

Current Affairs search results for tag: important-days

### 1. World NoTobacco Day - 31 May ( May 31, 2023 )

#### World-NoTobacco-Day---31-May

**World No Tobacco Day** is celebrated every year on **31 May** with the aim of making people aware about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption.

#### An overview of the news

- The theme for World No Tobacco Day 2023 is **“We need food, not tobacco”**.
- The World Health Organisation honours governments, organisations and individuals every year for their efforts and contributions to prevent tobacco use.

#### History of the day

- The World No Tobacco Day initiative was adopted by **WHO in 1987**.
- After this, **resolution WHA 42.19** was passed in **1988**, in which 31 May was issued as 'World No Tobacco Day'.
- Recently the Global Burden of Disease has published a study on the number of smokers around the world.

#### Smokers in India

- According to this study, there were around **20 million** smokers in the age group of **15-24 in India in 2019**. This is the second largest number of tobacco smokers worldwide.

#### Global scenario

- According to this study, the number of smokers increased to **1 billion in 2019**.
- Tobacco use killed **7 million people**.
- Among new smokers, **89% had become addicted** by the age of 25.
- There are **155 million smokers worldwide** aged 15-24.
- Top 10 countries with the highest number of smokers
- The top 10 countries are **China, India, Indonesia, USA, Russia, Bangladesh, Japan, Turkey, Vietnam and Philippines**.

### 2. Goa Statehood Day - 30 May ( May 30, 2023 )

#### Goa-Statehood-Day---30-May

**Goa Statehood Day** is celebrated every year on **30 May**.

## **An Overview of the News**

- Goa is the **smallest state of India in terms of area**.
- **Alfonso de Albuquerque conquered Goa in 1510**, ending the rule of **Adil Shah of Bijapur**.
- India regained control of Goa from the **Portuguese after 400 years**.
- This year marks the **36th anniversary of Goa** getting statehood.
- On **30 May 1987**, Goa was declared a separate state from **Daman and Diu**.
- The official language of Goa is **Konkani**.

## **About Goa**

Capital - **Panaji**

Chief Minister - **Pramod Sawant**

Official Sport - **Football**

Official Animal - **Gaur**

Governor - **P.S. Sreedharan Pillai**

## **3. International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers - 29 May ( May 29, 2023 )**

International-Day-of-United-Nations-Peacekeepers

The **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers** is observed annually on 29 May.

## **An Overview of the News**

- It is a day dedicated to honouring the contribution and sacrifice of United Nations (UN) peacekeepers.
- The day recognizes the efforts of peacekeepers in maintaining peace and security around the world.
- It also serves as a tribute to those who have lost their lives while serving as peacekeepers.
- The **theme** for the 75th anniversary of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2023 is **"Peace begins with me"**.
- The theme acknowledges the service and sacrifice of peacekeepers, both past and present.

## **History of International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers**

- It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2002.
- It aims to honour and remember the brave peacekeepers who lost their lives in the pursuit of global peace.
- May 29, 1948, marks the establishment of the first UN peacekeeping mission.
- On that day, the United Nations Security Council authorised the creation of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO).

- UNTSO's purpose was to oversee the implementation of the ceasefire in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- The establishment of UNTSO laid the foundation for subsequent peacekeeping efforts by the United Nations around the world.

### **United Nations Truce Supervision Organization**

Headquarters: **Jerusalem**

Head: **Major General Patrick Gauchat**

Established: **29 May 1948**

### **4. World Thyroid Awareness Day - 25 May ( May 25, 2023 )**

**World Thyroid Awareness Day** is observed every year on **25 May**.

#### **An Overview of the News**

- The day aims to **spread awareness about thyroid-related disorders**, including their symptoms, diagnosis and treatment options.
- It is dedicated to thyroid sufferers and those involved in the **study and treatment of thyroid diseases**.
- World Thyroid Awareness Day aims to educate people about the importance of maintaining a healthy **thyroid gland**.
- The day promotes collaboration among health professionals, organisations and individuals in the field of thyroid diseases.

