

March - 30

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ India's P.V. Sindhu won the women's singles title at the Swiss Open Super 300 badminton tournament.
 - She defeated Busanan Ongbamrungphan of Thailand to claim the title.
- ❖ India's Defence Research and Development Organisation has successfully carried out the test firing of the Medium Range Surface to Air Missile air defense system.
 - The test fire was carried out off the coast of Odisha's Balasore.
- ❖ The Governments of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh have signed Combined Reciprocal Common Transport Agreements.
 - This helps in unrestricted movement of buses, taxis, and auto-rickshaws.

TAMIL NADU

Foreign direct investment - Tamil Nadu

- ❖ The foreign direct investment (FDI) in Tamil Nadu grew about 41.5% to ₹17,696 crores (about \$2.4 billion) in April-December 2021.
- ❖ This has improved from ₹12,504 crores (about \$1.7 billion) in the same period of 2020 (when the first wave of COVID-19 started).
- ❖ Of this, 53% or ₹9,332 crores came in the October-December 2021, the third quarter of the financial year 2021-22.
- ❖ According to data from the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Tamil Nadu's share in the total FDI in the country increased to 5% from 4%.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu has the fifth-highest share, after Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, and Delhi.
- ❖ April-September 2021, the State attracted ₹8,364 crores.

NATIONAL

Resilient Crops

- ❖ Scientists at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, in collaboration with several other research institutions, have identified about 15,000 selected germplasms of rice and wheat.

- ❖ These are identified for developing varieties that are tolerant to floods, droughts, heatwaves, and diseases to mitigate the adverse impact of climate change on food production.
- ❖ Agricultural scientists have sourced rice and wheat genetic resources from a gene bank run by the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) in Delhi.

International Geological Congress

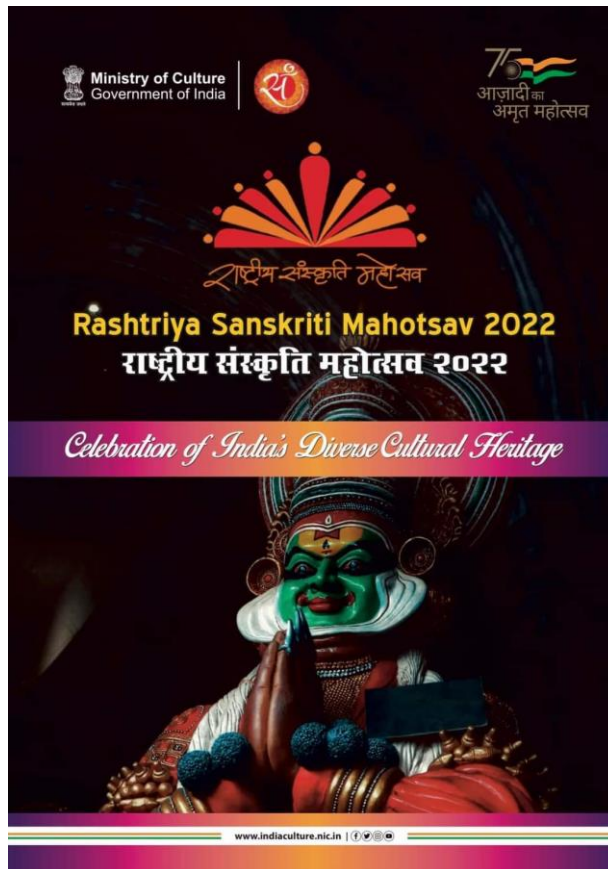
- ❖ The 36th International Geological Congress (IGC) was held in New Delhi with the topic 'Geosciences: The Basic Science for a Sustainable Future'.
- ❖ The 36th International Geophysical Congress is a collaboration between the Ministries of Mines and Earth Sciences, the Indian National Science Academy, and the Science Academies of Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.
- ❖ The event would provide a one-of-a-kind forum for Geoscience knowledge and experience sharing, as well as professional networking.
- ❖ India held the 22nd session of the IGC, which was the first IGC on Asian land, 58 years ago in 1964.



Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav 2022

- ❖ It was started in Arts College Ground, Rajamahendravaram, Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The first Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav was held in 2015.

- ❖ The Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see all of India's folk, traditional, tribal, classical, and popular art forms under one roof, with over 1000 artists performing.



Price hike of 800 essential drugs

RELIEF FOR INDUSTRY HIT BY HIGH COSTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Govt is expected to let drug cos hike prices in line with rise in wholesale price index, which was 10.8% for 2021 > Drug prices regulator NPPA is likely to announce the higher price caps within days > Over 850 formulations across key therapies may be impacted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > This would be the first time essentials – like painkillers, anti-infectives, cardiac & antibiotics – are allowed a price-hike of more than that for non-scheduled drugs > The move will provide major relief to the industry as it has been incurring cost-escalations of 60-70%

- ❖ The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has announced a hike in prices of around 800 essential drugs from 1 April.

