

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 20, 2024

TAMIL NADU

➤ Tamil Nadu Makes History with India's Second Privately Developed Rocket



- ✓ Tamil Nadu is set to witness a historic event as one of its space startups, Agnikul Cosmos Private Limited, prepares to launch its first rocket, Agnibaan Sub Orbital Technology Demonstrator (SOrTeD), from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ This launch marks several significant milestones in India's space exploration journey.

AWARDS

- **Sangita Kalanidhi**
- ✓ Thodur Madabusi Krishna, a renowned Carnatic musician, has been chosen as the Sangita Kalanidhi awardee for 2024.



- ✓ This award, considered the Oscar equivalent for Carnatic music, is given away by the Music Academy in Chennai.
- ✓ Krishna, 48, is known for his powerful voice both as a vocalist on stage and as a social activist off stage.
- ✓ Off stage, Krishna is known for his left-liberal views and attempts to use music as a tool for social reform, for which he received the Ramon Magsaysay award.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **'Gigantic' Volcano On Mars**
- ✓ Researchers have uncovered a monumental discovery on Mars—a colossal volcano named Noctis Volcano.



- ✓ Standing at an impressive 29,600 feet tall and stretching approximately 450 kilometers in width, this massive volcano lies just south of Mars' equator within the Eastern Noctis Labyrinthus region.
- ✓ The finding, made possible by data from a suite of missions including NASA's Mariner 9, Viking Orbiter 1 and 2.
- ✓ The size and complex modification history of Noctis Volcano suggest its activity from ancient times, offering potential insights into Mars' geologic and possibly biologic past.

IMPORTANT DAYS

➤ **World Sparrow Day: March 20**

- ✓ World Sparrow Day is an annual observance held every year on March 20th to raise global awareness about the household sparrow and its alarming population decline.



- ✓ This humble little bird was once a common sight everywhere but has now become an uncommon spectacle in many parts of the world.
- **International Day of Happiness: March 20**
- ✓ The General Assembly of the United Nations in its resolution 66/281 of 12 July 2012 proclaimed 20 March the International Day of Happiness, recognizing the relevance of happiness and well-being as universal goals and aspirations in the lives of human beings around the world.



- ✓ It also recognized the need for a more inclusive, equitable and balanced approach to economic growth that promotes sustainable development, poverty eradication, happiness and the well-being of all peoples.

