



# ACE

## Engineering Publications

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# ESE-2023

## (Preliminary Examination)

### Current Issues

(December - 2023)

**ACE is the leading institute for coaching in ESE, GATE & PSUs**

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**31 All India 1<sup>st</sup> Ranks in ESE**

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# Current Issues

(December - 2023)

## POLICY OF GOVERNANCE

### MY BHARAT CAMPAIGN



#### KEY POINTS

- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Singh Thakur, recently addressed the youth after the launch of the MY Bharat campaign, expressing confidence in India's remarkable progress.
- MY Bharat portal initiative is for building confidence and leadership skills among the youth. The primary objective of Mera Yuva Bharat is to make the portal a platform of the central government for youth development.
- The initiative seeks to harness the immense energy of the youth for building a developed India by 2047.
- Over 1.4 lakh youth from Tamilnadu have registered in the MY Bharat portal where they will be sharing their real-life experience through 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani'.

## AMRIT BHARAT TRAIN WITH PUSH-PULL TECHNOLOGY



### KEY POINTS

- "Amrit Bharat train has better acceleration due to push-pull technology.
- India's rail network continues to evolve, with the recent unveiling of the Amrit Bharat train with push-pull technology, set to be flagged off by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- This means that the vehicle accelerates quickly and also stops quickly, thereby, saving time wherever there are curves and bridges on the way. It is equipped with semi-permanent couplers, which eliminate the scope of shock in the train.

## “WORD OF THE YEAR” 2023



### KEY POINTS

- Words of the Year chosen by top dictionaries such as Oxford, Collins, Cambridge, Merriam-Webster, and Dictionary.com.
- Oxford Dictionary: Rising to the top spot for Oxford is “Rizz”, a slang term referring to one’s natural charm, charisma, and ability to attract romantic partners. Popularized by internet personality Kai Cenat, “Rizz” captures the growing emphasis on online persona and social media presence in the realm of dating and relationships.
- Merriam-Webster: In contrast, Merriam-Webster champions “Authentic” as its Word of the Year. This choice highlights a yearning for genuineness and self-expression in a world increasingly saturated with artifice and digital filters. It reflects a desire to connect with one another on a deeper level, beyond the carefully curated online facades.
- Cambridge Dictionary and Dictionary.com: Interestingly, both Cambridge Dictionary and Dictionary.com share the same Word of the Year: “Hallucinate”.
- Collins Dictionary: For Collins Dictionary, the future reigns supreme. Their Word of the Year is “AI” (artificial intelligence), recognizing its transformative potential and its ever-growing influence on various aspects of our lives

## SAANS CAMPAIGN 2023-24



### KEY POINTS

- The Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Sapam Ranjan Singh. inaugurated the Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) Campaign 2023-24 in Imphal, Manipur, with the objective of addressing childhood pneumonia and raising awareness about public health.
- It is an annual campaign implemented in states and Union Territories. The primary objective of SAANS is to accelerate action against childhood pneumonia, a leading cause of child mortality.
- The government aims to reduce pneumonia fatalities in children to less than three per 1,000 live births by 2025, following the Integrated Action Plan established in 2014.

## INTERNATION ISSUES

### INDIA-UN CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE



#### KEY POINTS

- The “India-UN Capacity Building Initiative” aims to share India's development experiences, best practices and expertise with partner countries in the Global South through capacity building and training programs.
- The initiative is aimed at building the capacity of countries in the Global South.
- As a part of initiative, the UN India team and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will “partner to leverage India's Technical and Economic Cooperation platform to share India's development experiences and best practices across the world.
- The goal is to share India's development experiences, best practices, and expertise through capacity-building and training programs.
- The initiative will also put into action the development goals established during India's G20 Presidency, including the G20 Action Plan for advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and enhancing technology and digital infrastructure.
- The Indian mission also informed that its India-UN Development Partnership Fund has developed a portfolio of 75 development projects in 61 countries in the last 6 years.

