



## CURRENT AFFAIRS 18th March 2023

### National News

#### 1. Ram Sahaya Prasad Yadav elected as Nepal's third Vice President



- Janata Samajbadi Party leader Ram Sahaya Prasad Yadav has been elected as Nepal's third Vice President. In today's voting, Yadav defeated Astalaxmi Shakya of CPN (UML) and Mamata Jha of the Janamat Party.
- He had received support from the Nepali Congress, CPN (Maoist Centre), and the CPN (Unified Socialist) including the ruling alliance.
- A total of 311 federal lawmakers and 518 Provincial Assembly members took part in the poll.
- The polling centre for the election was set up at the New Baneshwor-based Federal Parliament Building in Kathmandu.
- According to the Constitution, the Vice-president may perform the duties of the President during the latter's absence.
- The term of the Vice President is five years, from the date on which he or she is elected.

- **Ram Sahaya Prasad Yadav was the former Minister for Forests and Environment and a member of the first Federal Parliament of Nepal.**

## **2. New Zealand to ban TikTok on devices linked to parliament**



- **New Zealand will ban TikTok on devices with access to the parliamentary network because of cybersecurity concerns.**
- **New Zealand's Parliamentary Service Chief Executive Rafael Gonzalez-Montero informed that TikTok will be banned on all devices by the end of this month.**
- **Yesterday, Britain also banned the app on government phones with immediate effect.**
- **The United States, Canada, Belgium and the European Commission have already banned the app from official devices.**

### **3. International Ayurvedic conclave on 'Veterinary and Ayurveda' inaugurated at Haridwar**



- **International Ayurvedic conclave on the theme 'Veterinary and Ayurveda', was inaugurated at Rishikul campus of Ayurvedic University at Haridwar on Friday.**
- **The event will conclude on March 19.**
- **Addressing the seminar, Union Minister of State for Animal husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sanjiv Baliyan said, Ayurveda is being used for treatment of animals from times immemorial.**
- **He said that government has taken initiative to validate use of Ayurveda in the treatment of animals.**
- **He said that attempt will be made to include this subject in the syllabus of various universities.**

#### 4. Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform



- **Rachna Biswat Rawat, a journalist and writer from India, has recently written a book called “Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform.”**
- **The book is published by Penguin Veer, a Penguin Random House imprint, and focuses on the life, personality, and principles of General Bipin Rawat.**
- **Rawat was India’s first Chief of Defence Staff and one of the country’s most notable military leaders until he tragically died in a helicopter crash in 2021.**
- **The book was presented to India’s Minister of Defence, Rajnath Singh, by the author.**
- **It serves as a fitting tribute to General Rawat’s life and achievements.**

## 5. 6th Nepal International Film festival 2023 begins in Kathmandu



- The 6th Nepal International Film festival 2023 has begun on Thursday in Kathmandu.
- A renowned writer and critic of Indian films Premendra Majumdar has been nominated to the NIFF jury.
- He congratulated Niff while supporting efforts of Nepali filmmaking in international arena.
- The festival will run from the 16th to the 20th of March. It will showcase 96 films from 35 countries.
- It will also hold panel discussions, talks and master classes for young filmmakers of Nepal.

## 6. Ordnance Factory Day 2023



- **Ordnance Factory Day 2023:** In India, Ordnance Factory Day is celebrated annually on March 18th, marking the establishment of the first Ordnance factory by the British in Cossipore, Kolkata, in 1801 during colonial rule.
- The Ministry of Defence celebrates this day by raising the Indian flag, singing the national anthem, and showcasing various artillery and military equipment used by the Indian Armed Forces to the public.
- Ordnance Factories are a government branch responsible for researching, developing, testing, producing, and marketing weapons for the military.
- The day is significant as it recognizes the contribution of Ordnance factories to India's defense capabilities and the tireless efforts of the personnel who work in these factories to ensure the safety and security of the country.
- It is an occasion to honor the achievements of the Ordnance factories and pay tribute to the brave soldiers who use the equipment produced by them to protect the nation.

- The celebration of Indian Ordnance Factory Day also provides an opportunity for the Ministry of Defence to showcase the latest military equipment and technology developed by the Ordnance factories to the public.
- This helps to raise awareness about the importance of the Ordnance factories and their contribution to India's defense infrastructure.

## 7. US recognises McMahon Line as international boundary between China and Arunachal Pradesh



- The United States recognises the McMahon Line as the international boundary between China and Arunachal Pradesh, according to a bipartisan Senate resolution which sees Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India.
- The resolution, titled 'Reaffirmation of Arunachal Pradesh as Indian territory and condemnation of China's provocative activities in South Asia', came after a major clash between the Indian and Chinese forces in Arunachal's Tawang in December last year.
- The McMahon Line serves as the de facto boundary between China and India in the Eastern Sector. It specifically represents the boundary between Arunachal Pradesh and Tibet, from Bhutan in the west to Myanmar in the east.
- China has historically disputed the boundary and claims the state of Arunachal Pradesh as part of the Tibetan Autonomous Region (TAR).

## 8. ICC issues arrest warrant for Vladimir Putin over Ukraine war crimes



- The International Criminal Court (ICC) issued an arrest warrant for Russian President Vladimir Putin over the forced transfer of children to Russia after the Kremlin's invasion of Ukraine.
- Ukrainians accuse Russia of attempting genocide against them and seeking to destroy their identity — partly through deporting children to Russia.
- The ICC issued the warrant for Putin's arrest on suspicion of unlawful deportation of children and unlawful transfer of people from the territory of Ukraine to the Russian Federation.
- This is the first time the ICC has issued warrants in relation to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, which began last February. It comes ahead of a visit to Russia by Chinese President Xi Jinping and will severely limit Putin's own potential range of diplomatic visits.
- Moscow has previously said it did not recognize the court's authority.