



Current Affairs - March 2018 to May 2018

Month Type






- **81** Current Affairs were found in **Last Three Months** for Type - **Important Days**

Days

- ▶ 12th *Earth Hour* observed across world on 24 March 2018 to take a global call on climate change. To mark this, cities worldwide turned their lights off for one hour from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm local time.
- ▶ 20th of May 2018 is first World Bee day, declared by United Nations General Assembly. First World Bee Day celebrations held in Slovenia.
- ▶ 5 April - National Maritime Day in India. It commemorates maiden voyage of first Indian owned ship *SS Loyalty* (first ship of Scindia Steam Navigation Company) sailed from Bombay to London on 5th April 1919. 2018 theme is *Indian Ocean-An Ocean of opportunity*.
- ▶ Apr 07 - WHO World Health Day. 2018 theme is *Universal Health Coverage: everyone, everywhere*.
- ▶ Apr 1 - Establishment Day of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). It was formed in 1935.
- ▶ Apr 11 - National Safe Motherhood Day (NSMD). 2018 theme is *Respectful Maternity Care*.
- ▶ Apr 12 - International Day of Human Space Flight & World Aviation and Cosmonautics Day. On 12th April 1961, Yuri Gagarin of Soviet Union, performed first manned flight to space on a *Vostok-1* spaceship.
- ▶ Apr 13, 2018 Marks 99th Anniversary of Jallianwallah Bagh Massacre. Troops of British Indian Army under command of Reginald Dyer fired rifles into a crowd of Baishakhi pilgrims gathered There.
- ▶ Apr 14 - Birth Anniversary of B R Ambedkar. He was Independent India's first law minister and principal architect of Constitution of India. Beginning 2018, it will be observed as Social Justice Day in India.
 - ▶ On this Occasion, Book *Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar: Vyakti Nahin Sankalp* has been released.
 - ▶ PM Narendra Modi Launched several development initiatives at this occasion -
 - ▶ Inaugurated Dr Ambedkar National Memorial in New Delhi.
 - ▶ Inaugurated a Health and Wellness Centre in Bijapur (Chhattisgarh) to mark launch of Government's ambitious Health Assurance Programme – Ayushman Bharat. Under It -
 - ▶ Sub centres and primary health centres at 1.5 lakh places will be developed as Health and Wellness Centres by 2022.
 - ▶ Will provide health cover of INR 5 lakh to 10 crore households (50 Crore People). It is world's largest government-funded health care programme.
 - ▶ Per family premium will be INR 1000 - 12000 will be borne by central and state governments.
 - ▶ NHPS will replace RSBY (Rashtriya Swasthaya Bima Yojana). In RSBY, Government provided medical expenses help of up to INR 30000 to BPL Families.
 - ▶ Launched Van Dhan Yojana that aims at empowering tribal communities. It envisages a mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce through Minimum Support Price and development of value chain for MFP.
 - ▶ Launched Gram Swaraj Abhiyan that would ensure that all development initiatives launched by Government in the last four years, reach the poor and disadvantaged sections of society.
- ▶ Apr 15 - Statehood Day of Himachal Pradesh. It was formed on Apr 15, 1948.
- ▶ Apr 18 - World Heritage Day. 2018 theme is *Heritage for Generations*. World Heritage Day was announced by International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in 1982.
- ▶ Apr 19 - World Liver Day (WLD). 2018 theme is *Riding New Waves in Liver Diagnosis, Staging & Treatment*.
- ▶ Apr 21 - National Civil Services Day. On this day in 1947, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (independent India's first home minister) addressed India's first batch of civil servants. This year observance of the day focussed on 'Evolving Strategies for Transforming Aspirational

Districts'. It is also observed as National Secretaries day and World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID).

