

Weekly Current Affairs PDF March 05 to March 11, 2023

Current Affairs PDF- March 11, 2023

NATIONAL

Defence Ministry inks contract with HAL to procure 6 Dornier aircraft

The defence ministry on Friday signed a ₹667-crore contract with state-run plane maker Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for six Dornier-228 aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF) to boost its operational capabilities. "The aircraft is ideally suited for short haul operations from semi-prepared/short runways of the Northeast and island chains of India. The addition of the six aircraft will further bolster the operational capability of the IAF in the remote areas," it said.

Maharashtra will introduce 4th women's policy

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis on Wednesday informed the Legislative Council that the state will introduce the fourth women's policy to give more opportunities to women by considering the issues of women from all groups. On the occasion of International Women's Day, Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Council Neelam Gorhe tabled a proposal to provide equal and dignified positions to women in all sectors. While replying to the proposal, Mr Fadnis said that apart from education, and employment, the women's policy will consider other important aspects, including economic empowerment and gender equality. He also announced that the government will introduce a rehabilitation scheme for those above 18 years old girls from the orphanage.

Central Railway achieves 100 % electrification of broad gauge network

The Central Railway has achieved 100 per cent electrification of its broad gauge network of 3,825 kilometers, which was resulting in an annual reduction of 5.204 lakh tonnes of carbon footprints. In a release, the CSMT-headquartered zonal railway said the 52-kilometre Ausa Road-Latur Road stretch in Solapur division was the last non-electrified section and its electrification was completed on the 23rd of February this year. This move helps in reducing carbon footprints of 5.204 lakh tonnes every year as well as savings of 1670 crore rupees. It will reduce fuel bills and help earn carbon credit.

Two-day G20 flower festival begins in New Delhi

A two-day G20 Flower Festival is being organised at Delhi's Connaught Place from today, March 11. It is aimed at highlighting the vibrancy of G20 members and guest countries. Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav inaugurated the festival today which is being organised by the New Delhi Municipal Council at Central Park. G20 countries including Japan, Singapore, and the Netherlands are participating in it. Flower plants of different colours and varieties are being displayed in different forms and installations to showcase the diversity of the Indian subcontinent. The festival is also showcasing the painting and photographs of flowers of G20 member countries and guest countries. The timing of the

festival is from 10 AM to 7 PM and entry is free for the general public. The musical and cultural programmes are also planned at the site of the event.

SPORTS

India beat world champions Germany 3-2 in FIH Pro League

India stunned world champions Germany 3-2 in the FIH Pro League at Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium in Rourkela, Odisha, Indian skipper Harmanpreet Singh had given the home side the lead in the 30th minute through a penalty corner conversion. Sukhjeet Singh's second-half brace helped India to take an unassailable lead. He scored in the 31st and 42nd minutes and both goals came from field efforts. India were 3-0 up in the 42nd minute before Paul-Philipp Kaufmann and Michel Struthoff struck for Germany in the 44th and 57th minutes respectively. Sukhjeet Singh was adjudged player of the match.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

B Gopkumar takes over Axis Mutual Fund as CEO Chandresh Nigam steps down

Axis Asset Management Company has appointed B Gopkumar, the managing director and chief executive officer at Axis Securities, as the new CEO of leading fund house Axis Mutual Fund. Gopkumar takes over from Chandresh Nigam who has stepped down as the CEO of the company.

Axis MF has been plagued by the front-running scandal that came to light when the fund house sacked its chief dealer Viresh Joshi in May 2022 in a shocking case of suspected front-running. This was followed by income tax raids at Joshi's premises and Joshi suing his former employer for wrongful termination.

Hindustan Unilever names Rohit Jawa as MD, CEO

Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) major Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) announced Rohit Jawa as the new Managing Director and CEO of the company taking over from June 27, 2023. The present managing director & CEO Sanjiv Mehta will retire after a tenure of 10 years by the end of June the company stated. Rohit Jawa will join as CEO designate and whole-time director for HUL from April 1, 2023, and take over as the president of Unilever South Asia from the present Chief of Transformation based in London. He will join the Unilever Leadership Executive (ULE) on April 1, 2023.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Piyush Goyal to chair sixth meeting of National Startup Advisory Council

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal will chair the sixth meeting of the National Startup Advisory Council (NSAC) in New Delhi today, March 11. According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, NSAC will deliberate upon matters important for the evolution of the Indian startup ecosystem and will cover important topics such as Tech Landscape and the Way Ahead, Innovation in Logistics, Making India the Global Skill Market, Innovation Hub.

