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1. National Farmers Day (Dec. 23, 2022)

National Farmers Day

Every year **23 December** is observed as **National Farmers day or Kisan Diwas** in India. The day is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of the 5th Prime Minister of India **Chaudhary Charan Singh**. The day is observed to recognise and honour the contribution farmers make to our economy and society.

Background to the Day

In 2001 the government of India declared to observe 23 December as the National Farmers day or Kisan diwas to honour the kisan leader and the 5th prime Minister of India Chaudhary Charan Singh. Chaudhary Charan Singh was born on 23 December 1902 in Noorpur village of Meerut District, Uttar Pradesh.

He was the Prime Minister of India for **170 days, from 28 July 1979 to 14 January 1980.** He is the only Prime Minister who **never faced parliament** while being the Prime Minister.

He was made the **deputy Prime Minister of India** in 1979 when Morarji Desai was the Prime Minister of India.

He was the **Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh** twice. He became the chief minister for the first time, 3 April 1967- 25 February 1968. He again became the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh from 18 February 1970- 1 October 1970.

2. World Minority Rights Day (Dec. 19, 2022)

World Minority Rights Day

International Minority Rights Day is celebrated every year on **18 December** across the world.

Important facts

- The purpose of this day is to maintain the right to **freedom and equality** for minorities and to create awareness about the respect of minorities.

- The day focuses on the challenges and issues faced by minority communities of different ethnic origins.

- The government on this day ensures efforts to guarantee their rights of non-discrimination and equality.

- The theme of 2022 is "**All in 4 Minority Rights".**

- In India, this day is organised by the **National Commission for Minorities.**

- The National Commission for Minorities was established in the year 1992 by the Central Government under the **National Commission for Minorities Act.**

Background of the day

- The **United Nations** on December 18, 1992, adopted and broadcast the Statement on the individual's Rights belonging to Religious or Linguistic National or Ethnic Minorities.

Who are Minorities?

- According to the definition of the United Nations, a community that does not have any influence socially, economically and politically and whose population is negligible, will be called a minority.

- The word 'minority' has been used in **Articles 29, 30, 350A and 350B** of the Indian Constitution but its definition has not been given.

- In India, minority applies to **Muslim, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhist, Parsis (Zoroastrian) and Jain religions.**

3. Goa Liberation Day (Dec. 19, 2022)

Goa Liberation Day

Goa Liberation Day is celebrated annually on **19th December** to mark the success of '**Operation Vijay**' undertaken by the Indian armed forces to defeat **Portuguese colonial forces and liberate Goa in 1961.**

Important facts

- It was on 19 December 1961 that Goa was liberated from Portuguese rule.

- It is an important day for the people of Goa and the entire country as it was after the freedom that Goa attained its statehood.

History of Goa Liberation Day

- The Portuguese colonial presence in Goa began in **1510,** when Afonso de Albuquerque defeated the ruling **Bijapur king** with the help of a local ally, **Timayya.**

- The Portuguese fought frequent battles with the **Marathas and the Deccan Sultanates.** Goa was briefly occupied by the British between 1812 and 1815. In 1843, the capital was shifted from Velha Goa to Panaji.

- Goa was Portugal's most prized possession in India and the biggest territory in Estado da India Portuguesa or the Portuguese empire in India.

- Leaders such as **Tristão de Bragança Cunha**, known as the father of Goan nationalism, founded the **Goan National Congress** in 1928 at the Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress.

- In 1946, socialist leader **Ram Manohar Lohia** led a historic rally in Goa which became a landmark moment in the freedom struggle of Goa.

How was independence achieved?

- **After 1947**, Portugal refused to negotiate with independent India on the transfer of sovereignty of its Indian enclaves.

- The Indian government finally declared that Goa should join India "**either with full peace or with full use of force".**

- On 18 and 19 December 1961, a full-scale military operation called '**Operation Vijay**' was launched, which led to the annexation of Goa by India.

- As a result, Goa, Daman, and Diu became Union Territories of India.

- Goa remained a Union Territory until 1987 and was then given the status of India's **25th state.**

4. Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated 'Prashasan Gaon ki Ore' campaign under Good Governance Week 2022 (Dec. 19, 2022)

Union Minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated 'Prashasan Gaon ki Ore' campaign

Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions **Dr Jitendra Singh** inaugurated the '**Prashasan Gaon ki Ore'**, a nationwide campaign under the **Good Governance Week 2022** in **New Delh**i on 19th December. He also launched the **Good Governance Week portal.**

Important facts

- In the **5 days campaign**, over 300 New Services identified by District Collectors across the country will be added for Online Service Delivery.

