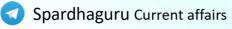


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Today in History on 14 FEB

▶ 1628 - Shah Jahan ascended the throne of Agra.

In 1628, Shah Jahan ascended the Mughal throne in Agra. Shah Jahan was the fifth emperor of the Mughal Empire. He took over the throne after the death of his father Jahangir. Shah Jahan changed his previous name Khurram to Shah Jahan. He built the Taj Mahal in Agra. The Taj Mahal was built in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal.



➤ 1663 - Canada becomes a province of France.

In 1663 Canada becomes a province of France. In 1663 the era of private monopolies in the colonies ended and New France became a royal colony. Troops were sent almost immediately to counter the Haudenosaunee threat and the men of the Carignan-Salières Regiment were given land and the opportunity to become part of the colonial elite.



➤ 1743 - Henry Pelham becomes Britain's first head of the Treasury.

Henry Pelham (25 September 1694 – 6 March 1754) was a British Whig statesman who served as Prime Minister of Great Britain from 1743 until his death in 1754. He was the younger brother of Thomas Pelham-Holles, 1st Duke of Newcastle, who served in Pelham's government and succeeded him as Prime Minister. Pelham is generally regarded as Britain's third Prime Minister, after Robert Walpole and the Earl of Wilmington.



1893 - Hawaii becomes part of the US.

In 1893 Queen Liliuokalani is deposed by US business interests and the Republic of Hawaii is

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established. The queen rejected constitutional limits on her powers. Hawaii was too small and militarily weak to survive in a world of aggressive imperialism



> 1920 - The League of Women Voters is founded in Chicago.

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a nonprofit nonpartisan **American** political organization. Founded in 1920, its ongoing major activities include registering voters, providing voter information, promoting voter turnout, advocating for voting rights. The League was founded as a successor to the National American Woman Suffrage Association, which led the nationwide fight for women's suffrage.



Important NEWS on 14 FEB

> RBI Initiates Comprehensive Review of Financial Market Timings

In a major move to enhance market efficiency, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a ninemember Working Group to review the trading and settlement timings across various regulated financial markets. This decision comes in response market to evolving conditions, increased digitalization, and the need to align Indian market operations with global standards. The group is expected to submit its report by April 30, 2025.



Nokia Names Intel's AI Chief Hotard as **New CEO**

Nokia has announced a leadership transition, with Justin Hotard set to take over as CEO on April 1, 2025, replacing Pekka Lundmark. Hotard, currently Intel's Executive Vice President and General Manager of Data Center & AI Group, brings vast expertise in artificial intelligence (AI) and data centers, crucial for Nokia's future growth. Nokia's









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Chair Sari Baldauf highlighted Hotard's track record in accelerating growth in technology firms.



MoHUA Launches 'Culinary, Crafts & Clicks' Festival

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), in partnership with MyGov, has introduced the 'Culinary, Crafts & Clicks - Moods & Magic' festival. This event aims to highlight India's cultural richness through food, traditional arts, and photography. The festival is set in key locations like Kartavya Path and Amrit Udyan, bringing together artisans, photographers, and food enthusiasts to celebrate India's heritage.



Completion of Mehar Competition-II

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully wrapped up the second edition of the Mehar Baba Competition-II (MBC-II), a crucial initiative aimed at advancing India's capabilities in unmanned and autonomous aerial vehicles (UAVs). This competition, launched on April 6, 2022, by the Honourable Raksha Mantri, was designed to develop swarm drone-based systems for detecting foreign objects on aircraft operating surfaces.



➤ India-Egypt Joint Special Exercise 'CYCLONE-III' Begins Raiasthan

India and Egypt have launched the third edition of their joint special forces exercise, 'CYCLONE-III', at the Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan. This exercise, scheduled on February, 2025, is a crucial part of the growing military cooperation between the two nations. It follows the second edition held in Egypt in January 2024 and aims to enhance





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interoperability and strategic coordination between their special forces.



India has achieved a remarkable milestone in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2023, securing the 22nd rank in the International Shipments category and moving up to 38th place overall among 139 countries. This improvement underscores the country's focused efforts on enhancing logistics efficiency, reducing costs, and integrating advanced technology.

