

# Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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## 1. International Mother Language Day ( Feb. 21, 2023 )

**International Mother Language Day** is celebrated on **21 February** to spread awareness of **linguistic, and cultural diversity, and to promote multilingualism.**

### An overview of the news

- India is home to hundreds of languages and thousands of dialects, making its linguistic and cultural diversity one of the most unique in the world.
- Language is not only a means of communication but it also **represents a diverse cultural and intellectual heritage.**
- **The theme for 2023** International Mother Language Day is “**Multilingual Education - a necessity to transform education**”.
- This theme is in line with recommendations made during the **Transforming Education Summit**, where emphasis was also placed on the education and languages of indigenous peoples.

### Background of the day

- UNESCO announced this day on **November 17, 1999**, and **since 2000**, this day has been celebrated all over the world.
- The day also marks the long struggle put up by **Bangladesh to protect its mother tongue, Bangla.**
- The suggestion to celebrate 21 February as International Mother Language Day was made by **Rafiqul Islam**, a Bangladeshi living in **Canada.**
- He proposed this date to remember the **1952 killings in Dhaka** during the Bangla language movement.

## 2. Arunachal Pradesh Statehood Day ( Feb. 20, 2023 )

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has greeted the people of **Arunachal Pradesh** on the state's **37th statehood day** on February 20.

### An overview of the news

- Every year **20 February** is celebrated as the foundation day of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Through the **55th Amendment of the Indian Constitution in 1986**, Arunachal Pradesh became the **24th state** of the India on February 20, 1987.

### Historical Background

- During British colonial rule, until 1972, the state was known as the **North-East Frontier Agency (NEFA)**.
- It became a **Union Territory on January 20, 1972** and was named **Arunachal Pradesh**.
- It was given full statehood by the **Arunachal Pradesh State Act, 1986**.
- It was formed in the year 1987 by separating from **Assam**.

### **Geographical Situation**

- Arunachal Pradesh is bounded by **Bhutan in the west and the Tibetan region of China in the north**.
- It is bounded by **Nagaland and Myanmar** in the South-Eastern region and Assam in the South-Western region.
- Capital - **Itanagar**

### **Demography**

- **Literacy rate of the state (as per Census 2011) 65.38%** with male literacy rate **72.55%** and females **57.70%**.
- **Sex Ratio** - 938 female per 1000 male (National- 943)
- **State Animal** - Mithun (also known as Gayal)
- **State Bird** - Hornbill

### **Protected Areas**

- Talle Wildlife Sanctuary (Protected area)
- Dihang Dibang Biosphere Reserve
- Namdapha Tiger Reserve
- Sessa Orchid Sanctuary
- Pakke Wildlife Sanctuary

### **Important Festivals**

- Tawang Festival
- Solung, Losar
- Torgya
- Dree

- Murung
- Chalo Loku

### **3. Mizoram Statehood Day ( Feb. 20, 2023 )**

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** has greeted the people of **Mizoram** on the state's foundation day on **February 20**.

#### **An overview of the news**

- Every year 20 February is celebrated as the Statehood Day of Mizoram.
- The state of Mizoram was formed on **20 February 1987** following the **53rd Amendment to the Constitution** of India, 1986.
- At the time of independence, the **Mizo Hills region** became the Lushai Hills district within Assam.
- In 1954 it was renamed **Mizo Hills District of Assam**.
- Mizoram was granted **union territory status in 1972** following the signing of an important accord with the moderates of the **Mizo National Front (MNF)**.
- It became the **23rd full state of India on 20 February 1987**.

#### **Geographical Situation**

- International Border - **Myanmar and Bangladesh**
- State boundary - **Tripura (North-West), Assam (North) and Manipur (North-East)**.

#### **Demography**

- It is the **second least populous state** in India after **Sikkim**.
- **Sex ratio** - 975 females per 1000 males (at national level it is 943).
- **The literacy rate** of the state is 91.58%. (National rate - 74.04%).

