

12th March 2020 Current Affairs

EXAMSDAILY

National Affairs

Main national event for International Day of Yoga to be held at Leh

The main national event for the International Day of Yoga will be held at Leh, the capital of Ladakh this year. The event, which is held on the 21st of June every year, will be led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

- The Prime Minister is expected to carry out yogasanas based on Common Yoga Protocol along with an anticipated gathering of 15 to 20 thousand people on the Yoga Day at Leh.

Union Govt. approved for the construction of Delhi-Baghat highway

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has got approval to construct the first phase of a new highway that will connect east Delhi's Akshardham to Uttarakhand's Dehradun, a distance of almost 170km.

- The first phase will connect Akshardham with west Uttar Pradesh's Baghat, a distance of 32km, by a six-lane highway.
- The Second phase that will connect Baghat to Dehradun, a distance of almost 140 km.
- The proposed new highway is expected to reduce travel time between Delhi and Uttarakhand's Dehradun by at least two-and-a-half hours.

International Affairs

Joy Bangla to be the National Slogan of Bangladesh

The Two-Judge bench of High Court of Bangladesh has ordered that 'Joy Bangla' will be the national slogan of Bangladesh.

- The court also directed the authorities to ensure that teachers and students use the slogan after assembly.
- Joy Bangla was the main slogan during the liberation war of Bangladesh fought against Pakistan in 1971

State Affairs

Punjab:

Hola Mohalla' festival celebrated at Sri Anandpur Sahib in Punjab

'Hola Mohalla' is the annual Sikh festival celebrated on the following day of the festival Holi at Sri Anandpur Sahib, Punjab. The festival will be celebrated for 3 days from March 10 to 12, 2020.

- The festival aims to physically strengthen Sikh community by holding acrobatic military exercises and mock battles.

About Punjab:

- Capital- Chandigarh
- Chief Minister - Amarinder Singh
- Governor - V.P. Singh Badnore

Tamil Nadu:

Tamil Nadu hosts Divya Kala Shakti for the first time

Tamil Nadu State government is to host the first-ever regional event "Divya Kala Shakti: Witnessing the abilities in disabilities a unique cultural" event in Chennai on 12 March 2020.

- The event will be witnessed by Governor of Tamil Nadu Shri Banwarilal Purohit.

Banking Affairs

PhonePe inks partnership with ICICI Bank for UPI Transactions

PhonePe inks partnership with private sector lender ICICI Bank to form a partnership and offer Unified Payments Interface (UPI) -based digital transactions to its customers. PhonePe earlier partnered with Yes Bank, but after YES Bank has been placed under moratorium by Reserve Bank of India due to which UPI transactions at PhonePe got disrupted.

- The payment app had faced outage for nearly 24 hours after the Reserve Bank of India put a moratorium on March 5.

About PhonePe:

- CEO: Sameer Nigam.
- Headquarters : Bengaluru, Karnataka.

Economic Affairs**Google India unveils 18-week long skill development programme ‘DigiPivot‘ for women**

Google India has launched a skilling programme for women called ‘DigiPivot’, where the woman who wishes to return to their company careers after a break or just planning to make mid-career shifts to digital advertising and marketing.

- The programme will end on August 28,2020 with a day-long graduation occasion on the Google Hyderabad (Telangana) Campus.

About Google Inc:

- Headquarters– California,US
- CEO– Sundar Pichai

Ranks & Reports**Byju Raveendran & Gaurav Gupta on WEF’s Young Global Leaders list**

Edtech startup Byju's Founder Byju Raveendran and Zomato's Co-founder Gaurav Gupta are among the five Indians on World Economic Forum's (WEF) list of 115 Young Global Leaders.

- The other Indians on the list are Tara Singh Vachani (Antara Senior Living), Vinati Mutreja (MD and CEO, Vinati Organics Limited) and Swapan Mehra (CEO, Iora Ecological Solutions).

About WEF:

- Headquarters: Cologny-Geneva, Switzerland.
- Founder: Klaus Schwab.

- President: Borge Brende.

Awards & Recognitions

CRPF instituted Shakti Award

The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has instituted a special 'Shakti Award.' It will be annually presented to chosen personnel who works for the empowerment of women.

- The award was announced on International Women's Day on 8 March. The award will be conferred every year on 19 March, the CRPF Raising Day.
- The award will carry a reward of Rs.1 lakh, a citation, and a trophy.

Indian mountaineer Bhawna Dehariya scales Australia's highest mountain peak

Indian mountaineer Bhawna Dehariya has successfully scaled Mount Kosciuszko, the highest mountain peak in Australia.

- Bhawna Dehariya had scaled Mount Kilimanjaro on the occasion of Diwali on November 27th, last year.

Appointments

ITBP chief SS Deswal given additional charge of BSF DG

Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Haryana cadre Surjit Singh Deswal took over the additional charge of Director General (DG) of Border Security Force (BSF).

- Deswal, a 1984-batch IPS officer, is currently the Director-General of Indo-Tibet Border Police.
- He has succeeded Director-General Vivek Johri, who has been appointed Director-General of Madhya Pradesh Police.

Sports Affairs

World bronze-medallist Manish Kaushik in 63kg category becomes 9th Indian boxer to qualify for Olympics

World bronze-medallist Manish Kaushik in 63kg category became the ninth Indian boxer to qualify for Tokyo Olympics after a win at the Asian Qualifiers in Amman, Jordan.

- The other Indians to have qualified for the Olympics are MC Mary Kom (51kg), Simranjit Kaur (60kg), Lovlina Borgohain (69kg), Pooja Rani (75kg), Amit Panghal (52kg), Ashish Kumar (75kg) and Satish Kumar (91kg).

Obituaries

Swedish actor Max von Sydow passes away

Max von Sydow, the Swedish actor who was nominated for two Oscars during his career passed away. The actor featured in various films and TV series.

- Max Von Sydow was nominated for Oscars as best actor in 1988 for Pelle the Conqueror.
- He was also nominated for Academy awards in the category of best supporting actor for his role in movie “Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close”.

Important Days

World Kidney Day is observed on 12 March

World Kidney Day is celebrated annually on the second Thursday in March.

The Theme of 2020 World Kidney Day is “**Kidney Health for Everyone Everywhere**” which aims to highlight the growing burden of kidney disease, kidney-related health disparity, and inequity around the world.