

February - 17

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ As part of India's Presidency of the G20, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) hosted the first Digital Economy Working Group (DEWG) meeting in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Culture is going to organised a Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-2023 at Azad Maidan in Mumbai.
- ❖ India's first air-conditioned double-decker electric bus was inducted into the fleet of Mumbai.
- ❖ Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the IFFCO Nano Urea Liquid Plants at Aonla and Phulpur in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ The philanthropic foundation of PEPSICO and CARE joined together and launched the “She Feeds the World” program in India.
 - The program is to empower women in the agriculture sector.

NATIONAL

Definition of broadband



- ❖ The definition of broadband now requires a minimum speed of 2 Mbps from telecom operators.
- ❖ This is previously requiring a fourth of that bandwidth, 512 Kbps, since 2013.
- ❖ There were 825.38 million broadband users in India in November 2022.

- ❖ The National Telecom Policy 2012 had set a goal of updating the definition of broadband to 2 Mbps by 2015.

Annual Meeting of Members of the River Cities Alliance

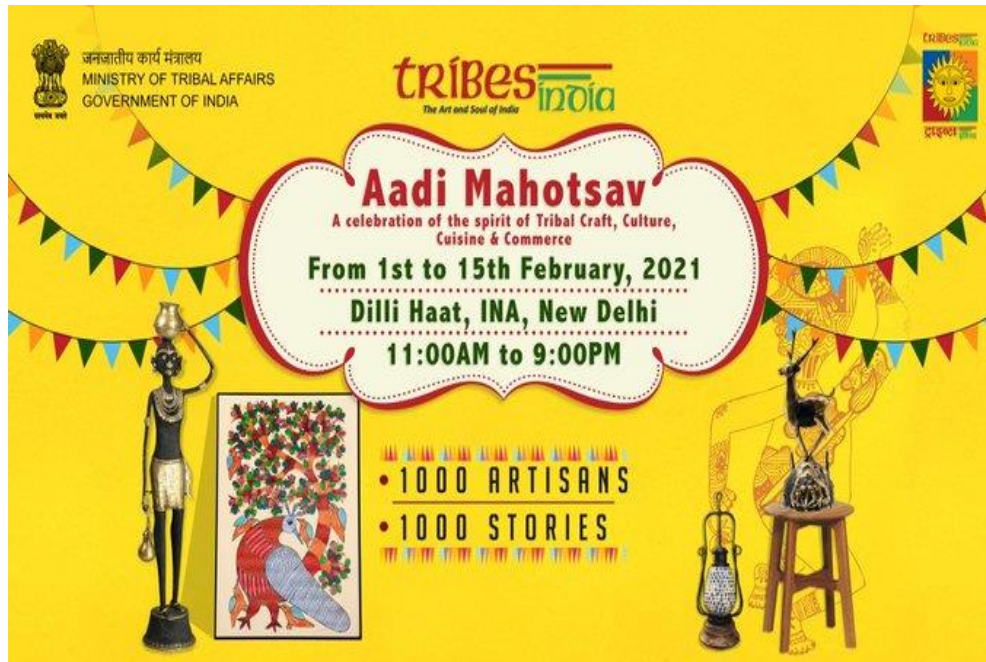
- ❖ The annual meeting of the members of the River Cities Alliance (RCA) was organised in Pune.
- ❖ It was organised by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in association with National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).
- ❖ DHARA which stands for Driving Holistic Action for Urban Rivers.
- ❖ River Cities Alliance was launched in 2021.
- ❖ It is a dedicated platform for river cities of India for discussion and exchange of information for sustainable management of urban rivers.
- ❖ It was started with 30 cities in 2021 and currently has 95 cities as members across India.



TRIFED Aadi Mahotsav Festival

- ❖ The Tribal Affairs ministry recently launched the Aadi Mahotsav festival in New Delhi.
- ❖ The main objective of the Aadi Mahotsav festival is to promote tribal products.

- ❖ TRIFED is hosting the festival on behalf of the tribal ministry.
- ❖ The theme of the event is “A Celebration of the Spirit of Tribal Crafts, Culture, Cuisine, and Commerce”.



Bima Sugam Portal

Bima Sugam: A game changer?

Policyholders will be able to buy insurance products directly or through assisted mode

All insurance intermediaries including individual agents, web aggregators will have access to **Bima Sugam**

There will be a variety of products, businesses and payment options on this platform to choose from

Know-your-customer (KYC) will be done through Aadhaar number and the data will auto populate

- ❖ The Government of India recently launched the Bima Sugam Portal.
- ❖ It is an electronic platform to sell insurance.

- ❖ We can find all the insurance companies in the market and we can buy insurance schemes here.
- ❖ The portal is accessible to insurance buyers, and sellers.

Indian Rice Congress 2023



- ❖ The second edition of the Indian Rice Congress was recently inaugurated at National Rice Research Institute at Cuttack, Odisha.
- ❖ The theme of the 2023 congress is “Transforming Rice Research”.
- ❖ The congress focused on the global food crisis and the recent scientific developments that will help in increasing the production and yield of paddy crops.

