

Current Affairs search results for: "WEF"

1. Khalistan Tiger Force and Jammu and Kashmir Ghaznavi Force declared as terrorist organisations (Feb. 18, 2023)

The central government on 17 February declared **Khalistan Tiger Force, and Jammu and Kashmir Ghaznavi Force** as **terrorist organisations** under the **Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA)**.

An overview of the news

- Apart from this, Punjab resident **Harvinder Singh Sandhu alias Rinda**, the mastermind of the 2021 attack on the intelligence headquarters of Punjab Police, has been declared a **terrorist**.
- The government has so far designated **54 individuals** as terrorists and **44 organisations** as terrorist organisations.

Khalistan Tiger Force

- It came into existence in **2011** as an offshoot of terrorist organization **Babbar Khalsa International**.
- It is a banned organisation under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA).
- It is a militant organization whose aim is to **revive militancy in Punjab**.
- This organisation is promoting various acts of terrorism including **targeted killings in Punjab**.
- Its agenda is the formation of a **separate state of Khalistan**.

Jammu and Kashmir Ghaznavi Force (JKGF)

- It has been formed with cadres of terrorist organisations like **Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed**.
- It has been found involved in infiltration attempts, smuggling of narcotics and arms and carrying out terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir.
- It draws its cadres from **Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen, Harkat-ul-Jihad-e-Islami** and various banned terrorist organisations.

Harvinder Singh Sandhu alias Rinda

- He hails from **Lahore** and is associated with the banned **Babbar Khalsa International (BKI)**, a terrorist-designated group.
- He is accused of masterminding the **attack on the intelligence headquarters of the Punjab Police in 2021**.

- He has direct links with Pakistan-based terrorist groups and is also involved in large-scale smuggling of drugs, arms, ammunition and militant hardware.
- He has been involved in various crimes like **murder, attempt to murder, contract killing, dacoity and extortion** in Punjab, Maharashtra, Haryana, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- He is the **54th person** to be declared a terrorist by the government.

2. AICTE and BPRD Jointly Launch KAVACH-2023 (Feb. 17, 2023)

A national level **hackathon KAVACH-2023** was launched on 16 February to identify innovative ideas and technological solutions to address India's 21st century **cyber security and cybercrime challenges**.

An overview of the news

- KAVACH-2023 is a one-of-a-kind national hackathon jointly developed by **AICTE, Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre**.
- It identifies innovative ideas and technological solutions to address **21st century cyber security and cybercrime challenges** faced by law enforcement agencies and common citizens.
- KAVACH-2023 will be organised in two phases.
- In the first phase, topics related to Fake News/Social Media, Dark Web, Women Safety, Phishing Detection, Video Analytics/CCTV, Obscene Content Detection, Spam Alerts, and Malware Analysis/Digital Forensics will be covered.

3. President of India inaugurates International Engineering and Technology Fair 2023 (Feb. 17, 2023)

President **Droupadi Murmu** on 16 February inaugurated the **International Engineering and Technology Fair (IETF) 2023** in **New Delhi**.

An overview of the news

- This event is being organised from 16 to 18 February at **Pragati Maidan**.
- The International Engineering and Technology Fair is organised by the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**.
- The event is not only a celebration of India's growth story in engineering and manufacturing sectors, but also a testimony to collaboration with other countries in the best advanced technologies in the world.

- IETF-2023 covers **11 areas of emerging technologies** that will have a profound impact on the economy and society.
- IETF-2023 is a determined effort to showcase engineering and technologies that promote harmony between nature and science.

4. Dr Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates IFFCO Nano Urea Liquid Plants at Aonla and Phulpur in UP (Feb. 16, 2023)

Dr Mansukh Mandaviya

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Chemicals and Fertilizers, **Dr Mansukh Mandaviya** inaugurated the **IFFCO Nano Urea Liquid Plants** at **Aonla and Phulpur in Uttar Pradesh** on 14 February.

An overview of the news

- Nano Urea will ensure the progress of the farmers in times to come, increasing their income.
- In this way it will change the future of Indian farmers.
- Nano Urea is the best green technology and provides a solution to pollution.
- It protects the soil and also increases the production and hence best for the farmers.
- **Nano DAP** has been approved by the expert committee of the government and it will soon replace DAP.
- Nano-DAP will greatly benefit farmers and will be available at half the cost of DAP.

