

Weekly Current Affairs PDF March 25 to March 19, 2023

Current Affairs PDF- March 25, 2023

NATIONAL

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated and lay the foundation stone for various development projects in Karnataka: 25 March 2023

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a day's visit to Karnataka on 25th of March 2023, Saturday where he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for various development projects. After arrival in Bengaluru, the Prime Minister will inaugurate Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research at Muddenahalli in Chikkaballapur district. Established by Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence, the Institute will provide free medical education and offer free medical treatment to the poor. The Medical college has 100 MBBS seats. Later in the day, the Prime Minister will take part in a road show in Bengaluru and inaugurate a new metro line between Whitefield and K R Puram covering 13.71 kms built at a cost of around 4250 crore rupees. In the afternoon the Prime Minister will attend the closing ceremony of Vijaya Sankalpa yatra in Davangere. BJP state unit had taken up around 8000 kms long yatra across 224 assembly segments around the state as part of its pre poll campaign.

Agriculture minister launches 'DigiClaim' for claim disbursement through National Crop Insurance Portal

Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar launched National Crop Insurance Portal's digitised claim settlement module namely DigiClaim under the ambit of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) today at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. "With the launch of the module, claims will be disbursed electronically, which will benefit the respective farmers of six states. Now, the automated claim settlement process will be an ongoing activity to ease all insured farmers' lives and provide them with a sustainable financial flow and support," the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare said, With the launch of a DigiClaim Module, insurance claims totalling Rs 1260.35 crore have been disbursed on March 23, 2023, to insured farmers in the states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand and Haryana, and the process will continue as and when the claims are released," the ministry said. The minister also mentioned that to date Rs 1.32 lakh crore claim amount has been disbursed to the insured farmers under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. He also took special note of 'Meri Policy, Mere Haath' ongoing campaign and observed that the campaign has been monumental in enhancing the awareness around PMFBY at the grassroot level.

Tamil Nadu's 18th wildlife sanctuary to come up in Erode

The Tamil Nadu Government will notify Thanthai Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, spread over 80,567 hectares in the forest areas of Anthiyur and Gobichettipalayam taluks in Erode district, as the 18th wildlife sanctuary in the state. It will include reserve forest areas in Anthiyur, Bargur, Thattakarai and Chennampatti.

Home to wild animals including tigers, elephants, leopards, wild boars, gaurs and deer, the sanctuary is close to Malai Mahadeshwara wildlife sanctuary, BRT Wildlife Sanctuary, Cauvery wildlife sanctuary in Karnataka and also act as a connecting point between Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve and Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary.

"The announcement is a big push to the ongoing conservation efforts," environment, climate change and forests additional chief secretary Supriya Sagu said, adding that 21 species of mammals, 136 species of birds and 118 species of butterflies are found in the new sanctuary. Forest department officials have clarified that tribal people won't face any restrictions in doing their job in these areas.

Haldwani to get a sports university: Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announced the government will set up a sports university in the Kumaun region's Haldwani town. Dhami, who made the announcement on the occasion of completion of one year of the formation of his government, said there had been longstanding demands from several sports associations for such a university.

The international stadium of Haldwani will be upgraded into a sports university, he said. Earlier, the chief minister also held a meeting with the officials and discussed the proposed university. Dhami said there is no dearth of sporting talent in the state, and the university will give such talented people a chance to hone and display their skills further. Uttarakhand will hold several national level sports event in the coming year, he also said.

OBITUARY

Intel co-founder Gordon Moore has passed away

Gordon Moore, co-founder and former CEO of Intel, has passed away at 94. He was the last surviving member of the Intel Trinity, which also included his fellow founder Robert Noyce and their first hire Andy Grove. Moore and Noyce previously worked with the co-inventor of the transistor, William Shockley, before helping found Fairchild Semiconductor. In 1968, the two struck out on their own and founded NM Electronics, which eventually became Intel.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Indian Woman Hockey Player Salima Tete Appointed AHF Athletes Ambassador

National women's hockey team midfielder Salima Tete was appointed as the AHF Athletes Ambassador from India for a term of two years, starting March 25.

Tete accepted the certificate and the position during the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) Congress in Mungyeong, Korea.

Tete, who led the Indian women's junior hockey team to a fourth-place finish at the 2021 FIH Women's Junior World Cup in Potchefstroom, South Africa, is among four players from Asia to be appointed for the position.

As the AHF Athletes Ambassador, Tete, along with the other selected athletes from Asia, will play a leadership role in international representation, development, and advocacy of athletes.

She will also be working towards promoting awareness about athletes' rights and welfare from the region. "I am honoured to be selected as one of the AHF Athletes Ambassadors.

As athletes from Asia, we face a lot of challenges in our careers. This position will allow me to bring our voices to the front. I hope to make a positive impact on the lives of athletes from the region with this position," Tete said in a Hockey India statement.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Earth Hour Day: March 25, 2023 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Earth Hour is a worldwide movement organized by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). The event is held annually, encouraging individuals, communities, and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights, for one hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the last Saturday of March, as a symbol of commitment to the planet. It was started as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia, in 2007.

Occasionally, in years when Holy Saturday falls on the last Saturday of March, Earth Hour is moved a week early rather than its usual date.

Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu Urges People To Observe Earth Hour today: 25th March

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu appealed to the people of the state to be part of 'Earth Hour', to be observed under the theme 'The Biggest Hour for Earth' today 25th March, 2023. He said that it was an Endeavour of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to raise awareness about the conservation of nature and climate change – the two biggest threats facing the planet today.

He urged the people of the State to switch off all non-essential lights on 25th March for one hour between 8.30 PM to 9.30 PM to support this mission.. He said this mission would go a long way in creating a better and healthy environment for future generations.

Amit Shah attends the 84th Raising Day CRPF as Chief Guest at Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh: 25 March

On 25 March CRPF is celebrated 84th Foundation Day. Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah attended the 84th Raising Day celebrations of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) as the Chief Guest at Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, today. The Union Home Minister also took the salute of the parade on the occasion. Shri Amit Shah also inaugurated Prasar Bharati's news bulletin for the Bastar Division in the local language of Halbi.