14. ▶ Apr 22 - World Earth Day. 2018 Theme is *End Plastic Pollution*.
15. ▶ Apr 23 - Khongjom Day observed in Manipur. It remembers martyrs of Manipur who sacrificed their lives in last battle of independence known as 'Khongjom War' against Britishers on 23rd April 1891.
16. ▶ Apr 23 - World Book and Copyright Day and World English Language Day. World Book Capital for 2018 is Athens, Greece.
17. ▶ Apr 24 - National Panchayati Raj Day. He launched Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan at this occasion. This day marks passing of Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act 1992 that came into force on 24 April 1993. It permitted states to provide Village panchayats with necessary powers to make them function as units of self-government. First National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated in 2010. Apr 24 is also observed as World Lab Animals Day.
18. ▶ Apr 28 - World Day for Safety and Health at Work. 2018 theme is *Occupational safety health (OSH) vulnerability of young workers*.
19. ▶ Apr 29 - International Dance Day. It marks birthday of Jean-Georges Noverre, creator of modern ballet.
20. ▶ Apr 30 - International Jazz Day, declared by UNESCO In 2011. Saint Petersburg (Russia) is Global Host City for International Jazz Day 2018.
21. ▶ Apr 4 - International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action. 2018 Theme is *Advancing protection, Peace and Development*.
22. ▶ Apr 5 - Birth Anniversary of Noted Indian politician Babu Jagjivan Ram, observed as Samta Diwas.
23. ▶ Apr 6 - International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.
24. ▶ April 10 - World Homoeopathy Day. A two-day scientific convention is being organised in New Delhi by Ministry of AYUSH on This occasion. It pays tribute to Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, founder of Homeopathy system of medicine.
25. ▶ April 17 - World Haemophilia Day. 2018 theme is *Sharing Knowledge Makes Us Stronger*.
26. ▶ April 2 - World Autism Awareness Day. 2018 theme is *Empowering Women and Girls with Autism*.
27. ▶ April 2 is Foundation day of SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India). On this occasion, *Samridhi - The Virtual Assistant* and Bankability Kit (in partnership with Bank of Baroda and IDBI Bank).
28. ▶ April 26 - World Intellectual Property Day. It is Celebrated to learn about role that intellectual property rights (patents, trademarks, industrial designs, copyright) play in encouraging innovation and creativity. Theme for 2018 is 'Powering change: Women in innovation and creativity'.
29. ▶ April 8 - International Romani Day. It marks Romani culture and raise awareness of the issues facing Romani people.
30. ▶ Govt. stated that birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar (14th April) will be celebrated as 'Social Justice Day'.
31. ▶ Mar 08 - International Women's Day, observed since 1908. 2018 Campaign Theme is *#PressforProgress*. On this occasion -
 - ▶ Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises(MSME) launched a portal for women entrepreneurs of India - ***www.udyamsakhi.org***. It is a network for nurturing entrepreneurship and creating business models for low cost products and services to make them self-reliant. It provides learning tools, incubation facility, training programs for fund raising, investor meets etc.
 - ▶ Minister for Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs, Ananth kumar launched *Suidha*, 100% Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkin, under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP). It will be available for INR 2.50 per pad at over 3200 Janaushadhi Kendras across India.
 - ▶ President Ram Nath Kovind presented Nari Shakti Puraskars 2017 to 30 eminent individuals and 9 distinguished institutions. It includes Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, Justice Gita Mittal.
 - ▶ South District Police in Delhi launched an all women patrolling squad named *Knighthale*, formed to ensure safety and security of women at public places.
 - ▶ Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched *#YesIBleed* menstrual hygiene campaign.
 - ▶ Madhya Pradesh Govt. announced 'Mukhyamantri Mahila Kosh' scheme. Under this, unmarried women of over 50 years age will be given pension.
 - ▶ Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and Uttar Pradesh Government organized Swachh Shakti 2018 Women's Convention in Lucknow. In this, 8000 women sarpanches, 3000 women Swachhagrahis and women champions from across country were recognised for their outstanding contribution towards making Swachh Bharat.
 - ▶ NITI Aayog launched Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) along with WEP's theme song *Naari Shakti* composed by Kailash Kher. It is aimed at building a vibrant ecosystem for women across India to help realise their entrepreneurial aspirations, scale-up innovative initiatives and chalk-out sustainable, long-term strategies for their businesses. Pillars on which WEP is built are Ichha Shakti, Gyaan Shakti and Karma Shakti.

