

## Current Affairs:09.03.2022

### MSME Ministry launches Special Entrepreneurship Promotion Drive for Women - "SAMARTH"

Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises has launched a Special Entrepreneurship Promotion Drive for Women named –“SAMARTH”. The drive was launched by **Union Minister for MSME, Shri Narayan Rane** along with Minister of State for MSME, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma in New Delhi. **Objective of SAMARTH:** to provide Skill Development and Market Development Assistance to women and to train more than 7500 women candidates from rural and sub-urban areas in the FY 2022-23.

### Labour Ministry launches 'Donate-a-Pension' initiative under PM Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan scheme

Union Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav launched the ‘**Donate-a-Pension**’ campaign under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM) scheme, on March 07, 2022, from his residence and donated the same to his gardener. Under the new initiative citizens can contribute to the pension fund of their immediate support staff such as domestic workers, drivers, helpers etc, by donating the premium amount. The ‘Donate-a-Pension’ program is part of various initiatives to be launched in the ‘Iconic Week’ celebrations by the Labour Ministry from **March 7 to 13, 2022**.

### 9th India-Sri Lanka Bilateral Maritime Exercise SLINEX to be held at Visakhapatnam

The **9th edition** of India – Sri Lanka Bilateral Maritime Exercise named **SLINEX (Sri Lanka–India Naval Exercise)** is scheduled at **Visakhapatnam** from 07 Mar to 10 Mar 2022. The exercise will be held in two phases; First is the Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam on 07-08 Mar 22 followed by the second phase i.e. Sea Phase on 09-10 Mar 22 in the Bay of Bengal. Indian Navy will be represented by **INS Kirch, a guided missile corvette** while Sri Lanka Navy will be represented by **SLNS Sayurala**, an advanced offshore patrol vessel.

### RBI to observe Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW) from March 7-11, 2022

The **Reserve Bank of India** will observe **Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW)** from **March 7-11, 2022**.

The theme of Digital Payments Awareness Week (DPAW) 2022 is: “**Outreach and Availability of Digital Payments**”.

The week is being observed to celebrate the 17th Foundation Day of Department of Payment and Settlement Systems (DPSS) on March 7. DPSS is responsible for managing Payments Systems in India.

### Axis Bank and Airtel announces partnership to boost India's digital ecosystem

**Axis Bank and Bharti Airtel** have entered into a **strategic partnership to strengthen the growth of digital ecosystem in India**, through a range of financial solutions. The partnership would enable access to credit and various digital financial offerings from Axis Bank to Airtel's 340 million plus customers. These will include **first-of-its-kind co-branded credit card 'Airtel Axis Bank Credit Card'** with industry leading benefits, pre-approved instant loans, Buy Now Pay Later offerings and many more.

### Microsoft to set up India's largest Data Center region in Hyderabad

Tech giant **Microsoft** has announced to set up its **fourth data centre in India in Hyderabad, Telangana**. The Hyderabad Data centre will be one of the largest data centers in

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India and will be operational by 2025. Microsoft already has data centre in three Indian regions across **Pune, Mumbai, and Chennai**. The new data centre will add to the growing demand for Microsoft's cloud services from both the private enterprises as well as the government sector. To set up the data centre, Microsoft has signed a definitive agreement with Telangana state government with a total investment of Rs 15,000 crore.

## Team India bags Gold Medal in women's 25m pistol team event at Cairo ISSF World Cup 2022

In Shooting, the Indian women's trio of **Rahi Sarnobat, Esha Singh and Rhythm Sangwan** won the gold medal in **women's 25m pistol team** event in the ongoing International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World cup in Cairo, Egypt on March 06, 2022. Indian women's team beat Singapore's Shun Xie Teo, Xiu Hong Teh and Ling Chiao Nicole Tan, 17-13, to bag the medal. Meanwhile, the **Indian men's 25m pistol team of Anish Bhanwala, Gurpreet Singh and Bhavesh Shekhawat** won silver in **25m Rapid Fire Pistol Team event**. They lost to Germany's Christian Reitz, Oliver Geis and Florian Peter, 17-7.

## India tops medal table with 7 medals including 4 golds at ISSF World Cup in Cairo, Egypt

Indian shooters ended their campaign at the **ISSF World Cup 2022 in Cairo, Egypt** with a total of **seven medals, which included, four gold, two silver and one bronze medal**.

With this, India topped the medals tally. Norway was second with six medals including three gold, one silver and two bronze. France were third with 3 gold medals.

## International Women's Day 2022: 08 March

The **International Women's Day (IWD)** is celebrated on **March 8** every year. The day aims to recognise the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women, while also raising awareness about women's equality and bringing attention to important issues like gender discrimination that exist even today. The theme of 2022 International Women's Day is **Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow**. The International Women's Day was observed for the first time in 1911. IWD was officially adopted by the United Nations in 1977.

## Former Australian wicketkeeper Rod Marsh passes away at 74

Veteran **Australian cricketer Rod Marsh**, who played as a **wicketkeeper** for the Australian national team has passed away due to heart attack. He was 74. Marsh played 96 test matches and 92 One-Day Internationals (ODIs) for Australia. He was inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame in 2009.