In his address, Shri Amit Shah said that it is a matter of great joy for all of us as this day is being celebrated in Chhattisgarh for the first time after the establishment of CRPF and since the beginning of the problem of left wing extremism. He said that 763 CRPF personnel have made the supreme sacrifice during the drive to end Left Wing Extremism in Chhattisgarh. Today our fight against Left Wing Extremism is at a decisive stage, for which the martyred Jawans have made immense contribution.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

Union Cabinet Approves 4% Increase in Dearness Allowance

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the release of an additional installment of Dearness Allowance (DA) to central government employees and Dearness Relief to pensioners, effective from January 1, 2023. The new installment

represents a 4% increase over the existing rate of 38% of the Basic Pay/Pension, which will help compensate against the rising cost of living. This increase in DA will benefit around 47.58 lakh Central Government employees and 69.76 lakh pensioners. The decision to increase the DA is based on the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission, which follows a set formula to calculate the Dearness Allowance for central government employees and pensioners.

The Central Government usually revises the DA twice a year, in January and July, to combat inflation. The announcement of the hike in DA and the payout is generally done in March.

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INTERNATIONAL

Egypt Becomes A Member Of The BRICS New Development Bank

Egypt on Wednesday, officially became a member of BRICS' New Development Bank (NDB) which includes India, Brazil, Russia, China, and South Africa as member countries.

According to an update posted on the bank's official website, Cairo completed all the necessary procedures to become an eligible member on February 20, 2023

BRICS' New Development bank was established in July 2014, after an intergovernmental agreement was signed by the partner nations at the sixth BRICS summit in Fortaleza. "The membership shall be open to members of the United Nations, in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Agreement of the New Development Bank.

Bank's aim is to provide funding and finance to the BRICS member states for infrastructure and sustainable development projects. New Development Bank drafted the General Strategy until 2022–2026 titled "Scaling Up Development Finance for a Sustainable Future." The vision of the bank is to evolve into a leading provider of solutions for infrastructure and sustainable development for emerging market economies and developing countries.

NATIONAL

Under U20, Urban Climate Film Festival to be held from today: March 24

With the support of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the French Development Agency (AFD), and the European Union, the Urban Climate Film Festival is to be held from March 24 to 26, 2023. The Urban Climate Film Festival will be inaugurated on March 24 in New Delhi. The inaugural session will be chaired by Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa. Notably, the Ambassadors of France and the European Union to India will also deliver the inaugural addresses.

Through the CITIIS programme and U20 engagement events, the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is organising the first Urban Climate Film Festival. A curated selection of 11 films from 9 countries will be shown to create wider awareness of the impact of climate change on life in cities and engage the public in the dialogue on sustainable urban development.

Objectives -

1. Incorporate the powerful medium of film to enlighten audiences about the environmental, social and economic impacts of climate change on urban settlements

2. Initiate conversations about building climate-resilient cities and invite inputs from the public
3. Encourage citizens to undertake “environmentally responsible behaviours” in line with the U20 Priority Areas and the Prime Minister’s clarion call through the LiFE Mission.

Indian Navy Conducts Maritime Exercise 'Konkan 2023' With UK Navy

Konkan 2023, a joint naval drill between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of Britain was organised over three days, from March 20 to 23, 2023. The maritime exercise demonstrated operational readiness, improved interoperability, and joint operations. The drill was conducted off the coast of Konkan in the Arabian Sea, and demonstrated the close ties and high operational readiness of both navies.

This exercise yielded excellent training value to personnel of both navies. During the exercise, a high degree of professionalism and zeal was demonstrated. The UK has been extended an offer to join India's Information Fusion Centre in Gurugram, and the two countries have agreed to significantly expand their maritime domain awareness cooperation. This workout regimen is extensive and trilateral joint movements are also part of it.

Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates 'Sagar Manthan', the Real-time Performance Monitoring Dashboard of MoPSW

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Ayush Shri Sarbananda Sonowal virtually launched Real-time Performance Monitoring Dashboard of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways 'Sagar Manthan' – Digital platform having all the integrated data related to the ministry and other subsidiaries. It was inaugurated in the presence of Shri Shripad Y. Naik, MoS, MoPSW; Shri Shantanu Thakur, MoS, MoPSW and other officials from the ministry.

This dashboard will transform the workings of various departments by improving well-coordinated real time information. This platform has been developed completely in-house under the guidance of Shri Sudhanshu Pant, IAS, Secretary, MoPSW in the span of less than 1.5 months efficiently. Speaking on the occasion Shri Sarbananda Sonowal said the launch of Sagar Manthan dashboard is a positive development towards Digital India vision of our Prime Minister. He said it will have a significant impact on the overall performance of organizations.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NASA-ISRO Jointly Manufactures NISAR Earth Science Satellite

In a significant development in the field of earth science, NASA and ISRO have come together to manufacture a satellite named NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar). This earth science satellite has been designed to cater to various mission objectives, such as designing, developing, and launching Dual Frequency (L and S band) Radar Imaging Satellite, and exploring newer application areas using L & S Band microwave data, especially in surface deformation studies, terrestrial biomass structure, natural resource mapping, and monitoring and studies related to the dynamics of ice-sheets, glaciers, forests, oil slick, etc. According to Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State Science &

Technology, NISAR satellite is configured with I-3K bus, and the instrument identified for SAR is based on the innovative Sweep SAR technique configured in both L and S band in polarimetric configuration for wide swath and high resolution. The satellite will orbit the Earth in a sun-synchronous orbit of 747 Km with an inclination of 98.4 degrees for a 12-day repeat cycle.

While NASA is delivering the L-Band SAR payload, high-precision GPS, and 12m unfurlable antenna, ISRO is delivering S-band SAR payload, spacecraft bus, and facilitating the launch. The total expenditure incurred on realization of NISAR satellite by ISRO as on February 2023 is Rs. 469.40 Crore, excluding launch cost.

OBITUARY

Filmmaker Pradeep Sarkar passes away at 67

Filmmaker Pradeep Sarkar, who was best-known for directing films like Parineeta, Helicopter Eela and Mardaani, has died at the age of 67. Director Hansal Mehta shared the news on his Twitter profile on Friday morning and he wrote: "Pradeep Sarkar. Dada. RIP." United by grief, Bollywood stars paid tribute to the filmmaker. Ajay Devgn, in his eulogy for Pradeep Sarkar, wrote: "The news of Pradeep Sarkar's demise, 'Dada' to some of us is still hard to digest. My deepest condolences. My prayers are with the departed and his family. RIP Dada." Actor Manoj Bajpayee retweeted Hansal Mehta's tweet and he wrote: "Ohh! That's so shocking! Rest in peace Dada."

