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History of 23 February

- ◆ **1952** : **Employees' Provident Fund** and **Miscellaneous Provisions Act** was passed.
- ◆ **1468** : **Johann Gutenberg**, who invented the **printing machine**, died in 1468.
- ◆ **1768** : **Colonel Smith** signed a peace agreement with the **Nizam of Hyderabad**, who had accepted British rule.
- ◆ **1954** : **Baba Hardev Singh**, a famous saint of India and spiritual guru of Sant Nirankari Mission, was born.

Current Affairs Related to 23 February

- ◆ **Four power distribution companies in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh** have achieved the prestigious A rating in the latest consumer service rating report of the discom. The report released by Power Minister RK Singh is a comprehensive assessment of discoms across the country, aimed at enhancing their accountability towards consumers. Notable achievers include BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Yamuna Power Limited and Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited.
- ◆ **The Central Government constituted a committee to recommend steps to protect the interests** of the Scheduled Caste communities. This committee will ensure fair allocation of benefits to the most deprived communities of the Scheduled Castes. This committee will be headed by the Cabinet Secretary. Secretaries of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Department of Legal Affairs and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment will be members of the committee. The main concern of the government is that the benefits of reservation and welfare/developmental schemes are not being distributed equally among the Scheduled Castes.
- ◆ **The government expanded the scope of activities in the international financial centre.** The government has included services such as bookkeeping and accounting in the International Financial Services Centre. Various services including bookkeeping, accounting, taxation and financial crime compliance will be launched as part of the Financial Services Center at the International Financial Services Centre. The Finance Ministry has issued a notification regarding expansion of services at the International Financial Services Centre.
- ◆ **According to the study, tetrahydrocannabinol derived from hemp** can fight methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. Scientists at Jammu CSIR Laboratory found that phytocannabinoids, a class of compounds found in the hemp plant, have some antibiotic properties. Cannabinoids are a class of compounds found in the cannabis plant. They bind to receptors in the animal's body to produce a variety of neurological effects.
- ◆ **The International Cricket Council has announced the Men's and Women's T20I Teams of the Year for 2023** in recognition of exceptional performances in the shortest format of the game. The selection highlights players who have excelled with the bat, ball or as an all-rounder throughout the calendar year. The Men's T20I Team of 2023 is a mix of rising stars and established talent from around the world. It includes players from India, England, West Indies, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Ireland.
- ◆ **Sony issued a notice to terminate the merger agreement with Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited and Culver Max Entertainment Pvt Ltd**, formerly known as Sony Pictures Networks India Pvt Ltd. The \$10 billion deal, signed on December 22, 2021, faced challenges in meeting the closing conditions within the specified deadline.
- ◆ **Indian documentary film To Kill a Tiger has been nominated for the 96th Academy Awards** in the Best Documentary Feature Film category. To Kill a Tiger is directed by Delhi-born Nisha Pahuja. This documentary is an emotional journey of an ordinary person facing extraordinary circumstances. Last year, the film got a theatrical release in North America.
- ◆ **Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the Center of Excellence for Digital Forensics.** The inaugural session was attended by Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, National Human Rights Commission Chairman Justice Arun Kumar Mishra and Gujarat Law and Justice Minister Rushikesh Patel. The Center of Digital Forensics Excellence will help address crimes that are driven by misuse of technology. This will provide investigators with digital weapons against cyber crimes.
- ◆ **Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana.** Under this scheme, one crore families will get rooftop solar energy systems. This is a major scheme of the Central Government.

National & International Current Affairs

1. Who has directed the film To Kill a Tiger, which was recently nominated for Oscar 2024?

- (A) David Oppenheim (B) Nisha Pahuja
(C) Christopher Nolan (D) None of these

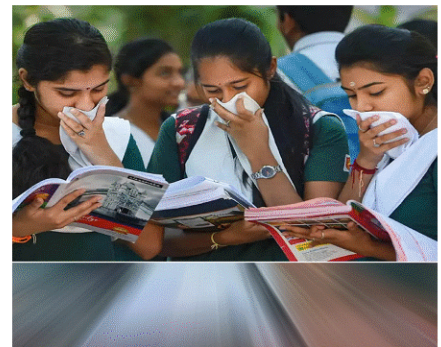
(B) Oscars 2024: The nomination list of the 96th Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences i.e. Oscars 2024 has been revealed. This time India has made a place in the nomination in the Best Documentary Feature category. India-based Nisha Pahuja's To Kill a Tiger has been nominated for Best Documentary Feature.



