

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. Brazilian government declares medical emergency in Yanomami ( Jan. 23, 2023 )**

Recently in **Brazil**, the government has declared a **medical-emergency in the Yanomami region** amid reports of **child deaths** from diseases caused by illegal gold mining and malnutrition-related conditions.

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

- The purpose of the state of emergency declaration is to **restore health services** for the Yanomami people that had come to a standstill during the previous government's tenure.
- In the four years of Bolsonaro's presidency, **570 Yanomami children died** from preventable diseases, mainly from **malnutrition** as well as **malaria, diarrhoea, and mercury used by wildcat gold miners**.
- The government announced food packages to the Yanomami, where about 26,000 Yanomami live in an area of rainforest and tropical savanna.
- The Yanomami area has been a victim of illegal gold mining gangs for decades.

#### **About Yanomami tribes**

- They are also called **South American Indians**.
- They live in the remote forests of the **Orinoco River Basin** in southern Venezuela and the northernmost part of the **Amazon River Basin in northern Brazil**.
- They live in small, scattered, semi-permanent villages, speak the **Ziriana language**, and hunt.
- Their population is about 26,000.
- **Davi Copenava**, a Brazilian leader who secured the land rights of the Yanomami people, has been awarded the **Right Livelihood Award-2019**, also known as **Sweden's alternative Nobel Prize**.

### **2. International Trade Fair on Millets and Organic Products held in Bengaluru ( Jan. 23, 2023 )**

The **4th International Trade Fair of Millets and Organics Products** began on 20 January 2023 at **Tripuravasini, Bengaluru**.

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

- India is leading among countries to celebrate 2023 as the **International Year of Millets**.
- This three-day fair is organised by the **Department of Agriculture and the Government of Karnataka**.
- The three day event is divided into multiple segments including **Exhibition, Pavilion, B2B Networking** and much more.

### **Promotion of millet and organic market**

- The trade fair is a platform for farmers, farmer groups, domestic and international companies, central and state institutions to explore opportunities in agriculture, horticulture, processing, machinery and agro-technology.
- The fair includes more than **250 stalls, millet and organic food court, cooking, drawing and quiz competitions, display of millet recipes, etc.**
- The budget allocation for farmers has been increased six times.
- The country is focused on developing **10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)** and assisting farmers in setting up sorting and grading units along with producing value-added products ready for export.
- Consumption of millets is a solution to malnutrition, which will also benefit farmers for better livelihood and increased income.

### **India as the Global Hub for Millets**

- In India, millet is primarily a **kharif crop**, requiring less water and agricultural inputs.
- Millets are important because of their potential to generate livelihoods, enhance farmers' income and ensure food and nutritional security.
- According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation, global millet production in 2020 was **30.464 million metric tonnes (MMT)**, of which India accounted for **12.49 MMT or 41 per cent** of the total millet production.
- **Karnataka pioneer for millet promotion**
  - The Government of Karnataka has been a pioneer in the promotion of millets.
  - The first millets and organic fair was **held in 2017**, the second and third editions were held in **Bengaluru in 2018 and 2019**.
  - Karnataka is distributing millet grain through the **PDS system** and organising district-wise Kisan Melas.

### **3. International seminar on knowledge sharing on conservation of natural and cultural heritage in Kathmandu ( Jan. 22, 2023 )**

On the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an **International seminar** on Knowledge sharing of **conservation of Natural and cultural heritage** was organised by the **Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) in Kathmandu.**

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

- It was organised in coordination with the **Embassy of India in Kathmandu.**
- Ambassador of India, **Naveen Shrivastav** informed about the Indian government's contribution to conserving cultural heritage.
- The Government of India provided **USD 50 million** in aid for the reconstruction of two UNESCO heritage sites—**Pashupatinath Temple and Bhandarkhal of Patan Durbar Square** after the 2015 earthquake in Nepal.
- The guest of honour of the event, Nepal's Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, **Sudan Kirati** appreciated the efforts of the Indian Embassy in bringing together conservation experts from India and Nepal for the reconstruction and restoration of the natural and cultural heritage.

