

Target

# **TNPSC**

# WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS (ENGLISH)

For TNPSC Group I, II/IIA, IV & VAO Exams

March Week 1, 2022





# **Table of Contents**

Tamil Nadu	3
National	5
International	g
Science	13
Personalities	15
Sports	
Books & Authors	17
Awards & Honors	18
Important Days	19



#### **Tamil Nadu**

#### **Fishing harbours**

The Fisheries Department has begun preliminary work to construct fishing harbours at Alambaraikuppam in Chengalpattu district and Alagankuppam in Villupuram district.

The facilities coming up on either side of the Kazhuveli waters, will help keep the bar mouth open throughout the year and allow fish to enter the backwaters, as is their habit.

At present due to frequent closure of the bar mouth, the fish die in bulk, often. The fishermen of these villages also do not have safe harbours to anchor their boats

In these harbours, a 300 m-long training wall would be constructed into the sea to keep the bar mouth open permanently and prevent it from being silted up.

#### Naan Mudhalvan scheme:

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin recently inaugurated the Naan Mudhalvan scheme, which aims to equip about 10 lakh youth across the State annually with skills that will help them realise their talents for the benefit of the country.

A new portal for this scheme has also been launched.

The scheme aims to identify, train and offer career and academic guidance to talented students in government-run and State-aided educational institutions.

It also aims at offerring spoken English lessons to enable students to face interview panels successfully.

The scheme will offer training capsules in coding and robotics to keep pace with technological advancements.

The scheme will offer training capsules in coding and robotics to keep pace with technological advancements.

A sense of Tamil culture and tradition too will be inculcated in the students.

#### **Dravida Kalanchiam:**

Tamil Nadu government has allotted ₹20 lakh for publishing Sangam literature with simple and accessible commentaries and granted permission for compilation of Dravida Kalanchiam.

Dravida Kalanchiam would cover the works of scholars and thinkers of the Dravidian movement and publish them at an affordable price.

A committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Thangam Thennarasu, the Minister for Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture.

The members of the committee include M. Rajendran, former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil University, V. Arasu, former head of Tamil Department, Madras University K. Thirunavukkarasu, historian of the Dravidian movement and others.

#### **State Commission of Child Rights:**

Tamil Nadu government has issued notification to reconstitute the State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR).

A notification to this effect was issued as per the powers conferred under Section 18 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, read with Section 16 of the General Clauses Act, 1897.

#### Smooth-coated otters:



The smooth-coated otter, a freshwater fish-loving animal that hasn't been seen along the Cauvery river stretch for many years, was found near the Upper Anaicut of Cauvery river near Mukkombu in Tiruchi.



Listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List, the animals commonly occur in shallow and placid waters such as wetlands and seasonal swamps, rivers, lakes, and rice paddies.

They are active during night and day, and are strong swimmers.

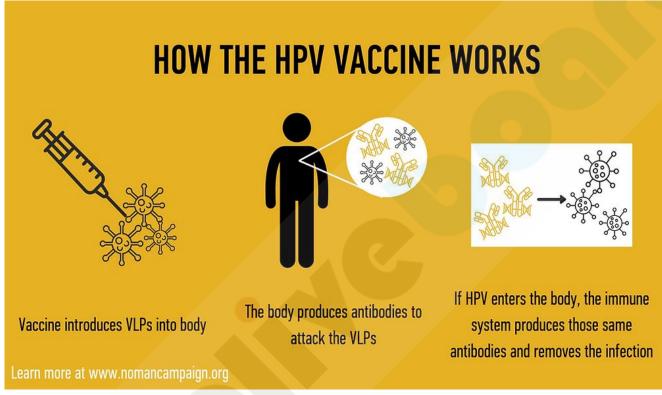
Known as neer naai (aquatic dogs) in Tamil, the animal plays an important role in controlling the population of fish in rivers.

Human impact of overfishing and depletion of water resources has caused the disappearance of smooth-coated otters from the freshwater bodies in the country.

The animals are also illegally hunted for their pelt.

In the Cauvery delta, the drying out of riverbeds in recent years has driven away these animals.

#### **HPV** vaccination:



A human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination drive was recently organised in Chennai.

HPV infection can cause abnormal tissue growth, such as warts, and other changes to cells.

Infection for a long time with certain types of HPV can cause cancers of the cervix, vagina, vulva, anus, penis, and oropharynx.

