

## Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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### **1. 'Divya Kala Mela' to be held at Bhopal Haat, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh ( March 11, 2023 )**

**Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities** (Divyangjan) is organizing '**Divya Kala Mela**' from 12th to 21st March, 2023 at **Bhopal Haat, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh**.

#### **An overview of the news**

- The event will be inaugurated by Hon'ble **Governor of Madhya Pradesh Mangu Bhai Patel** on 12Th March.
- It is a unique event showcasing the products and craftsmanship of **Divyang entrepreneurs/artisans** from across the country.
- The event will provide an exciting experience to the visitors of vibrant products from different parts of the country including **Jammu & Kashmir, North Eastern States** which will bring together handicrafts, handlooms, embroidery works and packaged food etc.
- Around **150 Divyang artisans/artists and entrepreneurs** from around **21 States/UTs** will be showcasing their products and skills.
- The wide range of products includes - home decor & lifestyle, clothing, stationery & eco-friendly products, packaged food & organic products, toys & gifts, personal accessories - jewelry, clutch bags etc.
- It will be an opportunity for all to be '**Vocal for Local**' and products made by Divyang artisans can be seen/purchased.
- In **December 2022**, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities organized the **Divya Kala Mela** at the historic **Kartavya Path** in New Delhi.

### **2. Thomas A Sangma Elected as Speaker of Meghalaya Legislative Assembly ( March 11, 2023 )**

On 10 March 2023, **Thomas A. Sangma**, Member (MLA) of the **North Tura Legislative Assembly** of Meghalaya was elected as the **Speaker of the 11th Legislative Assembly of Meghalaya**.

#### **News Overview**

- Thomas A. Sangma of the **National People's Party (NPP)** was unanimously elected as no other candidate had filed his nomination for the post of **Speaker**.
- Sangma replaced **Metbah Lyngdoh (United Democratic Party)**.
- Chief Minister Konrad K. Sangma's Meghalaya Democratic Alliance (MDA) government has the support of 45 MLAs.

## **About Thomas A Sangma**

- **Thomas A. Sangma** is an Indian politician from Meghalaya and a **member of the National People's Party**.
- He was elected to the **Rajya Sabha**, the upper house of the Parliament of India, for the term **2008-2014 from the Nationalist Congress Party**.

## **About Conrad Kongkal Sangma**

- Conrad Kongkal Sangma is an Indian politician from the state of Meghalaya and is currently the **Chief Minister of the state**.
- He took oath as Chief Minister for the **second time on March 7, 2023**.
- Conrad Kongkal Sangma is the son of former Lok Sabha Speaker **PA Sangma**.
- In 2008, Conrad also became the **youngest Finance Minister of Meghalaya**.

## **About Meghalaya**

- It is a state in **Northeast India**.
- Capital - **Shillong**
- Governor - **Fagu Chauhan**
- Chief Minister - **Konrad Sangma**

## **3. New initiative called 'Beggar Free City' launched in Maharashtra's Nagpur ( March 11, 2023 )**

In **Maharashtra**, a new initiative called '**Beggar Free City**' was launched in **Nagpur**.

### **News Overview**

- Nagpur City Police Commissioner **Amitesh Kumar** said that a notice under **144 CrPC has been issued in this regard**.
- Notices were given to people, and chances are also not to be allowed in public places.
- It is a joint venture of the **Nagpur City Police and the Social Welfare Department of the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC)**.
- **Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC)** has made special arrangements in its owned shelters to restrict homeless people.
- The civic bodies have also arranged a bus and an ambulance to shift the beggars caught in the police operation to their shelter homes.

