

## CURRENT AFFAIRS= 17-11-2020

### RAJA CHARI

**Raja Chari is among the three astronauts selected by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the European Space Agency (ESA) to fly to the International Space Station (ISS) as part of the SpaceX Crew-3 mission.**



#### About:

- The Indian-American will command the mission, which is expected to launch in the fall of 2021.
- Earlier this year in January, Chari became one of the 11 astronauts to join NASA's

ranks. The new graduates completed more than two years of basic training and became the first to graduate from NASA's **Artemis programme**. Under the programme, NASA wants to send the next man and first woman to the Moon by 2024.

#### Important Info :

##### What is the SpaceX Crew-3 mission?

- The Crew-3 mission is part of NASA's contract with SpaceX, under its Commercial Crew Programme, as per which SpaceX will provide six crew missions to the ISS for NASA astronauts.
- The idea is to provide reliable, safe and cost-effective crew access to the space station and the low-Earth orbit.
- The crew members will spend six months at the ISS.

#### HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX (HDI)

**India ranked 131 among 189 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI) for 2019, slipping two places from the previous year, according to the Human Development Report (HDR) 2020 released by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).**

#### About:

- However, if the Index were adjusted to assess the planetary pressures caused by each nation's development, India would move up eight places in the ranking,

according to the report.



- Norway topped the index, followed by Ireland and Switzerland. Hong Kong and Iceland complete the top five.
- India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Cambodia, Kenya, and Pakistan were ranked under countries with medium human development with a rank in between 120 and 156 among the 189-countries.
- In the BRICS grouping, Russia was 52 in the human development index, Brazil 84, and China 85.
- India's gross national income (GNI) per capita on the basis of purchasing power parity (PPP), too, fell from \$6,829 in 2018 to \$6,681 in 2019, it said.
- India's HDI value for 2019 is 0.645, which put the country in the medium human development category, positioning it at 131 out of 189 countries and territories.
- Between 1990 and 2019, India's HDI value increased from 0.429 to 0.645, an increase of 50.3%.
- Between 1990 and 2019, India's life expectancy at birth increased by 11.8 years, mean years of schooling increased by 3.5 years, and expected years of schooling increased by 4.5 years. India's GNI per capita increased by about 273.9% between 1990 and 2019.

#### **Important Info :**

- HDI measures average achievement on three basic aspects of human development, life expectancy, education, and per capita income.
- For the first time, the United Nations Development Programme introduced a new metric to reflect the impact caused by each country's per-capita carbon emissions and its material footprint, which measures the amount of fossil fuels, metals and other resources used to make the goods and services it consumes.

### **NATIONAL HYDROLOGY PROJECT**

**Review of the National Hydrology Project (World Bank supported initiative of Ministry of Jal Shakti) was carried out by Minister of Jal Shakti.**

**About:**

- National Hydrology Project (NHP) was started in the year 2016 as a Central Sector Scheme with 100% grant to Implementing agencies on pan India basis with a budget outlay of Rs 3680 Crore to be spent over a period of 8 years.
- The project aims at improving the extent, reliability and accessibility of water resources information and to strengthen the capacity of targeted water resource management institutions in India.
- Under the NHP, a nationwide repository of water resources data - NWIC has been established.

### ISRO successfully launches India's new communication satellite CMS-01 from Sriharikota onboard PSLV-C50



The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the new communication satellite CMS-01, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, on 17th December 2020.

The workhorse rocket PSLV-C50 was used to carry the satellite in the intended orbit in space.

#### Key features of CMS-01

- The new satellite CMS-01 will replace the ageing telecommunication satellite **GSAT-12**.
- The operational life of CMS-01 is **seven years**.
- GSAT-12 rendered seamless service for over ten years, since its launch in 2011, though having a mission life of eight years.
- CMS-01 is the **42nd communications satellite of India**, and first in the new CMS series of communication satellites.
- The new satellite is expected to provide coverage over the entire country in cases of disaster management and satellite internet connection.

### Centre to dedicate a Museum on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in Kolkata on 125th birth anniversary

The  
up a **museum**  
**Bose, in**  
**anniversary**  
The  
the **current**  
**Delhi.**



Government of **India** has proposed to set **dedicated to Netaji Subhash Chandra Kolkata**, as a tribute on his **125th birth celebrations on 23rd January 2021**.  
government has also decided to expand **museum of Netaji at Red Fort in New**

Apart from this, Centre is also considering to **reprint some of the books written by Subhash Chandra Bose**, and even **start fellowships for students**.

A large array of historical documents, clippings, photos, videos, memorabilia and other material is available with the families of Bose as well as those of INA members which would be brought together at one place for display and dissemination.



### PM Modi & Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurates Chilahati-Haldibari rail link; 7 Agreements signed during Virtual Indo-Bangladesh Summit

The Government of **India and Bangladesh** held a virtual summit on 17 December 2020, to hold comprehensive discussions on the entire spectrum of

the bilateral relationship, including further strengthening cooperation in the post COVID-19 era.

The meeting was led by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina**.

During the summit, the two leaders jointly inaugurated the **Chilahati-Haldibari rail link**, which would connect the borders of the two neighbouring countries.

The rail route lies between Haldibari in West Bengal and Chilahati in Bangladesh.

It is re-opened after a gap of 55 years. The railway line has been defunct after rail links between India and then East Pakistan snapped in 1965.

Both the leaders also digitally inaugurated the digital exhibition in the honour of Mahatma Gandhi and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rehman.

Indian side also released a postal stamp to commemorate Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.



Apart from this, the two sides signed **7 MoUs and agreements** in various fields

**India contributes USD 1 million to WADA to support Clean Sport**

**India has pledged a sum of USD 1 million to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)**, towards its scientific research budget, to ensure an atmosphere of Clean Sport globally.

The sum will be used by WADA to develop innovative anti-doping testing and detection methods, and further strengthen WADA's independent Investigations and Intelligence Department.

The contribution made by India is the highest among contributions made by other world governments, including China, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

The total contribution of all member nations will be matched by an equal sum by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to create a corpus of USD 10 million.

This contribution is over and above the annual contribution made to WADA's core budget by India.

**WADA Headquarters: Montreal, Canada**



### Doha to host Asian Games 2030



The capital of Qatar, **Doha** has won the hosting rights for the **2030 Asian Games**.

Doha beat Riyadh during the election, held on 16 December at the general assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) in Muscat.

Saudi Arabia's capital city **Riyadh** would host the **2034 edition**

**of the Asian Games.**

Previously Doha organized the Asian Games in 2006.

2030 Asian Games will be the **21st edition** of the multi-sports event, held after every **four years**. It is also known as **Asiad**.