

Daily Current Affairs 24/03/2021

1. India ranked fourth most powerful military in world: Military Direct's study

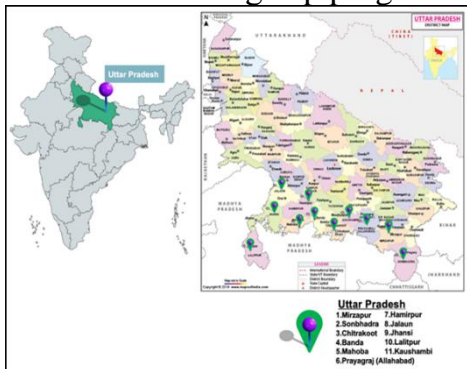


- China has the strongest military force in the world while India stands at number four, according to a study "**Ultimate Military Strength Index**" released by defence website Military Direct.
1st Rank- China (Score- 82/100)
2nd Rank- USA (Score- 74/100)
3rd Rank- Russia (Score- 69/100)
4th Rank- India (Score- 61/100)
- The **world's biggest military spender** is the USA (USD 732 billion per year) followed by China (USD 261 billion) and India (USD 71 billion).
- **Note:** "**Ultimate Military Strength Index**" was calculated after taking into consideration various factors including budgets, number of inactive and active military personnel, total air, sea, land and nuclear resources, average salaries, and weight of equipment.

2. UNOPS partners with Government of Denmark to support Jal Jeevan Mission in Bundelkhand & Vindhya region of UP



- **United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)** entered into a partnership with the Government of Denmark to support the Union Government’s flagship programme, Jal Jeevan Mission in Uttar Pradesh.



The purpose of partnership between the Government of Denmark and UNOPS is to provide strategic technical support to Jal Jeevan Mission (Water program).

- **UNOPS** shall be focussing on instituting scalable delivery models in focused 11 water-scare districts of Uttar Pradesh in Bundelkhand and Vindhya regions.

- **Note:** The **Jal Jeevan Mission** aims to provide functional household tap connection to every rural household by 2024. This coincides with the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goal-6.

3. ‘Mission Gramodaya’ launched in Madhya Pradesh



- In Madhya Pradesh, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan have launched the ‘Mission Gramodaya’.

- Under the ‘Mission Gramodaya’, besides providing housing facilities in rural areas, fundamental infrastructure will also be expanded.

- **Note:** Under **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana**, construction of 3 lakh houses was completed under the adverse circumstances of the Corona period.

- About 1 lakh 25 thousand beneficiary families of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana were given houses during the Mission Gramodaya programme.

4. POWERGRID launches Certified e-Tendering Portal ‘PRANIT’



- **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID)** has established an e-Tendering Portal ‘PRANIT’ which will lead to less paperwork and ease of operation, making the tendering process more transparent.

- It has been certified by Standardisation, Testing and Quality Certification Directorate (STQC), Government of

India.

- With this, POWERGRID is now the only organization in India to have an eProcurement solution on SAP Supplier Relationship Management (SRM).
- **About Power Grid Corporation of India Limited:** It is an Indian central public sector unit and a **Maharatna company** owned by the Ministry of Power,

Government of India which is headquartered in Gurugram, India and engaged mainly in Transmission of Power.

5. RBI sets up external advisory committee for evaluating banking applications



- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) set up a **Standing External Advisory Committee (SEAC)** which will evaluate applications for universal banks and small finance banks (SFBs).



- The committee has five members, with former **RBI deputy governor Shyamala Gopinath as the chairperson**. The panel will have tenure of three years.

- **Facts about RBI:**

Headquarters: Mumbai

Established: 1 April 1935

Governor: Shaktikanta Das (25th Governor)

6. Arindam Bagchi assumes charge as new Spokesperson of MEA



- A 1995 batch Indian Foreign Service officer, Arindam Bagchi assumed charge as the new Spokesperson of Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- Earlier, he was serving as the Joint Secretary (North) in the Ministry.
- He has replaced incumbent Anurag Srivastava.

7. Road Safety World Series T20 tournament: India Legends beat Sri Lanka Legends



- Sachin Tendulkar-led India Legends defeated Tillakaratne Dilshan's Sri Lanka Legends and emerged champions in the inaugural season of the Road Safety World Series T20 tournament in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- **Player of the series:** Tillakaratne Dilshan
- **Note:** The Road Safety World Series is a T20 cricket competition featuring retired cricketers and is organised by the Road Safety Cell of Maharashtra to raise awareness about road safety.

8. 67th National Film Awards – 2019



- The 67th National Film Awards were announced on March 22, 2021. In the award ceremony, films and artists for the year 2019 were honoured.
- The Directorate of Film Festivals, an organisation that comes under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, gave the awards to deserving candidates.
- **Main awards:**

Category	Winner
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Best Feature Film	Marakkar Arabikkadilinte Simham (Malayalam) directed by Priyadarshan
Best Actress	Kangana Ranaut (Manikarnika, Panga)
Best Actor	Manoj Bajpayee (Bhonsle) and Dhanush (Asuran)
Best Supporting Actress	Pallavi Joshi (The Tashkent Files)
Best Supporting Actor	Vijaya Sethupathi (Super Deluxe)
Best Director	Sanjay Puri (Bahattar Hoorain)
Best Female Playback Singer	Savani Ravindra (for song Rann Petala)
Best Male Playback Singer	B Praak (for song Teri Mitti)
Best Film Critic	Sohini Chattopadhyaya
Best Children Film	Kastoori (Hindi)
Best Cinematography	Jallikkettu (Malayalam)
Best Hindi film	Chhichhore
Best Non-Feature Film	An Engineered Dream
Most Film Friendly State	Sikkim
Best Book on Cinema	'A Gandhian Affair: India's Curious Portrayal of Love in Cinema' by Sanjay Suri

9. March 24, World Tuberculosis (TB) Day



THE CLOCK IS TICKING
WORLD TB DAY 2021

ONLINE TALK SHOW

24 March 2021 | 1PM CET

2015

2021

2022

2030



- The theme of World TB Day 2021 is ‘**The Clock is Ticking.**’
- The date marks the day in 1882 when Dr Robert Koch announced that he had discovered the bacterium that causes TB, which opened the way towards diagnosing and curing this disease.

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