

March-20

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Ms. Sangeeta Bahadur, current Additional Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Belarus.
- ❖ The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has launched its “lost and found” mobile application for passengers at 59 airports across India. It can be downloaded from the website of Ministry of Information and Technology.
 - The app offers three facilities – lost and found items at airports, tracking complaints or request status and technical consultancy in security, and fire services.

NATIONAL

'Krishi Unnati Mela'

- ❖ The 3-day annual Krishi Unnati Mela was held in New Delhi with the focus on doubling farmers' income.
- ❖ The theme of the fair is doubling farmer's income by 2022.
- ❖ 'Krishi Unnati Mela' is aimed at creating awareness about the latest technological developments in the agriculture and allied sectors among farmers.
- ❖ Prime Minister laid foundation stone for 25 Krishi Vigyan Kendras and unveil a portal on organic farming.
- ❖ He also conferred Krishi Karman Award and Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhaya Krishi Vigyan Protsahan Puruskar to progressive farmers and states on the occasion.

105th Indian Science Congress

- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated 105th session of Indian Science Congress (ISC) at Manipur Central University in Imphal.
- ❖ The theme of 5-day ISC is “Reaching the Unreached Through Science & Technology”.

- ❖ The ISC 2018 was organised by the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), a premier scientific organisation of India.
- ❖ This is 2nd time the Science Congress is being held in the north east. Earlier it was held at Shillong (Meghalaya) in 2009.

Indian Science Congress Association

- ❖ ISCA was started in the year 1914 at its headquarters in Kolkata.
- ❖ It organises Indian Science Congress annually in the first week of January.
- ❖ The first meeting of the ISCC was held in January 1914 in the Asiatic Society, Kolkata.

INTERNATIONAL

Philippines quit from ICC

- ❖ The Philippines has formally submitted the Letter of Withdrawal from the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- ❖ It will make Philippines only second country to withdraw from the Rome statute, following Burundi in 2017.
- ❖ Philippines had ratified Rome statute related to Hague-based ICC in 2011.

International Criminal Court (ICC)

- ❖ ICC is the world's first intergovernmental legal body with permanent international jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.
- ❖ It is based in The Hague, Netherlands.
- ❖ It began its functioning on 1 July 2002, the date that Rome Statute entered into force. It has 123-member states.
- ❖ It is notable that India is not a member in this court.
- ❖ The Rome Statute is multilateral treaty which serves as ICC's foundational and governing document.
- ❖ India has not signed Rome Statute.
- ❖ The ICC has jurisdiction to prosecute individuals and it is not a part of United Nations (UN).
- ❖ United Nations Security Council or individual states may also refer situations to the Court.

ENVIRONMENT

RIMES - Odisha

- ❖ The Odisha government is set to collaborate with the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) for strengthening its early warning services and enhancing preparedness for management of disasters in the State.
- ❖ The Odisha State Disaster Mitigation Authority (OSDMA) and RIMES would forge a partnership in the field of drought monitoring and early warning for different natural disasters.
- ❖ RIMES is already working with the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority.

RIMES

- ❖ The RIMES is an intergovernmental body registered under United Nations.
- ❖ India is chairman of the body. It was established in 2009 and was registered with UN in July 2009.
- ❖ It is managed by 45 collaborating countries in Asia Pacific and Africa Region.
- ❖ It operates from its regional early warning centre located at campus of Asian Institute of Technology in Pathumthani, Thailand.

STATES

Ban on use of plastic - Maharashtra

- ❖ Maharashtra Government has banned the use of plastic in time-bound manner, citing environmental and public health concerns.
- ❖ The ban exempts plastic used to cover medicines, forest and horticulture products, solid waste, tree saplings and use of plastic in Special Economic Zones (SEZ) for export purposes.
- ❖ Similarly, plastic covers and wrappers used for manufactured and processed products would also be exempted.
- ❖ The decision will be enforced across rural and urban Maharashtra.

SPORTS

Asian Cross-Country Championship

- ❖ India's Sanjivani Jadhav, won the bronze in the 14th Asian Cross-Country Championships at Guiyang, China.



- ❖ The Indian women's team of Sanjeevani, Swati Gadhave, Jhuma Khatun and Lalita Babar also won a bronze.

2019 FIFA U-20 World Cup

- ❖ Poland is set to host the 2019 FIFA Under-20 World Cup.
- ❖ The Indian football associations made massive bid to host the FIFA Under-20 World Cup in 2019 ended after the FIFA Council members voted in favour of Poland for hosting the tournament.
- ❖ Recently India hosted the U-17 World Cup in 2017.

Deepa Malik - Asian Rank

- ❖ Indian para-athlete Deepa Malik won a gold medal in the F-53/54 category javelin event at the World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Dubai.



- ❖ With this, she became the Asian rank one in the F-53 category. With the win, Deepa has also qualified for the 2018 Asian Para Games in Indonesia, scheduled to be held in October 2018.

Motors Sports Award - Anindith Reddy

- ❖ Hyderabad's Anindith Reddy is awarded Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India's (FMSCI) National Motor Sports Person of the Year.
- ❖ Reddy was chosen for the topmost honour by country's motorsport body for winning both the MRF F1600 and JK Tyre's Euro JK championship - India's two premier single-seater series - in a single year.

- ❖ KD Madan, a former FMSCI president and K1000 champion, was conferred with Lifetime Achievement Award for his immense contribution to the motor sport in the country.

Irani Cup - Vidarbha

- ❖ Ranji Trophy winners Vidarbha grabbed their second title in the domestic cricket season as they won the Irani Cup by beating Rest of India at the Vidarbha Cricket Association stadium in Nagpur.



Irani Cup

- ❖ The Z. R. Irani Cup tournament was conceived during the 1959-60 season to mark the completion of 25 years of the Ranji Trophy championship.
- ❖ It was named after the late Z. R. Irani, who was associated with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) from 1928 to 1970.
- ❖ The fixture is played annually between the incumbent Ranji Trophy winners and the Rest of India Team.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Sleep Day – March 16

- ❖ World Sleep Day is held on Friday (March 16) before Spring Vernal Equinox of each year
 - ❖ It is organized by the World Sleep Day Committee of World Sleep Society since 2008.
 - ❖ It aims to lessen the burden of sleep problems on society through better prevention and management of sleep disorders.
 - ❖ World Sleep Day is an annual event, intended to be a celebration of sleep and a call to action on important issues related to sleep, including medicine, education, social aspects.
 - ❖ Future dates of World Sleep Day will be March 15, 2019 and March 14, 2020.
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