Daily Current Affairs 14 March 2024

PM-SURAJ National Portal

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Pradhan Mantri Samajik Utthan
 Evam Rozgar Adharit Jankalyan' (PM-SURAJ) national portal and sanctioned
 credit assistance for one lakh entrepreneurs from disadvantaged communities.
- He also interacted with beneficiaries of various government schemes from disadvantaged groups, including Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes and sanitation workers through video conferencing.
- **PM-SURAJ national portal for credit support** to disadvantaged sections embodies the Prime Minister's commitment to prioritize the underprivileged.

• It is a transformative initiative, aimed at uplifting the most marginalised segments of society.



- The program witnessed the participation of about **three lakh beneficiaries** of various government schemes from disadvantaged groups.
- Mentioning transferring financial assistance worth 720 crore rupees directly
 into the bank accounts of one lakh beneficiaries of the disadvantaged sections,
 Mr Modi said that such a system of Direct Benefit Transfer was unimaginable
 during the previous governments.

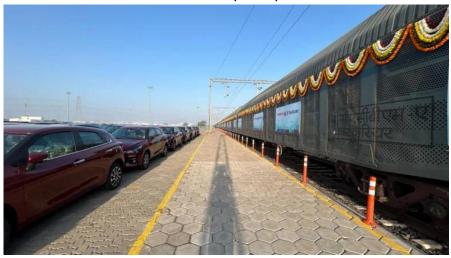
Referring to his interaction with the beneficiaries, the Prime Minister
expressed satisfaction with how the welfare schemes are reaching the Dalits,
deprived and backward communities.



- On the goal of Viksit Bharat by 2047, Prime Minister Modi said that the goal can not be achieved without the development of the deprived segments.
- He said, he has broken the mindset of the past and it is being ensured that
 facilities available to others like gas connection, bank accounts and toilets are
 available to Dalits, backwards, deprived and tribals.
- He said, the biggest beneficiaries of schemes like free ration, free medical treatment, pucca houses, toilets, and Ujjwala gas connection are the deprived segments or people living on the periphery.

India's First Automobile In Plant Railway Siding

 Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled the inaugural automobile in-plant railway siding at Suzuki Motor Gujarat Private Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL).



- The ceremony, conducted via video conferencing, signifies a pivotal advancement in the execution of the Prime Minister's flagship Gati Shakti programme.
- The primary objectives of this in-plant railway siding are to reduce the carbon footprint in logistics, decrease fossil fuel consumption, and alleviate road congestion.
- Upon reaching full operational capacity, the Gujarat railway siding facility is
 poised to dispatch an impressive 300,000 cars annually to 15 destinations across
 India. The collaborative effort behind this project includes Gujarat Rail
 Infrastructure Development (G-RIDE), a partnership between the Government of
 Gujarat and Indian Railways.



- Also involved in the collaboration are the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) and MSIL.
- Maruti Suzuki has expressed a dedication to sustainable transportation, detailing its intentions to increase production capacity to 4 million units per year by 2030-31.
- With increased vehicle dispatches expected via railways, the new in-plant railway facility will support Maruti Suzuki's production expansion. Maruti Suzuki's integration of a railway siding facility within its plant marks a historic milestone, advancing green logistics in India.

Google Collaborates With ECI

- Google has partnered with the Election Commission of India (ECI) to provide authoritative information on voting processes for the upcoming general elections.
- Through Google Search and YouTube videos, voters will be able to access critical details on how to register and vote, as well as information about candidates.



- In separate initiatives, Google has taken new measures to combat misinformation and help people navigate Al-generated content during the upcoming election season.
- One of these measures is Google's collaboration with Shakti, the India Election Fact-Checking Collective.

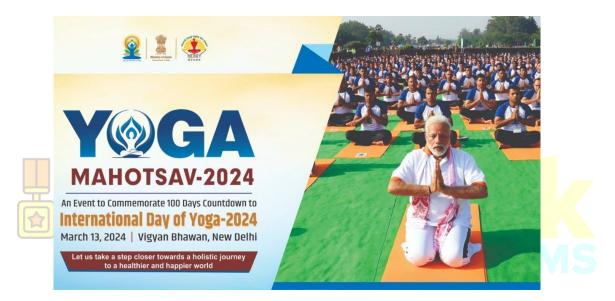


- Shakti is a pan-India network comprising news publishers and fact-checkers. Google and Shakti will work together to aid in the detection of online misinformation, including deepfakes, and to create a common repository that news publishers can use to tackle misinformation challenges at scale.
- The **Shakti project will provide news organizations** and fact-checkers with essential training in advanced fact-checking methodologies, deepfake detection, and the latest Google tools like the Fact Check Explorer. This will help streamline

verification processes and enhance the ability to combat misinformation effectively.

