

## 18th February 2020 Current Affairs

### EXAMSDAILY

#### National Affairs

#### **President of India laid foundation stone various developmental projects of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu**

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, visited Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. The President laid the foundation stone for various developmental projects of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu in Daman. he will also inaugurated the Jampore Sea Front Road from Moti Daman Jetty to Jampore Beach and an Ayushman Bharat Wellness Centre in Daman.

#### **SC permits permanent commissioning of women officers in the Army**

The Supreme Court ordered the government to ensure permanent commission (PC) to women officers in the Army. The officers will now be appointed for command posting.

SC ruled out that the benefit will have to be given to all women officers irrespective of the number of years of service. The SC also said that all terms of appointments of women officers shall be the same as their male counterparts. Centre now has to implement the policy within three months.

#### **About SC:**

- Founded – 1950
- Chief Justice of India - Sharad Arvind Bobde

#### **South Central Railways zone becomes 1st in India to have energy-neutral stations**

The Indian Railways South Central Railways (SCR) zone has become the 1st zonal railway in the country to have functional “energy neutral” railway stations on the network. The South Central Railways has converted a total of 13 railway stations into “energy neutral” stations, which is the highest amongst all the zones across the Indian Railways network.

#### **Important Points:**

- Union Minister of Railways: Piyush Goyal.

#### **International Affairs**

#### **2020 UN Climate Summit ‘COP26’ to be held in Glasgow, UK in November**

The 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ) is scheduled to be held from 9-19 November 2020, at Glasgow's Scottish Events Campus (SEC) in Scotland under the presidency of the UK (United Kingdom) government.

Indian-origin Alok Sharma (52) from Agra, Uttar Pradesh (UP) has been appointed as the minister in charge of the UK's COP26 climate change summit.

#### **About UK:**

- Capital– London
- Currency– Pound sterling (GBP)

### **State Affairs**

#### **Gujarat**

#### **Donald Trump set to inaugurate world's largest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad during India visit**

US President Donald Trump is set to inaugurate the world's largest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad at the end of this month during his India visit.

The World's Biggest Cricket Stadium, the Motera Stadium in Ahmedabad renamed as the Sardar Vallabhbhai Stadium will be inaugurated by US President Donald Trump. The stadium has a capacity of 1.10 lakh people.

#### **PM Modi to inaugurate UN Convention on Migratory Species**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 13th Conference of Parties (COP) of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) at Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The theme of the Conference is "Migratory species connect the planet and we welcome them home."

#### **About Gujarat:**

- Gujarat CM: Vijay Rupani
- Governor: Acharya Dev Vrat
- Capital: Gandhinagar.

#### **Manipur:**

#### **Seed sowing festival 'Lui-Ngai-Ni' celebrated at Ukhrul, Manipur**

The Naga tribes of Manipur celebrated seed sowing festival 'Lui-Ngai-Ni' at Tangkhul Naga Long (TNL) ground in Ukhrul, Manipur. The 2 day festival was inaugurated by N. Kayisii,

Manipur's Minister of Tribal Development and Awangbou Newmai and Tamei MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly), Manipur as Guest of Honour.

Theme: "Oneness through Culture".

#### **About Manipur:**

- Capital- Imphal.
- Chief Minister- Nongthombam Biren Singh.
- Governor- Najma Akbar Ali Heptulla.

#### **Haryana:**

##### **Haryana govt announced Rs six crore to those winning gold medals at Olympics**

Haryana government has decided to give 6 crore rupees to players of the state that bag gold medals at the Olympic Games. According to State Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, 3 crore rupees will be given to those winning gold medals at Asian Games and 1.5 crore rupees to the winners of yellow metal at Commonwealth Games.

#### **About Haryana:**

- Governor - Satyadeo Narayan Arya
- Capital - Chandigarh

#### **Kerala:**

##### **Kerala CM launches "Yodhavu" mobile appl to combat drug menace**

Kerala Chief Minister (CM) Pinarayi Vijayan launched "Yodhav" (Warrior) mobile app (application) at Kochi, Kerala, through which the public can inform police about drug abuse & its distribution.

The application was introduced by the Kochi city police and the informer's identity could be kept secret.

#### **About Kerala:**

- Chief Minister – Pinrayi Vijayan
- Governor – Arif Mohammed Khan
- Capital – Thiruvananthapuram

### **Ranks & Indexes**

**22nd Ethnologue: Hindi ranks 3rd, Bangla 7th most spoken language in the World**

Hindi has been ranked as third and Bangla ranked as the seventh most spoken language of the world in 2019.

The latest report places English at the top of the list with 1,132 million speakers. Chinese Mandarin is at second position with 1117 million speakers.

The 22nd edition of the world language database Ethnologue stated that Hindi comes at third position with 615 million speakers and Bangla has 228 million native speakers that making it the seventh-largest spoken language of the world.

### **Economy & Business**

#### **Moody's cuts India growth projection to 5.4% for 2020 from 6.6%**

Moody's on Monday slashed India's growth forecast for 2020 to 5.4 percent from 6.6 percent projected earlier, on slower than expected economic recovery.