➤ THDC Expands into Thermal Energy with 660-MW UP Plant

THDC India Ltd (THDCIL) has achieved a significant milestone by commencing commercial operations of a 660-MW unit at its Khurja Super Thermal Power Plant (STPP) in Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh. This marks the company's entry into the domestic thermal energy sector. The project, with a total capacity of 1,320 MW (2×660 MW), is being developed at an investment of ₹13,000 crore.



➤ India's Logistics Performance Sees Major Leap in Global Rankings



Current affairs MCQS on 14 FEB

- Q.1. India's first indigenous automated biomedical waste treatment plant has been launched in which city?
- (a) Chennai
- (b) Hyderabad
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Kolkata

Answer: (c) New Delhi

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's first indigenous automated biomedical waste treatment plant, "Srijanam" at AIIMS New Delhi. It was developed by Council of Scientific and Industrial Research- National Institute of Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (CSIR-NIIST). It has an initial capacity of 400 kg/day and can process 10 kg of degradable medical waste per day. India generates 743 tonnes of biomedical waste per day,









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posing a health risk. "Srijanam" is validated for antimicrobial efficacy and is safer than organic fertilizers.

Q.2. Where did the 2025 Freestyle Chess Grand Slam competition start recently?

- (a) Indonesia
- (b) Germany
- (c) Singapore
- (d) Japan

Answer: (b) Germany

The 2025 Freestyle Chess Grand Slam kicked off in Weisenhausen on Germany's Baltic coast, with a stellar field of players battling for supremacy on the chessboard. After the completion of Round 5, American Grandmaster Fabiano Caruana has taken a strong lead with 4.5 points, moving ahead of his rivals to the top of the leaderboard. Right behind him Javokhir Sindarov, whose consistent performances have made him one of the top contenders in this highly competitive tournament.

Q.3. With which country has India recently conducted the joint military exercise 'Cyclone'?

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- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Egypt
- (d) Japan

Answer:(c) Egypt

The third edition of the joint special forces exercise Cyclone between India and Egypt began at Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan. Exercise Cyclone is an annual event held alternately in India and Egypt. The last edition of the same exercise was held in Egypt in January 2024.

Q.4. Recently the President of which country has resigned from his post?

- (a) Romania
- (b) Congo
- (c) Russia
- (d) Algeria

Answer:(a) Romania

Romanian President Klaus Iohannis has resigned a before facing impeachment over cancellation of last year's presidential election, increasing pressure to oust him over his decision to stay in office until new elections in May.

Q.5. Who has been appointed as Director in the Ministry of Steel recently?

- (a) Mamun Alam
- (b) Arun Goel
- (c) Rajiv Rai
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(a) Mamun Alam

Mamun Alam (IRS) has been appointed as Director in the Ministry of Steel, Delhi, based on the recommendation of the Department of Revenue. According to the DoPT order, she will serve for five years or until further orders and her expertise in tax administration and policy-making is expected to strengthen the strategic initiatives of the ministry.

Q.6. 'Operation Devil Hunt' has been launched recently by whom?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) America rivate Limited
- (c) Russia
- (d) Japan

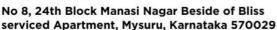
Answer:(a) Bangladesh

Bangladesh security forces have arrested 1,308 people under "Operation Devil Hunt". The operation was carried out overnight. There has been unrest in the country for the last four days and sabotage is being carried out across the country. The interim government has vowed to continue the action until "all devils" are uprooted.

Q.7. Recently which state government has launched 'Bikashita Gaon' scheme for village development?

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

Answer:(d) Odisha











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Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi launched the 'Bikashita Gaon, Bikashita Odisha' (BGBO) scheme to bridge the rural-urban development gap. The scheme has a budget of ₹5,000 crore over five years and aims to develop 60,000 villages. It focuses on improving infrastructure for better living conditions in rural areas, which cover 80% of the state's population. Will plan and implement rural projects, with 40% of the funds reserved for tribal areas. Transparent governance ensured through district collectors and social audits.

Q.8. Where will the three-day International Bird Festival be organized recently?

