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## Today in History on 08 MAR

> 1979 Compact discs first appear on the market

The first commercial compact disc was produced in 1982, a 1979 recording of Chopin waltzes performed by Claudio Arrau. The first 50 titles were released in Japan on October 1, 1982, the first of which was a rerelease of the Billy Joel album 52nd Street. The compact disc (CD) is a portable disc on which audio, video, and other data can be recorded in digital form. two associate members. It is a subsidiary unit of the United Nations. This organization was established on 7 April 1948. Its objective is to raise the level of health of the people of the world. The headquarters of WHO is located in Geneva, Switzerland. Doctor Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus of Ethiopia has been elected as the new Director General of the World Health Organization.



> 1948 - Air India International was established.

The World Health Organization is an organization for mutual cooperation on health related problems of the countries of the world and to develop health related understanding among humans. The World Health Organization has 194 member countries and > 2006 - Russia withdraws its offer on Iran issue.

In the year 2006 Russia withdraws its offer on Iran issue. Due to international economic sanctions on Iran, Russia has become a major trading partner, especially in terms of Iran's excess oil reserves. Currently Russia and Iran have a close economic and military alliance, and both countries are subject to heavy sanctions by most Western countries.

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### > 1911 - International Women's Day was celebrated for the first time.

For the first time, women marched in New York City, USA, for their right to vote and fair wages. A few years after this march, this day was celebrated for the first time in March 1911 in countries like Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Denmark. But after the strike of Russian women on 8 March 1917, the date of Women's Day was changed to 8 March. Since then, 8 March became the global date of International Women's Day. After which in the year 1975, the United Nations officially recognized this day to be celebrated on 8 March.



## > 1930: Mahatma Gandhi launched the Civil Disobedience Movement against British rule for India's independence.

Mahatma Gandhi launched the Civil Disobedience Movement with the Dandi March on March 1930. This movement was against British rule. In this movement, British rule was challenged by disobeying the laws made by the British. Dandi March Dandi March or Salt Satyagraha was an act of non-violent civil disobedience in colonial India led by Mahatma Gandhi. The twenty-four-day march lasted from March 1930 to April 1930 as a direct action campaign of tax resistance and non-violent protest against the British salt monopoly.



# Important NEWS on 08 MAR

### RBI Appoints Dr Ajit Ratnakar Joshi as **Executive Director**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Dr Ajit Ratnakar Joshi as its new Executive Director (ED), effective March, 2025. He will oversee the

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Department **Statistics** and Information Management and the Financial Stability Department. With over 30 years of experience in statistics, information technology, and cyber management, Dr Joshi brings extensive expertise to his new role.



> DRDO Conducts High-Altitude Trial of Integrated Life Support System for Tejas Aircraft

Defence Research and Development The Organisation (DRDO) has successfully conducted a high-altitude trial of an indigenous Integrated Life Support System (ILSS) for the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas. Developed by Defence Bio-Engineering & Electro Medical Laboratory (DEBEL) in Bengaluru, the On-Board Oxygen Generating System (OBOGS)based ILSS eliminates the need for liquid oxygen cylinders by generating and managing breathable oxygen in real time.



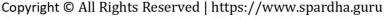
Sharath Kamal to Retire from Table **Tennis** 

Achanta Sharath Kamal, India's legendary table tennis player, has announced his retirement from professional play, with his farewell tournament at the WTT Star Contender event in Chennai (March, 2025). A 10-time National Champion and five-time Olympian, the 42-year-old has had a stellar career, excelling at the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, and Olympics.



Dr Suborno Bose Honored **Revolutionizing Hospitality Education** 







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Dr Suborno Bose, Chairman of the International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM), received the 'Lifetime Achievement in Hospitality and Education Through Technology' award from Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Shekhawat at the Vibrant Bharat Global Summit 2025. The award honors his contributions to AI-driven hospitality education and tourism innovation.



> Ajay Bhadoo Appointed CEO Government e Marketplace (GeM)

The Government of India has appointed Ajay Bhadoo, Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce, as the CEO of Government e Marketplace (GeM), effective March, 2025. He will continue his existing responsibilities while leading GeM's transformation into a next-generation digital marketplace, powered by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). A 1999-batch IAS officer from the Gujarat cadre, Bhadoo has vast experience in governance, urban infrastructure development, and policy implementation.



Uttarakhand Cabinet **Approves** Unified Pension Scheme and New Excise Policy for 2025

The Uttarakhand Cabinet, led by CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, has approved key policy decisions, including the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS), aimed at enhancing governance, pension benefits, and excise reforms. The UPS, aligned with the Central Government's initiative, offers government employees under the NPS an option for a stable postretirement pension, ensuring financial security.