Yoga Mahotsav 2024

- Yoga Mahotsav-2024, a grand event was organized today to commemorate 100 Days Countdown to IDY -2024 at Vigyan Bhawan.
- The event was celebrated with this year's IDY theme "Yoga for Women Empowerment".
- International Day of Yoga is **observed every year on 21st June.** This year the 10th edition will be observed.



 On this occasion Secretary Ministry of Ayush Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha stated that the purpose of Yoga Mahotsav 2024 is to propel Yoga into a widespread movement with focus on women well-being and promoting global health and peace.



 The Ministry has actively supported studies on various conditions affecting women, including PCOS/PCOD, stress management, and the like, to focus on women's health irrespective of their age or condition, promoting women empowerment through evidence-based research.

- Yoga is a comprehensive instrument for empowering women, encompassing their physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being.
- **Empowered women take** on roles as leaders, educators, and advocates for change, promoting inclusivity, diversity, and empowerment across society. Smt. Hansaji Jayadeva, Director of The Yoga Institute, Mumbai said that 'A balance state of mind is Yoga'.

National Speed Breeding Crop Facility

- Dr. Jitendra Singh, the Union Minister of Science & Technology, inaugurated the "National Speed Breeding Crop Facility" at NABI (National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute), Mohali.
- This initiative aligns with **PM Modi's vision of increasing farmers' income** and promoting Agri StartUps.
- The facility serves all Indian states, with a focus on North Indian states like Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, and Jammu & Kashmir.



- It speeds up crop improvement programs by developing advanced varieties resilient to climate change.
- NABI's technology enables the development of climate-resistant crops, freeing farmers from seasonal constraints.
- Farmers can now farm year-round, improving food security and economic stability.

- **Dr. Jitendra Singh praised biotech innovations** like tulip cultivation and the 108-petal lotus, highlighting their role in economic growth.
- The government's commitment to bio-manufacturing and bio-foundry sectors will strengthen India's bio-economy.



- India's projected rise as the world's third-largest economy highlights the vital role of the agriculture sector.
- The government's proactive stance on bio-economy is evident in budget allocations for bio-manufacturing schemes.
- The goal of the facility is to make new types of crops faster, so farmers can grow what people need more quickly.
- NABI is also helping places like Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Haryana by giving them new ways to farm and make more money.

Golden Compass Award

- Mr. Srinivasan Swamy, currently serving as the chairman and managing director of RK Swamy Ltd, was honored at the 45th IAA World Congress in Penang, Malaysia.
- Governor Tun Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak presented him with the esteemed IAA Golden Compass Award, recognizing his significant contributions to the global marketing, advertising, and media industries.
- This accolade marks a significant milestone in his illustrious career.
- The **IAA Golden Compass Award** is a symbol of excellence and innovation in the industry.
- Swamy is the first Indian industry leader to receive this prestigious honor.
- Previous recipients include renowned figures such as Shelly Lazarus, Paul Polman, and Andrew Robertson.



Inflection 2.5

- Inflection AI, a California-based startup, has made significant strides with the launch of its latest Large Language Model (LLM), Inflection 2.5.
- This upgrade to the company's existing model, which powers its friendly chatbot **Pi, comes on the heels of Anthropic's Claude 3 release**, showcasing the intense competition in the AI landscape.
- Founded by former co-founders of DeepMind and LinkedIn, Mustafa Suleyman, Reid Hoffman, and Karen Simonyan, Inflection Al introduced its personal Al assistant, Pi, in May 2023.



- The company's mission is **to create personal AI for everyone**, focusing on developing empathetic, helpful, and safe AI models.
- In November 2023, Inflection AI launched its major foundation model, Inflection 2, which was claimed to be the best LLM at the time.
- Inflection 2.5 is an upgraded in-house model that is competitive with leading LLMs like GPT-4 and Gemini.

- Inflection 2.5 retains Pi's signature personality and empathetic fine-tuning, making the chatbot more helpful across various domains. Inflection 2.5 has made substantial improvements in areas such as coding and mathematics, achieving impressive results on key benchmarks.
- The model outperforms its predecessor, Inflection-1, on the MMLU (massive multitask language understanding) benchmark and performs at the 85th percentile of human test-takers on the Physics GRE.



