



Current Affairs - March 2021 to August 2021

Month

Type



- ▶ **162** Current Affairs were found in **Last Six Months** for Type - **Important Days**

(Showing **134** Important Ones)


Days


- ▶ Aug 15, 2021 - **75th Independence Day** of India, observed under campaign titled *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*.
 - ✎ On this occasion, PM Narendra Modi addressed the nation from Red fort in Delhi -
 - ✎ Announced Rs 100 lakh crores *Pradhan Mantri Gati Shakti National Master Plan*, for developing *holistic infrastructure*.
 - ✎ Announced To open entry for girls into Sainik schools across country.
 - ✎ Announced a National Hydrogen Mission in view of climate change, aiming to make India a hub for production and export of green hydrogen.
 - ✎ Announced India's Target of becoming an 'energy independent country by 2047, the year when India will celebrate the 100th year of Independence.
 - ✎ Announced 'Mission Circular Economy' that will replace petroleum with other forms of energy to make India achieve self-reliance in energy production by 2047. It would include a mix of electric mobility, gas-based economy, doping ethanol in petrol and making the country a hub for hydrogen production.

- ✍️ Announced rice distributed under several government schemes to be fortified by 2024 (including Public Distribution System and mid-day meals in schools), to tackle malnutrition. Fortified rice is a cost-effective strategy to increase mineral and vitamin content in diets.
- ✍️ Announced that 75 'Vande Bharat' trains will connect different parts of the country in 75 weeks to mark the ongoing 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.
- ✍️ Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) successfully carried out Ground Run and Low Speed Taxi Trials (LSTT) of the Hindustan-228 (VT-KNR) aircraft, as a milestone for first fixed-wing Made-in-India civil aircraft in India.
- ✍️ An All Women Tri-Services Mountaineering Team scaled Mt Manirang (21,625 ft) in Himachal Pradesh.
- ✍️ Gallantry Awards 2021 Announced -
 - ✍️ President Ram Nath Kovind approved 144 Gallantry awards to Armed Forces, police and paramilitary personnel on eve of Independence Day.
 - ✍️ These include one Ashok Chakra, one Kirti Chakra, 15 Shaurya Chakras, four Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 116 Sena Medals (Gallantry), five Nao Sena Medals (Gallantry) and two Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).
 - ✍️ Ashok Chakra - Babu Ram (ASI in Jammu and Kashmir Police).
 - ✍️ Kirti Chakra - Altaf Hussain Bhat (Constable in Jammu and Kashmir police) (posthumous).
 - ✍️ Shaurya Chakra -
 - ✍️ Arun Kumar Pandey (Army)
 - ✍️ Ravi Kumar Chaudhary (Army)
 - ✍️ Ashutosh Kumar (Army)
 - ✍️ Vikas Khatri (Army)
 - ✍️ Li. Kumar (Army)
 - ✍️ Neeraj Ahlawat (Army)
 - ✍️ Sachin Reuben Sequeira (Navy)
 - ✍️ Perminder Antil (Air Force)
 - ✍️ Varun Singh (Air Force)
 - ✍️ Chitesh Kumar (CRPF)
 - ✍️ Manjinder Singh (CRPF)
 - ✍️ Sunil Choudhary (CRPF)
 - ✍️ Debasis Sethy (Odisha Police)

- ✍ Sudhir Kumar Tudu (Odisha Police)
- ✍ Shahbaz Ahmad (J&k Police)
- ✍ Nao Sena Medal -
 - ✍ Prashant Handu
 - ✍ Sunil S Korti
 - ✍ Bipin Panikar
 - ✍ Raj Krishna Manu
 - ✍ Prahlad, MCA
- ✍ Vayu Sena Medal - Uttar Kumar, Deepak Mohanan
- ✍ Additionally, 1380 Police personnel been awarded Medals on Independence Day 2021.
- ✍ Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports organized Fit India Freedom Run 2.0 throughout country. Under it, Each week programmes will be held in 75 districts and at 75 villages in each district till 2nd October 2021.
- ✍ Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Virendra Kumar unfurled national flag at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre New Delhi and also flagged off a pioneering expedition 'Operation Blue Freedom'.
 - ✍ Under it, A team of people with disabilities from across country undertook an expedition till Siachen Glacier to create a new World Record for largest team of people with disabilities to reach the world's highest battlefield.
- ✍ Ministry of Science and Technology's Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD) established *Science Museum* in Chandel, an Aspirational District of Manipur. It has been established at Maha Union Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Japhou, Chandel.
- ✍ Govt also announced Prime Minister's Shram Awards (PMSA) for 2018, awarded to 69 workers in 3 categories - Shram Bhushan Awards (1 Lakh), Shram Vir/Shram Veerangana Awards (60000) and Shram Shree/Shram Devi Awards (40000).
- ✍ Sports minister Anurag Thakur launched nationwide Fit India Freedom Run 2.0 programme, as part of Independence Day celebrations - Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. The series of events will conclude on October 2, 2021.
- ✍ Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar unveiled a website to mark 75th Independence Day celebrations across country, at URL indianidc2021.mod.gov.in. It is installed with a Virtual Reality (VR) feature for first time, to showcase real-time celebrations from Red Fort in New Delhi in a 360-degrees format.
- ✍ Indian Army installed a 100-ft tall Indian National Flag in Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir.
- ✍ Indian Diaspora in US hoisted biggest Indian Flag at Times Square in New York (25 feet tall).
- ✍ Other Nations that Observe their Independence Day on Aug 15 - Republic of the Congo, Liechtenstein, North Korea & South Korea, Bahrain.

2. ▶ **Jul 11 - World Population Day.** It was established by Governing Council of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1989. It was inspired by public interest in Five Billion Day on 11 July 1987, approximate date on which world's population reached 5 billion
 - ✎ On this occasion, Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved Draft **Population (Control, Stabilization, and Welfare) Bill 2021**, Prepared by Uttar Pradesh Law Commission (UPLC). It aims at curbing over-population issue. It proposes to incentivise couples who do not have more than two babies.
3. ▶ July 14 is observed as National Day of France, also known as Bastille Day. It is commemorated the anniversary of Storming of the Bastille during French Revolution on 14 July 1789. July 14 is also observed as Shark Awareness Day Globally.
4. ▶ 29 May is observed as International **Day of UN Peacekeepers**, with 2021 theme is *road to a lasting peace: Leveraging the power of youth for peace and security*.
 - ✎ 3 Indian peacekeepers, who laid down their lives while serving in UN peacekeeping missions in 2020, are among 129 personnel honoured on International Day of UN Peacekeepers 2021. Indian Personnel are Corporal Yuvraj Singh, Ivan Michael Picardo Mulchand Yadav.
 - ✎ India will launch **UNITE AWARE** mobile tech platform for UN Peacekeepers to improve their safety and security in line of duty.
5. ▶ 6th UN Global Traffic Safety Week 2021 observed between May 17-23, 2021.
 - ✎ It is a biennial global road safety campaign hosted by WHO. 2021 theme is *Streets for Life*. It calls for 30 km/h speed limits to be the norm for cities, towns and villages worldwide, with *#Love30* campaign.
 - ✎ May 23 is also observed as World Turtle Day.
6. ▶ 8th July is Observed as Rythu Dinotsavam meaning Farmer's Day in Andhra Pradesh. It marks birth anniversary of 14th CM of Andhra Pradesh, Y.S Rajasekhara Reddy, being celebrated since 2019.
7. ▶ **Aug 20** is observed as **Sadbhavana Diwas**, commemorating birth anniversary of former PM Rajiv Gandhi.
 - ✎ Indian National Congress instituted Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award in 1992, an year after his death. It was last conferred upon Gopalkrishna Gandhi, in 2018 (24th edition of this award).
 - ✎ Aug 20 is also observed as **Akshay Urja diwas** in India, observed since 2004, to raise awareness about the developments and adoption of renewable energy in India.
8. ▶ **National Panchayati Raj Day** in India. It began in 2010. It marks passing of Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 that came into force with effect from 24 April 1993. On this occasion -
 - ✎ PM Narendra Modi dedicated SVAMITVA Scheme to entire nation. He also launched distribution of e-property cards to 4.09 lakh property owners.