BOOKS & AUTHOR

Mundaka Upanishad: The Gateway to Eternity', written by former MP Dr. Karan Singh

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar announced the release of the book "Mundaka Upanishad: The Gateway to Eternity". Dr. Karan Singh, a former member of parliament, wrote the book at Upa-Rashtrapati Nivas in New Delhi. He is a philosopher and politician from India.

Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan initially released this book in 1987. But, the current edition is unique since it includes Dr. Kamal Kishor Mishra's Hindi translation of Dr. Karan Singh's texts, who also transliterated the Sanskrit text in accordance with international standards. There have also been added six antiquated manuscripts that were picked from the sizable collection at the Sri Ranbir Sanskrit Research Center, Sri Raghunath Temple in Jammu. These documents, which comprise the primary text as well as the Bhasya, Bhasya-tippanam, and Dipika-comments by Adi Shankaracharya and Pandita Naraina, demonstrate that this significant Upanishad has been written down throughout many centuries in both the old and new Kashmiri type of Devanagari script.

A book titled "As Good as My Word" wrote by KM Chandrasekhar

As Good as My Word by KM Chandrasekhar, who was the Cabinet Secretary from 2007-2011, starts as an autobiography with graphic details of his childhood, schooling and college education, set within the confines of a modest but disciplined Malayali home. The next part delves into his joining the IAS and the early years in his home state Kerala. Both segments, however, pale into insignificance compared to the latter part of the book which deals with a largely unknown but hugely important world of international trade. This is followed by a throwback into a series of tumultuous political events, including recent ones — and their cascading effect on public polity.

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INTERNATIONAL

Xi Jinping begins historic third term as China's president

Chinese President Xi Jinping has been handed a norm-busting third term as President, making him China's most powerful leader in generations. The appointment by Beijing's rubber-stamp parliament comes after he locked in another five years as head of the Communist Party and the military.

China's Parliament on Friday unanimously endorsed an unprecedented third five-year term for President Xi Jinping,

Indonesia is moving its capital from Jakarta to Borneo.

The city of Jakarta in Indonesia is facing issues such as congestion, pollution, earthquakes, and sinking into the Java Sea. Therefore, the Indonesian government is currently in the process of relocating the capital to the Island of Borneo. Indonesia plans to relocate its

capital from Jakarta to Borneo, creating a “sustainable forest city” that aims to be carbon-neutral by 2045.

However, environmentalists warn that the development will lead to deforestation, threaten the habitat of endangered species such as orangutans and harm the homes of Indigenous communities. While the site is typically restricted, The Associated Press was granted access in early March to witness the construction progress. This article examines the reasons behind the relocation, the government’s plans, and the concerns of activists regarding the impact on the environment, endangered species, and Indigenous communities.

Ram Chandra Paudel elected as new President of Nepal

Nepal: Ram Chandra Paudel was elected as the new president of Nepal on Thursday. Paudel secured 33 thousand 8 hundred and 2 electoral votes while his rival Subash Chandra Nembwang secured 15 thousand 5 hundred and 18 electoral votes, according to Nepal's Election Commission.

Poudel, a common candidate of the eight-party alliance that included Nepali Congress and Prime Minister 'Prachanda'-led CPN (Maoist Center), received the vote of 214 lawmakers of parliament and 352 provincial assembly members. With the support from eight political parties, 78-year-old Poudel's victory was certain. His rival Subas Chandra Nebmang had support of former prime minister KP Sharma-led CPN-UML.

SCIENCE & TEHNOLOGY

2023 DW : This Asteroid Has A 'Small Chance' Of Impacting Earth In 2046, NASA Says.

A new asteroid which NASA has been tracking has a "very small chance" of impacting Earth in 2046, according to the space agency's Planetary Defense Coordination Office. The asteroid, called 2023 DW, might hit Earth on Valentine's Day in 2046.

Asteroid 2023 DW has an average estimated diameter of 49.29 metres, and a mass of about eight kilograms, according to Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Center for Near Earth Object Studies. The velocity of the asteroid at the time of the likely impact will be 15.43 kilometres per second.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Women Judges

International Day of Women Judges holds every March 10 to recognize the contributions of women judges worldwide and is part of global effort to ensuring gender equality and to address gender-related judicial integrity issues. It aims to incorporate women’s representation issues into judicial systems,

On - 10 March 2022, for the very first time, we celebrated the International Day of Women Judges pursuant to the recent United Nations General Assembly Resolution 75/274 of 2021.