- Additionally, <u>Pi now boasts world-class real-time web search capabilities</u>, ensuring users have access to up-to-date information.
- Pi is an AI chatbot designed for deep and meaningful conversations, offering a
 more humane and personable experience compared to other AI assistants like
 ChatGPT. The chatbot, which is free to use, comes with six distinct voices and
 has been trained on billions of lines of text from the open web.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. Which State Launched 'Neengal Nalama' Scheme Aimed At Reviewing The Implementation Of Welfare Programs
- A. Karnataka
- B. Kerala
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Andhra Pradesh

ANSWER: C

- 2. In Which Indian State Was A 50 MW Solar Project Inaugurated
- A. Himachal Pradesh
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Gujarat
- D. Assam

ANSWER: D

- 3. In Which City Rural Areas Being Targeted By Dilli Gramodaya Abhiyan Initiative
- A. Mumbai
- B. Delhi
- C. Kolkata
- D. Chennai

ANSWER: B

- 4. Who Has Been Appointed As The New Chief Minister Of Haryana
- A. Nayab Singh Saini
- B. Manohar Lal Khattar
- C. Mool Chand Sharma
- D. Banwari Lal

ANSWER: A

- 5. Which State/UT Conducted All-women Maritime Surveillance Mission
- A. Andaman & Nicobar
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Lakshadweep
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: A

6. Where Was Khelo India Rising Talent Identification Programme Inaugurated

- A. Bhopal
- B. New Delhi
- C. Chandigarh
- D. Lucknow

ANSWER: C

7. Revamped Pharmaceuticals Technology Upgradation Assistance Scheme Introduced By Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- B. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- C. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- D. Ministry of Rural Development

ANSWER: A

8. What Are "Carmoisine, Tartrazine, And Rhodamine"

- A. Infectious diseases
- B. Industrial pollutants
- C. Food coloring agents
- D. Medicinal plants

ANSWER: C



9. Theme Of 'Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain 2024' Campaign

- A. Valuing Water
- B. Jal Shakti Se Vikas
- C. Nari Shakti Se Jal Shakti
- D. Source Sustainability For Drinking Water

ANSWER: C

10. 'Gulf Of Tonkin Incident', Is Related To Which One Of Following

- A. Russia-Ukraine War
- B. Vietnam War
- C. World War II
- D. Iran-Iraq War

ANSWER: B

11. What Is 'Inflection 2.5', Recently Seen In The News

- A. Black hole
- B. Asteroid
- C. Large Language Model
- D. Exoplanet

ANSWER: C

12. Who Appointed As The New CEO Of The World Gold Council For India

- A. Sachin Jain
- B. Arti Saxena
- C. Dharmesh Sodah
- D. Sheela Kulkarni

ANSWER: A

13. Annual Financial Literacy Week Campaign, Is Organized By

- A. IIT Kanpur
- B. RBI
- C. SBI
- D. ISRO

ANSWER: B

14. Which Organizations Recently Collaborated To Launch The Women Exporters In The Digital Economy Fund

- A. ITC & WTO
- B. WB & IMF
- C. ILO & IMF
- D. ITC & IMF

ANSWER: A

15. Which NE State Adopted A Resolution Against Centre's Decision To Fence The India- Myanmar Border

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

ANSWER: C

16. Which One Of Following Best Describes About 'Jacaranda Tree'

- A. Thorny Trees Grows Near The Wetlands
- B. Soft Trees Found In The Tropical Thorn Forests
- C. Deciduous Hard Tree That Grows Well In Tropical Climatic Region
- D. Deciduous Soft Tree That Grows Well In Temperate Climatic Region **ANSWER: C**

17. AT Status Of Leopards In India 2022 Report, Which State Has The Largest Population Of Leopards

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

ANSWER: C

18. Begonia Narahari Belongs To Which One Of The Following Species

- A. Fish
- B. Invasive Weed
- C. Flowering plant
- D. Spider

ANSWER: C

19. What Is The Theme Of 'National Horticultural Fair 2024

- A. Innovative Horticulture for self-reliance
- B. Start-Up & Stand-Up India
- C. Horticulture for Rural Prosperity
- D. Nextgen technology-led horticulture for sustainable development

ANSWER: D

20. Which Of The Following Rulers Earned The Title Of Purvapaschima Samudradhishavara

- A. Samudragupta
- B. Karikala Chola
- C. Harihara I
- D. Parantaka-I

ANSWER: C