2. Which app has recently been launched by the Central Government for multilingual education?

- (A) Translation (B) Reading
(C) Bhashini (D) None of these

(A) In an important step towards promoting multilingualism in education, the Central Government has launched an Artificial Intelligence based platform Nidali App. The initiative aims to make study material available in digital form for all school and higher education courses, exclusively in Indian languages ??listed in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution.



3. Recently, the population of which country has decreased for the second consecutive year?

- (A) India (B) Russia
(C) Canada (D) China

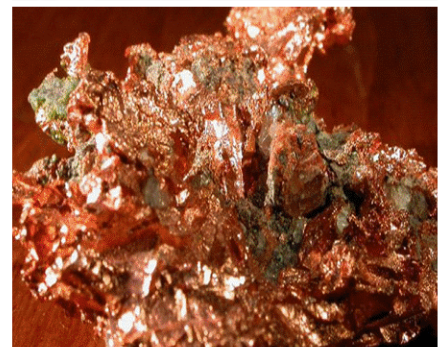
(D) China's population has declined for the second consecutive year. After the lifting of COVID-19 related restrictions in China, the population is expected to decrease by 2 million in 2023 due to increasing death rate and decreasing birth rate. The population in China has declined for the second consecutive year. China's Bureau of Statistics has reported that the total population of the country is 1.4 billion.



4. Recently, India will send an industry delegation to which state for copper mining?

- (A) Colombo (B) Zambia
(C) Argentina (D) None of these

(B) Recently the Ministry of Mines proposed to send an Indian industry delegation including major players like Vedanta, Hindustan Zinc, Ola Electric and LOHUM to Zambia to explore copper mining projects.



5. Recently, which medal has the pair of Raiza Dhillon and Gurjot Singh Khangura won in the Asia Olympic Shotgun Qualifier?

- (A) Gold Medal (B) Silver Medal
(C) Bronze Medal (D) None of these

(C) In a brilliant display of skill and determination, Indian shooting pair Raiza Dhillon and Gurjot Singh Khangura won the bronze medal in the mixed skeet team event at the Asian Shotgun Championships 2024 in Kuwait City. Competing against Kuwait's Abdullah Al Rashidi and Iman Al Shama, the Indian pair emerged victorious with a score of 41.39 in an intense bronze medal match.



6. Who has recently retired from boxing?

- (A) Renu Phogat (B) Geeta Solanki
(C) Mary Kom (D) None of these

(C) Recently boxer Mary Kom has retired. Mary Kom is a six-time world champion. Apart from this, Mary Kom has also won a medal in the 2012 Olympic Games. Mary Kom is now 41 years old and the International Boxing Federation allows male and female boxers to compete only till the age of 40.



7. Recently the Cabinet has approved the establishment of how many coal gasification plants in West Bengal and Odisha.

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

(B) Coal India Limited will set up two coal gasification plants with an aim to achieve the target of 100 MT coal gasification by the year 2030 and fulfill India's twin objectives of self-reliance and energy independence. The total investment for synthetic natural gas from coal proposed in the joint venture of CIL and GAIL in the Sonpur Bazaar area of Eastern Coalfields Limited in West Bengal will be Rs 1352 crore.



8. Which medal did Mansingh win recently in the Asian Marathon Championship 2024?

- (A) Gold Medal (B) Silver Medal
(C) Bronze Medal (D) None of these

(A) The Asian Marathon Championships 2024 was a historic moment for Indian athletics as India's 34-year-old marathon runner Man Singh won the gold medal. The achievement is significant for Mansingh and Indian sports, reflecting the country's growing strength in long distance running. Mansingh's victory in Hong Kong was nothing less than spectacular.



9. हाल ही में भारत किस देश को ब्रह्मोस सुपरसोनिक क्रूज मिसाइलों का निर्यात करेगा? Recently, to which country will India export BrahOS supersonic cruise missiles?

- (A) Philippines (B) Nepal
(C) Russia (D) Sri Lanka

(A) India is not only becoming self-reliant in the defense sector but many countries want to buy defense products in India. India, which was once an importer of defense products, is now ready to make the whole world realize its potential by becoming a defense exporter. Brahoyos are to be exported under the agreement with the Philip-pines.



10. Which bank has recently achieved the feat as the first Indian bank on RXIL's ITFS platform?

- (A) UCO Bank (B) Yes Bank
(C) Axis Bank (D) Indian Overseas Bank

(B) Yes Bank has become the first Indian bank to execute export finance transactions on the International Trade Financing Services platform of RXIL Global IFSC Limited. This collaboration marks a significant advancement in digitalization and cross-border trade for Yes Bank.

