



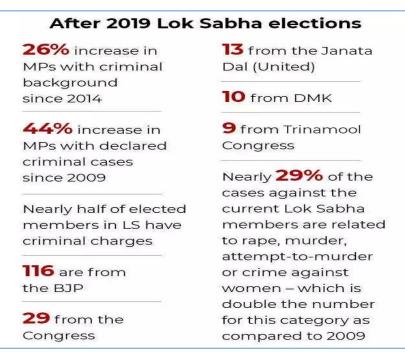
March - 22

TNPSC BITS

- The Jharkhand Governor CP Radhakrishnan has been given the additional responsibility as the in-charge governor of Telangana.
 - This comes after Tamilisai Soundararajan resigned from her Telangana Governor post.
- Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) beat Delhi Capitals in a final of the 2024 cricket Women's Premier League (WPL) in India.
- ✤ A landslide victory in the Russian presidential elections has ensured another sixyear term for Vladimir Putin.
- The Opening Ceremony of the Bilateral Tri-Service Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Amphibious Exercise between India and US, Tiger Triumph, was held onboard INS Jalashwa.

TAMIL NADU

Lok Sabha polls and criminal cases



The process of filing nominations for the Lok Sabha polls are commenced from, March 20, 2024, in Tamil Nadu.





- Chief Electoral Officer Satyabrata Sahoo has asked political parties to provide information on candidates with criminal cases, as per the prescribed format.
- As per Supreme Court directions, candidates who have criminal cases against them, either pending cases or cases of conviction in the past, and political parties that nominate these candidates should publish a declaration to this effect for wide publicity in newspapers and on TV channels.
- The declarations must be published on at least three different dates from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature, and up to 48 hours before the conclusion of the polls.
- Recognised parties and registered unrecognised parties that nominate candidates with criminal cases are required to publish these declaration giving details in this regard for wide publicity on their websites, as well as on TV channels and newspapers.



India's second privately developed rocket

- Tamil Nadu is to witness history when one of its space start-ups launches its first rocket.
- The Chennai headquartered space start-up Agnikul Cosmos Private Limited is going to launch its first rocket Agnibaan Sub Orbital Technology Demonstrator (SOrTeD).
- ✤ Agnibaan will be the India's first launch from a private launchpad.
- ✤ It is the India's first semi-cryogenic engine powered rocket launch.





Also, this is the world's first single piece 3D printed engine designed and built indigenously.

NATIONAL

Namo Drone Didi Scheme

- Under the initiative, the rural women are trained to become drone pilots for agricultural purposes.
- The initiative aims to enhance economic empowerment and financial autonomy among women, especially in rural areas.
- The initiative aims to equip 15,000 women-led Self-Help Groups (SHGs) with agricultural drones to assist in tasks such as crop monitoring, spraying fertilisers and sowing seeds.
- ✤ This will also provide additional income opportunities for many women.



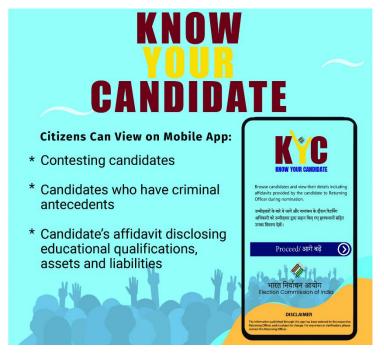
'Know Your Candidate' App

- The Election Commission of India has announced the launch of a new mobile application called Know Your Candidate (KYC).
- This app allows voters to check if any candidate standing for elections in their constituency has a criminal record.
- ✤ The app is available for download on both Android and iOS platforms.



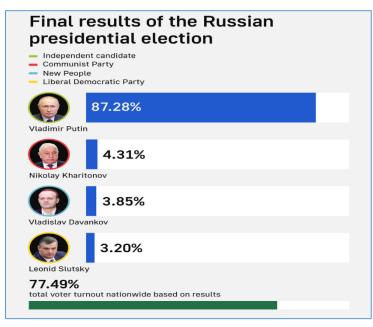


It will enable voters to find out if a candidate, who is bidding to represent them in the Lok Sabha, has a criminal background.



