



**Date - 17 January 2022**

## **Indian army day**

- Army Day is celebrated in India every year on 15 January in memory of the soldiers and the Indian Army.
- This year India is celebrating its 74th Army Day.

### **Historical background:**

- On January 15, 1949, Field Marshal Kodandera M. Cariappa, then Lieutenant General, succeeded General Sir Francis Butcher (the last British man to hold that position) as the first Indian Commander of the Indian Army.
- M. Cariappa adopted the slogan 'Jai Hind' which means 'Victory to India'. He is one of only two Indian Army officers to hold the five-star rank of Field Marshal, the other being Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw.

### **Army Day:**

- Army Day is celebrated every year to honor the soldiers of the country, who have set the biggest example of selfless service and brotherhood and for whom patriotism is above all.
- Parade is organized in the Cariappa Parade Ground of Delhi Cantonment every year on the occasion of Army Day.

### **Indian Army:**

- The Indian Army originated from the armies of the East India Company, which later became the 'British Indian Army' and eventually, after independence, the Indian Army.
- The Indian Army was established about 126 years ago by the British on April 1, 1895.

- Indian Army is considered to be the fourth most powerful/strong army in the world.

## Nari Shakti Puraskar 2021

- The last date for nominations for Nari Shakti Puraskar, 2021 is January 31, 2022.

### About Nari Shakti Puraskar 2021:

- This award was started in the year 1999. It is the highest civilian award in honor of women in India.
- Every year on International Women's Day (March 8), the Nari Shakti Puraskars are presented by the President of India.
- Nari Shakti Puraskar carries a cash prize money of Rs 2 lakh and a certificate is given to individuals and institutions.
- Ministry of Women and Child Development announces these national level awards for Individuals/Groups/Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)/Institutions etc. Prizes are distributed to the following:
- To encourage women to participate in decision making roles.
- For skill development of women in traditional and non-traditional sectors.
- To provide basic facilities to rural women.
- To promote women permanently in non-traditional fields like science and technology, sports, arts, culture.
- For important work towards safety, health and welfare, education, life skills, respect and dignity of women etc.

### Objective:

- To demonstrate the commitment of the Government towards women with the aim of strengthening the status of women in the society.
- It will also provide an opportunity to young Indians to understand the contribution of women in building society and nation.
- It will also help in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.
- **SDG 5:** Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

### Eligibility:

- As per the guidelines, any person who is not less than 25 years of age and has worked in the relevant field for at least 5 years in the institute is eligible to apply.

## International Women's Day

- International Women's Day is organized every year on 8 March. International Women's Day was first organized in the year 1909. It was officially recognized by the United Nations in the year 1977.
- Women's Day was first celebrated in the year 1911 by Clara Zetkin of Germany. The roots of the first Women's Day were associated with the labor movement.
- In the year 1913, it was decided to celebrate it on 8 March, which continues till the present.
- International Women's Day was first celebrated by the United Nations in the year 1975.
- In December 1977, a resolution was adopted by the member states of the General Assembly to declare the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace to be observed on any day of the year, in accordance with their historical and national traditions.

## Kathak

- Recently famous Kathak dancer Pandit Munna Shukla passed away.
- His most famous works include the dance-drama Shaan-e-Mughal, Inder Sabha, Amir Khusro, Anga Mukti, Anvesha, Bahar, Tratak, Kraunch Badh, Dhuni.
- His contribution to the world of dance was honored with Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2006), Sahitya Kala Parishad Award (2003) and Saraswati Samman (2011).

### Introduction:

- The word Kathak is derived from the word Katha which literally means to tell a story. This dance is mainly performed in northern India.
- It was mainly a temple or village performance in which dancers narrated stories from ancient texts.
- It is one of the classical dances of India.

### Development:

- With the spread of the Bhakti movement in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, Kathak dance developed as a distinct form.
- The legends of Radha-Krishna were first used in folk plays called 'Raas Leela', which later added folk dances to the original gestures of Kathak storytellers.

- Kathak was performed in the court under the Mughal emperors and their nobles, where it acquired its present characteristics and developed into a distinctive style.
- It developed into a major art form under the patronage of Wajid Ali Shah, the last Nawab of Awadh.

