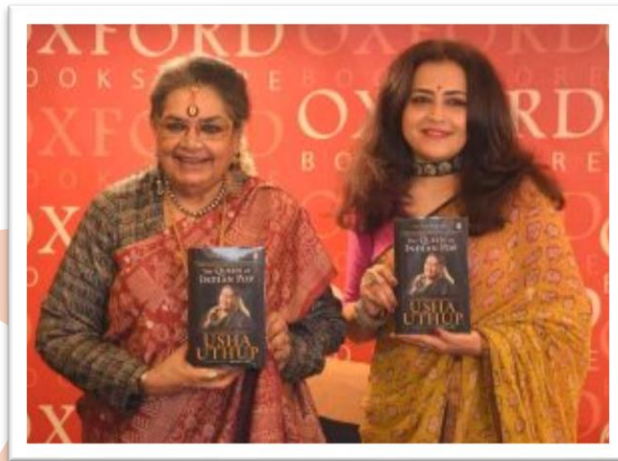


8 MARCH CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. The Queen of Indian Pop: The Authorised Biography Of Usha Uthup



- The biography of pop icon **Usha Uthup** titled **“The Queen of Indian Pop: The Authorised Biography of Usha Uthup”** was released. The book was originally written in Hindi titled **“Ullas Ki Naav”** by author **Vikas Kumar Jha**.
- “The Queen of Indian Pop: The Authorised Biography of Usha Uthup” is the English translation of the book, translated by the writer’s daughter **Srishti Jha**. The book is published by **Penguin Random House India (PRHI)**.
- The 74-year-old pop icon, who completed 50 years as a professional singer in 2020, is widely known for evergreen hits such as **“Hari Om Hari”**, **“Rambha Ho”** and **“Jeete Hain Shaan Se”**. She has sung in several Indian and foreign languages including **Bengali, Hindi, English, German, Italian and Sinhalese**.

2. A book titled 'The Blue Book' by authored by Journalist Amitava Kumar



- Indian writer and journalist, **Amitava Kumar** has come out with a new book titled '**The Blue Book: A Writer's Journal**'. The book has been published by HarperCollins India.
- The Blue Book is the outcome of the diary-keeping by the author during the time of lockdown due to pandemics. The author has used watercolour drawings as well as words to depict the experience, both individual and collective, of the pandemic.

3. Jan Aushadhi Diwas celebrates on 7th March 2022



- The **Jan Aushadhi Diwas** is celebrated on **7 March 2022** by the **Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI)**. The day is observed to spread awareness about the usages of generic medicines and the benefits of Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana. The theme of the 4th Janaushadhi Diwas is “**Jan Aushadhi-Jan Upyogi**”.
- On this occasion, Doctors, Health Workers, Nurses, Pharmacists, and Jan Aushadhi Mitra will discuss the Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana. The government has set a target to increase the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) to **10,500 by March 2025**.
- Janaushadhi Kendras is the world’s biggest retail pharma chain having around 6,200 outlets in 700 districts of the country. It also provides a good source of self-employment with sustainable and regular earnings. The first Jan Aushadhi Diwas was celebrated on **7th of March 2019**.

4. CISF observed its 53rd Raising Day on March 06



- The **53rd Raising Day** ceremony of **Central Industrial Security Forces (CISF)** was organised on **March 06, 2022**, in **Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh**. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has attended and addressed the Raising Day ceremony of CISF at Ghaziabad's Indirapuram.
- The CISF, which functions under the Union Home Ministry, is a central armed police force and among one of the six paramilitary forces of India. Over 30 lakh passengers in Delhi Metro and 10 lakh passengers in airports across the country pass through the security of CISF.
- **Director-General of CISF: Sheel Vardhan Singh.**

5. Former Australian cricketer Rod Marsh passes away



- Former Australia cricketer (wicketkeeper), **Rodney William Marsh** has passed away in Adelaide Australia. He was the 1st Australian wicketkeeper to score a century in test cricket and finished his career with 3 centuries.
- He held a test record of 355 dismissals by a wicketkeeper, including 95 off the bowling of pace bowler Dennis Lillee. He has played 96 test matches for Australia from 1970 to 1984 and 92 One-Day Internationals (ODIs) for Australia and later retired from top-flight cricket in February 1984.