STATES

First National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre



- ❖ In New Delhi, the creation of the first National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre is underway.
- ❖ National Metro Rail Knowledge Centre will demonstrate the expansion of the metro networks and transit systems in numerous cities across India.
- ❖ The building is intended to serve as a hub for information and innovation for the Indian Metro train networks.
- ❖ It will give all parties involved a platform for dialogue and collaboration.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

200th birth anniversary of Dayanand Saraswati (1824-1883)



Hindu religious leader Dayanand Saraswati was born on Feb 12, 1824

'India for Indians'

Was the first to give the call for *Swarajya* as 'India for Indians'

Madam Cama, Vinayak Savarkar, Madan Lal Dhingra and Mahatma Hansraj were his followers

Was the first to call dalits as *Harijans*

Promoted *Swadeshi* and equal rights for women

"What is crucial in dealing with loss is not to lose the lesson"

- ❖ Dayanand Saraswati was born on 12th February 1824.
- ❖ He is a social reformer who founded Arya Samaj in 1875 to counter social inequities prevalent during the times.
- ❖ This was a monotheistic Hindu order that rejected the ritualistic excesses and social doctrines of orthodox Hinduism and promoted a united Hindu society on the basis of Vedic teachings.
- ❖ Arya Samaj has played a crucial role in the cultural and social awakening of the country through its emphasis on social reforms and education.

- ❖ His magnum work, Satyarth Prakash (1875), emphasised the “return to Vedic principles”.
- ❖ He supported the idea of shuddhi, to bring back Islamic or Christian converts into Hinduism.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Radio Day - February 13

உலக வானொலி நாள்!

பிப்ரவரி 13



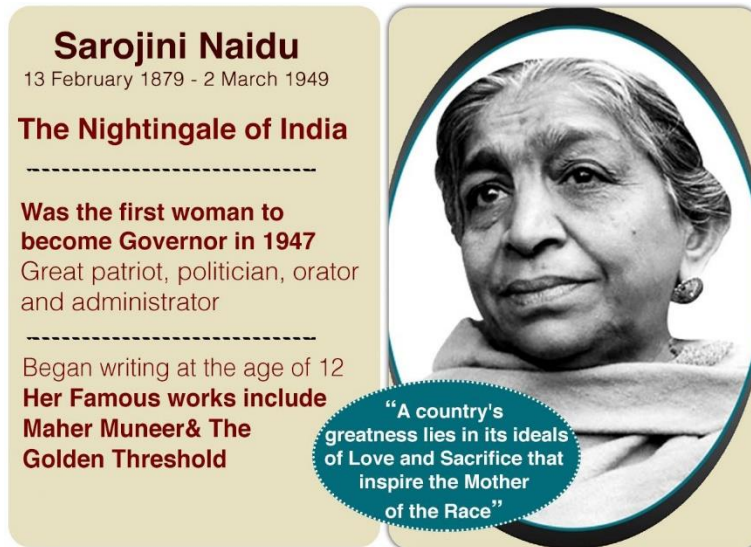
உலக வானொலி தினம் இன்று (பிப்ரவரி 13). ஐக்கிய நாடுகளின் பொதுச்சபை இந்த நாளை அறிமுகப்படுத்தியது. 2011-ம் ஆண்டு முதல் இந்த தினம் கொண்டாடப்பட்டு வருகிறது. தகவல் தொடர்பில் வானொலியின் பங்கை கொண்டாடுவதற்காக இந்த தினம் உருவாக்கப்பட்டது. ஆண்டுதோறும் ஒவ்வொரு மையக்கருவுடன் கொண்டாடப்படும் இந்த தினத்தின் இந்த வருட தீம் வானொலி மற்றும் அமைதி (Radio and Peace).

- ❖ On Nov 3, 2011, UNESCO declared February 13 as World Radio Day.
- ❖ On this day United Nations Radio was first established in 1946.
- ❖ It is observed to preserve the importance of radio as well as to encourage decision makers to provide access to information through radio.
- ❖ The theme for World Radio Day 2023 is ‘Radio and Peace’.
- ❖ The first ever radio broadcast in India happened in June 1923 by Radio Club of Bombay.
- ❖ India has around 479 radio stations making All India Radio one of the biggest broadcasters in the world.

- ❖ It covers around 99.19% of the Indian population.

National Women's Day - February 13

- ❖ This day commemorates the birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu popularly known as the nightingale of India.
- ❖ This Day celebrates the unparalleled contribution made by Sarojini Naidu for establishing women's rights in the patriarchal Indian society.
- ❖ It recognizes the cultural, political, and economic contribution.
- ❖ Apart from politics, Sarojini Naidu is recognized globally as one of the finest poetesses in the history of Indian literature.
- ❖ In 1925, she became the first woman to lead the Indian National Congress as the party President.
- ❖ The British government lauded Sarojini Naidu with the 'Kaisar-i-Hind' Medal for her service during the plague epidemic in India.



International Epilepsy Day - February 13

- ❖ It is celebrated on the second Monday of February every year.
- ❖ It aims to increase awareness of the disease and to identify the symptoms at early stages.
- ❖ Epilepsy is a nervous disorder which affects brain activity.
- ❖ The disease is identified late among children.
- ❖ If identified at early stages, it can be cured easily.

- ❖ Around 50 million people in the world suffer from epilepsy.
- ❖ 80% of them are living in low and middle-income countries.



APEDA Foundation Day - February 13

- ❖ Agricultural Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) celebrated its 37th Foundation Day this year.
- ❖ It exports agricultural and processed food products more than USD 0.6 billion in 2000-2001 to USD 24,77 billion in 2021-22.
- ❖ A Farmer Connect Portal has also been set up by APEDA.
- ❖ APEDA was established by the Government under the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985.
- ❖ It functions under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