#### **Protected Areas**

- Murlen National Park
- Phawngpui National Park
- Dampa Tiger Reserve
- Ngengpui Wildlife Sanctuary
- Tawi Wildlife Sanctuary

### **Important Festivals**

- Chapchar Kut
- Christmas Festival
- Anthurium Festival
- Lyuva Khutla Festival

### **4. UN recognised World Interfaith Harmony Week concludes in Ludhiana ( Feb. 17, 2023 )**

The “**World Interfaith Harmony Week 2023**”, an event recognised by the **United Nations (UN)** , concluded at **SCD Government College, Ludhiana** on 16 February.

#### **An overview of the news**

- The World Interfaith Harmony Week 2023 was organised by **Team 1699 in association with NGO Cityneeds.**
- Punjab Education Minister **Harjot Singh Bains** called upon the youth to spread the message of peace, love and harmony and stand up for the welfare of the society.
- More than **65 percent** of the population in India is below 35 years of age. No other country in the world has such a large population of young adults.
- This generation has immense potential to spread love and unity which can bring revolutionary change in the society.
- Religious leaders and followers of Buddhism, Valmiki Samaj, Jainism, Christianity, Muslim, Hindu and Sikhism participated in the activities during the World Interfaith Harmony Week.

#### **About World Interfaith Harmony Week**

- World Interfaith Harmony Week is an **annual event** recognized by the **United Nations General Assembly in 2010.**
- It is organised every year in the first week of **February.**
- The week, initiated to promote culture, peace and non-violence, was first proposed by **King Abdullah II of Jordan** at the United Nations in 2010.

### **5. World Radio Day ( Feb. 13, 2023 )**

**World Radio Day** is celebrated every year on **13 February** across the world.

### **An overview of the news**

- The day is observed every year to **raise awareness among the public and media** about the importance of radio and to encourage access to information through radio.
- The theme for this 12th edition of World Radio Day - '**Radio and Peace**'.
- The theme of this year focuses on the role of radio as an independent medium of peace making.
- **The sub-theme** of the World Radio day - '**Radio in Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding**' and '**Support to Independent Radio**'.
- The **United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** highlights independent radio as a pillar for conflict prevention and peace building in the world.
- The day is celebrated with various broadcasts, online activities, community events and awards.

### **Background of the day**

- On **3 November 2011**, UNESCO declared 13 February as World Radio Day as **United Nations Radio** was first established on this day in 1946.
- It is celebrated to uphold the importance of radio as well as to encourage providing access to information through radio.
- **UNESCO coordinates** the various activities of World Radio Day at the global level with the member states of the United Nations through its radio stations.

## **6. International day for women and girls in science ( Feb. 11, 2023 )**

**International Day of Women and Girls in Science** is observed every year on **11 February**.

### **An overview of the news:**

- **It was announced** by the United Nations General Assembly to celebrate this day on **22 December 2015** to ensure the strong role of women in the field of science and technology as well as to increase gender empowerment.
- This day is **celebrated jointly by UNESCO and the United Nations Women's Association (UN Women)**.

**Efforts of the Government of India to increase the role of women and girls in the field of science:**

### **Vigyan Jyoti Scheme:**

- Vigyan Jyoti Yojana has been launched by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- The scheme aims to increase the percentage of women in the STEM education sector.

**GATI Scheme:**

- Gender Advancement for Transforming Institutions (GATI) will create a comprehensive charter and framework for assessing gender equality in STEM.

**KIRAN Scheme:**

- The Kiran scheme was launched by the Department of Science and Technology under the Union Ministry of Science and Technology.
- The full form of Kiran is 'Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing'.

**7. World Unani Day ( Feb. 11, 2023 )**

Every year **11 February** is celebrated as **World Unani Day** with the aim of spreading public awareness about health care through Unani medicines.

**An overview of the news:**

- The **theme** for World Unani Day 2023 is **“Unani Medicine for Public Health”**.
- The first World Unani Day was celebrated by the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, in 2017 at the Central Research Institute of Unani Medicine (CRIUM), Hyderabad.
- The purpose of this day is to spread public awareness about healthcare through Unani medicines.
- The **day is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Hakim Ajmal Khan**, a social reformer and great Indian Unani physician.
- Hakim Ajmal Khan was an Unani physician, an educationist and the founder of scientific research in Unani medicine.
- He was one of the founders of Delhi's Jamia Millia Islamia University.

**What is the Unani System of Medicine?**

- Unani medicine is an alternative medicine system.
- It **originated in ancient Greece**.
- This includes the use of herbal remedies, dietary habits, and complementary therapies.