## **About Maharashtra**

- Establishment - **1st May 1960**
- Official Language - **Marathi**
- Neighbouring States - **Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Dadra And Nagar Haveli, Chhattisgarh**
- Members of Parliament - **Lok Sabha 48 (Rajya Sabha seats 19)**
- Legislature - **Bicameral ( Assembly 289 and council 78 seats)**
- Literacy - **82.91%**
- Districts - **36**
- Major Rivers - **Tributaries of Tapti, Bhima, Godavari and Krishna**
- Capital - **Mumbai**
- Population - **11.23 crore (2011 census)**
- Governor - **Ramesh Bais**
- Chief Minister - **Eknath Shinde**

#### **4. 42 lakh essays on Assam War hero Lachit Borphukan enter Guinness World Record ( March 10, 2023 )**

The compilation of over **42 lakh essays on the brave Ahom General Lachit Borphukan** has been recognized by **Guinness World Records** as the "**Largest Online Photo Album of Handwritten Notes**".

#### **An overview of the news**

- Assam Chief Minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma** received a certificate for the **Guinness World Record** for the maximum number of essays written on a single person.
- The certificate was handed over to Assam chief minister **Himanta Biswa Sarma** by Guinness World Records adjudicator **Swapnil Dangarikar** at an event held in Guwahati.
- Entries in over **25 languages** were uploaded in a portal in October-November last year, which was launched as part of the 400th birth anniversary celebrations of Borphukan.
- **A 150-foot-tall bronze statue** of Lachit Borphukan is currently being built, with a technical committee overseeing the project.

#### **About Lachit Borphukan**

- He was born on **November 24, 1622 in Charaideo**, the first capital of the Ahom kings.

- He effectively led his army in the **Battle of Saraighat in 1671**, which defeated the Mughal army's attempt to capture Assam.
- He also fought the **Battle of Alaboi on August 5, 1669 in the Alaboi Hills** near Dadara in North Guwahati.
- He was inspired to strengthen Indian naval power, revive inland water transport and build infrastructure related to naval strategy.
- He died on **April 25, 1672**.

## **5. Maharashtra's first budget in Amrit Kaal will be based on 'Panchamrut' or five major goals ( March 10, 2023 )**

With an eye on social engineering and specific voter groups like farmers, women and those belonging to backward communities, **Maharashtra's Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Devendra Fadnavis** on 9 March presented a **state Budget worth Rs 6,02,008.33 crore for 2023-24**.

### **An overview of the news**

- The budget size is **higher by Rs 20,740 crore** over the revised estimates for 2022-23.
- Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said the state's first budget in Amrit Kaal would be based on '**Panchamrit**' or five major goals.
- Fadnavis listed five goals - **sustainable farming-rich farmers, inclusive growth, infrastructure development, employment generation and environment-friendly development**.

### **Highlights of the Budget**

- Additional cash benefit for farmers of **six thousand rupees** under the '**Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi**' that will supplement the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Samman Nidhi Yojana.
- The scheme will benefit **1.15 crore farmers** while the State will bear a burden of **6900 crores** annually.
- Cash benefit of **1800 rupees per year for farmers in 14 suicide-hit districts** instead of grains distributed through PDS.
- Provide crop insurance to farmers at a nominal rate of one rupee.
- **Insurance cover of five lakh rupees for fishermen** with an outlay of 508 crores.
- An outlay of **200 crores** for '**Maharashtra Shri Anna Abhiyan**' for technology diffusion, crop demonstrations, value chain development, promotion and publicity of millets and setting up of '**Shri Anna Excellence Centre**' at Solapur.
- An outlay of **Rs 2,843 crore** has been announced for the **Women and Child Development Department** under inclusive development.

- Under the new scheme **Lek Ladki**, families with **yellow and orange ration cards** will get a subsidy of **Rs 5,000** after the birth of a girl child, **Rs 4,000 in class I, Rs 6,000 in class VI and Rs 8,000 in class XI.**
- A cash amount of **Rs 75000** will be given to the beneficiary girl child on completion of **18 years of age.**
- Women passengers will be given **50 percent concession** for traveling by state transport buses.
- 1500 increase in the honorarium of 81 thousand ASHA** volunteers and 3500 group promoters working in the state.
- Announced an outlay of **Rs 16,494 crore** for **social justice** and **Rs 3,996 crore for OBC welfare department.**
- Announcement of a new housing scheme called '**Modi Awas Gharkul Yojana**', under which one million houses will be constructed for OBCs in the next three years.
- On the infrastructure front, an expenditure of **Rs 14,225 crore** was made for roads and bridges.
- "Mission Targeting"** will be implemented to enhance the performance of athletes.
- "Tent cities"** will be set up at ten tourist spots across the state.
- A total outlay of **Rs 13,437 crore** has been announced on **environment and sustainable development.**

