



CURRENT AFFAIRS 08th Feb 2024

State News

1. Telangana Govt To Establish Help Desk For Youth In The USA And Abroad



In response to growing safety concerns among Telangana citizens residing abroad, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has announced the establishment of a dedicated help desk.

This program aims to cater to the diverse requirements of students and young professionals from Telangana who are studying or working abroad.

Functioning as a hub for advice, aid, and support, the help desk mirrors the government's unwavering commitment to the well-being of its citizens, regardless of their location.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has not only taken steps within the state but has also reached out to the Ministry of External Affairs, urging swift action to address the safety concerns of Telangana citizens residing abroad.

2. Uttarakhand Pioneers Uniform Civil Code Implementation In India



Uttarakhand has marked a significant milestone in India's legislative history by becoming the first state to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC). The UCC aims to standardize laws governing personal matters like marriage, divorce, inheritance, and more across all citizens, irrespective of their religion.

The journey towards implementing the Uniform Civil Code in Uttarakhand began with the formation of a high-level committee led by retired Supreme Court judge, Justice Ranjana P Desai. This committee was tasked with drafting the UCC, which laid the foundation for the Bill passed by the Uttarakhand Assembly.

Defence News

3.India, Saudi Arabia Explore New Avenues Of Defence Cooperation



India and Saudi Arabia recently engaged in discussions aimed at bolstering their bilateral defence and strategic cooperation. One significant aspect of the discussions was the potential for enhancing joint military training exercises between the two nations.

Technology transfer emerged as another crucial topic, with both parties exploring avenues for collaboration in defence industrial engagement. This exchange of technology not only strengthens defence capabilities but also promotes indigenous manufacturing and innovation.

Economy News

4.LS Passes Finance Bill, Completes Interim Budget 2024-25



The Lok Sabha has successfully passed the Finance Bill, 2024, marking the completion of the interim budget exercise for the fiscal year 2024-25.

The interim budget does not propose any alterations to the existing tax structure, as the final budget is slated for presentation in July, post the general elections in April-May.

The Lok Sabha approved the Rs 47.66-lakh crore interim Budget 2024-25 of the Union Government. Additionally, the second batch of supplementary demands for grants was also endorsed by the House.

Banking News

5.RBI Grants Payment Aggregator Licences To Juspay, Zoho, And Decentro



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently granted final authorization to fintech firms Juspay and Decentro, along with software-as-a-service company Zoho, to operate as payment aggregators.

This approval comes in the wake of stringent criteria set by the regulator and positions these entities alongside other notable players in the payments aggregator landscape. Juspay, Decentro, and Zoho have secured the coveted payment aggregator licences from the RBI.

They join established names such as Stripe, Zomato, and Tata Pay, who received approval in January, as well as leading fintech players like Razorpay and Cashfree, which acquired the license last year

6.RBI Monetary Policy, Repo Rate Holds Steady At 6.5%



The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) has made a pivotal announcement, maintaining the repo rate at 6.5 per cent.

This decision marks the sixth consecutive time the rate has remained unchanged, following closely on the heels of the Interim Budget presented on February 1, 2024.

The RBI's stance continues to focus on the withdrawal of its accommodative monetary policy, aiming to balance inflation control with economic growth. The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled during April 3 to 5, 2024.

Business News

7. Tata Group Achieves Historic ₹30 Lakh Crore Market Cap, With TCS Crosses 15 Lakh Crore



Tata Group has made history by becoming the first Indian conglomerate to surpass the ₹30 lakh crore mark in combined market capitalization.

This significant achievement is driven by strong performances from key subsidiaries, including Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Tata Motors, Tata Power, and Indian Hotels. TCS shares reached a new peak on February 5, with a remarkable surge of over 4 percent, propelling its market capitalization beyond ₹15 lakh crore. This resurgence marks a significant milestone for the leading IT services company.

Important Days News

8. National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day 2024



National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, observed annually on February 7th, stands as a pivotal moment in the ongoing battle against HIV/AIDS within African American communities. This year's theme is "Engage, Educate, Empower: Uniting to End HIV/AIDS in Black Communities".

This day is dedicated to raising awareness about the disproportionate impact of HIV/AIDS on Black Americans and mobilizing efforts towards prevention, testing, treatment, and care.

It serves as a call to action for individuals, communities, and policymakers to address the systemic inequalities that contribute to the higher rates of HIV infection among Black populations.

Schemes News

9.Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal Launches Free Bus Travel For Transgender Community



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced a significant government initiative declaring free bus travel for the transgender community within the national capital. Kejriwal outlined the plan for expedited Cabinet approval and swift implementation of the scheme, aimed at providing tangible benefits to the transgender community within a few weeks.

Kailash Gahlot, Delhi minister, elaborated on the operational aspects of the initiative, indicating that transgender individuals would be eligible for free bus services upon presenting government-issued certificates

10.Dharmendra Pradhan Launched EdCIL Vidyanjali Scholarship Programme



The Education Minister, Dharmendra Pradhan, recently started the EdCIL Vidyanjali Scholarship Programme. This new program is all about making it easier for students who don't have much money to get a good education.

It follows the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020's goals to make education available to everyone. The program celebrates the success of students from Navodaya Vidyalayas who got into top engineering and technology colleges without extra tutoring. Many of these students come from poor backgrounds. The scholarship will help 70 students with a total of Rs 5 crore. The minister thanked businesses and organizations for their support, saying their help makes a big difference for students who need it