Several members of the film industry showed up to pay their respects for the filmmaker and greet his grieving family. The veteran filmmaker made his feature directorial debut with Parineeta, that starred Vidya Balan, Saif Ali Khan and Sanjay Dutt. Among those who were in attendance at the crematorium in Mumbai for the funeral were Deepika Padukone, Vidya Balan with husband Sidharth Roy Kapur, Rani Mukerji, Dia Mirza, Vidhu Vinod Chopra, Rhea Chakraborty, Neil Nitin Mukesh, Gajraj Rao, Tahir Raj Bhasin and Sakshi Tanwar.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World TB Day

Each year, we recognize World TB Day on March 24. This annual event commemorates the date in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacillus that causes tuberculosis (TB).

World TB Day is a day to educate the public about the impact of TB around the world. CDC, along with our partners and colleagues around the world share successes in TB prevention and control and raise awareness of the challenges that hinder our progress toward the elimination of this devastating disease.

World TB Day 2023, with the theme 'Yes! We can end TB!', aims to inspire hope and encourage high-level leadership, increased investments, faster uptake of new WHO recommendations, adoption of innovations, accelerated action, and multisectoral collaboration to combat the TB epidemic.

Right to Truth Day

On 21 December 2010, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 24 March as the International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims.

The date was chosen because on 24 March 1980, Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero of El Salvador was assassinated, after denouncing violations of human rights.

Each year, on 24 March, the International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims is observed.

This annual observance pays tribute to the memory of Monsignor Óscar Arnulfo Romero, who was murdered on 24 March 1980. Monsignor Romero was actively engaged in denouncing violations of the human rights of the most vulnerable individuals in El Salvador.

Kitty O'Neil's 77th Birth anniversary

Kitty O'Neil, a famous American stuntwoman and actress who was deaf from a young age, was commemorated by Google on her 77th birthday anniversary with a doodle featuring her in a yellow jumpsuit. She went on to become one of Hollywood's most famous stunt drivers. Google celebrated Kitty O'Neil's 77th birth anniversary with a doodle that depicted her in a yellow jumpsuit. Despite being deaf since childhood, she became a well-known stunt driver in Hollywood and held the women's absolute land speed record until 2019.

Kitty O'Neil was an American stuntwoman and actor who was born in Texas in 1946. She became deaf at a young age due to contracting multiple diseases. Despite this, she went on to become one of Hollywood's most recognized stunt drivers and performers, appearing as a stunt double in several movies and shows.

In 1976, O'Neil set the women's absolute land speed record driving a hydrogen peroxide-powered three-wheeled rocket car, reaching an average speed of 825.127 kmph, with a top speed of 999 kmph. This earned her the title of the "fastest woman in the world." She also set a women's high-fall record of 127 feet (39 m) while performing as a stunt double in the 1979 episode of the Wonder Woman TV series, which she would later break.

O'Neil died in 2018 at the age of 72 due to pneumonia. In 2019, she was honored with the Oscars in Memoriam award. A biopic about her life, called Silent Victory: The Kitty O'Neil Story, was released in 1979 and showcased her land speed record achievement. A biopic named Silent Victory: The Kitty O'Neil Story, was released in 1979, and she received the Oscars in Memoriam award in 2019. She passed away in 2018 due to pneumonia at the age of 72.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

PM Modi to address One World TB Summit at Varanasi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit his parliamentary constituency Varanasi today. PM will address the One World TB Summit at Rudrakash Convention Centre at around 10:30 AM.

On the occasion of World Tuberculosis Day, Prime Minister will address the One World TB Summit. This summit is being organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Stop TB Partnership. Founded in 2001, the Stop TB Partnership is a United

Nations-hosted organisation that amplifies the voices of the people, communities, and countries affected by TB.

During the event, Prime Minister will launch various initiatives and will also award select States and Districts for their progress toward ending TB.

In March 2018, during the End TB summit held in New Delhi, Prime Minister called on India to achieve TB-related SDG targets by 2025, five years ahead of stipulated time. One World TB Summit will provide an opportunity to further deliberate upon the targets as the country moves forward to meet its TB elimination objectives. International delegates from over 30 countries are scheduled to be present at the summit.

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NATIONAL

HM Amit Shah to inaugurate Vedic Heritage Portal in New Delhi today

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate the Vedic Heritage portal today (23 March) with the twin agenda of helping researchers in deeper understanding of the Vedic knowledge tradition and help the common people to have a general understanding of the ancient scriptures. The portal hosted by the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts will be launched during the week-long IGNC Foundation Day celebrations that began on Sunday.

Member Secretary, IGNC, Dr Sachchidanand Joshi said this portal will not only help researchers to develop a deeper understanding about our Vedic knowledge tradition, but also help common people to have a general understanding about the Vedas.

Vedas and Indian Knowledge system is not static but contemporary, Dr Joshi said. He also informed that IGNC is working on a project "Vrihattar Bharat" wherein the cultural linkages of India with 40 other countries is being compiled. Some of the countries of this project are SouthEast Asian Nations like Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Mongolia and others.

SPORTS

ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship: India win bronze

Indian pair Narmada Nithin Raju and Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil won bronze medal as they beat China mix team by 16-8 in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team bronze medal match in ISSF World Cup shooting championship in Bhopal today.

Earlier Nithin and Rudrankksh finished 3rd in qualification with 632 points. This is the third medal for India.

OBITUARY

Indore's noted journalist and Padma Shri winner Abhay Chhajlani passes away

Chhajlani was born on 4th August 1934 in Indore. He entered the field of journalism in 1955. In 1963, he took over as the executive editor and later remained the editor-in-chief of NaiDunya for a long time. In the year 1965, he graduated from Thomson Foundation, Cardiff (UK), the world's premier Institute of Journalism. He was the first journalist to be selected for this training from the field of Hindi journalism.

He had prominently raised many major issues of the city. Along with this, he was also associated with sports. He was the President of Madhya Pradesh Table Tennis Association for a long time and then remained on the post of President for life.

Lately, apart from serving as the chairman of the editorial board of NaiDunia, he was also carrying out many important social responsibilities. Abhay Chhajlani was a three-time president of ILNA, the apex organization of Indian language newspapers. He was the president of the organization in 1988, 1989 and 1994. He was also the Vice President of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) in 2000 and President in 2002.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Rahul Roy-Chowdhury, Grammarly's new Indian-origin CEO

Rahul Roy-Chowdhury has been appointed as the CEO of Grammarly, the San Francisco-headquartered online text editing platform based on artificial intelligence.