- The nationwide campaign for redressal of public grievances and improvement in service delivery will be organised in all districts, states and union territories of the country.

- More than **700 district collectors** will participate in the campaign and officers will visit tehsil and panchayat samiti headquarters.

- During the initial phase of Good Governance Week 2022, organised from 10th to 18th of this month, District Collectors have identified more than **81 lakh applications** for service delivery.

- Along with this, more than **19 lakh public grievances** are to be redressed through the State Portal.

- **373 best governance practices** were identified for discussion in district level workshops. The workshop will be organised on the 23rd of this month.

- During the 'Good Governance Week' of Good Governance Week-2022 from **December 19 to December 25**, 43 success stories in public grievances will also be shared.

What is Good Governance?

- Good governance refers to processes and institutions that produce outcomes that make the best use of resources while meeting the needs of society.

- The constitution is based on the principles of a sovereign, socialist, secular and democratic republic committed to democracy, the rule of law and the welfare of its citizens.

- Every citizen of the nation is primarily concerned with the efficient functioning of the government.

Principles of Good Governance

- Participation

- Rule of law

- Transparency

- Responsiveness

- Consensus orientation

- Equity

- Effectiveness and efficiency

- Accountability

5. International Migrants Day (Dec. 18, 2022)

International Migrants Day

Every year **18 December** is observed as **International Migrants Day** to recognize the important contribution of migrants and also to highlight the challenges they face.

The UN Migration Agency defines a migrant as any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence.

In a tweet, the United Nations said, one in every 30 people in the world is a migrant. According to the United Nations there were over 281 million International migrants in 2020.

Background to the Day

The United Nations General Assembly on 4 December 2000 passed a resolution to observe 18 December as the International Migrants Day.

The 18 December date was chosen because on this day in 1990 the UN General Assembly adopted the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

No Theme has been announced for the International Migrants Day 2022.

6. Vijay Diwas (Dec. 16, 2022)

Vijay Diwas

The Nation is celebrating **Vijay Diwas on 16th December** to commemorate **India's victory over Pakistan in 1971 Bangladesh Liberation war.** On the day, India pays homage to all the soldiers who defended the nation.

Why does India celebrate Vijay Diwas?

- On **16 December 1971**, India won the war against Pakistan after fighting for **13 days.**

- The Chief of the Pakistani Army, **General Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi,** along with 93,000 Pakistani soldiers, surrendered to the combined forces of the Indian Army and Bangladesh's Mukti Bahini.

- It was also the largest military surrender since **World War II.**

- The war resulted in the **birth of Bangladesh**, which was then East Pakistan.

- The day is also celebrated in Bangladesh as '**Bijoy Dibos',** marking the country's formal independence from Pakistan. This year Bangladesh is celebrating its 52nd Bijoy Diwas.

- More than 3,800 Indian and Pakistani soldiers lost their lives in the war.

- Eight months after the war, in August 1972, India and Pakistan signed the **Simla Agreement.**

- Under the agreement, India agreed to **release 93,000 Pakistani prisoners** of war.

Why did the war happen?

- The war was triggered by an insurgency in **East Pakistan** against the Islamabad government.

- The Pakistani army was oppressing Bengalis and the minority Hindu population in East Pakistan.

- According to one estimate, between **300,000–500,000 civilians were killed** by the Pakistani army.

- Former Indian Prime Minister **Indira Gandhi** decided to provide aid to the then East Pakistan. She decided to give shelter to the people who fled from East Pakistan.

How did the India-Pakistan war of 1971 start?

- The war began when Pakistan carried out **airstrikes on 11 Indian airbases on 3 December 1971.**

- In turn, Indira Gandhi ordered **Army Chief General Sam Manekshaw** to launch a full-scale war against Pakistan.

7. National Energy Conservation day (Dec. 14, 2022)

National Energy Conservation day

National energy conservation day is celebrated in India every year on **14 December** and the day is organised by the **Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** which operates under the **Ministry of Power.**

Important facts

- The main objective of the day is to present India's achievements in the field of cost-effective energy production and resource conservation.

- The day reminds people of the importance of energy conservation to plan ahead for the future, targeting holistic development towards climate change mitigation.

- National Energy Conservation Day in India aims to create awareness among people about the importance of energy as well as conservation through saving and saving energy.

