



# The ACHIEVERS IAS ACADEMY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH

## CURRENT AFFAIRS BOOSTER

24-03-22

THURSDAY

LANGUAGE - ENGLISH



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GOING ON.....

NEW BATCH  
FOR  
**68th BPSC**

START FROM  
1st APRIL 2022



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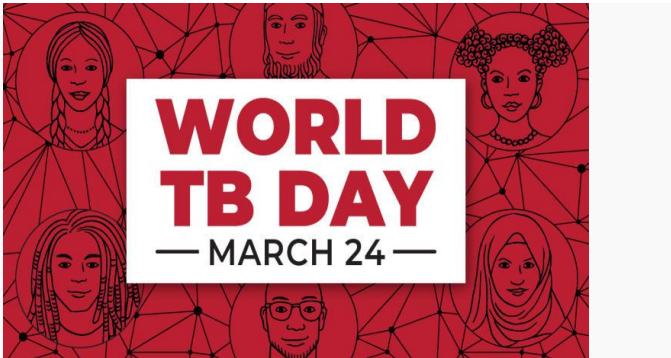
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## 1. World Tuberculosis Day observed on 24th March



**World Tuberculosis Day** is observed every year on **24 March** to create awareness among the public about the global epidemic of tuberculosis (TB) and efforts to eliminate the disease. The date marks the day in 1882 when Dr Robert Koch announced that he had discovered the bacterium that causes TB, which opened the way towards diagnosing and curing this disease.

The theme of World TB Day 2022 – ‘Invest to End TB. Save Lives.’ –conveys the urgent need to invest resources to ramp up the fight against TB and achieve the commitments to end TB made by global leaders.

### **What is Tuberculosis?**

Tuberculosis (TB) is a potentially serious infectious disease that mainly affects your lungs. The bacteria that cause tuberculosis are spread from one person to another through tiny droplets released into the air via coughs and sneezes.

Tuberculosis can also affect other parts of your body, including your kidneys, spine or brain. When TB occurs outside your lungs, signs and symptoms vary according to the organs involved. For example, tuberculosis of the spine may give you back pain, and tuberculosis in your kidneys might cause blood in your urine.

## 2. Abel prize for 2022: American mathematician Dennis P. Sullivan



The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters has awarded the Abel Prize for the year 2022 to American Mathematician Dennis Parnell Sullivan. The citation mentions that the award has been given, “For his groundbreaking contributions to topology in its broadest sense, and in particular its algebraic, geometric and dynamical aspects.”

### **What is Topology?**

Topology is a field of mathematics which was born in the nineteenth century and has to do with properties of surfaces that do not change when they are deformed. Topologically, a circle and a square are the same; similarly, surfaces of a doughnut and a coffee mug with one handle are topologically equivalent, however, the surface of a sphere and a coffee mug are not equivalent.

### **Numerous awards won by Dennis P. Sullivan:**

Dennis P. Sullivan has won numerous awards, among them the Steele Prize, the 2010 Wolf Prize in Mathematics and the 2014 Balzan Prize for Mathematics. He is also a fellow of the American Mathematical Society.

### **What is the Abel Prize?**

The Prize recognises extraordinary contributions to the sector of mathematics & is funded by the Norwegian Government & supported the recommendations of the Abel Committee, which consists of 5 internationally recognized mathematicians, the Abel Laureates is chosen.

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## 3. International Day for the Right to the Truth: 24th March



United Nations has recognised March 24 to be observed as the International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims every year. The day aims to pay tribute to those who have devoted their lives or lost their lives in, the struggle to promote and protect human rights for all.

### History of the day:

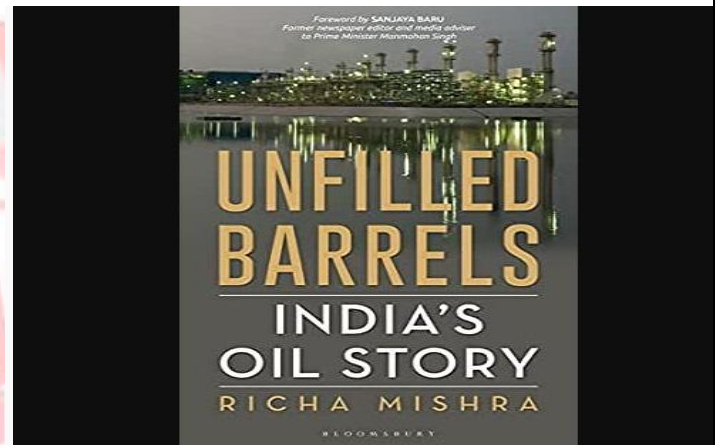
This day is observed on 24th March every year to pay tribute to “Monsignor Óscar Arnulfo Romero” as he was murdered on 24 March 1980. He was actively engaged in criticizing violations of the human rights of the most vulnerable individuals in El Salvador. The day was proclaimed by the United Nations in December 2010, to say no to all forms of violence, injustice and oppression against humanity.

## 4. World tennis No.1 Ashleigh Barty announces retirement



Australian female tennis player Ashleigh Barty has announced retirement from tennis at the age of 25 years. She has won three Grand Slam singles titles — the French Open in 2019, Wimbledon in 2021 and the Australian Open in 2022. Apart from playing tennis, she has also played semi-professional cricket during her break from tennis between 2014-2016. Barty is retiring after winning three major singles titles on three different surfaces – the 2019 French Open, the 2021 Wimbledon and, back in January, the Australian Open.