 Central Sector Scheme *Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas' (SVAMITVA)* was launched by PM on 24th April 2020, in pilot phase. It aims at socio-economic empowerment of rural mass and making them self-reliant.

 It was approved for implementation at an outlay of 566 crores, over 5 years (2020-2025). It will cover approx 6.62 lakh villages.

 PM also conferred National Panchayat Awards 2021, in mentioned categories -

 Deen Dayal Upadhyay Panchayat Sashaktikaran Puraskar (224 Panchayats)

 Nanaji Deshmukh Rashtriya Gaurav Gram Sabha Puraskar (30 Gram Panchayats)

 Gram Panchayat Development Plan Award (29 Gram Panchayats)


 Child-friendly Gram Panchayat Award (30 Gram Panchayats)

 e-Panchayat Puraskar (12 States) -

 Uttar Pradesh ranked at top, followed by Assam and Chhattisgarh at 2nd Odisha, Tamil Nadu at 3rd.


9. ▶ Apr 10 is observed as **World Homoeopathy Day**. It marks Birth anniversary of Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of Homoeopathy. He was born on 10 April 1755.

10. ▶ Apr 11 is observed as National Safe Motherhood Day in India.

 In 2003, Govt. marked M K Gandhi's Wife Kasturba Gandhi's birth anniversary on April 11 as National Safe Motherhood Day.

 April 11 is also observed globally as World Parkinson's Day.

11. ▶ Apr 12 is marked as International Day of Human Space Flight. It commemorates Yuri Gagarin's historic spaceflight on Apr 12, 1961.


 Day was proclaimed by UN in 2011. In 1957, first human made earth satellite Sputnik I was launched into outer space. On April 12, 1961, Yuri Gagarin became the first man to orbit earth successfully.

12. ▶ Apr 13 is anniversary of Jallianwala Bagh massacre, when on 13 April 1919, Reginald Dyer ordered troops of British Indian Army to fire into a crowd of unarmed Indian civilians, killing over 1000 people.

13. ▶ Apr 15 is observed as World Art Day, being observed since 2012.

14. ▶ Apr 17 is observed as World Hemophilia Day, observed by World Federation of Hemophilia.

15. ▶ Apr 18 is observed as **World Heritage Day**, also as International Day of Monuments and sites. It was proclaimed by UNESCO in 1983. 2021 Theme is **Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures**.

 On this occasion, Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel inaugurated first Online Exhibition on Ramayana, the Epic by Maharishi Valmiki.

16. ▶ Apr 2 is observed as World Autism Awareness Day, proclaimed in 2007.


 Apr 2 is also observed as International Children's Book Day (ICBD).

17. ▶ Apr 21 is marked as **National Civil Services Day**.

 It was on this day in 1947, That First Home Minister Sardar Shri Vallabhai Patel addressed first batch probationers of Administrative Services.

 Apr 21 is also observed as World **Creativity and Innovation Day**.

18. ▶ Apr 22 is observed as **World Earth Day**, Being Observed Since 1970. 2021 Theme is *Restore Our Earth*. On this occasion -

 NASA launched four astronauts to International Space Station. SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket propelled Crew Dragon spacecraft with NASA astronauts Shane Kimbrough and Megan McArthur, along with JAXA astronaut Akihiko Hoshide and ESA astronaut Thomas Pesquet, for a 6 month mission.

 CII's Indian Green Building Council launched 'IGBC Mission on Net Zero'.


 Apr 22, 2021 is also observed as International Girls in ICT Day, observed annually on fourth Thursday in April.


 Indian Firm Wipro announced its goal to achieve Net-Zero Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by 2040, in line with objective of Paris Agreement to cap temperature rise to 1.5 C.

19. ▶ Apr 23 is observed as UNESCO **World Book and Copyright Day**. It is being observed since 1995. For 2021, Tbilisi (Capital of Georgia) is declared as World Book Capital.

 Apr 23 is also observed as Global English Language Day and Spanish Language Day.

 April 23 also observed as Khongjom Day in Indian state of Manipur, commemorating warriors who fought in 1891 Anglo-Manipur war.

 War was fought between 31 March and 27 April of 1891. It resulted in victory of British.











 The war has its significance in Indian history for bravery of soldiers that fought against three sides of British attack, that is, from Silchar, Kohima and Myanmar. Battle was fought at the Kheba hills of Khongjom in Manipur, hence named Khongjom Day.

20. ▶ Apr 25 is observed as **World Malaria Day**, established by World Health Organization in 2007. 2021 Theme is Zero malaria starts with me (2019-2021).


 Apr 25 also marks International **Delegate's Day**. It was first observed in 2020, on 75th anniversary of San Francisco Conference (1945).

 Apr 25 is also observed as World Penguin Day.

21. ▶ Apr 26 is observed as **World Intellectual Property Day**, established by World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in 2000. On 26 Apr in 1970, WIPO had come in force. 2021 Theme is *Intellectual property and small businesses: Taking big ideas to market*.

