



CURRENT AFFAIRS 9rd March 2023

National News

1. Veteran actor & director Satish Kaushik passes away



- Veteran actor and director Satish Kaushik passed away today morning, March 9, following a heart attack.
- This was informed by actor Anupam Kher in a tweet. The 66-year old Satish Kaushik had acted in more than 100 films.
- Born on April 13, 1956, in Haryana, he acted in theater before finding his break in Bollywood.
- An alumnus of the National School of Drama and the Film and Television Institute of India, Kaushik was best known for his roles in films such as Jaane Bhi Do Yaaron, Mr. India, Deewana Mastana, and Udta Punjab.
- Known for his comic timing, he was a successful director and will be remembered for his many films including Roop Ki Rani Choron Ka Raja.
- He is survived by his wife and daughter. Satish Kaushik won the Filmfare Best Comedian Award in 1990 for Ram Lakhan and for Saajan Chale Sasural in 1997.

2. Colombia opens military service to women for first time in 25 years



- Colombia has opened military service to women for the first time in 25 years.
- A cohort of 1,296 women enlisted in Colombia's Army last month, February.
- Colombia has long had compulsory military service for men ages 18 to 24.
- The army relies heavily on those young recruits to staff bases, protect infrastructure and carry out administrative tasks, while its professional soldiers confront drug trafficking gangs and rebel groups.
- This year, officials allowed females in the same age range to voluntarily join the military, in what the army says is part of an effort to strengthen the role of women in its ranks.

3. Army installs tallest Iconic National Flag in hilly Doda district, J&K



- In Jammu and Kashmir, Army installed the tallest 'Iconic National Flag' in the hilly Doda district today, March 9.
- The tricolor which has been installed on a 100 feet-high pole, the highest Tricolor in the Doda district, was unfurled by GOC Delta Force, Maj Gen Ajay Kumar along with Commander 9 sector RR Brig.
- Samir K Palande, DC Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan, and SSP Abdul Qayoom.
- During the ceremony, GOC said the Flag is a tribute to the countless soldiers of the Chenab Region who have made the ultimate sacrifice while safeguarding the unity and integrity of the nation.
- On this occasion, he also honoured the next of kin of martyred soldiers.
- The hundred feet high mast national flag, the first of its kind in the Doda district is not only a proud moment for the Army only but for all the residents of the hilly district.
- Locals especially students and Veer Naris (war widows) who had gathered in large numbers to witness the historic

event and expressed gratitude to the Army for making them part of the historical moment.

- Doda district of Jammu Division was once a hotbed of terrorists. But the situation has altogether changed with people working closely with security agencies and Government in maintaining peace and ensuring the development of the Chenab region.

4. Indian Navy's operational level exercise TROPEX 2023 culminates in Arabian Sea



- Indian Navy's major operational level exercise TROPEX 2023 culminated this week in the Arabian Sea.
- The exercise was conducted across the expanse of the Indian Ocean Region over a period of four months.
- The Indian Navy said the TROPEX exercise witnessed the participation of approximately 70 Indian Navy ships, six submarines, and over 75 aircraft.
- As part of the final joint phase, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh spent a day at sea onboard the newly commissioned Indigenous Aircraft Carrier Vikrant on the 6th of March.
- He reviewed the Indian Navy's operational preparedness wherein the Navy demonstrated operational manoeuvres and various facets of combat operations.
- According to the Defence Ministry, this exercise provides an opportunity to test the combat readiness of the combined fleets of the Indian Navy to operate in a multi-threat environment.

- The maritime exercise also facilitates operational-level interaction with the Indian Army, Indian Air Force, and the Coast Guard.

5. Group Captain Shaliza Dhama becomes first woman officer to command frontline IAF combat unit



- Group Captain Shaliza Dhama has become the first woman officer in the Indian Air Force to command a front line combat unit.
- According to the announcement by the Indian Air Force yesterday, Dhama will command a missile squadron in the Western sector.
- Dhama was commissioned as helicopter pilot in 2003, and has over 2800 hours of flying experience and is commended by Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief on two occasions.
- In the past, she has conducted several search-and-rescue missions, and also undertook flood relief operations.

6. Indian Navy successfully tests Medium Range Surface-to-Air Missile from INS Visakhapatnam



- **Indian Navy has successfully undertaken Medium Range Surface to Air Missile (MRSAM) firing from INS Visakhapatnam validating capability to engage Anti Ship Missiles.**
- **The MRSAM was jointly developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Israeli Aerospace Industries at Bharat Dynamics Limited.**
- **In a tweet, the Indian Navy said, it reflects its commitment to Aatmavirbhar Bharat.**

7. 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference begins in Goa.



- The 23rd Commonwealth Law Conference was inaugurated by Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai.
- The five-day conference, which is being held from March 5-9, 2023, was also attended by Union Minister for Law and Justice Kiren Rijiju and Chief Minister of Goa Dr. Pramod Sawant.
- The Conference has 500 delegates from 52 countries in attendance.
- During his address, Union Minister Kiren Rijiju emphasized the importance of the conference as a platform for open discussions on critical issues.
- He stated that the law must be comprehensible to the common man to achieve its desired result.
- He further highlighted the government's commitment to good governance and the welfare of the people.
- Union Minister Kiren Rijiju also spoke about how the Government was prioritizing the use of technology.
- Government has started eCourts phase III with an aim of making the Indian Judiciary completely paperless.

- **On the Ease of Living and Ease of Doing Business front, he informed that about 13,000 compliance burdens have been simplified while more than 1,200 processes have been digitized**

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