

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 10, 2021

TAMIL NADU

- **Chennai police commissioner Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal - announced the formation of an all-women strike force during the women's day celebrations on March 8**
 - ✓ The all-women strike force will accompany all women officers above the rank of superintendent in Chennai in any emergency
 - ✓ The training for the strike force is expected to be completed within a week, after which they will be operationalised
 - ✓ The armed reserve police identified about 100 newly commissioned policewomen for the strike force wing
 - ✓ The officers attached to the Swift Action Group (SAG) have commenced specialised skills training like firing, handling crowds and reacting to emergency crisis to the strike force
 - ✓ The SAG comprises 120 personnel, both men and women, who completed training at the Tamil Nadu Police Academy and commando school in RA Puram.
 - ✓ Within another week, members of the all-women strike force will be inducted into the Quick Reaction Team (QRT) in addition to the 50 men and women of the armed reserve.
 - ✓ Further, women will replace men as personal security officers (PSOs) for women officers in the city force.
 - ✓ Of the 28,000 police personnel in Chennai, about 4,000 are women.

- **A Chola-era stone inscription - was found near Anunmozhidevanpettai village near Thanjavur recently during renovation of a village tank**
 - ✓ Dating back to the 11th century reign of Chola king, Rajaraja II, the inscription mentions about the land donation from a group of people to another.
 - ✓ The inscription also mentions Muvendha Velan, one of the lieutenant of Rajaraja II.



- ✓ A few other inscriptions from the Chola rule around the central region also mentions about a vast lake dug by the Chola king.
- ✓ The inscription is testimony to the fact that there could have been a palace of the king and residence of workers and a lake was dug in the process

STATES

- **Uttarakhand chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat - tendered his resignation to Governor Baby Rani Maurya at Raj Bhavan in Dehradun on March 9.**



- ✓ The BJP legislative party meeting to decide the name of the new Chief Minister is scheduled on March 10
- ✓ The party's Lok Sabha MPs are also likely to attend the meeting.
- ✓ The Governor has accepted the resignation of the CM and his cabinet and they have been asked to look after the portfolios held by them till a new government is formed.
- ✓ Rawat served as the ninth chief minister of the Himalayan state for the last four years
- ✓ With his resignation, Rawat has joined the list of Uttarakhand CMs unable to complete their five-year tenure.

- ✓ Of the eight Uttarakhand CMs, only the late Narayan Dutt Tewari could complete his tenure between 2002 and 2007.
- ✓ Uttarakhand, a state carved out of a united Uttar Pradesh in 2000, held its first assembly elections in 2002.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **The first summit meeting of the Quad countries, India, US, Japan and Australia — will take place virtually on March 12, as announced by the foreign ministry.**
- ✓ The scheduled meeting of PM Narendra Modi, President Joe Biden, PM Yoshihide Suga and PM Scott Morrison will discuss wide range of topics right from Covid vaccine supplies to climate change.
- ✓ Further, the leaders will also discuss regional and global issues of shared interest, and exchange views on practical areas of cooperation towards maintaining a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific region
- ✓ The Quad, which used to be known as the quadrilateral security dialogue, is now known as the quadrilateral framework to indicate it has gone beyond a narrow security dialogue.
- ✓ This will be the first Quad summit meeting since 2007.
- ✓ The summit will provide an opportunity to exchange views on contemporary challenges such as resilient supply chains, emerging and critical technologies, maritime security, and climate change.
- ✓ There is a possibility of informal Quad meetings on the sidelines of multilateral meetings post-pandemic.
- ✓ The first opportunity this year would be at the G7 summit in the UK, where India, Australia and South Korea are special invitees.

ECONOMY

- **The State Bank of India (SBI) – has topped the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology’s (MeitY’s) digital payment scorecard for the third consecutive month**
- ✓ The SBI has achieved 54 crore transactions on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform and has a user base of 31.5 crore.
- ✓ The country’s largest bank processed 636 crore transactions through its digital platforms, which are 67% of its total transaction volume.
- ✓ SBI has also emerged as the largest issuer of debit cards, accounting for over 290 million debit cards with a 30% market share with respect to card spends and 29% share with respect to transaction volume
- ✓ The bank accounts for around 25% market share by the transaction volume of its mobile banking
- ✓ Further, the internet banking service of SBI was ranked first in terms of online traffic in the category of banking credit and lending.

SPORTS

- **Prithvi Shaw – scored the highest individual score by an Indian batsman in List ‘A’ cricket in a chase**
- ✓ The talented youngster smashed 185 not out off just 123 balls to ensure Mumbai defeat Saurashtra in the Vijay Hazare quarterfinal at the Airforce ground in Palam, Delhi, on March 9.
- ✓ In doing so, Prithvi surpassed current and former India skippers Virat Kohli and MS Dhoni, even though it must be mentioned that his feat has come in a domestic game.



- ✓ This is the third hundred for Prithvi in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy
- ✓ Earlier, in the league stage in Jaipur, Prithvi had scored an unbeaten 105 against Delhi, before plundering 227 not out—the highest individual score in the history of the tournament
- ✓ Captaining Mumbai team, Prithvi has amassed 589 runs at a staggering average of 196.33 in the tournament

RANKINGS

- **British Overseas Territories such as British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Bermuda – have topped the ‘Corporate Tax Haven Index 2021’**



- ✓ The Netherlands, Switzerland and Luxembourg were placed at rank four, five and six, while the United Kingdom is placed at thirteenth place
- ✓ The biennial index was released on March 9 by the Tax Justice Network (TJN), an independent research-based international network that ranks the global tax havens supporting corporate tax avoidance
- ✓ The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has made it to the top 10 list of countries in the Index for the first time.
- ✓ The biennial index was released on Tuesday by the Tax Justice Network (TJN).
- ✓ According to TJN, an estimated \$245 billion in a year is lost to cross-border corporate tax abuse by multinational companies.
- ✓ As per the Index, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has failed to detect and prevent corporate tax abuse enabled by its own rich member countries.
- ✓ OECD member countries (37 in total), which include UK, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg and their dependencies, are responsible for 68% of the world's corporate tax abuse risks.
- ✓ The Corporate Tax Haven Index covers 70 countries, which are ranked based on a 'corporate tax haven' score.
- ✓ It reflects how aggressively countries use low or nil corporate taxes, loopholes, secrecy, lax anti-abuse provisions and aggressive tax treaties to attract MNCs and enable them to escape or undermine the tax regulations in other countries.
- ✓ Some of the popular countries through which FDI is routed into India are featured among the top 15 countries in this Index.
- ✓ These include - The Netherlands (Rank 4), Singapore (9), UAE (10), UK (13), Cyprus (14) and Mauritius (15).