## **6. Konrad Sangma became the Chief Minister of Meghalaya for the second time ( March 9, 2023 )**

National People's Party (NPP) President Konrad K Sangma

**National People's Party (NPP) President Konrad K Sangma** was sworn in as the Chief Minister of **Meghalaya** for the second consecutive term on 7 March 2023.

### **An Overview of the news:**

- Governor Fagu Chauhan also administered oath to 12 ministers along with Sangma.
- 8 MLAs from NPP, 2 from United Democratic Party (UDP), Hill State Peoples Democratic Party (HSPDP) and 1 each from BJP took oath as ministers.
- On 6 March, 58 newly elected members of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly were administered oath by Speaker Pro Tem Timothy D'Shira.
- Meghalaya has 60 assembly seats, but polling in the Sohyeong constituency was postponed following the death of UDP candidate HD R Lyngdoh. Shira, MLA from Resubelpara, was administered oath as the Speaker Pro-tem of the Assembly by Governor Fagu Chauhan.

### **Preston Tynsong and Sniawbhalang Dhar became Deputy Chief Ministers:**

- Governor Fagu Chauhan administered the oath to the 12-member Council of Ministers, including NPP's Preston Tyansong and BJP's Alexander Lalu Hek.

### **Chief Minister in Indian Constitution:**

- Article 164 of the Constitution provides that the Chief Minister will be appointed by the Governor.
- The leader of the party with a majority in the assembly elections is appointed as the Chief Minister of the state.
- A person who is not a member of the State Legislative Assembly can be appointed as the Chief Minister for six months. But he has to take the membership of the state assembly within the time limit, failing which he has to give up the post of chief minister.

### **7. Neiphiu Rio became the Chief Minister of Nagaland for the fifth time ( March 9, 2023 )**

**Neiphiu Rio** was sworn in as Chief Minister for the **fifth time** on 7 March 2023 by **Governor La Ganesan in Nagaland.**

#### **An overview of the news:**

- During this, many other dignitaries including the Prime Minister were present in Kohima, in which Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP President JP Nadda and Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma etc. were prominent.
- **Taditui Rangkau Zelayang and Yanthungo Patton (BJP)** took oath as **Deputy Chief Ministers of Meghalaya in Shillong.**
- The assembly elections were held on a total of **60 seats in Nagaland.** In which **NDPP-BJP got 37 seats**, in which NDPP got 25 seats and BJP got 12 seats. After this, the coalition government of NDPP and BJP has been formed.
- NCP has won 7 seats, NPP 5, LJP (Ram Vilas), Naga People's Front (NPF) and RPI (Athawale) 2 each and JD(U) one seat. While 4 independent members have also won.
- Nine legislators, including a woman legislator, **Salhoutuonuo Kruse**, took oath as ministers in the Nagaland cabinet on 7 March 2023.
- For the first time in the 60-year history of Nagaland assembly elections, a woman legislator has been elected. A total of 13 assembly elections have been held in Nagaland so far.

### **Chief Minister in Indian Constitution:**

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- The leader of the party with a majority in the assembly elections is appointed as the Chief Minister of the state.

- A person who is not a member of the State Legislative Assembly can be appointed as the Chief Minister for six months. But he has to take the membership of the state assembly within the time limit, failing which he has to give up the post of chief minister.

