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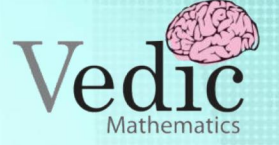
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Today in History on 01 MAR

➤ 1872 - The world's first Yellowstone National Park was formed.

Yellowstone National Park is located in the United States. The national park is located in the western part of the US and was established on March 1, 1872. It is the first national park in the US and is known for its rich flora and fauna. Yellowstone National Park is the oldest, largest, and possibly the most famous national park in the United States. It is located primarily in northwestern Wyoming and partially in southern Montana and eastern Idaho and contains one of the largest concentrations of hydrothermal features in the world.



➤ 1954 - America tested the hydrogen bomb on Bikini Island.

On March 1, 1954, America tested the hydrogen bomb on Bikini Atoll. This test was known as Castle Bravo. This was America's biggest nuclear test till date. This test was done on Bikini Atoll in Marshall Islands. Solid lithium deuteride was used in this test.

This explosion produced 15 megatons of energy. It was 1,000 times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



➤ 1969 - Rajdhani Express train ran between New Delhi and Kolkata.

On March 1, 1969, the country's first fastest express train Rajdhani Express was started in Indian Railways. This first journey ran between New Delhi to Howrah Kolkata which changed the face of Indian Railways and even today it is the favorite express train of many passengers of India. This train reduced the travel time from Delhi to Kolkata from 24 hours to 17 hours 20 minutes.



➤ 1947 - The International Monetary Fund began operating.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) began its financial operations on March 1, 1947. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations. The IMF became operational on December 27, 1945 with 29 member countries that agreed to be bound by this treaty. The IMF is a global organization that works to achieve sustainable growth and prosperity for all its 191 member countries. It does this by supporting economic policies that promote financial stability and monetary cooperation, which are essential to increasing productivity, job creation, and economic well-being.



➤ 1995 - Popular search engine Yahoo was launched.

Yahoo was founded in January 1994 by Jerry Yang and David Filo and was incorporated on March 2, 1995. Yahoo was one of the pioneers of the early

Internet era in the 1990s. Marissa Mayer, a former Google executive, served as Yahoo's CEO and president from 2012 to June 2017. Archie was the world's first search engine. It was created in 1990 by Alan Emtage, a student at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. It was created before the World Wide Web was created. Archie was created for FTP sites.



Important NEWS on 01 MAR

➤ RBI Raises Small Loan Limit for UCBs to ₹3 Crore

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the small-value loan limit for Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) to ₹3 crore per borrower, enhancing lending flexibility while maintaining prudential norms. Loans classified as small value must not exceed ₹25 lakh or 0.4% of Tier I capital, with at least 50% of total loans meeting this criterion by March 31, 2026. Housing and real estate exposure remains capped at 10% of total assets, with an additional 5% for priority sector housing loans.



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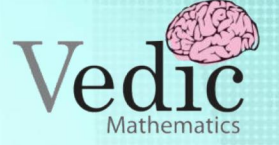
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➤ Cali Fund Launched at CBD COP16 to Boost Biodiversity Finance

A groundbreaking initiative in global biodiversity conservation was announced on February, 2025, with the launch of the Cali Fund at the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Rome, Italy. This international fund aims to secure financial contributions from private companies that benefit from genetic data in their industries, ensuring they actively participate in biodiversity conservation efforts.



➤ AMFI Launches Chhoti SIP, Tarun Yojana & MITRA for Wider MF Access

The Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) has unveiled three strategic initiatives—Chhoti SIP, Tarun Yojana, and MITRA—to enhance financial inclusion, promote investor awareness, and facilitate the retrieval of unclaimed investments. These programs align with the Securities and Exchange Board of India's (SEBI) ongoing efforts to democratize mutual fund investments, ensuring broader participation across diverse demographics.



➤ Punjab Schools to Compulsorily Teach Punjabi

The Punjab government has made Punjabi a mandatory subject in all schools, regardless of their educational board, with immediate effect. The rule applies to PSEB, CBSE, and CISCE schools, ensuring Punjabi remains a core subject. Non-compliance will result in student certificates being null and void, and private schools violating the rule have been fined ₹50,000 each.





➤ MP Secures ₹30.77 Lakh Cr in Investment Pledges

Madhya Pradesh secured ₹30.77 lakh crore in investment commitments at the 8th Invest Madhya Pradesh Summit in Bhopal. The two-day event attracted global investors, highlighting MP's strategic advantages, industrial potential, and business-friendly policies. Major investors like Adani Group, Reliance, NTPC, and Avaada pledged investments across manufacturing, infrastructure, renewable energy, and technology.



