

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. 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.

### **2. 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.

### **3. 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.

## **4. New Zealand declares national emergency after Cyclone Gabrielle lashes North Island ( Feb. 14, 2023 )**

New Zealand government

The **New Zealand government** has declared a **national emergency** after **Cyclone Gabrielle** hit the North Island.

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

- Cyclone Gabrielle causes widespread **flooding, landslides and huge ocean swells** across the North Island.
- This is an **unprecedented weather event** that is having widespread impacts across much of the **North Island**.

- Gabriel appeared over some small islands about 100 km north-east of Auckland, but is now moving south-west.

### **National State of Emergency in New Zealand**

- A national state of emergency has been declared in New Zealand on **two previous occasions** - the **first in 2011** after a magnitude 6.3 earthquake in Christchurch and the **second** in the early days of the **COVID-19 pandemic**.

### **5. Saudi Arabia to send its 1st female astronaut to space this year ( Feb. 14, 2023 )**

#### **Saudi Arabia's first female astronaut**

**Saudi Arabia's first female astronaut** is set to go into space this year, in what is seen as a move to reform Saudi Arabia's **ultra-conservative image**.

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

- Saudi female astronaut **Rayna Barnawi** will join **Saudi Ali Al-Qarni** on a 10-day mission to the **International Space Station (ISS)** this year.
- **Barnawi and al-Karni** will fly to the ISS aboard a **SpaceX Dragon spacecraft** as part of a mission by American privately funded space infrastructure developer private space company **Axiom Space** .
- The **Ax-2** will be launched by a **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket** from Launch Complex 39A at **NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, America**.
- Another fellow **Emirati, Sultan Al-Neyadi** will also visit the space station at the end of February 2023.
- Axiom Space launched its **first private astronaut mission** to the ISS in April 2022, with four private astronauts spending 17 days in space orbit.
- In 2019, Saudi Arabia's neighbouring **United Arab Emirates became the first Arab country** to send a citizen into space. Astronaut Hazza al-Mansoori spent eight days on the ISS.
- **In 1985**, Saudi royal prince **Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz** participated in a US-organised space mission, becoming the first Arab Muslim to travel in space.

#### **Saudi Arabia**

- King - **Salman**
- Capital - **Riyadh**
- Currency - **Saudi Arabian riyal**
- Official Language - **Arabic**
- Official Religion - **Islam**

## **6. 'Khanan Prahari' Mobile app to Curb Illegal Mining launched ( Feb. 14, 2023 )**

Khanan Prahari

The government on 13 February launched a mobile app namely '**Khanan Prahari**' and a web app **Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS)**.

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

- It has been launched to report **unauthorised coal mining activities** so that monitoring and appropriate action can be taken by the concerned law and order enforcing authority.

### **CMSMS Application**

- CMSMS has been developed to take transparent action to curb **illegal mining and use of space technology** as an e-governance initiative of Government of India.

### **Objective of CMSMS Application**

- To ascertain the participation of citizens against illegal mining by receipt of complaints of citizens through Mobile App Khanan Prahari
- Monitoring and taking action on any illegal coal mining activity being carried out within the leasehold limits.

### **'Khanan Prahari' Mobile App**

- It is a mobile app of the **Ministry of Coal** to report illegal coal mining.
- It is a tool for **geo-tagged photographs** of any illegal coal mining incident as well as information to any citizen from the location of the incident.'

## **7. Former England captain Eoin Morgan retires from all forms of cricket ( Feb. 14, 2023 )**

England captain Eoin Morgan

Former **England captain Eoin Morgan** announced his retirement from **all forms of cricket** on 13 February.

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

- Morgan had said goodbye to international cricket on **28 June 2022**. He announced his retirement from all three formats of cricket.
- Eoin Morgan captained the **ODI World Cup** played in England in the **year 2019** and won his team the **title**. He also became the **first captain to win the ODI World Cup for England**.

- Morgan has scored **2458 runs** playing a total of **115 T20 matches**. While playing **248 ODIs**, he scored **7701 runs**.
- Morgan captained England in **126 ODIs and 72 T20Is**, registering **118 wins** as captain in both formats.
- Apart from this, he scored **700 runs in 16 Test matches**.
- Born in **Dublin**, Morgan made his ODI debut for **England in 2009** at the age of 16 against Ireland.

## **8. Moldov's PM Natalia Gavrilita resigns ( Feb. 11, 2023 )**

Moldovan Prime Minister **Natalia Gavrilita** announced her resignation on 10 February.