- ❖ These drugs are included in the National Essential List of Medicine.
- ❖ The rise in drug prices works out at around 10.76% based on the Wholesale Price Index.

C40 Cities Network



- ❖ Maharashtra has launched the Mumbai Climate Action Plan in partnership with the C40 Cities Network.
- ❖ Mumbai Climate Action Plan is essentially designed to reduce emissions and meet the climate goals outlined in the Paris Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5 °C.
- ❖ Found in 2005, the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group is an association of 97 cities from around the world C40.
- ❖ It is a global network of mayors aimed at fighting climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, thus mitigating climate risks.
- ❖ The goal of the C40's initiative is to reduce the emissions of its member cities to half within a decade.
- ❖ Five Indian cities are currently a part of the C40 network.
- ❖ These are Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru, and Mumbai.

INTERNATIONAL

UNEP 'Annual Frontier Report, 2022' - Highlights

- ❖ Dhaka has been ranked as the noisiest city in the world.
- ❖ It is followed by Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh.

- ❖ Five Indian cities have been ranked in this list of being among the noisiest cities of the world.
- ❖ They are,
 - Asansol,
 - Jaipur,
 - Kolkata,
 - New Delhi, and
 - Moradabad.
- ❖ Irbid, Jordan has been ranked as the world's quietest city
- ❖ The top 3 Noisiest Cities are,
 - Dhaka, Bangladesh- 119dB
 - Moradabad, India- 114dB
 - Islamabad, Pakistan- 105dB



US-EU Agreement on Data Transfer Pact

- ❖ The United States and the European Union have announced that they have an “in principle” agreement in place to create a new framework for the purpose of cross-border data transfers.



- ❖ This announcement has come as a much-needed relief for various tech giants like Google and Meta.
- ❖ For more than a year, officials have been planning out a deal with the aim to replace the invalidated Privacy Shield, an arrangement that allows firms to share Europeans' data with the U.S.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Covid champion award



- ❖ The Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) has won the 'Covid champion' award at Wings India 2022.
- ❖ CIAL has been awarded for the successful implementation of a meticulous project named 'Mission Safeguarding' during the pandemic time to ensure safe travel at Kochi Airport.
- ❖ The Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru won two the 'Best Airport' under the General Category and the 'Aviation Innovation' Award at the event.
- ❖ Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport won the 'Aviation Sustainability & Environment' award by Wings India Awards 2022 for its efficient green practices.
- ❖ Wings India is Asia's largest event on civil aviation, including Commercial, General, and Business Aviation.

94th Academy Awards

- ❖ The show was hosted by Regina Hall, Amy Schumer, and Wanda Sykes.

- ❖ This is the first time the award ceremony has had multiple hosts since Anne Hathaway and James Franco co-hosted the 83rd installment in 2011.
- ❖ Netflix's *The Power of the Dog* leads the race with 12 nominations.
- ❖ It is followed by sci-fi epic *Dune*, with 10 nods.
- ❖ Indian documentary *Writing With Fire* is also nominated for Best Documentary (Feature).

Check out the full list of winners

- Best Actor in a Leading Role: **Will Smith**, "King Richard"
- Best Actress in a Leading Role: **Jessica Chastain** (*The Eyes of Tammy Faye*)
- Best Picture: **CODA**
- Best International Feature Film: **Drive My Car**
- Documentary Short Subject: *The Queen of Basketball*
- Best Directing: **Jane Campion** (*The Power of the Dog*)
- Best Actress in a Supporting Role: Ariana DeBose (*West Side Story*)
- Best Actor in a Supporting Role: Troy Kotsur (*CODA*)
- Best Makeup & Hairstyling: *The Eyes of Tammy Faye*
- Best Cinematography: *Dune*
- Best Original Score: Hans Zimmer (*Dune*)
- Best Visual Effects: *Dune*
- Best Animated Feature Film: *Encanto*
- Best Animated Short Film: *The Windshield Wiper*
- Best Costume Design: *Cruella*
- Best Original Screenplay: Kenneth Branagh (*Belfast*)
- Best Adapted Screenplay: Sian Heder (*Coda*)
- Best Live Action Short Film: *The Long Goodbye*
- Best Sound: *Dune*
- Best Documentary Feature: "Summer of Soul (...Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)"
- Best Original Song: "No Time To Die" from "No Time to Die," music and lyric by Billie Eilish and Finneas O'Connell
- Best Production Design: *Dune*
- Best Film Editing: *Dune*

SPORTS

SAFF U-18 Women's Football Championship





- ❖ India has been declared the winner of the 3rd edition of the SAFF U-18 Women's Football Championship.
- ❖ The 2022 edition of the international football competition for women's under-18 national teams was held in Jharkhand at JRD Tata Sports Complex, Jamshedpur.
- ❖ The valuable player of the tournament and the highest goal scorer was Lynda Kom.
- ❖ She scored five goals in total.