CISF Raising Day :India

Every year on March 10, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Raising Day is observed to mark the CISF’s founding in 1969. The Ministry of Home Affairs’ top-tier central armed police force, the CISF, is in charge of providing security protection for several public sector

organisations, airports, seaports, power plants, and other significant infrastructure projects across the nation.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Joint Statement of India-US Commercial Dialogue held on 10.03.2023 in New Delhi

India and the United States of America held the 5th Ministerial level meeting of the bilateral Commercial Dialogue in New Delhi on 10 March 2023. India's Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, and U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Gina Raimondo, co-chaired and re-launched the Commercial Dialogue in accordance with the U.S.-India Joint Leaders' Statement of September 2021, with a renewed focus on future and emerging areas of bilateral commercial partnership. The Commercial Dialogue is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the U.S.-India Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, develop inclusive and fair trade and investment policies, and leverage the interests of the private sector in pursuing new market opportunities that advance prosperity in both countries.

The Minister and the Secretary noted with satisfaction that the bilateral goods and services trade has almost doubled since 2014, exceeding US \$191 billion in 2022, signaling accelerated growth benefitting both countries. With the United States becoming India's largest trading partner in 2022, both sides will take further steps to enhance their commercial collaboration and tap into market potential across multiple sectors. Both sides envision further coordination on how best to foster an enabling environment for increased investment, including by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and start-up companies.

India, US Sign MoU On Semiconductor Supply Chain And Innovation Partnership

India and the United States have signed an MoU on semiconductor Supply Chain and Innovation Partnership following the Commercial Dialogue 2023. It was signed between Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo in New Delhi.

The MoU seeks to establish a collaborative mechanism between the two governments on Semiconductor Supply chain resiliency and diversification in view of the US's CHIPS and Science Act and India's Semiconductor Mission. The India-US Commercial Dialogue was also re-launched today to discuss cooperation for unlocking new trade and investment opportunities between the two countries.

PNB Signs MoU With Central Warehousing Corporation

Punjab National Bank (PNB) and Central Warehousing Corporation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate financing under e-NWR (Electronic Negotiable Warehousing Receipt) on Thursday. The partnership is aimed at providing easy access to finance to farmers, food processors, and traders against the pledge of agriculture commodities stored in CWC warehouses.

Punjab National Bank said, "Agriculture is an important sector of the country's economy, and government has been focusing on increasing the income of the farmers who drive this segment. One of the main constraints in increasing farm income has been distress sales by the farmers. With a view to curbing the same, the bank has entered this new MoU."

Third session of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to begin in New Delhi today : 10 March

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the third session of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in New Delhi today evening, This year's theme of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is building local resilience in the face of climate change.

During the event, the Prime Minister will facilitate awardees of the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar. The winners of the 2023 Puraskar are the Odisha State Disaster Management Authority and the Lunglei Fire Station of Mizoram.

BANKING AND ECONOMY

MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme launched

"LEAN has the potential to become a national movement and that it aims to provide a roadmap to global competitiveness for the MSMEs of India," said Union MSME Minister Narayan Rane at the launch of MSME Competitive (LEAN) Scheme on Friday, March 10. During the launch, the Union Minister said that LEAN will not only attempt to improve quality, productivity and performance, but also the capability to change the mind-sets of manufacturers and transform them into a world class manufacturers.

The Scheme aims at reducing manufacturing waste and is an extensive drive to create awareness amongst MSMEs about LEAN Manufacturing practices. Further, the purpose is to motivate and incentivize them to attain LEAN levels while also encouraging them to become MSME Champions.

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NATIONAL

PM Modi & Australian PM Antony Albanese witness fourth test match of Border Gavaskar trophy in Ahmedabad

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese are witnessing the fourth cricket test match of the Border Gavaskar cricket trophy at Narendra Modi cricket stadium in Ahmedabad today, March 9. On arriving at the stadium, Mr. Albanese was given a warm welcome by Indian PM Narendra Modi. Both the leaders handed over test caps to their respective test captains. Both Prime Ministers inaugurated the friendship hall of fame which showcases the rich history of India-Australia Cricket Contests.

Indian Navy's largest wargame TROPEX-23 concludes

With the massive participation of India's primary naval and coastal security agencies, the Indian Navy's largest wargame TROPEX-23 culminated this week in the Arabian Sea. The theatre-level exercise was conducted over a period of four months from November 2022 to March 2023.