➤ Friedrich Merz Ascends as Germany's New Chancellor

In a major political development, Friedrich Merz, leader of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), is set to take over as Germany's next chancellor. His party, in alliance with the Christian Social Union (CSU), secured victory in the 2025 federal elections, marking a shift in Germany's leadership after the tenure of Olaf Scholz. At 69, Merz will be the oldest person to assume the role since Konrad Adenauer in 1949.



➤ N Chandrasekaran Appointed as Chairman of Ratan Tata Endowment Foundation

N Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons, has been appointed head of the Ratan Tata Endowment Foundation (RTEF), a philanthropy and tech research entity founded by Ratan Tata. Appointed by the executors of Tata's will, his leadership will ensure independent governance and effective operations.



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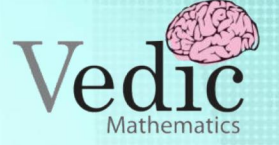
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Current affairs MCQS on 01 MAR

Q.1. PANCH Mission is an initiative of which space organisation?

- (a) European Space Agency (ESA)
- (b) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- (c) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
- (d) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)

Answer: (b) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

NASA is preparing for the PUNCH mission, a first-of-its-kind solar mission to study the solar atmosphere. PUNCH (Polarimetry to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere) will be launched by SpaceX. It consists of four suitcase-sized satellites, each weighing 64 kg, placed in low Earth orbit (LEO). The mission will use three wide field imagers and one narrow field imager to capture polarized and unpolarized images. It will provide 3D measurements of the corona and solar wind using light polarization. The data will help improve space weather predictions and protect space missions. The mission is expected to last two years.

Q.2. What is the primary objective of the recent SWAYATT initiative?

- (a) Encouraging foreign investment in e-commerce
- (b) Promoting participation of women entrepreneurs, startups and youth in public procurement
- (c) Providing financial support to large companies
- (d) Establishing a global e-commerce platform

Answer: (b) Promoting participation of women entrepreneurs, startups and youth in public procurement

Government e Marketplace (GeM) celebrated six years of Startups, Women and Youth Advantage through e-Transactions (SWAYATT) initiative in New Delhi. SWAYATT was launched to promote participation of women-led enterprises and youth in public procurement. It is based on GeM's principle of social inclusion and aims to improve ease of doing business. The initiative connects startups, women entrepreneurs, MSEs, SHGs and youth with government procurement. It focuses on training last-mile sellers, promoting women entrepreneurship and supporting small-scale businesses in public procurement.

Q.3. Which country has recently successfully launched the 'China Sat-10R' satellite?

- (a) Vietnam
- (b) Maldives
- (c) China
- (d) Sri Lanka

Answer: (c) China

China successfully launched ChinaSat-10R (Zhongxing-10R) communications satellite into geosynchronous transfer orbit (GTO). The satellite was launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center via a Long March 3B rocket. The satellite will replace ChinaSat-10 launched in 2011 and provide advanced communications services for transportation, emergency services, energy, forestry, and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The mission was declared successful by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC).

Q.4. In which country has GTAI (Green Transition Alliance India) been launched recently?

- (a) Denmark
- (b) Russia
- (c) America
- (d) Canada





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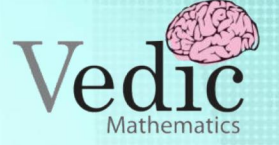
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Answer:(a) Denmark

Denmark has announced the launch of the Green Transition Alliance India (GTAI) to strengthen its collaboration with India on sustainable energy solutions. The initiative aims to accelerate the two countries' commitment to global carbon neutrality through business, research and government collaboration. It is part of the broader Green Strategic Partnership (GSP), established in 2020, which supports the ambitious climate goals of both countries.

Q.5. Recently which city has been declared India's cleanest city for the seventh time?

- (a) Noida
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Indore
- (d) Surat

Answer:(c) Indore

Indore has been declared India's cleanest city for the seventh time in a row. The city has set a model for other urban centres by implementing 100% waste segregation, advanced composting technology and a digital waste monitoring system.

Q.6. According to a recent report, who tops the global breast cancer rate?

- (a) New Zealand
- (b) China
- (c) Thailand
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(a) New Zealand

Australia and New Zealand have the highest rates of breast cancer incidence in the world. In a new study, researchers from Australia and Canada analyzed breast cancer incidence and mortality rates in 185 countries. They found that one in 20 women worldwide will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime and one in 70 will die from the disease.