### **Dance Style:**

- Usually a solo storyteller or dancer pauses for a while to recite the verses and is then performed through physical movements.
- During this more attention is paid to the movement of the legs; Body movements are skillfully controlled by dancers wearing 'ankle-bells' and performed with straight legs.
- 'Tatkar' Kathak basically involves the movement of the feet.
- Kathak is the only form of classical dance that is related to Hindustani or North Indian music.
- Some of the prominent dancers include Birju Maharaj, Sitara Devi.

### **Other Classical Dances in India**

- Tamil Nadu- Bharatanatyam
- Kathakali – Kerala
- Kuchipudi – Andhra Pradesh
- Odissi- Odisha
- Satria- Assam
- Manipuri- Manipur
- Mohiniyattam- Kerala

### **Bhakti Movement:**

- The Bhakti movement developed in Tamil Nadu between the seventh and ninth centuries.
- This was reflected in the sentimental poems of Nayanars (devotees of Shiva) and Alvars (devotees of Vishnu).
- These saints did not see religion as mere formal worship but as a love bond based on love between the worshiper and the worshiper.
- He wrote in the local languages, Tamil and Telugu and hence was able to reach many people.
- Over time the ideas of the South moved towards the North but it was a very slow process.
- A more effective way of spreading the Bhakti ideology was the use of local languages. Bhakti saints composed their verses in local languages.
- He also translated into Sanskrit to make them understandable for a wider audience. Examples include Gyandev in Marathi, Kabir, Surdas and Tulsidas in Hindi,

Sankardev who popularized Assamese, Chaitanya and Chandidas who spread his message in Bengali, Mirabai and Rajasthani in Hindi.

## Fisheries startup

- Recently, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Startup India inaugurated the Fisheries Startup Grand Challenge.

### Introduction:

- The challenge has been launched with an aim to provide a platform to start-ups within the country to showcase their innovative solutions within the fisheries and aquaculture sector.
- To increase aquaculture productivity from the current national average of 3 tonnes to 5 tonnes per hectare, doubling export earnings and reducing post-harvest losses by 25% to 10%, and to address issues in the fisheries value chain. Solutions should be found for this.
- The challenge before this sector is to promote the start-up culture and establish a strong foundation of entrepreneurship model, the Department of Fisheries has earmarked Rs.3.44 crore for this challenge.

### Related Initiatives:

- Establishment of Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) during the year 2018-19.
- **Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana:** The program aims to achieve the fish production target of 22 million tonnes by 2024-25. Also, it is expected to create employment opportunities for 55 lakh people.
- **Blue Revolution:** It focuses on creating an enabling environment for integrated and holistic development and management of fisheries for socio-economic development of fishermen and fish farmers.
- Extension of Kisan Credit Card facilities to help fishermen and fish farmers meet their working capital needs.
- **Marine Products Export Development Authority:** MPEDA is a nodal coordinating, state owned agency engaged in fish production and allied activities.
- **Marine Fisheries Bill:** The Bill proposes to grant license for fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) only to vessels registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

- **Seaweed Park:** Multipurpose Seaweed Park in Tamil Nadu will be the hub for quality seaweed based products developed on the hub and spoke model.

### **Importance of Fisheries Sector:**

- Fisheries sector plays an important role in the economic and overall development of the country. Referred to as the “sunrise zone”, the fisheries sector has immense potential for equitable and inclusive growth.
- India is the second major producer of fish through aquaculture in the world.
- India is the fourth largest exporter of fish in the world as it contributes to 7.7% of the global fish production.
- Presently this sector provides livelihood to more than 2.8 crore people within the country. Nevertheless, it remains an area with untapped potential.
- The Economic Survey of India, 2019-20 estimates that only 58% of the country's inland potential has been tapped so far.
- The overall potential in the fisheries sector provides various opportunities to bring scalable business solutions and maximize profits for fishermen and fish farmers.
- Fishing is one of the fastest growing sectors in the primary producing sectors.
- However, to realize the true potential of the fisheries sector, there is a need for technological measures to enhance the efficiency and production of the fisheries value chain.

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