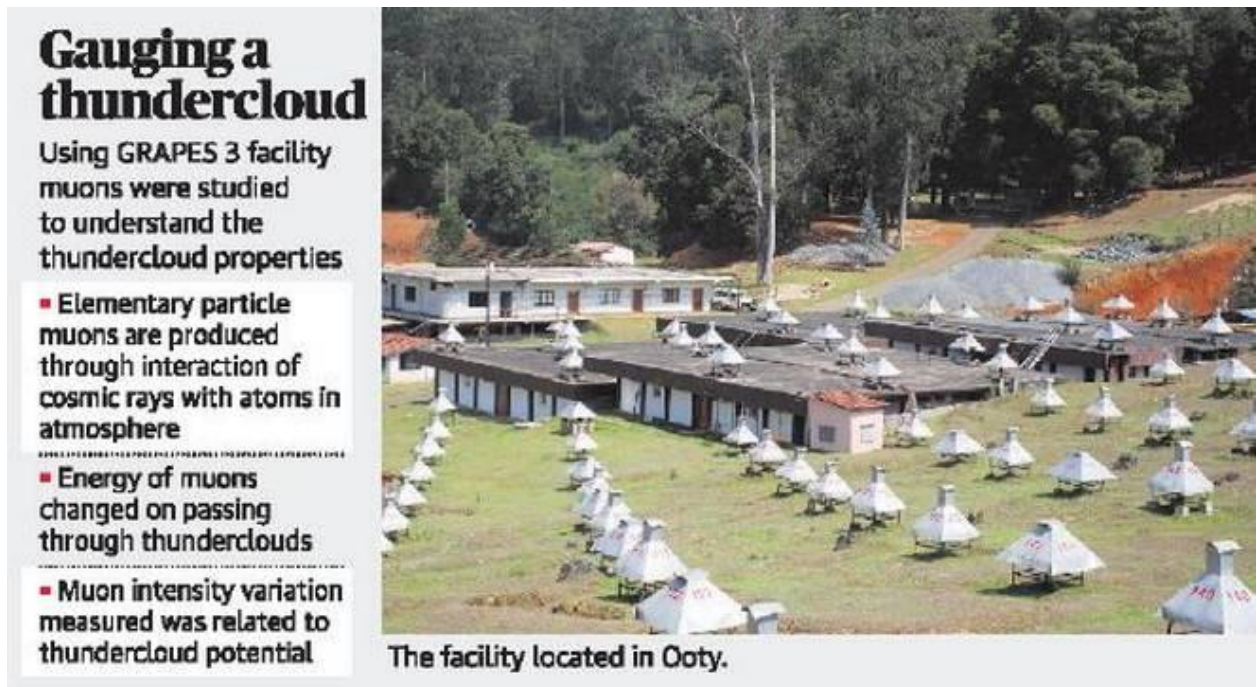


March – 27

TAMIL NADU

GRAPES-3 muon telescope at Ooty

- ❖ For the first time in the World, researchers at the GRAPES-3 muon telescope facility in Ooty, India have measured the electrical potential, size and height of a thundercloud.
- ❖ Learning about the properties of thunderclouds can be useful in navigation of aircraft and in preventing short circuits.



- ❖ The subatomic particle muon is similar to the electron, with an electric charge of $-1e$ and a spin of $1/2$, but with a much greater mass.
- ❖ The GRAPES-3 experiment (or Gamma Ray Astronomy PeV EnergieS phase-3) is a collaboration of India's Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Japan's Osaka City University and Nagoya Women's University.
- ❖ GRAPES-3 is designed to study cosmic rays with an array of air shower detectors and a large area muon detector.

NATIONAL

Young Scientist Programme (YUVIKA)

- ❖ Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched a special programme for School Children called "Young Scientist Programme" (YUva Vigyani KAryakram).
- ❖ This program is launched in tune with the Government's vision "Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan".
- ❖ The Program is primarily aimed at imparting basic knowledge on Space Technology, Space Science and Space Applications to the young students.
- ❖ ISRO plans to create awareness amongst the youngsters who are the future building blocks of our Nation.
- ❖ The selection is based on the 8th Standard academic performance and extracurricular activities.

Sharada Temple Corridor

- ❖ Pakistan has approved a proposal to establish a corridor that will allow Hindu pilgrims from India to visit Sharada Peeth, an ancient Hindu temple.
- ❖ Sharada Peeth was established in 237 BC during the reign of Ashoka.



- ❖ This temple was an ancient centre of learning dedicated to the Hindu goddess of learning.
- ❖ Between the 6th and 12th centuries, Sharada Peeth was one of the foremost temple universities of the Indian subcontinent.

- ❖ It is also one of the three famous holy sites for Kashmiri Pandits, the other two being the Martand Sun Temple in Anantnag and the Amarnath temple.
- ❖ The Sharada Peeth corridor in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK), when opened, will be the second religious tract after the Kartarpur corridor that will connect the two neighbouring nations.

Indian Navy's ABHEDYA Centre

- ❖ The Indian Navy's Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Training Facility (NBCTF) was inaugurated at INS Shivaji in Lonavala.
- ❖ The NBCTF, renamed as "Abhedya" in Sanskrit. Abhedya means impenetrable.
- ❖ It will provide realistic training to naval personnel in detection, protection against and decontamination of nuclear, biological and chemical agents.