The four-month-long naval exercise witnessed the participation of over 70 Indian Navy ships, six submarines and 75 aircraft. The intense exercise, before coming to an end in the Arabian Sea, covered the Indian Ocean Region (IOR)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NASA hands over NISAR satellite to ISRO

The US Space Agency NASA has handed over the Earth observation satellite 'NISAR' to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) at its Bengaluru headquarters. NISAR is one of the crucial collaborations of ISRO and NASA. India and the US had agreed upon this mission during then-President Barack Obama's visit to India in 2015. The major scientific objectives of the NISAR mission are to improve understanding of the impact of climate change on Earth's dynamic ecosystem, land, and coastal processes, land deformations, and cryosphere.

OBITUARY

Veteran actor & director Satish Kaushik passes away

Veteran actor and director Satish Kaushik passed away early this morning, - March 9. The 66-year old Satish Kaushik had acted in more than 100 films. Born on April 13, 1956, in Haryana, he acted in theatres before finding his break in Bollywood. Satish Kaushik started his Bollywood career with the film Masoom in 1983. As an actor, he was known for his roles as Calendar in the 1987 superhit film, Mr. India, and as Pappu Pager in Deewana Mastana. Satish Kaushik also won the Filmfare Best Comedian Award in 1990 for Ram Lakhan and for Saajan Chale Sasural in 1997.

IMPORTANT DAYS

India Day Celebrations at PDAC-2023 in Toronto

India Day was celebrated at the PDAC-2023 convention in Toronto on Tuesday. The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shri Vivek Bhardwaj along with senior officials of the Ministry, Consulate General of India, Toronto, Canada and officials of the Ministry of Coal and C.I.I. attended the event. Large gathering of prospective investors, mining experts and mineral explorers also attended the program. On this occasion Indian officials gave presentation on the mining opportunities in India, followed by a question answer session. Mines Secretary, Shri Vivek Bhardwaj also had one to one interaction with the dignitaries present on the occasion. Event has concluded with a small Holi celebrations and distribution of sweets and millet items brought from India as part of International Year of Millets initiative by the Government of India

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) signed between India and Australia

The honourable PM of Australia, Mr. Anthony Albanese said that Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) signed between India and Australia is a transformative agreement which will unlock the next level of potential in trade and investment. He was addressing the India-Australia CEO forum held in Mumbai today : March 9.

The Honourable Prime Minister expressed sincere appreciation for the large turnout of Australian investors that came to India as well for the key Indian business houses that

participated. He remarked that this is one of the most serious and high-profile delegations to visit India from Australian shores. He was very optimistic about the complementarities between both the nations and concluded by saying that this juncture is a turning point in accelerating economic co-operation and mutual benefits in the relationship between Australia and India.

Pune to host the fourth Y20 Consultation Meeting on the 11th of March 2023

The fourth Y20 consultation meeting will be held in Pune on the 11th of March 2023 at the Symbiosis International University (SIU), Lavale in collaboration with Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports and Information & Broadcasting, Anurag Singh Thakur will be the Chief Guest for the inauguration ceremony. Dr. Sundeep Waslekar, President, Strategic Foresight Group will be the Keynote Speaker. The inaugural ceremony will take place on Saturday, 11th March 2023

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

India Bags Golden & Silver Star at The International 'Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2023 at ITB, Berlin 2023

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has bagged Golden & Silver Star at The International 'Golden City Gate Tourism Awards 2023' in 'TV/Cinema Commercials International and Country International' Category at ITB, Berlin 2023. The awards were received by Shri Arvind Singh, Secretary (Tourism) Government of India on 08th March 2023 at ITB, Berlin being held from the 7th to 9th March 2023. The Golden City Gate Tourism Multi-media Awards are given annually in various categories related to the Tourism and Hospitality sectors. The 'Golden City Gate' is a creative multi-media international competition for countries, cities, regions and hotels. The entries received for the awards are judged by an international jury comprising film and tourism experts. The annual award ceremony takes place at ITB Berlin, the world's leading tourism trade show.

RANKING

Aparna becomes first IPS officer to scale seven top peaks

Aparna Kumar is the first woman IPS officer to conquer seven summits, racing ahead and ascending one mountain after another. The Seven Summits are the highest mountain summits on each of the world's seven traditional continents. Getting to the top of any of them is considered a mountaineering challenge. Aparna, an IPS officer from Uttar Pradesh, accepted and completed the challenge. She is the country's first IPS officer to accomplish this distinction.

