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## National Women's Day 2024 – Feb 13<sup>th</sup>

- National Women's Day in India is celebrated every year on 13 February.
- The day marks the **birth anniversary of Sarojini Naidu**, an eminent freedom fighter and poet, also known as the **“Nightingale of India”**.
- This day, also known as the National Day of Women in India, is dedicated to recognizing the significant contributions of women in various fields and their indispensable role in shaping the nation's destiny.
- The day also serves as a platform to raise awareness about the persisting gender disparities and challenges faced by women in India.
- Recognizing the instrumental role played by Naidu as a proponent of women's emancipation, the Government of India has declared her birth anniversary on 13 February every year as National Women's Day or National Day of Women in India.



## World Radio Day 2024: 13 February

- World Radio Day is observed every year on 13<sup>th</sup> February to raise awareness about the importance of radio.
- It is also observed to encourage access to information through radio.
- This year, the **13th edition** of World Radio Day was celebrated.
- The **theme for World Radio Day 2024 is "Radio: A century informing, entertaining and educating"**.
- In 1895, the first radio broadcast was made by Guglielmo Marconi.
- Radio came into commercial existence in the early 1920s.
- Radio stations came into existence about three decades later and by the 1950s, radio and broadcasting systems became a common commodity throughout the world.
- In 2011, UNESCO member states declared 13 February as World Radio Day.
- In 2013, it was adopted as an international event by the United Nations General Assembly.



## FIFA, Education Ministry join hands to promote football

- The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, in collaboration with All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) has launched the ambitious **Football for Schools (F4S) programme** of FIFA for school students across the country.
- The programme aims to significantly broaden the accessibility of football for students, regardless of gender, within the school setting, while seamlessly integrating football-related activities into the education system in collaboration with various stakeholders.
- Under the programme, 6848 footballs were distributed to 1260 Schools of 17 Districts of Odisha.
- Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya is the Nodal organization for the F4S programme.
- Under this programme, more than 11 lakh FIFA footballs are to be distributed throughout the country in a phased manner. More than 1.50 lakh schools will benefit from this programme.
- F4S aims to contribute to the education, development, and empowerment of around 700 million children across the world. It seeks to make football more accessible to both boys and girls by incorporating football activities into the education system, in partnership with relevant authorities and stakeholders.



## Nagal zooms into top 100 with Chennai Open triumph

- Sumit Nagal won the ATP Challenger title in Chennai.
- The Indian star defeated top seed **Luca Nardi of Italy** in straight sets
- Sumit Nagal will be ranked 98 in men's singles charts.
- He became the only 10th Indian and the first in 5 years to break into the top 100 of ATP men's singles rankings.
- This is his **fifth Challenger title** and entered the top-100 of the world rankings for the first time in his career.



## Former Prime Minister Alexander Stubb wins Finland Presidential elections

- Alexander Stubb of the center-right National Coalition Party narrowly won Finland's presidential election, defeating liberal Green Party member Pekka Haavisto, who conceded defeat.
- Stubb is pro-European and a strong supporter of Ukraine who has taken a tough stance towards Russia.
- Finland's new head of state will be responsible for its security and foreign policy, including the recently approved NATO member's stance towards Russia, with which it shares a long border.
- Stubb, a **former prime minister**, had won the first round on January 28 with 27.2% of the vote ahead of Haavisto on 25.8%. He has also led Haavisto in opinion surveys, most recently by 6-8 percentage points.
- **Stubb** has become **“the 13th president of Finland.”**



## ISRO president S. Somanathan honoured with K Nambiar Award-2024

- The award is named after KPP Nambiar, founder-chair of IEEE Kerala Section.
- It is an annual award. It is instituted to honour individuals in **Kerala**.
- They are awarded for their significant contributions to the IEEE vision of advancing technology for humanity.
- **Somanath** was selected for his contributions in steering Chandrayaan-3, ISRO's lunar exploration programme.
- **Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE)** Kerala Section has given the Amarnath Raja Humanitarian Technology Award to Jawahara Fathima and team, MA College, Kothamangalam.
- They have been awarded for the project 'Light for lives'.
- **Outstanding Woman Engineer Award has been given to Athuladevi S**, Deputy Director, Avionics, VSSC.



## India ranked 3rd in USGBC's list on green building certification for 2023

- India ranked third in the **US Green Building Council's (USGBC)** annual list of top 10 countries and regions in the world for **LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)** certification in 2023.
- LEED is a green building rating system and the certification is a globally recognised symbol of sustainability achievement and leadership.
- The rating system is available for virtually all building types, thereby providing a framework for healthy, highly efficient and cost-saving green buildings.
- **India has retained its third rank, while mainland China, and Canada held the first and second positions, respectively.**
- The United States has not been included in the list.
- While the US is not included in the list, it remains the world's largest market for LEED with more than 51 million Gross Square Metres (GSM) certified during the year.
- The annual ranking by USGBC highlights the significant progress made by countries and regions outside the US in adopting healthy, sustainable, and resilient building design, construction, and operations.
- In India, LEED is administered by the Green Business Certification Inc (GBCI).



