



CURRENT AFFAIRS

01 March 2021

Today's Important News

Vinesh Phogat bags Gold in Ukraine wrestling event

1. Vinesh Phogat bags Gold in Ukraine wrestling event

- Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat has won the gold medal in the women's 53-kg category at XXIV Outstanding Ukrainian Wrestlers and Coaches Memorial in Kyiv, Ukraine. Vinesh Phogat defeated world number seven Vanesa Kaladzinskaya of Belarus in the finals to win the gold medal and make a winning return to her first competitive outing since the Covid-19 induced lockdown.
- The Asian Games and Commonwealth Games gold medalist had defeated Romania's Ana A by fall in the semi-final to reach the summit clash. Vinesh has already booked a place in the Tokyo Olympics for the 53kg category. Since the coronavirus halted all competitions last year, it was the first competition for Vinesh, who is the only Indian woman wrestler to have qualified for the Tokyo Games. The 26 year old will be seen in action in the season's first ranking tournament from March 4-7 in Rome.



Foot Notes:

About Ukraine:

President: Volodymyr Zelensky

Capital: Kyiv

Currency: Ukrainian hryvnia

2. India places Brazil's Amazonia-1 satellite, 18 others in orbit

- Brazil is looking to deepen cooperation with India in space technologies, including payload and platform development.
- The statement came on a day when India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) launched the earth observation satellite, the Amazonia-1, which was developed by Brazil.
- The launch of the 637kg Amazonia-1 was the first by India of a Brazilian satellite. On Sunday, PSLV-C51, which also carried 18 Indian satellites, is the first dedicated commercial mission of New Space India Ltd (NSIL), the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) commercial arm set up in 2019.



Foot Notes:

About Brazil:

President: Jair Bolsonaro

Capital: Brasilia

Currency: Brazilian real

3. Saras Aajeevika Mela, bringing rural women SHGs under one platform, opens at Noida Haat

- The Saras Aajeevika Mela 2021 is underway at Noida Haat. The fair was inaugurated by Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar yesterday. It will continue till 14th March. The fair remains open from 11 AM to 8 PM daily. More than 300 rural self-help groups and craftsman from 27 states are participating in the Mela which is being by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- Addressing the gathering, Mr. Tomar said that the Ministry of Rural Development is working to include more women in Self Help Groups (SHGs). He said these SHGs played a vital role in increasing family income and improving quality of life.
- Speaking about Prime Minister's call for self-reliant India, the minister said Atmanirbharta can't be achieved only by Government's schemes and efforts. He urged the empowered SHGs to come forward and help other SHGs to become Atmanirbhar.



4. Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar Takes Over as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Western Naval Command

- Vice Admiral R Hari Kumar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM took over as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C) of the Western Naval Command on 28 February 2021 at Mumbai. He succeeds Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, who retires upon superannuation, after an illustrious career, spanning forty years, in the Indian Navy.
- At a ceremony held at the Command Post of Headquarters, Western Naval Command, the outgoing and incoming Commanders-in-Chief were accorded a Guard of Honour after which the formal handing-taking over took place with the handing over of the baton to the new Commander-in-Chief. On assuming command Vice Admiral Hari Kumar laid a wreath at the Gaurav Stambh monument.



Foot Notes:

About Indian Navy:

Founded: 26 January 1950

Commander-in-Chief: President Ram Nath Kovind

Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS): Vice Admiral G. Ashok Kumar

Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff (DCNS): Vice Admiral M. S. Pawar

Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS): Admiral Karambir Singh

5. Sharad Goklani appoints as new President & CTO of AU Small Finance Bank

- AU Small Finance Bank has appointed Sharad Goklani as President & CTO. He will be based out of Jaipur and will report to the company's CIO, Ankur Tripathi.
- In his new role, Goklani would be responsible for ensuring technology deployment and adoption across the bank.
- "Moreover, given the diverse personas of our customer base, as a CTO of a tech-first Bank, Mr. Goklani would be responsible for creating technology interfaces, which are adaptable are flexible enabling tailor-made services for our unique set of customers," the company told ETCIO.



