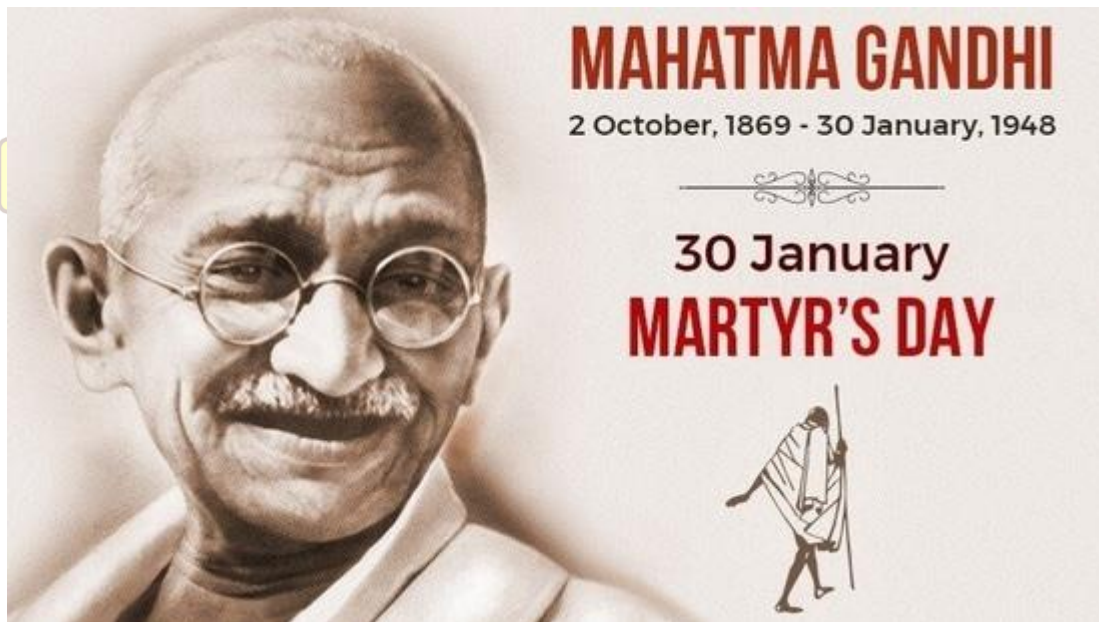


# Daily Current Affairs

## 30 January 2024

### Shaheed Diwas

- **Martyrs' Day** is commemorated on **January 30** to mark the **death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi**.
- Martyrs' Day or Shaheed Divas is **also commemorated on March 23** to **remember the sacrifice of three extraordinary revolutionaries of India – Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, Sukhdev Thapar**.
- Every year, this day is observed to pay homage to the unsung heroes of our nation and the freedom fighters who laid their lives for independent, sovereign and liberal India.



- **Gandhi was assassinated on 30 January 1948 by Nathuram Godse** and his death was followed by epic public outpourings of grief.
- This day marks the saddest day in the history of India's Independence Struggle.
- The Martyrs' Day is observed on January 30 every year to remember Mahatma Gandhi's contribution to India and his sacrifices during the freedom struggle.
- At his daily prayer meeting on the evening of 30 January, Gandhiji was shot dead by a young man, Nathuram Godse.

- Godse killed Gandhi because he **disagreed** with Gandhiji's conviction that **Hindus and Muslims** should live together in harmony.
- **Revolutionary nationalists such as Bhagat Singh and his comrades** wanted to fight colonial rule and the rich exploiting classes through a revolution of workers and peasants.
- For this purpose, they founded the **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)** in 1928 at Ferozeshah Kotla in Delhi.
- Members of the **HSRA assassinated Saunders**, a police officer who had led a lathi charge that caused the death of Lala Lajpat Rai. Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were deeply affected by the death of Lala Lajpat Rai in a non-violent protest against the Simon Commission on October 30, 1928.
- Along with his fellow **nationalist B.K. Dutt, Bhagat Singh** threw a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly on 8 April 1929.



- The aim, as their leaflet explained, was not to kill but, “to make the deaf hear”, to remind the foreign government of its callous exploitation.
- The trio – **Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, Sukhdev Thapar lost their lives on March 23 in 1931** during the struggle for India's independence and that day in history is celebrated as Martyrs' Day.
- The trio of heroes was hanged to death by the British on the charges of assassinating British officer John Saunders in 1928 and were cremated on the banks of the Sutlej River.
- **Bhagat Singh was tried and executed at the age of 23.** The revolutionary ideas and spirit of these three were an inspiration to the youth during the freedom struggle.

