#### Current Affairs=21-03-2020

## Prime Minister thanks people from different walks of life for supporting the cause of Sunday's Janata Curfew

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has hailed the efforts of people from various walks of life that have come together to support the initiative of Janata Curfew this Sunday, the 22nd of March, in an effort to contain the spread of corona virus Covid 19.

Influencers and achievers from various fields and several organisations have come out in support of the Janata Curfew and have urged the nation to come together to make it effective.

#### 52-testing centres for coronavirus in India

The novel coronavirus that originated from China's Wuhan city, has swiftly spread across the globe, causing widespread panic. The COVID-19 cases have now spread in more than 100 countries, including India. As on 9 March, India reported 43 confirmed cases of coronavirus, causing widespread panic. In light of providing proper diagnosis and treatment to those detected with the virus, the health ministry of India has designated 52 testing sites across India.

### Maldives pledges USD 200,000 to COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund

Maldives government has committed two lakh US dollars forCOVID -19 emergency relief fund created for SAARC nations. The decision was taken at meeting of National task force onCovid-19 headed by President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih. SS& CLIME

Foreign ministerAbdulla Shahid said in a message that Maldives welcome PM Narendra Modi'sinitiative to create the fund and pledge the amount to address issues emanatingfrom COVID-19.

## **RBI appoints R Gandhi, Ananth Gopalakrishnan as additional directors on Yes Bank**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed R Gandhi and Ananth Narayan Gopalakrishnan as Additional Directors on the board of Yes Bank Ltd from 26 March for a period of two years.

Gandhi is former RBI Deputy Governor and Gopalakrishnan is Associate Professor at S P Jain Institute of Management and Research. The government notified Yes Bank Ltd Reconstruction Scheme 2020 on 13 March. Key stakeholders, including the RBI, have put in place various measures to bolster the bank's liquidity.

### MP Chief Minister Kamal Nath announced resignation

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath has resigned ahead of the floor test in the state assembly.

He will be submitting his resignation to Governor Lal Ji Tandon. The floor test was called on the orders of the Supreme Court after resignations by 22 MLAs pulled the ruling Congress well below the halfway mark in the state assembly.

#### **Olympic flame reaches Japan**

The Olympic flame completed its journey from Greece to Japan. A special transport plane carrying the flame landed at the Japanese Air Self-Defense Force's Matsushima Base in Miyagi Prefecture, northeastern Japan. The Olympic flame was lit in the ancient ruins of Olympia in Greece on March 12.

# March 21st observed as International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed annually on 21 March. The UN General Assembly resolution adopted on 26 October 1966, proclaimed 21 March as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to be commemorated annually. International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination 2020 is focused on the midterm review of the International Decade for People of African Descent.

### **International Day of Forests celebrated on 21 March**

Every year, the United Nations celebrate International Day of Forest on March 21. The Day is being celebrated since 2012. It aims to increase awareness and importance of forests. The day also focuses on the significance of trees outside the forests. Also, the day is celebrated to save forest.

This year the day is being celebrated under the theme Theme: Forests and Biodiversity.