She also holds the distinction of being the first officer to scale Mount Everest and the first woman to command the ITBP Academy in six decades. Aparna is now an inspector general in the PAC Central Zone and the Sports Secretary of the UP Police Board.

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INTERNATIONAL

Xi Jinping's right hand, Li Qiang to become China's next premier

Xi Jinping has consolidated his power since the resignation of Premier Li Keqiang, who had served the maximum two terms allowed. Li had been sidelined in recent years by Xi, who elevated military and security services in support of the “great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation”. Now, all eyes are now on Li Qiang, who is the favourite to replace Keqiang as Premier. Li is a crony of Xi's from his days in provincial government, having served as Xi's de facto chief of staff in Zhejiang province.

Arun Subramanian becomes first Indian-American to be Judge of Manhattan Federal District Court in New York

Indian-American Arun Subramaniam has been confirmed as first South Asian District Judge for the Southern District of New York. Senate Majority Leader Senator Chuck Schumer confirmed the nomination of Mr. Subramanian by a vote of 58-37. Senator Schumer said that Subramanian dedicated his career to fighting for people. South District New York notably has one of the largest South Asian-American populations in the country.

White House backs bipartisan Bill that could lead to TikTok ban

The White House endorsed a bipartisan bill that could give the President authority to ban or force a sale of TikTok, support that could hasten its passage and break a deadlock over how to handle privacy concerns around the popular Chinese-owned app.

The bill introduced would give the President the ability to force the sale of foreign-owned technologies, applications, software or e-commerce platforms if they present a national security threat to US users.

NATIONAL

Dr Manik Saha to be sworn-in as CM of Tripura today; PM Modi and HM Amit Shah to attend the ceremony

In Tripura, all arrangements are put in place for the swearing-in ceremony of senior BJP leader Dr. Manik Saha as the new chief minister of the state. Dr. Saha will be administered oath of office by Governor Satyadeo Narayan Arya. The second term of the BJP-led coalition government in Tripura will begin from today (8th March) with the swearing-in ceremony of Dr. Manik Saha as the Chief minister. Apart from Dr. Saha, a number of council of ministers are also likely to be sworn-in.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches Swachhotsav under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.

In the run up to the Women's Day on Wednesday, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has launched Swachhotsav, 3-week women-led swachhata campaign, under the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban 2.0. The campaign aims to recognize and celebrate the transition from women in sanitation to women-led sanitation. A series of events and activities will be

organized across cities to celebrate women from all walks of life, who will provide leadership in making the mission of garbage free cities (GFC) a success.

SPORTS

Khelo India Dus ka Dum tournament to be organized in 10 cities

The Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is set to organize the Khelo India Dus Ka Dum event from March 10 to 31, as a celebration for the International Women's Day 2023. This is the first time that such a sports initiative is being taken to celebrate the international event and the Union Ministry has sanctioned a total budget of Rs 50 Lakh for the tournament. Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur shall be in attendance at the opening ceremony of the event on March 10 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in the national capital.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Women's Day

Why do we celebrate women's day on March 8. - In 1917, women in Russia chose to protest and strike under the slogan "Bread and Peace" on the last Sunday in February (which fell on March 8 on the Gregorian calendar). Their movement ultimately led to the enactment of women's suffrage in Russia."

This day on the Gregorian calendar in use elsewhere was March 8. International Women's Day was marked for a first time by the United Nations in 1975.

International Women's Day is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 as a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women.

Holi. - A celebration of colours, tradition, and health

A festival of vibrant colours and love, Holi truly represents kaleidoscopic life, without caring for all human boundaries. It symbolises the inherent meaning of life and love for each other, marking the very spirit of tolerance and brotherhood in a diverse society, like ours. It is indeed an opportunity to further promote goodwill and harmony among people, who otherwise appear divided into several lines, and gives out a message to work together for the progress and prosperity of our society and nation. This helps revitalise relationships and strengthen emotional bonds.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

Second Meeting of Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion concludes in Hyderabad

The second Meeting of Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion, GPFI under G20 India Presidency concluded on Tuesday in Hyderabad. The two-day meeting was led by GPFI Co-Chair and G20 India Presidency and saw participation from Ministry of Finance and Central Bank representatives from G20 and non-G20 countries and International Organisations. During the Plenary, the GPFI members discussed and agreed on the way forward for important deliverables for the year including those on Digital Financial Inclusion, SME Finance. A Symposium on Digital Innovations in Payments and Remittances was also organised on the sidelines of the GPFI meeting for both G20 and non-G20 countries.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Sir David Alan Chipperfield Receives the 2023 Pritzker Architecture Prize

Civic architect, urban planner and activist, Sir David Alan Chipperfield CH has been selected as the 2023 Laureate of The Pritzker Architecture Prize, the award that is regarded internationally as architecture's highest honor.