## 5. A book titled “Unfilled Barrels India’s oil story” authored by Richa Mishra



A book titled “Unfilled Barrels: India’s oil story” authored by Richa Mishra will be released soon. Richa Mishra is a journalist with The Hindu BusinessLine. The book highlights the key role played by Keshav Dev Malaviya, who was the petroleum minister in the 1970s with a degree in oil technology, and the emergence of other stakeholders from public sector enterprises, including ONGC, to the fiercely competitive private players like Cairn Energy, and Mukesh Ambani’s RIL.

## 6. OECD projects India’s GDP for FY23 at 8.1%

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The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has retained the outlook for India's real gross domestic product (GDP) at 5.5% in FY24, lower than 8.1% in 2022-23.

Driven by infrastructure spending and border reopenings, the GDP of emerging Asia – China, India and the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)- is projected to grow 5.8% this year, following a 7.4% expansion in 2021 and a 0.8% contraction in 2020, it said, adding that the Ukraine war adds to inflation and supply chain risks facing an emerging Asia attempting to break out of the Covid-19 slump.

## 7. Kerala becomes first state to introduce carbon-neutral farming methods



Kerala is set to become the first state in the country to introduce carbon-neutral farming methods in selected locations, for which the government has set aside Rs 6 crore in the 2022-23 Budget. In the first

phase, carbon-neutral farming will be implemented in 13 farms under the Agriculture Department and tribal areas, and steps are on to convert the State Seed Farm at Aluva to a carbon-neutral farm. In the second phase, model carbon-neutral farms will be developed in all the 140 Assembly constituencies.

### New farming methods

- The Agriculture Department was involved in a process of adopting new farming methods in phases, which would reduce carbon emissions and help the carbon to be stored in the soil. The government had already initiated discussions with experts in this regard.

- Improving soil health through integrated farming methods, rotation of crops, adoption of fertigation, precision farming methods, changing the ways in which the soil is irrigated and limiting the indiscriminate use of fertilizers were important for preventing soil degradation and thus reducing carbon footprint in agriculture.

## 8. Devendra Jhajharia became 1st para-athlete to receive Padma Bhushan



Devendra Jhajharia became the first para-athlete to receive the Padma Bhushan award. He has won many Paralympic medals, including gold at the 2004 Paralympics in Athens and 2016 Rio Games, and a silver medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Avani Lekhara (para-shooter) was also awarded the Padma Shri award in the Sports category. She is the

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first Indian woman to win two Paralympic medals in the same Games, as well as the first Indian woman to earn Paralympic gold.

## 9. IIT Madras established Policy Centre along with AquaMAP Water Management



The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras builds a new interdisciplinary water management and policy centre known as 'AquaMAP' to address India's water issues. The centre will build scalable models employing novel technology to provide smart solutions for water concerns. As proof of concept, these models will be installed in various areas across the country.

### Key Points:

- Parasuram Balasubramanian, CEO, Theme Work Analytics, and Mr. Krishnan Narayanan, President, itihaasa Research and Digital, both IIT Madras alumni, have supported this project by contributing a seed grant of Rs 3 crore for two years and also assisting in the development of the five-year plan.
- AquaMAP's Principal Investigator is Professor Ligy Philip. She will be aided by a group of 20 faculty members working on water-related topics from a variety of departments, including chemistry, civil engineering, chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, management, humanities, and social sciences.
- Aqua Map is governed by a board of directors directed by the director of IIT Madras and an

advisory board made up of experts in the fields of water technology, management, and policy.

- AquaMAP will work with other water research institutions at IIT Madras, including Sutram, the International Centre for Clean Water (ICCW) At IIT Madras, and the PCoE on Water and Sustainability, as well as other partners.

- In addition, a state-of-the-art hydro-informatics laboratory will be established, as well as a model for alumni and community participation.

### About AquaMap:

The capacity is one of the primary outputs that AquaMAP is projected to deliver in the medium or long term. The ability to address complex real-life water problems through consortia approaches, establish as an entity that can deliver solutions with wide impact and application, address at least three chronic water issues through grand challenges and their successful translation into pilot projects, and complete pilot studies in at least six water innovation villages or towns that can be replicated are among the key outcomes expected from AquaMAP in the medium or long term.

## 10. Ministry of Civil Aviation & FICCI organized 'WINGS INDIA 2022' in Hyderabad



Ministry of Civil Aviation (MOCA) and FICCI are jointly organizing Asia's largest event on Civil Aviation (Commercial, General and Business Aviation), titled 'WINGS INDIA 2022'. WINGS

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INDIA AWARDS will also be conferred during this event. The event focuses on new business acquisition, investments, policy formation, and regional connectivity. It is being held from 24th to 27th March 2022, at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad. The theme of the event: India@75: New Horizon for Aviation Industry. The event will provide a favourable forum catering to the rapidly changing dynamics of the sector. It focuses on new business acquisition, investments, policy formation and regional connectivity. It will provide a much-desired fillip to aviation, and restructured focused forums shall be instrumental in attaining the objective of connecting the buyers, sellers, investors, and other stakeholders. Several foreign dignitaries, ambassadors, representatives from various sectors of aviation will be taking part in the event.

## ONE LINER

- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus is the WHO's Director-General.
- WHO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Kerala Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan;
- Kerala Capital: Thiruvananthapuram;
- Kerala Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan.
- FICCI Founded: 1927;
- FICCI Headquarters: New Delhi;
- FICCI President: Sanjiv Mehta;
- FICCI Secretary General: Dilip Chenoy;
- FICCI Director-General: Arun Chawla.