- (a) Bhopal
- (b) Agra
- (c) Patna
- (d) Prayagraj

Answer:(d) Prayagraj

Tourists visiting Maha Kumbh 2025 will get a chance to see the confluence of more than 200 migratory and local bird species in the three-day International Bird Festival to be held in Prayagraj from February 16 to 18. Organised with the aim of promoting environmental conservation and biodiversity, this event will provide a unique opportunity to nature lovers, ornithologists and devotees to see rare bird species and understand the importance of their conservation.

Q.9. Recently who has become the second player to hit the most sixes in ODI history?

- (a) Chris Gayle
- (b) Shahid Afridi
- (c) Rohit Sharma
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(c) Rohit Sharma

Indian captain Rohit Sharma performed brilliantly in the second ODI played against England in Cuttack, breaking many records and giving India a fourwicket victory. He scored 119 runs in 90 balls, which included 12 fours and 7 sixes. With this innings, he surpassed Chris Gayle (331 sixes) to become the batsman with the most sixes in ODI history, now he is only behind Shahid Afridi (351 sixes). Apart from this, he also surpassed Sachin Tendulkar to become the second highest run-scorer for India as an opener in international cricket.

Q.10. Recently at which place has a two-day conference on AI started?

- (a) Paris
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) Dubai
- (d) Beijing

Answer:(a) Paris

PM Narendra Modi is in Paris, the capital of France, on a two-day visit. PM Modi is going to participate in the AI Summit (India In France AI Summit) along with French President Emmanuel Macron. This summit is being considered as the Maha Kumbh of AI (PM Modi In France AI Summit). Because representatives of 90 major countries of the world including America and China are arriving to participate in this summit. India is going to co-chair the AI Summit. From this, the importance of India in the AI Summit can be easily understood.

Q.11. Recently, the Indian Naval Chiefs' Conference 2025 has been held at which place?

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

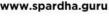
Answer:(a) New Delhi

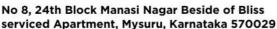
The Indian Navy Chiefs' Conference was held at Naval Headquarters, New Delhi. It brought together eight former Naval Chiefs and the present Naval Chief. The aim of the conference was to leverage the collective experience and wisdom of the former Naval Chiefs and to apprise them of the latest developments and policy initiatives of the Navy.

Q.12. Recently, former President of which country Sam Nujoma passed away?

(a) Morocco











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- (b) Sudan
- (c) Namibia
- (d) Somalia

Answer:(c) Namibia

Sam Nujoma, Namibia's first president and a pioneering leader of the independence movement, has died at the age of 95. He played a key role in Namibia's independence from South Africa in 1990 and served as president for 15 years. He is revered as the "Father of the Namibian Nation". His leadership laid the foundations for democracy, reconciliation and stability in the country, although his tenure also saw some controversial statements and policies.

Q.13. Recently, which country has topped the annual ranking of USA Green Building Council?

- (a) Canada
- (b) India
- (c) China
- (d) Nepal

Answer:(c) China

China topped the top 10 ranking for 2024 with over 25 million GSM certified, while Canada ranked second with 10 million GSM. India will rank third u India Private Limited globally in USGBC's LEED green building certification. India has retained its third position in the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) annual list of the top 10 countries and territories for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) in 2024.

Q.14. Recently, who has inaugurated the Aero India Show 2025 in Bengaluru?

- (a) Amit Shah
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Rajnath Singh
- (d) Narendra Modi

Answer:(c) Rajnath Singh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated Aero India 2025, the 15th edition of Asia's largest aerospace and defence exhibition, in Bengaluru. Describing it as the "Mahakumbh Mela of aviation",

he emphasised that the five-day event will highlight India's technological prowess and resilience amid global uncertainties.

Q.15. Recently, which bank has launched the digital avatar of Amitabh Bachchan?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) UCO Bank
- (c) Yes Bank
- (d) IDFC First Bank

Answer: (d) IDFC First Bank

IDFC FIRST Bank in collaboration with Econz Studio has launched AI-powered holographic avatar of its brand ambassador Amitabh Bachchan in five more cities. The initiative aims to provide customers with a new and personalised banking experience.

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