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INTERNATIONAL

China Gives Assurances For Sri Lanka's Debt Recast, Paves Way For \$2.9-Billion IMF Bailout

China has given assurances that it will support Sri Lanka's debt restructuring, according to Bloomberg. This development has cleared the biggest hurdle for the island nation to secure a \$2.9-billion bailout from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Sri Lanka's largest bilateral creditor gave written support for the debt restructuring via the Export-Import Bank of China on March 6, according to sources privy to the development. The letter meets the requirements of the IMF.

NATIONAL

India- France Joint Military Exercise FRINJEX-23 to begin at Thiruvananthapuram

The maiden Joint Military Exercise FRINJEX-23 between Indian Army and French Army will be conducted at Pangode Military Station, Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala on March 7 – 8. For the first time, both the armies are engaging in this format with each contingent comprising a Company Group each from the Thiruvananthapuram-based Indian Army troops and French 6th Light Armoured Brigade. The exercise is aimed at enhancing inter-operability, coordination and cooperation between both forces at tactical level.

Indian Navy Successfully Test-Fires Indigenous Medium Range Missile From INS Visakhapatnam

The Indian Navy on Tuesday successfully carried out a test-firing of a Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) from frontline warship INS Visakhapatnam, the defence force tweeted on Tuesday March 7, As per the officials, the test firing has now validated the capability to engage the weapon as an anti-ship missile, it said.

Conrad K Sangma sworn-in as Chief Minister of Meghalaya

In Meghalaya, Conrad K Sangma has been sworn-in as Chief Minister of the state, for the second consecutive term, in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other BJP senior leaders. Meghalaya Governor Chagu Chauhan has administered the oath of office and secrecy at a grand ceremony held at Shillong this morning

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

S.S. Dubey takes charge as Controller General of Accounts (CGA)

Shri S.S. Dubey took charge as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). Shri Dubey is the 28th Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Shri Dubey, a 1989-batch Indian Civil Accounts Service (ICAS) officer, is appointed by the Government of India as the Controller General of Accounts (CGA) with effect from 6th March, 2023. Prior to taking charge as the CGA, Shri Dubey was Additional Controller General of Accounts, Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

IMPORTANT DAYS

3-day Cycling Race held to commemorate 72nd Air Force Day in Sri Lanka (2 March)

An Indian Air force cycling team participated in a Cycling Race organised by Air Force of Sri Lanka. The three-day Cycling Race of 395 kilometres was held to commemorate the 72nd Air Force Day in the island nation. The visiting team interacted with High Commissioner and Commander Sri Lankan Air Force. The team also paid their respects to the martyrs of the Indian Peace Keeping Force during their visit.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

ONGC signs MoU with France's TotalEnergies for deep-water exploration

India's top explorer Oil and Natural Gas Corp has signed a memorandum of understanding with French major TotalEnergies for exploration of deep-water blocks, The MoU seeks to provide technical help for ONGC's push to explore and reduce green house emissions in development of deep-water blocks especially in Mahanadi and Andamans, off India's east coast.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu wins BBC Indian Sportswoman Of The Year award 2022

Tokyo Olympic Games silver-medallist weightlifter Mirabai Chanu has bagged the 2022 'BBC Indian Sportswoman Of The Year' award after a public vote. The 28-year-old weightlifter from Manipur became the first athlete to win the award twice in a row after bagging it in 2021 as well.

At the Tokyo Games, she had become the first Indian to win a silver in the sport. Last year, she went on to secure gold at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham. She also won a silver medal at the World Weightlifting Championships in 2022.

Sipra Das gets Lifetime Achievement honour in National Photography Awards ceremony

Thirteen photographers including senior photojournalist Sipra Das have been conferred with National Photography Awards in various categories at a function in New Delhi. Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Dr L Murugan today gave away the awards in presence of Secretary, Information and Broadcasting Apurva Chandra. Photojournalist Sipra Das has been honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Six photographers each were conferred in the category of Award for Professional Photographers and Award for Amateur Photographers.