What is Liquid Nano Urea (LNU)?

- Nano urea is a **liquid form of nitrogen** providing plant nutrient as a conventional alternative to urea.
- It has been developed in place of **conventional urea** and has the potential to reduce the requirement of conventional urea by at least **50 percent**.
- One **500 ml bottle contains 40,000 mg/l nitrogen**, which can provide nitrogen nutrients equivalent to one bag/sack of normal urea.
- The effectiveness of Nano Urea Liquid is more than **80%**.
- Its use has been found to increase the yield by about **8%**.
- Its aim is to reduce **farmers' dependence** on packaged urea.

5. Cabinet approves signing of the MoU between the India and South Africa for cooperation in Disability Sector (Feb. 16, 2023)

memorandum of understanding (MoU)

The Union Cabinet on 15 February approved the signing of the **memorandum of understanding (MoU) between India and South Africa** for cooperation in the 'disability sector'.

An overview of the news

- It aims to encourage cooperation between the **Department for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and South Africa** through joint initiatives in the disability sector.
- It will strengthen **bilateral relations** between India and South Africa.
- This MoU will benefit a large number of **Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)** in both the countries, especially those who are in need of modern, scientific, durable, low cost aids and assistive devices.

South Africa

- President: **Cyril Ramaphosa**
- Capitals: **Cape Town (Legislative), Pretoria (Executive), Bloemfontein (Judicial)**
- Currency : **Rand**

6. India and Fiji sign MoU on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and official passports (Feb. 16, 2023)

memorandum of understanding (MoU)

India and Fiji signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** on **visa exemption for diplomatic and official passport holders** on 16 February in presence of External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** and Fiji Prime Minister **Sitiveni Rabuka**.

An overview of the news

- Under this agreement, holders of diplomatic and official passports will be able to **enter, transit and stay** in each other's territory without a visa for a **period of 90 days**.
- India and Fiji share close and long-standing relations and the two countries also reviewed bilateral relations.
- India and Fiji have inaugurated the **solarisation of the State House in Suva** and this is the first of a series that India is supporting in the **Pacific Islands**.
- It shows India's commitment towards **climate action**.
- The **Visa Waiver Agreement** will be helpful in encouraging greater travel between the two countries.

Republic of Fiji

- It is an archipelago consisting of around **300 islands** in the South Pacific Ocean.
- Capital: Suva
- Currency: **Fijian Dollar**
- President : **Wiliame Katonivere**
- Prime Minister: **Sitiveni Rabuka**

7. Bollywood actor Javed Khan Amrohi passes away (Feb. 15, 2023)

Javed Khan Amrohi

Bollywood actor **Javed Khan Amrohi** passed away due to **lung failure at a Mumbai hospital** on 14 February.

An overview of the news

- Amrohi is survived by a son and a daughter.
- He worked in more than **150 films** with many big stars including **Shah Rukh Khan to Aamir Khan and Salman Khan**.
- Javed Khan last worked in the **year 2020** in **Alia Bhatt and Aditya Roy Kapur starrer film 'Sadak 2'**.
- He started his career in 1973 with the film '**Jalte Badan**'.
- Apart from this, he worked in **many best films** like Satyam-Shivam-Sundaram, Prem Bandhan, Jhootha Kahin Ka, Prem Rog, Pasand Apni-Apni, Ram Teri Ganga Maili.
- Apart from this, Doordarshan's famous show '**Nukkad**' also gave him a lot of recognition, after that he also worked in Gulzar's '**Mirza Ghalib**', in which his role of a fakir was highly appreciated.
- Javed Khan was nominated for the **Academy Award for Best Actor** in 2001 for the film '**Lagaan**'.

8. First Agriculture Deputies Meeting of the Agriculture Working Group (Feb. 15, 2023)

Agriculture Working Group

The first **Agriculture Representatives Meeting (ADM) of the Agriculture Working Group (AWG)** under the **G20 chairmanship** of India was held in **Indore**.

