700 wickets?

- (A) Shane Warne (B) James Anderson
(C) Stuart Bard (D) None of these

(B) James Anderson has also become the oldest player to take 700 wickets in Test cricket. This English fast bowler achieved this feat at the age of 41 years and 223 days. Whereas before him, Shane Warne had taken 700 wickets at the age of 37 years and 104 days. When Muralitharan completed 700 wickets, he was 35 years and 88 days old.



3. Who will produce Formula 1 fuel in India?

- (A) BEL (B) Reliance
(C) BPCL (D) Indian Oil

(D) Will produce Formula 1 fuel in India. This fuel will be produced at Paradip Refinery in Orissa. Recently, IOC Storm Petrol was also manufactured, which is a high performance fuel used in motorcycle road racing. India's first Moto GP event was held at the Buddh International Circuit in Lucknow, Noida, sponsored by Indian Oil.



4. Who has recently been appointed by SAP as the President and Managing Director for the Indian subcontinent?

- (A) Prem Ranjan (B) Roshni Ahuja
(C) Manish Prasad (D) None of these

(C) Cloud software major SAP announced the appointment of Manish Prasad as President and Managing Director of SAP Indian Subcontinent. He succeeds Kulmeet Bawa, who leads the global role of driving the development and adoption of SAP business technology platforms for customers, the company said in a statement.



5. Which country has recently received the Measles and Rubella Champion Award?

- (A) Malta (B) Indonesia
(C) Russia (D) India

(D) India has been awarded the prestigious Measles and Rubella Champion Award by the Measles and Rubella National Championship. This award reflects India's instrumental role in preventing measles and rubella outbreaks. Ambassador Sripriya Ranganathan, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Embassy of India, received the award on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.



6. Which Election Commissioner has resigned recently?

- (A) Rajeev Kumar (B) Anoop Pandey
(C) Arun Goyal (D) None of these

(C) In a shocking move, a few weeks before the Lok Sabha elections, Election Commissioner Arun Goyal resigned from his post. This resignation of Arun Goyal came just before the announcement of general election dates. Therefore, the discussion regarding this also intensified and all kinds of speculations started being made from the corridors of politics to the general public.



7. Recently Bichom has become the 27th district of which state?

- (A) Mizoram (B) Arunachal Pradesh
(C) Manipur (D) Himachal Pradesh

(B) Itanagar recently came into existence by the bifurcation of West and East Kameng districts. Bichom has become the 27th district of Arunachal Pradesh. Chief Minister Pema Khandu inaugurated the district and laid the foundation stone of its headquarters at Napangphoong. He also handed over the responsibilities of this district to Deputy Commissioner Aakriti Sagar and Superintendent of Police Sudhanshu Dhama.



8. Where has the Agriculture Ministry recently inaugurated the Agriculture Integrated Command and Control Centre?

- (A) Mumbai (B) Bengaluru
(C) Kolkata (D) Delhi

(D) Recently, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Tribal Affairs Shri Arjun Munda inaugurated the Agriculture Integrated Command and Control Center at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. The objective of which is to empower the farmers of the country by equipping them with information, services and facilities using digital technology.



9. Who has recently won the title of Miss World 2023?

- (A) Sini Shetty (B) Chasmina Zetoon
(C) Kristina Pijkova (D) None of these

(C) Kristina Piskova of Czech Republic won the title of Miss World 2024. The grand finale of the Miss World 2024 pageant took place at the Jio World Convention Center in Mumbai, India. Karolina Bialawska of Poland placed this crown on Christina's head at the conclusion of the competition.



10. Who has recently been appointed member of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes?

- (A) Pradeep Verma (B) Asha Lakda
(C) CP Singh (D) None of these

(B) BJP's national minister Asha Lakra has been made a member of the National Scheduled Tribe Commission. Asha Lakra is the former mayor of Ranchi. In view of his efficiency and activeness, he has been made a member of the Commission. He expressed happiness over his appointment and expressed his gratitude towards the President and the Prime Minister.