BHEL bags CBIP Award 2022

BHEL has been awarded the CBIP Award 2022 for 'Best Contribution in Solar Energy'. The award was received by Dr. Nalin Shinghal, CMD, BHEL, along with Ms. Renuka Gera, Director (IS&P), BHEL from Sh. R.K. Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy, on CBIP Day. CBIP awards are conferred for outstanding contribution to the development of water, power and renewable energy sectors.

Current Affairs PDF- March 06, 2023

INTERNATIONAL

China to increase defense spending by 7.2%

China is set to increase defense spending this year by 7.2% to 1.56 trillion yuan (\$230 billion), according to a draft released Sunday by the Ministry of Finance. China's defense budget grew by 7.1% last year to 1.45 trillion yuan, faster than the 6.8% increase in 2021 and 6.6% climb in 2020, according to official data.

NATIONAL

PM Narendra Modi to attend swearing in ceremony of Meghalaya & Nagaland Chief Ministers on Tuesday and that of Tripura on Wednesday

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend swearing-in ceremony of Meghalaya and Nagaland Chief Ministers on Tuesday and that of Tripura on Wednesday. The swearing-in ceremony of New Meghalaya government will be held at 11 am on Tuesday in Shillong, while that of Nagaland government at 1:45 pm in Kohima the same day. The new government of Tripura will be administered the oath in Agartala at 11 am. on Wednesday. Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party(NDPP) Leader Neiphiu Rio and Assam Chief Minister and NEDA Convenor, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma will meet the BJP central leaders in New Delhi today, ahead of the formation of new government in Nagaland.

Madhya Pradesh government launches Ladli Bahna scheme to make women financially independent

The Madhya Pradesh government has launched a unique scheme to make women financially independent, In this scheme, named Ladli Bahna, each woman will be given Rs 1000 per month.

Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the ambitious Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana through remote control at a function on his birthday

Union Minister Parshottam Rupala inaugurates Camel Product Processing Utilisation & Training Wing at ICAR-National Research Centre in Bikaner

Yesterday, Parshottam Rupala, the Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying of India inaugurated the 'Camel Product Processing Utilization & Training Wing' at the ICAR Centre, Bikaner, Rajasthan. The Government of India established a project directorate on Camel at Bikaner (India) on 5th July, 1984 under aegis of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), considering the importance of camel in the socio-economic

development of arid and semi-arid zones, which got upgraded on September 20, 1995 to National Research Centre on Camel (NRCC).

ICAR is a Premier Research Centre and an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri to launch Hydrogen-based advanced FCEV

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri will launch Hydrogen-based advanced Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV) in New Delhi today. - March 6, 2023

The launch of the bus is an effort of the central government as part of its commitment toward cleaner energy and low-carbon pathways. The project is similar to the one launched earlier at Kevadia in Gujarat.

First edition of Naval Commanders' Conference 2023 begins onboard INS Vikrant

The first edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference 2023 began onboard India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant. The conference serves as a platform for Naval Commanders to discuss important security issues at the military-strategic level as well as to interact with senior government functionaries through an institutionalised forum.

The first phase of the Commanders' Conference is being held at sea, and for the first-time, onboard INS Vikrant. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addressed the Naval Commanders onboard INS Vikrant on the opening day.

APPOINTMENTS & RESIGNATIONS

Pramerica Life Insurance appoints Pankaj Gupta as MD and CEO

Pramerica Life Insurance appointed Pankaj Gupta as the managing director and chief executive officer. Gupta was Group Head – Distribution Strategy & Alliances of HDFC Life. Pankaj succeeds Kalpana Sampat, who was the previous MD & CEO.

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Pharmacy Education Day

The Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has announced 6th March as the National Pharmacy Education Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Professor Mahadeva Lal Schroff and to recognise his contribution to establishing pharmacy education in India.

Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar, Minister of State inaugurates Pharma Anveshan-2023 on the occasion of National Pharmacy Education Day. It is the need of the hour to change our gears and adopt a focused approach to impart the best pharmacy education keeping our curriculum in line with the latest developments - Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar.

World Tennis Day

We celebrate World Tennis Day on the first Monday of March every year and on this day, we are learning all there is to know about this interesting sport. This year, it takes place on March 6. It started out as a handball game, known as "jeu de paume" ("game of the palm"), and has transcended into one of the most popular sports in the world. The holiday was launched by StarGames in 2013 with the aim of encouraging participation in the sport. The sport is played by millions of people from around the world in public courts or in clubs.