## IREDA Unveils Its Vigilance Journal 'Pahal'

- **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)**, a Government of India enterprise under the administrative control of the **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy**, has taken a remarkable step towards fostering transparency and promoting renewable energy initiatives.
- IREDA unveiled '**Pahal**,' the insightful house journal of its **Vigilance Department**, marking a significant milestone in its commitment to accountability and sustainability.



- This event underscored IREDA's dedication to **transparency and accountability** in its operations.
- The launch of 'Pahal' symbolizes IREDA's proactive approach to **engage its stakeholders, including employees and their families**, in the journey towards renewable energy development. The journal serves as a platform to disseminate insightful information, promote awareness, and encourage active participation in sustainable practices.



- The importance of **nurturing awareness among children** by involving them in the journal through contributions such as articles and poems, recognizing their role in shaping a sustainable future.
- Through this initiative, IREDA reaffirms its commitment to harnessing the collective efforts of its stakeholders to accelerate the transition towards a greener and more resilient future.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Rüsoma Orange Festival 2024

- The **vibrant hues of oranges** and the aroma of **citrus filled the air** as the **4th edition of the Rüsoma Orange Festival** unfolded in the picturesque village of Rüsoma, nestled in the **Kohima district in Nagaland**.
- As the sun rose over Rüsoma, stalls adorned with succulent oranges lined the festival grounds, offering a visual feast for attendees.



- The day buzzed with activity, featuring various competitions and showcases aimed at celebrating the essence of the orange.
- Additionally, accolades for the **'heaviest orange'** and **'best stall'** were awarded to Stall No. 2, represented by Vakhriezo Zhase, adding an element of friendly rivalry to the proceedings.

## French President Macron's India Visit

- **French President Emmanuel Macron** concluded his two-day visit to India, participating as the chief guest in the 75th Republic Day celebrations.
- The visit aimed at strengthening strategic ties **between India and France**, featuring a 40-member delegation and significant diplomatic engagements.



- Roadmap for **India-France Defence Industrial Partnership**, Letter of Intent for Defence Space Partnership, Memorandum of Understanding between **NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) and Arianespace SAS, France**
- **Civil Aviation** : Memorandum of Agreement between TATA Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) and Airbus to establish an assembly line for H125 helicopters in India.
- **Science and Technology** : Framework Cooperation Arrangement between Department of Science and Technology (DST), India, and Institut National de Recherche pour l’Agriculture, l’Alimentation et l’Environnement (INRAE), France
- Framework Arrangement on Cooperation in Funding Research Projects between DST, India, and Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), France



- **Health and Medicine** : Declaration of Intent between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India, and the Ministry of Labour, Health, and Solidarity of France on cooperation in health and medicine.
- **Public Administration and Urban Development** : Letter of Intent between the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, India, and the Ministry of Public Sector Transformation and the Civil Service, France, on public administration and administrative reforms.

## INSAT-3DS Satellite

- **The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is gearing up to launch its latest meteorological satellite, INSAT-3DS, marking a significant leap in **India's space prowess**. This satellite, geared **towards enhancing weather forecasting and disaster management**, is the result of meticulous testing and cooperation among ISRO and various stakeholders.
- INSAT-3DS is designed to continue and enhance the services provided by its predecessors, **INSAT-3D (launched in 2013)** and **INSAT-3DR (2016)**, while also expanding the capabilities of the INSAT platform. Built on ISRO's **reliable I-2k bus platform**, it weighs **2,275 kg**, solidifying India's satellite fleet.



### INSAT - 3DS ABOUT TO LAUNCH BY ISRO

Complete details about INSAT - 3DS Satellite - INSAT - 3DS UPSC



INSAT - 3DS SATELITE

- The assembly, integration, and testing of INSAT-3DS were meticulously carried out at the **U R Rao Satellite Centre in Bengaluru**, showcasing ISRO's dedication to precision engineering and quality assurance. This phase involved thorough assessments to ensure the satellite's readiness for its mission.
- Equipped with **advanced instruments**, INSAT-3DS enables more accurate **meteorological observations**, crucial for forecasting and managing natural

disasters. Its capabilities include monitoring land and ocean surfaces, vital for predicting and mitigating the impact of disasters.