INS Shivaji

- ❖ INS Shivaji is an Indian Naval station located in Lonavala, Maharashtra, India.
- ❖ It houses the Naval College of Engineering which trains officers of the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard.
- ❖ It was commissioned on 15 February 1945 as HMIS Shivaji.
- ❖ INS Shivaji celebrates Platinum Jubilee year 2019-20 with the theme "Propelling the Indian Navy since 1945"

ECONOMY

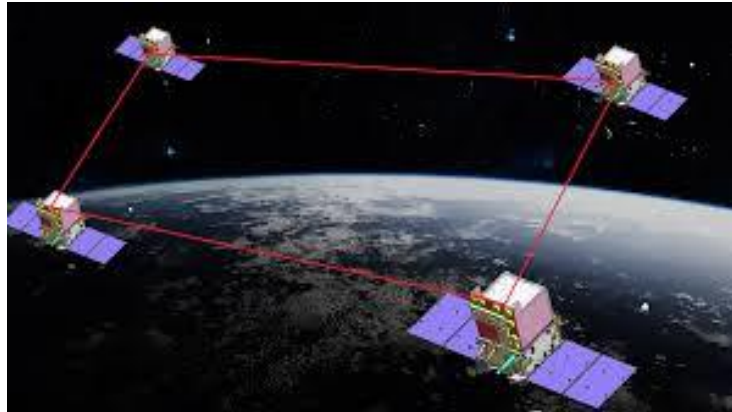
FinTech Conclave

- ❖ To shape India's continued ascendancy in Financial Technology (FinTech), build the narrative for future strategy and policy efforts, and to deliberate steps for comprehensive financial inclusion, NITI Aayog organized a day-long FinTech Conclave in New Delhi.
- ❖ Shaktikanta Das, Governor of RBI inaugurated the Conclave in the presence of Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog.
- ❖ RBI has also appointed 5-member committee under the chairmanship of Nandan Nilekani to further deepen digital payments and enhance financial inclusion through Fintech.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Electronic intelligence satellite 'Emisat'

- ❖ ISRO will launch an electronic intelligence satellite 'Emisat' for the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO).
- ❖ ISRO, for the first time, will also demonstrate its new technologies like launching three different satellites in three different orbits.



- ❖ Emisat is based on ISRO's Indian Mini Satellite -2 (IMS-2) bus platform. The satellite is intended for electromagnetic spectrum measurement.
- ❖ Emisat is dubbed as India's "Spy in the Sky".

PSLV-C45

- ❖ PSLV-C45 is a four-stage rocket where each stage uses different kind of fuel.
 - Stage 1: Composite Solid
 - Stage 2: Earth Storable Liquid
 - Stage 3: Composite Solid
 - Stage 4: Earth Storable Liquid
- ❖ This will be the first launch in PSLV C-45 history to use solar panels to make the fourth stage last longer in orbit.
- ❖ Using the solar panels in the fourth stage, the PSLV can provide power to attached payloads almost indefinitely.
- ❖ Stage four will keep the launch vehicle in orbit for about six months to carry out experiments.
- ❖ It will use microgravity to carry out the experiments and will carry a small payload built by the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), Trivandrum.

STATES

Monkey fever claims one in Kerala

- ❖ Kyasanur forest disease (KFD), also known as monkey fever, has claimed at least one life in Wayanad district in North Kerala.
- ❖ First identified in 1957, the disease is caused by Kyasanur Forest disease virus (KFDV).
- ❖ KFDV is a member of the virus family Flaviviridae, which also includes yellow fever and dengue fever.
- ❖ Kyasanur forest disease is a highly infectious tick-borne viral haemorrhagic fever and is associated with high mortality rates.
- ❖ Transmission of the disease may occur after a tick bite or contact with an infected animal, particularly a sick or recently dead monkey.

What is KFD?



KFD is a tick-borne infection which can turn fatal, and mainly spreads from monkeys and other domestic animals that carry the tick



The symptoms of this disease mimic symptoms of dengue, such as bleeding, headache, vomiting

The incubation period for this disease is between seven days and 14 days

The virus is known to be active between January and May and then again starts infecting people from winter. KFD was first spotted in Karnataka in 1957 in a forest of Kyasanur village based in Shimogga district.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Lalit Kala Academy Awards

- ❖ Lalit Kala Academy has announced the 15 winners of the 60th Annual Academy Awards.
- ❖ The awardees will be honoured with a plaque, a shawl and prize money of Rs 1 lakh during the 60th National Exhibition of Art.
- ❖ This is the highest honour in the fine arts conferred by the Government of India.
- ❖ Lalit Kala Academy established in 1954 is an autonomous organisation under Ministry of Culture.
- ❖ It is head quartered in New Delhi.
- ❖ It is also called as National Academy of Art.
- ❖ Uttam Pacharne will be the Chairman of Lalit Kala Academy from April 2019.

SPORTS

SUPERSTATS

- ❖ IIT-Madras and ESPN Cricinfo have launched a new metrics to analyse the game of Cricket – Superstats.
- ❖ Superstats is a combination of three statistical metrics – Luck Index, Forecaster and Smart Stats.
- ❖ For the first time in cricket statistics analysis, luck factor is also counted to predict the outcome of the match.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Theatre Day

- ❖ World Theatre Day (WTD) is celebrated on 27 March.
- ❖ World Theatre Day was initiated in 1961 by the International Theatre Institute (ITI).
- ❖ Every year the ITI choses an outstanding theatre personality to write the message for World Theatre Day.
- ❖ Carlos CELDRAN from Cuba, the outstanding stage director, playwright and theatre educator, has been selected to deliver the message for 2019.
