

14th March 2020 Current Affairs

EXAMSDAILY

National Affairs

DA for Central government employees and pensioners hiked by 4% from 1st January

The Union Cabinet has approved a four per cent hike in Dearness Allowance - DA for 48 lakh Central government employees and Dearness Relief to 65 lakh pensioners.

- It will be effective from 1st of January this year. With this, the DA has gone up from 17 per cent to 21 per cent.
- Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said the Govt will incur 14,595 crore additional expense due to DA hike.

Union Cabinet approves construction of 780 kilometer of green highways in four states

Union Cabinet has approved a proposal for the construction of 780 kilometer of green highways at a cost of 7,660 crore rupees.

- Briefing media, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said The project pertains to rehabilitation and upgradation of various National Highways in four states, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

Census India-2021 to be conducted in two phases

The Census India-2021 will be conducted in two phases. The first phase will begin from the 1st of next month and will continue until the 30th of September of this year.

- The second phase is Population Enumeration which will be conducted from 9th February to 28th February next year throughout the country simultaneously.

Minister Amit Shah presided over the flag-in ceremony of the Ganga Aamantran Abhiyan

A Flag-in ceremony of the Ganga Aamantran Abhiyan was organized by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in New Delhi on 13 March 2020. It was chaired by the Union Minister for Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah.

- It focused on implementing various approaches and acting decisively in the direction to revive and rejuvenate Ganga.
- Ganga Aamantran Abhiyan is a massive river rafting expedition. The campaign was launched on 10 October 2019.

Facebook launches 'Pragati' to boost women entrepreneurship in India

Facebook India called for applications for its CSR initiative, Facebook Pragati, powered by N/Core (The/Nudge Centre for Social Innovation).

- The initiative will incubate and accelerate early-stage women-led non-profits that are working to drive women entrepreneurship and to spread awareness and adoption of technology among women in India.
- Facebook Pragati will award four grants of up to Rs. 50 lakh for each non-profit to scale their work.

International Affairs

Bill Gates resigns from Microsoft's board

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates is stepping down from the company's board to spend more time on philanthropic activities including global health, development, education, and his increasing engagement in tackling climate change.

- Gates will still serve as a "technology advisor" to current CEO Satya Nadella, a role he began in 2014 at Nadella's request when he stepped down from serving as chairman of Microsoft's board.

About Microsoft:

- Founded – 4 April 1975
- Headquarters – Washington, US
- Founders – Bill Gates, Paul Allen

State Affairs

Uttar Pradesh

UP govt launches schemes for skill development & employment generation

UP government has launched three ambitious schemes for skill development and employment generation for youths in the state.

- UP Govt. also announced to depute 'Arogya Mitras' at all primary health centres to inform people about govt health schemes.
- CM Yogi Adityanath launched three schemes Kaushal Satrang, Yuva Hub and apprenticeship scheme in Lucknow.
- All three schemes are dedicated to generating employment and self-employment opportunities for the youth of the state.

Banking Affairs

ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, HDFC and Kotak Mahindra Bank to invest total Rs 3,100cr in Yes Bank

Four private sector entities-- ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank and HDFC-- will infuse Rs 3,100 crore in total via equity into the crisis-hit Yes Bank.

- ICICI Bank and HDFC will invest Rs 1,000 crore each while Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank will invest Rs 600 crore and Rs 500 crore, respectively.
- As per the scheme, State Bank of India will invest Rs 7,250 crore in Yes Bank with a lock-in period of three years for up to only 26 percent of the 49 percent of its stake.

Appointments

Central Government nominates Debasish Panda as Director central board of RBI

Shri Debasish Panda, the Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, New Delhi, was nominated by the central Government as a Director on the Central Board of Reserve Bank with effect from 11th March 2020.

- Debasish Panda an IAS officer of 1987-batch, Uttar Pradesh, then appointed as a Secretary, Department of Financial Services.

About RBI:

- Governor: Shaktikanta Das
- Headquarters – Mumbai
- Founded – 1 April 1935

Summits & Conference

3rd Edition Of WION Global Summit To Be Held In Dubai

WION Global Summit is a platform for global leaders to engage in dialogue on a common global agenda to be held in Dubai.

- The summit intends to highlight the critical challenges of climate change, global governance, economic slowdown, and global crisis that threatens to become the new normal.
- Theme: “Navigating and Negotiating Global Imperatives”.

Awards & Recognitions

Mr. Rajesh Chaplot Honored With The Highest Civilian Award Of Uganda

Distinguished Non-Resident Indian (NRI) businessman, Mr. Rajesh Chaplot was honoured with the Highest Civilian Award (Golden Jubilee Medal-Civilians) of Uganda.

- The award was presented by Hon'ble President of Uganda, Mr Yoweri Museveni in a ceremony in Kampala, Uganda.
- Mr. Chaplot who hails from Udaipur in Rajasthan has been also a proud recipient of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman, the highest award for overseas Indians.

Uganda:

- Capital: Kampala
- Currency: Shilling
- President: Mr Yoweri Museveni

Ranks & Indexes

Nita Ambani, Serena Williams & Simone Biles named in Influential Women in Sport list 2020

Sports business network, iSportconnect released the 'Influential Women in Sport' list for 2020, which named Nita Ambani, Serena Williams & Simone Biles along with 7 other women.

- Nita Ambani, led her Mumbai Indians franchise to become the most successful in IPL history & is in many sports projects across different sports in the country.

Sports Affairs

Saurashtra lift their 1st-ever Ranji Trophy title

Saurashtra led by Jaydev Unadkat lifted their maiden Ranji Trophy beating Bengal on the basis of the first-innings lead at Rajkot.

- Saurashtra's first-innings total of 425, Bengal fell short by 44 runs on the 5th and final day handing the hosts a firm grip on the title.

Important Days

World Sleep Day-March 13

World Sleep Day is an annual event organized by the World Sleep Day Committee of the World Sleep Society, formerly World Association of Sleep Medicine, since 2008.

- This year's World Sleep Day theme was "Better Sleep, Better Life, Better Planet"