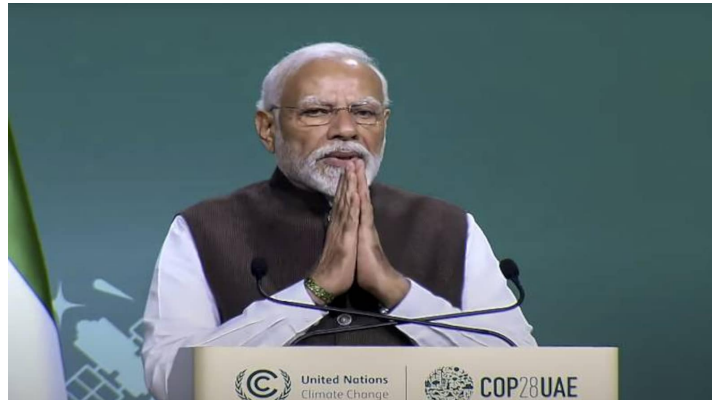
## 8TH WONDER OF THE WORLD



### KEY POINTS

- Angkor Wat, located in the heart of Cambodia, has recently earned the prestigious title of the 8th wonder of the world, surpassing Italy's Pompeii.
- Its grandeur, architectural intricacy, and historical significance have earned it this prestigious recognition.
- Angkor Wat is an expansive temple complex that spans approximately 500 acres and serves as the largest religious monument in the world. Originally constructed in the 12th century by King Suryavarman II, the temple was dedicated to the Hindu deity Vishnu.

## UN CLIMATE MEET (COP33) IN 2028



### KEY POINTS

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed to host the UN climate conference in 2028 or COP33 in India and launched the Green Credit Initiative focused on creating carbon sinks through people's participation.
- This offer was made during his address at the inaugural session of the World Climate Action Summit at COP28 in Dubai.
- The Prime Minister outlined India's ambitious plans to triple its renewable energy capacity, develop alternative fuels like green hydrogen, and participate in the Global Biofuels Alliance.



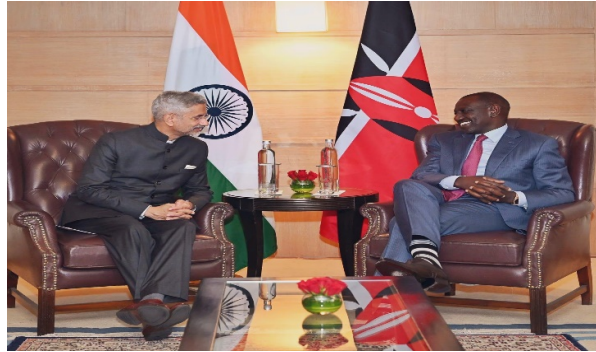
## CAPITAL OF INDONESIA, JAKARTA OR NUSANTARA



### KEY POINTS

- Nusantara will replace Jakarta as the national capital, a position the latter city has held since the country's proclamation of independence in 1945. The site is situated on the east coast of the island of Borneo, specifically in the province of East Kalimantan.
- Although the government has committed to investing \$35 billion in the project, that's only 20% of the funds needed and relying on foreign investors has not worked in the Jokowi administration's favor.

## KENYAN PRESIDENT RUTO'S INDIA VISIT



### KEY POINTS

- Kenyan President Ruto's India visit focused on bolstering diplomatic ties and collaboration in rural development, agriculture, and technology.
- A Presidential visit from Kenya is taking place after a period of over six years. The visit is expected to strengthen and invigorate the bilateral relations between the two countries.

## MONUMENTAL GUINNESS WORLD RECORD



### KEY POINTS

- Gwalior, often hailed as the City of Music, recently witnessed an extraordinary spectacle as 1500 tabla performers converged at the historic Karna Mahal of Gwalior Fort.
- Gwalior was listed as the Creative City of Music in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) in November.
- Around 1,300 musicians played Vande Mataram to enter the Guinness World Record for the “largest table ensemble” during the ongoing 99th International Tansen Mahotsav in Gwalior.
- Gwalior’s commitment to culture and creativity has earned it a place in UNESCO’s Creative Cities Network (UCCN).

# AWARDS

## 2023 BALLON d'Or



### KEY POINTS

- Lionel Messi and Aitana Bonmati have been honored as the 2023 Ballon d'Or recipients. Messi secures his eighth Ballon d'Or, setting a new record, thanks to his pivotal role in leading Argentina to their first World Cup victory since 1986.
- This return to the French capital marked a poignant moment for Messi.

## SAHITYA AKADEMI AWARDS



### KEY POINTS

- Sahitya Akademi, announced its annual Sahitya Akademi Awards in 24 languages. Check the complete Sahitya Akademi Awards 2023 Winners Name List.
- Tamil author Rajasekaran (Devibharathi), Telugu writer T. Patanjali Sastry and Malayalam litterateur E.V. Ramakrishnan were among those named for the Sahitya Akademi Awards for the year 2023.
- Nine books of poetry, six novels, five short story collections, three essays and one literary study have won the Sahitya Akademi Awards this year.
- The awards recommended by distinguished jury members in 24 languages were approved by the Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi under the Chairmanship of Madhav Kaushik, President of the Akademi.
- The awards relate to books first published during the five years immediately preceding the year of award, that is between January 2017 and December 31, 2021.

