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History of February 16

- ◆ **1987** : The submarine-to-submarine missile was inducted into the Indian Navy.
- ◆ **1982** : The Jawaharlal Nehru International Gold Cup football tournament was organized for the first time in Calcutta.
- ◆ **1918** : Luthiana declared itself independent.
- ◆ **1745** : Thorale Madhavrao, the fourth Peshwa of the Maratha Empire, was born.
- ◆ **2001** : Iraq was attacked by American and British planes.

Current Affairs Related to 16 February

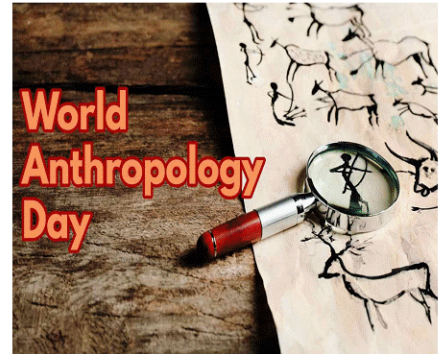
- ◆ The Union Cabinet has extended the refund scheme for apparel and made-up exports till March 31, 2026. The Cabinet had earlier approved this scheme till 31 March 2020. After this the scheme was approved till 31 March 2024. The expansion of the scheme will help in improving export competitiveness. The objective of the scheme is to offset the State and Central taxes and levies on exports of apparel/garments and made ups through rebates other than duty drawback scheme.
- ◆ The Government of India has announced that Lal Krishna Advani, one of the most prominent figures of Indian politics, will be honored with the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award. This prestigious honor is a testimony to Advani's indelible contribution to Indian politics and society over many decades.
- ◆ India has doubled the amount of sovereign gold bond issuance to Rs 3500 crore for the next financial year, underscoring the success of SGBs in shifting investor interest away from physical gold.
- ◆ In a concerted effort to strengthen child protection measures, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has taken up the development of two important portals: Track Child Portal and GHAR Go Home and Re-Unite Portal. These platforms play an important role in tracking missing and found children, enhancing restitution and repatriation processes, and protecting the welfare of vulnerable minors within the scope of the juvenile justice system.
- ◆ The ancient tradition of the Olympic torch relay will continue its journey at Paris 2024, with the flame crossing the Mediterranean Sea and embarking on a 68-day adventure across France. Abhinav Bindra, India's first individual Olympic gold medalist and IOC Athletes Commission member, is one of the 11,000 torchbearers selected to carry the iconic symbol.
- ◆ The University Grants Commission has issued guidelines to provide equal opportunities for socioeconomically disadvantaged groups in higher education institutions. The guidelines are in line with the recommendations of the National Education Policy 2020. It emphasizes access, equity and inclusivity in higher education for socioeconomically disadvantaged groups. The University Grants Commission recommended that all universities and higher education institutions should follow these guidelines to improve the educational opportunities of socioeconomically disadvantaged students.
- ◆ India has officially launched the Unified Payment Interface at the iconic Eiffel Tower in Paris, an important step towards realizing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of globalizing UPI. The initiative follows the Digital Payments Sector Agreement signed between India and France in July last year, making France the first European country to adopt India's UPI for retail transactions.
- ◆ PM Modi inaugurated the Commonwealth Legal Education Association Commonwealth Attorneys and Solicitors General Conference in New Delhi. Important issues of law and justice will be discussed during the conference. Some of these issues are judicial change and the ethical dimensions of legal practice, executive accountability and revisiting modern legal education.
- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Commonwealth Legal Education Association Commonwealth Attorneys and Solicitors General Conference 2024 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, focusing on cross-border challenges in justice delivery.
- ◆ UPI has been formally launched at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Indian tourists can now buy tickets for Eiffel Tower through UPI. Eiffel Tower is the first merchant to offer UPI payments in India. France has become the first European country to accept UPI.
- ◆ Reserve Bank of India announced the successful withdrawal of 97.50% of Rs 2000 notes from circulation.

National & International Current Affairs

1. When is World Anthropology Day celebrated every year?

- (A) 15th February (B) 16th February
(C) 17th February (D) 18th February

(B) World Anthropology Day is celebrated every year on 16 February. This day is celebrated to honor the untapped field and educate the general public about anthropology. Anthropologists take a broad approach to understanding various aspects of the human experience. Their goal is to understand our human origins, our uniqueness as a species, and our great diversity.