SUMMIT'S & MOU's

1st High-Level Committee Meeting for Paris Olympics 2024 Was Organized in SAI Headquarters

The Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Shri Anurag Singh Thakur along with Minister of State (MOS), MYAS Shri Nisith Pramanik chaired the first High- Level Committee Meeting for Paris Olympics 2024, The meeting which was attended by representatives from MYAS, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), and the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) discussed in detail the roadmap to the Paris Olympics that is to take place next year and also took an update on the preparations for the upcoming Asian Games in Hangzhou this year.

Current Affairs PDF- March 05, 2023

INTERNATIONAL

China sets its lowest GDP growth target of around 5% for the year 2023

China projected GDP growth target for year at 'around 5%' as the National People's Congress (NPC) – China's national legislature started Sunday, making a modest forecast in an effort to revive an economy battered by COVID-19 and Beijing's controversial zero-covid policy.

This was announced by the outgoing Premier Li Keqiang, as he delivered a government work report at the opening session of the 14th NPC, laying out economic priorities and a new budget, including plans for defense amid continued tensions with the West including in Taiwan strait and the war in Ukraine.

NATIONAL

Mauganj To Become Madhya Pradesh's 53rd District, Says CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has announced the creation of a new Mauganj district out of the existing Rewa district. The new Mauganj district will be created with inclusion of four tehsils, including three existing tehsils — Mauganj, Hanumana and Naigarhi, while Dev Talab will be a new tehsil. With this, Madhya Pradesh now will have 53 districts by August 15.

PM Narendra Modi lauds the initiative of women of the self-help group from Khadki village of Burhanpur, MP

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has praised the efforts of women of the self-help group from Khadki village of Burhanpur district of Madhya Pradesh to ensure tap connection to every house. Shri Modi called it an example for whole country.

1st Labour 20 (L20) meeting is scheduled to be held in Amritsar, Punjab

The 1st Labour 20 (L20) meeting is scheduled to be held in Amritsar, Punjab, from 19 th to 20th March 2023. L20 is one of the engagement groups under G20. It comprises leaders and representatives of trade union centers of G20 countries who provide analyses and policy recommendations aimed at addressing labor-related issues. Bharatiya Mazdoor

Sangh (BMS) is the lead national trade union centre for organising the L20 inception meeting under India G20 presidency. Apart from the meeting, the participants of L20 meet would be taken to various excursion sites to showcase the rich cultural heritage of Amritsar.

Indian Navy carries out successful precision strike by ship launched BrahMos missile in Arabian Sea

Indian Navy today carried out a successful precision strike by ship launched BrahMos missile in the Arabian Sea. It was done with the indigenous seeker and booster designed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

WalkforHealth", a mega walkathon by Health Ministry for women's health

Committed for a healthier self, New Delhi celebrated a Mega walkathon event "WalkforHealth" on 5th March 2023. It was organised by the Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to mark the occasion of International Women's day on 8th March 2023. The rally was conducted from Vijay Chowk to Nirman Bhawan in New Delhi in order to promote physical and mental well-being. More than 500 participants including, doctors, nurses and staff of Central Government hospitals namely, Safdarjung Hospital, Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College participated in the Walkathon.

SPORTS

Karnataka beats Meghalaya 3-2 to clinch Santosh Trophy football after 54 years

Karnataka ended their 54-year wait to win the Santosh Trophy National Football Championship, beating Meghalaya 3-2 in a pulsating final at the King Fahd International Stadium in the Saudi Arabia capital, Riyadh. Egged on by vociferous support from the stands, Karnataka, who last played the senior national championships final 47 years back (1975-76), trumped the first-time finalists, breaching their defence at will and pumping in three goals in the first half to set the tone as well as settle the eventual outcome.

APPOINTMENT AND RESIGNATION

Manisha Saxena appointed director general of tourism

Senior bureaucrat Manisha Saxena has been appointed as director general of tourism in the Union tourism ministry. Ms. Saxena is a 1996 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Arunachal Pradesh-Mizoram-Goa-Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness

Observed on 5 March, the International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness plays a role in deepening the global public's understanding about how disarmament efforts contribute to enhancing peace and security, preventing and ending armed conflicts, and curbing human suffering caused by weapons.