Vividhta Ka Amrit Mahotsav Inaugurated By President

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President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the second edition of Vividhta Ka Amrit Mahotsav at Rashtrapati Bhavan on March, 2025. This edition celebrates the cultural heritage of Southern India, featuring Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry. The festival provides a platform for artisans, performers, writers, and culinary experts to showcase South India's traditions, handicrafts, literature, and cuisine.



### Current affairs MCQS on 08 $\mathsf{MAR}$

- Q.1. Recently Taurus KEPD-350 missile has been jointly developed by Germany and which country?
- (a) Sweden
- (b) China
- (c) Japan
- (d) Australia

#### Answer: (a) Sweden

Sweden has chosen the Taurus KEPD-350 cruise missile to enhance the long-range strike capabilities of its Gripen fighter jet. The Taurus KEPD-350 is an air-launched, precision-guided missile designed for deep penetration and high-accuracy strikes. The Taurus KEPD-350 missile is developed by a joint venture between Germany and Sweden, specifically by "Taurus Systems GmbH", which is a partnership between MBDA Deutschland GmbH (Germany) and Saab Bofors Dynamics (Sweden). The missile can bypass dense air defense systems and destroy heavily fortified ground targets. It has been in operational service since 2005 and is used by the air forces of Germany, Spain and South Korea.

- Q.2. Recently in which state a workshop on cyber crime, forensics and law has been organized?
- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Kerala
- (c) Punjab
- (d) Haryana

#### Answer: (c) Punjab

Punjab Power and Public Works Minister Mr. Harbhajan Singh ETO emphasized the importance of cyber security in the digital age and highlighted its impact on public safety and national security. Speaking at the 'Cyber Crime, Forensics and Law Workshop' organized at Law Bhawan, Cabinet Minister Mr. Harbhajan Singh ETO appreciated the organizers, Truth Labs, Nasdeep Foundation and Proud Legal for hosting this workshop on technology-driven crimes and forensic investigation.

- Q.3. Recently 'Christian Stocker' has become the Chancellor of which country with a new coalition?
- (a) Austria
- (b) Germany
- (c) France
- (d) Poland

#### Answer: (a) Austria

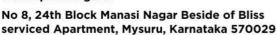
Christian Stoecker of the Austrian People's Party (ÖVP) was sworn in as Chancellor of Austria five months after the parliamentary elections in Austria. No party or coalition of parties won a decisive mandate in the parliamentary elections held in the country in September 2024.

- Q.4. Recently who will host the second Asian Yogasana Championship?
- (a) India
- (b) Bhutan

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(c) Nepal

(d) Sri Lanka

#### Answer: (a) India

India will host the second Asian Yogasana Championship from March 29 to 31 at the Indira Gandhi Stadium in which a total of 16 countries will participate. The championship, being organised in collaboration with the Sports Ministry and Yogasana Bharat, aims to showcase yoga at an international level while embracing the rich heritage and cultural significance of yoga.

#### Q.5. Recently the Blue Flag status of Rushikonda beach has been temporarily withdrawn from which city?

- (a) Visakhapatnam
- (b) Kasargod
- (c) Puducherry
- (d) None of the above

#### Answer: (a) Visakhapatnam

After the temporary withdrawal of 'Blue-Flag' status from Rushikonda beach, Visakhapatnam Collector MN Harendheer Prasad visited the beach along with tourism officials and related stakeholders. The collector asked the concerned officials to prepare an action plan and take relevant steps to get the Blue-Flag status soon. The collector inspected the seating arrangements, parking facilities, shopping complex, greenery, garbage management etc. He said steps should be taken to provide the best experience to the tourists visiting the beach. He asked the police to ensure the safety of the tourists. Tourism Department Regional Director Jagadeesh and others were present on the occasion.

#### Q.6. Recently, the second phase of Khelo India Winter Games 2025 will be held in which city?

- (a) Itanagar
- (b) Gulmarg
- (c) Manali
- (d) Darjeeling

#### Answer: (b) Gulmarg

The second leg of the 5th Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG), which was postponed due to inadequate snowfall, will now be held from March 9 to 12 as Gulmarg in Jammu and Kashmir received heavy snowfall.

#### Q.7. Recently, the 42nd **National** Rowing Championship was held in which city?

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Lucknow
- (c) Surat
- (d) Bhopal

#### Answer: (d) Bhopal

The 42nd National Rowing Championship is being organized at the Madhya Pradesh State Water Sports Academy, Boat Club located at Bada Talab in Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav will inaugurate this five-day competition. About 500 participants from 23 states will participate in this competition.