An overview of the news

- Union Civil Aviation Minister **Jyotiraditya Scindia** launched it on 14 February 2023.
- On the second day of the meeting, presentations were made on the release note for AWG, covering the **four key themes** of Food Security and Nutrition, Sustainable

Agriculture with Climate Smart Approach, Inclusive Agriculture Value Chain and Digitization for Food System and Agriculture Transformation.

- Member countries, invited countries and international organisations made their interventions on the issue note.
- G20 member states and guest countries also held bilateral meetings focusing on the **G20 agriculture agenda**.
- After the technical session, the delegates visited **Silotia village in Dhar district** where they saw organic farming in poly house.
- The key deliverables of the AWG will be discussed on the third and concluding day of the event.
- Mention was made about the 3S template for development in the agriculture sector – ie **Smart, Serve All and Sustainable**.
- Their views were also presented on the importance of drones in the Indian agriculture development saga.

9. WPL 2023: Smriti Mandhana created history, became the most expensive player (Feb. 15, 2023)

Smriti Mandhana

India's star opener **Smriti Mandhana** has become the **costliest player** in the ongoing player auction for the **Women's Premier League (WPL)**.

An overview of the news

- She joined **Royal Challengers Bangalore for Rs 3.4 crore** after winning the highest bid in the ongoing **Women's Premier League 2023** auction in Mumbai.
- A total of **448 players** were included in the auction, out of which **87 players** were bought by the franchises. **30 foreign players** were also involved in this.
- **Ashley Gardner (Australia)** was at **number two** in the list of expensive players. He was bought by Gujarat Giants for **Rs 3.20 crore**.
- **Natalie Sciver** is at number three. She was bought by Mumbai Indians for 3.20 crores.
- India's all-rounder **Deepti Sharma** is at **number four**. Deepti is included in UP Warriors for **2.60 crores**.
- **Jemima Rodrigues** was at **number five**. He was included in their team by **Delhi Capitals for 2.20 crores**.

About Smriti Mandhana

- Smriti Mandhana is a young and talented **left-handed Indian batsman** and former captain of the Indian women's cricket team.

- Mandhana is known for her attacking batting style and has been a consistent performer in the T20I format.
- Mandhana made her T20I debut in **April 2013 against Bangladesh.**
- In the T20 International format, he has played **65 matches and scored 1743 runs at an average of 27.61.**
- His highest score in T20 International format is 83 and he has 9 fifties to his name.
- In June 2018, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) awarded her as the **Best Female International Cricketer.**
- In December 2018, the **International Cricket Council (ICC)** awarded her the **Rachael Hayhoe-Flint Award** for the best female cricketer of the year.

10. PM Modi to inaugurate national Aadi Mahotsav on Feb 16 in New Delhi (Feb. 14, 2023)

Aadi Mahotsav

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **national Aadi Mahotsav** on 16th February, 2023 at **Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi.**

An overview of the news

- This **15-day festival** is being organised at the **Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi.**
- This was announced at a media briefing by the Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, **Arjun Munda** in New Delhi.
- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is making all out efforts to ensure full participation of tribal communities in realising the vision of **Atmanirbhar Bharat.**
- The Minister said that **TRIFED** is working with top designers to ensure quality and contemporary design in tribal products as well as to retain their originality.

Theme of Aadi Mahotsav 2023

- The Theme of the event “**A Celebration of the Spirit of Tribal Crafts, Culture, Cuisine and Commerce**”.
- The theme represents the basic ethos of tribal life.

Festival Highlights

- The festival will feature exhibition-cum-sale of tribal **handicrafts, handlooms, paintings, jewellery, cane and bamboo, pottery, food and natural products**, tribal cuisine and more to showcase it through 200 stalls.
- **One thousand tribal artisans and artists** from **28 states** and union territories will participate in the festival.

About Aadi Mahotsav

- It is a national tribal festival and a joint initiative of the **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED)**.
- It was started in the year **2017**.
- **The main objective** of this festival is to acquaint people with the rich and diverse crafts and culture of tribal communities at one place.

Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED)

- It came into existence in **1987**.
- TRIFED is a national-level organisation functioning under the administrative control of the **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs**.
- Its Head Office is located in **New Delhi** and has a network of **13 Regional Offices**.
- It aims at **socio-economic development of tribal people** in the country through marketing development of tribal products.