

Weekly Current Affairs 26th February to 02nd March 2024 - English

National News

President Murmu To Launch 'Purple Fest' For Disabled
After the success of the 'International Purple Fest, 2024' held in Goa from 8th to 13th January, 2024, the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD)** under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is set to host a day-long celebration of inclusivity at **Amrit Udyaan** in the Rashtrapati Bhawan on 26th February, 2024.

PM Launches Ayush Projects In Jhajjar & Pune
Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated **two institutes** of the Union Ministry of Ayush, marking a significant step forward in the promotion of healthcare across the nation. The inauguration ceremony, held virtually, saw the unveiling of the **'Central Research Institute of Yoga & Naturopathy' (CRIYN)** in Jhajjar, Haryana, and the National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN) titled **'NISARG GRAM'** in Pune, Maharashtra.

Surrogacy (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2024: MoHFW allows One Donor Gamete for undergoing Surrogacy
The **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW)** introduced the **Surrogacy (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2024** on 21-2-2024, altering the Surrogacy (Regulation) Rules, 2022. These amendments, effective immediately, address significant changes regarding the use of donor gametes and consent agreements in surrogacy arrangements.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurates Bharat Tex 2024 in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated **Bharat Tex 2024**, the largest textile event in India, emphasizing its focus on sustainability, circularity, and economic growth. The event witnessed participation from over 3000 exhibitors and traders from 100 countries, showcasing India's rich textile heritage and modern innovations.

Amit Shah Inaugurates Swaminarayan Institute of Medical Science and Research in Gujarat

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, along with Gujarat Chief Minister **Shri Bhupendra Patel** and other dignitaries, inaugurated the **'Swaminarayan Institute of Medical Science and Research'** at the Shri Swaminarayan Vishwamangal Gurukul in **Kalol, Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. This significant development marks a pivotal moment in the advancement of medical education and healthcare services in the region.

PM Modi Launches India's First Hydrogen Fuel Cell Ferry
Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated **India's inaugural hydrogen fuel cell ferry**, a product of indigenous development and construction built by Cochin Shipyard. Participating from Thoothukudi, he launched the inland waterway vessel, which is part of the **Harit Nauka initiative**—a pilot project aimed at showcasing the technology for the maritime sector.

International News

Dubai Introduces 5-Year Multiple-Entry Visa for Indian Travelers

Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism (DET) has announced the introduction of a five-year multiple-entry visa aimed at enhancing travel between India and the UAE. This initiative comes in response to the significant increase in Indian visitors to Dubai, with India being the top source market for tourists in the region.

Algeria Inaugurates World's Third-Largest Mosque

Algeria celebrated the grand opening of what has been acclaimed as **"Africa's largest mosque"** and the third-largest mosque in the world. **President Abdelmadjid Tebboune** presided over the ceremony, officially revealing the Great Mosque of Algiers as the world's third-largest mosque.

Ghana Parliament Passes Anti-LGBTQ Bill

Ghana's parliament has approved a controversial **anti-LGBTQ bill**, the Human Sexual Rights and Family Values Bill, which awaits presidential assent. This legislation has sparked debate and condemnation due to its stringent measures against **lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning** (or queer) LGBTQ individuals.

State News

PM Modi Inaugurates Sikkim's First Railway Station In Rangpo

Prime Minister Narendra Modi ceremonially laid the foundation stone for **Sikkim's inaugural railway station in Rangpo**, marking a significant moment in the state's history. The station's design, deeply rooted in local culture, heritage, and architecture, reflects Sikkim's rich traditions and the majestic Himalayan landscape.

WBCS MAHAPACK PRO
P To I
(Pre + Mains + Interview Guidance)

এইবার Civil Service হবে আপনার

PM Narendra Modi Inaugurates ISRO's Second Spaceport In Tamil Nadu

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the **Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) second spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu**. This marks a significant milestone in India's space exploration endeavors, promising to revolutionize the nation's satellite launch capabilities.

Chief Minister Prof Dr Manik Saha Inaugurates 2nd State Level Shehri Samridhi Utsav

Chief Minister Prof Dr Manik Saha inaugurated the **2nd State Level Shehri Samridhi Utsav** organized by Tripura Urban Livelihood Mission at Children's Park, Agartala. The event aimed at fostering urban livelihood opportunities and empowering women in the region.

PM Modi Inaugurates Rs 7,200 Crore Projects In West Bengal

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation stone for **multiple development projects worth Rs 7,200 crore in Arambagh, Hooghly, West Bengal**. The developmental projects are associated with sectors like rail, ports, oil pipeline, LPG supply and wastewater treatment.