-  Apr 26 is also observed as UN International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day, Proclaimed in 2016. It aims to raise awareness of consequences of 1986 Chernobyl disaster and risks of nuclear energy.
22. ▶ Apr 29 - International Dance Day. It marks birth anniversary of Jean-Georges Noverre (born on 29 April 1727), a French dancer, and creator of modern ballet, and great reformer of dance.
23. ▶ Apr 30 is observed as Ayushman Bharat Diwas, being observed since 2018. Under Ayushman Bharat / Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), Health Insurance of 5 lakh rupees per family is given to a family.
-  Apr 30 is also Observed as International Jazz Day, declared by UNESCO in 2011.
24. ▶ Apr 5 is observed as National Maritime Day in India, being observed since 1964.
-  The saga of India shipping started on April 5, 1919, when SS Loyalty, the first ship of The Scindia Steam Navigation Company travelled from Mumbai to United Kingdom (London).
25. ▶ Apr 5 is observed as UN **International Day of Conscience**, being observed by UN since 2020.
26. ▶ Apr 6 is observed as International **Day of Sport for Development and Peace**.
-  Apr 6 is also known as World Table Tennis Day, observed since 2015.
27. ▶ Apr 7 is observed as **World Health Day**, with 2021 theme *Building a Fairer and Healthier World for Everyone*. It marks establishment of World Health Organization, on Apr 7, 1948.
-  April 7 is also observed as International Day of Reflection on 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.
28. ▶ Apr 9 is observed as CRPF's Valour Day.
-  A CRPF contingent on April 9, 1965 fought against Pakistanis in Rann of Kutch, eliminating 34 Pakistani Soldiers, losing 6 CRPF Soldiers.
29. ▶ April 14th is Birth Anniversary of **B R Ambedkar**. He campaigned against social discrimination towards *Dalits*. He was independent India's first law and justice minister, and architect of Constitution of India. His Birth anniversary is observed as Social Justice Day, announced in 2018. Note that UN World Day of Social Justice is observed on Feb 20.
-  On this occasion -
-  Govt declared April 14 (B R Ambedkar's Birth Anniversary) as public holiday.
-  A rare short film made on Dr. B R Ambedkar in 1968 has been acquired by National Film Archive of India. Film is in Marathi, titled 'Mahapurush Dr. Ambedkar'.
-  PM Modi released four books based on B R Ambedkar's life, written by **Kishor Makwana**. Books are - Dr. Ambedkar Jivan Darshan, Dr. Ambedkar Vyakti Darshan, Dr Ambedkar Rashtra Darshan, and Dr. Ambedkar Aayam Darshan.


- ✍ Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna introduced a resolution in US House of Representatives for a second consecutive year to honour BR Ambedkar.
 - ✍ April 14 is also observed as World Chagas Disease Day, to increase awareness of Chagas disease. It is observed since 2020.
 - ✍ Apr 14 is also observed as National Fire Service Day in India.
30. ▶ April 15 is observed as Himachal Day.
- ✍ It came into being as a centrally administered territory on 15 April 1948, after integration of thirty erstwhile princely states.
 - ✍ Himachal Pradesh became a union territory on 1 November 1956.
 - ✍ Later, on 25 Jan 1971, Himachal Pradesh became 18th state of India.
31. ▶ April 24 is Observed as -
- ✍ International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace, observed since 2019.
 - ✍ World Day for Laboratory Animals.
 - ✍ Apr 24, 2021 is also observed as World Veterinary Day. It is observed on Last Saturday of April.
32. ▶ Aug 01 is observed as **Muslim Women's Rights Day**, to mark enacting of law that made Triple Talaq a criminal offence. Triple Talaq Bill was passed by Both houses in July 2019. The day is observed since 2020.
33. ▶ Aug 10 is observed as **World Biofuel Day**, to create awareness about importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels. Theme set by India's Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for WBD 2021 is *Biofuels for Sustainability and Rural Income*.
- ✍ On this occasion -
 - ✍ PM Narendra Modi launched Ujjwala 2.0 at Mahoba (Uttar Pradesh), aiming to issue deposit-free LPG connections to one crore additional families who could not be covered under earlier phase of PMUY.
 - ✍ Also, India's national Policy on Biofuels 2018 aims 5% blending of Biodiesel in HSD by 2030.
 - ✍ Aug 10 is also birth anniversary of V V Giri, 4th president of India Between 1969 - 1974.
 - ✍ Aug 10 is also observed as World Lion Day.
34. ▶ Aug 12 - **International Youth Day**, proclaimed by UN General Assembly (UNGA) in December 1999. 2021 Theme is *Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health*.
- ✍ On This occasion, Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur conferred National Youth Awards 2017-18 and 2018-19 to 22 awardees. He also felicitated 10 young winning entrepreneur teams of agri-enterprise challenge S.O.L.V.E.D 2021 (Social Objectives-Led Volunteer Enterprise Development).
35. ▶ Aug 12 is Observed as World **Elephant Day**, being observed since 2012.

 On this occasion, Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav released population estimation protocol to be adopted for All India elephant and tiger population estimation in 2022, which are to be converged for the first time.


 Aug 12 is also Birth anniversary of ISRO Founder Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, known as father of India's Space Programme. It is observed as National Remote Sensing Day.

36. ▶ Aug 13 - World organ donation day.

 Aug 13 is also observed as International Left-Handers Day.


 13 August is also commemorated as "Patriots Day" in Manipur, to honour Kangleipak soldiers that lost their lives during Anglo-Manipur War.

37. ▶ Aug 19 - UN **World Humanitarian Day**, being observed since 2009. It is dedicated to recognize humanitarian personnel and those who have lost their lives working for humanitarian causes. 2021 theme is *The Human Race*.

 Aug 19 is also observed as World Photography Day.

 Aug 19 is also birth anniversary of 9th president of India - Shanker Dayal Sharma.

38. ▶ Aug 20 is observed as World Mosquito Day, to raise awareness about causes of malaria and how it can be prevented. 2021 theme is Reaching the zero-malaria target.

 It commemorates discovery by British doctor Sir Ronald Ross in 1897 that female mosquitoes transmit malaria between humans. In 1902, Ross won Nobel Prize for Medicine becoming first British person to receive the award.

39. ▶ Aug 24 is observed as World Gujarati Day, marking Poet Narmad's birth anniversary.


40. ▶ Aug 29 is observed as **National Sports Day** in India. It marks birth anniversary of India's hockey legend, Major Dhyan Chand.


 Notably -

 Recently, Govt renamed India's Highest Sports Honour *Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award*, as *Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award*.

 This year, Govt delayed conferment of National Sports Awards 2021, to include consideration of performance in 2020 Olympics and Paralympics into selection criteria.

 On this occasion -

 Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched Fit India Mobile Application at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in Delhi, to celebrate second anniversary of Fit India Movement and as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

 President Ram Nath Kovind laid foundation stone for Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath AYUSH Vishwavidyalaya at Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh).

 Aug 29 is also observed as UN **International Day Against Nuclear Tests**, established in December 2009.

