

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-MARCH 13, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- **Tamil Nadu - bagged the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) international travel award at the International Travel Bourse-2023, held at Berlin, Germany.**
- ✓ The state was chosen for the award under the category of the best tourist destination for heritage and culture
- ✓ State tourism Minister, K Ramachandran was selected as the best tourism minister across the country.
- ✓ The state tourism department set up a stall on the tourism trade fair held between March 7- 9 and highlighted the tourist attractions of Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ During the fair, the state has distributed pamphlets and booklets to visitors
- ✓ H E Edmund Bartlett, tourism minister of Jamaica, handed over the award to Ramachandran.

INTERNATIONAL

- **On March 12, Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman - formally announced the creation of a new national airline, Riyadh Air**



- ✓ Riyadh Air will serve more than 100 destinations around the world by 2030, making use of the kingdom's location between Asia, Africa and Europe
- ✓ Riyadh Air is wholly owned by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund, the Public Investment Fund (PIF), which has more than \$600 billion in assets.
- ✓ The airline will be chaired by PIF governor Yasir Al-Rumayyan.
- ✓ Former Etihad Aviation Group boss Tony Douglas has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer.
- ✓ The new airline is expected to add \$20 billion to Saudi Arabia's non-oil GDP growth and create more than 200,000 jobs both directly and indirectly

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel - inaugurated the third Divya Kala Mela at Bhopal on March 12**



- ✓ Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virender Kumar and Minister of State Kumari Pratima Bhowmick were present during the event
- ✓ Divya Kala Mela is being organised to showcase the products and craftsmanship of Divyang entrepreneurs and artisans from across the country.
- ✓ About 150 Divyang artisans, artists and entrepreneurs from 21 states and union territories are participating in the Divya Kala Mela.
- ✓ Organised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the fair will run till 21 March.
- ✓ The four finance corporations under the ministry, National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC), through various channel partners such as NBCFDC, NSFDC, and NSKDFC, provide financial assistance to artisans and other skilled beneficiaries through term loan schemes and microfinance schemes.
- ✓ The first and second editions of Divya Kala Mela were held earlier in Delhi and Mumbai respectively

DEFENCE

- **Indian Navy's guided missile frigate INS Sahyadri - joined two frontline warships of France in carrying out a two-day maritime partnership exercise in the Arabian Sea.**



- ✓ The French Navy deployed Mistral class amphibious assault ship FS Dixmude and La Fayette class frigate FS La Fayette for the exercise.
- ✓ The partnership exercise was conducted on March 10-11.
- ✓ The exercise witnessed a wide range of drills at sea including cross deck landings, boarding exercises and seamanship evolutions
- ✓ INS Sahyadri is fitted with state-of-the-art weapons and sensors capable of detecting and neutralising air, surface and sub-surface threats.
- ✓ The ship is a part of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam

AWARDS

- **SS Rajamouli's RRR - has created history by becoming the first Indian feature film to win an Oscar at the 95th Academy Awards in Los Angeles, United States.**
- ✓ The film's 'Naatu Naatu' soundtrack composed by MM Keeravani was awarded the Best Original Song Award.



- ✓ The song had lyrics by Chandrabose, vocals by Rahul Sipligunj and Kaala Bhairava and was shot at Mariinskyi Palace in Kyiv, Ukraine.
- ✓ MM Keervaani and Chandrabose went on stage to accept the award on behalf of the team.
- ✓ Other songs nominated in the Best Original Song category were 'Applause' (Tell It like a Woman), 'Hold My Hand' (Top Gun: Maverick), 'Lift Me Up' (Black Panther: Wakanda Forever), and 'This Is A Life' (Everything Everywhere All at Once).
- ✓ Earlier, the popular song from RRR won big at the Golden Globes 2023, becoming the first Asian song to win the Best Original Song at the coveted awards in January.
- ✓ It also won the Best Song at the Critics' Choice Awards this year and the Best Original Song at the Hollywood Critics Association.
- ✓ **Directed by Kartiki Gonsalves and produced by Guneet Monga, Indian movie 'The Elephant Whisperers' won in the Best Documentary Short film category at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, California**
- ✓ The movie has a running time of 41 minutes and debuted on Netflix on December 8, 2022.
- ✓ This is the first Indian film to win an Academy Award in this category.
- ✓ It was nominated in the Documentary Short Film Category alongside Haul Out, How Do You Measure A Year, The Martha Mitchell Effect, and Stranger At The Gate.
- ✓ The movie is set in the Mudumalai National Park in Tamil Nadu.
- ✓ It is the third movie to be nominated after 'The House That Ananda Built' and 'An Encounter With Faces' which competed for Best Documentary Short in 1969 and 1979 respectively.
- ✓ The list of Indians who have previously won Oscars include costume designer Bhanu Athaiya, composer AR Rahman, lyricist Gulzar, sound engineer Resul Pookutty, and legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray who received an honorary award
- ✓ The third Indian nomination this year was Shaunak Sen's 'All That Breathes' in the Best Documentary Feature Film category, which has lost out the award to 'Navalny'
- ✓ All the nominees attended the Oscars with the presence of actress Deepika Padukone who was a presenter
 - ✓ She is the third Indian star to present at the Oscars after Persis Khambatta and Priyanka Chopra.
- ✓ American comedy-drama action film, 'Everything Everywhere All at Once' won seven awards at the Oscars including Best Picture, Best Actress for Michelle Yeoh, Best Director and Best Supporting Actor for Ke Huy Quan
- ✓ Brendan Fraser won the Best Actor Oscar for 'The Whale'.