Rankings & Reports News

India's Position at 42 in the Global Intellectual Property Index 2024

The **US Chamber of Commerce** recently unveiled the **12th edition** of its **International Intellectual Property (IP) Index**, offering a comprehensive evaluation of the IP landscape across the globe. This year's index ranked 55 economies, assessing their IP frameworks' effectiveness in fostering innovation and creative industries. The United States retained its position at the pinnacle, followed closely by the United Kingdom and France, highlighting the critical role of robust IP systems in economic development.

Business News

RIL signs deal with Disney to merge Viacom18 and Star India

Reliance Industries (RIL) has unveiled a significant merger deal with **Viacom18 Media and The Walt Disney Company**, aimed at forming a joint venture (JV) that will integrate the operations of Viacom18 and Star India. This strategic move is poised to reshape the landscape of the Indian entertainment and sports industry.

Appointment News

Geeta Batra's Historic Appointment to the World Bank's GEF

Geeta Batra, a distinguished Indian economist, has been appointed as the Director of the **Independent Evaluation Office (IEO)** of the **World Bank's Global Environment Facility (GEF)**. This appointment marks a significant milestone, as Batra becomes the first woman from a developing country to assume this prestigious role.

Maryam Nawaz Becomes First Woman Chief Minister of Punjab

Maryam Nawaz, the daughter of Pakistan's former Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif** and a senior leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party, has achieved a significant political milestone by becoming the first woman Chief Minister of Punjab province.

Justice A M Khanwilkar Appointed Lokpal Chairperson

In a significant development, former Supreme Court judge Justice **Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar** has been appointed as the **chairperson of the Lokpal**, the anti-corruption ombudsman of India. His appointment comes after a distinguished career in the judiciary, retiring from the apex court in July 2022.

PayU names Renu Sud Karnad as chairperson and independent director

PayU Payments Private Ltd, a prominent fintech arm of the global consumer internet group Prosus, has announced the appointment of **Renu Sud Karnad** as the chairperson and independent director. The addition of Karnad, a distinguished director at HDFC Bank, underscores PayU's commitment to leveraging experienced leadership to navigate the evolving fintech landscape.

Ravindra Kumar assumes charge as Director (Operations) of NTPC

Ravindra Kumar, the newly appointed **Director-Operations at NTPC Ltd**, brings over three decades of rich experience and expertise in the power sector. From his early days as a graduate engineer trainee to his recent leadership roles, Kumar's journey exemplifies a commitment to excellence and innovation.

IPS Officer Daljit Singh Chaudhary Named NSG's New Director General

Daljit Singh Chaudhary, a 1990 batch IPS officer, has been appointed as the **Director General (DG) of the National Security Guard (NSG)**, marking a significant development in India's security apparatus. Chaudhary, currently serving as the DG of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), will now shoulder the additional responsibility of leading the NSG, commonly referred to as the "black cats".

Anurag Agarwal Appointed as Head of Parliament Security

In a significant move to bolster the security of India's parliamentary complex, IPS officer **Anurag Agarwal** has been appointed as the **new head of Parliament security**. This decision comes at a crucial juncture, following recent security breaches that have underscored the need for stringent protective measures within one of the nation's most critical infrastructures.

RBI Appoints S. Ravindran as Part-Time Chairman of Tamilnad Mercantile Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken a significant step by appointing **S. Ravindran** as the part-time chairman of **Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd. (TMB)**, marking a new chapter in the bank's leadership. This appointment, effective from February 29, extends till August 2, 2026, and comes at a pivotal moment for TMB as it navigates the challenges and opportunities of the financial sector.

Science & Technology News

Gaganyaan Mission and ISRO Projects Inauguration by PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi disclosed the identities of the four pilots currently undergoing training for India's first human space flight mission, Gaganyaan, during his visit to the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center (VSSC) in Kerala's Thiruvananthapuram. The astronauts, **Group Captain P Balakrishnan Nair, Group Captain Ajit Krishnan, Group Captain Angad Pratap, and Wing Commander S Shukla**, were also awarded 'astronaut wings' by the Prime Minister. Accompanying PM Modi were Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, Union Minister Muraleedharan, and ISRO Chairman S Somanath.

NVIDIA And Indian Govt Join Forces For Sovereign AI

Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Union IT Minister, recently met with **Shanker Trivedi**, senior vice president at NVIDIA, at the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). The discussion centered around India's evolving Digital Public Infrastructure and examined potential collaborative efforts in the field of Sovereign AI.

Indian Scientists Create Eco Wound Dressings With Banana Fibers

In a groundbreaking initiative, researchers at the **Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology (IASST)**, an autonomous institute affiliated with the **Department of Science and Technology**, have successfully converted banana pseudo stems—commonly regarded as agricultural waste—into an environmentally friendly wound dressing material.