The Indian-origin executive, who is currently serving as the global product head at the company, will take over as CEO from May 1.

On LinkedIn, Rahul Roy-Chowdhury said, "I joined Grammarly two years ago because of a deep belief in our mission to improve lives by improving communication. I'm honored to serve that mission in a new capacity as Grammarly's CEO, starting May 1." Before joining Grammarly in May 2021, Rahul Roy-Chowdhury worked at Google for 14 years where he served in multiple capacities, including vice-president of product management. He also spent two years as a product manager at Google's office in Bengaluru between 2007 and 2009, following which he moved to California.

Rahul Roy-Chowdhury has an MBA from Stanford University and a Master's degree in computer science from Columbia University. He has a BA in mathematics from Hamilton College in New York as well.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Martyr's Day or Shaheed Diwas: India

Every year on March 23, India observes Martyrs' Day or Shaheed Diwas to honor the brave soldiers who gave their lives for the country. This day serves as a reminder to be grateful for the sacrifices made by these soldiers to protect the country and its people.

Martyrs' Day has a historical significance as it marks the day in 1931 when Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar were hanged to death during the struggle for India's independence. Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation, is also remembered on Martyrs' Day. January 30th is observed as Martyrs' Day or Shaheed Diwas in memory of Gandhi, who was assassinated on that day.

World Meteorological Day

World Meteorological Day takes place every year on 23 March and commemorates the coming into force on 23 March 1950 of the Convention establishing the World Meteorological Organization. It showcases the essential contribution of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to the safety and wellbeing of society and is celebrated with activities around the world.

Our weather and climate and the water cycle know no national or political boundaries. International cooperation is essential. This philosophy has driven the work of the world's

meteorological community since 1873 and will guide us as we translate science into services for society for present and future generations.

Since 1961, the World Meteorological Organization has been celebrating World Meteorological Day with a different theme selected for each year. The theme of World Meteorological Day 2023 is 'The Future of Weather, Climate and Water across Generations.' It underlines the impact of climate change and steps to protect the environment for the upcoming generations.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Paralympic Committee of India signs MOU with Makers Hive and Vilay Sports

The Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) has inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Makers Hive and Vilay Sports.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Dr Deepa Malik, a former Paralympic medalist and current president of the PCI, Mr Gursharan Singh, the renowned para-athlete Shri Devendra Jhajharia, Mr Pranav Vempati, CEO of Makers Hive, and Mr Siddharth Ram, CEO of Vilay Sports at the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Pune, during the 21st National Para-Athletics Championship.

Vilay Sports is a sports management company that focuses on creating and preserving alliances throughout the spectrum of sports. The company offers clients a 360-degree holistic service and offers cutting-edge solutions to support their success. Vilay Sports' team is eager to work with Makers Hive, an innovative assistive technology firm in India, and PCI, the country's official parasports regulatory organisation, to create a sustainable way of life for people with disabilities.

On the other hand, the mission of Makers Hive is to establish a revolutionary ecosystem where technology and social problems are met, analytics and human aspirations are encountered, innovation and customer satisfaction are achieved, and creativity empowers the next generation to truly benefit society.

MoU signed for setting up nation's first PM MITRA Park in Tamil Nadu

The nation's first PM Mega Integrated Textile Regions and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park is set to be established in Virudhunagar District of Tamil Nadu, and employ an estimated 2 lakh people, the Memorandum of Understanding for which was signed between the Central and State governments here on Wednesday.

Marking the occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on his Twitter handle: "Today is a very special day for my sisters and brothers of Tamil Nadu!"

"The aspirational district of Virudhunagar will be home to a PM MITRA mega textiles park. This will boost the local economy and will prove to be beneficial for the youngsters of the state #PragatiKaPMMitra," he said. Giving a big boost to the textile sector, the PM MITRA Parks, in all, would create huge employment opportunities and an estimated 20 lakh people would get 'new work' attracting about Rs 70,000 crore investment, Union Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal said here.

The mega project would ensure south Tamil Nadu's economic growth, Chief Minister M K Stalin said.

G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering

The two-day G20 Research and Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) Conference will begin in Dibrugarh, Assam today. It will deliberate on ways towards building a sustainable and circular bio-economy.

About 100 delegates from G20 members, guest countries and International organizations, along with invited participants from the scientific community will be present on the occasion.

The event will bring together key actors, including national authorities and experts from the G20 members responsible for planning, setting up new, and managing existing programmes on the subject.

The area of focus will include challenges and opportunities in agriculture, de-carbonization of the industry as well as bio-energy and bioresource management.

The conference will also deliberate on national and regional programmes and country experiences, regulatory environment and public/private sector collaboration, role of research, development and innovation in creating new, resource-efficient, sustainable and more circular bio-based technologies, products, services and cooperation between G20 members on specific thematic areas.

This event will further promote active engagement between all key stakeholders, including the 3Ps (people, policies and places), and lead towards an inclusive policy-making approach providing a conceptual framework to mainstream circular bio-economy models across different sectors.

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NATIONAL

Most silent ship INS Androth launched in Kolkata

INS Androth, the second in the series of eight anti-submarine warfare shallow water craft (ASW SWC) built at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) was launched at a function on Tuesday.

Vice-Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command was the chief guest. The primary role of the 77 metres long, waterjet propelled ASW shallow water craft, capable of 25 knots speed is to conduct anti-submarine operations in coastal water, low intensity maritime operations and mine laying operations. These ships are also capable of full-scale sub-surface surveillance of coastal waters and various surface platforms. These ships can carry lightweight torpedoes, ASW rockets and mines, close-in weapons system (30mm gun) and 16.7mm stabilized remote controlled guns. Vice Admiral Tripathi stated, "The construction of specialized ships such as these for anti-submarine warfare is indeed in sync with the provisioning of a combat ready, credible cohesive and futureproof force, which is ready to face the existing and future challenges. I take this opportunity to congratulate GRSE for being the only DPSU shipyard for receiving the Raksha Mantri Award 2022, for designing the ASW Shallow Water Craft."