- Similar to its predecessors, INSAT-3DS features a **Data Relay Transponder (DRT)** and a search and **rescue transponder**. The DRT enhances the satellite's forecasting **capabilities by receiving meteorological and environmental data from automatic collection platforms**. Additionally, the search and rescue transponder aids in relaying distress signals, ensuring global coverage for prompt rescue operations.

## Dr Nitya Anand

- **Dr. Nitya Anand, who made the first oral contraceptive pill 'Saheli' in India, passed away at 99 in Lucknow.**
- Dr. Anand was in charge of the Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) from 1974 to 1984. He was part of CDRI since it started in 1951. He guided 100 PhD students, wrote over 400 papers, and had more than 130 patents.



- Dr. Anand made Saheli, a unique birth control pill, used once a week and **without steroids or hormones**. It was introduced in **1986 by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi**.
- In 2016, Saheli became part of India's **National Family Programme**. It is still the only pill of its kind in the world.

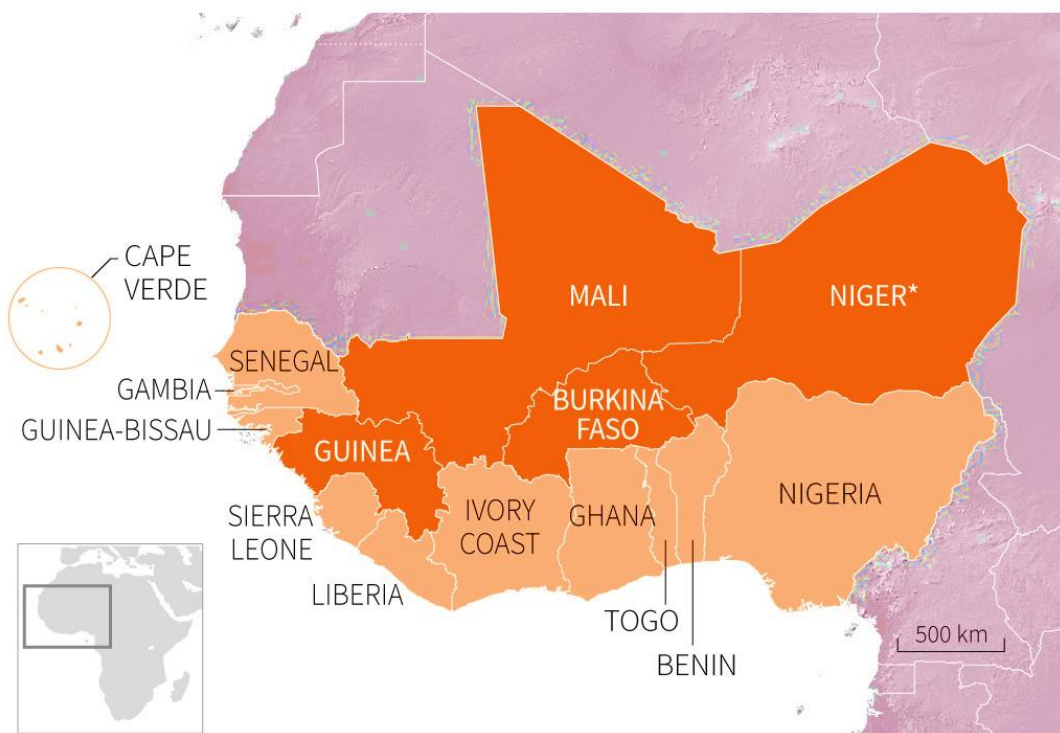
## Sahel States Quit ECOWAS Bloc

- The **military regimes ruling Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger** have announced their immediate withdrawal from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The surprise exit is being called a “sovereign decision” taken without delay.
- The **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)** is a regional political and economic union established on 28 May 1975 through the Treaty of Lagos. Currently comprising **15 countries across West Africa**, ECOWAS covers a massive area of over 5 million square kilometers inhabited by an estimated 424 million people.

### Economic Community of West African States

15-member countries, including four affected by coups since 2020

■ Suspended and/or sanctioned after a coup



Source: ECOWAS

\*Suspension of commercial and financial transactions



- **ECOWAS is considered a pillar regional bloc of the Africa-wide African Economic Community** that aims to promote continental integration. The core goal of ECOWAS is to achieve collective self-sufficiency for its member states by creating a single integrated trading area through progressively eliminating trade barriers. Additionally, it works to raise living standards and catalyze economic development across West Africa.