Schemes and Committees

PM Modi Launches World's Largest Grain Storage Scheme: Strengthening Cooperative Sector

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for key initiatives aimed at bolstering the cooperative sector in India. The pilot project for the **'World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector'**, expansion of PACS, and digital transformation aim to enhance food security, economic development, and governance, benefiting millions of farmers. The ceremony, held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, marks a significant step towards enhancing food security, economic development, and governance within the cooperative domain.

Summits & Conference News

US-India Cybersecurity Initiative Launched

In a collaborative effort between the **US Consulate and the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA)**, the first-ever **US-India Cyber Security Initiative** has been launched.

MoSPI Signs MoU with ISRO on Urban Frame Survey using Bhuvan

In a significant move toward modernization, the **National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)** under the Ministry of **Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** has partnered with the **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)** under the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) to digitize the **Urban Frame Survey (UFS)** using advanced Geo ICT tools and techniques through the **Bhuvan Platform**.

Awards & Honors News

Dr. Aditi Sen De Receives 2023 GD Birla Award

In a world propelled by technological advancements, quantum computing emerges as a frontier of innovation. At its forefront stands **Dr. Aditi Sen De**, a distinguished physicist from the Harish Chandra Research Institute in Prayagraj. Recently honored with the **2023 GD Birla Award** for Scientific Excellence, Dr. De's groundbreaking contributions to quantum technologies mark a significant milestone in scientific research.



Acharya Lokesh Muni to be Honored as 'Global Jain Peace Ambassador'

External Affairs Minister **S Jaishankar** is set to confer the esteemed title of '**Global Jain Peace Ambassador**' upon **Acharya Lokesh Muni**. The ceremony, scheduled to take place in Karnataka, will be organized by the Jain pilgrim center, Navagraha Tirtha Kshetra, in Hubli Varur.

Sunil Bharti Mittal Awarded Honorary Knighthood

Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman and founder of Bharti Enterprises, has been conferred with an honorary **Knighthood by Britain's King Charles III**. He becomes the first Indian citizen to receive this prestigious honour, recognized for his contributions to UK-India business relations.

Important Dates News**National Science Day 2024**

National Science Day is celebrated annually on **28th February** in India to commemorate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' by Indian physicist **Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman**. This day serves as a reminder of the pivotal role science plays in shaping our lives and society. Each year, National Science Day is celebrated with a specific theme, highlighting significant aspects of scientific progress and innovation.

Zero Discrimination Day 2024

March 1 marks **Zero Discrimination Day**, a day dedicated to advocating for the right of every individual to live a life free from discrimination and prejudice. This global observance, initiated by UNAIDS, aims to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of discrimination and the importance of promoting equality, compassion, and respect for all.

World Wildlife Day 2024

World Wildlife Day, celebrated annually on **March 3**, serves as a poignant reminder of the urgent need to protect and preserve the world's fauna and flora. In 2024, this day draws particular attention to the role of digital innovation in wildlife conservation, underlining the theme "Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation." This occasion is not only a celebration but a global call to action, urging individuals, communities, and governments worldwide to engage in practices that contribute to the sustainability of our planet's biodiversity.

Sports News**Ashwin Surpasses Kumble to Become India's Leading Wicket-Taker in Tests at Home**

Indian off-spinner **Ravichandran Ashwin** etched his name in cricketing history, surpassing legendary leg-spinner **Anil Kumble** to become the **leading wicket-taker in Test matches played on Indian soil**.

Neil Wagner Announces Retirement from International Cricket

Veteran fast bowler **Neil Wagner** has called time on his international cricketing career, bringing an end to a distinguished 12-year Test match journey with the Black Caps.

Juventus Midfielder Paul Pogba Banned for 4 Years for Doping

Juventus midfielder **Paul Pogba** has been handed a **four-year suspension from football due to doping allegations**. The former Manchester United star tested positive for testosterone, leading to his provisional suspension in September.

Obituaries News**Legendary Ghazal Singer Pankaj Udhas Passes Away**

The music world mourns the passing of legendary ghazal singer **Pankaj Udhas**, who died at the age of 72 after a prolonged illness.

Udhas' **melodious voice** and **deep understanding of ghazal poetry** resonated with audiences across generations. He played a pivotal role in **popularizing ghazals**, making them accessible to a wider audience beyond traditional enthusiasts. Tracks like "**Chitthi Aai Hai**" (**Naam, 1986**) and "**Aa Gale Lag Ja**" cemented his status as a household name and one of India's leading ghazal singers.

Shafiqur Rahman Barq, India's Oldest MP And Samajwadi Party Leader, Dies At 94

Shafiqur Rahman Barq, a senior leader of the Samajwadi Party and MP representing Sambhal, Uttar Pradesh, breathed his last at a private hospital in Moradabad at the age of 94. Reportedly, he succumbed to a kidney infection after being in a weakened and unwell state for some time.

