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1. Women and Child Development Ministry to celebrate the 5th Poshan Pakhwada (March 20, 2023)

The **5th Poshan Pakhwada** will be celebrated by the **Ministry of Women and Child Development** from **March 20 to April 3, 2023**, with several events across the country.

An overview of the news

- The 5th Poshan Pakhwada is being celebrated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to promote **good eating habits and focus on the value of nutrition through mass movement and public participation.**
- The theme of Poshan Pakhwada 2023 is -Nutrition for All: Together Towards a Healthy India.
- During Poshan Pakhwada, campaigns will be launched to raise awareness and popularize efficient **Anganwadis** with advanced infrastructure and facilities.
- This year, Poshan Pakhwada will concentrate on promoting "**Shree Anna: the mother of all grains**", as a useful tool to combat malnutrition, in light of the declaration of 2023 as the International Year of Millets.

About Poshan Pakhwada

- Poshan Pakhwada is celebrated for 15 days in March.
- Similarly, the **month of September is known as National Nutrition Month** across the country.
- The **Ministry of Women and Child Development** will be the nodal ministry for organizing programs during Poshan Pakhwada.

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3. SC asks to file counter-affidavit to plea to protect Western Ghats (March 20, 2023)

SC asks to file counter-affidavit to plea to protect Western Ghats

The Supreme Court on March 18 directed the **Environment Ministry** to **file its counter affidavit on the petition filed by minor M Kavya**, a resident of Nilgiris.

An overview of the news

- The petition sought judicial intervention to save the Western Ghats from destruction.
- The petition is pending for the last two years after the apex court issued notice in 2020.

About Western Ghats

- The Western Ghats are also known as the Sahyadri Hills.
- It is a mountain range that covers an **area of 160,000 km2**.
- The entire range of hills from **Tapi to Kanyakumari is known as the Western Ghats.**
- The Western Ghats is **one of the four global biodiversity hotspots** in India.
- The Western Ghats are made up of a range of mountains in the states of **Kerala**, **Maharashtra**, **Goa**, **Gujarat**, **Tamil Nadu and Karnataka**.
- It is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Anamudi peak in Kerala is the highest peak in the Western Ghats.
- According to UNESCO, the Western Ghats are older than the Himalayas.

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5. Global Conference on Digital Health organised by Government of India in New Delhi (March 20, 2023)

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The Government of India hosted a two-day **Global Conference on Digital Health in New Delhi** and it was chaired by the Minister of Health and Family Welfare, **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**.

An Overview of the News

• The objective of the conference is to reach universal health coverage to the last citizen by taking advantage of India's chairmanship of G20 and collaboration with WHO South-East Asia Regional Office.

- The conference will bring together global leaders, health policy makers, digital
- health innovators and influencers, academics and other stakeholders to address issues to accelerate the implementation of connected digital health initiatives.
- The conference focuses on unlocking the potential to deliver and share digital health solutions in an **ethical**, **safe**, **secure**, **reliable**, **equitable** and **sustainable** manner.
- The conference is expected to make a significant contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to health and well-being, especially SDG 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for people at all ages.

- It is an **international forum of the world's leading economies** established in 1999.
- Its primary objective is to promote international financial stability and sustainable economic growth.

The G20 serves as a forum to discuss and coordinate policies related to a wide range of economic and financial issues such as **trade**, **investment**, **employment**, **energy and climate change**.

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7. 4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue between India and Maldives held in Male (March 20, 2023)

4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue between India and Maldives held in Male

India and Maldives held the **4th Defense Cooperation Dialogue (DCD) in Male** on March 19, 2023.

An overview of the news

- The dialogue was co-chaired by Defence Secretary **Giridhar Aramane** and his Maldivian counterpart, Chief of Defence Force **Major General Abdulla Shamaal.**
- During the talks, the ongoing bilateral defense cooperation activities were reviewed.
- The talks covered existing **bilateral exercises**, with both countries agreeing to increase the complexity of these exercises.
- There is bilateral cooperation between the armed forces of India and Maldives in a number of fields, a positive sign for the future of bilateral relations.

About Defense Cooperation Dialogue (DCD)

- The Defense Cooperation Dialogue is the **highest institutionalized interactive mechanism** between the two countries.
- The Dialogue is one of **India's policy-level frameworks** that aim to strengthen longstanding and mutually beneficial bilateral defence ties.
- The first Defense Cooperation Dialogue was **held in 2016 and the second in 2019.**
- **Since 1988**, defense and security have been a major area of cooperation between India and Maldives.
- In 2016, the two countries signed a comprehensive action plan to strengthen defense partnership.

About Maldives

- It is also called **Maldives Islands**, an independent island country in the **north-central Indian Ocean.**
- It extends more than **510 miles (820 km)** from north to south and 80 miles (130 km) from east to west.
- Basis of economy -fisheries, tourism
- Industries handicraft or cottage including the making of coir (coconut-husk fibre) and coir products, fish canning, and boatbuilding.
- Capital -Male
- President -Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
- Official Language **Dhivehi (Maldivian)**
- Official Religion Islam
- Currency Rufiyaa

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9. Nagpur hosts preparatory meeting for Civil 20 under India's G20 Presidency (March 20, 2023)

Nagpur hosts preparatory meeting for Civil 20 under India's G20 Presidency

The **C-20** is an engagement group working under the **G-20** Secretariat that provides a platform for civil society organisations and non-governmental organisations to air their concerns and brainstorm on various issues.

An Overview of the News

- The two-day meeting was inaugurated at Radisson Blu Hotel in Nagpur under the chairmanship of Mata Amritanandamayi and in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis.
- In the Inception meeting, 14 different topics prepared for C-20 were discussed.
- Union Transport Minister **Nitin Gadkari** participated in the closing ceremony of the meeting on 21 March.

About C20

- Civil 20 (C20) is an engagement group of the G20 representing civil society organisations (CSOs).
- C20 **aims to promote policies** that promote social and economic justice, human rights and environmental sustainability.
- Key issues that the C20 focuses on include **poverty alleviation**, **gender equality**, **climate change and global health**.
- The C20 organises an annual summit that brings together CSO representatives from around the world to discuss key policy issues and present their recommendations to the G20 leaders.

- The G20 is an international forum consisting of 19 countries and the **European Union**, with a focus on promoting international financial stability, sustainable economic growth and global cooperation on key issues.
- Originally established in **1999 as a forum** for finance ministers and central bank governors, the G20 became a leaders' summit in 2008, with annual meetings to discuss a wide range of major global issues of state and government. participate in.
- The mission of the G20 is to focus on issues such as **trade**, **investment**, **financial** regulation, employment, energy, climate change, and global health.

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