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History of February 15

- ◆ **1976** : Central Agricultural Research Institute was established in Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh.
- ◆ **1967** : Elections were held for the fourth Lok Sabha in India.
- ◆ **1999** : He announced the establishment of a monitoring center in Egypt with the aim of banning nuclear weapons.
- ◆ **2003** : The telecommunications satellite Intelsat was launched into space on an Ariane 4 rocket.
- ◆ **1564** : The great astronomer Galileo was born

Current Affairs Related to 15 February

- ◆ The Karnataka government will launch a digital detox initiative in partnership with the All India Game Developers Forum. The initiative aims to raise awareness about the dangers of spending excessive time in the digital world. It also aims to establish an environment of responsible gaming. Through this initiative, offline and online digital detox centers will be set up across Karnataka. These centers will provide individual guidance. The minister said the consequences of digital dependence are mental health problems, reduced attention span and poor real-world relationships.
- ◆ India will replace its military personnel in Maldives. After the second meeting of the high-level core group between the two sides, the Maldives government has said that India will replace its military personnel in Maldives in two phases by May 10. The decision comes in the backdrop of Maldives' demand to end the presence of Indian military personnel in the archipelagic nation.
- ◆ Actor Vijay launches political party Tamizhaga Vetri Kazhagam. He said that his party will contest the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections. However, his party will stay away from the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. It will not support anyone in the Lok Sabha elections. Several years ago Vijay changed his fans' organization to Vijay Makkal Iyakkam.
- ◆ The Indian Navy has declared 2024 as the Year of Naval Civilians, giving priority to holistic civilian human resource management. Its objectives are to promote administrative efficiency and enhance employee welfare. This unprecedented initiative targets comprehensive civilian human resource management, with special focus on enhancing administrative efficiency, embracing digital transformation, implementing targeted training programs and promoting employee welfare activities.
- ◆ RBI's digital payments index has increased across all parameters. This was driven by growth in payment enablers, payment performance and consumer centricity across the country. March 2018 is the base period for RBI-DPI. This means that the DPI score for March 2018 is considered to be 100.
- ◆ The Government of Karnataka has taken a pioneering step towards promoting a healthy digital ecosystem. Recognizing the need to mitigate the adverse effects of excessive online gaming, the State has announced an unprecedented digital detox initiative to create a responsible gaming environment. This move not only highlights the government's commitment towards public health but also sets an example for digital well-being.
- ◆ The government-appointed panel to draft the Uniform Civil Code handed over an important document to Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami. The draft was tested, studied and discussed before presenting it in the Assembly. This draft consisting of 740 pages in four volumes has been handed over to Dhami.
- ◆ The Reserve Bank of India's Digital Payments Index rose to 418.77 in September 2023, indicating a strong growth trajectory from 395.57 in March 2023 and 377.46 in September 2022. This significant growth aligns with the 10.94% annual growth in digital payments. The end of March 2023 highlighted the growing acceptance of online transactions.
- ◆ Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Interim Union Budget 2024-2025 in Parliament, underscoring the government's commitment to inclusive growth. Sabka Prayas Approach This budget aims to address the upliftment of key social sections and take the nation towards a comprehensive development path.
- ◆ AU Small Finance Bank announced the appointment of Haroon Rashid Khan, former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, as its non-executive Chairman. This appointment got approval from the board of directors, RBI and shareholders.

National & International Current Affairs

1. When will India's first Beachsite Startup Fest be organized in Mangalore recently?

- (A) From 15th to 17th February
- (B) From 16th to 18th February
- (C) From 17th to 19th February
- (D) From 18th to 20th February

(B) The first Mangalore Beachsite Startup Fest, scheduled to be held from 16th to 18th February, is a significant milestone in the entrepreneurship landscape of the region. With a focus on nurturing and promoting emerging enterprises, the program promises to be a catalyst for the growing startup ecosystem in Mangalore.

2. When will the Indian Air Force conduct Vayu Shakti 2024 exercise in Jaisalmer?

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

(A) Indian Air Force will conduct Vayu Shakti, Gagan Shakti and Tarang Shakti exercises. Indian Air Force will conduct mega exercise Vayu Shakti 2024 at Pokhran Range in Jaisalmer. More than 100 aircraft and helicopters will participate in this exercise. Several indigenously manufactured and designed aircraft and helicopters like Tejas, Prachanda and Dhruv will participate in this exercise.