Asia's largest 4-metre liquid mirror telescope inaugurated in Uttarakhand

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh today - March 22, inaugurated Asia's largest 4-metre International Liquid Mirror Telescope at Devasthal in Uttarakhand in the presence of the Governor of Uttarakhand Lt. Gen (Retd.) Gurmeet Singh

Speaking after the launch, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is primarily the patronage, promotion and prioritization from Prime Narendra Narendra Modi that has enabled and emboldened the scientific fraternity to successfully try new initiatives, one after the other, in the field of science, technology and innovation, which are being rated as world class. Not only PM Modi has given us the motivation to move ahead but also given the freedom to explore hitherto lesser explored areas like Space which has been opened up for private players or India's oceans whose vast resources are waiting to be unfolded.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurates new ITU Area office & Innovation Centre in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates the new International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Area office and Innovation Centre in India in New Delhi today afternoon (22 March) . ITU is the United Nations specialised agency for information and communication technologies and its Headquarters is in Geneva.

India had signed a Host Country Agreement in March last year with ITU for the establishment of Area Office. The Area Office in India also envisaged to have an Innovation Centre, making it unique among other area offices of ITU. The Area Office, which is fully funded by India, is located on the second floor of the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) building at Mehrauli in the national capital. The programme will witness the participation of IT and Telecom Ministers of various Area Offices of ITU, the Secretary General and other senior officials of ITU, Heads of United Nations and other international bodies in India, Ambassadors, Industry Leaders, Start-up and MSME, leaders of Academia, students and other stakeholders.

The ITU Area Office will serve India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Afghanistan and Iran, enhancing coordination among nations and fostering mutually beneficial economic cooperation in the region. During the programme, the Prime Minister will also unveil Bharat 6G Vision Document and launch the 6G Research and Development Test Bed. Bharat 6G vision document is prepared by the Technology Innovation Group that was constituted in November 2021 with members from various Ministries and Departments, research and development institutions, academia and Telecom Service Providers and industry to develop a roadmap and action plans for 6G in India. 6G Test bed will provide academic institutions, industries, start-ups, MSMEs and industry a platform to test and validate the evolving ICT technologies.

Africa-India joint exercise AFINDEX- 2023 commences in Pune

The inaugural event of the second edition of the Africa-India Field Training Exercise (AFINDEX 2023) began at the Foreign Training Node (FTN) of the Indian Army located at Aundh Military Station in Pune Tuesday. The 10-day exercise will focus on Humanitarian Mine Assistance and United Nations Peacekeeping Operations.

The multinational military drill will promote the idea of Africa-India Militaries for Regional Unity (AMRUT) and will focus on incorporating the current dynamics of UN Peacekeeping Forces (UNPKF) through practical and comprehensive discussions and tactical exercises, the Army has said. As many as 24 African militaries are being represented by their contingents or teams of observers in the exercise.

SPORTS

Asian Billiards title 2023

India's Pankaj Advani retained his Asian Billiards title in the 100-up format, defeating fellow countryman Brijesh Damani 5-1 in the final played at Qatar Billiards and Snooker Federation (QBSF) Academy in Doha on Sunday, March 19. Advani, who is a 25-time International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF) world champion, defeated Damani with a scoreline of 100(51)-18, 100(88)-9, 86(54)-101(75), 100-26, 100(66)-2, 101(64)-59 in the final.

In the women's section, China's Bai Yulu won the title beating Panchaya Channoi of Thailand 3-0 in the final. This is the eighth Asian Billiards title in all for Advani, the Indian cue sports ace who has been bestowed the Arjuna Award in 2004, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna in 2006, Padma Shri in 2009 and Padma Bhushan in 2018. Advani had won the same title last year at Doha.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Water Day

World Water Day is an annual United Nations observance day held on 22 March that highlights the importance of fresh water. The day is used to advocate for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. World Water Day is a chance to remind ourselves that billions of people to this day live their lives without access to safe drinking water. As a fundamental human right, it is our job to conserve the water we do have as well as ensure access to those who need it.

As many different groups are overlooked when it comes to providing access to Earth's most precious resource, the United Nations has taken the stance that "water services must meet the needs of marginalized groups and their voices must be heard in the decision-making process." In order to guarantee no one is left behind, it is our job to educate ourselves on the laws and regulations that surround our water usage. The water challenges we face vary from region to region. By better understanding the challenges we face in conserving water, the more prepared we'll be to supply water in the future. "Accelerating the change to solve the water and sanitation crisis" will be the theme for World Water Day 2023.

Bihar Diwas or Bihar Day

Bihar Diwas or Bihar Day is an annual commemoration on March 22, which marks the day in 1912 when the British partitioned the state of Bihar from the Bengal presidency. It is a public holiday across the state, with all offices, companies, and educational institutes under the central and state governments closed for the day.

In order to revive pride among its citizens, the Bihar government decided to mark the formation day with multicultural activities and programmes in 2010. The official

celebration of this day, including various events and programs, began in 2011 and has continued ever since.

Each year, Bihar Diwas is celebrated with a distinct theme. In 2023, the theme of Bihar Day is "Yuva Shakti Bihar Ki Pragati," which translates to "Progress of Bihar through Youth Power." The theme highlights the crucial role that the youth of Bihar plays in driving the state's growth and development. This year's Bihar Day celebration aims to recognize and showcase the potential of Bihar's young population in transforming the state's future and creating a better tomorrow.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Himachal signs MoU with French Agency to improve drinking water, sanitation

To improve drinking water and sanitation services in five towns of Himachal Pradesh, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of Rs 817.12 crore project has been signed by the State Government with the French Development Agency Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD).

The MoU was signed in the presence of Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri by the Secretary Jal Shakti Vibhag Amitabh Awasthi on behalf of the State Government and country Director AFD Bruno Bosle on behalf of French Development Agency.

The objective of the project is to develop better sewerage facilities in five towns of the state viz. Manali, Bilaspur, Palampur, Nahan and Karsog and to improve drinking water supply in Manali and Palampur towns. Under the project, Rs 612 crore would be provided by AFD, whereas the State Government would provide Rs. 204.85 crore, said the Chief Minister.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

'Ab-CoV' to help with development of drugs against new variants of COVID19

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Madras have developed an online open-source database of coronaviruses' neutralizing antibodies that can also aid in the development of drugs against new variants of SARS-CoV-2.

The database, called Ab-CoV, contains detailed information about all COVID-related antibodies identified so far, including the source of each antibody, and the viral protein(s) and virus strains they recognize. It also encompasses crucial features such as binding affinity and neutralization profiles (IC50 and EC50) of antibodies.