## RABINDRANATH TAGORE LITERARY PRIZE



### KEY POINTS

- The Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize is a literary honour in India conferred annually to published works of Indian authors (residing in India or abroad) in novel, short stories, poetry and drama, originally written in any of Indian official languages and dialects, but translated to English.
- The renowned Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize has named poet-critic Sukrita Paul Kumar as its sixth recipient for her book, "Salt & Pepper: Selected Poems".

# SPORTS

## 2023 KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES



### KEY POINTS

- The 2023 Asian Shooting Championships were the 15th Asian Shooting Championships and took place from 22 October to 2 November 2023, at Changwon Shooting Range, Changwon, South Korea.
- 813 competitors from 30 countries took part in the competition. It was the Asian qualifying tournament for the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris.
- Zahid Hussain achieved a remarkable feat by securing the silver medal at the prestigious Asian Shooting Championship held in South Korea.
- Zahid Hussain's silver medal win is not only a personal triumph but a source of immense pride for Anantnag.

## NATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION AWARD 2023



### KEY POINTS

- Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals Ltd. (CGCEL), a leading player in India's consumer electrical industry, has been honored with the prestigious National Energy Conservation Award 2023.
- The honor was conferred by the Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu and the Ministry of Power through its body viz. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day.

## LEIF ERIKSON LUNAR PRIZE



### KEY POINTS

- ISRO was awarded the Leif Erikson Lunar Prize, underscoring its unwavering commitment to lunar exploration, with a focus on the groundbreaking Chandrayaan-3 mission.
- In recognition of India's significant achievements in space exploration, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has been bestowed with the esteemed Leif Erikson Lunar Prize by the Husavik Museum.
- Indian Ambassador Balasubramanian Shyam accepted the prestigious prize on behalf of ISRO, with ISRO Chairman Mr. S. Somanath expressing gratitude through Ambassador Shyam.



# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## XPoSat MISSION



## KEY POINTS

- ISRO prepares for the XPoSat mission, a groundbreaking venture into polarimetry, set to launch on January 1, 2024.
- X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat) aims to explore the polarisation of intense X-Ray sources and will carry two scientific payloads: POLIX and XSPECT.
- The PSLV Orbital Experimental Module-3 (POEM-3) experiment will be executed meeting the objective of 10 identified payloads, supplied by ISRO and IN-SPACE.
- XPoSat (X-ray Polarimeter Satellite) is the first dedicated scientific satellite from ISRO to carry out research in space-based polarisation measurements of X-ray emission from celestial sources.
- The Satellite configuration is modified from the IMS-2 bus platform. The Configuration of the mainframe systems are derived based on the heritage of IRS satellites.
- It carries two payloads namely POLIX (Polarimeter Instrument in X-rays) and XSPECT (X-ray Spectroscopy and Timing).
- POLIX is realized by Raman Research Institute and XSPECT is by Space Astronomy Group of URSC.

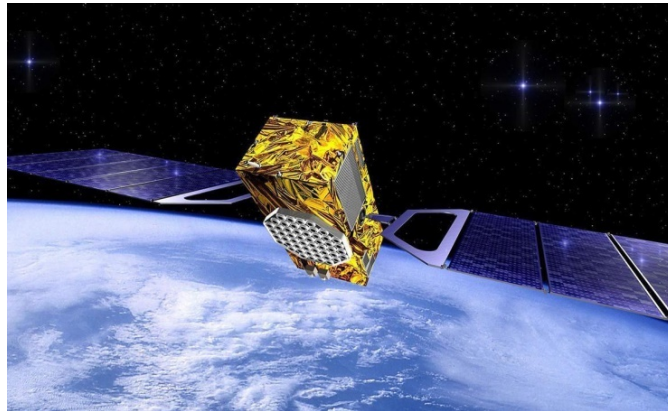
## LeadIT 2.0



### KEY POINTS

- Recently, at the Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) Summit 2023 hosted by India and Sweden at the Conference of Parties (COP 28) in the United Arab Emirates, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change announced the three pillars of the second phase of LeadIT (2.0).
- LeadIT is a global initiative that aims to accelerate the transition of challenging sectors such as steel, cement, chemicals, aviation, and shipping to low-carbon pathways.
- It was launched by the governments of Sweden and India at the United Nations Climate Action Summit in 2019 and is supported by the World Economic Forum.
- The initiative, with a primary focus on an inclusive and just industry transition, aims to facilitate the co-development and transfer of low-carbon technology while providing financial assistance to emerging economies.
- Established in 2019, LeadIT has evolved into a collaborative effort with 18 countries and 20 industry-leading companies

## MIRSAT-2 SATELLITE



### KEY POINTS

- China and Egypt collaborated to develop and jointly assemble the MirSat-2 Satellite, launching it from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China with the Long March-2C carrier rocket.
- The satellite, assembled in Egypt with Chinese support, was launched from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China, utilizing the Long March-2C carrier rocket.
- This initiative positioned Egypt as the first African country with satellite assembly and testing capabilities.