3. Recently, where will North India's first human DNA bank be created?

- (A) Agra (B) Meerut
- (C) Lucknow (D) Varanasi

(D) Recently, North India's first DNA bank is being created in Kashi Hindu University. An automated DNA extractor machine has been installed here. With this machine, DNA can be extracted from blood, saliva, hair or tissue. This will make it easier to understand the effects of future epidemics. Besides, considering various diseases, genetic study can also be done.

4. Recently, at how many rupees per kg will the government sell India's rice in the retail market?

- (A) Rs 15 per kg (B) Rs 22 per kg
- (C) Rs 29 per kg (D) Rs 35 per kg

(C) The Government of India has introduced Bharat Rice to stabilize markets and ensure affordability. Sold at 29/kg in packs of 5 and 10 kg through cooperative societies like NAFED, NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar. In response to rising prices of rice, the Government of India has introduced Bharat brand rice with the aim of addressing market volatility and ensuring affordability for consumers.

5. Recently, in which state did Prime Minister Narendra Modi lay the foundation stone of Talabira Thermal Power Project of NLC India Limited?

- (A) Odisha (B) Kerala
- (C) Tamil Nadu (D) Telangana

(A) The over Rs 27000 crore Neyveli Lignite Corporation Talabira Thermal Power Project will be set up in Sambalpur, Odisha. The Government has approved setting up of 3,800 MW Ultra Super Critical Thermal Power Plant at Talabira through NLCIL. He also dedicated to the nation the 50 km long second track of Jharsuguda Barpali Sardega Rail Line Phase 1 constructed by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited.



भारत ब्रांड के तहत सस्ता चावल बेचेगी केंद्र सरकार



6. Who recently launched the centralized GIS data center for Ayodhya development?

- (A) Piyush Goyal (B) Yogi Adityanath
(C) Amit Shah (D) Narendra Modi

(B) Uttar Pradesh's Yogi Adityanath launched a centralized GIS data center in Ayodhya through ADA, streamlining 141 projects. The Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government is set to set up a state-of-the-art centralized GIS data center in Ayodhya under the Ayodhya Development Authority.



7. Which state has recently won the Nagesh Trophy by defeating Andhra Pradesh?

- (A) Karnataka (B) Himachal Pradesh
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Madhya Pradesh

(A) Recently, Karnataka won the Nagesh Trophy, which is a significant achievement in the men's national visionary T20 cricket tournament 2023-2024. In a thrilling final held in Nagpur, Karnataka defeated Andhra Pradesh by nine wickets and ended a 20-year wait for the national title.



8. Recently the Central Government has increased the target of Lakhpati Didi Scheme to how much?

- (A) 1 crore (B) 2 crore
(C) 3 crore (D) 4 crore

(C) Recently, Sitharaman had mentioned the Lakhpati Didi scheme in her budget speech. This is an ambitious scheme of the Central Government to promote women empowerment. In the interim budget, Modi government has decided to increase the target of Lakhpati Didi Scheme from 2 crore to 3 crore.



9. Who has recently become the Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court?

- (A) Mayank Agarwal (B) Pradeep Srivastava
(C) Prabhakar Gupta (D) None of these

(B) Jharkhand High Court Additional Judge Pradeep Kumar Srivastava was sworn in as a permanent judge by Acting Chief Justice S Chandrashekhar. The President has expressed pleasure in the appointment of Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, who previously served as Additional Judge of the Jharkhand High Court, as a Judge of the High Court.



10. Which university has recently received A++ grade from NAAC?

- (A) Kurukshetra University
(B) Allahabad University
(C) Agra University
(D) None of these

(A) Kurukshetra University, which recently implemented the new education policy, has now become an A+ plus university. First of all, National Education Policy-2020 has been implemented with complete provisions in UG program and NEP at PG level has been implemented from session 2024-2025. Keeping in view the objectives of the National Education Policy 2020, 19 online programs have been started by Kurukshetra University.

