

Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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1. World Chagas Disease Day observed on 14 April (April 14, 2024)

World Chagas Disease Day (WCDD) is observed annually on April 14 worldwide to raise awareness about Chagas Disease, a neglected tropical disease causing serious heart and digestive issues.

An Overview of the News

- The goal of WCDD includes enhancing early detection, expanding diagnostic coverage, and ensuring equitable access to clinical care for Chagas Disease.
- The theme for WCDD 2024 is "**Tackling Chagas Disease: Detect Early and Care for Life.**"
- In 2019, the **72nd World Health Assembly** declared April 14 of each year as World Chagas Disease Day.
- The inaugural World Chagas Disease Day was observed on April 14, 2020.

About WHO

- The Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) is Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.
- The headquarters of the WHO is located in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The WHO was established on April 7, 1948.

2. National Fire Service Day - 14 to 20 April (April 14, 2024)

Every year on April 14th, India observes National Fire Service Day, while National Fire Service Week extends from April 14th to April 20th.

An Overview of the News

- These annual observances aim to honor firefighters who have lost their lives while on duty and to raise awareness about fire safety among the public and students.
- The commemoration specifically remembers the martyrs of the Bombay Dock explosion that occurred on April 14th, 1944, at the Victoria Dock in Bombay Port, now known as Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The theme for National Fire Service Day and Week in 2024 is "Ensure Fire Safety, Contribute towards Nation Building."
- It's noteworthy that April 14th, 2024, marks the 80th Anniversary of the Bombay Dock explosion.

Background of National Fire Service Day

- In 1965, the Standing Fire Advisory Council (SFAC) convened its 11th meeting.

- During this meeting, the SFAC officially designated April 14th of each year as National Fire Service Day.
- Additionally, they allocated the week following April 14th as "National Fire Service Week."
- These designations were made to commemorate the tragic 1944 Dock Explosion.

1944 Bombay Dock Explosion:

- On April 14th, 1944, the ship "SS Fort Stikins" loaded with explosives docked at No. 1 Victoria Dock, Bombay Port.
- The explosion resulted in the deaths of approximately 231 individuals and injuries to around 476 people.
- Among the casualties were approximately 66 firefighters.

3. Siachen Day - 13 April (April 13, 2024)

Siachen Day is annually observed by the Indian Army on 13 April.

An Overview of the News

- It commemorates Operation Meghdoot, initiated on 13 April 1984.
- The day pays tribute to the courage and sacrifice of Indian Army soldiers stationed at the Siachen Glacier.

Location and Significance:

- Siachen Glacier, situated in the eastern Karakoram range in the Himalayas, forms part of the Union Territory (UT) Ladakh.
- It is recognized as the highest and coldest battlefield in the world.
- The area symbolizes India's strategic presence and territorial integrity in the region.

Operation Meghdoot:

- Operation Meghdoot was a significant military endeavor launched by India.
- Objective: Secure control of the entire Siachen Glacier, located in Jammu and Kashmir (now part of northern Ladakh).
- It marked India's proactive stance in response to escalating activities by Pakistan in the Ladakh region.
- The operation was pivotal in gaining Indian control over the entire Siachen Glacier.

Role of Indian Air Force (IAF):

- Integral to Operation Meghdoot was the participation of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

- Airlifting Troops: IAF helicopters played a crucial role in transporting Indian Army soldiers to the Siachen region.
- Support and Logistics: IAF provided essential support and logistics during the operation, facilitating troop deployment and sustenance in the challenging terrain.

4. World Health Day - 7 April 2024 (April 9, 2024)

United Nations (UN) World Health Day is an annual global health awareness day.

An Overview of the News

- It is celebrated across the globe on the 7th of April to shed light on a specific health issue concerning people globally.
- World Health Day celebrations aim to raise awareness about a particular health topic with emphasis on a priority area of concern identified by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- This date marks the 76th anniversary of the establishment of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948.

The theme of World Health Day 2024:

- The theme of World Health Day 2024 is '**My Health, My Right**', which emphasizes individual rights to health.

Launch of Initiative:

- NMC and NTF have launched "My Health, My Rights" initiative targeting medical students and professionals.

World Health Organization (WHO):

- Director General: Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
- Established: 7 April 1948

5. International Conscience Day - 5th April (April 5, 2024)

International Conscience Day is celebrated annually on April 5th to remind individuals to introspect and act according to their conscience.

An Overview of the News

- 2024 Theme: '**Promoting a Culture of Peace with Love and Conscience.**'
- Emphasizes fostering global peace, compassion, and moral integrity.

History and Establishment:

- Inaugurated by the United Nations General Assembly in 2020.
- Aimed at encouraging people worldwide to follow their conscience and do what is right.

Fifth Anniversary Celebration (2024):

- Marks the fifth year since its establishment.
- Signifies dedicated efforts to raise awareness about the importance of individual and collective conscience in creating a fairer, more harmonious, and sustainable world.

6. International Mine Awareness Day - 4th April (April 5, 2024)

The United Nations commemorated International Mine Awareness Day on April 4th.

An Overview of the News

- The focus was on highlighting the negative impacts of landmines and explosive remnants of war on civilian populations.
- The day stressed the significance of protecting individuals with disabilities in conflict zones and during peacebuilding efforts.
- The theme for 2024, '**Protecting Lives, Building Peace,**' emphasizes **the role of mine action in both saving lives and promoting peace in affected areas.**

History of International Mine Awareness Day:

- Established by the **United Nations General Assembly** on **December 8, 2005.**
- Observed annually on April 4th.
- Aims to raise awareness about landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW).
- Originated from growing international concern over the widespread use of landmines.
- Followed significant milestones such as the signing of the Ottawa Treaty in 1997.
- Continues to highlight the ongoing threat posed by landmines and ERW globally.
- Encourages efforts to clear landmines, provide risk education, and support affected communities.

