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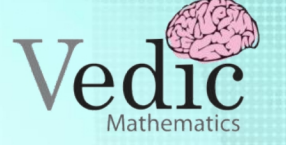
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Today in History on 03 FEB

➤ 1916 - Banaras Hindu University started.

Banaras Hindu University (BHU) was established in the year 1916. It was founded by Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. This university is in Varanasi. The university was conceived as a residential university, keeping in mind the objective of complete character development and holistic guidance of students. BHU is one of the institutions in the country that represent India at the international level. BHU is built on 1360 acres.



➤ 1925 - India's first electric train service started from Mumbai to Kurla.

On February 3, 1925, the first electric train in India ran from Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus) to Kurla. The train ran on 1500 volts DC. Daily service began on Docking Lane after a large 129-foot railway gantry was constructed. The steep slopes in the

Western Ghats created a need for electricity, which led to further extension of the Central Railway to Igatpuri and Pune. Before independence, India had 388 km of DC electrification.



➤ 1942 - The first Japanese air attack on Java took place.

The first Japanese air attack on Java did not take place in 1942, but Japan attacked Java on February 28, 1942. This attack was part of World War II. After this attack, the Allied troops surrendered at the Japanese headquarters on March 12, 1942. On February 19, 1942, Japan attacked Darwin, Australia. This attack was the largest attack on Australia by a foreign power. On March 3, 1942, Japan attacked the city of Broome, Australia.



➤ 1988 – First nuclear submarine (INS Chakra) inducted into the Indian Navy.

The first nuclear-powered Soviet submarine, INS Chakra, arrived in India in 1988 and was returned to the Soviet Union in 1991. India again signed a 10-year deal with Russia to lease an Akula class nuclear-powered submarine for around \$2 billion.



Important NEWS on 03 FEB

➤ IRDAI Limits Senior Citizens' Health Premium Hike to 10% Annually

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has taken a crucial step to protect senior citizens from sharp increases in health insurance premiums. The new directive mandates that insurers cannot raise premiums for individuals aged 60 and above by more than 10% per year without prior approval from IRDAI. This move, effective immediately, aims to keep health insurance affordable and accessible for the elderly, who often rely on fixed incomes.

➤ 1815 - The world's first cheese factory opened in Switzerland.

The first factory for the industrial production of cheese was opened in Switzerland in 1815. However, mass production found its real success in the United States. The credit goes to Jesse Williams, a dairy farmer from Rome, New York. Large-scale production of rennet began in the 1860s. By the end of the century, scientists were producing pure microbial cultures. Previously, the bacteria in cheese were obtained from the environment or by recycling whey from earlier batches.



➤ Article 224A: Appointing Retired Judges as Ad Hoc Judges in High Courts

Article 224A of the Indian Constitution deals with the appointment of retired judges to serve as ad hoc judges in High Courts. This provision allows the Chief Justice of a High Court to request a retired judge, with the previous consent of the President, to sit and act as a judge of the High Court.



➤ Empowering Women in Odisha: The Subhadra Scheme and IIM Sambalpur's Role

The Subhadra Scheme, a flagship initiative of the Odisha Government's Women and Child Development Department, is transforming the lives of women across the state. Designed to empower women through financial support, enhanced digital literacy, and access to social safety nets, the scheme aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of women and their families.



➤ NPCI Implements Stricter UPI Rules from Feb, 2025

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has announced new compliance measures for Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions, which will take effect from February, 2025. As part of these updates, UPI transaction IDs must now be strictly alphanumeric, with special characters no longer allowed. This change aims to enhance security, ensure uniformity, and improve transaction efficiency within India's fast-growing digital payments ecosystem.



➤ Tata Steel Develops India's First Hydrogen-Transport Pipes

Tata Steel, one of India's leading steel manufacturers, has announced a groundbreaking achievement in the country's clean energy sector. The company claims to be the first Indian company to develop hydrogen-compliant pipes designed specifically for transporting hydrogen, a critical step in supporting India's transition to clean energy. This innovation aligns with the global push for sustainable energy solutions and India's ambitious National Hydrogen Mission.



➤ Karnataka Bank's Triumph at IBA Banking Technology Awards

Karnataka Bank has achieved a remarkable milestone by securing top honours in six categories at the 20th Annual Banking Technology Conference, Expo & Citations, 2024, organized by the Indian Banks' Association (IBA). This accomplishment underscores the bank's unwavering commitment to technological innovation and excellence in the banking sector.