# REPORTS

## TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) RANKINGS



### KEY POINTS

- The 20th edition of the World's Best Universities by the Times Higher Education (THE) rankings has been unveiled, showcasing the top higher education institutions globally.
- The list's top 10 universities is a blend of British and American institutions. Leading the pack is the University of Oxford, followed by Stanford University, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
- Harvard University, University of Cambridge (UK), Princeton University, California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Imperial College London, University of California, Berkeley, and Yale University round out the top 10.

**REPORT BY S&P GLOBAL MARKET INTELLIGENCE**

# S&P Global

# Market Intelligence

## KEY POINTS

- In a recent report by S&P Global Market Intelligence, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has secured its position as the world's fourth-largest insurer.
- The ranking is based on the life and accident & health reserves of companies for the year 2022.
- According to the report, LIC's reserves stood at \$503.7 billion. Germany's Allianz SE (\$750.20 billion), China Life Insurance Company (\$616.90 billion) and Nippon Life Insurance Company (\$536.80 billion) are the top three insurance companies in the world.
- The S&P list of the top 50 global life insurance companies was dominated by European firms, taking 21 spots.

## PERSONS IN NEWS

### DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS



### KEY POINTS

- Senior IPS officer and Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Maheshwar Dayal took charge as Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services.
- He had served as Superintendent of Police (SP) in Virudhunagar, The Nilgiris and Nagapattinam districts and Deputy Commissioner of Police in Tirunelveli, Tiruchi and Gurgaon, Haryana.
- He was also Commandant of Tamil Nadu Special Police, Tihar Battalion, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Industrial Security Force and Bureau of Civil Aviation

## **FIRST WOMAN DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION**



### **KEY POINTS**

- Kanchan Devi became the first Woman Director General of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE),
- Kanchan Devi, an IFS officer from the 1991 batch of the Madhya Pradesh cadre, was appointed as director general of Dehradun-based Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE).
- With over three decades of service, she became the first woman officer to hold this position

## FIRST WOMAN COMMANDING OFFICER FOR A NAVAL SHIP



### KEY POINTS

- Admiral R Hari Kumar announced the appointment of the first woman commanding officer for a naval ship, exemplifying the Navy's 'all roles-all ranks' approach.
- The overall strength of women Agniveers has now crossed the 1,000 mark.
- These statistics stands testament to our philosophy of 'all roles, all ranks' approach to deployment of women in the service.

## INDIA'S FIRST WOMAN AIDE-DE-CAMP (ADC).



### KEY POINTS

- Squadron Leader Manisha Padhi, an Indian Air Force (IAF) officer from the 2015 batch, made history on Monday by becoming the first woman in India to be appointed as Aide-de-Camp (ADC).
- The Governor emphasized the importance of celebrating this remarkable achievement and encouraged continued support for women's empowerment in every sphere.



### 3TH HOCKEY INDIA SENIOR MEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023.



#### KEY POINTS

- In a thrilling final match, Hockey Punjab emerged victorious over Hockey Haryana to clinch the gold medal at the 13th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2023.
- The tournament was held from November 17 to 28, 2023, at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu secured the bronze medal, defeating Hockey Karnataka in a decisive match. This victory placed them at third position in the tournament.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 2024 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CAMELIDS



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
**CAMELIDS**  
2024

#### KEY POINTS

- The United Nations has declared 2024 as the International Year of Camelids to emphasize the significant importance of camelids, such as alpacas, Bactrian camels, dromedaries, guanacos, llamas, and vicuñas, in the lives of people worldwide.
- Camelids play an important role in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) envisaged by the United Nations. Camelids are a source of milk and meat which helps people fight hunger. They also provide fibre which can be used for clothing and shelter.
- Camelids are also used by people as a means of transportation. They also provide organic fertiliser which can be used in agriculture. Moreover, Camelids are known to survive in harsh conditions.

