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Indian History of 18th March

- ◆ **1922** : After the **Constitution Amendment Movement**, the **British Court** had sentenced Mahatma Gandhi to six years imprisonment in the treason case.
- ◆ **1910** : **Gopal Krishna Gokhale** had presented his proposal to the **British Legislative Council** for compulsory and free primary education.
- ◆ **1956** : Famous **Marathi Narayan** scholar **Shastri Maratha** passed away.
- ◆ **2006** : The **United Nations** proposed the formation of a **Human Rights Council**.

Current Affairs Related to 18th March

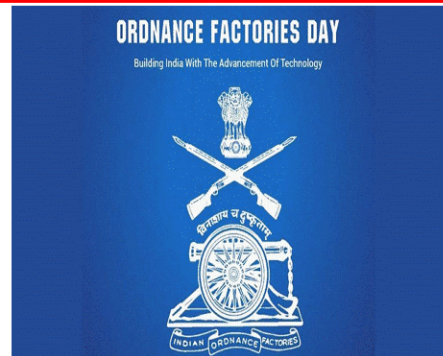
- ◆ **Yoga Mahotsav 2024** was organized at Vigyan Bhawan as part of the 100-day Reverse World Yoga Mahotsav of International Yoga Day 2024. The event celebrated this year's International Yoga Day with the theme Yoga for Women Empowerment. International Yoga Day is celebrated every year on 21 June. The 10th International Yoga Day will be celebrated this year.
- ◆ **Fitch Ratings** has increased India's growth forecast for financial year 2025 to 7% from the earlier estimate of 6.5%. Apart from this, it has estimated the growth rate to reach 7.8% in the current financial year. This estimate is slightly higher than the government's estimate of 7.6%. According to the agency, real GDP will grow by 6.5% in FY 2026 as the activity growth rate will slow down in line with the trend in FY 2025. The agency said that in the last quarter of the current financial year, GDP growth has been more than 8% for three quarters.
- ◆ **Ethanol 100 automotive fuel** was launched by **Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri** in New Delhi. Under this initiative, Ethanol 100 is ready to be available at select 183 retail petrol outlets in five states Maharashtra, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, New Delhi and Tamil Nadu. Ethanol 100% fuel has the potential to transform the transportation sector and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. The Prime Minister announced 20% ethanol blended fuel in 2023, and within a year the availability of E20 increased to 12,000 outlets.
- ◆ **The National Time Protocol for dissemination of Indian Standard Time** was inaugurated by Union Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal in Mumbai. This will provide uniform and accurate time information with millisecond accuracy and will also increase cyber security. Shri Goyal also virtually inaugurated the timing infrastructure at the Regional Reference Standards Laboratory in Faridabad and Ahmedabad. India is the first country to implement time distribution system.
- ◆ **The government launched a pilot program** to provide timely medical care for road accidents. Under this pilot programme, cashless treatment up to a maximum of Rs 1.5 lakh per person will be provided for a maximum of 7 days from the date of accident. The government said the initiative is part of its commitment to reduce deaths due to road accidents and a legal mandate under Section 162 of the Motor Vehicles Act 1988. This initiative will be applicable to all road accidents caused by the use of motor vehicles on any category of road.
- ◆ **Chief Minister Eknath Shinde inaugurated India's first Liquefied Natural Gas powered bus**. It will be operated by Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation. Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation announced that 5000 of its diesel vehicles will be converted to LNG alternative fuel vehicles in phases. Converting buses from diesel to LNG will reduce pollution by 10% and fuel costs will also reduce. MSRTC will set up LNG distribution facilities in 90 depots across the state.
- ◆ **A new EV policy was approved by the Government of India to boost Tesla's market entry plans**. In the new EV policy, the government's focus will be on domestic EV manufacturing. The policy is also designed to attract investments in the e-vehicle sector by reputed global EV manufacturers. Under the policy, a company will have to invest a minimum of Rs 4150 crore and there is no maximum limit on investment.
- ◆ **Mohammad Mustafa has been appointed the new Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority**. Mustafa replaced Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh. PM Mohammad Shtayyeh resigned along with his government in February. The Palestinian Authority was established thirty years ago under an interim peace agreement called the Oslo Accords. It exercises limited rule over parts of the occupied West Bank.