➤ Rajesh Nirwan Appointed as Director General of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS)

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Rajesh Nirwan as the Director General (DG) of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. According to an order issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Nirwan's appointment will be effective from the date he assumes charge and will continue until further orders.





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Current affairs MCQS on 03 FEB

Q.1. In which state has the International Saraswati Mahotsav been organized recently?

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Assam
- (d) Haryana

Answer: (d) Haryana

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini inaugurated the International Saraswati Mahotsav 2025 at Pehowa Saraswati Teerth in Kurukshetra. The seven-day event will run till February 4, 2025, including seminars, cultural activities and a Saras Mela showcasing products of rural artisans. The festival has been organised on a larger scale on the lines of the International Gita Mahotsav. The inaugural ceremony took place at Adi Badri, believed to be the birthplace of Goddess Saraswati.

Q.2. Who has recently inaugurated the Nagaland Super League 2025?

- (a) LA Ganesan
- (b) RN Ravi
- (c) Nephew Rio
- (d) None of these

Answer: (c) Nephew Rio

Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio inaugurated the much-awaited football stadium and Naga Superland League (SAOL) at the Police Complex in Chumaukedima. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Rio said the event is considered a historic occasion for the state and its sports community. He attributed the success of the league to a collaborative effort of the organising committee, Nagaland Olympic Association, Nagaland Football Association, the Board and the state government. He also extended his constant support and guidance for the development of the league to obtain the necessary licenses for its growth.

Q.3. Who has recently become the highest run-scoring wicketkeeper in T20 cricket?

- (a) Sanju Samson
- (b) MS Dhoni
- (c) Dinesh Karthik
- (d) Virat Kohli

Answer: (c) Dinesh Karthik

In a significant achievement for Indian cricket, veteran wicketkeeper-batsman Dinesh Karthik has surpassed the legendary MS Dhoni to become the highest run-scorer for an Indian wicketkeeper in T20 cricket. In a recent match, Karthik scored a crucial 21 runs, taking his total T20 run tally to 7,451 runs (in 361 innings, 409 matches). This achievement establishes Karthik as one of the most consistent and influential wicketkeeper-batsmen in the T20 format.

Q.4. Who has recently become the first state in India to start a rural cricket league?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Odisha

Answer: (a) Bihar

Bihar has become the first state to launch a rural cricket league. The Bihar Rural League (BRL) is being organised under the leadership of Bihar Cricket Association (BCA) president Rakesh Tiwari. This league is for players who have not played at the district or state level. Players aged 13 to 23 years from villages, schools and colleges can participate in it. Talent search will be organised in all districts, with 16 teams being formed in each district. 570 district-level matches will be played in a knockout format. The top players will enter the Super League with 38 teams and 79 matches. A total of 649 matches will be played, with 10,000 participants taking part.

Q.5. Where was the Beating Retreat ceremony held recently?

- (a) Kolkata
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Mumbai





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(d) Chennai

Answer: (b) New Delhi

Beating the Retreat ceremony was held at Vijay Chowk in Delhi. With this, the four-day Republic Day celebrations concluded. The CAPF band along with the three armies played Indian tunes at a height of 30 feet in front of President Draupadi Murmu. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh, Speaker Om Birla, other Union Ministers and the general public were present at the ceremony. All the major buildings of Vijay Chowk were decorated with colorful lighting.

Q.6. Recently, scientists of which country have developed a new voice-based method for early detection of Alzheimer's?

- (a) Japan
- (b) Russia
- (c) China
- (d) America

Answer: (c) China

Chinese researchers have developed a new voice-based method for early detection of Alzheimer's. The study was led by Professor Li Hai from the Hefei Institutes of Physical Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Alzheimer's disease is a brain condition that causes memory loss and cognitive decline. It affects thinking, learning and organising skills over time. It is the most common type of dementia, accounting for 60-80% of cases. The disease affects brain areas responsible for thought, memory and language.

Q.7. Who has recently won the 'Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy'?

- (a) Dinesh Karthik
- (b) Rohit Sharma
- (c) Jaspreet Bumrah
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (c) Jaspreet Bumrah

India pacer Jasprit Bumrah won the prestigious Sir Garfield Sobers Award for ICC Men's Cricketer of the

Year after delivering a "masterclass in skill, precision and sheer consistency" while delivering record-breaking performances across formats in 2024. Bumrah, 31, was named the ICC Test Cricketer of the Year and was also named in the Test Team of the Year.

Q.8. Recently, social media platform X has tied up with whom for digital payments?

