

# Current Affairs

26th March, 2024



## Today's Important News

Sharath Kamal to be India's flag-bearer at the 2024 Paris Olympics

### 1. Sharath Kamal to be India's flag-bearer at the 2024 Paris Olympics

- Ranked World No. 88, Kamal has won the national table tennis championship a record 10 times. He has also claimed 13 medals at the Commonwealth Games (CWG), including seven golds, and has earned two medals at the Asian Games. The legendary player is a three-time bronze medalist at the World Championships.
- Joining Kamal in the spotlight is MC Mary Kom, who has been named as the chef de mission for the Paris 2024 Summer Games. Mary Kom is the first female boxer in history to have captured six world titles.



### 2. Government notifies PIB's Fact Check Unit under IT Rules 2021

- The government has notified the 'Fact Check Unit' (FCU) under the Press Information Bureau (PIB) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, as the fact check unit of the Centre.
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) notified the PIB FCU under the provisions of the sub-clause (v) of sub-rule (1) of rule 3 of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.



### 3. PM Modi Inaugurates State-of-the-Art Medical Facility in Thimphu

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bhutanese counterpart Tshering Tobgay jointly inaugurated a modern hospital in the Bhutanese capital, Thimphu. The Gyaltsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuk Mother and Child Hospital is a shining example of the strong development cooperation between India and Bhutan.
- The hospital is a state-of-the-art 150-bedded facility that has been built with Indian assistance. The construction was carried out in two phases, with the first phase costing ₹22 crore and becoming operational in 2019. The second phase, completed recently, was undertaken as part of Bhutan's 12th Five Year Plan at a cost of ₹119 crore.



#### 4. ASI Begins Excavation in Madhya Pradesh To Find India's Oldest Temple

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is conducting excavations at two mounds in Nachne village, located in the Panna district of Madhya Pradesh. The goal of these excavations is to uncover what could potentially be the oldest temple in India.
- The excavation sites are situated just 30 meters away from two ancient temples – a Gupta-era Parvati temple and the Chaumukh Nath temple built by the Kalachuri dynasty. These temples, known as the Nachna Hindu temples, are among the earliest surviving stone temples in central India, alongside those found in Bhumara and Deogarh.



#### Foot Notes:

#### About Madhya Pradesh:

**Capital:** Bhopal

**Chief Minister:** Mohan Yadav

**Governor :** Mangubhai C. Patel

#### 5. Modi Government Allocates Rs 6212.03 Crore for Strengthening Regional Rural Banks

- The Modi government has allocated Rs 6212.03 crore to Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) as part of the recapitalization scheme on March 6. RRBs, established in 1975 and owned by the Indian government, function at the regional level across various states. They were set up with the objective of offering fundamental banking and financial services to rural regions, specifically targeting small and marginal farmers, agricultural laborers, artisans, and small entrepreneurs.



- Consolidated Capital to Risk-weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) reached an all-time high of 13.83 percent by December 31, 2023, indicating strengthened financial position.

### 6. Carlos Sainz wins Formula One Australian Grand Prix

- Lying in bed just nine days ago with the wound from his appendectomy still tender, Carlos Sainz had held no expectation of even competing in the Australian Grand Prix. Yet there was the Spaniard in Melbourne afternoon, roared on by an appreciative crowd when he climbed from his car after a victory as unlikely as it was valiant.
- An achievement with doubtless special resonance for Sainz, the driver who had comeback from surgery and helped return Ferrari's first one-two since 2022 as world champion Max Verstappen's dominant run of victories came to an explosive end, but who, as yet, does not have a Formula One drive for next season.



#### Foot Note:

#### About Australia :

**Prime Minister** – Anthony Albanese

**Capital** – Canberra

**Currency** : Australian Dollar

### 7. IAU approves 'Statio Shiv Shakti' as name for Chandrayaan-3 landing site

- Nearly seven months after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that Chandrayaan-3's landing site will be called "Shiva Shakti", International Astronomical Union (IAU) approved the name on March 19.
- According to the Gazetteer of Planetary Nomenclature, planetary nomenclature, like terrestrial nomenclature, is used to uniquely identify a feature on the surface of a planet or satellite so that it can be easily located, described, and discussed.



#### Foot Note:

#### About IAU:

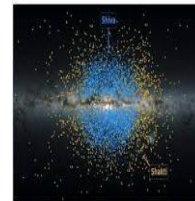
**Headquarters:** Paris, France

**Founded:** 28 July 1919

**President:** Debra Elmegreen

## 8. Scientists uncover Milky Way's ancient building blocks, Shakti and Shiva

- Astronomers have identified two ancient streams of stars - named after the Hindu deities Shakti and Shiva - that appear to be among the Milky Way's earliest building blocks, offering new insight into how our galaxy came together long ago.
- Shakti and Shiva are comprised of stars with similar chemical compositions that formed 12-13 billion years ago, the researchers said. Each of the structures has a mass about 10 million times greater than our sun.



## 9. Bina Agarwal and James Boyce awarded the first “Global Inequality Research Award”

- In a significant recognition of their pioneering work in the field of global inequality research, Bina Agarwal and James Boyce have been awarded the inaugural Global Inequality Research Award. This prestigious accolade highlights their exceptional contributions to understanding and addressing issues of economic disparity on a global scale.
- Bina Agarwal, renowned for her groundbreaking research in the areas of gender inequality and property rights, has been instrumental in shedding light on the intersectionality of gender and economic disparities. Her work has provided valuable insights into the role of social norms and institutions in perpetuating inequality, particularly in the context of land and property ownership.



## 10. 6 Asset Reconstruction Companies Secure 55% of KSK Mahanadi Power's ₹29,330 Crore Debt


- Six asset reconstruction companies (ARCs), including Aditya Birla and Kotak Mahindra-backed ARCs, have accumulated 55% of KSK Mahanadi Power's ₹29,330-crore debt from lenders in separate transactions.
- Purpose of Acquisition: The ARCs acquired the debt with the expectation of potential demand for thermal power companies, anticipating a significant upside. This acquisition occurred due to lenders' exit from the company after facing over a four-year delay in its debt resolution process.



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