7. Prime Minister Modi Marks RBI's 90th Anniversary with Visionary Speech (April 2, 2024)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the audience at the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Mumbai as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) celebrated its 90th anniversary on April 1st,

An Overview of the News:

- The Prime Minister Modi released a commemorative coin to mark 90 years of RBI on the occasion.
- The event was attended by various dignitaries, including RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Chief Minister of Maharashtra Eknath Shinde, Deputy Chief Ministers of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar, and other state and federal officials.

Key points from Prime Minister Modi's speech:

- Prime Minister Modi stressed in his speech that India wants to be economically independent over the next ten years in order to protect itself from the volatility of the world financial system.
- He emphasized the RBI's critical role in accomplishing this objective.
- He told that India's share of the world economy is growing rapidly, having risen to 15% during his administration.
- In the long run, he thought that the following ten years would be crucial to realizing the goal of a developed India by 2047.
- The Prime Minister lauded the strengthened state of the Indian banking sector under his administration, noting a significant decline in Gross Non-Performing Assets (NPA) from 11.25 percent in 2018 to less than 3 percent by September 2023.
- He brought up the government's Rs 3.5 lakh crore injection into public sector banks to increase their resilience.

Origin and Background of RBI:

- The idea for the formation of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the country's central bank, came from the Hilton-Young Commission, also known as the Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance.
- The Reserve Bank of India Act 1934 was passed in compliance with the recommendations made by the Hilton-Young Commission.
- The RBI started its journey on April 1, 1935, and commenced operations.
- After being privately owned for a while, the RBI was nationalized in 1949 and is now owned by the government.

The RBI's primary duties include:

- Creating, carrying out, and overseeing monetary policy.
- Supervising and regulating the banks, NBFCs, NABARD, SIDBI, EXIM Bank, and other components of the Indian financial system.
- Managing India's foreign exchange holdings.
- Releasing banknotes in India (other from coins and notes valued at Re 1).

- Overseeing and controlling India's payment and settlement system.
- Acting as the government's banker and representing all scheduled banks.

8. World Tuberculosis (TB) Day - 24 March (March 26, 2024)

World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is an annual event observed on 24 March.

An Overview of the News

- TB is an infectious disease that primarily affects the lungs, caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.
- Transmission occurs through the air when an infected person coughs, sneezes or spits.
- It is possible to prevent and cure TB with a regimen of antibacterial drugs for a period of 6 to 12 months.
- Untreated TB can have fatal consequences, underscoring the importance of early detection and appropriate treatment.

Theme of World Tuberculosis Day

- The theme of World Tuberculosis Day 2024 is "**Yes! We can end TB**".
- This theme emphasizes global efforts to eliminate the disease through awareness and action.

History of World Tuberculosis Day

- World TB Day, observed every year on 24 March, commemorates the discovery of the bacteria causing TB by **Dr. Robert Koch in 1882**.
- Proposed by the **International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD) in 1982** on the centenary of Koch's discovery, it became an official day of observance in 1983.
- The day aims to raise awareness about tuberculosis globally and advocate for prevention, treatment and research efforts.

9. World Meteorological Day - 23 March (March 23, 2024)

World Meteorological Day is celebrated every year on 23 March.

An Overview of the News

- This day commemorates the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1950.
- WMO operates as a **specialized agency within the United Nations**

Theme of World Meteorological Day

- The theme of World Meteorological Day 2024 is "**At the Frontier of Climate Action**".
- This emphasizes the critical need to **address climate change and its potentially severe impacts**.

History of World Meteorological Day

- World Meteorological Day began with the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) on March **23, 1950**.
- WMO was created with the primary purpose of forecasting weather patterns and predicting climate change.
- One year after its establishment, WMO launched World Meteorological Day to **celebrate its establishment and promote understanding of the importance of weather and climate forecasting**.

10. World Down Syndrome Day - 21 March 2024 (March 22, 2024)

World Down Syndrome Day is celebrated every year on 21 March.

An Overview of the News

- Down syndrome is a condition that affects both the physical and mental aspects of a person's health, causing challenges in communication and social interaction.
- This condition results from an extra chromosome, which affects both body and brain development.
- Common indicators of Down syndrome include distinctive facial features, intellectual disability, and developmental delay.
- Treatment methods include speech therapy, physical activities, and tailored education programs.
- The average life expectancy of individuals with Down syndrome is approximately 60 years.

The theme of World Down Syndrome Day

- The theme of this year's World Down Syndrome Day is "**End Stereotypes**". It aims to combat stereotyping.
- The focus is on breaking down stereotypes and promoting a more inclusive and understanding environment for people with Down syndrome.
- This initiative seeks to shift the narrative towards recognizing the abilities and potential of individuals with Down syndrome rather than limiting them based on preconceived notions.

History of World Down Syndrome Day

- World Down Syndrome Day was established by the United Nations in 2012 to celebrate March 21, which represents the 21st chromosome associated with Down syndrome.
- Globally, approximately 3,000 to 5,000 babies are born with Down syndrome each year, with an incidence ranging from 1 in 1,000 to 1 in 1,100 live births.
- Improving the quality of life of individuals with Down syndrome includes addressing health care needs through regular screening and interventions such as therapy and counseling.
- Support from parents, medical professionals, and community-based systems, including inclusive education, is essential to enable individuals with Down syndrome to fulfill their potential and integrate into society.