HPV vaccines are being used to prevent some of these cancers.

They are also being used to prevent genital warts and abnormal lesions that may lead to some of these cancers.



#### **National**

#### **T+1 Stock Settlement:**

From February 25, 2022, India became the second country after China to move to the T+1 stock settlement mechanism in a phased manner.

#### **T+1 Stock Settlement Mechanism**

Under this new mechanism, the buyer and seller of shares will get their shares and money, respectively, within 24 hours.

The T+1 settlement mechanism will make the existing share purchase and its sale process much faster and more convenient for all stakeholders.

'T' in T+1 represents the 'Trade' day and '+1' means a day extra.

#### Sagar Parikrama.

As a mark of gratitude to our seas it is proposed to organize "Sagar Parikrama" program on occasion of 75th Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava saluting our great freedom fighters, sailors and fishers.

Sagar Parikrama program is proposed to be celebrated in all coastal states/UTs through a pre-decided sea route to have interaction programme with fishermen, fisher communities and stakeholders in these locations and districts as a part of 75th "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava" in order to know the problems of Coastal Fisher folk.

Its route is down right from Gujarat, Diu, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Islands.

It's one of the significant initiatives of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements.

#### **Roorkee Water Conclave.**

Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee and National Institute of Hydrology Roorkee jointly decided to organize regular international conference every 2 years in the area of various facets of water to be known as Roorkee Water Conclave.

The present water conclave is being organized broadly focusing on "Water Security for Sustainable Development" during March 02 - 04, 2022.

The Roorkee Water Conclave, 2022 strives to assimilate the learnings from different disciplines that cover various facets of water security.

The conference also aims to accelerate interaction among various stakeholders.

#### . Khawthilangtuipui-Tuichawng river:

The Centre has planned to develop Rs 22.93-crore inland water transport at Khawthilangtuipui-Tuichawng river in Mizoram.

Karnaphuli or Khawthilangtuipui , is the largest and most important river in Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

It originates from the Saithah village of Mamit district in Mizoram, India, and flows 270 kilometres (170 mi) southwest through Chittagong Hill Tracts and Chittagong into the Bay of Bengal.

Before the Padma, it was the fastest flowing river in Bangladesh.

#### Arogya Vanam.

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated a hub of medicinal herbs and plants 'Arogya Vanam' at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The Arogya Vanam has been developed in a 6.6 acre area and it has 215 types of medicinal plants like Neem, Tulsi, Bel, Arand, Arjun, Ashwagandha and Harsingar. Aroma Garden, Lotus Pond, Water Channels, Yog Manch and a ViewPoint are also part of Arogya Vanam.



The Arogya Vanam spread over 6.6 acres has been developed in the shape of a human sitting in the Yoga Mudra.

Some of the other features of Arogya Vanam are water fountains, a Yoga platform, a water channel, a lotus pond and a viewpoint,

The concept of Arogya Vanam has been conceived with the aim of publicising the importance of Ayurvedic plants and their benefits for the people.

#### Maha Shivratri.

Maha Shivratri is being celebrated across the country on March 1.

Shivaratri is an auspicious Hindu festival, among the 12 Shivratri's celebrated in a year Maha Shivratri is the most important and celebrated one.

Every year, Mahashivratri is celebrated as the convergence of the forces of Shiva and Shakti.

On this day devotees worship Lord Shiva, observe a strict fast and do various religious activities to please Lord Shiva and do Parana on the next day i.e, Chaturdashi.

Maha Shivaratri marks the anniversary of the cosmic dance (Shiva Tandavam) performed by Lord Shiva.

#### Janaushadhi Diwas.

Jan Aushadhi Diwas is celebrated every year on 07th March to educate the general public about the benefits of the Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana.

In order to create more awareness about Janaushadhi, an entire week from 1st March to 7th March is being celebrated as 'Janaushadhi Week' across the nation, with the theme of "Jan Aushadhi – Seva bhi, Rozgar bhi".

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) is a campaign launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses.

PMBJP stores have been set up to provide generic drugs, which are available at lesser prices but are equivalent in quality and efficacy as expensive branded drugs.

It aims at making quality medicines available at affordable prices for all, particularly the poor and disadvantaged, through exclusive outlets "Jan Aushadhi Medical Store", so as to reduce out of pocket expenses in healthcare.

#### PM Gati Shakti:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday urged State governments as well as private sector to adopt the Gati Shakti portal to plan infrastructure projects and develop special economic zones.