## WORLD AIDS DAY 2023



### KEY POINTS

- On December 1, World AIDS Day is a call to action to enable and support communities in these efforts.
- The theme for World AIDS Day 2023, “Let Communities Lead!”.
- In August 1988, James W. Bunn and Thomas Netter, public information officers for the AIDS Global Program of the World Health Organization, initiated World AIDS Day to address the devastating HIV/ AIDS pandemic.

## INTERNATIONAL CHEETAH DAY



### KEY POINTS

- International Cheetah Day, observed annually on December 4, is a global initiative to raise awareness about the conservation of cheetahs, renowned as the fastest land animals on Earth.
- International Cheetah Day established in 2010 by Dr. Laurie Marker.

## INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY (IVD)



### KEY POINTS

- International Volunteer Day (IVD) is an annual event observed on December 5th, celebrating the immense contributions of volunteers worldwide.
- The celebration of International Volunteer Day began in December 1985 when the United Nations General Assembly approved its observance on December 5th each year.
- The day mobilizes volunteers globally, fostering collaboration with partners and government organizations to promote and sustain domestic volunteerism.
- The central message of the 2023 theme is a powerful call to action: “If everyone volunteered, the world would be a better place.”

## SAARC CHARTER DAY



### KEY POINTS

- SAARC Charter Day is observed annually on 8th December, marking a significant milestone in the history of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).
- On this day in 1985, the SAARC Charter was adopted in Dhaka during the grouping's first summit.
- Its Secretariat is based in Kathmandu, Nepal. SAARC Charter Day is observed every year on December 08.
- The SAARC Charter was signed by the Heads of State or Government of seven founding member countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

## INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY



### KEY POINTS

- The day of observing International Anti-Corruption Day offers to highlight the link between anti-corruption and security, peace and progress in the society.
- The theme of IACD 2023 is “UNCAC at 20: Uniting the World Against Corruption”.
- Originating from the UN's commitment in 2003, the day emphasizes the link between anti-corruption efforts and societal progress. In a world where the law is meant to ensure the well-being and freedom of every citizen, corruption can quietly seep in, jeopardizing the very foundation of a fair and just society.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NEUTRALITY



### KEY POINTS

- International Day of Neutrality is observed on December 12th each year. This date was chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Neutrality by Turkmenistan in 1995, recognizing the country's status as a permanently neutral state.
- The genesis of the International Day of Neutrality can be traced back to Turkmenistan, a Central Asian country recognized as a permanent neutral state by the UN since December 1995.
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) approved Turkmenistan's proposal on February 2, 2017.
- Consequently, on December 12, 2017, the International Day of Neutrality was officially proclaimed, emphasizing the connection between peacekeeping efforts and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY



### KEY POINTS

- Human rights day marks the 75th anniversary of a monumental global commitment—the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).
- The UDHR has since served as the foundation for an expanding system of human rights protection that today focuses also on vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and migrants.
- It commemorates the day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights



## INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY 2023



### KEY POINT

- International Migrants Day 2023, observed annually on December 18, serves as a global platform to recognize and appreciate the significant contributions of migrants while shedding light on the challenges they face.
- The theme for International Migrants Day 2023 is “Promoting Safe Migration.”
- According to the UN, India had the largest diaspora in the world in 2020, with 18 million people living outside the country. India also hosted about 5.2 million international migrants in 2019, mostly from neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka

## INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY



### KEY POINTS

- On December 20, 2002, the UN designated December 11 as International Mountain Day.
- They urged the international community to take proper steps to ensure sustainable mountain development.
- The first International Mountain Day was then observed on December 11, 2003.
- The theme for International Mountain Day 2023 is "Restoring Mountain Ecosystems."

## INTERNATIONAL HUMAN SOLIDARITY DAY 2023



### KEY POINT

- International Human Solidarity Day 2023, marked on 20th December, serves as a reminder of the shared responsibility of nations to honor their commitment to international agreements.
- International Human Solidarity Day 2023 is a significant observance held annually on December 20th. Recognized by the UN General Assembly.
- This day inspires states to reaffirm their commitment to international agreements.
- The roots of this day trace back to December 22, 2005, when the UN General Assembly acknowledged solidarity as a fundamental value of the twenty-first century through Resolution 60/209.
- It serves as a call to action to work together toward the common objectives of peace, social justice, and sustainable development.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EPIDEMIC PREPAREDNESS



### KEY POINTS

- The first ever International Day of Epidemic Preparedness, being held on 27 December 2020, was called for by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate the importance of the prevention of, preparedness for and partnership against epidemics.
- This day encourages every individual, every institution, and every government to prepare its citizens in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national contexts and priorities, through education and awareness-raising activities.