Q.7. Recently which state government has recognized Baathism in official documents?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh

(b) Assam

(c) Uttar Pradesh

(d) Bihar

Answer:(b) Assam

The recent decision by the government of the Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) in Assam to include 'Baathouism' as an official option in the religion column of application forms is a significant step towards recognising indigenous beliefs. The move applies to admission forms for educational institutions and key government documents such as birth and death certificates.

Q.8. Recently who has been appointed as the Director of the Institute of Economic Growth?

- (a) Sabyasachi Kar
- (b) Chetan Ghatе
- (c) Rajiv Kumar
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(a) Sabyasachi Kar

The Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), a premier research and training institute based in New Delhi, has appointed Professor Sabyasachi Kar as its new Director. He will replace Professor Chetan Ghatе, and brings with him extensive academic and policy-making experience. Known for its contributions to economic and social research, IEG plays a key role in shaping India's economic policies, and is expected to further strengthen its influence under Professor Kar's leadership.

Q.9. Where was the first International Conference on Carbon Markets - Nature held recently?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Surat
- (c) Gwalior
- (d) Jaipur

Answer:(a) New Delhi

The first International Conference on Carbon Markets-Nature was held in New Delhi. The conference brought together experts, policy makers, industry leaders, researchers and practitioners of carbon credit certificate trading. The conference was





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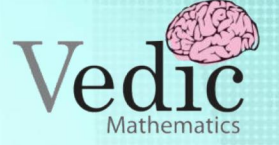
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organised to understand the functioning of the Indian carbon market and ways to further deepen and develop it. It also discussed the latest trends and dynamics in the global carbon credit market.

Q.10. Recently India and which country have established a new border hotline?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Myanmar

Answer:(c) Bangladesh

India and Bangladesh successfully concluded the biennial Director General level talks between the Border Security Force (BSF) and Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). The three-day meeting resulted in important agreements such as strengthening border security and setting up new communication lines.

Q.11. Who has been awarded the CEO of the Year Award recently?

- (a) Paul Kapoor
- (b) Sameer Kanodia
- (c) Dan Boigino
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(b) Sameer Kanodia

Sameer Kanodia, Managing Director and CEO of Lumina Datamatics was honoured as the "CEO of the Year" at the 23rd Business Leader of the Year Awards. The prestigious ceremony was held at Taj Lands End, Mumbai. The award is given to business leaders who drive innovation, transformation and social development. Sameer Kanodia attributed this to the collective commitment of the Lumina Datamatics team and the trust of their customers.

Q.12. Recently, where will the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum be organized?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(a) Jaipur

India will host the 12th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum in Asia and the Pacific at the Rajasthan International Centre in Jaipur from March 3-5, 2025. The forum, themed "Realising Circular Societies towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Carbon Neutrality in the Asia-Pacific Region", was announced by Union Minister Manohar Lal Khattar at a curtain raiser event in New Delhi.

Q.13. Recently, the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited has signed an agreement with which state government for a solar project?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Assam
- (d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer:(d) Madhya Pradesh

Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI), a Navaratna CPSU under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Madhya Pradesh to set up a 200 MW solar project at Dhar and a 1000 MW battery storage project in the state under the CPSU scheme.

Q.14. Recently, which IIT has developed AI tool 'AMR Sense' for antibiotic resistance tracking?

- (a) IIT Mumbai
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IIT Madras
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(b) IIT Delhi

AMRSense was developed by a joint initiative of IIIT-Delhi, CHRI-PATH, Tata 1mg and Indian Council of Medical Research. This AI-powered tool analyses routine hospital data to provide timely and critical information about antibiotic resistance patterns. The findings were published in The Lancet Regional Health Southeast Asia, reflecting a six-year study across 21 tertiary care centres in India.





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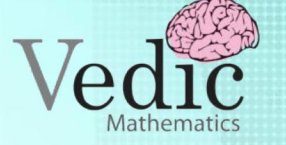
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Q.15. Where was the two-day coastal security exercise "Sagar Kavach" held recently?

- (a) West Bengal
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) None of the above

Answer:(a) West Bengal

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) successfully conducted the 'Sagar Kavach' security exercise along the 158-km-long coast of West Bengal. The two-day exercise was aimed at testing and enhancing coastal security mechanisms by involving multiple agencies in dealing with simulated threats. The exercise focused on refining standard operating procedures (SOPs) and strengthening inter-agency coordination to counter potential threats along India's eastern maritime border.

