

Daily Current Affairs

21 February 2024

RAISINA Dialogue

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the **9th edition of the RAISINA Dialogue in Delhi**.
- Prime Minister of Greece, **Kyriakos Mitsotakis**, will join the inaugural session as the Chief Guest, and deliver the keynote address.
- The three-day Raisina Dialogue will witness the participation of representatives from **over 100 countries including** Ministers, former Heads of State and Heads of Government, Military Commanders, Captains of Industry, Technology Leaders, Academics, Journalists, and Scholars on Strategic Affairs.



- The theme of this edition is "**Chaturanga: Conflict, Contest, Cooperate, Create**".
- Over the course of three days, decision-makers and thought leaders of the world will engage each other across conversations in various formats, over six thematic pillars.
- **These include Tech Frontiers:** Regulations and Realities, Peace with the Planet: Invest and Innovate, and War and Peace: Armouries and Asymmetries.

- Over 2,500 participants from about 115 countries will be joining the Dialogue in person, and the proceedings will be viewed by millions across the world on various digital platforms.



PM Modi Launches Projects

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said, New India is spending more and more to provide **modern education** to its present generation.
- He said, that in the last 10 years, a record number of schools, colleges, and universities have been constructed in the country.
- He was speaking after **inaugurating multiple projects worth over 32000 crore rupees from Jammu.**
- The Prime Minister said, the government has taken a pledge to develop Jammu and Kashmir. He said, about **50 new degree colleges** have been established in Jammu and Kashmir itself.



- He said, the dreams of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, which have been **incomplete for 70 years**, will be fulfilled by Modi in the coming few years.

- The Prime Minister said, that during the last 10 years, India has emerged as the world's 5th largest economy, rising from the position of the **world's 11th largest economy before**.
- He said, that the more the **economic strength of a country** is, the more the country can spend on the welfare of its people.
- Mr Modi said, that Bharat is giving free ration, free healthcare, pucca houses, toilets, and whatnot to its citizens.
- He said, all this would not have been possible without India becoming an economic power.



- **Prime Minister inaugurated, dedicated to the nation**, and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over **32000 crore rupees**.
- The projects relate to several sectors including health, education, rail, road, aviation, petroleum, and civic infrastructure, among others.
- During the programme, Prime Minister Modi distributed appointment orders to about **1500 new Government recruits of Jammu and Kashmir**.
- He also interacted with beneficiaries of various government schemes as part of the **'Viksit Bharat Viksit Jammu'** programme.

Poverty And Hunger Alleviation Fund

- India has contributed **1 million US Dollars** to the Poverty and Hunger Alleviation Fund established by **India, Brazil, and South Africa, IBSA**.
- The fund is aimed at **alleviating poverty and hunger**. India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj handed over the cheque to the Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) **Dima Al-Khatib**.



- Ms Kamboj said, India is committed to supporting the IBSA Fund as it has made a positive impact on the lives of millions across the Global South and has strengthened the spirit of South-South cooperation.
- **Ms Kamboj further** said that the focus of India's G20 Presidency was the development of the people, by the people, and for the people.



**INDIA
BRAZIL
SOUTH AFRICA
FORUM**

- The **IBSA Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation (IBSA Fund)** was established jointly by grouping in March 2004 and it became operational in 2006.

- The **purpose of the fund** is to identify replicable and scalable projects that can be disseminated to developing countries on a demand-driven basis.
- **IBSA Fund Supported projects** help partner countries in the Global South to achieve their national priorities, as well as all other internationally agreed development goals.

Asian Indoor Athletics Championships

- India has concluded the **Asian Indoor Athletics Championships** in Tehran with three gold, one silver and two national records.
- Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur congratulated the team for showcasing their outstanding performance at the Championships.



- The Minister praised athlete **Jyothi Yarraji** for securing gold in women's 60-metre hurdles with a timing of 8.12 seconds, which is also a new national record.
- The Minister also lauded the efforts of **Tajinder Singh Toor** on breaking the nineteen-year-old national record and clinching gold with a throw of 19.7 metres in men's shotput.
- He congratulated **athletes Harmilan Bains** on securing gold in the women's 1500 metres and **Ankita Dhyani** on clinching silver in the women's 3000 metres event.

- Mr. Thakur said, it was a fantastic kick-off to the Indian Athletics season with athletes of Target Olympic Podium Scheme and Khelo India achieving milestones on their road to Paris 2024.
- **A total of 13 Indian athletes six women** and seven men competed at the eleventh edition of the Asian Indoor Athletics Championships 2024 held in Irani's Tehran from February 17 to 19.

Anush Agarwalla

- **Asian Games medallist Anush Agarwalla** has secured the first-ever Paris Olympics quota in dressage discipline for the country.
- The **International Federation for Equestrian Sports (FEI)** announced this.
- He obtained the Paris 2024 quota for the country based on his performance in four FEI events.



