

13th March 2020 Current Affairs

EXAMSDAILY

National Affairs

NCRB launches Crime Multi Agency Centre and National Cybercrime Training Centre

National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) celebrated its 35th Inception Day, on March 12, 2020 and also launched Crime Multi-Agency Centre (Cri-MAC) and National Cybercrime Training Centre (NCTC).

It was launched by Union Minister of State for Home Shri Nityanand Rai.

NCRB was established on 11 March 1986. It is headquartered in New Delhi. The current Director of NCRB is Ramphal Pawar.

India Post to Launch Free Digital Locker Service In Kolkata

For the 1st time in India, the Department of posts (DoP), Kolkata (West Bengal circle), has launched free digital parcel locker service in 2 post offices (the Nabadiganta IT post office in Sector 5 of Salt Lake City & at the post office in New Town's Action Area I).

Under this service, customers will be able to collect their parcel from the post office according to their convenience. This facility is quite popular in European countries but is starting for the first time in India.

About Department of Posts (DoP):

- Headquarters– New Delhi
- Parent Ministry– Ministry of Communications
- Minister responsible– Ravishankar Prasad

DST sanctions Rs 7.25 Cr to IIT Mandi for Technology Innovation Hub

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has sanctioned Rs 7.25 crore to set up a Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) in the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi.

The hub will focus on technology interface development and evaluation, human resource and skill development, entrepreneurship and collaboration.

About Himachal Pradesh:

- Capital- Dharamshala (in winter), Shimla (in summer)
- Chief Minister– Jai Ram Thakur
- Governor– Bandaru Dattatraya

State Affairs

Maharashtra

New Name for Mumbai Central Station: Nana Shankarseth

The Maharashtra Cabinet approved the proposal to rename Mumbai Central Station to Nana Shankarseth. The approved proposal is to be sent to Ministry of Railways.

Jagannath (Nana) Shankarseth (1803-1865) was a Maharashtrian philanthropist and educationist who is contributed a lot to the development of Mumbai.

Banking & Finance

World Bank to provide USD 80 mn to improve water management in HP

The World Bank will provide USD 80 million (about Rs 600 crore) loan to improve water management practices and increase agricultural productivity in Himachal Pradesh.

An agreement in this regard was signed between the Government of India, Government of Himachal Pradesh and the World Bank.

The USD 80-million loan has a final maturity of 14.5 years including a grace period of five years

About World Bank:

- Headquarters– Washington, D.C., United States.
- President- David R. Malpass

Ranks & Indexes

India ranked second as the better-performing countries in the API list

The international animal welfare charity, World Animal Protection, released the global Animal Protection Index 2020. India has ranked second as the better-performing countries in the Animal Protection Index (API).

The index ranks countries from A, being the highest score, to G, being the weakest score.

India secured a 'C' ranking in the index, along with countries like Spain, New Zealand, Mexico, and France.

Awards & Honors

Tiger Woods to be inducted into World Golf Hall of Fame in 2021 class

American golfer Tiger Woods will be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame as part of the class of 2021.

Woods was among 10 finalists named in March as candidates for 2021. His 93 worldwide victories include a record-tying 82 US PGA Tour titles. He won his 15th major title at the Masters last April.

Summits & Conference

Hyderabad hosts “Wings India 2020”

Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airports Authority of India (AAI) along with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) is organizing “Wings India 2020” event at Hyderabad, Telangana.

“Wings India 2020” is a civil aviation business exhibition and air show which is organized once in every two years.

Important Points:

- Union Minister of Civil Aviation: Hardeep Singh Puri.

Science & Technology

GOKADDAL-worlds first Digital Solutions Exchange cloud launched in India

The world's first Digital Solutions Exchange in the cloud "GOKADDAL" has been launched in India. GOKADDAL will revolutionize the way digital solutions are sourced, delivered, and managed.

The cloud-based platform is created to help the customers realize their digital transformation vision by bringing them the right solutions with the right tools and right providers.

GOKADDAL will create a new and significant revenue base for the solution providers.

CSIR develops Bi-Luminescent Security ink to Curb Fake Currency Notes

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research along with National Physical Laboratory recently discovered a bi-luminescent security ink. The ink shall be used to counterfeit currency notes. Also, it shows two colours when exposed to light.

The ink produced by mixing two different colours namely green and red in the ratio 3:1.

The ink is also to be used in passports

Appointments & Resignations

Amitabh Bachchan becomes brand ambassador of IDFC FIRST Bank

IDFC FIRST Bank has signed Amitabh Bachchan as its brand ambassador. With this, Amitabh Bachchan has become the first ever brand ambassador of the bank.

IDFC FIRST Bank provides its customers a range of services including savings account and current accounts, NRI accounts, salary accounts to home and personal loans, small business loans, among others.

About IDFC FIRST Bank:

- MD and CEO - V Vaidyanathan
- Headquarters: Mumbai.
- Founded – 2015

Sports Affairs

Pankaj Advani wins 34th National Snooker title

Ace Indian cueist Pankaj Advani clinched the National 6-Red Snooker Championship with a convincing 7-3 final over Maharashtra's Ishpreet Singh in Ahmedabad.

It is overall 34th national title for Advani.

In the women's edition, Ameer Kamani overcame Vidhya Pillai 4-2 win the title

Obituaries

Veteran Bengali actor Santu Mukhopadhyay Passed away

Veteran Bengali actor Santu Mukhopadhyay who was known for his works in films such as "Sansar Simante" and "Bhalobasa Bhalobasa" passed away in Kolkata.

He got good recognition on big screen for films like 'Ganadevata' & 'Byapika Biday'.

His other memorable works for 4 decades include, 'Hemanter Pakhi', 'Dadamoni' & 'Baikunther Will'.

Miscellaneous

Over 4.75 lakh vacancies to be filled soon-Dr Jitendra Singh

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that over 4 lakh 75 thousand vacancies will be filled soon. This information was given in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha today.

Besides, the SSC, RRBs, Department of Posts and Ministry of Defence have commenced the process for filling up of additional 3,41,907 vacant posts.