PM Gati Shakti is a National Master Plan for Multi-modal Connectivity, essentially a digital platform to bring 16 Ministries including Railways and Roadways together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects.

The multi-modal connectivity will provide integrated and seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services from one mode of transport to another.

It will facilitate the last mile connectivity of infrastructure and also reduce travel time for people. PM Gati Shakti is based on six pillars:

**Comprehensiveness:** It will include all the existing and planned initiatives of various Ministries and Departments with one centralized portal. Each and every Department will now have visibility of each other's activities providing critical data while planning & execution of projects in a comprehensive manner.

**Prioritization:** Through this, different Departments will be able to prioritize their projects through cross-sectoral interactions.

**Optimization:** The National Master Plan will assist different ministries in planning for projects after identification of critical gaps. For the transportation of the goods from one place to another, the plan will help in selecting the most optimum route in terms of time and cost.

**Synchronization:** Individual Ministries and Departments often work in silos. There is lack of coordination in planning and implementation of the project resulting in delays. PM Gati Shakti will help in synchronizing the activities of each department, as well as of different layers of governance, in a holistic manner by ensuring coordination of work between them.

**Analytical:** The plan will provide the entire data at one place with GIS based spatial planning and analytical tools having 200+ layers, enabling better visibility to the executing agency.

**Dynamic:** All Ministries and Departments will now be able to visualize, review and monitor the progress of cross-sectoral projects, through the GIS platform, as the satellite imagery will give on-ground progress periodically and progress of the projects will be updated on a regular basis on the portal. It will help in identifying the vital interventions for enhancing and updating the master plan.

#### Restricted' cover list:

Export Credit Guarantee Corporation has recently modified the insurance cover category for Indian exports to Russia.

For restricted' cover list countries, revolving limits are approved on a case-to-case basis.

A country under Open cover categories enables policyholders to obtain cover on a more liberalised basis.

This change had been made to ensure that ECGC is able to assess and monitor the risks covered under its export credit insurance policies and to place appropriate risk mitigation measures.

#### **Export Credit Guarantee Corporation**

ECGC Ltd. is wholly owned by the Government of India, with the objective of promoting exports from the country by providing credit risk insurance and related services for exports.

The Corporation has introduced various export credit insurance schemes to meet the requirements of commercial banks extending export credit.

The insurance covers enable the banks to extend timely and adequate export credit facilities to the exporters. ECGC keeps its premium rates at the optimal level.

#### Stree Manoraksha Project.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) recently launched the 'Stree Manoraksha Project' in collaboration with NIMHANS Bengaluru with an aim to improve the mental health of women in India.

The project would focus on capacity building of OSC (One-Stop Center) functionaries on the tools and techniques as to how to handle the cases of women approaching the One-Stop Centres.

This initiative particularly the women who have suffered violence and distress with due sensitivity and care.

The people working in these one-stop centres will also be trained to operate the Self Defense Shaheed Women Helpline properly and counsel them properly.



#### New e-Bill system.

The Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman launched the e-Bill system for Central Government Ministries on the 46th Civil Accounts Day recently.

In a phased manner, the new system will make the entire process of submission and backend processing of bills completely paperless and transparent.

Thus, it is a major step forward in realizing the vision of "Digital India" and promoting ease of doing business.

The objectives of the system are to:

- a) Provide convenience to all vendors/suppliers of the government to submit their bills/claims at anytime, from anywhere.
- b) Eliminate physical interface between suppliers and government officers.
- c) Enhance efficiency in processing of bills/claims.
- d) Reduce discretion in processing of bills through "First-In-First-Out" (FIFO) method.

#### **Operation Blue Star:**

The Uttar Pradesh government has downgraded the security cover of a retired Brigadier who led Operation Blue Star at Amritsar's Golden Temple in 1984.

#### **Operation Blue Star**

Operation Blue Star was the code name of the Army operation that cleared the Golden Temple complex, Sikhism's holiest shrine, of Sikh militants in 1984.

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Operation Blue Star took birth after the rise of Khalistan movement in India

The Khalistan movement was a political Sikh nationalist movement which aimed at creating an independent state for Sikhs inside the current North-Western Republic of India.



#### **International**

#### **Suez Canal:**

Egypt increased transit fees on Tuesday for ships passing through the Suez Canal, one of the world's most crucial waterways.