- ✎ Aug 29 is also observed as **Telugu Language Day**, to mark birthday of Telugu poet Gidugu Venkata Ramamurthy. Govt of Andhra Pradesh provides funds and presents awards, to promote Telugu language.
- 41. ▶ Aug 30 is observed as National Small Industry Day In India, to support and promote small Industries for their overall growth.
 - ✎ Aug 30 is also observed as UN International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances.
- 42. ▶ Aug 7 is observed as **National Handloom Day**, being observed since 2015. It commemorates Swadeshi movement that was launched On Aug 7, 1905. It focuses on contribution of handloom to the socio economic development of the country and also increase the income of weavers.
- 43. ▶ Aug 8 is observed in India as *Quit India Movement Day*, which marks launching of Quit India Movement at Bombay session of All India Congress Committee by M K Gandhi, on 8 August 1942, demanding end to British rule in India.
 - ✎ Also, Sarla Thukral, first Indian woman to pilot an aircraft, has been honoured by Google with a Doodle on her 107th birth anniversary on Aug 08, 2021.
- 44. ▶ Aug 9 is observed as **International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples** (Also called World Tribal Day). 2021 Theme is *Leaving no one behind: Indigenous peoples and the call for a new social contract*.
 - ✎ The day was proclaimed by UNGA in 1994. August 9 marks 1st meeting of UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations of Sub-Commission on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights was held in 1982.
 - ✎ August 9 also marks anniversary of atomic bombing in Nagasaki during World War II. The incident took place on August 9, 1945, when United States dropped an atomic bomb named Fat Man, on Nagasaki in Japan.
 - ✎ Three Days Earlier, on Aug 6, An atomic bomb named Little Boy was dropped on Hiroshima (Japan). The two bombings killed between 129000 and 226000 people, most of whom were civilians. It still remains only use of nuclear weapons in armed conflict.
 - ✎ Aug 9 is also observed as National Traders' Day.
- 45. ▶ August 14 is observed as Naga Independence Day, celebrated in states of Nagaland and Manipur.
 - ✎ When India became independent from British rule, Nagas under Naga National Council wished to remain free. On 14 August 1947, Nagas declared independence of Naga region. Nagas did not take part in first and second general elections held in 1952 and 1957 respectively.
 - ✎ Also, Govt decided to observe 14th August every year as Partition Horrors Remembrance Day (विभाजन विभीषिका स्मृति दिवस), to commemorate sacrifice of people who faced pain during violence during India-Pakistan partition in 1947.
- 46. ▶ First Ever **UN International Day for People of African Descent** has been observed on **31 August 2021**.
 - ✎ Notably, UN is observing International Decade for People of African Descent, between 2015-2024.

47. ▶ Jul 17 - **World Day for International Justice**. It marks adoption of Rome Statute in 1998. With help of this treaty International Criminal Court (ICC) was established.
48. ▶ July 10 is observed as **National Fish Farmers Day**, proclaimed by Government in 2001.
- ✎ It is celebrated in remembrance of scientists Dr. K. H. Alikunhi and Dr. H.L. Chaudhury who successfully demonstrated technology of induced breeding (Hypophysation) in Indian Major Carps on 10th July, 1957 at erstwhile 'Pond Culture Division' of CIFRI at Cuttack.
49. ▶ July 15 - **World Youth Skills Day**. On 18 December 2014, UN General Assembly (UNGA) declared 15th July as World Youth Skills Day.
- ✎ July 15 also marks Anniversary of Skill India Mission (Pradhanmantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna), in which over 1.25 crore youth have been trained so far. It was launched by PM Narendra Modi on July 15, 2015.
 - ✎ Also, Jul 15 is observed as Educational Development Day in Tamil Nadu, to mark birth Anniversary of Former CM K Kamaraj.
 - ✎ Also, India's National Plastic Surgery Day, which is observed on July 15, has now been Adopted as World Plastic Surgery Day.
50. ▶ July 18 - UN **Nelson Mandela International Day**, proclaimed by United Nations in 2009, and first UN Mandela Day held in July 2010.
- ✎ Notably, United Nations Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela Prize was established by UN in 2014, awarded every 5 years. It was last awarded in 2020, to Guinean doctor Morissana Kouyate and Marianna Vardinoyannis of Greece.
51. ▶ July 2 is observed as World **Sports Journalists Day**.
- ✎ July 2 is also observed as World UFO (Unidentified Flying Objects) day, observed since 2001. On some places, it is observed on June 24, the date on which 9 unusual objects were saw flying over Washington (USA) in 1947.
52. ▶ July 20 - International Chess Day, marks founding of International Chess Federation in 1924.
53. ▶ July 20 is observed as Space Exploration Day, marking Anniversary of NASA's Apollo 11 Mission, which was spaceflight that first landed humans on the Moon. Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin formed American crew that landed Apollo Lunar Module Eagle on July 20, 1969.
- ✎ They spent about two and a quarter hours together outside the spacecraft, and collected 47.5 pounds (21.5 kg) of lunar material to bring back to Earth. This day marks man's first historic landing and walk on the surface of another celestial body.
54. ▶ July 23 is observed as **National broadcasting Day** in India. On this day in 1927, 1st ever radio broadcast in country went on the air from Bombay Station under a private company called Indian Broadcasting Company (IBC).
- ✎ July 23 is also birth anniversary of Legendary Indian Freedom Fighters Chandra Shekhar Azad and Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
55. ▶ July 24 is Observed by Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) as Income Tax Day (Aayakar Diwas). On this day in 1860, Income Tax was introduced for first time in India by James Wilson.
56. ▶ July 26 is Observed as International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem, adopted by UNESCO in 2015.

57. ▶ July 26 marks **Kargil Vijay Diwas**. On this date in 1999, India took command of high outposts which were captured by Intruding Pakistanis.
58. ▶ July 28 is observed by World Health Organization as **World Hepatitis Day**. 2021 theme is *Hepatitis can't wait*.
✍ July 28 is also observed as World Nature Conservation Day.
59. ▶ July 29 is observed as World Tiger Day. It was proclaimed in 2010 at Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit in Russia where signatories declared an agreement that the governments of tiger populated counties would double tiger population by 2022, termed as TX2. 2021 Theme is *Their Survival is in our hands*.
✍ In 2018, Nepal became first country to double tiger population. India also doubled tiger population in 2018.
✍ As per 4th All India Tiger Estimation 2018 (Released in 2019)-
✍ India has 70 % of world's tiger population.
✍ Number of Tiger reserves in India has reached 50, up from 9 in 1973. Earlier 3 Tiger estimation reports were released in 2006, 2010, 2014.
✍ Count of tigers in India rose to 2967 in 2018. Count grew from 1,411 in 2006 to 2,226 in 2014 and to 2,967 in 2018.
✍ Top 5 States - Madhya Pradesh (526), Karnataka (524), Uttarakhand (442), Maharashtra (312) and Tamil Nadu (264).
✍ Notably, India's 14 Tiger Reserves received Global CA/TS recognition for good Tiger Conservation standards.
60. ▶ July 3, 2021 is Observed as UN **International Day of Cooperatives**. 2021 Theme is Rebuild better together. It is observed on First Saturday of July.
61. ▶ July 30 is observed as UN **World Day Against Trafficking in Persons**, proclaimed by UN General Assembly in 2013. 2021 theme is *Victims' Voices Lead the Way*.
✍ July 30 is also birth anniversary of Muthulakshmi Reddi, India's first female legislator and also known as a woman of many firsts. Tamil Nadu Government declared that every year hospitals will celebrate her birth anniversary as 'Hospital Day.'
✍ Jul 30, 2020 is also named as International Day of Friendship.
62. ▶ July 31 is observed as World Ranger Day, to mark founding day of International Ranger Federation (IRF) on this day in 1992.
63. ▶ July 4 marks US Independence Day, commemorating Declaration of Independence of United States on July 4, 1776.
64. ▶ June 1 - **World Milk Day**. It has been marked by Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), observed since 2001.
✍ Nov 26 is observed as **National Milk Day** In India, to commemorate birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, father of India's White Revolution. India is top Milk Producer Nation, followed by US.
✍ June 1 is also observed by United Nations as Global Day of Parents.
65. ▶ June 11 is observed as Green Mizoram Day in Mizoram State.