## Uttar Pradesh govt targets 1 million tonne capacity of Green Hydrogen and 120,000 jobs

- Uttar Pradesh is looking to construct one million tonne per annum (mtpa) green hydrogen production capacity.
- The project may create 120,000 jobs, according to state energy minister A K Sharma.
- The state had received investment proposals worth Rs 2.73 trillion for green hydrogen plants from 20 companies at the UP Global Investors Summit in February 2023.
- The policy being created by the state will offer investment incentives, including on capital outlay, land availability, power transmission, etc.
- **Green hydrogen** is produced by breaking down water in an electrolyser using renewable energy, thus leaving no carbon emission.
- Later, hydrogen can be combined with nitrogen to make 'green' ammonia. Green ammonia is used to store energy and make fertilisers.
- UP will also be able to leverage its vast network of rivers as water plays a vital role in producing green hydrogen.
- At present, the hydrogen demand in UP is estimated at 900,000 tonnes per annum, especially in the fertiliser and refinery sectors.





## **Eminent Hindi and Maithili litterateur Usha Kiran Khan passes away**

- Eminent Hindi and Maithili litterateur Usha Kiran (82-years) Khan passed away after a prolonged illness.
- Besides several prestigious awards, **she was honored with Padma Shree**, the fourth highest civilian award of the country.
- She born in Laheriya Sarai of Darbhanga district in Bihar.
- Usha Kiran Khan received several literary honors including the prestigious **Sahitya Academy and Bharat Bharati award**.

## Maharashtra Govt signs MoU with Google for AI-led solutions across sectors

- The Maharashtra government signed a MoU with search engine giant **Google** to utilize innovative and scalable Artificial Intelligence (AI) led solutions across sectors including agriculture, healthcare, education etc.
- Google also announced the launching of a state-of-the-art **AI Center of Excellence (CoE)** at the **Indian Institute of Information Technology- Nagpur, Maharashtra**.
- This is the first ever collaboration in India, an MoU for AI CoE, powered by Google.
- As per the MoU, experts at Google and industry leaders will mentor startups in areas like technology, product development, business strategy and more.
- Google's AI Startup program will provide eligible venture capital (VC) funded AI startups with cloud credits, technical training and business support to accelerate their growth.



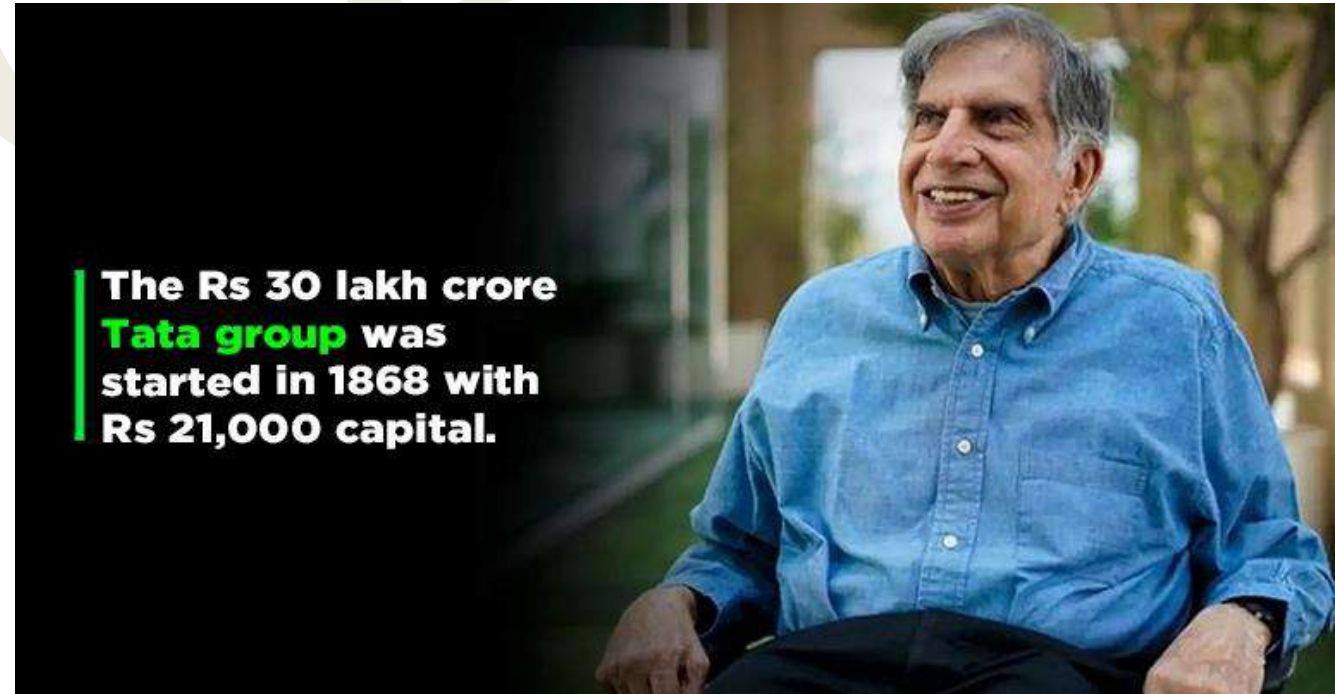
## Amenity Lifeline Emergency Response Team presents Lifetime Achievement Award to Ratan Tata