The Suez Canal is a human-made waterway that cuts north-south across the Isthmus of Suez in Egypt. The Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea, making it the shortest maritime route to Asia from Europe.

The Suez Canal is important because it is the shortest maritime route from Europe to Asia.

Prior to its construction, ships headed toward Asia had to embark on an arduous journey around the Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of Africa.

Because of its strategic location, the canal is both heavily used and heavily protected.

#### **Cluster bombs and Thermobaric weapons.**

Human rights groups and Ukraine have accused Russia of using cluster bombs and vacuum bombs in the ongoing war.



#### **Cluster munitions:**

According to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, a cluster munition is a "conventional munition designed to disperse or release explosive submunitions each weighing less than 20 kilograms, and includes those explosive submunitions".

They are non-precision weapons that are designed to injure or kill human beings indiscriminately over a large area.

They are also used to destroy vehicles and infrastructure such as runways, railway or power transmission lines.

They can be dropped from an aircraft or launched in a projectile that spins in flight, scattering many bomblets as it travels.

#### Thermobaric weapon:

Thermobaric weapons or aerosol bombs or fuel air explosives, or vaccum bombs use oxygen from the air for a large, high-temperature blast.

A thermobaric weapon causes significantly greater devastation than a conventional bomb of comparable size.

They can be fired as rockets from tank-mounted launchers or dropped from aircraft.

As they hit their target, a first explosion splits open the bomb's fuel container, releasing a cloud of fuel and metal particles that spreads over a large area.

A second explosion then occurs, igniting the aerosol cloud into a giant ball of fire and sending out intense blast waves that can destroy even reinforced buildings or equipment and vaporise human beings.

#### **Montreux Convention.**

Turkey has activated the Montreux Convention to ban Russian war vessels from entering the Black Sea through the Bosporus and Dardanelles straits.

According to the 1936 Montreux Convention Regarding the Regime of the Straits, often referred to simply as the Montreux Convention, Turkey has control over both the Bosporus and Dardanelles straits.

In the event of a war, it gives Turkey the right to regulate the transit of naval warships and to block the straits to warships belonging to the countries involved in the conflict.

However, warships can return to their original bases through the passage and Turkey cannot prevent it.

#### **Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits.**



Turkey will block access of Russian warships through the straits of Bosphorus and Dardanelles.

The straits, also known as the Turkish Straits or the Black Sea Straits, connect the Aegean Sea and the Black Sea via the Sea of Marmara.



The Bosphorus connects the Black Sea with the Sea of Marmara, while the Dardanelles connects the Aegean Sea with the Sea of Marmara.

The Bosphorus is about 19 miles long and varies in width between one-third and two miles.

The Dardanelles is about 35 miles long, its width decreases from four miles at the Aegean to about 0.7 miles at its narrowest.

The Bosphorus is also one of the world's most important chokepoints for the maritime transit of oil.

#### **International Court of Justice.**

Ukraine has filed an application before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), instituting proceedings against the Russian Federation.

The ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations (UN) established in June 1945 by the Charter of the United Nations and began work in April 1946.

The court is the successor to the Permanent Court of International Justice (PCIJ), which was brought into being through, and by, the League of Nations.

Like the PCIJ, the ICJ is based at the Peace Palace in The Hague and is the only one of the six principal organs of the UN that is not located in New York City.

It aims to settle legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies.

#### Mariupol.

Russian forces have laid siege to the Ukrainian port city of Mariupol.

Mariupol. is a city of regional significance in south eastern Ukraine, situated on the north coast of the Sea of Azov.

It has people of both Russian and Ukrainian ethnicity.

The Port of Mariupol is on the western coast of the Taganrog Bay of the Azov sea.

#### Antonov An-225 aircraft:

Antonov An-225 aircraft, the world's largest cargo aircraft has been "destroyed" in an attack on Hostomel/Gostomel airport in Ukraine.

Antonov AN-225 was designed in the Ukrainian USSR during the 1980s amid a tense race to space between the United States and the Soviet Union.

It is nicknamed 'Mriya' or 'dream' in Ukrainian, is very popular in aviation circles, and is known to attract huge crowds of fans at air shows around the world.

Only one AN-225 was ever built by the Kyiv-based Antonov Company, the defence manufacturers who originally designed the plane.

It is essentially a large version of another design by the Antonoc company — the four-engine An-124 'Condor', which is used by the Russian Air Force.

In the recent past, it has been used for delivering relief supplies during calamities in neighbouring nations.

