

Current Affairs: 12/14.02.2021

PM Modi addresses 'Samarpan Diwas' to commemorate contributions of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya



Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya on his death anniversary on February 11, 2021

His death anniversary is observed as Samarpan Diwas across the country.

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya was an Indian politician who was the co-founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the forerunner of BJP and was the President of BJS from 1967 to 1968.

Deen Dayal Ji was behind the 'vision of building a self-reliant India'. He said that we need to build an India that is self-reliant not just in agriculture, but also in defence and weaponry.

Annual Convention of Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India Begins at Statue of Unity in Gujarat



The Union Minister of State (IC) for Tourism & Culture, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated the 10th Annual Convention-cum-Exhibition of Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India (ADTOI) at the Statue of Unity (SOU) in Kevadia, Gujarat.

The three-day event has been organised from February 12 to 14, 2021.

The theme of the convention is 'Domestic Tourism – Hope for the revival- Dekho Apna Desh'.

The convention has been jointly organized by the Ministry of Tourism and ADTOI with support from Gujarat Tourism.

The objective of this convention is building public confidence to travel for the revival of domestic tourism in the country.

Around 400 delegates comprising of ADTOI members from across India will be attending the event along with hoteliers, airlines representatives, senior government officials, media-persons among other stakeholders of the tourism industry.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurates 'Jalabhishekam' campaign in Madhya Pradesh

The state government of Madhya Pradesh has launched a water conservation campaign called 'Jalabhishekam', under which more than 57,000 water structures has been constructed.

Cross & Climb, Rohtak



The campaign was inaugurated by the **Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh** virtually on February 11, 2021. The Water conservation work is being undertaken with public participation and will be helpful in achieving the goal of building self-reliant Madhya Pradesh. The Campaign will also fulfill the intention of ‘**water for every farm and work for every hand**’. The water structures were created during COVID era by linking the work with the MNREGA scheme.

These water structures costs over **Rs. 2,000 crore** and will irrigate 2.50 lakh hectares of land without submerging an inch of land.

For the first time, ISRO tests satellites developed by private sector



For the first time in its history, the **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** has opened its **UR Rao Satellite Centre in Bengaluru** for testing satellites developed by the private sector.

Two satellites, developed by the Indian startups **SpaceKidz India and Pixxel (incorporated as Sygzy)** were tested at the UR Rao Satellite Centre. Isro also helped these two companies in fixing problems with the solar panels on their respective satellites. So far in its history, the space agency has only taken help in manufacturing and fabrication of various parts of satellites and rockets from the Indian industry.

Both these two companies will also test their engines at the Sriharikota spaceport and Thiruvananthapuram rocket centre in coming days.

Pakistan Army successfully test-fires surface-to-surface Babur cruise missile



The **Pakistan Army** conducted a successful test-firing of a **short range surface-to-surface ballistic missile ‘Babar’** on February 11, 2021. The Babur cruise missile IA was launched from Multi Tube Missile Launch Vehicle. This missile is capable of **hitting land and sea targets with “high precision”**

up to 450 kilometres away.

This test was the third missile test carried out over the past three weeks.

Earlier, Pakistan army conducted a successful test of the surface-to-surface ballistic missile **Shaheen-III** in January 2021, followed by the ‘training launch’ of nuclear-capable ballistic missile **Ghaznavi** in February 2021..

World Bank Signs \$100 million Project to Support Nutrition-Supportive Agriculture in Tribal-Dominated Areas of Chhattisgarh



The Government of India, jointly with the Government of Chhattisgarh has signed an agreement worth **USD 100 million** with the **World Bank** for project **CHIRAAG** (Chhattisgarh Inclusive Rural and Accelerated Agriculture Growth).

CHIRAAG Project aims to develop sustainable production systems in the state of Chhattisgarh, that will allow tribal households in remote areas of the state to produce diversified and nutritious food, round-the-year.

The project will be implemented in the southern tribal-majority region of the state where a large population is undernourished and poor.

Over 180,000 households from about 1,000 villages in eight districts of Chhattisgarh, will be benefited from this project.

Exim Bank to provide USD 400 mn funding for Greater Male Connectivity Project in Maldives



The **Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank)** will provide **USD 400 million** to **Maldives** through **Line of Credit (LoC)** to fund **Greater Male Connectivity Project**. The agreement under the LoC will be effective from **January 28, 2021**. The 6.7 km Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP) will be the largest

civilian infrastructure project in Maldives, connecting Male with three neighbouring islands – Villingili, Gulhifahu and Thilafushi.

The Government of India will be funding the implementation of a major connectivity project in Maldives through a USD 400 million line of credit and **USD 100 million grant**.

Jual Oram Launches Book title ‘Turn Around India: 2020- Surmounting Past Legacy’, written by RP Gupta

A book titled ‘**Turn Around India: 2020- Surmounting Past Legacy**’, was launched by **Jual Oram**, a parliamentarian and the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Defence on February 10, 2021.

The book has been authored by **RP Gupta** and published by Himalaya Publishing House.

Turn Around India: 2020 is a book on creating economic awareness among masses.

World Radio Day: 13 February



World Radio Day is celebrated on **13 February** each year to recognize radio as a powerful medium, which brings people together from every corner of the globe, to promote diversity and help build a more peaceful and inclusive world.

The Day was proclaimed in 2011 by the Member States of UNESCO, and adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012. The theme of World Radio Day 2021 is “**New World, New Radio**”. The theme is further divided into **three sub-themes**

- **Evolution**
- **Innovation**
- **Connection**

National Women’s Day in India: 13 February



In India, the **National Women’s Day** is observed every year on **13 February** to commemorate the **birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu**, also known as the **Nightingale of India**.

Born on 13 February 1879, Naidu is recognised for her contribution to women’s equal rights. Apart from this, she is widely remembered for her lyrical poems and contributions to the freedom struggle. She was an important figure in India’s struggle for independence from colonial rule.