- **All three Sahelian nations – Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger – are battling mounting jihadist insurgencies and deep poverty.** Their tense relations with ECOWAS worsened after military coups toppled democratic governments in Niger (2021), Burkina Faso (2022) and Mali (2020). They remain suspended from the bloc despite sanctions.
- In recent months, the **junta leaders have hardened stances against ECOWAS** penalties. They have forged a new “Alliance of Sahel States” for collective bargaining power against criticism of their takeovers. Regional security imperatives are also driving their joint withdrawal.
- The military takeovers have reversed democratic consolidation gains made over decades in West Africa. But the regimes remain defiant amidst ECOWAS criticism and pressure to swiftly restore civilian rule and constitutional order.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. 'Pahal,' The Insightful House Journal Launched By

- A. IREDA
- B. RBI
- C. CSIR
- D. ISRO

**ANSWER: A**

2. Rusoma Orange Festival Is Celebrated In

- A. Assam
- B. Nagaland
- C. Manipur
- D. Mizoram

**ANSWER: B**

3. INSAT-3DS Satellite Is Related To

- A. Weather Forecasting
- B. Disaster Management
- C. Both a & b
- D. None of Above

**ANSWER: C**

4. First Oral Contraceptive Pill 'Saheli' Is Made By

- A. Dr. Gauri Aggarwal
- B. Dr. Niti Anand
- C. Dr. Nitya Anand
- D. Dr. Heena Kapoor

**ANSWER: C**

5. What Is The Primary Habitat Of Emperor Penguins

- A. Tropical Rainforests
- B. Desert Regions
- C. Arctic Tundra
- D. Pack Ice And Surrounding Marine Areas In Antarctica

**ANSWER: D**

**6. Where Was The '84th All India Presiding Officers' Conference Held**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Bhopal
- C. New Delhi
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

**7. What Is Armado Recently Mentioned In The News**

- A. Electric vehicle
- B. Ballistic missile
- C. Satellite
- D. Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle

**ANSWER: D**

**8. Who Has Become 1<sup>st</sup> Woman To Hold Rank Of Subedar In Indian Army**

- A. Preeti Rajak
- B. Rajeshwari Kumari
- C. Manisha Keer
- D. Shreyasi Singh

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Market Access Initiative Scheme Seen In News, Is Related To Which One Of The Following**

- A. Import Promotion Scheme
- B. Export Promotion Scheme
- C. Employment Related Scheme
- D. Renewable Energy

**ANSWER: B**

**10. Finances Of Panchayati Raj Institutions Seen In News, Is Released By Which Institution**

- A. RBI
- B. SBI
- C. NABARD
- D. IDBI

**ANSWER: A**

**11. Where Was 44<sup>th</sup> All India Criminology Conference Of National Forensic Science University Held**

- A. Jaipur
- B. Gandhinagar
- C. Lucknow
- D. Indore

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Zombie Virus In News, Is Related To Which One Of The Following**

- A. Ancient viruses are frozen in the Arctic permafrost
- B. Virus found in space
- C. Disease X
- D. Covid 19

**ANSWER: A**

**13. Hercules Seen In News, Belongs To Which One Of Following Species**

- A. Spider
- B. Frog
- C. Fish
- D. Snake

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Mukhyamantri Gramin Solar Street Light Scheme Seen In News, Is Associated With Which State**

- A. Bihar
- B. Jharkhand
- C. Odisha
- D. Chhattisgarh

**ANSWER: A**

**15. Halwa Ceremony Seen In News, Is Related To Which One Of Following**

- A. Budget
- B. Economic Survey
- C. Republic Day
- D. Fit India Programme

**ANSWER: A**

**16. All India Institute Of Speech And Hearing Seen In News, Is Inaugurated At Which City Of Uttar Pradesh**

- A. Kanpur
- B. Lucknow
- C. Prayagraj
- D. Varanasi

**ANSWER: A**

**17. When Is 'World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day' Observed Every Year**

- A. 28 January
- B. 29 January
- C. 30 January
- D. 31 January

**ANSWER: C**

**18. Which Country Is The Second Largest Producer Of Tasar Silk**

- A. Japan
- B. Russia
- C. Egypt
- D. India

**ANSWER: D**

**19. Which Organization Launched 1<sup>st</sup> Indigenously Developed Hepatitis A Vaccine Called Havisure**

- A. Indian Immunologicals Limited
- B. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- C. World Health Organization
- D. National Institute of Virology

**ANSWER: A**

**20. Guruvayoor Sree Krishna Swamy Temple Is Located In Which State**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Kerala

**ANSWER: D**