

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – FEBRUARY 19, 2024

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **India's First Indigenous Spy Satellite**
- ✓ India is preparing to launch its first spy satellite developed by Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL) aboard a SpaceX rocket in April.



- ✓ This satellite, designed for discreet information gathering, will bolster the country's defense capabilities by providing real-time monitoring and ground control.
  - ✓ Previously, Indian armed forces relied on foreign vendors for exact coordinates and timings.
  - ✓ The indigenous spy satellite will end this dependency, ensuring sovereignty and security.
- **ISRO Young Scientist Program 2024 (YUVIKA)**
  - ✓ Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has introduced the **Yuva Vigyani Karyakram** Young Scientist Program (YUVIKA) 2024, which aims to promote curiosity and knowledge about space science, technology among the youth and school children.



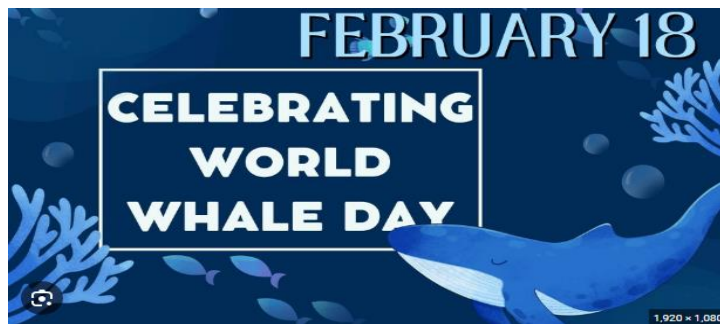
- ✓ Yuvika aims to provide fundamental knowledge on space science, technology and applications, especially targeting rural areas.
- ✓ The program aims to spark interest in STEM fields and nurture future talents in space exploration.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

- **World Pangolin Day: February 17**
- ✓ The Andhra Pradesh Forest Department, in collaboration with environmentalists, has launched an awareness campaign to commemorate World Pangolin Day on February 17, 2024.



- ✓ Highlighting the plight of the Indian Pangolin also known as the Thick-Tailed Pangolin or Scaly Anteater, this initiative underscores the urgent need for conservation efforts for one of the world's most trafficked mammals.
- **World Whale Day: February 18**
- ✓ World Whale Day, observed on the third Sunday of February, is a pivotal event aimed at highlighting the critical importance of whale conservation.



- ✓ This year, the day falls on February 18, spotlighting the urgent need to protect these marine behemoths crucial for ecological equilibrium.
- ✓ Founded in 1980 by Greg Kauffman and the Pacific Whale Foundation, the initiative, initially centered on North Pacific humpback whales, has evolved into the Maui Whale Festival, celebrating broader successes in whale conservation.

