

March - 14

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) hosted the 3rd International Conference on the theme 'Inclusive Elections and Elections Integrity' in virtual format.
- ❖ Supreme Court Judge Justice V. Ramasubramanian released a book titled India's Struggle for Independence – Gandhian Era.
- ❖ The first edition of the Naval Commanders' Conference 2023 held in India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant.
 - It is a platform for the officers to discuss important security issues at the military-strategic level and interact with senior government functionaries.
- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the permanent campus of Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad, Karnataka.
 - The campus is the first Smart and green IIT campus in the country.

TAMIL NADU

Punnagai scheme



- ❖ The Minister of School Education launched a new scheme for government school students called 'Punnagai'.
- ❖ This scheme has been started for the dental care of students.

- ❖ In the first phase, the students of class VI-VIII will be subjected to dental examination.
- ❖ This project has been started to prevent oral diseases among students.
- ❖ This program will benefit school children by screening them and creating awareness about oral diseases, tooth decay and gum problems.

NATIONAL

TROPEX 2023

- ❖ Indian Navy's major Operational level exercise TROPEX for the year 2023, was conducted across the expanse of the Indian Ocean region.
- ❖ It includes the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal surface.
- ❖ The overall exercise construct included coastal defence exercise Sea Vigil and the amphibious exercise AMPHEX.



INTERNATIONAL

FRINJEX-23

- ❖ The maiden joint military exercise, FRINJEX-23, between the Indian Army and French Army conducted at the Pangode military station, Kerala.
- ❖ It is for the first time that both countries are engaging in this format with each contingent comprising a Company Group.

- ❖ The exercise is aimed at enhancing inter-operability, coordination, and cooperation between both forces at tactical the level.
- ❖ The theme for the exercise is based on “Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Operations in a Contested Environment”.




SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Influenza subtype H3N2

Time to mask up

With flu cases rising across the country, the Health Ministry has advised people to wear masks and follow social distancing.



M. PERIASAMY

- Up to **15,826** of these patients were hospitalised with severe acute respiratory illness
- **451 confirmed H3N2** cases were seen this year
- Suspected H3N2 patients show symptoms like fever, cough, breathlessness, wheezing
- India reported **9.66 lakh cases of flu** in 2023
- Some also report signs of pneumonia and seizures

- ❖ Two persons have succumbed to the H3N2 subtype of seasonal influenza in India.

- ❖ The first recorded death from H3N2 this year was of an 82-year-old man in Karnataka's Hassan district.
- ❖ H3N2 is a non-human influenza virus that normally circulates in pigs and has infected humans.
- ❖ This virus is known to be a subtype of Influenza A virus.
- ❖ Symptoms are similar to those of seasonal flu viruses and can include fever and respiratory symptoms.
- ❖ H3N2 outbreaks can "indeed cause death" and are more severe than regular flu.

ENVIRONMENT

Mimeusemia ceylonic



- ❖ *Mimeusemia ceylonica*, a rare moth species, was last recorded in Sri Lanka 127 years ago.
- ❖ This has been rediscovered now in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli.
- ❖ George Hampson recorded *Mimeusemia ceylonica* at Thirukonamalai in Sri Lanka in 1893.
- ❖ It was not recorded elsewhere across the world since then.
- ❖ This is the first time this moth species is being recorded in India.
- ❖ *Mimeusemia ceylonica* species belonging to the subfamily Agaristinae and family Noctuidae.
- ❖ It was first sighted in India during a moth survey conducted by Thalavai Pandi in 2020 at the Agasthyamalai Community-based Conservation Centre (ACCC).

- ❖ ACCC situated in the buffer zone of Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve (KMTR) in Tirunelveli district.

STATES

World's Longest Railway Platform

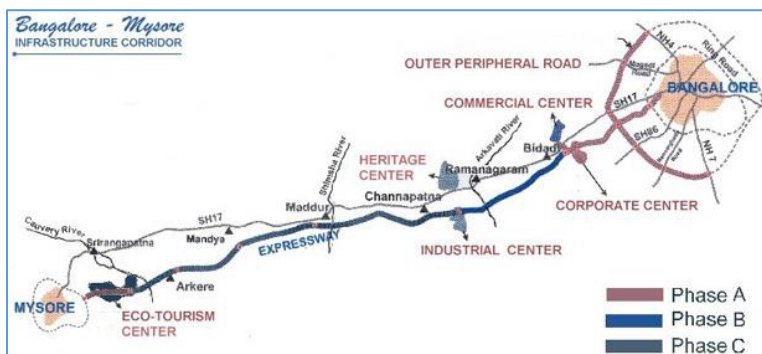
- ❖ Prime Minister dedicated World's longest railway platform (1.5 km long) in Hubballi, Karnataka.
- ❖ South Western Railway Zones Hubballi is now registered in the Guinness Book of World Records for having the longest platform.
- ❖ Gorakhpur platform in Uttar Pradesh is the second longest at 1,366.33 meters.
- ❖ Kollam Junction in Kerala has the third longest platform at 1,180.5 meters.

LONGEST RAILWAY PLATFORM IN INDIA



Rank	Station name	Length (metres)	State
1	Hubli Junction railway station	1,505	Karnataka
2	Gorakhpur Junction railway station	1,366	Uttar Pradesh
3	Kollam Junction railway station	1,180.5	Kerala
4	Kharagpur Railway Platform	1,072	West Bengal
5	Chennai Egmore Railway Station	925.22	Tamil Nadu

Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway



- ❖ Prime Minister inaugurated the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway.

