



CURRENT AFFAIRS

04 March 2021

Today's Important News

Mumbai's CSMT becomes first railway station to get IGBC Gold Certification

1. Mumbai's CSMT becomes first railway station to get IGBC Gold Certification

- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus Railway Station of Central Railway is the first railway station in Maharashtra to be awarded with Gold certification as per CII's Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) ratings.
- Central Railway has implemented various green initiatives across its zone, with plantation creating green areas, installation of solar panels, customer-friendly initiatives at many stations, LED bulbs and lights etc.
- Amidst that, the Mumbai Division of Central Railway has put in concerted efforts in implementing many Green & passenger-friendly initiatives across its stations, especially at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus.
- The rating system gives impetus to the national priorities like energy efficiency, water conservation, handling of waste measures and motivates the adoption of green standards for buildings and its environment.



2. US imposes fresh sanctions against Russia over Navalny issue

- The United States has slapped sanctions on Russian individuals and entities over the near-fatal poisoning of prominent opposition figure Alexei Navalny with a nerve agent.



- These sanctions mark the first of several steps by the Biden administration to respond to a number of destabilizing actions. The sanctions are the first against Russia by the Biden administration. Meanwhile, Russia has condemned moves to impose sanctions. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said those who continue to depend on these measures should probably give it some thought. Vladimir Chizov, Russia's envoy to the EU, said Moscow would respond to the latest round of EU sanctions imposed.

Foot Notes:

About US:

Speaker: Nancy Pelosi (Democratic Party)

Capital: Washington, D.C.

President: Joe Biden

About Russia:

Capital: Moscow

Currency: Russian ruble

President: Vladimir Putin

3. Union Cabinet apprised of the signing of MoU between India, French Republic in field of renewable energy cooperation

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi was apprised of the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and French Republic in the field of renewable energy cooperation. The MoU was signed in January this year.
- The objective of the MoU is to establish the basis for promotion of bilateral cooperation in the field of new and renewable energy on the basis of mutual benefit, equality and reciprocity. It covers technologies relating to solar, wind, hydrogen and biomass energy.
- The MoU entails exchange and training of scientific and technical personnel; exchange of scientific and technological information and data; organization of workshops and seminars; transfer of equipment, know-how and technology and development of joint research and technological projects.



4. National Security Day 2021: 04 March

- The day was celebrated in 1972 to mark the foundation day of the autonomous body namely National Safety Council. It is a non-profit, self-financing and tripartite apex body at the national level.



- In 1965, the government for the first time organised a conference on Industrial Safety in the presence of the then President Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. On this day, the need for Safety Councils on national and state levels was agreed upon.
- In 1966, the proposal for a National Safety Council was accepted in the 24th Session of the Standing Labour Committee. The Council has been set up on 4 March 1965 in order to raise awareness among people and bring them together for a voluntary movement on Safety, Health, and Environment.



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5. Govt amends Insurance Ombudsman Rules, Strengthens Mechanism to Protect Policyholders' Interests

- The government on Tuesday (2 March) notified comprehensive amendments to the Insurance Ombudsman Rules, 2017 with a view to improve the working of the Insurance Ombudsman mechanism to facilitate resolution of complaints regarding deficiencies in insurance services in a timely, cost-effective and impartial manner.
- The amended rules have enlarged the scope of complaints to Ombudsmen from only disputes earlier to deficiencies in service on the part of insurers, agents, brokers and other intermediaries.



6. Elon Musk tops Hurun Global Rich List, Ambani ranked eighth

- In the Hurun Global Rich List published on Tuesday, Mukesh Ambani ranked eighth, while Tesla CEO Elon Musk is on the top. The list ranked 3,228 billionaires from 68 countries.
- Bloomberg Billionaires Index reported that in 2020, Ambani's wealth increased to \$83 billion. He is also the richest person in Asia since China's Zhong Shanshan lost \$22 billion last week.
- India now has 209 billionaires, of which 177 reside in the country. Mumbai alone houses 60 billionaires. Meanwhile, 40 billionaires call Delhi home, whereas Bengaluru has another 22.



7. Uttarakhand CM launches 'Gharoki Paachan, Chelik Naam Scheme from Nainital

- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat Saturday launched "Gharoki Paachan, Chelik Naam" (daughter's name is a home's identity) program and development schemes worth Rs. 42 crore in Nainital.
- Initially, the scheme has been launched in Nainital and will be extended to entire Uttarakhand in the coming weeks.
- The government has allocated Rs. 42 crore for this scheme.
- This scheme is in line with the effort of the state government towards promoting women empowerment.
- Around 32,000 women groups of the state are being linked with self-employment to make them self-reliant.



Foot Notes:

About Uttarakhand:

Governor: Baby Rani Maurya

Chief Minister: Trivendra Singh Rawat

Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)

8. Entire rail network in the country will be fully electrified by 2023

- The entire rail network in the country will be fully electrified by 2023 while all rail networks will run on renewable energy by 2030. This was stated by Railway Minister Piyush Goyal while addressing the Maritime India Summit-2021.
- The Minister said, integration of Road, Rail and Waterways can truly make India 'One Nation, One Market, One Supply'. Mr. Goyal added that upgrade, create and dedicate are the three Mantras of the government for the infrastructure sector. He said, the capacity of India's major ports has almost doubled in the six years.



9. Indian shuttlers Varun, Malvika win Uganda International titles

- Indian shuttlers Varun Kapur and Malvika Bansod registered hard-fought wins to clinch the men's and women's singles titles respectively at the 2021 Uganda International in Kampala.
- Varun had to sweat it out to get the better of seventh seeded Sankar Muthusamy
- 21-18 16-21 21-17 in the men's singles final, while second seed Malvika notched up a come-from-behind 17-21 25-23 21-10 victory over compatriot Anupama Upadhyaya in the women singles summit clash.
- The junior world no. 2 Varun, who has been a consistent performer on the junior circuit and clinched his sixth title earlier this year, won the first game convincingly before losing the second.



Foot Notes:

About Uganda:

Capital: Kampala

Currency: Ugandan shilling

President: Yoweri Museveni

10. Udaipur Science Centre Inaugurated at Udaipur , Tripura

- The Udaipur Science Centre, at Udaipur, Tripura was dedicated to the people by the Governor of Tripura, Shri Ramesh Bais on 28th February 2021. Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Culture and Tourism, Govt. of India Shri Prahlad Singh Patel, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The Deputy Chief Minister of Tripura Shri Jishnu Dev Varma, and the Minister for Agriculture, Transport and Tourism of Tripura Shri Pranajit Singha Roy, were the Guests of Honour.
- Speaking on the occasion, the Governor apprised the audience on the importance of National Science Day, which is celebrated every year on the 28th of February. He also highlighted that Science Centres play a vital role in developing a scientific temper in the society and inculcating a culture of Innovation among masses, particularly among students. He also appreciated the role of National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) and Ministry of Culture for the spread of scientific awareness.



Foot Notes:

About Tripura:

Capital: Agartala

Governor: Ramesh Bais
Chief Minister: Biplab Kumar Deb

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