INTERNATIONAL

Russian presidential election 2024



✤ A landslide victory in the Russian presidential elections has ensured another sixyear term for Vladimir Putin.





- Mr Putin will become the longest-serving Russian leader since the reign of Catherine 'the Great', should he complete his next six-year tenure.
- ✤ The former empress ruled over Russia for 34 years and four months between 1762 and 1796.
- Joseph Stalin, the former general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, led the country for 29 years from 1923 to 1954.
- If Mr Putin sees through his tenure, he will surpass Stalin's reign and become the longest-serving Russian leader in 200 years.
- The 71-year-old, who first rose to power in 1999, has already led the country for 25 years.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Human Development Index 2023-24

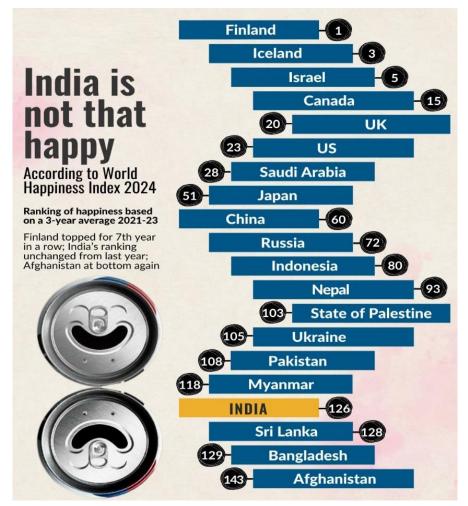


- The 2023/24 Human Development Report, titled "Breaking the Gridlock: Reimagining Cooperation in a polarized world," was released recently.
- India's HDI value has increased to 0.644 in 2022, placing the country 134 out of 193 countries and territories.
- While rich countries have attained record human development, half of the poorest remain below their pre-crisis level of progress.





- ✤ In 2022, India saw improvements across all HDI indicators-life expectancy, education, and Gross National Income (GNI) per capita.
- Life expectancy rose from 67.2 to 67.7 years, expected years of schooling reached 12.6.
- ✤ Mean years of schooling has increased to 6.57, and GNI per capita saw an increase from \$6,542 to \$6,951.
- India has demonstrated progress in reducing gender inequality.
- ◆ India's GII value of 0.437 is better than the global and South Asian averages.
- India has also shown progress in reducing gender inequality and ranks 108 out of 166 countries in the GII 2022.



World Happiness Report 2024

• Finland has once again secured its top position as the world's happiest country for the seventh consecutive year.





- Nordic nations continue to dominate the top rankings, with Denmark, Iceland, and Sweden trailing closely behind Finland.
- Meanwhile, Afghanistan maintains its position at the bottom of the list among 143 surveyed countries.
- ✤ India maintained its position at 126, like the preceding year.
- All of India's neighbouring countries ranked higher, with China at 60, followed by Nepal at 93, Pakistan (108), Myanmar (118), Sri Lanka (128), and Bangladesh (129).

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Consumer Rights Day 2024 - March 15



- It aims to create awareness about the rights of the consumers that exist which can protect them from discrimination, unfair practices and exploitation.
- On March 15, 1962, President John F. Kennedy spoke before the US Congress and addressed consumer rights.
- This incident marked the first time that a world leader spoke of consumer rights.
- ✤ In 1983, the first World Consumer Rights Day was observed.

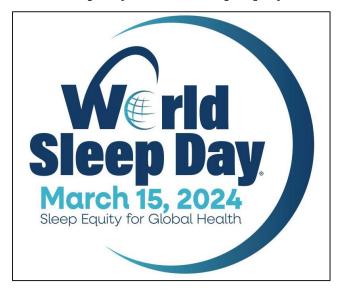




- Since then, the United Nations has recognised the special day.
- ✤ The theme for 2024 is 'Fair and responsible AI for consumers'.

World Sleep Day 2024 - March 15

- It aims to raise awareness about sleep-related issues in medicine, education, social work and driving, as well as to celebrate great sleep.
- World Sleep Day has been celebrated on the Friday before the March equinox in the northern hemisphere since its commencement in 2008.
- ✤ The theme for World Sleep Day 2024 is 'Sleep Equity for Global Health'.



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