



CURRENT AFFAIRS 27th February 2023

National News

1. Ellora -Ajanta International Festival 2023 begins in Maharashtra



- Sitar player Ustad Sujaat Hussain will perform along with tabla players Amit Choube and Mukesh Jadhav today in a three-day Ellora -Ajanta International Festival 2023 in Chatrapati Sambhaji Nagar Maharashtra.
- Drum player Padamshri Shiv Mani, Sitar player Ravi Chari, Piano player Sangeet Haldipur, Khanjira player Selva Ganesh, bass guitar player Sheldon DeSilva and Aditi Bhagwat will also perform on kathak dance.
- Yesterday evening, Union Minister of State for Finance Dr. Bhagwat Karad inaugurated this festival.
- The Government of Maharashtra's Minister for Employment Guarantee Scheme and horticulture Mr. Sandipan Bhumare and Minister for Co-operative and marketing Mr Atul Save, were present on this occasion.

2. IAF contingent to participate in Exercise Cobra Warrior in United Kingdom



- **An Indian Air Force contingent comprising 145 Air Warriors has departed from Air Force Station Jamnagar to participate in Exercise Cobra Warrior at the Waddington Air Force Base of the Royal Air Force in the United Kingdom.**
- **The Exercise Cobra Warrior is a multilateral Air exercise in which Air Forces from Finland, Sweden, South Africa, the United States of America and Singapore would also be participating.**
- **The exercise aims to participate in fighter aircraft engagements and learn from the best practices of various Air Forces.**
- **The IAF will be participating in the exercise with five Mirage 2000 fighters, two C-17 Globemaster III and an IL-78 mid-air refueller aircraft.**

3. UAE to send its second astronaut to space on a long haul mission to ISS



- UAE's second astronaut, Sultan Al Neyadi - Mission Specialist, Primary Crew, Crew-6. is set to embark on the historic space mission scheduled at 10:45 am on February 27th, from Kennedy Space Center, Florida, USA.
- Once he reaches the orbiting station, onboard the International Space Station he will undertake various science experiments over the next six months.
- Fields of scientific experiments range from learning about the cardiovascular system, epigenetics, immune system, fluid science, plant biology, sleep analysis and radiation.
- Apart from Al Neyadi the other members of the SpaceX Crew-6 are Nasa commander Stephen Bowen, pilot William Hoburg, and Russian cosmonaut Andrey Fedyaev.
- UAE will be only the 11th country to send an astronaut on a long-term mission to space with this mission.
- Dr Al Neyadi, 41, will spend six months aboard the ISS in what will be the Arab world's longest-duration space mission.

- Sultan Al Neyadi is a member of the UAE Astronaut Program and an Emirati astronaut.
- He was born in the UAE in 1987 and has a PhD in Information Technology from Griffith University in Australia.
- Neyadi was chosen from over 4,000 applicants in 2018 to be one of two UAE astronauts on a mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

4. Qatar Open: Daniil Medvedev beats Andy Murray in final



- Daniil Medvedev won the Qatar Open in his professional tennis debut by defeating Andy Murray 6-4, 6-4, in the final game between two former No. 1s.
- In every set, Medvedev converted quick beginnings. In the first, he got to 4-1, and in the second, he got to 3-1.
- Murray retaliated, but Medvedev silenced him to win his 17th singles championship.
- Medvedev also triumphed in Rotterdam, extending his winning streak to nine games.
- Medvedev has now won 18 Tour-level championships after winning in Rotterdam last week as well.
- He got off to a great start and quickly settled into his baseline rhythm, winning the majority of the extended rallies and taking a 4-1 lead with two breaks of serve.
- Murray also fell behind in the second set but came back with a break of serve to win it.
- On Friday, Murray saved five match points against Jiri Lehecka to advance to his 71st ATP final.

5. LS speaker Om Birla inaugurates 19th Annual Zone III CPA Conference in Sikkim



- Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla inaugurated the 19th Annual Zone III Conference of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region in Gangtok, Sikkim on Thursday.
- Delivering the inaugural address, Mr Birla said that the legislature, as a forum to solve people's problems, must be the center of unhindered debate sans disruption which will increase peoples' faith in democratic institutions, thereby strengthening our democracy.
- He emphasized on discussion and dialogue, observing that it is the biggest strength of democracy.
- Speaking on the economic potential of the northeastern states, Mr Birla said that there are huge possibilities in the field of tourism, renewable energy, organic farming and handicrafts.
- He also emphasized on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's focus on the North East through projects under Gatishakti, Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North East Region and multimodal connectivity, among others, which has transformed the vision of Look East to Act East.

- Speaking on subjects of the Conference, Mr Birla said that cyber bullying is relevant today as it affects the youth, who are the future of the nation.
- He said that it is the responsibility of lawmakers and citizens to deliberate on the challenge and create awareness to address it.
- He said, information technology should be used to improve efficiency in governance and improving lives of people but at the same time safeguards should be taken to protect institutions and people from its demerits.

6. Nokia changes its logo to mark the start of a new era



- Nokia will no longer use the colour blue and will instead use whatever is more fitting given the circumstances, therefore no particular colour scheme is allocated.
- Nokia is now a “enterprise technology company,” according to Lundmark, rather than just a maker of smartphones.
- Nokia will put more of an emphasis on selling equipment to other companies while also expanding its telecom equipment business.
- They include tools for automated manufacturing and private 5G networks, positioning the business as a rival to Microsoft and Amazon in the industry.
- A “three-phased approach to generate sustainable, profitable growth” is being developed by Nokia. It was stated that Nokia will “continue to accelerate” following the reset phase to establish itself as “an unchallenged technology leader.”

- **The announcement on Sunday is consistent with Nokia's long-term financial objectives, which were reaffirmed with Q4 2022 results.**

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