During the initial days of the Covid pandemic, it was used to supply medical supplies in affected nations.

#### **Joining the European Union:**

The European Union has fast tracked Ukraine's application to join the European Union (EU) as a mark of solidarity against the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



To become a member of the EU, an applicant country needs to meet the conditions for membership, it must implement EU rules and regulations in all areas.

These conditions are known as the 'Copenhagen criteria' and include a free-market economy, a stable democracy and the rule of law, and the acceptance of all EU legislation, including of the euro.

A country wishing to join the EU submits a membership application to the Council, which asks the Commission to assess the applicant's ability to meet the Copenhagen criteria.

If the Commission's opinion is positive, the Council must then agree upon a negotiating mandate. Negotiations are then formally opened on a subject-by-subject basis.



#### Science

#### **Geotagging:**

The Union Ministry of Minority Affairs has decided to geotag all Waqf properties across the country.

#### Geotagging

Geotagging refers to the attaching of geographic coordinate information to images, video, and other media recorded by smartphones or GPS-enabled electronic devices.

Geotags can be applied to photos, videos, websites, text messages, and QR codes, and could also include time stamps or other contextual information.

Geotagged photographs, for example, contain geospatial metadata such as latitude and longitude coordinates, altitude, bearing, and more.

#### False Banana.

Scientists say the plant enset, an Ethiopian staple, could be a new superfood and a lifesaver in the face of climate change.

The banana-like crop has the potential to feed more than 100 million people in a warming world.

The plant is almost unknown outside of Ethiopia, where it is used to make porridge and bread.

Enset or "false banana" is a close relative of the banana, but is consumed only in one part of Ethiopia.

The banana-like fruit of the plant is inedible, but the starchy stems and roots can be fermented and used to make porridge and bread.

#### 5G:

The Prime Minister recently held that the Government intends to lay a clear road map for the 5G spectrum auction.

#### 5G

#### 5G Technology:

5G is the latest telecommunications network technology standard, which ensures ultra-high speeds of data flow.

It is meant to deliver higher multi-Gbps peak data speeds, ultra low latency, more reliability, massive network capacity, increased availability, and a more uniform user experience to more users.

Higher performance and improved efficiency empower new user experiences and connects new industries.

#### **Applications of 5G:**

5G is used across three main types of connected services, including enhanced mobile broadband, mission-critical communications, and the massive IoT.

5G mobile technology can usher in new immersive experiences such as VR and AR with faster, more uniform data rates, lower latency, and lower cost-per-bit.

5G can enable new services that can transform industries with ultra-reliable, available, low-latency links like remote control of critical infrastructure, vehicles, and medical procedures.

5G is meant to seamlessly connect a massive number of embedded sensors in virtually everything through the ability to scale down in data rates, power, and mobility—providing extremely lean and low-cost connectivity solutions.

#### **COVID 19 vaccine efficacy model.**

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and the Queensland Brain Institute(QBI) in Australia on Tuesday said they have developed a mathematical model to predict the efficacy of Covid-19 vaccines.

The model simulates the antibody response in a virtual patient population to measure the efficacy of a vaccine.



It was able to predict the level of protection that would be conferred after vaccination based on the antibody profile of the individual, and the predictions were found to closely match efficacies reported in clinical trials for all the major approved vaccines.

Researchers also observed that vaccine efficacy was linked to a readily measurable metric called antibody neutralisation titre

This opens up the possibility of using such models to test future vaccines before clinical trials

#### Agreement on plastic pollution.

The fifth session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA 5) is expected to come up with an agreement to tame the global plastics menace.

The meeting at the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya has put plastics at the centre of negotiations between countries that have been taking place over the past seven days.

It will spell measures and timelines with targets particularly meant to end single-use plastics commonly used in packaging consumer goods.

It will seek to track the lifespan of plastic products right from the source and into the seas.

It will be backed up by strong financing and monitoring mechanisms, plus incentives for innovations for the private sector to develop alternative packaging methods.

#### **Plant-based Covid vaccine:**

Canada has approved the use of Covifenz, the world's first plant-derived Covid-19 vaccine jointly developed by Medicago Inc. and GlaxoSmithKline Plc

Covifenz is made from plant-based proteins that look like coronavirus and uses Glaxo's adjuvant that contains DL-alpha-tocopherol, squalene, polysorbate 80, phosphate-buffered saline.