It also estimate that G20 (Group of 20) economies will grow at a rate of 2.4 % in 2020, a sluggish move from 2019. China's GDP growth estimated at 5.2 % in 2020 & expected to achieve GDP growth at a rate of 5.7 % in 2021.

#### **About Moody's:**

- Founded– 1909
- Founder– John Moody
- Headquarters– New York, United States

### **Awards & Honors**

#### **Sachin Tendulkar's World Cup triumph wins Laureus Sporting moment award**

The Lauries Award, the highest award in the sports sector, has been awarded to former Indian cricket star Sachin Tendulkar. South African Rugby won the Best Team Award at the Laurius Award in 2020, and American Gymnastics Hero Simon Biles won the Best Player award.

Notably, Foot ball Player Leo Messi and Car Raceer Lewis Hamilton were awarded the Best Player for the Year of 2019.

#### **65th Filmfare Awards: 'Gully Boy' wins biggest honour of the night, Ranveer, Alia bag best actor and actress**

The 65th Amazon Filmfare Awards 2020 hosted in Awesome Assam on 15th February 2020. The event was hosted by Karan Johar (film director), Bollywood actor Vicky Kaushal and Varun Dhawan. Zoya Akhtar's Gully Boy' won Best Actor and Actress trophy.

Complete List of Winners

<b>Award Name</b>	<b>Won by</b>
Best Film	Gully Boy
Best Director	Zoya Akhtar for Gully Boy
Best Film (Critics)	Article 15 (Anubhav Sinha) and Sonchiriya (Abhishek Chaubey)
Best Actor In A Leading Role (Male)	Ranveer Singh for Gully Boy
Best Actor (Critics)	Ayushmann Khurrana for Article 15
Best Actor In A Leading Role (Female)	Alia Bhatt for Gully Boy
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Male)	Siddhant Chaturvedi for Gully Boy
Best Actor in a Supporting Role (Female)	Amruta Subhash for Gully Boy
Best Music Album	Zoya Akhtar-Ankur Tewari for Gully Boy Mithoon, Amaal Mallik, Vishal Mishra, SachetParampara and Akhil Sachdeva for Kabir Singh
Best Lyrics	Divine and Ankur Tewari for Apna Time Aayega (Gully Boy)
Best Playback Singer (Male)	Arijit Singh for Kalank Nahi (Kalank)
Best Playback Singer (Female)	Shilpa Rao for Ghungroo (War)
Best Debut Director	Aditya Dhar for Uri: The Surgical Strike
Best Debut Actor	Abhimanyu Dassani for Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota
Best Debut Actress	Ananya Pandey for Student Of The Year 2, Pati Patni Aur Woh
Best Original Story	Anubhav Sinha and Gaurav Solanki for Article 15
Best Screenplay	Reema Kagti and Zoya Akhtar for Gully Boy
Best Dialogue	Vijay Maurya for Gully Boy
Lifetime Achievement Award	Ramesh Sippy
Excellence In Cinema	Govinda
RD Burman Award For Upcoming Music Talent	Sashwat Sachdev for UR

30 Years of Outstanding Contribution to Bollywood Fashion	Manish Malhotra
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## **Sports Affairs**

### **Joshna Chinappa clinched 77th Senior National squash Championship**

India's squash ace Joshna Chinappa has clinched 77th Senior National Championship in woman's category at the ISA courts in Chennai. With the win, she claimed her 18th title in the career. Saurav Ghosal won in Men's category bagging 13th titles to his kitty. Chinappa defeated Tanvi Khanna, to add yet another national title to her record while Ghosal defeated second seed Abhishek Pradhan to win the title yet again.

### **India's Koneru Humpy wins Cairns Cup chess tournament**

Grandmaster Koneru Humpy has won the Cairns Cup Chess tournament held at St.Louis, US (United States). She won the title after finishing 6 points off 9 rounds and a cash prize of \$45,000. This was the second edition of the Cairns Cup.

Reigning world champion Ju Wenjun finished with 5.5 points secured 2nd place while Russia's Alexandra Kosteniuk came 3rd who finished with 5 points followed by Ukranian Mariya Muzychek with 5 points and India's Harika Dronavalli secured 5th with 4.5 points.

In 2019, Koneru Humpy won the world rapid chess championship award and defeated China's Lei Yingjie in the final playoff match.

### **Indian athletes clinch 3 medals in World SnowShoe Championship**

Indian athletes finished with three medals in different categories in the World Snowshoe Championship at Myoko, Japan.

Ayan Bin Shahnaz bagged silver, while Zain Ali and Muzamil Hussain Mir, all are from Kashmir, bagged bronze medals in their respective categories.

Athletes from 17 countries including the USA, Canada, Australia, Italy, Germany, Spain, Sweden and France participated in the championship.

## **Obituaries**

### **Parikrama lead guitarist Sonam Sherpa passes away**

Lead guitarist of the Indian rock band Parikrama Sonam Sherpa (48-years) passed away.

Sherpa was one of the founding members of Parikrama and was credited with memorable musical pieces such as “I Beleive” and “But it Rained”.