#### **History of World Thyroid Awareness Day**

- The day was **first proposed in 2007 at the Annual General Meeting (AGM)** of Thyroid Federation International and the meeting decided to celebrate World Thyroid Day on **25 May every year**.
- **In 1965**, the **European Thyroid Association (ETA)** was founded.
- **The year 2008** was chosen as the first year to celebrate World Thyroid Day.

#### **About Thyroid**

- **Location:** The thyroid gland is a small **butterfly-shaped gland in the neck below the throat (Adam's Apple)**.
- **Function:** It produces hormones that regulate metabolism, growth, development, and energy levels.
- **Hormones:** The main hormones produced are T3 (triiodothyronine) and T4 (thyroxine), which control various bodily functions.

- **Hypothyroidism:** When the thyroid produces too few hormones, it causes symptoms such as fatigue, weight gain, and depression.
- **Hyperthyroidism:** Excessive thyroid hormone production results in symptoms such as weight loss, rapid heartbeat, and anxiety.
- **Diagnosis:** Medical history, physical exam, blood tests, and imaging are used to diagnose thyroid disorders.
- **Treatment:** Treatment options include medication, radioactive iodine therapy, and surgery.

## 5. World Turtle Day - 23 May ( May 24, 2023 )

### World-Turtle-Day---23-May

**World Turtle Day** is an annual celebration held on **May 23**, founded by **American Turtle Rescue (ATR)**.

### An Overview of the News

- **American Turtle Rescue (ATR)** is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the **conservation and welfare of turtles**.
- The theme for this year's World Turtle Day is '**I Love Turtles**', emphasising the critical need to protect these species and their future in the face of shrinking habitats.
- The day aims to protect turtles, raise awareness of their disappearing habitats and encourage human action to support their survival.
- **American Turtle Rescue** provides Turtle Day lesson plans and craft projects for classroom teaching.
- World Turtle Day was established by **ATR on 23 May 2000 and has its 24th anniversary in 2023**.
- Its founders, **Susan Tellem and Marshall Thompson**, established the day with the goal of raising awareness of the challenges faced by turtles.

### Important Days and Themes 2023

- March 3rd, 2023 - **World Wildlife day** - Theme: "Partnerships for wildlife conservation"
- March 22nd, 2023 - **World Water Day** - Theme: "Accelerating the change to solve the water and sanitation crisis."
- February 2nd, 2023 - **World Wetlands Day** - Theme: "It's Time for Wetlands Restoration"

## 6. Indian Commonwealth Day - 24 May ( May 24, 2023 )

**Indian-Commonwealth-Day---24-May**

**Commonwealth Day** of India is celebrated every year on **24 May**.

**An Overview of the News**

- Commonwealth Day is a global celebration that is usually celebrated on 13 March, but India and some other countries celebrate it on 24 May.
- The theme for Commonwealth Day 2023 is "**Forging a Sustainable and Peaceful Common Future**".
- In 2023, Commonwealth Day aims **to promote a sense of shared humanity and solidarity**.
- The occasion aims to bring together the **2.5 billion citizens of the Commonwealth to recognize their shared values and principles**.
- Commonwealth Day provides an opportunity to recognize and acknowledge the achievements of the **54 Commonwealth countries**.
- Focus areas include addressing climate change and promoting gender equality.

**History of Commonwealth Day:**

- It was **started in 1902** to pay respect after the death of **Queen Victoria on January 22, 1901**.
- The first commemoration of Commonwealth Day took place on **May 24, 1902**, on the occasion of **Queen Victoria's birthday**.
- **In 1916**, Commonwealth Day received official recognition as an annual celebration.
- **In 1958**, Prime Minister **Harold Macmillan** changed the name of the event from Empire Day to Commonwealth Day.

**7. International Day to End Obstetric Fistula - 23 May ( May 23, 2023 )****International-Day-to-End-Obstetric-Fistula---23-May**

**International Day to End Obstetric Fistula** is observed on **23 May**.

**An Overview of the News**

- Obstetric fistula is a hole in the birth canal and it develops when a woman experiences **obstructed labour for a long time without medical intervention**.
- Obstetric fistula causes lifelong **physical and social problems for women**.
- Advocacy to increase investment in **maternal health care is encouraged**.
- Access to quality obstetric care is emphasised.
- The ultimate goal is elimination of the **obstetric fistula**.