- (a) MasterCard
- (b) Visa
- (c) RuPay
- (d) Paytm

Answer: (b) Visa

Linda Yaccarino, CEO of Visa, the leading US credit card network, revealed that their Visa Direct service will enable X Money account users in the US to instantly deposit and transfer funds using their debit cards. This comes amid Musk's acknowledgement of X's slow user growth and disappointing revenues.

Q.9. Recently, the Chief Minister of which state has inaugurated the Experium Park?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Telangana

Answer: (d) Telangana

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has inaugurated the Experium Park, emphasising the government's commitment to develop eco-tourism, temple tourism and medical tourism in the state. He highlighted the state's natural and cultural heritage and announced plans to introduce a comprehensive tourism policy soon. Expressing his happiness at the launch of the eco-tourism park, he said the park is a step towards promoting sustainable tourism. He said the government is not only focusing on IT and pharma development but also on tourism, which has immense potential.

Q.10. Recently, who has unveiled the mega expansion plan for Bokaro Steel Plant?





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- (a) HD Kumaraswamy
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Jayant Chaudhary
- (d) Amit Shah

Answer: (a) HD Kumaraswamy

Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries HD Kumaraswamy visited Bokaro Steel Plant, where he unveiled an ambitious expansion plan to increase production capacity. With an investment of Rs 20,000 crore, the brownfield expansion aims to increase hot metal production from the current 5.25 MTPA to 7.55 MTPA, thereby strengthening India's momentum towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat in the steel sector.

Q.11. Recently Hisashi Takeuchi has been reappointed as MD and CEO of which company?

- (a) Maruti Suzuki
- (b) Toyota
- (c) Samsung
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Maruti Suzuki

Maruti Suzuki India Limited, the country's largest automobile manufacturer, has announced the reappointment of Hisashi Takeuchi as its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Takeuchi's term has been extended from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028. This decision reflects the company's confidence in Takeuchi's leadership abilities and underlines his ability to steer Maruti Suzuki in the right direction amid changes in the Indian automobile industry.

Q.12. Recently Latika Katt passed away, who was she?

- (a) Sculptor
- (b) Journalist
- (c) Writer
- (d) Musician

Answer: (a) Sculptor

Latika Katt, one of India's most prominent and celebrated sculptors, died at the age of 76. Known for her large sculptures and busts of public figures,

Katt's work reflected the vibrancy of nature's organic forms. In a career spanning five decades, she worked in various mediums including terracotta, papier-mâché, stone and bronze and received several national and international awards for her contribution to the field of art.

Q.13. Recently the eight-day Nagoba Jatra fair has started in which state?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Karnataka

Answer: (a) Telangana

Nagoba Jatra is an eight-day tribal festival of the Mesaram clan of the Gond tribe, celebrated in Keslapur village in the Adilabad district of Telangana. It is the second largest tribal festival in India after Sammakka Saralamma Jatra. Tribal people from Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Karnataka, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh also participate in it. The deity of this festival is 'Nagoba' (Shri Shake - Cobra). Rituals include bringing holy water from the Godavari River and the 'Bheting' ceremony, where new brides are introduced to the clan. The Gusadi dance performed by dancers of the Gond tribe is a major attraction.

Q.14. Recently long jumper Greg Bell of which country has passed away?

- (a) America
- (b) Germany
- (c) France
- (d) Australia

Answer: (a) America

Greg Bell, the oldest Olympic gold medalist in athletics and a remarkable figure in the world of sports and medicine, has died at the age of 94. Bell's life was a beautiful blend of resilience, athletic achievement and professional success. His extraordinary contributions to long jumping and dentistry have left a lasting impact on both fields,





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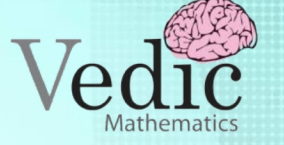
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and his story will continue to inspire future generations.

Q.15. Who has been appointed as the Director General of BCAS (Bureau of Civil Aviation Security) recently?

- (a) Rajesh Nirvan
- (b) Sitanshu Kotak
- (c) Tuhin Kant Pandey
- (d) None of the above

Answer: (a) Rajesh Nirvan

IPS Rajesh Nirvana has been appointed as the Director General of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security i.e. BCAS. An official letter has been issued in this regard. Rajesh Nirvana is a 1992 batch IPS officer of Rajasthan cadre. He will replace Amrit Mohan Prasad. Senior IPS officer Amrit Mohan Prasad was holding the additional charge of the head of the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security.

