



March - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Aequus Private Limited is developing a 400-acre toy manufacturing cluster at Koppal in Karnataka.
 - It is India's first toy manufacturing cluster to boost domestic industry.

NATIONAL

Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship

- ❖ The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India under its “Waste to Wealth” Mission launched the “Swachhta Saarthi Fellowship”.
- ❖ It is to recognize students, community workers/self-help groups, and municipal/sanitary workers who are engaged in tackling the enormous challenge of waste management, scientifically and sustainably.
- ❖ Three Categories of Awards under the Fellowships:
- ❖ Category A: Open to School students from 9th to 12th standards engaged in waste management community work.
- ❖ Category B: Open to College students (UG, PG, Research students) engaged in waste management community work.
- ❖ Category C: Open to Citizens working in the community and through SHGs, municipal or sanitary workers working beyond specifications of their job requirements/descriptions.

Waste to Wealth Mission

- ❖ Waste to Wealth Mission is a mission to identify, develop, and deploy technologies to treat waste to generate energy, recycle materials, and extract worth.
- ❖ It is one of the nine national missions of the Prime Minister’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).

INTERNATIONAL

QS World University Rankings

- ❖ The 11th edition of the QS World University Rankings was recently released.
- ❖ The QS World University Rankings 2021 ranks the top 1,000 universities from around the world, covering 80 different locations.



- ❖ The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the United States has retained its top position as the best university for the ninth year in a row.
- ❖ Stanford University, the United States and the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom are the second and third best University globally in QS World University Rankings 2021.

Regarding India:

- ❖ The Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay has emerged as the best institution.
- ❖ It is placed at 172 position.
- ❖ No institute in India is in the top 100.
- ❖ Indian Institute of Science (185), Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (193) are the only other universities from India to feature in the top 200.
- ❖ In terms of subject, twelve Indian universities and higher education institutions have made it to the top 100, with three Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) making it to the top 50 for their respective subject.
- ❖ The 12 universities are IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur, IISc Bangalore, IIT Guwahati, IIM Bangalore, IIM Ahmedabad, JNU, Anna University, University of Delhi, and O.P Jindal University
- ❖ IIT Madras ranks 30th for Petroleum Engineering, IIT Bombay ranks 41st and IIT Kharagpur ranks 44th for Minerals and Mining Engineering, and the University of Delhi ranks 50th for Development Studies.

First World Report on Hearing

- ❖ The World Health Organization has published the first world report on hearing on World Hearing Day (March 03).
- ❖ The WHO has highlighted that, one in every four individuals across the world will be experiencing mild-to-profound hearing loss by 2050.
- ❖ This roughly accounts for 2.5 billion people across the world.

Key Findings of the report

- ❖ As per the report, at least 700 million people will be suffering from disabling hearing loss and they would require ear & hearing care.
- ❖ The report highlights that, billion young people in the age group 12–35 years are at risk of hearing loss because of noise pollution in recreational settings.
- ❖ WHO said, around 60 per cent of hearing loss in the children is because of preventable causes.



78th Golden Globe Awards

Film Awards	
Award Category	Winner
Best Motion Picture — Drama	Nomadland
Best Director — Motion Picture	Chloé Zhao for Nomadland
Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture — Drama	Chadwick Boseman for "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture — Drama	Andra Day for "The United States vs. Billie Holiday"
Best Motion Picture — Musical or Comedy	Borat Subsequent Moviefilm
Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture — Musical or Comedy	Sacha Baron Cohen for "Borat Subsequent Moviefilm"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture	Rosamund Pike for "I Care A Lot"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture	Jodie Foster for "The Mauritanian"
Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture	Daniel Kaluuya for "Judas and the Black Messiah"
Best Motion Picture — Animated	Soul
Best Motion Picture — Foreign Language	Minari- USA
Best Screenplay — Motion Picture	"The Trial of the Chicago 7"— Aaron Sorkin
Best Original Score — Motion Picture	"Soul" – Trent Reznor, Atticus Ross, and Jon Batiste
Best Original Song — Motion Picture	"To Si," from "The Life Ahead"

- ❖ The 78th Golden Globe Awards ceremony took place in a hybrid format, filmed from Los Angeles and New York City.
- ❖ The Golden Globe Awards 2021 were the first major televised awards show of 2021.
- ❖ Netflix had received the most nominations this year (42), with 22 in film categories.
- ❖ The film categories include the Best Picture (Drama) nominations for its films "Mank" and "The Trial of the Chicago 7" and 20 in Television categories, which were dominated by "The Crown" and "Schitt's Creek."
- ❖ Nomad land won the Best Motion Picture – Drama award and the Best Director award went to its director Chloé Zhao, making her the second woman ever to win the award.
- ❖ The first was Barbra Streisand, in 1984.
- ❖ Late American actor Chadwick Boseman won the Golden Globe award for Best Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama for his portrayal of Levee Green in 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom'.



Television Awards	
Award Category	Winner
Best Television Series — Drama	The Crown
Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series — Drama	Josh O'Connor — "The Crown"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series — Drama	Emma Corrin — "The Crown"
Best Television Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television	The Queen's Gambit
Best Performance by an Actress in a Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television	Anya Taylor-Joy for "The Queen's Gambit"
Best Performance by an Actor in a Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television	Mark Ruffalo for "I Know This Much is True"
Best Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Schitt's Creek
Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Jason Sudeikis for "Ted Lasso"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Catherine O'Hara for "Schitt's Creek"
Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Series, Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television	John Boyega for "Small Axe"
Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Series, Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television	Gillian Anderson for "The Crown"

ECONOMY

First Overseas Fund

- ❖ The State Bank of India (SBI) Mutual Funds has launched its first overseas offering.
- ❖ The fund titled SBI International Access — US Equity FOF is an open-ended fund of funds scheme investing in a mutual fund scheme/ETFs that invest in US markets, which are domiciled overseas.
- ❖ The scheme will invest 95-100 per cent of its net assets generally in Amundi Funds – US Pioneer Fund (including ETFs).
- ❖ That invest predominantly in the US markets.
- ❖ The customers interested in the scheme are required to invest at least Rs 5,000 for the first time.
- ❖ However, for additional purchase, the minimum application amount is Rs 1,000.
- ❖ There is no upper cap for the investment in this fund.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Aries-Devasthal Faint Object Spectrograph

- ❖ Indian scientists have indigenously designed and developed a low-cost optical spectrograph.
- ❖ The optical spectrograph named as Aries-Devasthal Faint Object Spectrograph & Camera (ADFOSC), indigenously designed and developed by Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital.
- ❖ The spectrograph is the largest of its kind among the existing astronomical spectrographs in the country.
- ❖ It has been successfully commissioned on the 3.6 m Devasthal Optical Telescope (DOT).
- ❖ DOT is the largest telescope in the country and in Asia.
- ❖ This can locate sources of faint light from distant quasars and galaxies.
- ❖ The sources are very young universe, regions around supermassive black-holes, around the galaxies and cosmic explosions.