66. ▶ June 12 - **World Day against Child Labour**. 2021 theme *Act now: end child labour*. It was established by International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2002.
67. ▶ June 13 is observed as International **Albinism Awareness Day** (IAAD). 2021 Theme is *Strength Beyond All Odds*.
68. ▶ June 14 is observed as **World Blood Donor Day**.
69. ▶ June 15 is observed as UN *World Elder Abuse Awareness Day*.
✎ June 15 is also observed as Global Wind Day.
70. ▶ June 16 - International Day of **Family Remittances** (IDFR).
71. ▶ June 17 - World Day to **Combat Desertification and Drought** (WDCDD), proclaimed in Jan 1995 by United Nations General Assembly. 2020 theme is *Restoration. Land. Recovery*. On this occasion -
✎ 2021 **Land for Life Award** has been won by *Familial Forestry* of Rajasthan, a unique concept that relates a tree with a family, making it a *green family member*.
✎ UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) organises Land for Life Award every two years to recognize excellence and innovation in efforts towards land in balance. Theme for 2021 Award is “Healthy Land, Healthy Lives”.
✎ Land for Life Award was launched at UNCCD COP 10 in 2011, and is considered world’s highest reward regarding land conservation and restoration.
✎ Environment Ministry released latest version of *Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of India*, published by Space Application Centre, ISRO, Ahmedabad. It provides state wise area of degraded lands for time frame 2018-19.
72. ▶ June 18 is observed by UN as Sustainable Gastronomy Day.
✎ June 18 is also observed as Autistic Pride Day.
73. ▶ June 19 is observed as World Sickle Cell Day, to raise public awareness about sickle cell disease and its treatment methods. It was proclaimed by United Nations General Assembly in 2008.
✎ Sickle Cell Disease is a commonly occurring genetic disease. It is an inherited genetic abnormality of hemoglobin (oxygen-carrying protein found in red blood cells) due to which red blood cells (RBCs) causes stuck in small blood vessels and are unable to carry adequate amount of oxygen throughout body.
✎ June 19 is also observed as International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict.
✎ June 19 is also observed as National Reading Day, to honour father of Library Movement in Kerala, P.N. Panicker whose death anniversary falls on June 19.
74. ▶ June 2 is Statehood Day of **Telangana**, which was formed in 2014 as India's 29th State.

75. ▶ June 20 - UN **World Refugee Day**, Proclaimed by United Nations General Assembly in Dec 2000. 2021 Theme is *Together we can achieve anything*.

76. ▶ June 21 - UN **International Yoga Day**, being Observed Since 2015. 2021 Theme is **Yoga for well-being**.

✎ On this occasion -

✎ PM Narendra Modi launched **WHO M-Yoga** App, developed by Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga.

✎ Ayush Minister Kiren Rijiju launched **Namaste Yoga** app, to raise awareness about yoga and make it accessible.

✎ Health Minister addressed inaugural ceremony of Global Yoga Conference 2021.

✎ India Post issued a special cancellation stamp, through its 810 Head Post offices.

✎ Education Minister of State Sanjay Dhotre launched NIOS Diploma course in Yogic Science.

✎ Other Observations Made on June 21 -

✎ World Music Day.

✎ First all-day musical celebration on the day of the summer solstice was celebrated in Paris in 1982.

✎ For this Observance, French integrated content, media and communications group Vivendi partnered with Grammy winner Ricky Kej for “My Earth Concert for Kids”.

✎ Summer Solstice day. Summer Solstice is longest day of year which marks official start of summer season in Northern hemisphere.

✎ International Day of Celebration of the Solstice was proclaimed by UN General Assembly in 2019.

✎ World Hydrography Day, Proclaimed by International Hydrographic Organization in 2005.

77. ▶ June 23 - United Nations Public Service Day, proclaimed in 2003.

✎ June 23 is also observed as International Olympics Day and UN International Widows' Day.

✎ June 23 is Death Anniversary of Noted politician Syama Prasad Mukherjee, who founded Bharatiya Jana Sangh (the predecessor to Bharatiya Janata Party).

78. ▶ June 25 is observed as International Day of Seafarer (DotS).

✎ June 25 is also observed as World Vitiligo Day.

79. ▶ June 26 - **International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**, Proclaimed by United Nation General Assembly in December 1987 and Observed since 1989. 2021 Theme is Share Facts On Drugs, Save Lives.

✎ June 26 is also observed as International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

80. ▶ June 27 - International **MSME Day**, being observed since 2017. 2021 theme is MSME 2021: key to an inclusive and sustainable recovery.

✎ On this occasion, MSME and Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari called for creation of Ratings system for MSMEs and Dashboard for effective monitoring of schemes.

81. ▶ June 28, 2021, is 100th Birth Anniversary of P. V. Narasimha Rao, 9th Prime Minister of India.

82. ▶ June 29 is observed as **National Statistics Day** in India.

✎ 2021 Theme is *Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)- 2 (End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture)*.

✎ It is celebrated annually on occasion of Birth anniversary of India's eminent statistician, Late Prof Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis.

✎ 2021 Awardees -

✎ Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis National Award in Official Statistics for **lifetime achievements** was conferred upon **Dr. R. B. Barman** (Former Chairman of National Statistical Commission).

✎ Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis National Award in Official Statistics in category of **in-service Official Statistician** above 45 years age, was conferred upon Dr. Sitabhra Sinha (Professor at Institute of Mathematical Sciences Chennai).

✎ Prof. **C.R. Rao National Award in Statistics for Young Statisticians** was given to Dr. **Kiranmoy Das** (Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata).

✎ June 29 is also observed by UN as International **Day of the Tropics**, proclaimed by UN in 2016.

83. ▶ June 3 - World Bicycle Day, declared by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2018. It promotes use of Bicycle for its environmental and health benefits.

84. ▶ June 30 is observed annually as International **Asteroid Day**. It marks event anniversary of Tunguska event in 1908, when an asteroid leveled about 2,150 square kilometres forest in Siberia.

✎ June 30 is also observed as UN International **Day of Parliamentarism**, proclaimed in 2018.

✎ June 30 is also observed as World Social Media Day.

85. ▶ June 5 - **World Environment Day**, designated by United Nation General Assembly (UNGA) in 1972. It was first celebrated in 1974.

