

**21<sup>st</sup> March 2020 Current Affairs**

**EXAMSDAILY**

**National Affairs**

**Prime Minister thanks people from different walks of life for supporting the cause of Sunday's Janata Curfew**

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**52-testing centres for coronavirus in India**

The novel coronavirus that originated from China's Wuhan city, has swiftly spread across the globe, causing widespread panic. The COVID-19 cases have now spread in more than 100 countries, including India. As on 9 March, India reported 43 confirmed cases of coronavirus, causing widespread panic.

- In light of providing proper diagnosis and treatment to those detected with the virus, the health ministry of India has designated 52 testing sites across India.

**International Affairs**

**Maldives pledges USD 200,000 to COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund**

Maldives government has committed two lakh US dollars for COVID -19 emergency relief fund created for SAARC nations. The decision was taken at meeting of National task force on Covid-19 headed by President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih.

- Foreign minister Abdulla Shahid said in a message that Maldives welcome PM Narendra Modi's initiative to create the fund and pledge the amount to address issues emanating from COVID-19.

**State Affairs**

**Himachal Pradesh**

**Himachal govt launches Police Station Visitor Survey System and e-Night Beat Checking System**

Himachal Pradesh State government launched Police Station Visitor Survey System and e-Night Beat Checking System for Himachal police in Shimla.

- These systems would help the Police Department in doing self-evaluation and improve the working of Police.
- It would automatically capture the date, time and GPS Location of the policeman on beat patrolling/night checking duty and thus would help in ensuring the increased presence of police on the roads for better safety of the citizens.

## **Uttar Pradesh**

### **UP govt seeks Central Grant of Rs. 100 cr for Lucknow University & Kashi Vidyapeeth**

Uttar Pradesh Government has sought a Central Grant of 100 crore rupees for Lucknow University and Kashi Vidyapeeth.

- Deputy Chief Minister and Education Minister of Uttar Pradesh Dr. Dinesh Sharma on Friday met Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank in Delhi and made the request.
- The educational institutions have completed 100 years of their establishment, and there is a provision of a special grant of Rs 100 crores for these institutions.

## **Awards & Recognitions**

### **Indian mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta enters 'Limca Book of Records'**

Indian mountaineer Satyarup Siddhanta hails from Kolkata, West Bengal, 37 years old, entered 'Limca Book of Records' (LBR) for his extraordinary achievements, as the first Indian to climb the highest volcanoes of each of the 7 continents.

- He also holds the record as the youngest mountaineer in the world to climb both 7 peaks and 7 volcanic summits.
- Satyarup Siddhanta completed his 7 summits & 7 Volcanic summits in January 2019 and was recognized by LBR.

## **Agreements**

### **DBS Bank, Bharti AXA join hands for insurance plan covering Covid-19**

DBS Bank India has tied-up with Bharti AXA to roll out a complimentary insurance plan covering all medical conditions, including Covid-19.

- The plan would cover all medical conditions, including Covid-19, and up to 10 days of hospitalisation, with a cover of Rs 5,000 per day, for a 30-day period.

**Important Points:**

- MD & CEO : Sanjeev Srinivasan.

**Appointments & Resignations****RBI appoints R Gandhi, Ananth Gopalakrishnan as additional directors on Yes Bank**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed R Gandhi and Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan as Additional Directors on the board of Yes Bank Ltd from 26 March for a period of two years.

- Gandhi is former RBI Deputy Governor and Gopalakrishnan is Associate Professor at S P Jain Institute of Management and Research.
- The government notified Yes Bank Ltd Reconstruction Scheme 2020 on 13 March. Key stakeholders, including the RBI, have put in place various measures to bolster the bank's liquidity.

**MP Chief Minister Kamal Nath announced resignation**

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath has resigned ahead of the floor test in the state assembly.

- He will be submitting his resignation to Governor Lal Ji Tandon.
- The floor test was called on the orders of the Supreme Court after resignations by 22 MLAs pulled the ruling Congress well below the halfway mark in the state assembly.

**Sports Affairs****Olympic flame reaches Japan**

The Olympic flame completed its journey from Greece to Japan. A special transport plane carrying the flame landed at the Japanese Air Self-Defense Force's Matsushima Base in Miyagi Prefecture, northeastern Japan.

- The Olympic flame was lit in the ancient ruins of Olympia in Greece on March 12.

**Obituaries****Roger Mayweather, Former Champion Boxer And Trainer Passes away**

Roger Mayweather, a two-time world champion turned trainer has died at the age of 58. He won titles in the category of 130 and 140 pounds in his 18-year career that began in 1981. He won his first 17 career fights and captured the world title in World Boxing Association junior lightweight and earned the World Boxing Council junior welterweight title in 1987.

**PK Banerjee, Indian football legend, passes away at 83**

Indian football player Pradip Kumar Banerjee passed away at the age of 83 in Kolkata, West Bengal. He was born on June 23, 1936, in Jalpaiguri, West Bengal.

- His contribution was duly recognised by FIFA which rated him as India's greatest player of the 20th century, bestowing him with the Centennial Order of Merit in 2004.

### **Important Days**

#### **March 21<sup>st</sup> observed as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on 21 March. The UN General Assembly resolution adopted on 26 October 1966, proclaimed 21 March as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to be commemorated annually.

- International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2020 is focused on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent.

#### **International Day of Forests celebrated on 21 March**

Every year, the United Nations celebrate International Day of Forest on March 21. The Day is being celebrated since 2012. It aims to increase awareness and importance of forests. The day also focuses on the significance of trees outside the forests. Also, the day is celebrated to save forest.

- This year the day is being celebrated under the theme Theme: Forests and Biodiversity