



## CURRENT AFFAIRS 3rd March 2023

### National News

#### 1. World Wildlife Day 2023: Celebrating 'Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation'



- Our planet is home to a wide array of wild flora and fauna, which play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance and providing us with food, medicine and more.
- World Wildlife Day is marked annually on March 3 to celebrate the unique wild species and create awareness to help conserve them.
- The 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) designated March 3 as World Wildlife Day on December 20, 2013, with an aim to raise awareness about the conservation of the world's wild flora and fauna.
- It was on March 3 when the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) took place in 1973.
- The convention helps ensure that international trade does not pose any threat to endangered species of plants and animals. This year, the day marks the 50th anniversary of the convention.

- The idea to celebrate March 3 as World Wildlife Day was previously proposed at the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP16) in Bangkok in March 2013.
- The CITES Secretariat has been tasked with facilitating the implantation of World Wildlife Day.
- The theme for this year's World Wildlife Day is 'Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation'. It has been chosen to highlight the need 'to work across governments, civil society, and the private sector to turn commitment into action'.

## 2. Health Ministry gets Porter Prize 2023 for Government's strategy in managing COVID-19



- Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry has received the Porter Prize 2023.
- It recognized the government's strategy in managing COVID-19, also the approach, and involvement of various stakeholders especially involvement of ASHA workers in the industry to create PPE Kits.
- The prize was announced during The India Dialog at Stanford University. The country's contribution in developing and manufacturing vaccines was also lauded.
- Porter Prize is named after award-winning economist Michael E. Porter.
- He has brought economic theory and strategy concepts to bear on many of the most challenging problems faced by corporations, economies and societies, including market competition and company strategy, economic development, the environment and healthcare.

### 3. Health Ministry celebrates Jan Aushadhi Diwas 2023 today



- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), States and Union Territories are celebrating the 5th Jan Aushadhi Diwas 2023 across the country.
- It is being celebrated under Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP).
- The Ministry said that more than thirty-four Pratiyatra Yatras were conducted yesterday across the country.
- Out of which, eight Yatras have been led by Members of Parliament.
- These Pad yatras were conducted to create a mass fervor among people.
- The Ministry said, more than five thousand citizens including Doctors took pledge to use generic medicines on MyGov platform.

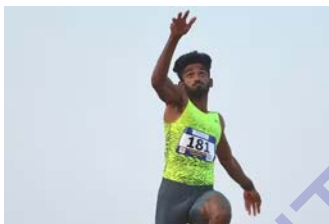
#### 4. Triple-jumper Aishwarya Babu gets 4-year ban for doping



- India's top triple-jumper Aishwarya Babu has been banned by the National Anti-Doping Agency's (NADA) disciplinary panel for four years for using a prohibited anabolic steroid.
- Aishwarya Babu, 25 years old, was dropped from the Birmingham Commonwealth Games in 2022, along with sprinter S Dhanalakshmi after testing positive for the steroid, which is on the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) prohibited list.
- Aishwarya has been given time till 6th March 2023 to file an appeal against the ban after receiving the ban notice from NADA's Appeal Panel on 13th February 2023.
- Aishwarya previously won the triple jump gold in the championships with a national record-breaking lunge of 14.14 meters.
- She tested positive for Ostarine — a drug that falls in the category of selective androgen receptor modulator (SRAM) — during the National Inter-State Championships on 13 and 14 J in 2022 in Chennai.
- Aishwarya was provisionally suspended in July last year and she has already served six months of her four-year ban.

- NADA stated that the substance Aishwarya used was an “anabolic steroid” listed under WADA’s 2022 prohibited. It added that the athlete had not taken a therapeutic use exemption (TUE) for it.
- Aishwarya on the other hand stated in her submission that she “did not take any prohibited ton order to enhance” her performance.
- The athlete added that she had suffered an injury in the past when her shoulder had dislocated while lifting weights in the gym in February 2021.
- Aishwarya added that in the run-up to the National Inter-state Championships, she pushed herself too much, which led her to the “painful discomfort on the Shoulder.”

#### 5. AFI National Throws Competition: Jeswin Aldrin Breaks National Long Jump Record With Leap of 8.42m to Claim Gold



- Tamil Nadu’s Jeswin Aldrin broke the national record in the men’s long jump in the second AFI National Jumps Competition.
- Jeswin Aldrin, 21-year-old, leaped 8.42 meters to take over the previous mark of 8.36 meters set by India teammate M Sreeshankar at the Federation Cup in Kozhikode in April 2022.
- Aldrin previously won silver at the Asian Indoor Championships in Astana last month with a 7.97-meter jump and made the most of being in a competitive frame to break the national record.
- Aldrin leaped 8.37 meters in Kozhikode last year to win gold but since his jump was wind-aided, it wasn’t

considered a national record by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI).

- M Sreeshankar, who bagged silver at the AFI National Jumps Competition with a jump of 8.36m, made the national record.
- A measure of Aldrin's dominance can be praised from the fact he was the only competitor to cross the eight-meter mark.
- Jeswin Aldrin opened with 8.05m and followed it up with 8.26 before finding the power and speed to get to 8.42m. Kerala's Muhammed Anees Yahiya was a distant second at 7.85 meters.
- Alongside, Gayathry Sivakumar set the women's triple jump meet record with a jump of over 12.98 meters to break the 12.68m mark set by Aleena Jose in the inaugural edition in Thiruvananthapuram last year.

#### 6. RBI launches 2 surveys to gather 'useful inputs' for monetary policy



- The Reserve Bank of India launched two key surveys, the results of which provide “useful inputs” for the central bank’s bi-monthly monetary policy.
- One of the surveys is to know inflation expectations of households and the other is to gauge consumer confidence.
- The March 2023 round of Inflation Expectations Survey of Households (IESH), RBI said, aims at capturing subjective assessments on price movements and inflation, based on their individual consumption baskets, across 19 cities.
- The cities are: Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati,

Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Patna, Raipur, Ranchi and Thiruvananthapuram.

- The survey seeks qualitative responses from households on price changes (general prices as well as prices of specific product groups) in the three months ahead as well as in the one year ahead period and quantitative responses on current, three months ahead and one year ahead inflation rates.

## 7. ACF confers Grandmaster D Gukesh with Player-of-the-Year award



- Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh has been honoured with Player-of-the-Year award by the Asian Chess Federation (ACF) for clinching the gold medal with a record-breaking score of 9/11 in the 44th Chess Olympiad at Mahabalipuram last year.
- In March last year, Gukesh became only the sixth Indian to break the 2700 Elo-rating mark, and the youngest Grandmaster from the country to be rated above 2700.
- The All India Chess Federation (AICF) bagged the ‘Most Active Federation’ award conferred during the ACF annual summit, which is underway here.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin has been conferred with Man-of-the-Year award for his effort in the successful hosting of the FIDE Chess Olympiad in August last year within a short notice of four months.
- The Indian women’s team, comprising of Koneru Humpy, D Harika, R Vaishali, Tania Sachdev and Bhakti Kulkarni, was adjudged the ‘Best Women’s team of the Year’ for its bronze-winning effort.

**By sameer singhal**

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