Foot Notes:

About AU Small Finance Bank:

Headquarters: Jaipur

Founder: Sanjay Agarwal

Founded: 1996

6. Maharashtra Shiv Sena Minister Sanjay Rathod resigned

- Amid furious Opposition clamour, Maharashtra Forest Minister and Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Rathod on Sunday resigned from the Maharashtra cabinet for his alleged connection with the Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Rathod from the nomadic Banjara community in Pune.
- Mr. Rathod, who has been under fire from the Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for nearly three weeks following the incident, tendered his resignation to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Sunday.
- While Mr. Thackeray said that he had accepted the Minister's resignation, he criticised the Opposition for attempting to lynch Mr. Rathod before the completion of an impartial probe.
- Stating that the affair was "a ploy" to defame him, Mr. Rathod said that he would assist in the police investigation even as former chief minister Devendra Fadnavis, the BJP's Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, hit out at the Maharashtra Police and Mr. Thackeray's handling of the affair.



Foot Notes:

About Maharashtra:

Capital: Mumbai

Governor: Bhagat Singh Koshyari

Chief Minister: Uddhav Thackeray



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7.39th Agartala International Book Fair begins in Tripura

- The 39th Agartala International Book Fair with the theme “Ek Tripura, Shrestha Tripura” has begun at Agartala.
- State Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb inaugurated the fair yesterday evening in presence of Bangladesh Assistant High Commissioner Md. Jobayed Hossain and other state cabinet ministers and MLAs.
- While addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister said a book fair helps in building a positive mindset among people and that ensures a positive approach for overall progress in society.
- Cultural troops coming from Bangladesh, Northeastern States including Sikkim will be performing various cultural events on each day as part of the fair.



Foot Notes:

About Tripura:

Chief Minister: Biplab Kumar

Capital: Agartala

Governor: Ramesh Bais

8. Deepak Kumar wins silver at Strandja Memorial Tournament in Bulgaria

- Deepak Kumar (52kg) wins the silver medal at the 72nd Strandja Memorial Tournament in Sofia, Bulgaria after losing the final face-off in a split decision against Bulgaria’s Daniel Asenov in the men's flyweight.
- The Boxing Federation of India in its tweet said "The result may not be in favour of Deepak Kumar but the Indian boxer surely won the hearts with his attacking game. A beautiful mix of the uppercut, left jabs and feet movement, a SILVER medal and a dream run at the 72nd Strandja Cup. India is proud of you".



Foot Notes:

About Bulgaria:

Capital: Sofia

President: Rumen Radev

Currency: Bulgarian lev

9. Indian Women's League 2020-21 to be hosted in Odisha

- The All India Football Federation (AIFF) confirmed Odisha as the venue for the forthcoming Indian Women's League (IWL) 2020-21 edition.
- The dates for the tournament will be announced soon. AIFF appreciated Odisha Government's longstanding partnership with Indian Football wherein the latter have been providing its stadia and state of the art training facilities to



national teams across various age groups and genders - all in an effort to take Indian Football forward together.

Foot Notes:

About Odisha:

Capital: Bhubaneswar

Governor: Ganeshi Lal

Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik

10. Papua New Guinea's first PM Michael Somare dead

- Michael Somare, a pivotal figure in Papua New Guinea's independence and the South Pacific island nation's first Prime Minister, has died. He was 84.
- Mr. Somare was Papua New Guinea's longest-serving leader after it became independent of Australia in 1975. He was Prime Minister for 17 years during four separate periods.
- He died February 26 after being diagnosed with a late-stage pancreatic cancer and admitted to a hospital on February 19, his daughter Betha Somare said.



Foot Notes:

About Papua:

Capital: Jayapura

Prime Minister: James Marape

Currency: Papua New Guinean kina

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