### **8. Manik Saha became the Chief Minister of Tripura for the second time in a row ( March 9, 2023 )**

**Manik Saha** has taken oath as the **Chief Minister of Tripura for the second consecutive** time on 8 March 2023 at Swami Vivekananda Maidan in Agartala, the capital of Tripura. **Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya** administered the oath of office and secrecy to Mr. Saha.

#### **An Overview of the news:**

- Ratanlal Nath, Pranajit Singha Roy, Pranajit Singha Roy, Tinku Roy Sushant Chowdhary etc have taken oath as ministers of Tripura at the swearing in ceremony of Manik Saha.
- PM Modi, Amit Shah, JP Nadda and chief ministers of BJP-ruled states also attended Mr. Saha's swearing-in ceremony.
- It is worth mentioning that BJP has become the single largest party in Tripura assembly elections by getting **32 seats out of total 60 seats**. Tipra Motha Party came second by winning 13 seats. The Communist Party of India (Marxist) got 11 seats, while the Congress got three.

#### **Chief Minister in Indian Constitution:**

- Article 164 of the Constitution provides that the Chief Minister will be appointed by the Governor.
- The leader of the party with a majority in the assembly elections is appointed as the Chief Minister of the state.
- A person who is not a member of the State Legislative Assembly can be appointed as the Chief Minister for six months. But he has to take the membership of the state assembly within the time limit, failing which he has to give up the post of chief minister.

### **9. Lokayukta given free hand in corruption case against BJP MLA's son ( March 6, 2023 )**

free hand to the Lokayukta

Karnataka Chief Minister **Basavaraj Bommai** said the government has given a **free hand to the Lokayukta** to deal with the **corruption case against Prashant Madal, son of Channagiri BJP MLA Madal Virupakshappa**, and the law will take its own course.

#### **An overview of the news**

- The Lokayukta has seized over **Rs 8 crore** in cash from the residence and office of **Channagiri BJP MLA Madal Virupakshappa**.

- Virupakshappa also served as the chairman of **Karnataka Soap and Detergent Limited (KS&DL)**, a public sector undertaking (PSU).
- Apart from cash, documents of huge investment in land, gold and silver have also been found from the MLA's house.
- The amount was recovered after searches were conducted at Prashant's father's residence after he was caught taking a bribe of Rs **41 lakh in his office**.
- The state government has re-established the **Lokayukta** (the anti-corruption bureau that handled such cases during the previous Congress government) to crack down on corruption.

### **What is the Lokayukta?**

- As per **section 63** of the **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013**, every state shall establish a body to be known as the **Lokayukta for the state**.
- The central law **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013** mandates the appointment of a **Lokayukta in each state**.
- It inquires into allegations of corruption and maladministration against public servants.
- It works for speedy redressal of public grievances.

### **Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013**

- It provided for the establishment of **Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States**.
- The Chairperson of the Lokpal should be either a **former Chief Justice of India or a former Judge of the Supreme Court** or a person of eminence of eminence.
- Half of the eight maximum members** should be judicial members and **at least 50 percent** of the members should be from the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women categories.
- When the 2013 Act was passed, Lokayuktas were already functioning in some states including **Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka**.
- After the Act and the intervention of the Supreme Court, most of the states have now established Lokayuktas.

### **10. Parshottam Rupala inaugurates Camel Product Processing Utilisation & Training Wing in Bikaner ( March 6, 2023 )**

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying **Parshottam Rupala** inaugurated the '**Camel Product Processing Utilisation & Training Wing**' on 5 March at the **ICAR center, Bikaner**.

### **An overview of the news**



- ICAR – Bikaner is a Premier Research Centre and an autonomous organization under the **Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.**
- Considering the **importance of camel in the socio-economic development** of arid and semi-arid regions, the Government of India established a Project Directorate on Camel on 5 July 1984 at Bikaner under the aegis of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
- Upgraded to **National Research Center on Camel (NRCC)** on 20th September, 1995.
- Product Processing Utilization and Training Wing has been inaugurated to explore the immense opportunities in the camel product processing sector.