#### Q.8. Recently, who has been elected as the President of the 'Bar Council of India' for the seventh time?

- (a) Anurag Shukla
- (b) Ajay Seth rivate Limited (c) Manan Kumar Mishra
- (d) None of the above

#### Answer: (c) Manan Kumar Mishra

Senior advocate Manan Kumar Mishra has once again won the post of Chairman of the Bar Council of India (BCI), which is his seventh consecutive victory. This historic victory not only reflects his strong hold in the legal world but also proves that the advocate community has full faith in him. It is worth noting that Mishra is not only a renowned legal expert but he is also a Rajya Sabha MP (BJP) from Bihar.

#### Q.9. Recently, which company along with IRCTC has been given the status of Navratna?

- (a) BSNL
- (b) NTPC
- (c) IRFC
- (d) Tata









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#### Answer: (c) IRFC

The Government of India has granted Navratna Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) status to Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC). With this decision, now all the seven listed railway PSUs have been granted Navratna status, giving them greater financial and operational autonomy. The move reflects the government's commitment to enhance the efficiency and profitability of railwayowned enterprises.

#### Q.10. Who has recently become the first Indian female player to cross 16 meters in indoor shot put?

- (a) Krishna Jaishankar
- (b) Abha Khatua
- (c) Purnarao Rane
- (d) None of the above

#### Answer: (a) Krishna Jaishankar

Krishna Jaishankar set a new Indian indoor shot put record by winning the bronze medal at the Mountain West Indoor Track and Field Championships (Albuquerque, USA) with a throw of 16.03m, breaking the previous Indian indoor record (15.54m).

#### Q.11. Recently 'Yamandou Orsi' has become the new President of which country?

- (a) Ireland
- (b) Peru
- (c) Uruguay
- (d) None of the above

#### Answer: (c) Uruguay

Yamandu Orsi, a telegenic leftist former mayor and history teacher, took office as Uruguay's new president, at the helm of a government that has pledged to strengthen the social safety net while reversing years of economic stagnation.

#### Q.12. Recently Padmakar Shivalkar passed away. Who was he?

- (a) Journalist
- (b) Musician

- (c) Cricketer
- (d) Director

#### Answer: (c) Cricketer

Indian cricket lost one of its finest left-arm spinners Padmakar Shivalkar who passed away in Mumbai at the age of 84. Shivalkar, a veteran Mumbai cricketer, was an exceptional bowler whose contribution to domestic cricket is remembered even today. However, despite his talent, he did not get the opportunity to represent India at the international level as Bishan Singh Bedi was the premier left-arm spinner of the Indian team at that time.

#### Q.13. Who has recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award from HBTU?

- (a) Dr. Mayank Sharma
- (b) Manoj Mehta
- (c) Dr. Dinesh Shahra
- (d) None of these

#### Answer: (c) Dr. Dinesh Shahra

Harcourt Butler Technical University (HBTU) has conferred its prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award on Dr Dinesh Shahra for his outstanding contribution to India's edible oil industry, nutritional security and sustainability. Dr Shahra, a renowned and industrialist philanthropist, graduated in Chemical Engineering in 1972. Over the past five decades, his pioneering work in sustainable edible oil production and responsible business practices has revolutionised the industry. In recognition of his 50 years of transformational impact, HBTU has honoured him with this prestigious award.

#### Q.14. Recently, the Chief Minister of which state has launched the Single Women Self-Employment Scheme?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Bihar

Answer: (c) Uttarakhand

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The cabinet has approved the Mukhyamantri Ekal Mahila Swarojgar Yojana for single women in Uttarakhand. Under the scheme, such women will be able to start self-employment by taking a loan of up to two lakh rupees. Under the scheme, they will be given 75 percent of this amount or one and a half lakh rupees as subsidy. The government will bear this amount. A provision of Rs 30 crore has been made by the government for this.

#### Q.15. Recently, who has inaugurated the Vantara **Animal Rescue Center?**

- (a) Narendra Modi
- (b) Amit Shah
- (c) Anant Ambani
- (d) None of these

#### Answer: (a) Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated Vantara, an advanced animal rescue, conservation, and rehabilitation center in Gujarat's Jamnagar district. The event was attended by Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani, his wife Nita Ambani, their son Anant Ambani, and daughter-inlaw Radhika Merchant. During his visit, PM Modi explored the state-of-the-art facilities, interacted with rehabilitated animals, and observed medical procedures at the center's wildlife hospital. His visit emphasized the importance of wildlife conservation and India's efforts to protect endangered species.



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