- **Agarwalla had clinched India's first individual bronze** at the Asian Games in dressage last year.
- In dressage competitions, the horse and rider perform a series of pre-determined movements in an arena of 20 metres to 60 metres, bordered by a low rail which the horse must stay within. As the quota is allotted to the National Olympic Committee, not an individual, the Equestrian Federation of India will conduct a trial before sending the final name for the Paris 2024 Olympics.

International Puppet Festival

- The vibrant city of Chandigarh became a melting pot of cultural heritage and artistic innovation as it hosted the **11th International Puppet Festival at Tagore Theatre**.
- The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of esteemed guests, including Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit, who, along with Rajeev Verma and senior officers, officially kicked off the festivities.



- The Governor addressed the audience, **shedding light on the historical significance of puppet theatre** in India, a tradition that dates back to ancient times.
- He **underscored puppetry's role** in entertainment, education, and the preservation of cultural heritage, highlighting its universal presence across various cultures and regions.
- The festival commenced with a spellbinding performance by the Novosibirsk Regional Puppet Theatre from Russia, captivating the audience with the **renowned puppet show "Petrushka."**
- This opening act set the tone for the festival, showcasing the global appeal and artistic depth of puppetry. In a bid to make the festival accessible to a broader audience, the **Department organized special morning** shows exclusively for school students, while evening shows were open to the general public.
- This thoughtful scheduling ensured that enthusiasts of all ages had the opportunity to experience the magic of puppetry firsthand.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. 9th Edition Of RAISINA Dialogue Is Held In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Chennai
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Calcutta

ANSWER: A

2. Tajinder Singh Seen In News Is Associated With

- A. Badminton
- B. Shot Put
- C. Tennis
- D. Football

ANSWER: B

3. 11th Edition International Puppet Festival Held In

- A. New Delhi
- B. Chennai
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Chandigarh

ANSWER: D

4. Institution Launched 'Face Authentication System' At The Global Fintech Festival

- A. NPCI
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. NASSCOM
- D. UIDAI

ANSWER: D

5. India Contributed _____ US Dollars To Poverty And Hunger Alleviation Fund

- A. 1 Million
- B. 2 Million
- C. 3 Million
- D. 4 Million

ANSWER: A

6. Pandaram Land Is Located In Which State/UT

- A. Lakshadweep
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Puducherry
- D. Andhra Pradesh

ANSWER: A

7. Researchers Have Discovered A New Species Of Marine Amphipod In Which Lake Of Odisha

- A. Tampara Lake
- B. Kanjia Lake
- C. Chilika Lake
- D. Sar Lake

ANSWER: C

8. National Generic Document Registration System Is Initiated By

- A. Ministry of Home Affairs
- B. Ministry of Rural Development
- C. Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- D. Ministry of Tourism

ANSWER: B

9. India Signed MoU With Which Country For Sharing Open Sourced Digital Public Infrastructure

- A. Colombia
- B. Chile
- C. Brazil
- D. Guyana

ANSWER: B

10. Which Day Is Celebrated As Global Tourism Resilience Day

- A. 17 February
- B. 18 February
- C. 19 February
- D. 20 February

ANSWER: A

11. Melghat Tiger Reserve Is Located In Which State

- A. Gujarat
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Karnataka
- D. Kerala

ANSWER: B

12. NASA & Which Country's Space Agency Have Joined To Launch World's First Wooden Satellite

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

ANSWER: A

13. Where Was First 'Child Friendly Police Station' Inaugurated

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Gujarat
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Odisha

ANSWER: A

14. Which Country's Parliament Passed Quad Bill To Enhance Cooperation

- A. United States
- B. India
- C. Australia
- D. Japan

ANSWER: A

15. 'One Stop Centre Scheme', Is Formulated By Which Ministry

- A. Ministry Of Women And Child Development
- B. Ministry Of Finance
- C. Ministry Of Rural Development
- D. Ministry Of Agriculture

ANSWER: A

16. C- CARES Web Portal, Is Associated With Which Sector

- A. Petroleum sector
- B. Renewable energy sector
- C. Coal sector
- D. Agriculture sector

ANSWER: C

17. Where Was Commonwealth Attorneys & Solicitors General Conference Held

- A. Chandigarh
- B. Thiruvananthapuram
- C. Jaipur
- D. New Delhi

ANSWER: D

18. Sebastian Pinera, Who Recently Passed Away, Was Former President Of Which Country

- A. Peru
- B. Chile
- C. Brazil
- D. Argentina

ANSWER: B

19. Which State Government Launched 'SWAYAM Scheme'

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Haryana
- C. Odisha
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: C

20. In Which Year And At Which Place, India's National Anthem Was Sung For The First Time

- A. 1911, Kolkata
- B. 1912, Lucknow
- C. 1913, Delhi
- D. 1914, Bombay

ANSWER: A