-  PM Narendra Modi launched Pan India Expansion of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) covering all 640 districts. 10 districts were also awarded - Effective community engagement (6 districts), Enforcement of PC&PNDT Act (2 districts) and Enabling education of Girl Child (2 Districts).
-  PM Modi also launched National Nutrition Mission, as a comprehensive approach towards raising nutrition level in the country on a war footing. It will comprise mapping of various schemes contributing towards addressing malnutrition, incentivizing states/UTs for meeting targets, incentivizing Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) for using IT based tools, eliminating registers used by AWWs and introducing measurement of height of children at the Anganwadi Centres (AWCs). It has been set up with 3 year budget of Rs 9046.17 crore commencing from 2017-18.
- 32. ▶ Mar 1 - Zero Discrimination Day. It is also observed as World Civil Defence Day.
- 33. ▶ Mar 12 - Commonwealth Day 2018. It is observed on 2nd Monday of March.
- 34. ▶ Mar 14 - International Pi (π) Day. It is observed on 14 March (3/14 in American month/day date format) since 3, 1, and 4 are first 3 significant digits of π .
- 35. ▶ Mar 15 - World Consumer Rights Day. 2018 theme is *Making Digital Marketplaces Fairer*. On this occasion, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Ram Vilas Paswan launched integrated portal for consumer services at URL jagograhakjago.gov.in.
- 36. ▶ Mar 18 - Global Recycling Day.
- 37. ▶ Mar 20 - International Day of Happiness. 2018 theme is *Share Happiness - focusing on the importance of relationships, kindness and helping each other*.
- 38. ▶ Mar 20 - World Sparrow Day (WSD).
- 39. ▶ Mar 21 - UN International Day of Forests. 2018 Theme is *Forests and Sustainable Cities*.
 -  On this occasion, Chhattisgarh was handed over National Water Digest Award for Water Conservation - Diversion, and increasing irrigation capacity.
- 40. ▶ Mar 21 - UNESCO World Poetry Day.
- 41. ▶ Mar 21 - World Down Syndrome Day. Down syndrome is a naturally occurring chromosomal arrangement that generally results in various effects on learning styles, physical characteristics or health.
- 42. ▶ Mar 22 - World Water Day. It puts emphasis on importance of freshwater and need for sustainable management of freshwater resources. 2018 theme is *Nature for Water*. The first World Water Day was celebrated by UN on 22 March, 1993. Mar 22, 2018 is also observed as Bihar's 106 Foundation Day with Theme *Centenary of Champaran Satyagraha and Elimination of Dowry and Child Marriage*.
- 43. ▶ Mar 23 - Observed as *Shahed Diwas* in India. It marks martyrdom of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, that were executed on this day in 1931.
- 44. ▶ Mar 23 - World Meteorological Day.
- 45. ▶ Mar 24 - World Tuberculosis (TB) Day. 2018 theme is *Wanted: Leaders for a TB-free world*. TB INDIA 2018 Report and National Drug Resistance Survey Report was released on this occasion, along with *NikshayAushadi Portal*. Global target to end TB is 2030, with India aiming to end it by 2025.
- 46. ▶ Mar 25 - International Day of Remembrance of Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade. 2018 theme is *Remember Slavery: Triumphs and Struggles for Freedom and Equality*.
- 47. ▶ Mar 27 - World Theatre Day.
- 48. ▶ Mar 3 - World Hearing Day. 2018 Theme is *Hear the future*.
- 49. ▶ Mar 3 - World Wildlife Day. It marks signing of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) on this day in 1973. 2018 Theme is *Big Cats: Predators under Threat*.
- 50. ▶ Mar 8 - World Kidney Day. It is celebrated annually throughout world on second Thursday of March.
- 51. ▶ Mar 21 - International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination. 2018 theme is *Promoting tolerance, inclusion, unity and respect for diversity in the context of combating racial discrimination*.
- 52. ▶ March 26 - Independence Day of Neighbouring Nation Bangladesh.
- 53. ▶ May 01 - Statehood Day of Maharashtra and Gujarat. It commemorates formation of Maharashtra and Gujarat from division of the Bombay State on 1 May 1960.
- 54. ▶ May 02 - World Tuna Day. 2018 theme is *Smart Tuna – Smart Ocean*.
- 55. ▶ May 03 - World Press Freedom Day. Was observed across the world on May 3, 2018 with an aim to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom, defend the media from attacks and pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives while being on duty. The Theme for 2018 is 'Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law'.
- 56. ▶ May 1 - World Asthma Day. 2018 theme is *Never too early, never too late. It's always the right time to address airways disease*.