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

- She resigned, citing lack of support in the former Soviet republic. She was in power only for **18 months**.
- Moldova's President **Maia Sandu** has accepted Gavrilita's resignation and said she will speak to parliamentary groups about a possible replacement.
- Ms. Gavrilita's party won a majority in the elections held in **August 2021**.
- The next prime minister of Moldova could be **Dorin Risen**, a European security adviser who is a supporter of Sandu.
- Rieken is expected to be approved as the country's prime minister without interference.
- Moldova, a **former Soviet republic** with a **population of 2.5 million people**, is already facing a host of issues such as rising inflation, a massive influx of refugees from Ukraine and a severe energy crisis in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine war.
- Moscow significantly reduced its **electricity supply to Moldova**.
- Last year alone, the country saw protests against a dramatic increase in prices, particularly for **Russian gas**.

### **About Moldova**

- Moldova is located between **Ukraine and Romania**.
- Capital: **Chişinău**
- President: **Maia Sandu**
- Official Language : **Romanian**
- Currency : **Moldovan leu**

## **9. Hyderabad selected to host WEF Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution ( Jan. 19, 2023 )**

The **World Economic Forum (WEF)** has chosen **Hyderabad** to set up its **Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution** focused on **healthcare and life sciences**.

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

- The announcement was made after the Telangana government and the World Economic Forum signed a cooperation agreement during the Forum's annual meeting in **Davos** recently.
- The collaboration agreement was signed by **Jeremy Jurgens**, Managing Director, WEF and **Sakthi Nagappan**, Chief Executive Officer, Telangana Life Sciences Foundation.
- Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) Telangana will be an autonomous, non-profit organisation that will focus on **healthcare and life sciences**.
- C4IR is the **18th centre** to join the 4th Industrial Revolution Network of Telangana Forum, which is spread across four continents.

### **What is the fourth industrial revolution?**

- The Fourth Industrial Revolution represents a **fundamental change in the way we live, work and connect with each other**.
- It is a **new chapter in human development**, enabled by an extraordinary technological advance commensurate with the First, Second and Third Industrial Revolutions.
- The key technologies involved are cloud computing, big data, cyber security, simulation, additive manufacturing and Internet of Things (IoT).

### **Other industrial revolution**

- **First Industrial Revolution (in the 1800s)**: Water and steam power were used to mechanize production. An example of this is the steam engine.
- **Second Industrial Revolution (early 1900s)**: It used electricity for mass production. Electricity is an example of this.
- **Third Industrial Revolution (late 1900s)**: Electronics and information technology were used to automate production. Computers and the Internet are examples of this.

## **10. Annual Meeting of World Economic Forum begins at Davos in Switzerland ( Jan. 16, 2023 )**

Annual Meeting of World Economic Forum begins at Davos in Switzerland

The five-day annual meeting of the **World Economic Forum (WEF)** begins on 16 January 2023 in **Davos, Switzerland**. It is the **53rd edition** of the World Economic Forum which will be organised till 20 January 2023.

## **An Overview of the news**

- The theme of the meeting of the 53rd edition of the World Economic Forum is '**Cooperation in a Fragmented World**'.
- The main topics of discussion in the meeting are likely to be discussed like the **Ukraine crisis, global inflation, climate change etc.**

## **Prominent global leaders participating in the meeting**

- Global leaders attending the meeting include European Commission President **Ursula von der Leyen**, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, European Parliament President Roberta Metsola, South African President Cyril M. Ramaphosa, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yol, Swiss President Alain Berset and Finnish Prime Minister Sanna Marin etc. are the main ones.

## **Representation of India in the meeting**

- Many Indian leaders are participating in the World Economic Forum meeting. Apart from Chief Union Ministers **Ashwini Vaishnav, Mansukh Mandaviya, Smriti Irani and RK Singh**, Maharashtra Chief Minister **Eknath Shinde** is also participating in these.
- Prominent business tycoons like **Gautam Adani, Sanjiv Bajaj, Kumar Mangalam Birla**, N Chandrasekaran, Nadir Godrej, Sajjan Jindal, Sunil Mittal, Roshni Nadar Malhotra, Nandan Nilekani, Adar Poonawalla, Rishad Premji attended the meeting.

## **World Economic Forum (WEF)**

- WEF is a Swiss non-profit organisation.
- Establishment: **1971**
- Headquarters: **Cologne (Switzerland).**
- Founder and Executive Chairman: **Klaus Schwab.**
- Chairperson: **Borge Brende**

## **Major reports published by WEF**

- Global Gender Gap Report
- Global Risk Report
- Global Travel and Tourism Report
- Energy Transition Index (ETI)
- Global Competitiveness Report