**Hippocrates is considered the father of this medical method.**

- In India, this system of medicine started with the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate in the 13th century.

## **8. World Pulses Day ( Feb. 10, 2023 )**

Every year **February 10** is celebrated as **World Pulses Day**.

**An overview of the news:**

**History of the day:**

- On December 20, 2013, it was decided to celebrate International Pulses Day by a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly.
- 'International Pulses Day' was celebrated for the first time in the year 2016. Later, the **United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution to observe 10 February 2019 as World Pulses Day**. Since then, World Pulses Day is celebrated on 10 February.

**Purpose of celebrating the day:**

- The United Nations wants to increase the production of pulses to provide nutritious food to poor malnourished countries in the world.

**2023 theme:**

- This year's theme is "**Pulses for a sustainable future**".

**What are pulses?**

- Pulses are called that grain from which lentils are made. It is the main source of protein in the vegetable world. Peas, gram, lentils, kidney beans, urad, horse gram, moong etc. are examples of this.
- **India is the largest producer of pulses**. Which produces about 25 percent of the total pulses produced in the world.
- **Rajasthan ranks first in India** in the production of pulses.
- **Indian Institute of Pulses Research - Kanpur**

## **9. World Cancer Day 2023 ( Feb. 5, 2023 )**

**World Cancer Day** is observed every year on **4 February** to create awareness about cancer as a public health issue and strengthen action towards improving quality care, screening, early detection and treatment.

### **An overview of the news**

- The theme for 2023 is '**Close the Care Gap**'
- This theme is about understanding the disparities in cancer care and taking action to make the progress needed to address them.
- Union Health Minister **Mansukh Mandaviya** has appealed for people's cooperation to strengthen the global fight against cancer.
- The central government is working to ensure early detection and affordable treatment of cancer through Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres, **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana** and several other initiatives.
- So far, a total of **17 crore 44 lakh oral cancer tests, 8 crore 27 lakh breast cancer tests and 5 crore 66 lakh cervical cancer** tests have been done at these centres.

### **Background of the day**

- World Cancer Day originated in the **year 2000** at the first World Summit against Cancer which was held in **Paris (France)**.
- At this summit, many leaders from government agencies and cancer organizations around the world signed the **Charter of Paris Against Cancer**.
- It contained a **10-article** document that outlined a cooperative global commitment to improving the quality of life for cancer patients and investing in and advancing cancer research, prevention, and treatment.
- Article X of the Charter formally declared **4 February** as World Cancer Day.

### **What is cancer?**

- Cancer is a disease in which certain cells of the body grow **uncontrollably** and spread to other parts of the body.
- Cancer can start in any part of the human body, which is made up of trillions of cells.
- The disease spreads throughout the body through a process called cell division.

## **10. Sri Lanka celebrates 75th Independence Day ( Feb. 5, 2023 )**

**Sri Lanka** celebrated **75 years of Independence** on 4 February under the theme **Namo Namu Matha - A step towards a century**.



### **An overview of the news**

- The main ceremony of the National Independence Day Celebrations was held at **Galle Face Green in Colombo**.
- A special cultural arts festival **Lankaralanka** was held at Independence square in Colombo.
- The **Jaffna cultural centre** which was built under an Indian grant will also be opened in a few days.
- India's Union Minister of State for External Affairs **V. Muraleedharan** participated in the Independence Day celebrations.
- The Minister held talks with Sri Lankan President **Ranil Wickremesinghe** and Sri Lankan Foreign Affairs Minister **Ali Sabri** and discussed issues of mutual interest.

### **Sri Lanka Independence Day**

- Known as **Ceylon**, Sri Lanka was a major economic center for the **British Empire**, which granted it semi-independent '**dominionship**' status in 1948.
- Sri Lanka became a full-fledged republic on **May 22, 1972**, and is formally known as the **Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**.
- The first Prime Minister of Sri Lanka was **Don Stephen Senanayake**, who is regarded as the **Father of the Nation**.
- In 1972, **William Gopálwa** became the **first President of Sri Lanka**.
- Independence Day is also celebrated by Sri Lankan expatriate communities in other countries including Australia, Canada, Germany, Singapore and the United States.