

Daily Current Affairs 3 January 2024



3 January Daily Current Affairs

Important News: National

Surat Hosts 12th Divya Kala Mela 2023

Why in News:

- The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) (DEPwD), MoSJ&E, GoI, is organizing a special event aimed at the upliftment of Divyang entrepreneurs/artisans.

Key Points:

- The event will showcase the products and craftsmanship of Divyang entrepreneurs/artisans from around the country. It's called 'Divya Kala Mela' and will take place in Surat, Gujarat, from 29th December 2023 to 7th January 2024.
- The event is facilitated by the National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC), an apex corporation under DEPwD.
- Around 100 Divyang artisans/artists and entrepreneurs from about 20 states/UTs will be displaying their products and skills.
- There would be Products in the following broad categories: Home Décor & Lifestyle, Clothing, Stationery and eco-friendly products, packaged food and organic products, Toys & Gifts, Personal Accessories - Jewellery, Clutch Bags.

Source: PIB

Rashmi Govil to be the Next Director (HR) of IOC

Why in News:

- Rashmi Govil, a senior HR executive at Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), is set to be the next Director (Human Resources) of the state-owned firm.

Key Points:

- With nearly three decades at IOC, Rashmi Govil's extensive experience spans various HR domains, strategic initiatives, and pivotal policy revisions amid the pandemic.
- Her name for the job was recommended by the Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB).
- Govil joined IOC in 1994 and has been with the company for almost three decades.



3 January Daily Current Affairs

- Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) is an Indian oil and gas company under the ownership of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India.
- It is headquartered in New Delhi. It is a public sector undertaking whose operations are overseen by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- It is the largest government-owned oil producer in the country both in terms of capacity and revenue.

Source: Hindu Business Line

ITC ties up with Microsoft, Skymet to protect tobacco farmers from weather ravages

Why in News:

- Tobacco business company ITC has joined hands with Microsoft and Skymet to help farmers assess the weather correctly and warn them about sowing crops accordingly.

Key Points:

- ITC is working with Microsoft and Skymet to address issues related to climate change that impact tobacco producers in India. An estimated ₹800–900 crore has been lost in tobacco export earnings as a result of climate change.
- H N Ramaprasad, CEO of ITC's tobacco division, emphasizes the gravity of the situation by citing the real consequences for Karnataka farmers. Their tobacco production fell to 60 million kg, far less than the 90–100 million kg threshold that the Tobacco Board had set for 2021 and 2022.
- This project uses cutting-edge technology to deliver precise crop advisories, weather forecasts, hotspot mapping, and nutritional supplements. These technologies include drones, artificial intelligence, and data analytics.
- The main objective of the program is to increase the climatic resilience of tobacco crops so that farmers may more effectively manage the biotic and abiotic pressures brought on by erratic weather patterns.

Source: The Hindu Business Line



Ravindra Kumar Tyagi Appointed as CMD of Power Grid Corporation

Why in News:

- Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), one of India's leading Maharatna CPSUs under the ministry of power, announced the appointment of Ravindra Kumar Tyagi as its new Chairman and Managing Director.

Key Points:

- Ravindra Kumar Tyagi has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), succeeding Sreekant Kandikuppa who retired upon reaching the age of superannuation.
- Tyagi, 57, holds an electrical engineering degree from Punjab Engineering College (PEC), Chandigarh and completed M Tech in Energy Studies at IIT Delhi. He is a "fulbright scholar" from Carnegie Mellon University, USA and has over 33 years of industry experience in the power sector at various key positions in leading CPSUs, as per the filing.
- Ravindra Kumar Tyagi has handled various power grid business areas such as, asset management, engineering, business development (domestic and overseas), telecommunications, load despatch and communications at NTAMC and DMS.
- A renowned academician, Tyagi has authored over 50 technical papers that have been presented at various national and international conferences. His international acclaim is evident from his participation in numerous international technical committees, contributing to the formulation of various technical standards. His contributions have not only earned him a place of respect in India but have also garnered him various national and international recognitions.

Source: Economic Times



3 January Daily Current Affairs

Important News: Defence

India-UAE joint military exercise 'Desert Cyclone' commences

Why in News:

- The UAE Land Forces contingent comprising 45 personnel arrived in India to participate in the 1st edition of the India - UAE Joint Military Exercise 'DESERT CYCLONE'.

Key Points:

- The Exercise is scheduled to be conducted in Mahajan, Rajasthan from 2nd to 15th January 2024. The UAE contingent is being represented by troops from the Zayed First Brigade. The Indian Army contingent comprising 45 personnel is being represented mainly by a Battalion from the Mechanised Infantry Regiment.
- The aim of the Exercise is to enhance interoperability in Sub-conventional Operations including Fighting in Built-Up Area (FIBUA) in desert/ semi desert terrain under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter on Peace Keeping Operations. The Exercise will enhance cooperation and interoperability between both the sides during Peace Keeping Operations.
- Drills planned to be rehearsed during Exercise 'DESERT CYCLONE' include Establishment of a Joint Surveillance Centre, Cordon and Search Operation, Domination of Built-Up Area and Heliborne Operations. The Exercise will also foster collaborative partnership and help in sharing best practices between the two sides.
- Exercise 'DESERT CYCLONE' signifies further strengthening of bonds of friendship and trust between India and the UAE. The Exercise aims to achieve shared security objectives and foster bilateral relations between two friendly nations.

Source: PIB



3 January Daily Current Affairs

Important News: Day

DRDO Celebrates Its 66th Foundation Day

Why in News:

- DRDO celebrated its 66th Foundation Day on Jan 1, 2024.

Key Points:

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is the premier agency under the Department of Defence Research and Development in the Ministry of Defence of the Government of India.
- DRDO is charged with the military's research and development and is headquartered in Delhi.
- It was formed in 1958 by the merger of the Technical Development Establishment and the Directorate of Technical Development and Production of the Indian Ordnance Factories with the Defence Science Organisation.
- Subsequently, Defence Research & Development Service (DRDS) was constituted in 1979 as a service of Group 'A' Officers / Scientists directly under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence.
- DRDO is India's largest and most diverse research organisation.
- DRDO has a network of 52 laboratories that are engaged in developing defence technologies covering various fields like aeronautics, armaments, electronics, land combat engineering, life sciences, materials, missiles, and naval systems.

Source: PIB