### **Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)**

- It was established in **1984 in New Delhi** with the objective of heritage awareness and conservation in India.
- Currently INTACH is recognized as one of the largest heritage organisations in the world with more than **190 chapters** across the country.
- Over the last 31 years, INTACH has pioneered the conservation of intangible heritage along with natural and built heritage.

## **4. Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi to be Chief Guest at India's Republic Day celebrations ( Jan. 22, 2023 )**

According to the **Ministry of External Affairs, Egypt President Abdel Fattah El Sisi** will be the **chief guest** at the **74th Republic Day celebrations.**

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

- He will pay a state visit to India from the **24th to the 26th** of this month.
- This is the first time that the President of Egypt has been invited as the chief guest on the Republic Day 2023 of India.
- A **180-member strong contingent of the Egyptian Army** will also participate in the Republic Day parade.
- The President of Egypt had earlier visited India in **October 2015** to attend the **3rd India-Africa Forum Summit**, followed by a state visit in September 2016.

- President Sisi will have a bilateral meeting and delegation-level talks with PM Modi on bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest.
- Abdel Fattah Sisi is a former Army officer who was elected as the president of Egypt in **2014 and was re-elected in 2018.**

### **About Republic Day Celebration**

- Every year Republic day is observed on **26 January**. It was on this day the constitution of India was promulgated in **1950 and India became a republic.**
- **The President of India** presides over the Republic day functions. It is customary to invite a foreign country leader as an honoured guest at the Republic day function.
- In **1955 Rajpath (Now Kartavya Path)** became the permanent place for the Republic day parade.
- The Chief Guest was the Governor-General of Pakistan **Malik Ghulam Muhammad.**
- **President of Indonesia, Sukarno** was the **first guest at 1950 Republic day parade.**

### **5. New Zealand's ruling Labor Party elected Chris Hipkins as the country's 41st prime minister ( Jan. 22, 2023 )**

**New Zealand's ruling Labor Party** on 22 January elected **Chris Hipkins** as its leader and the country's **41st prime minister**, replacing **Ms Jacinda Ardern.**

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

- Hipkins was the only candidate for the position and was confirmed by 64 MPs in what is known as the **Labor caucus.**
- Known as "**Chippy**", Hipkins played a key role in the response to COVID-19.
- He was first elected to Parliament in **2008 for the Labor Party.**
- He was appointed **Minister of Health in July 2020** before becoming the Minister of COVID Response.
- Before Hipkins can officially become prime minister, Ardern must submit her resignation to **King Charles III's** representative in New Zealand, Governor General **Cindy Kiro.**
- Kiro Hipkins will then be appointed to the role and sworn in.
- The Labour party has also selected Carmel Sepuloni as the deputy prime minister.

#### **About New Zealand**

- Prime Minister: **Chris Hipkins**

- Capital: **Wellington**
- Currency : **New Zealand dollar**

## **6. Indian Embassy in Kathmandu organises 5 km marathon 'Run for Life' with theme of 'lifestyle for Environment' ( Jan. 21, 2023 )**

With the theme of '**lifestyle for Environment**', 5 km marathon '**Run for Life**' was organised by the **Indian Embassy in Kathmandu** on 21 January.

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

- Hundreds of college going students, human trafficking survivors, sportspersons, doctors and children participated in the marathon to promote running as a healthy lifestyle.
- On the occasion of Amrit Mahotsav celebrations of Independence in Nepal, Indian Ambassador **Naveen Srivastava** emphasised on adopting a healthy lifestyle.
- The Run for Life Marathon celebrates the diplomatic relations between India and Nepal as well as **75 years of India's independence**.
- The marathon started from **Pashupatinath temple complex** and covered 5 km back to Pashupatinath in a duration of one hour.
- The Marathon winner was awarded a gold medal after completion of the marathon.
- The Embassy of India in Kathmandu also organised a music concert '**Sangeet Sukoon**'.
- The event was attended by Prime Minister of Nepal **Pushpa Kamal Dahal**, and former Prime Minister **KP Sharma Oli**.

## **7. State DGPs and IGPs annual Conference ( Jan. 21, 2023 )**

The three-day conference of heads of **all state police forces and paramilitary organisations** began in **New Delhi** on January 20.