- The Seventh Edition of “ALERT Being” Awards was held to honour and recognise good samaritans from various walks of life.
- **ALERT, a voluntary non-profit organization dedicated to making the ‘Right to Life’ a reality in India**, organized the award ceremony and presented awards to 13 real-life heroes who have helped save or preserve lives in the following categories: individuals, organizations, and people going above and beyond.
- The ALERT Being Awards under the Individual category was presented to 5 real-life heroes who put their life at stake.
- The Category of Going Beyond Call of Duty was presented to **Ms. Jeyalakshmi**, a staff nurse from Tuticorin who helped deliver a baby during floods.
- Under Organisation Category: Nizams **Institute of Medical Science for eICU**, United Way of Chennai, Dhara Sansthan and Dharani Geotech Engineers India Private Limited received the awards.
- The ALERT Being Icon award was presented to the incredible **Rat Hole Miners (Uttarakhand Tunnel Collapse) and Pudukudi Melur (Srivaikuntam Floods)**.
- The **ALERT Being Award for Lifetime Achievement** was presented to **Shri. Ratan N Tata** for living a lifetime of legendary philanthropy along with business excellence.



## Tata Group becomes the first group in India to achieve market cap of Rs. 30 lakh crore

- The market capitalisation of the Tata Group, comprising 18 firms, went past **₹30 lakh crore** backed by a sharp rally in TCS and Tata Motors.
- More than half of the group's market value comes from Tata Consultancy Services, whose market cap hit the ₹15 lakh crore mark for the first time.
- **The Reliance Group holds the second position** on the market-cap leaderboard, at **₹21.60 lakh crore**.
- **The Adani Group**, with interests across various infrastructure sectors and capital-intensive commodities, is **ranked third**, with a combined market value of **₹15.54 lakh crore**.
- Tata Steel, Tata Power, Tata Consumer Products and Trent contribute over ₹1 lakh crore each to the m-cap. The newly listed Tata Technologies has a market cap of about ₹46,000 crore.



## **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) has signed a MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar**

- With this, IREDA has taken an important step towards promoting innovation and research in the field of renewable energy.
- The MoU was signed at the 100 Cube Start-up Conclave held at IIT Bhubaneswar.
- It seeks to assist cooperative endeavours in technology transfer, innovation and research projects, and fostering the startup environment.
- Together with facilitating technology transfer and cooperative research initiatives, the Memorandum of Understanding will offer extensive support to the startup environment.
- It will also include capacity-building activities to improve the abilities of IREDA officials, such as training courses, conferences, and workshops.
- **Pradip Kumar Das is the Chairman & Managing Director of IREDA.**
- Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan, inaugurated the 100 Cube Start-up Conclave at IIT Bhubaneswar, Research and Entrepreneurship Park (REP).



# India's UPI services have been launched in Sri Lanka and Mauritius and RuPay card services in Mauritius

- India's UPI services were launched in Sri Lanka and Mauritius by PM Narendra Modi.
- **Mauritius PM Pravind Jugnauth** and **Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe** joined Modi at the virtual ceremony at the launch.
- This launch will enable the availability of UPI settlement services for Indian citizens travelling to Sri Lanka and Mauritius, as well as Mauritian citizens travelling to India.
- This initiative symbolizes India's growing role in FinTech innovation and its commitment to share its progress with partner countries.
- The **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** has developed UPI and RuPay.
- UPI is an instant real-time payment system facilitating inter-bank transactions through mobile phones. **It was developed in 2016.**
- RuPay is a global card payment network from India with wide acceptance at shops, ATMs, and online. It was launched in 2014.

