

**Daily Current Affairs – April 03, 2019****National Affairs:****Over 1.2 million early deaths in India in 2017 due to air pollution**

- According to a new global study, State of Global Air 2019 (SOGA2019) published by Health Effects Institute (HEI), outdoor and indoor air pollution contributed to over 1.2 million deaths in India in 2017. In India air pollution is the 3rd highest cause of death among all health risks.

**Kerala****Kerala is home to two new plant species**

- Researchers at the University of Calicut's Department of Botany discovered the new species of ironwood, *Memecylon idukkianum*, from the borders of a shola forest (a high-altitude evergreen forest) in Idukki's Mathikettan Shola National Park.

**Tamil Nadu****Retired judge to head T.N. Lokayukta**

- The Governor has appointed retired High Court judge P. Devadass as the chairperson of the five-member Lokayukta.
- Former district judges K. Jayabalan and R. Krishnamoorthy are the two judicial members and retired IAS officer M. Rajaram and advocate K. Arumugam are the two non-judicial members of the anti-corruption body.

**International Affairs:****Black, gay woman elected Chicago mayor in historic vote**

- In a historic first, a gay African American woman Lori Lightfoot, a 56-year-old former federal prosecutor and practicing lawyer was elected mayor of Chicago, America's third largest city.

**Business & Economy****Raymond forays into real estate sector with the name of Raymond Realty**

- Textile major Raymond Group has decided to foray into the real estate development business by developing its Thane land with expected revenues of 3,500 crore in the next five years. The company has set up a new division called Raymond Realty for its maiden venture into the real estate sector.

**Science & Technology****Enzyme to arrest bacteria cell growth is discovered by CCMB Scientists**

- Scientists at the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology (CCMB) have discovered a new enzyme which helps in breaking cell walls of bacteria and hence, offers a potential for a new drug delivery route to arrest the anti-bacterial resistance through existing antibiotic drugs.

**ISRO has planned to launch a string of ‘defence’ satellites from May 2019- early 2020**

- Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) plans to send up at least eight earth observation (EO) defence satellites between the span of may 2019 to early 2020.

<b>Satellite Name</b>	<b>Planned Launch</b>
RISAT-2B	May – 2019
Cartosat-3	June – 2019
RISAT-2BR1	July – 2019
GISAT -1 (New Series)	September – 2019
RISAT-2BR2	October – 2019
GISAT-2	November – 2019
RISAT-1A	November – 2019
GSAT-32	February – 2020

**Mou & Agreements:****India signed MoU with NABCONS for Setting up IAIARD in Malawi**

- India has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Consultancy Service (NABCONS) for setting up the India- Africa Institute of Agriculture and Rural Development (IAIARD) in Malawi.

**Defence Affairs****U.S sale of 24 MH-60R multi-mission helicopters to India**

- The U.S Department of State has approved the sale of 24 MH-60R multi-mission helicopters to India under its Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program. The value of the potential is \$2.6 billion.

**Sri Lankan Navy Vice Admiral visited India**

- Vice Admiral Piyal De Silva, Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy visited India from 30 Mar to 02 Apr 19 on an official visit. This is the first visit of the Admiral to India after taking over as Commander, Sri Lanka Navy.

**Sports Affairs:****Wicketkeeper Tom Blundell the only surprise in New Zealand squad**

- Tim Blundell , 28-year-old Wellington wicketkeeper, who made a century on his Test debut but has yet to play a one-day international, has been included in New Zealand's 15-man squad for the World Cup. New Zealand is the first nation to name its World Cup lineup.

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