National & International Current Affairs

1. When is Ordnance Factory Day celebrated every year?

- (A) 17th March (B) 18th March
(C) 19th March (D) 20th March

(B) Ordnance Factory Day is celebrated every year all over India on 18 March. On this occasion Ordnance Factory, Field Gun Factory, Small Arms Factory, Ordnance Parachute Factory and Ordnance Equipment Factory acknowledge this day. The Ministry of Defense celebrates this day by hoisting the Indian flag, singing the national anthem and displaying various artillery and military salutes used by the Indian Armed Forces.



2. Where has Adani Green Energy recently operated wind energy projects?

- (A) Kerala (B) Karnataka
(C) Telangana (D) Gujarat

(D) Adani Green Energy Limited said that it has started operating another 126 MW wind energy capacity in Gujarat. With this, 300 MW project has been completed in the state. The remaining 174 MW capacity had already started operation. The total 300 MW wind power project will generate approximately 109.1 crore electricity units annually.



3. Which state has recently announced the construction of a government guest house in Kashmir?

- (A) Gujarat (B) Maharashtra
(C) Rajasthan (D) Madhya Pradesh

(B) Shinde government of Maharashtra will build a guest house Rajya Bhavan on this land for its tourists visiting Jammu and Kashmir. This State Building will be built at a cost of Rs 8.16 crore. Maharashtra Cabinet has approved the purchase of land. The state government will build Maharashtra Bhawan in Budgam, central Kashmir, located in Srinagar.



4. Recently, which country's player Matthew Wade has announced his retirement from first-class cricket?

- (A) Australia (B) England
(C) Sri Lanka (D) New Zealand

(A) Australia's star player Matthew Wade announced his retirement from first grade cricket. Although he was supported and T20 partner. 36 The Riders played their last batting match in Tasmania, Western Australia. This will be the 166th match of his first classic career. Ved won four Shield titles with Victoria.



5. Recently India's subsidiary has partnered with which state/union territory to build the Veteran Max General Care Building?

- (A) Jammu and Kashmir (B) Himachal Pradesh
(C) Delhi (D) Andhra Pradesh

(C) Max India Limited announced a partnership between its subsidiary Intera Assisted Care Limited and the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. The objective of this collaboration is to develop solutions to the challenges faced by the Indian population by improving the quality of life of their population.



6. Recently India and which country have signed the Law and Dispute Agreement?

- (A) Singapore (B) Germany
(C) Japan (D) Malaysia

(A) Recently India and Singapore have signed an MoU on cooperation in the field of law and dispute resolution. The Law and Justice Ministry said in a statement that the agreement will further enhance cooperation between the two countries in areas such as international commercial dispute resolution. The government aims to seek new approaches to meet communist and religious principles amid legal solidarity.



7. Who has been on top in the illegal trade of shark body parts recently?

- (A) Jharkhand (B) Tamil Nadu
(C) Chhattisgarh (D) Manipur

(B) According to a report by the World Wide Fund Nature India and Traffic, about 16,000 kg of silver feathers were seized between January 2010 and December 2022. The recent Traffic Report Engaged in Illegal Wildlife Trade: India's Sharks raised concerns about India's illegal shark trade. It also highlighted existing threats and conservation concerns



8. Who has recently won the Chameli Devi Jain Award 2024?

- (A) Grishma Kathar (B) Ritika Chopra
(C) A & B Both (D) None of these

(C) Recently, the Chameli Devi Jain Award 2024 for the Outstanding Female Media Person of the Year has been jointly given to independent journalist Grisma Kuthar and Priyala Chopra of Indian Express. The lecture will be delivered by editor and author TN Ninan on the topic Work and Pay: Old Challenges in the Age of Automation and Architecture.



9. Who has recently released the Democracy Report 2024?

- (A) Niti Aayog (B) V Dame Institute
(C) UNDP (D) None of these.

(B) The We Dem Institute's Democrat Democracy Report has been published, revealing the global level of democrats. India's 2018 report, following a decline in shamelessness, described freedom as proportionate. The report highlights the decline of democratic principles, particularly in the framework of freedom of expression, media freedom and civil liberties.



10. Who has recently been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of NCL?

- (A) B. Sairam (B) Sanjay Kumar
(C) Kishore Makwana (D) Rajesh Kumar

(A) B Sairam has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Northern Coalfields Limited. NCL is the major subsidiary of Coal India Limited based in Singrauli. Sairam has assumed this post as a scientist. Sairam has 33 years of dedicated service in the coal sector. He has a vast wealth of knowledge and experience in the coal industry.