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

- **PM Modi**, Home Minister **Amit Shah**, National Security Advisor **Ajit Doval** addressed the conference.
- Cyber security, war on drugs, and the situation in Jammu and Kashmir were among the top agenda items of the conference.
- Apart from this, border management, cross-border threats and maritime security were also discussed in the annual meeting.

- Other issues discussed included threat from Khalistani extremists, threat to economy, cryptocurrency, Maoist violence and Northeast insurgency.
- **Around 350 top police officers** of the country in the rank of Director General (DG) and Inspector General (IG) attended the conference.

### **About the conference**

- **Till 2013**, the annual meet was held in the national capital, in 2014, when the Modi government came to power, it was decided to hold the event outside Delhi.
- In 2014, the conference was held at Guwahati, Rann of Kutch in 2015, National Police Academy, Hyderabad in 2016, BSF Academy, Tekanpur in 2017 and Pune in 2019.
- Due to the Covid epidemic, in 2020 it was held virtually while in 2021 the conference was held in Lucknow.

### **8. G20's First Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) Meeting to be held in Bengaluru ( Jan. 21, 2023 )**

The **first G-20 Environment meeting** under the [G-20 India Presidency](#) will be held at the **Taj West End in Bengaluru** during February 9 -11.

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

- It has scheduled four meetings of the **Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG)**, which will be hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- India will chair the G-20 for one year till **30 November 2023**.
- The forum will bring together G-20 member states, guest countries and international organisations invited by India.
- Through the **Sherpa Track, 13 working groups and 2 initiatives** will meet under the chairmanship of India to discuss priorities and provide recommendations.

#### **Agenda of the meeting**

- Promotion of Blue Economy along with Coastal Sustainability
- Restoration of Degraded Lands and Ecosystems' and 'Enhancement of Biodiversity
- Strengthening of Circular Economy

## **9. UNESCO dedicates International Day of Education 2023 to Afghan girls, women ( Jan. 21, 2023 )**

**UNESCO** has decided to dedicate the **International Day of Education** to be celebrated on **January 24, 2023, to Afghan girls and women.**

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

- UNESCO Director-General **Audrey Azoulay** said that no country in the world should prevent women and girls from getting education and it is a universal human right that should be respected.
- The international community has a responsibility to ensure that the rights of Afghan girls and women are restored without delay.
- UNESCO and other international organisations should take concrete steps to address the issue of women and girls in **Afghanistan under Taliban rule.**
- According to UNESCO, currently around **80 percent of Afghan girls** and young women of school-age are out of school under Taliban rule, as they are denied access to secondary schools and universities.
- Since **15 August 2021**, Afghanistan has barred girls from attending secondary school, restricted the freedom of movement of women and girls, and excluded women from most areas of the workforce.

### **About UNESCO**

- **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** is a specialised agency of the **United Nations (UN).**
- It seeks to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture.
- It is also a member of the United **Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG)**, a coalition of UN agencies and organisations aimed at fulfilling the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).**
- Headquarters: **Paris, France**
- Director General: **Audrey Azoulay**
- Founded: **16 November 1945 in London, United Kingdom**
- The organisation has **193 members** and **11 Associate members.**

## **10. India surpasses China to become most populous country in the world ( Jan. 21, 2023 )**

According to projections by the **World Population Review (WPR)**, India has **surpassed China** as the **world's most populous nation**.

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

- As per WPR, India's population was **141.7 crore as of the end of 2022**.
- According to official announcements, India's population is a **little over 5 million**, compared to **141.2 million** declared by China on 17 January.
- As per WPR estimates, India's population has increased to **142.3 crore** as of January 18.
- India, with **50 percent of its population below the age of 30**, is poised to be the fastest growing major economy in the world.
- According to WPR, although India's population growth has slowed down, it will **still increase till at least 2050**.
- India, the **third largest economy in Asia**, is currently self-sufficient in **food production**.
- India ranks **second in terms of production** of rice, wheat and sugar.
- Apart from being a major importer of edible oils, India is also the **largest consumer of sugar**.
- India is the **third largest market for the purchase of crude oil**, the **second largest consumer of steel and gold**.
- In addition, India is the **third largest domestic aviation market** in the world.