Ab-CoV database includes 1,780 coronavirus-related antibodies including 211 nanobodies and contains more than 3,200 data points on half maximal inhibitory concentration (IC50), half maximal effective concentration (EC50) & binding affinity (KD).

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

ICICI Bank veteran Anup Bagchi to take over as new MD and CEO of ICICI Prudential Life

The life insurance company, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has named Anup Bagchi as MD and CEO for 5 years, effective June 19, 2023. He will replace NS Kannan, who will

superannuate from the services of the company on the completion of tenure of his appointment on June 18, 2023

Anup Bagchi is presently Executive Director, ICICI Bank and non-executive director of the company. And, to ensure a seamless transition, Bagchi has been appointed Executive Director & Chief Operating Officer with effect from May 1, 2023. He is also on the board of ICICI Prudential Asset Management Company and Commerce Trade Services. Prior to this, Bagchi was the Managing Director and CEO of ICICI Securities.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Gallery of Modern Art organizes a Painting & Pottery workshop on the occasion of "World Down Syndrome Day"

On the occasion of World Down Syndrome Day, (21, March) the National Gallery of Modern Art has organized a Painting & Pottery workshop today at its premises in New Delhi.

Director NGMA, Smt. Tamsunaro Jamir Tripathi interacted with the participants and their parents. She addressed the gathering and said that the Gallery is organizing events and exclusively curated shows for the differently abled children. Further, she said that NGMA is actively involving civil society for public awareness and establishing a voice for people with special needs, such as "Autism Week " and sign-language tours. These events align with the revised definition of museums: "Open to the public, accessible and inclusive, museums foster diversity and sustainability".

The workshop will give a platform to express themselves creatively and showcase their abilities and ideas. The pottery session is guided by Gurugram based Shaurya Mehrotra, potter and artist with down syndrome.

International Day of Forests

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21 March the International Day of Forests in 2012 to celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests.

Countries are encouraged to undertake local, national and international efforts to organize activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns.

The organizers are - The United Nations Forum on Forests and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with Governments, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and other relevant organizations in the field. International Day of Forests: The theme for each year is chosen by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. The theme for 2023 is 'forests and health.'

Forests cover one-third of the Earth's landmass. Around 1.6 billion people depend on forests for their livelihood, medicines, fuel, food, and shelter. Forests are also home to more than 80 percent of land animals, insects, and plants. There are 3 trillion trees in all the forests on Earth. Forests are defined as a large group of trees. In order to be considered an actual forest, trees have to cover at least 0.5 hectares.

World Poetry Day

World Poetry Day is celebrated on 21 March, and was declared by UNESCO in 1999, "with the aim of supporting linguistic diversity through poetic expression and increasing the opportunity for endangered languages to be heard".

World Poetry Day on March 21st serves as a reminder of the magnitude that reading and writing poetry has enriched and inspired the way we live our lives. Ever since humans have been recording history, poetry has challenged the norm with new ways of thinking through allegory and complex emotion. Words have always been the binding source between people and allows us to see life from a new perspective. Poetry is the artistic mastery of this phenomena, by conveying emotions within us and creating the ability to influence others. It's our poetic nature that allows words to be the bridge to our feelings.

International Nowruz Day

Every year on March 21, the International Nowruz Day is a much-anticipated global New Year's festival that marks the spring equinox, It is celebrated as the beginning of the new year by more than 300 million people all around the world and has been celebrated for over 3,000 years in the Balkans, the Black Sea Basin, the Caucasus, Central Asia, the Middle East and other regions.

Inscribed in 2009 on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity as a cultural tradition observed by numerous peoples, Nowruz is an ancestral festivity marking the first day of spring and the renewal of nature. It promotes values of peace and solidarity between generations and within families as well as reconciliation and neighbourliness, thus contributing to cultural diversity and friendship among peoples and different communities.

World Down Syndrome Day

World Down Syndrome Day is marked each year on March 21, beginning in 2007. The 21st day of March was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. Every year on March 21, World Down Syndrome Day is observed to create awareness about Down syndrome.

Down syndrome is a naturally occurring chromosomal arrangement that has always been a part of the human condition. It exists in all regions globally and commonly affects learning styles, physical characteristics, and overall health. In order to ensure proper growth and development, social learning programs support and integrate with anyone who has Down syndrome.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Second G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting to begin in Udaipur

The second Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) meeting under India's G20 Presidency will begin today: 21 March at Udaipur in Rajasthan. The three-day meeting will focus on the identification of relevant policies and best practices for mobilizing sustainable finance to help ensure global growth and stability.

This is the first time for the SFWG to go beyond climate-related issues and engage in dialogue for enabling enhanced financing for select sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) primarily through nature-related data and reporting and social impact investing.

On the sidelines of the meeting, two workshops will also be organized today and tomorrow. The first workshop will be on Non-Pricing Policy Levers to support Sustainable Investment. The second Workshop will be on enabling finance for Sustainable

Development Goals. More than 90 delegates from the member countries of G20, guest countries, and different international organizations are taking part in this mega-event.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Bombay Jayashri chosen for Sangita Kalanidhi Award 2023 by Music Academy

Renowned Carnatic vocalist and Padma Shri awardee Bombay Jayashri has been selected for the Sangita Kalanidhi award for 2023 by the Music Academy.

In a press release, the Music Academy said, Jayashri is one of the foremost among today's Carnatic musicians, who initially trained under her parents and later under TR Balamani and violin maestro Lalgudi G Jayaraman. Besides Carnatic music, Jayashri is also trained on the veena, classical dance and Hindustani music.

'She is known for her melodic and meditative style of singing. She has also been training underprivileged children in music and contributing through her art to social causes,' the release noted.

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NATIONAL

Rajasthan CM announces creation of 19 new districts, 3 new divisions

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced his government's decision to form 19 new districts and three new divisions in the state, earmarking Rs 2,000 crore for development of infrastructure for them. This is the first time since 2008 that new districts are being carved out, taking the number of districts to 50 in the state. The three new divisions will be in Banswara, Pali and Sikar,

He said a high-level committee was formed to study the formation of new districts and the state government has received a report. "In this way, the state will now have 19 new districts," the chief minister said during a discussion on the Budget.

