

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-MARCH 20, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- Renowned Carnatic vocalist and Musician Bombay Jayashri - will be conferred the prestigious Sangita Kalanidhi award of the Music Academy.



- ✓ Padma Shri award winner Bombay Jayashri is one of the country's foremost Carnatic musicians, who is known for her melodic and meditative style of singing.
- ✓ She was taught the classical art by her parents before she started training under her late guru T R Balamani and the violin maestro Lalgudi G Jayaraman.
- ✓ Apart from carnatic vocals, she is also trained to play the veena, and in classical dance, and Hindustani music.
- ✓ Bombay Jayashri has also been training underprivileged children in music and contributing through her art to social causes.
- ✓ The Music Academy also announced that Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dancer Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari will be conferred the Nritya Kalanidhi award.
- ✓ The other annual awards announced include Sangita Kala Acharya to Kerala-based Carnatic musician Palkulangara Ambika Devi, who has taught music to

three generations, and K S Kalidas, a senior mridangam player and disciple of mridangam maestro Palani M Subramania Pillai.

- ✓ Thirunageswaram T R Subramaniam and Sargurunadha Odhuvar are to be conferred with TTK Awards.
- ✓ Dr Arimalam S Padmanabhan, a researcher for over 20 years in the field of Classical music, dance, theatre, folk arts and classical Tamil literature, will be conferred with Musicologist Award.
- ✓ The awards will be presented to the nominees on January 1, 2024.

INDIA AND NEIGHBOURS

- **India and the Maldives - conducted the 4th Defence Cooperation Dialogue in Male on March 19.**



- ✓ The dialogue was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane and his Maldivian counterpart Major General Abdulla Shamaal.
- ✓ The talks covered the existing bilateral defence exercises, with both countries agreeing to increase the complexity of these drills.
- ✓ Defence Cooperation Dialogue is the highest institutionalised interactive mechanism between the two countries.
- ✓ In 2022, the third India-Maldives defence dialogue was held, in which India was represented by defence secretary Dr Ajay Kumar.

SPORTS

- **On March 18, Indian tennis player, Rohan Bopanna - became the oldest ATP Masters 1000 champion after winning the men's doubles crown at the \$10,143,750 BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, California**
- ✓ The 43-year-old Bopanna and Ebden, 35, defeated top-seeded Wesley Koolhof of the Netherlands and Neil Skupski of Britain in three sets in the final
- ✓ Bopanna, who was playing in his 10th ATP Masters 1000 final, surpassed Daniel Nestor of Canada, who had claimed the 2015 Cincinnati Masters to become the oldest champion at the age of 42.

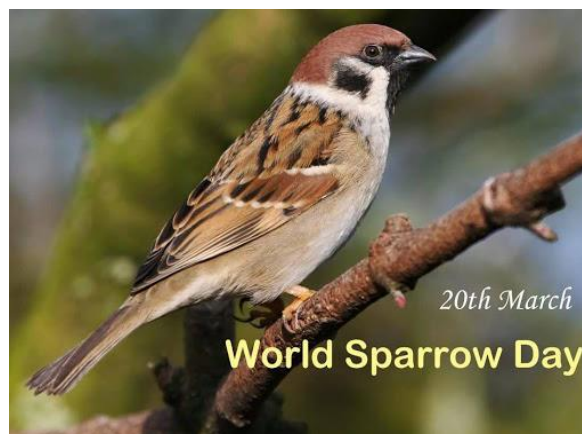
- ✓ It was the 43-year-old's fifth Masters 1000 doubles title and first since he won in Monte Carlo in 2017.



- ✓ Bopanna now holds 24 tour-level trophies in his cabinet.
- ✓ In January, Bopanna and Sania Mirza reached the final of the Australian Open mixed doubles — Mirza's last match at a Grand Slam before she retired.
- ✓ With the victory, Bopanna, a former World No. 3, jumped four places to No. 11 in the Pepperstone ATP Live Doubles Rankings.
- ✓ Besides the two men's doubles titles he has already won this year, Bopanna also won three titles last year, in Tel Aviv with Matwe Middlekoop, Pune and Adelaide with Ramkumar Ramanathan.
- ✓ Besides, he has a Grand Slam in mixed doubles, the 2017 French Open in Roland Garros with Canadian Gabriela Dabrowski.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

➤ World Sparrow Day – March 20



- ✓ The day is celebrated every year to raise awareness about the conservation and protection of sparrows, as their numbers are declining globally.
- ✓ World Sparrow Day is an international initiative by the Nature Forever Society (NFS) of India in collaboration with the Eco-Sys Action Foundation of France

- ✓ Mohammed Dilawar, who worked to increase awareness about sparrows, established The Nature Forever Society.
- ✓ TIME Magazine recognized him as a conservation hero in 2008 for his efforts.
- ✓ The first World Sparrow Day was celebrated on March 20, 2010
- ✓ Theme 2023 – ‘I Love Sparrows’
- ✓ In 2012, the house sparrow was declared the state bird of New Delhi as part of a massive campaign to save and raise awareness about the species.
- ✓ The house sparrow is listed as the Least Concern on the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

➤ **International Day of Happiness – March 20**



- ✓ The International Day of Happiness is an annual event that emphasizes the importance of happiness and the overall well-being of individuals.
- ✓ On July 12, 2012, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution declaring March 20 as the International Day of Happiness.
- ✓ The resolution was initiated by Bhutan, a country which recognized the value of national happiness over national income since the early 1970s and famously adopted the goal of Gross National Happiness over Gross National Product.
- ✓ It also hosted a High Level Meeting on "Happiness and Well-Being: Defining a New Economic Paradigm" during the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly
- ✓ In 2013, the United Nations' 193 member states commemorated the first International Day of Happiness.
- ✓ In 2015, the United Nations launched 17 Sustainable Development Goals aimed at ending poverty, reducing inequality, and protecting the planet.
- ✓ Theme 2023 - ‘Be Mindful, Be Grateful, Be Kind’.

➤ **World Oral Health Day – March 20**

- ✓ The day is celebrated every year to raise awareness about the importance of oral health and hygiene.
- ✓ It encourages people to maintain proper dental hygiene through the preservation of a healthier mouth, gums, and teeth



- ✓ It was first observed in 2013 and is now celebrated in more than 140 countries around the world.
- ✓ The day is organised by the World Dental Federation (FDI), which is the largest membership-based dental organization in the world.
- ✓ The idea of World Oral Health Day was first proposed by the FDI World Dental Federation during its annual World Dental Congress in 2011.
- ✓ The proposal was unanimously adopted, and the first World Oral Health Day was celebrated on March 20, 2013, which marks the birth date of Dr Charles Godon, the founder of FDI
- ✓ The three-year continuous theme for World Oral Health Day 2021, 2022 and 2023 is “Be Proud of Your Mouth”.