6. President Ram Nath Kovind presents Nari Shakti Puraskars for 2020 and 2021 on International Women's Day

- President Ram Nath Kovind conferred the Nari Shakti Puraskar 2020 and 2021 at a special ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on occasion of International Women's Day on 8th March 2022.

- The award was conferred on 29 outstanding and exceptional women achievers in recognition of their exceptional work towards empowerment of women, especially the vulnerable and marginalised.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development confers Nari Shakti Puraskar on women and institutions in recognition of their relentless service towards the cause of women empowerment and social welfare, and to celebrate women as game changers and catalysts of positive change in the society.
- The award ceremony for the year 2020 could not be held in 2021 due to the prevalent situation created by COVID-19 pandemic.

7. PM Modi lauds Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav Abhiyan

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called ‘Kanya Shiksha Pravesh Utsav Abhiyan’ an exemplary effort which will ensure more girls get the joys of education.
- The campaign is a mission to ensure every young girl is allowed to pursue education and skilling.
- Quoting a tweet of Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Zubin Irani, the Prime Minister said asked everyone to come together and make this movement a success.

8. RBI launches UPI123pay and 24x7 helpline for digital payments in Mumbai

- RBI governor Shaktikanta Das launched the UPI123pay and also launched a 24x7 helpline for digital payments in Mumbai.
- This new initiative by RBI will facilitate use of UPI with text and allow feature phone users to seamlessly perform various financial and non-financial transactions.
- The 24x7 helpline will give an opportunity to provide solutions to various queries about digital payments.
- There are more than 40 crore feature phone users in India and they are not able to use digital payment solutions.
- Considering this fact RBI has launched the UPI for feature phones. There is server side common library which enables the user to do digital payments.
- For this facility internet is not required and it can be used in various languages although initially it is available in Hindi and English.
- User will have to link his bank account with the feature phone and will have to set a UPI pin with the details of the debit card.

9. MSME Minister Narayan Rane launches Special Entrepreneurship Promotion Drive for Women - “SAMARTH”

- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, MSME Minister Narayan Rane launched a Special Entrepreneurship Promotion Drive for Women - “SAMARTH” on the occasion of "International Women’s Day" 2022 in New Delhi on 7 March 2022.
- On the occasion, Mr. Rane also conferred awards to twenty women entrepreneurs from different entrepreneur sectors across the country.
- Under the Samarth initiative twenty percent seats in free Skill Development Programs organized under skill development schemes of the Ministry will be allocated for Women and more than seven thousand 500 women will be benefitted.
- Twenty percent of MSME Business Delegations sent to domestic and international exhibitions under the schemes for Marketing Assistance implemented by the Ministry will be dedicated to women owned MSMEs.
- The MSME sector offers a plethora of opportunities for women and his ministry through its schemes and initiatives.
- Thousands of women will be getting marketing opportunities to showcase their products in domestic and international exhibitions.

10. DN Patel named as Chairperson of TDSAT

- The Central Government has appointed Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel, Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, as the Chairperson of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal(TDSAT).
- He was appointed as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on June 7, 2019, and is now given the Chair of TDSAT, days before his retirement on March 12, 2022.
- Ministry of Law and Justice issued a notification regarding the approval of his appointment by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), stating that he will serve the Chair for a period of 4 years from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or till attaining the age of 70 years, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest.
- The conditions of his service will be governed by the provisions of the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021 and the Tribunal (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2021.
- **TDSAT Establishment: 2000**
- **TDSAT Headquarter: New Delhi**