Asia's largest Tulip Garden opens for public at Srinagar in J&K

In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Asia's largest Tulip Garden was thrown open to public at Srinagar yesterday. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha attended the opening ceremony and invited people from all over the world to visit J&K and discover the mesmerising beauty of 16 Lakh tulip flowers and enjoy the warm hospitality of the people of Jammu Kashmir. The Lieutenant Governor said that last year, an unprecedented 3.60 lakh tourists visited the Tulip Garden and believed that the number will further increase this year.

Varanasi to home UP's Third International Cricket Venue

Following Lucknow and Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh will now get its third international cricket stadium. The stadium will be constructed in Varanasi, which will begin in May-June of this year. Further, the construction of the stadium is expected to be completed by the end of 2024.

According to authorities, the state government has bought 31 acres of land in Varanasi's Rajatalab region for the international cricket stadium, which would be given over to the

Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association (UPCA) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) by the end of this month. In this context, BCCI Honorary Secretary Jay Shah and BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla visited Varanasi earlier this week. Furthermore, the projected cricket stadium will cost roughly around Rs 300 crore to take shape and be built as per international standards. It is projected to have a seating capacity of 30,000 guests.

SPORTS

ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship to begin today – 20TH March at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh

International Shooting Sports Federation- ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship is organised in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from 20 to 27 March. The official opening ceremony will be held on 21 March while competitions begin on 22 March at Madhya Pradesh State Shooting Academy.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will formally inaugurate this event on 21 March. Around 325 shooters from 33 countries and more than 75 technical officials will participate in the World Cup Shooting Championship. The Championship is being organized in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the Rifle Federation of India. It is the 8th World Cup organised in India and the first international shooting tournament to be held outside New Delhi.

Tim Paine Announces Retirement From First-Class Cricket

The Hobart-born Paine represented Tasmania over 18 years after debuting in 2005, playing 153 first-class matches. Former Australia test cricket captain Tim Paine has announced his retirement following the conclusion of Tasmania's Sheffield Shield first-class match against Queensland on Friday.

Wicketkeeper Paine captained Australia in 23 tests between early 2018 and 2021, playing 35 tests overall. He became Australia's 46th test skipper after Steve Smith had his captaincy stripped in the wake of the ball-tampering scandal on Australia's 2018 tour of South Africa.

Paine, who debuted against Pakistan at Lord's in 2010, averaged 32.63 in test matches with a top score of 92 and made 157 dismissals behind the stumps. He also played 35 one-day internationals for Australia.

Archery Asia Cup 2023: Indian archers shine as they bagged 10 medals in the tournament

Indian archers finished with a rich haul of 10 medals - five gold, four silver and one bronze - at the Asia Cup 2023 archery stage-1 world ranking tournament in Taoyuan, Chinese Taipei. In all, 16 Indian archers including eight men and eight women competed at the Asia Cup 2023 in Taoyuan. India topped the medal tally with 10 medals, while Taipei and Kazakhstan finished second and third.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Lalit Kumar Gupta appointed as CMD of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Lalit Kumar Gupta as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), a PSU under the Ministry of Textile. According to an order issued from the

Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Gupta has been appointed as CMD of CCI with effect from the date of his assumption of charge of the post for a period of five years, or till the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is the earlier. Mr. Gupta has completed his MBA in Marketing from ITM Business School of Navi Mumbai. He is a Chartered Accountant (CA) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). He is also a member of the Institute of the Company Secretaries of India (ICSI). He has a rich experience in the Finance and related sector. Gupta has a very long association with Cotton Corporation of about 25 years. He joined CCI in August 1994.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Happiness

It's a day to be happy, of course! Since 2013, the United Nations has celebrated the International Day of Happiness as a way to recognise the importance of happiness in the lives of people around the world.

Happiness is a fundamental human goal. The United Nations General Assembly recognizes this goal and calls for "a more inclusive, equitable and balanced approach to economic growth that promotes the happiness and well-being of all peoples."

In 2015, the UN launched the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which seek to end poverty, reduce inequality, and protect our planet – three key aspects that lead to well-being and happiness.

The United Nations invites each person of any age, plus every classroom, business and government to join in celebration of the International Day of Happiness.

World Oral Health Day

World Oral Health Day is observed globally on March 20 every year with the primary aim of creating awareness about the importance of oral health. The day is celebrated to promote good oral hygiene habits, encourage people to take care of their teeth, and educate them on how to prevent dental problems. Each year, World Oral Health Day is given a specific theme. The theme for 2023 is "Be Proud of Your Mouth". It was chosen for three years as part of a campaign launched by the World Dental Federation (FDI) in 2021. The last two World Oral Health Days also had the same theme.

Oral health is an essential part of overall health and well-being and it is important to maintain good oral hygiene to prevent dental problems. Neglecting oral health can lead to various problems such as tooth decay, gum disease, and bad breath. World Health Day is geared towards inspiring people to unite and reduce the burden of oral diseases.

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INTERNATIONAL

Ram Sahaya Prasad Yadav elected Nepal's Vice-President

Ram Sahaya Yadav, a leader from the Madhes region, was elected the third Vice-President of Nepal, as voting for the top post concluded on Friday. Yadav secured 30,328 votes. The tenure of Nepal's outgoing Vice President, Nanda Bahadur Pun ended on March 18. Yadav, a candidate who had the backing of Nepal's eight-party ruling alliance, defeated Ashta

Laxmi Shakya of the CPN-UML and Mamata Jha of the Janamat Party. The President's office announced that Nepal's newly-elected Vice President, Ram Sahaya Prasad Yadav, is scheduled to take the oath of office and secrecy on March 20 at 10 am - local time.

NATIONAL

J&K L-G lays foundation stone of 1st direct foreign investment project

J&K Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha laid the foundation stone of a mega-mall on Sunday in Sempora area of Srinagar district which is the first direct foreign investment project in the UT. The construction of the mega-mall will cost Rs 250 crore, Sinha told reporters. The Mall of Srinagar and allied projects with the Government of Dubai will fuel the economic growth of J&K and bring us closer to achieving the shared vision of strengthening bilateral trade and investment ties between India and UAE. This is a new dawn of limitless possibilities. We are taking forward Hon'ble PM's vision for development of J&K. Mall of Srinagar will have transformative impact on UT & boost infrastructure, employment generation and ease of living. This is to be one of the largest malls in the region, the mall will have over 500 shops," Sinha said while congratulating the people of J&K on the historic occasion.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

G Krishnakumar takes over as BPCL Chairman & Managing Director

G Krishnakumar has taken over as the new chairman and managing director of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL). G Krishnakumar, an electrical and electronics engineer from National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli and a postgraduate in finance management from Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai, was executive director in the company before his elevation.