## **History of International Day to End Obstetric Fistula**

- International Day to End Obstetric Fistula was **established on May 23, 2013**.
- It was designated by the **United Nations General Assembly** and the day aims **to raise awareness about obstetric fistula**.
- It promotes actions for the **prevention, treatment and elimination of the condition**.
- The Campaign to End Fistula was **launched in 2003 by UNFPA and its partners**.

## **8. International Day for Biological Diversity - 22 May ( May 22, 2023 )**

International-Day-for-Biological-Diversity---22-May

The **International Day for Biological Diversity** is observed on **22 May** and **aims to increase understanding of Earth's diverse ecosystems and encourage conservation**.

### **An Overview of the News**

- Emphasises the importance of biodiversity and the need to protect and regenerate it.
- The theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity 2023 is: "**Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity**".
- The United Nations designated 22 May as the International Day for Biodiversity (IDB) to promote understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues.

### **Importance of International Day for Biological Diversity:**

- Demonstrates the important role of biodiversity in sustaining life on earth.
- Encompasses plants, animals, microorganisms and ecosystems.
- Provides essential services such as pollination, nutrient recycling, water purification and climate regulation.
- Have cultural, aesthetic and economic value, support livelihoods and contribute to sustainable progress.

## **Important Days and Themes 2023**

**March 3rd, 2023 - World Wildlife day** - Theme: "Partnerships for wildlife conservation"

**March 22nd, 2023 - World Water Day** - Theme: "Accelerating the change to solve the water and sanitation crisis."

**February 2nd, 2023 - World Wetlands Day** - Theme: "It's Time for Wetlands Restoration"

## **9. World Metrology Day - 20 May ( May 20, 2023 )**

**World Metrology Day** is celebrated annually on **20 May** to commemorate the signing of the **Meter Convention on 20 May 1875**.

### **An Overview of the News**

- The theme for World Metrology Day 2023 is "**Measurements supporting the global food system**".
- The Meter Convention established a framework for **international cooperation in the science of measurement and its applications in industry, commerce and society**.
- The purpose of the Meter Convention is **to ensure global uniformity in measurement**.
- The World Metrology Day project is a joint effort of **BIPM (International Bureau of Weights and Measures)** and **OIML (International Organization of Legal Metrology)**.
- The website provides resources for participants to locate and encourage countries and metrology organisations to join and participate in this year's event.

## **10. World Bee Day - 20 May ( May 20, 2023 )**

### **World Bee Day - 20 May**

**World Bee Day** is held annually on **20 May** to raise awareness and recognition of the important role that bees and other pollinators play in our ecosystem.

### **An Overview of the News**

- **Established by the United Nations**, World Bee Day aims to emphasise the importance of bees in maintaining ecosystems and food production.
- The celebration encourages efforts to protect bees and their habitats and highlights the importance of pollinators in conserving biodiversity and ensuring global food security.
- The theme for World Bee Day 2023 is "**Engaging in Pollinator-Friendly Agricultural Production**," promoting agricultural methods that prioritise the well-being of pollinators, especially bees.

### **History of World Bee Day:**

- The **United Nations established World Bee Day** in 2017 to raise awareness of the important role played by bees and other pollinators in the ecosystem.
- May 20 was chosen as the date for World Bee Day **to honour Slovenian beekeeping pioneer and expert Anton Jansa**.
- The main goal of World Bee Day is to encourage global recognition, mobilisation and cooperation in protecting bees and preserving their important contribution to the environment and food production systems.

**United Nations (UN):**

- It is an **intergovernmental organisation**.
- The objectives of the United Nations include **maintaining international peace and security and developing friendly relations** between nations.
- It serves as a centre for harmonising the actions of the nations.

Establishment - **24 October 1945**

Headquarters - **New York**

Secretary-General - **Antonio Guterres**

Deputy Secretary General - **Amina J. Mohammed**

General Assembly President - **Csaba Kőrösi**