

March - 29

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Sports Minister Kiren Rijju has included Yogasana in Khelo India Youth Games 2021.
 - Yogasana sport for both male and female categories have been included in Khelo India Youth Games, 2021.

NATIONAL

CoreNet Global Academic Challenge 6.0

- ❖ A team of four undergraduate students from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur emerged as winners at the CoreNet Global Academic Challenge 6.0.
- ❖ The challenge was sponsored by Cushman and Wakefield, KI and IA: Interior Architects.
- ❖ The team from IIT Kharagpur was one of the four teams to progress into the final round out of 1300 teams all over the world.
- ❖ The other teams were from
 - University of Washington,
 - New York University and
 - University of Denver.
- ❖ This is the first time that a squad from India has emerged as winners in the CoreNet Global Academic Challenge since the inception of the competition in 2015.



Academic Challenge 6.0



MICE Roadshow Meet in India

- ❖ 'MICE Roadshow Meet in India' Brand and Roadmap for Promotion of India as MICE Destination were launched by Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh.
- ❖ 'Chhatrasal Convention Centre' was also launched at Khajuraho.
- ❖ It has been developed under Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism.

About

- ❖ This event is being organised with the objective of promoting India as MICE Destination (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions).
- ❖ It is being organised by Ministry of Tourism in association with Madhya Pradesh Tourism and India Convention Promotion Bureau.
- ❖ This event is an effort under Aatma nirbhar Bharat to realize MICE potential of India.
- ❖ 'Meet in India' is the distinct sub-brand under 'Incredible India' in achieving the objective of event.

INTERNATIONAL

Miscarriage bereavement leave law

- ❖ The Parliament of New Zealand passed the 'Miscarriage bereavement leave law'.
- ❖ This legislation provides mothers and their partners a "right to paid leave" after a miscarriage or stillbirth.
- ❖ New Zealand has become the second country, following India, across the world to pass such a legislation.
- ❖ It provides the employees three days leave after a pregnancy ends with a stillbirth.

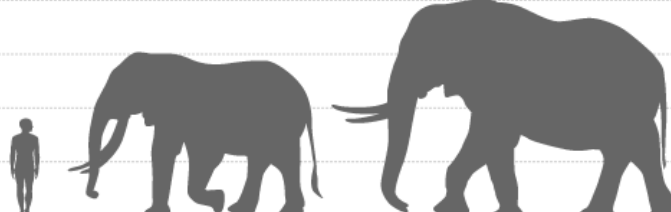
Vladimir Putin until 2036

- ❖ Russia's lower house of parliament, the State Duma approved a bill recently.
- ❖ The bill enables the incumbent President Vladimir Putin to run for two more terms starting 2024.
- ❖ The bill grants Putin the possibility of starting his presidency from scratch in 2024 and holding the office for two more terms until 2036.

ENVIRONMENT

Population declines of the African forest and savanna elephant

New calculations of the timing of and spacing between pregnancies in African forest elephants highlight the need for them to be recognized as a distinct species.



NAME	FOREST ELEPHANT <i>Loxodonta cyclotis</i>	SAVANNAH ELEPHANT <i>Loxodonta africana</i>
LOCATION	West and central Africa	Eastern and southern Africa
HEIGHT	2.4–3 metres	3–4 metres
WEIGHT	2–5 tonnes	4–7 tonnes
FIRST PREGNANCY	23 years	12 years
TIME BETWEEN PREGNANCIES	5–6 years	3–4 years
POPULATION DOUBLING TIME	60 years	20 years

- ❖ The African forest elephant is now listed as critically endangered.
- ❖ The African savanna elephant is now listed as endangered.
- ❖ It is by the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species.
- ❖ The two species were previously listed as vulnerable.
- ❖ They were previously considered as a single species on the Red List.
- ❖ They are now being assessed separately due to the emergence of new genetic evidence, according to the IUCN.
- ❖ In addition, the populations rarely intersect, as the forest elephants live in the tropical forests of Central Africa.
- ❖ The savanna elephants prefer the open country in Sub-Saharan Africa, which includes grasslands and deserts.
- ❖ The number of African elephants decreased by more than 86% over 31 years.
- ❖ The African savanna elephant populations fell by at least 60% over the last 50 years, according to the ICUN.
- ❖ About 415,000 elephants of both species combined are left on the continent.
- ❖ Poaching for ivory and loss of habitat as it is converted primarily to agricultural land use are blamed for the sharp declines.



- ❖ These have been occurring since 2008.

STATES

Kurnool Airport inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh

- ❖ Union Minister for Civil Aviation Hardeep Singh Puri and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy inaugurated Kurnool Airport at Orvakal in Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ Kurnool is the sixth airport in Andhra Pradesh to become functional after Kadapa, Visakhapatnam, Tirupati, Rajahmundry and Vijayawada.
- ❖ The flight operations at Kurnool airport will commence under the Regional Connectivity Scheme – Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (RCS-UDAN).
- ❖ Direct flight operations to Bengaluru, Vishakhapatnam and Chennai will bring the region closer to the major hubs in South India.
- ❖ These routes were approved by MoCA under the UDAN-4 bid process in 2020.

Kurnool

- ❖ Kurnool is the judicial capital of Andhra Pradesh.
- ❖ The city of Kurnool lies on the banks of Tungabhadra river.
- ❖ The Nallamalas mountain range runs parallel to it.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2020

- ❖ Marico chairman Harsh C. Mariwala was named the EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2020.
- ❖ He will represent the country at the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award in June.
- ❖ Marico is one of the largest and most recognisable FMCG (Fast-moving consumer goods) companies in the country.
- ❖ It owns brands such as Parachute and Saffola.

SPORTS

Khelo India Scheme extended to 2025-26

- ❖ Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju has decided to extend the Khelo India scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- ❖ The Ministry has furnished an Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) memorandum to the Ministry of Finance for extension/continuation of the Khelo India Scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- ❖ The first Khelo India Games were held in 2018.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Theatre Day - March 27

- ❖ The World Theatre Day is celebrated annually by ITI centers and the international theatre community.
- ❖ It is celebrated to raise the importance of theatre arts, how they played an important role in the field of entertainment, and the changes that theatre brings in life.
- ❖ World Theatre Day was initiated in 1961 by the International Theatre Institute ITI.



World Theatre Day is celebrated on March 27 every year

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

The word “theatre” comes from a Greek verb meaning **‘TO BEHOLD’**

Ancient **Greek audiences stamped their feet** rather than clapping their hands to applaud

India’s theatrical tradition **GOES BACK AT LEAST 5000 YEARS**

BHARATA’S NATYA SHASTRA IS THE OLDEST SURVIVING ENCYCLOPEDIA TREATISE ON DRAMATURGY

From the 10th century onwards, **temples were designed to include stages** for performance arts



The Earth Hour 2021 - March 27

- ❖ Every year, the Earth Hour is celebrated worldwide on the last Saturday of March month.
- ❖ This is to show support for the fight against climate change and commitment towards a better planet.
- ❖ The Earth Hour 2021 theme will focus on “Climate Change to Save Earth.”
- ❖ The Day is a worldwide movement organized by the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- ❖ It encourages individuals, communities, corporates, and households to turn off their lights for one hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- ❖ It was started as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia, in 2007.