2. In which city is the 67th All India Police Duty Meet being organized recently?

- (A) Lucknow (B) Jaipur
(C) Kolkata (D) None of these

(A) Railway Protection Force is hosting the 67th All India Police Duty Meet in Lucknow. The responsibility of this program has been handed over to AIPDF. Central Coordination Committee has handed over to RPF. Well-known in law enforcement circles, the program aims to promote excellence and collaboration among police officers towards scientific research and investigation of crimes to enhance internal security.



3. Which country's army will start textile business recently?

- (A) Bangladesh (B) Maldives
(C) Nepal (D) Bhutan

(C) Recently Nepal's Army will start textile business. Nepal Army is moving on the path of Pakistani Army and after selling water bottles, now wants to run a textile factory. Nepali Army Chief has given a proposal to PM Prachanda. Nepali Army wants to restart Hetauda textile industry by spending billions of rupees.



4. Which politician will be honored with Bharat Ratna recently?

- (A) Lal Krishna Advani (B) Kalyan Singh
(C) Murli Manohar Joshi (D) None of these

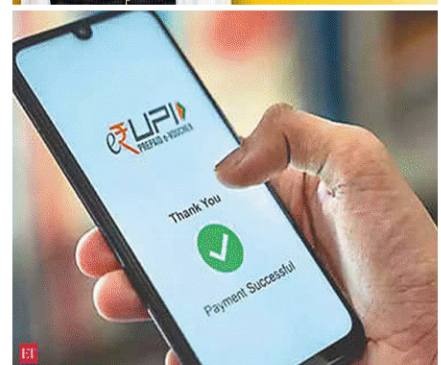
(A) Senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Lal Krishna Advani will be honored with Bharat Ratna at the age of 96. He is the second BJP leader after former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who will be given the country's highest civilian honour. Till now 49 people have been given Bharat Ratan.



5. Which European country has recently become the first European country to launch UPI?

- (A) Norway (B) Italy
(C) France (D) Japan

(C) Recently France has become the first European country to launch UPI. The Indian Embassy formally launched the Unified Payment Interface at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Now people will be able to book tickets for Eiffel Tower through UPI. Indian tourists can now book their trip to the Eiffel Tower by purchasing tickets online using UPI.



6. Who has recently become the brand ambassador of BoAt?

- (A) Ranveer Singh (B) Ranveer Kapoor
(C) Shahrukh Khan (D) Akshay Kumar

(A) Recently, leading audio wearable brand boAt has appointed actor Ranveer Singh as its brand ambassador. And he has also invested an undisclosed amount in the company, becoming a major stakeholder in the company. Ranveer Singh will be the star of the company's sweeping new campaign Lost in Nirvana.



7. Which state government has recently launched the digital detox initiative?

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

(C) Karnataka government has announced to start a campaign of digital detox. Through this, people will be warned about the dangers of spending too much time in the digital world. Besides, efforts will also be made to create a healthy environment regarding gaming. In this campaign of digital detox, maximum emphasis will be given to the mental health of the youth.



8. According to the recent announcement by RBI, how many percent of Rs 2000 notes have successfully come back into circulation?

- (A) 96.50% (B) 97.50%
(C) 98.50% (D) 99.50%

(B) Recently the Reserve Bank of India announced the successful withdrawal of 97.50% of Rs 2000 notes from circulation. The Reserve Bank of India revealed that 97.50% of the Rs 2,000 notes in circulation by May 19, 2023 have been successfully reintegrated into the banking system.



9. Who has recently become the Chairman of Uttarakhand Uniform Civil Code Committee?

- (A) Ranjana Prakash Desai
(B) H.R. Khan
(C) Swadesh Mital
(D) None of these

(A) Committee led by Ranjana Prakash Desai Retired Supreme Court Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai entered the legal profession in 1973 after completing her law degree from Government Law College. He was appointed Government Pleader in the Bombay High Court in 1979 and then Special Public Prosecutor for preventive detention cases in the High Court.



10. Recently in which state has self balancing electric scooter been launched under smart policing?

- (A) Rajasthan (B) Maharashtra
(C) Chhattisgarh (D) Uttarakhand

(D) The efforts of Uttarakhand Police for smart policing are continuing. In this sequence, now the police will patrol in Haridwar with self-balancing scooters for the safety of tourists and local people. It has been claimed that policemen will be able to easily monitor the walking paths, Ganga ghats and crowded areas of the city.