- The Ministry of Power is celebrating the National Energy Conservation Day in New Delhi to showcase the achievements of the nation in energy efficiency and conservation.

- National Energy Conservation Day is celebrated on **14 December since 1991.**

What is Energy Conservation?

- Energy conservation means- saving energy by using less energy by reducing the unnecessary use of energy.

- Energy conservation is a conscious, individual effort, and on a macro level, it leads to energy efficiency.

- The ultimate goal of energy conservation is to reach sustainable energy.

- **Energy Conservation Act, 2001** was enacted with the goal of reducing the energy intensity of the Indian economy.

8. Ministry of Power to celebrate "Energy Conservation Day 2022" (Dec. 13, 2022)

"Energy Conservation Day 2022"

Ministry of Power to celebrate "**Energy Conservation Day 2022**" on the occasion of the National Energy Conservation Day on **14th December 2022**. The purpose is to showcase the achievements of the nation in energy efficiency and conservation.

Important facts

- **Droupadi Murmu**, Hon'ble President of India will be the **Chief Guest** of the event. **R. K. Singh**, Union Minister of Power, New & Renewable Energy will address the event.

- Hon'ble President of India will felicitate the winners of National Energy Conservation Awards, National Energy Efficiency Innovation Awards, National Painting Competition Awards and also launch the EV Travel Portal on the occasion.

Major attractions of the event

- National Energy Conservation Awards (NECA) 2022

- National Energy Efficiency Innovation Awards (NEEIA) 2022

- National painting competition for school children 2022

- Launch of 'EV-Yatra portal' and mobile app

- Session on emerging new technologies in the area of energy efficiency

EV-YATRA PORTAL and Mobile App

- The Mobile application titled "**EV Yatra**" has been designed and developed to facilitate in-vehicle navigation to the nearest public EV charger.

- This mobile application can be easily downloaded from Google Play Store and Apple Store on Android and iPhone smartphones.

- The **Bureau of Energy Efficiency** has developed this mobile application to facilitate in-vehicle navigation.

9. IIT Delhi organised 4th edition of Industry Day (Dec. 10, 2022)

IIT Delhi organised 4th edition of Industry Day

IIT Delhi's flagship industry-academia partnership event, **Industry Day 2022**, held on December 10, 2022.

Important facts

- **K Ananth Krishnan**, Executive Vice-President and Chief Technology Officer, Tata Consultancy Services, who is an IIT Delhi alum, was the chief guest on the occasion.

- The **fourth edition** of the daylong event gives an opportunity to the industry to witness how IIT Delhi is working to develop technologies that will benefit both the industry and society.

- The event was attended by top leadership of more than 15 large corporate and business houses.

- The event was attended by industry leaders, scientists, IIT Delhi faculty, research scholars, and students.

- Over **70 cutting-edge technologies** developed by the researchers of IIT Delhi were showcased as product demonstrations on the Industry Day.

Themes of Industry Day 2022

- Industry Day 2022 was focused on four themes that have been built into India's commitment to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

- These topics are **healthcare, electric vehicles, communications technology, and clean energy and the environment.**

10. Human Rights Day (Dec. 10, 2022)

Human Rights Day

Every year **December 10** is celebrated as **Human Rights Day** all over the world.

Important facts

- It aims to promote equality, peace, justice, freedom and protection of human dignity.

- Everyone is entitled to human rights irrespective of difference on the basis of caste, colour, religion, sex, language or social status.

- This day is widely recognised to raise awareness about people's social, cultural, political and religious rights.

- The theme OF 2022 - **Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All.**

Background of the day

- The day has been observed every year since **1950** in commemoration of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)** by the **United Nations General Assembly** in 1948.

- **World War II** and it's serious aftermaths apparently necessitated the need to emphasize on the subject of human rights as the mass extermination of the Jews, people with disabilities, homosexuals and others by Nazi Germany shook the world.

- These darkest chapters of human history reinforced the need to protect human rights against the inhuman abuses of governments and rulers.

- Eventually, the governments of various countries resolved to form an **international body (the United Nations)** to protect the rights of the people.

- The member states of the United Nations established a **commission on human rights** on February 16, 1946.

- The commission, headed by former **US First Lady Anna Eleanor Roosevelt**, drafted the UDHR, which was adopted by 56 member states on December 10, 1956.

What is the UDHR?

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) has established a set of common basic values regarding the humanitarian approach and the relationship between the state and the individual.

- It contains 30 articles that outline a wide range of fundamental human rights and freedoms to which all people from across the world are entitled.