✎ 2021 Theme is *Ecosystem Restoration*. It is hosted in Pakistan in 2021. India was host Nation in 2018.

✎ On this occasion -

✎ *UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030* has been launched, which was proposed by El Salvador in 2019.

✎ Films Division presented *Oasis of Hope* online festival, to mark WED.

✎ A New product category of Green Room Air Conditioners has been launched on Government e-Marketplace (GeM).

✎ NTPC become a signatory to UN Global Compact's CEO Water Mandate, joining coveted league of companies that focus on efficient water management.

- ✍ PM Narendra Modi released *Report of the Expert Committee on Road Map for ethanol blending in India 2020-2025*. Govt has reset target to achieve 20 % ethanol blending in petrol by 2025, compared to target of 2030 earlier.
 - ✍ Haryana Govt announced creating a 80 acres of *Oxi-van* in Karnal district, consisting 10 types of forests.
 - ✍ June 5 is also observed as International Day for the fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing, observed by UN Food and Agriculture Organization since 2018.
86. ▶ June 7 is observed as World **World Food Safety Day**, with 2021 theme - ‘Food Safety, everyone’s business’. It was First Observed in 2019, facilitated by World Health Organisation (WHO) in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nations (UN).
87. ▶ June 8 - **World Oceans Day**. 2021 theme is ‘The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods’.
88. ▶ Mar 01 is observed as **Zero Discrimination Day** annually by UNAIDS (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS). It has been observed since 2014.
- ✍ Also, Mar 1 is observed as Civil Accounts Day in India, since 1976.
89. ▶ Mar 14 is observed as International **Pi (π) Day**, observed since 1988.
- ✍ Also, UNESCO Observes Mar 14 as **International Day of Mathematics**, Proclaimed in 2019.
 - ✍ Mar 14 is also observed as **International Day of Action for Rivers**.
90. ▶ Mar 15 is observed as **World Consumer Rights Day**. 2021 Theme is *Tackling Plastic Pollution*.
91. ▶ Mar 20 is observed as **International Day of Happiness**, with 2021 Theme *Happiness For All, Forever*. It has been observed by UN since 2013.
- ✍ UN released World Happiness Report 2021 (149 Nations Analyzed for 6 Variables) -
 - ✍ India is named among most unhappy nations, ranked **139th**, compared to 144th last year.
 - ✍ Top 5 - Finland (1), Denmark (2), Switzerland (3), Iceland (4), Netherlands (5)
 - ✍ Bottom 3 - Afghanistan (149), Zimbabwe (148), Rwanda (147)
 - ✍ Mar 20 is also observed as UN French Language Day.
 - ✍ Mar 20 is also observed as World Sparrow Day. 2021 Theme is I Love Sparrows.
 - ✍ Mar 20 is also Observed as World day of theatre for children and Young People.
 - ✍ Mar 20 is also observed as World Oral Health Day. Theme for 2021-2023 is *Be Proud Of Your Mouth*.
92. ▶ Mar 21 is observed as -
- ✍ UN International **Day of Forests**, proclaimed in 2012. 2021 Theme is *Forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being*.
 - ✍ World Down Syndrome Day, Observed since 2006.

 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Proclaimed in 1966. 2021 Theme is *Youth standing up against racism*.


 World Poetry Day, Proclaimed by UNESCO in 1999.


 World Puppetry Day.

93. ▶ Mar 22 is observed Globally as **World Water Day**, Being Observed by UN since 1993. 2021 Theme is *Valuing water*. On this occasion -


 PM Narendra Modi launched *Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain* campaign, for Promoting water conservation. This campaign will be implemented across country from March 22 to November 30, 2021.

 Uttar Pradesh Govt signed agreement to implement **Ken Betwa Link Project (KBLP)**, the first project of the National Perspective Plan for interlinking of rivers.


 It will mark beginning of inter-state cooperation to implement vision of carrying water from areas that have surplus water to drought prone and water deficit areas through interlinking of rivers.

 KBLP involves transfer of water from Ken to Betwa River through construction of Daudhan Dam and a canal linking the two rivers. It will provide annual irrigation of 10.62 lakh ha, drinking water supply to about 62 lakhs people and generate 103 MW power.

 It will immensely benefit water starved region of Bundelkhand, spread across MP and UP.

 United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) partnered with Denmark Government, to support India's flagship programme, Jal Jeevan Mission, to provide strategic technical support to Jal Jeevan Mission. UNOPS shall focus on scalable delivery models in focused 11 water-scare districts of Uttar Pradesh in Bundelkhand and Vindhya regions.

 UNESCO felicitated winners of water conservation awareness programme *H2Ooooh! – Waterwise program for children of India*, along with screening of their winning animation short films.

 UNESCO launched this programme in 2020, in partnership with National Mission for Clean Ganga, United Schools Organization (USO), Water Digest and India based global animation major Toonz Media Group.

94. ▶ Mar 22 is observed as **Bihar Diwas**, marking formation of state of Bihar. On Mar 22 i 1912, British had carved out Bihar from Bengal.

95. ▶ Mar 23 is Observed As Martyr's Day (Shaheedi Diwas) in India. It marks death anniversary of Great Freedom Fighters Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar and Shivaram Rajguru on 23 March 1931, in Lahore (Pakistan).

 On this occasion, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Smarak was inaugurated in New Delhi by Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'.

 Also, On this occasion, A Commemorative Postage Stamp was released, to mark 100 Years of First Visit of M K Gandhi to Odisha (On 23rd March, 1921).

 In India, apart from Mar 23, there are 5 otherd days declared as Martyrs' Day-

- ✎ Jan 30 - Date of Assassination of M K Gandhi by Shri Nathuram Godse, is Observed as Martyr's Day.
- ✎ May 19 - Bengali Language Movement of Barak Valley in Assam was a protest against decision of Government of Assam to make Assamese only official language of state, even though significant proportion of population were Bengali. Main incident, in which 15 people were killed by state police, took place on 19 May 1961. 19 May is thus designated Bhasha Shahid Divas ("Language Martyrs Day").
- ✎ 21 October is Police Martyrs' Day. On this date in 1959, a CPRF patrol at Indo-Tibetan border in Ladakh was ambushed by Chinese forces.
- ✎ Odisha observes 17 November, death anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai as Martyr's Day.
- ✎ Birthday of Rani Lakshmbai, 19 November is observed as Martyrs' Day in Maharashtra.
- ✎ Mar 23 is also Birth Anniversary of Noted Freedom Activist Ram Manohar Lohia.

96. ▶ Mar 23 is observed as **World Meteorological Day**, to mark establishment of World Meteorological Organization on Mar 23, 1950.

97. ▶ Mar 24 - World Tuberculosis Day. 2021 Theme is *The clock is ticking*.

- ✎ On this occasion, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan launched *Tribal TB Initiative*, as a step towards achieving 'TB Mukta Bharat' by 2025.

- ✎ Mar 24 is also observed as International Day for Achievers.

