Current Affairs=24-03-2020

SS & CLIME

Delhi Government Announces Rs 100-cr "Branding Delhi" scheme to make Delhi tourism brand

The Delhi government has announced a new scheme titled "Branding Delhi", to introduce the national capital as a tourism brand to domestic and foreign tourists and create news jobs in the sector.

The Rs 100-crore scheme will re-brand Delhi tourism and the city will be introduced as a tourism brand in the country and abroad to domestic and foreign tourists.

Delhi Government Launches Rs 20 Crore Women Safety Scheme for Triggering Behavioral Change

The Delhi government led by Arvind Kejriwal has announced a new scheme 'Behavioural Change for Safety of the Women' for awareness campaign to trigger behavioral change in the society and make Delhi safer for women. The scheme has been launched with an outlay of Rs 20 crore in 2020-21.

The government has also proposed Mukhyamantri Divyangjan Punravas Sewa Yojana, with an outlay of Rs 10 crore, to provide immediate treatment in cases of accident, stroke or any other ailment, and accident causing permanent or partial disabilities.

Charges for ATM cash withdrawal, minimum balance for Saving A/C waived for 3 months: FM Nirmala Sitharaman

On 24 March 2020, Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced that no charges would be levied on cash withdrawal from any other bank ATMs, for debit card holders for a period of three months.

The government has also waived penalties for non-maintenance of minimum balance amount in bank savings accounts.

The decision has been taken to ensure that individuals do not visit bank branches due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Deadline to Link PAN-Aadhaar and filing IT Return Extended to June 30, 2020

The Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, has announced that the deadline to link PAN with Aadhaar and for filing for Income Tax Return has been extended to June 30, 2020.

Earlier this deadline was March 31, 2020 for PAN linking. Also each year the deadline to file IT return is March 31.

For delayed payments of Income Tax, the interest rate has been reduced from 12 percent to 9 percent.

The government's decision to extend these deadlines comes amid new Coronavirus outbreak.

SBI Commits 0.25% of FY21 annual profit to help fight COVID-19

India's biggest lender State Bank of India (SBI) has announced to provide 0.25 percent of its annual profit for 2020-21 to fight the coronavirus outbreak in India. This is in line with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs' notification on 23 March 2020, for spending CSR funds by companies to deal with the coronavirus outbreak as corporate social responsibility (CSR) activity under the companies law.

Britain Confirmed as First Co-chair of India led Global Climate Initiative

United Kingdom has been confirmed as the first co-chair of the Governing Council on the India-led global Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) was launched by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019

It is a voluntary international grouping, linking countries, United Nations (UN) agencies, multilateral development banks, the private sector, and academic institutions, that aims to promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring sustainable development.

Indian-origin US author Ruchika Tomar wins 2020 PEN/Hemingway Award for Novel 'A Prayer for Travelers'

An Indian-origin American author Ruchika Tomar is the winner of the prestigious 2020 PEN/Hemingway Award for her debut novel 'A Prayer for Travelers'. The PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel honours a debut novel of exceptional merit by an American author who has not previously published a full-length book of fiction.

Tomar hails from California and is currently a lecturer at Stanford University. The award includes a cash prize of USD 25,000.

2020 Tokyo Olympics postponed till 2021 due to coronavirus

The 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympic Games have been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Now it will be held in the year 2021. The exact dates will be decided later. The decision came after a telephonic conversation between Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The Tokyo Olympic Games was to be held from July 24 to August 9, while the Paralympic Games was scheduled to be held from August 25 to September 6. The event will still be called Tokyo 2020 despite taking place in 2021. The Olympics have never been delayed in their 124-year modern history, though they were cancelled altogether in 1916, 1940 and 1944 during the two world wars.

Canada Becomes First Country to withdraw from 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics due to threat of coronavirus

The Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and Paralympic Committee (CPC) has announced that the Team Canada will not participate in the 2020 Olympic and

Paralympic Games to be held in Tokyo, due to concerns about the outbreak of the coronavirus.

With this, Canada became the first major country to withdraw from the event.

Indian Footballer Sunil Chhetri Chosen for FIFA Campaign Against COVID-19 Indian football captain Sunil Chhetri is among 28 past and present global football stars, who all have been chosen for football world governing body FIFA's campaign to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

The campaign titled 'Pass the message to kick out coronavirus' has been launched jointly by the FIFA and the World Health Organization (WHO) to combat the coronavirus.

The awareness campaign will be led by the 28 world-renowned footballers, who are calling on all people around the world to follow five key steps to stop the spread of the disease.

The video campaign will be published in 13 languages.

International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade: March 25

The United Nations' (UN) observes the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on 25 March every year. The day aims to honour and remember those who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal slavery system and also raise awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today.

2020 Theme: "Confronting Slavery's Legacy of Racism Together"