Brian Mulroney, Former Canadian Prime Minister, Passes Away at 84

Brian Mulroney, the former Canadian Prime Minister known for his transformative policies and complex legacy, has died at the age of 84. His passing marks the end of an era in Canadian politics and prompts reflections on his significant contributions and controversies.

Veteran Congress Leader and Former UP Governor Aziz Qureshi Passes Away

The Indian political landscape mourns the loss of **Aziz Qureshi**, a seasoned Congress leader and former Governor of Uttar Pradesh, who passed away at the age of 83. Qureshi's extensive career spanned several decades, during which he made significant contributions to Indian politics and governance.

Defence News

The Indo-Japan “Dharma Guardian” Military Exercise Begins

The 5th edition of the Joint Military Exercise ‘Dharma Guardian’ commenced today at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan, India. The exercise, scheduled to run from February 25th to March 9th, 2024, brings together the Indian Army and the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) for a focused training program aimed at enhancing interoperability and fostering closer military cooperation.

NATO Launches Steadfast Defender 2024 Military Exercise

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) launched its largest military exercise in Europe in decades, Steadfast Defender 2024, in late January 2024. This large-scale operation, conducted against the backdrop of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, serves as a potent symbol of NATO’s collective military might and unwavering commitment to the security of its member states.

A book title “Basic Structure and Republic” Released by Governor P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

In a notable event at the Durbar Hall (Old) of Raj Bhavan, Governor Shri P. S. Sreedharan Pillai unveiled his latest literary contribution, “Basic Structure and Republic,” marking his 212th publication. The ceremony was adorned by the gracious presence of His Gracious H. G. Mar Joseph Perumthottam, Archbishop of Changanacherry, Kerala, and Shri. Subhash Shirodkar, Minister for Water Resource Development, Co-Operation, and Provedoria, highlighting the significance of the occasion.

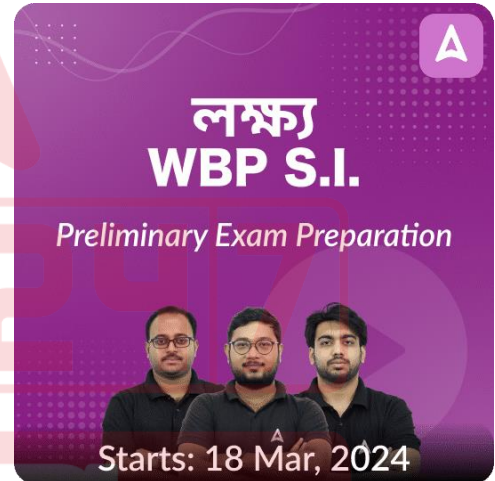
Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik releases book titled ‘FIH Odisha Hockey Men’s World Cup 2023’

In a significant celebration of sports and culture, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik released the coffee table book titled ‘FIH Odisha Hockey Men’s World Cup 2023’. The book, a publication by Sportstar, the esteemed sports magazine of The Hindu Group, encapsulates the essence and excitement of the 15th FIH Odisha Hockey Men’s World Cup held in 2023.

Books & Authors News

Bengali Translation Wins Prestigious Romain Rolland Book Prize 2024

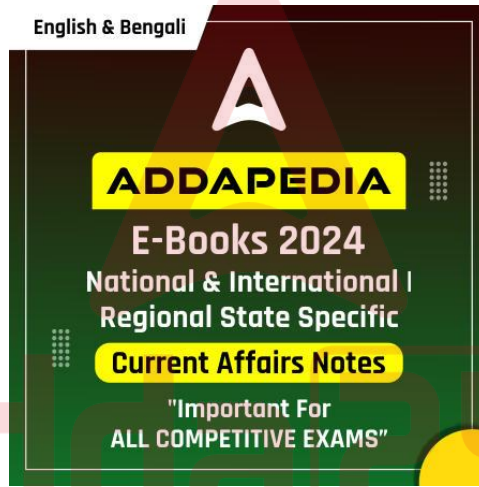
The recipient of this year’s Romain Rolland Book Prize is Pankaj Kumar Chatterjee for his remarkable translation of Jean-Daniel Baltassat’s “Le Divan de Staline” into Bengali, titled “Staliner Divan.” Published by New Bharat Sahitya Kutir, Kolkata, Chatterjee’s translation stood out for its linguistic prowess and fidelity to the original text. This marks the second time that a Bengali translation has been honoured with this prestigious award.



Check Also	
ADDA247 Bengali Homepage	Click Here
ADDA247 Bengali Study Material	Click Here
Adda247 Daily Quiz	Click Here



English & Bengali



[Adda247 ইউটিউব চ্যানেল - Adda247 YouTube Channel](#)

[Adda247 টেলিগ্রাম চ্যানেল - Adda247 Telegram Channel](#)

বাংলা