98. ▶ Mar 25 is observed as -

- ✎ International Day of Remembrance of Victims of Slavery and Transatlantic Slave Trade
- ✎ International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members.

99. ▶ Mar 27 is observed as World Theatre Day, proclaimed in 1961 by International Theatre Institute.

- ✎ Also, on Mar 27, Earth Hour was observed, as a worldwide movement organized by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

- ✎ Event is held annually by encouraging turning off non-essential electric lights for one hour (8:30 to 9:30 p.m.), on a specific day towards end of March, as a symbol of commitment to the planet.

100. ▶ Mar 3 is observed as **World Hearing Day**. 2021 theme is *Hearing Care for All*. On this occasion -

- ✎ World Health Organization (WHO) published first world report on hearing on World Hearing Day 2021. It states that 25 % People will be experiencing mild-to-profound hearing loss by 2050.
- ✎ Health Minister Harsh Vardhan inaugurated six new 'Outreach Service Centers for Communication Disorders' across country by All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH) Mysuru. They are IGIMS Patna, AIIMS Bhubaneswar, and Karnataka's Bidar IMS, Belagavi IMS, Karnataka IMS, and Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research.

101. ▶ Mar 3 is observed as UN **World Wildlife Day**. 2021 Theme is *Forests and Livelihoods: sustaining people and planet*. It was proclaimed in 1973.
102. ▶ Mar 30 is statehood day of State of **Rajasthan**, established on Mar 30, 1949.
103. ▶ Mar 4 is observed as National Security / Safety Day in India, as a tribute to all security forces of country. It was observed with theme *Road Safety*. National Safety Council was set up on 4 March 1966.
104. ▶ Mar 7 is observed as *Janaushadhi Diwas*, with Mar 1 - 7 observed as *Janaushadhi Week*. Theme is *Jan Aushadhi - Seva bhi, Rozgar bhi*. 2021 is 3rd observance of Janaushadhi Diwas.
- ▶ On this occasion, PM Narendra Modi launched 7500th Jan Aushadhi Kendra at North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS) Shillong.
105. ▶ Mar 8 is observed as **International Women's Day**. 2021 Theme is **choose to challenge**. United Nations began celebrating the day in 1977. On this occasion -
- ▶ Google announced to support 1 million rural women entrepreneurs in India during its virtual event called *Women Will*. It also launched a global Google.org Impact Challenge for Women, under which Google will provide \$25 million in grants to enterprises that are doing important work to help women and girls reach their full potential.
 - ▶ HDFC Bank launched **SmartUp Unnati mentoring Programm**, to support women entrepreneurs. It will initially target over 3000 women entrepreneurs, who will be assisted by Bank's senior women executive leaders.
 - ▶ Environment Minister Prakash Javedkar launched e-book *The Green Queens of India – A nation's pride*.
 - ▶ Ministry of Women and Child Development informed that, all major schemes of Ministry have been classified under 3 umbrella schemes viz. Mission Poshan 2.0, Mission Vatsalya and Mission Shakti.
 - ▶ Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha launched *Super-75 scholarship scheme* to support education of meritorious girls in UT.
 - ▶ Ujjivan Small Finance Bank launched Savings Account catering to financial needs of women, called *Garima Savings Account*.
 - ▶ Yes Bank launched women-centric 'Yes Essence' services that will offer preferentially-priced loans and healthcare benefits, among other services.
 - ▶ Odisha government will set up a new department namely *Mission Shakti*, to work towards strengthening *self help groups*, by bringing them all under one platform to ensure greater focus and synergy and to avoid duplication in activities.
 - ▶ First flight landed at Trishul airport of Bareilly, with an all-women crew, Making Bareilly 8th Airport in Uttar Pradesh.
106. ▶ May 1 - Labour Day, also known as International Worker's Day and May Day. In India, first celebration of the Labour Day was organised in Madras by Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan on May 1, 1923.

- ✎ Labour Day commemorates happenings of May 4, 1886, the Haymarket affair (Haymarket Massacre) in the Chicago. It was a big event as workers were on the general strike for their eight-hour workday, with protests getting violent.
- 107. ▶ May 1 is Formation day of Gujarat and Maharashtra. Both states were formed on May 01, 1960, when Bombay state was split.
 - ✎ May 1, 2021 also marked as 400th Prakash Prav of Guru Teg Bahadur Ji (9th Sikh Guru).
- 108. ▶ May 10, 2021 is observed as First ever UN International Day of Argania.
 - ✎ Argan tree is a native species of the sub-Saharan region of Morocco, which is resilient to a harsh environment under water scarcity, risk of erosion and poor soils.
- 109. ▶ May 11 - **National Technology Day** in India.
 - ✎ It marks anniversary of Pokhran Nuclear Tests (Operation Shakti) of 1998. It was coined by late PM Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, as a reminder of India's technological advancements.
 - ✎ May 11 also marks flight of Hansa-3, India's first indigenous aircraft which was developed by National Aerospace Laboratories.
 - ✎ Every year, Technology Development Board seeks applications for National awards for commercialization of technologies under 3 categories - National Awards, MSME awards, and Startup awards. In 2021, 15 winners have been selected for these awards.
- 110. ▶ May 12 - **International Nurses Day**, Being observed since 1965. It is observed on Birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, noted British social reformer, statistician, and the founder of modern nursing. She was born on May 12, 1820. 2021 Theme is **Nurses : A Voice to lead**.
- 111. ▶ May 15 is observed as International **Day of Families**, proclaimed by United Nations General Assembly in 1993.
 - ✎ May 15, 2021 is observed as International Astronomy Day. It is Observed twice a year - one in autumn and another in spring. Next Astronomy Day will be observed on October 9, 2021.
- 112. ▶ May 16 Statehood Day of Sikkim. Sikkim Joined Indian Union as 22nd state on May 16, 1975.
 - ✎ On this occasion, Book *Sikkim: A History of Intrigue and Alliance*, written by Preet Mohan Singh Malik has been released.
 - ✎ May 16 is also observed as UN International Day of Living Together in Peace.
 - ✎ May 16 is also observed as International Day of Light. It marks anniversary of first successful operation of laser in 1960 by physicist Theodore Maiman. It is being held since 2018.
 - ✎ May 16 is also observed as National Dengue Day in India.
 - ✎ May 16 is also observed as World Agri Tourism Day.
- 113. ▶ May 17 - **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day** (WTISD), first observed on 17 May, 1969. It marks establishment of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and also signing of first International Telegraph Convention in 1865 in Paris. 2021 Theme is *Accelerating Digital Transformation in challenging times*.

 May 17 is also observed as **World Hypertension Day**, Observed Since 2006. 2021 Theme is *Measure Your Blood Pressure, Control It, Live Longer*.

114. ▶ May 18 is Observed as **International Museum Day**, held since 1977. 2021 Theme is *The Future of Museums: Recover and Reimagine*.

 May 18 is also observed as World AIDS Vaccine Day.