- ❖ The 118-km-long expressway will reduce the travel time between Bengaluru and Mysuru from three hours to about 75 minutes.
- ❖ He also laid the foundation stone for the Mysore-Kushalnagar four-lane highway which is about 92 km.

Ladli Bahna scheme

- ❖ Ladli Behna Scheme is a programme launched by Madhya Pradesh government.
- ❖ As part of the initiative, women from lower- and middle-class homes will get a monthly transfer of Rs 1,000 into their accounts.
- ❖ It will help women become more financially independent and encourage their effective participation in family decision-making.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Oscars for India





- ❖ SS Rajamouli's RRR has created history by becoming the first Indian feature film to win an Oscar.
- ❖ The film's 'Naatu Naatu' soundtrack by MM Keeravani was awarded the Best Original Song Award.
- ❖ Notably, 'Naatu Naatu' won the Golden Globe for the best song earlier this month.
- ❖ The win made RRR the first Indian film to win a Golden Globe.
- ❖ India won a second Oscar for 'The Elephant Whisperers' which won in the Best Documentary Short film category.

Oscars awards 2023

- ❖ The Academy Awards, or Oscars Awards 2023's 95th anniversary ceremony held recently.
- ❖ Oscars Awards 2023 full winner list.

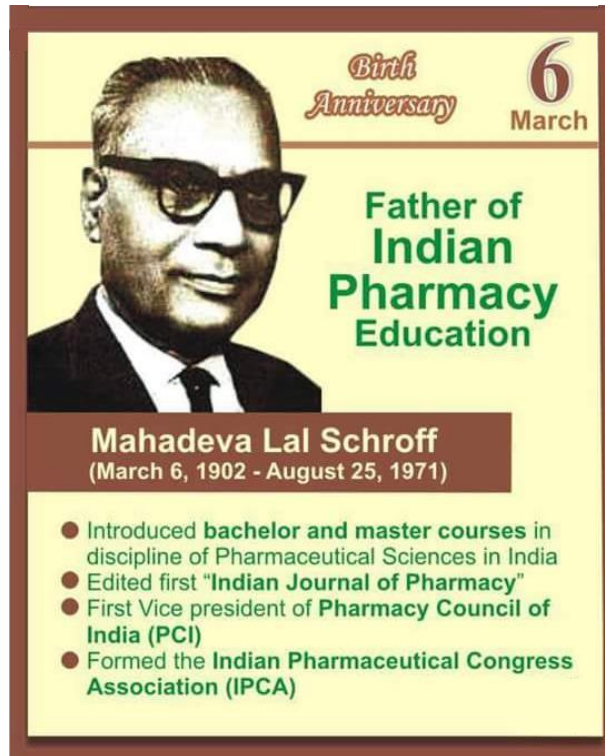
Category	Winners
Best Picture	Everything Everywhere All At Once
Best Actress	Michelle Yeoh (Everything Everywhere All at Once)
Best Actor	Brendan Fraser (The Whale)
Best Director	Daniel Kwan and Daniel Schienert (Everything Everywhere All at Once)
2023 Best Film Editing	Everything Everywhere All at Once
Best Original Song	"Naatu Naatu" (RRR)
Best Sound	Top Gun: Maverick
Best Adapted Screenplay	Women Talking
Best Original Screenplay	Everything Everywhere All at Once – Daniel Kwan and Daniel Schienert
Best Visual Effects	Avatar: The Way of Water
Best Animated Feature Film	Guillermo del Toro's 'Pinocchio'
Best Actress in a Supporting Role	Jamie Lee Curtis in 'Everything Everywhere All at Once'
Best Actor in a Supporting Role	Ke Huy Quan in 'Everything Everywhere All at Once'
Best Documentary Feature Film	'Navalny' by Daniel Roher, Odessa Rae, Diane Becker, Melanie Miller and Shane Boris
Best Live Action Short Film	'An Irish Goodbye' by Tom Berkeley and Ross White
Best Cinematography	'All Quiet on the Western Front' by James Friend
Best Makeup and Hairstyling	Adrien Morot, Judy Chin and Annemarie Bradley for 'The Whale'
Best Costume Design	Ruth Carter for 'Black Panther: Wakanda Forever'
Best International Feature Film	'All Quiet on the Western Front' – Germany
Best Documentary Short Film	'The Elephant Whisperers' by Kartiki Gonsalves and Guneet Monga
Best Animated Short Film	The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse
Best Original Score	All Quiet on the Western Front
Best Production Design	All Quiet on the Western Front

IMPORTANT DAYS

National Pharmacy Education Day - March 06

- ❖ The day was designated by the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI).
- ❖ This day commemorate the birth anniversary of Professor Mahadeva Lal Schroff.

- ❖ It aims to recognise his contribution to establishing pharmacy education in India.
- ❖ He is known as Father of Indian Pharmacy Education.
- ❖ In 1935, he founded the United Provinces of Pharma Association.
- ❖ PCI is a statutory body working under the Ministry of Health, Government of India.
- ❖ It is constituted under the Pharmacy Act, 1948.



No Smoking Day - March 08



- ❖ This day is an annual health awareness day observed on the second Wednesday of March.
- ❖ The day aims to encourage people to quit smoking and raise awareness about its harmful effects on their health.
- ❖ No Smoking Day awareness movement was first started in 1984 in the United Kingdom on the day of Ash Wednesday.

World Kidney Day - March 09

- ❖ World Kidney Day is observed on the second Thursday of March every year.
- ❖ It aims to raise awareness of the importance of our kidneys to our overall health and to reduce the frequency and impact of kidney disease and its associated health problems worldwide.
- ❖ It is a joint initiative of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN) and the International Federation of Kidney Foundations – World Kidney Alliance (IFKF-WKA).