The other ingredients include potassium phosphate monobasic anhydrous, anhydroussodium chloride, sodium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, and water for injection.

#### Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU)

India's first Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU)- has arrived at H-Energy's Jaigarh Terminal in Maharashtra.

H-Energy has developed the LNG terminal in accordance with world-class engineering & safety standards. With the berthing of the FSRU Höegh Giant, the LNG regasification terminal will be ready to start testing and commissioning activities soon.



#### **Personalities**

#### Air Marshal S Prabhakaran:

Air Marshal Sreekumar Prabhakaran assumed command of the Indian Air Force's Western Command headquartered in Delhi.

Air Marshal S Prabhakaran succeeds Air Marshal Amit Dev who superannuated on 28 Feb 22 after more than 39 years of distinguished service in IAF.

He is an experienced MiG-21 pilot and a category 'A' qualified flying instructor, Air Marshal Prabhakaran has nearly 5000 hours of flying experience.

#### **Hemanand Biswal:**

Former Chief Minister of Odisha Hemanand Biswal passed away recently.

He was the Chief Minister of the state for two brief terms from 1989 and from 1999.

He was elected to the state assembly for six times while in 2009 he was elected to the Parliament from the Sundargarh constituency.



#### **Sports**

#### **ISSF World Cup:**

Saurabh Chaudhary clinched India's first gold medal at the ongoing International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup in Cairo, Egypt.

#### **ISSF**

The International Shooting Sport Federation is the governing body of the Olympic shooting events in rifle, pistol and shotgun.

Headquarters: Munich, Germany, Founded: 1907.

#### Southeast Asian Games:

The 31st Southeast Asian Games, the region's biggest sporting event, will be held in Vietnam from May 12 to 23, 2022.

The Vietnamese capital Hanoi will be the main venue alongside 11 neighbouring localities including Quang Ninh, Phu Tho and Bac Ninh, Xinhua.

#### **Moscow Wushu Stars Championship:**

India's Sadia Tariq won the gold medal in the Moscow Wushu Stars Championship which is being held in the Russian capital from February 22 to 28.

#### Wushu

Wushu or Kungfu, is a hard and soft and complete martial art, as well as a full-contact sport. It has a long history in reference to Chinese martial arts.



## **Books & Authors**

Books	Authors	Description.
The Millennial Yogi	Deepam Chatterjee	The Millennial Yogi guides the reader through the cathartic transformation of a young entrepreneur after his chance meeting with a mystic monk, whose teachings lead the protagonist on a passionate quest for meaning in everyday life.
Udaan Ek Majdoor Bachhe Ki	Mithilesh Tiwari	This book is about the life journey of Captain AD Manek, how he traveled from zero to pinnacle in his career graph.



#### **Awards & Honors**

#### **Boltzmann Medal:**

The prestigious Boltzmann Medal for the year 2022 has been awarded to Prof Deepak Dhar from Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune (IISER Pune).

The award was declared to Prof Dhar for his contribution in the field of 'Statistical Physics'.

He shared the award with American scientist John Hopfield.

The medal is presented by the C3 Commission on Statistical Physics of the International Union for Pure and Applied Physics every three years at the Statphys Conference.

The Boltzmann Medal (or Boltzmann Award) is a prize awarded to physicists that obtain new results concerning statistical mechanics.



#### **Important Days**

#### **Zero Discrimination Day:**

To battle against the mentality that sparks issues, cases of violence, or general violence, Zero Discrimination Day is observed every year on March 1.

The day was first launched by Michel Sidibe, director, UNAIDS, in December 2013. The next year on March 1, 2014, Zero Discrimination Day was observed for the very first time.

2022 Theme:- 'Remove Laws That Harm, Create Laws That Empower.'

#### **Civil Accounts Day:**

The 46th Civil Accounts Day was celebrated on 2nd March 2022

Finance Minister will launch a major e-governance initiative - the Electronic Bill (e-Bill) processing system as part of ease of doing business & Digital India.

#### **World Wildlife Day:**

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed March 3, the day of signature of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1973, as World Wildlife Day. The World Wildlife Day (WWD) 2022 theme is "Safeguarding key species for ecosystem restoration"

#### **National Safety Day:**

Every year on March 4, India commemorates National Safety Day with the goal of raising awareness and commitment to working safely.

The National Safety Council declared the day to raise public awareness of all safety principles, including road safety, workplace safety, human health safety, and environmental safety.

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