Government headhunter, the Public Enterprise Selection Board (PESB) had, in December last year, picked up Krishnakumar over company's Director (Finance) Vetsa Ramakrishna Gupta, Director (Refineries) S Khanna, and Director (Marketing) Sukhmal Kumar Jain.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Client's Day

The global business community celebrates International Client's Day on March 19 every year. As the name entails, it is all about the client on this particular unofficial holiday. Various organizations around the world take the time to thank and congratulate their customers, visitors, partners, and even online shoppers — basically anyone who could be labeled a 'client'.

As, No matter what goods or services you sell, the truth is that your business would be nothing without its clients. No matter whether we're talking about those who visit the shopping mall every few weeks or those who prefer to make their purchases over the internet, the truth is that no business would make it without them.

They're the ones who not only pay you for what you offer, but do a great amount of advertising for you as well. Remember: no celebrity paid thousands if not millions of dollars to say he or she loves a certain product could ever convince your stubborn but lovable grandparents to buy an item as well as you can, and your satisfied clients do you

favors like this every single day. And that's why showing them your appreciation is so important!

Indian Embassy in Kathmandu celebrates 21st Golden Jubilee Scholarship Day

The Embassy of India, Kathmandu celebrated the 21st Golden Jubilee Scholarship Day on March 18. On the occasion, Ambassador Naveen Srivastava announced that a special Embassy of India's roll of honour will be awarded to meritorious graduating Golden Jubilee scholars, in different categories from next year.

The prestigious Golden Jubilee Scholarship was established in the year 2002 to mark the completion of 50 years of India-Nepal economic cooperation. At the inception of this scheme, 50 Nepali students were awarded the scholarship. In the year 2007, the numbers of scholarships were increased to 100. Since the year 2012, the numbers of scholarships have been doubled to 200. Under this scholarship scheme, an MBBS/BDS student receives NRs. 4000/- per month for five years, a BE student receives NRs. 4000/- per month for four years, and a student studying in other undergraduate courses like BA, BEd, B. Pharmacy, BSc Agriculture, BBA, BBM and BBS receives NRs. 3000/- per month for three years.

Google Doodle Today: March 19 Celebrates Nobel Laureate Mario Molina's Birth Anniversary

The Google Doodle of March 19, 2023 is dedicated to Mexican chemist Mario Molina, who is famous for his work on the ozone layer. March 19, 2023 marks the 80th birth anniversary of Molina. Google pays tribute to him through a doodle which depicts the molecular form of ozone, O₃, as one of the 'O's' of 'GOOGLE', and replaces the other 'O' with the Sun. The ozone layer protects Earth from the Sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation.

The doodle also shows the hole in the ozone layer, and denotes the fact that chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) contributed to the formation of the ozone hole. Chlorofluorocarbons were found in air conditioners and aerosol sprays

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

3rd Annual Edition Of International SME CONVENTION, 2023 to be held in New Delhi

The 3rd annual edition of the International SME Convention 2023 (ISC) is going to be organized jointly by the Ministry of MSME & Ministry of External Affairs, India SME Forum, along with Govt. of Madhya Pradesh as a Key State Partner and Govt. of Uttar Pradesh as Associate State Partner. International Network for SMEs (INSME) and World Union of Small and Medium Enterprises (WUSME) are the international partners and TATA AIA is the insurance partner for the ISC 2023 from 19th – 21st March 2023 in New Delhi.

Shri Narayan Rane, Union Minister for MSME will be the chief guest for the inaugural event with Guests of Honour- Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Minister of State for MSME & Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Minister of State, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Om Prakash Saklecha, Minister of MSME & Science & Technology, Govt. of MP and Shri Rakesh Sachan, Minister of MSME, Khadi, Village Industries, Sericulture & Textile, Govt. of UP along with presence of senior officers from Central and State Governments.

Nagpur to host C-20 India Inception meeting

Nagpur City will host the Civil20 India (C-20) Inception meeting from 20th to 21st of this month. C-20 is one of the empowered group, working under the ambit of G-20 Secretariat, which provides a platform for Civil Society Organisations around the world to voice the people's aspirations to the world leaders in G20. Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr. Devendra Fadnavis, Nobel Laureate Kailash Satyarthi, Spiritual leader Mata Amritanandmayi will be present tomorrow in the inaugural ceremony of the meeting organized at 3.30 pm in Hotel Raddison Blu in Nagpur.

Dr. Swadesh Singh, Sous Sherpa of C-20, while addressing in the pre-event press conference regarding Inception meeting of C-20 in Nagpur today informed that the two-day Conference will focus on the perspective of the Civil Society Organizations and non-government organisations. The deliberations of Civil Society Organisation on various issues will be put in the Inception issues like Health, Lifestyle for Environment, Art and Crafts will be discussed which will take the shape of Policy pact.

4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue between India & the Maldives held in Male

India and the Maldives conducted the 4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue (DCD) in Male on March 19, 2023. The dialogue was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane and his Maldivian counterpart, Chief of Defence Force, Maldives National Defence Forces Major General Abdulla Shamaal.

This DCD is the highest institutionalised interactive mechanism between the two countries. Its significance in chartering the future course of relations between both the Armed Forces was highlighted by the importance given to the talks by the two nations. During the interaction, ongoing bilateral defence cooperation activities were reviewed and both sides expressed satisfaction at the increasing engagements. The talks covered the existing bilateral exercises, with both countries agreeing to increase the complexity of these drills.

Tata Steel Signs MoU With The Ministry Of Steel Under The PLI Scheme

Tata Steel Limited, Tata Steel Long Products Limited, and The Tinsplate Company of India Limited today have signed MoUs for eight product categories with the Ministry of Steel under the Production-linked incentive (PLI) Scheme for specialty steel. Chanakya Chaudhary, Vice President, Corporate Services, Tata Steel said: "We are thankful to the Ministry of Steel for driving the PLI scheme, which would go a long way in realising the National Steel Policy 2017 both in terms of scale and quality of products needed for consumers."

The Indian Steel Industry has been on a growth trajectory for the last few years and is currently the second-largest producer globally. Steel is also one of the sectors driving the much-needed private investment in the country. The MoU signing marks a significant milestone for Tata Steel, enabling the Company to further enhance its capabilities and contribute to the Government's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.