115. ▶ May 2, 2021 is 100th Birth Anniversary of Noted Filmmaker and Bharat Ratna Awardee **Satyajit Ray** (Born 2 May, 1921).

 Ministry of Information & Broadcasting will organise year-long centenary celebrations of Shri Satyajit Ray across India.

 In recognition of his legacy, *Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Cinema* has been instituted by govt, to be given at International Film Festival of India (IFFI) every year. It will consist of cash prize of 10 lakh rupees.

116. ▶ May 20 is observed as **World Bee Day**, being observed since 2018. 2021 Theme is *Bee engaged – Build Back Better for Bees*”.

 May 20 is also observed as **World Metrology Day**. 2021 theme is Measurement for Health. The date is the anniversary of the signing of the Metre Convention in 1875.


117. ▶ May 21 is observed as **UN International Tea Day**, observed since 2020.

 May 21 is also observed as World Day for **Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development**, proclaimed by UNESCO in 2002.


118. ▶ May 21, death anniversary of former Prime Minister **Rajiv Gandhi**, is observed as Anti-Terrorism Day in India.

119. ▶ May 22 - **International Day for Biological Diversity** (IDB), first observed by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1993.


2021 Theme is *We're part of the solution*.

 On this occasion, *Shaji NM*, also called *Tuber Man* of Kerala, has been awarded India Biodiversity Award 2021 in individual category of *Conservation of domesticated species*. He conserves wide array of around 200 tuber crops.

120. ▶ May 24 - **Commonwealth Day** in India. It is globally observed on Second Monday of March. However, in some nations Including India, it is observed on May 24.

 May 24 is Birth Anniversary of Queen Victoria (1819), who was Queen of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 20 June 1837 until her death. On 1 May 1876, she adopted additional title of Empress of India.

121. ▶ May 26, 2021 observed by UN as Global *Vesak Day*, observed on Full Moon in May, as most sacred day to Buddhists around world. In India, it is observed as Buddha Purnima. It was on Day of *Vesak* that -

 2.5 millennia ago, in 623 B.C., Buddha was born.

 Buddha attained enlightenment.

 Buddha in his eightieth year passed away.

122. ▶ May 28 is Birth Anniversary of Legendary freedom Fighter Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, also called Veer Savarkar. May 28 is also observed as International Day of Action for Women's Health.

 May 28 is observed as World Hunger Day, an initiative of the Hunger Project.

123. ▶ May 29 is observed as International **Everest Day**. On this day in 1953, Nepalese Tenzing Norgay and New Zealand's Edmund Hillary climbed Mt. Everest, as first humans to achieve this feat.

 Nepal decided to observe the day as International Everest Day in 2008 when the legendary climber Hillary passed away.

 Notably, Hong Kong mountaineer *Tsang Yin-hung* recently recorded world's fastest ascent of Mt. Everest by a woman, in just 25 hours and 50 minutes.

 May 29 is also observed as World Digestive Health Day, by World Gastroenterology Organisation.

124. ▶ May 3 - World **Press Freedom Day**. 2021 Theme is *Information as a Public Good* and host nation is *Namibia*.

 In December 1993, UNGA following recommendation of UNESCO's General Conference proclaimed 3 May as World Press Freedom Day.

 UNESCO marks World Press Freedom Day by conferring the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize, created in 1997.

 Investigative journalist and media executive Maria Ressa of Philippines has been named as 2021 laureate of UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.

125. ▶ May 30 is statehood day for Goa. On this day in 1987, Goa became 25th state of India. It was a Union Territory along with Daman and Diu from December 1961 onwards when Goa was liberated from Portugese rule.

126. ▶ May 31 is Observed as **No Tobacco Day**, established by World Health Organization (WHO).

 On this occasion, World Health Organisation (WHO) Honored India's Health Minister Harsh Vardhan with *WHO Director-General Special Recognition Award*, for his works in area of tobacco control.

 WNTD is one of eight official global public health campaigns marked by WHO, Others are -

 World Health Day - Apr 7

 World Blood Donor Day - June 14

 World Immunization Week - Last week of April

 World Tuberculosis Day - Mar 24

 World Malaria Day - Apr 25

 World Hepatitis Day - July 28

 World AIDS Day - Dec 1

127. ▶ May 4 is observed as International Firefighters' Day (IFFD), established in 1999, after deaths of five firefighters in a bushfire in Australia.

 May 4 is also observed as Coal Miners Day.

 May 4, 2021 is also observed as World Asthma Day, observed on First Tuesday of May.

128. ▶ May 5 is observed as -
129. ▶ May 7 is Birth Anniversary of India's first Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore. He started Vishwa Bharati University in Shantiniketan. His birth anniversary is also known as Pochise Boishakh.
130. ▶ May 8 - World Red Cross Day, also known as Red Crescent Day. It commemorates birth anniversary of Henri Dunant (born on 8 May 1828), the founder of Red Cross and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).
- ✍ May 8 is also observed as 'World Thalassaemia Day'.
 - ✍ May 8 is also observed as *Victory in Europe Day*, Marking formal end of World War II in Europe, when allied powers defeated German leader Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Forces, On May 8, 1945.
 - ✍ May 08, 2021 is Also observed as World Migratory Bird Day. It is observed on second Saturday in May and in October.
 - ✍ May 8 - 9 every year is also observed as *Time of Remembrance for Those Who Lost Their Lives during Second World War*.
131. ▶ Observations on July 1 -
- ✍ July 1 is Observed as GST (Goods & Services Tax) Day. GST regime came into Force on July 1 2017, unifying indirect taxes in India into One.
 - ✍ July 1 is observed as Doctors Day in India. This day honours legendary physician and second Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy.
 - ✍ July 1 is observed as Chartered Accountants Day In India.
 - ✍ July 1 is Observed as National Postal Worker Day in India.
 - ✍ July 1 is observed as Foundation Day of SBI, India's Largest Bank. On 1 July 1955, Imperial Bank of India became State Bank of India.
 - ✍ July 1, 2021 marks 200th year anniversary of India's oldest running newspaper, Mumbai Samachar. The Gujarati newspaper, with its office located in an iconic red building at Horniman Circle in Mumbai's Fort area, was first published in 1822.
132. ▶ Odisha Day (Utkala Dibasa) is observed on 1 April, in memory of formation of state as a separate state out of Bihar, Bengal and Odisha provinces with addition of Koraput and Ganjam from Madras Presidency on 1 April 1936.
133. ▶ UT of Puducherry Observed its *De-Jure* day on 16th August, meaning *The Legal Merger of the UT with the Indian Union*.
- ✍ Puducherry became independent by virtue of a referendum on October 18, 1954. But treaty of cession signed between French and Indian governments was ratified by French Parliament only on August 16, 1962.
 - ✍ Also, Google paid a tribute to Indian activist and poet Subhadra Kumari Chauhan on her 117th birth anniversary, on Aug 16, 2021.
134. ▶ World Water Week is organized by Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) since 1991, to address global water issues and concern. 2021 theme is *Building Resilience Faster*.



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