57. ▶ May 1 - International Workers' Day, also known as Labour Day AND May Day. 2018 Theme is *Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement*.
58. ▶ May 11 - National Technology Day. 2018 theme is *Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future*.
- ▶ On 11th May 1998, India carried out series of nuclear tests at Pokhran. Also first indigenous aircraft "Hansa-3" was test flown on this day and India also performed successful test firing of Trishul missile on same day.
 - ▶ Considering these technological advancements, then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared 11th May as National Technology Day.
 - ▶ On this occasion, Atal Tinkering Marathon's Top 30 Innovations to be supported through industry partnerships were showcased. Atal Tinkering Labs of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog organized an Atal Tinkering Marathon in an effort to identify India's best student innovators. It was six month long nationwide challenge across 6 thematic areas - *clean energy, water resources, waste management, healthcare, smart mobility and agriculture-tech*.
59. ▶ May 12 - International Nurses Day (IND). It marks birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, founder of modern nursing. 2018 theme is *Nurses: A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human Right*. On this occasion, President conferred National Florence Nightingale Awards to nursing personnel from across country.
60. ▶ May 12 - World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD). 2018 theme is *Unifying our Voices for Bird Conservation*.
61. ▶ May 15 - International Day of Families. 2018 theme is *Families and inclusive societies*.
62. ▶ May 16 - UNESCO International Day of Light AND International Day of Living Together in Peace.
63. ▶ May 17 - World Hypertension Day. 2018 thee is *Know Your Numbers*.
64. ▶ May 17 - World Telecommunication and Information Society Day. 2018 Theme is *Enabling the positive use of Artificial Intelligence for All*.
65. ▶ May 18 - International Museum Day. 2018 theme is *Museums and Hyper Communication – New Approaches and New Public*. It is also observed as AIDS Vaccination day.
66. ▶ May 20 - World Metrology Day. 2018 Theme is *Constant evolution of the International System of Units*.
67. ▶ May 21 - Anti Terrorism Day. It marks assassination of Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991. It is also observed as *World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development*.
68. ▶ May 22 - International Day for Biological Diversity. 2018 theme is *Celebrating 25 Years of Action for Biodiversity*.
- ▶ On this occasion, National Mission for Clean Ganga and World Wildlife Federation (WWF) - India jointly organised workshop *Ganga and its Bio-diversity: Developing a Road Map for Habitat and Species Conservation* in New Delhi. Also, national-level celebrations were held at Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU) in Hyderabad.
 - ▶ On this occasion, India Biodiversity Awards 2018 were announced in 4 categories -
 - ▶ Conservation of Wild and Domesticated Species -
 - ▶ Singchung Bugun Village Community Reserve Management Committee (Arunachal Pradesh) - For Conservation of Bugun Liocichla, a critically endangered bird.
 - ▶ Lemsachenlok Organization (Nagaland)
 - ▶ Kutch Unt Uchherak Maldhari Sangathan (Gujarat) - Conservation of Kharai camel. which is unique for its ability to adapt well to both terrestrial and marine ecosystems.
 - ▶ Kalden Singhi Bhutia (Sikkim) - For conservation of Tibetan sheep.
 - ▶ Sustainable Use of Biological Resources -
 - ▶ Sangham Women Farmers Group (Medak district of Telangana) - Working towards conservation of agro-biodiversity for 15 years.
 - ▶ Parvathi Nagarajan - (Tamil Nadu) - Works for environment protection, wellness and women's empowerment.
 - ▶ Raipassa Biodiversity Management Committee (Tripura) - Community depends on cultivation, collection and sale of broom grass for its livelihood. Villagers collect about 50 tonnes of broom grass per season, and sell it at Rs. 22/Kg.
 - ▶ Replicable Mechanisms for Access and Benefit Sharing
 - ▶ Best Biodiversity Management Committees -
 - ▶ Eraviperoor Grama Panchayat (Kerala) - is an excellent model of a multi-stakeholder partnership in local biodiversity conservation. BMC has rejuvenated a tributary of river Pampa, successfully recovered 13.5 acres of river bank and shown exemplary work in plastic waste management.
 - ▶ Pithorabad Grama Panchayat (Madhya Pradesh) - Sustained efforts towards the conservation and sustainable utilization of bio-resources. It conserves around 115 traditional types of paddies, 32 varieties of vegetables, and medicinal plants.

69. ▶ May 23 - World Turtle Day.
70. ▶ May 24 - Commonwealth Day.
71. ▶ May 25 - World Thyroid Day.
72. ▶ May 28 - International Day of Action for Women's Health.
73. ▶ May 29 - International Day of UN Peacekeepers. 2018 Theme is *UN Peacekeepers: 70 Years of Service and Sacrifice*.
74. ▶ May 30 - Goa Statehood Day. It attained full statehood on 30th May 1987 becoming India's 25th state. Daman and Diu were separated from Goa and continue to be administered as a UT.
75. ▶ May 31 - World No Tobacco Day. 2018 theme is *Tobacco and heart disease*.
76. ▶ May 4 - International Firefighters' Day.
77. ▶ May 5 - World Cartoonist's Day.
78. ▶ May 6, 2018 - World Laughter Day 2018. It is celebrated on First Sunday of May of every year.
79. ▶ May 7, 2018 - 58th Raising day of Border Roads Organisation (BRO). It is also observed as World Athletics Day.
80. ▶ May 8 - World Red Cross Day. Theme of 2018 is *Memorable smiles from around the world*.
81. ▶ Utkal Diwas - April 1. It is Formation of state of Odisha as a separate province on this day in 1936. On this occasion, Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated World-Class tourist amenities at Konark Sun Temple in Odisha.

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