

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MARCH 13, 2024

### NATIONAL

- **Centre Notifies CAA Rules Ahead of Polls**
- ✓ Just days ahead of the announcement of Lok Sabha election, the Union Home Ministry on Monday notified the Citizenship Amendment Rules, 2024 that would enable the implementation of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) passed by Parliament in 2019.

#### GOVT NOTIFIES CAA RULES AHEAD OF LOK SABHA POLLS



- ✓ Though the law facilitates citizenship to undocumented people belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Parsi, Christian, and Jain communities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan, the rules state that applicants will have to provide six types of documents and specify the “date of entry” into India.

### INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

- **India Inks Free Trade Agreement with 4 European Countries**

- ✓ India signed a free trade agreement (FTA) with four European countries — Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland — on Sunday, with a goal of reaching \$100 billion in investments in India and one million jobs within 15 years.



- ✓ The Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) marks the second such full-edged FTA signed after India's agreement with the United Arab Emirates, and will see considerable tariff reduction, increase in market access, and simplification of customs procedures.

## DEFENCE

- **Exercise Cutlass Express**
- ✓ The Indian Navy recently took part in a major maritime exercise called Exercise Cutlass Express – 24 (CE-24). This exercise was held in Port Victoria, Seychelles from 26 February to 08 March 2024.



- ✓ The Indian Navy was represented by the ship INS Tir, which is the lead ship of the First Training Squadron. INS Tir was led by Senior Officer, First Training Squadron, Capt Anshul Kishore.
- ✓ Exercise Cutlass Express is a multinational maritime exercise sponsored by the U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) and led by U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/U.S. Sixth Fleet.

# APPOINTMENT

## ➤ **Sudha Murty Nominated to Rajya Sabha**

- ✓ Philanthropist and author in Kannada and English Sudha Murty was nominated to the Rajya Sabha on Friday by President Droupadi Murmu.



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra in his post on X lauded the 73-year-old's contribution in diverse fields, saying that her presence in the Upper House was a “powerful testament to Nari Shakti (women power)”.
- ✓ She chaired the Infosys Foundation for over two decades, and through the foundation carried out several philanthropic activities.
- ✓ She is the recipient of the Padma Shri in 2006 and Padma Bhushan in 2023.

# AWARDS

## ➤ **Prestigious Erasmus Prize 2024**

- ✓ The Praemium Erasmianum Foundation has awarded the Erasmus Prize 2024 to the Indian writer **Amitav Ghosh**.



- ✓ He receives this prestigious honour for his passionate contribution to the theme “imagining the unthinkable,” in which he explores the unprecedented global crisis of climate change through his literary works.

- ✓ Ghosh has delved deeply into the question of how to give justice to the existential threat of climate change, which defies our imagination.

## SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

- **Test flight of Agni-5 with MIRV successful**
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday announced the successful test-• ring of Agni-5 ballistic missile with Multiple Independently Targetable Reentry Vehicle (MIRV) technology by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) under Mission Divyastra.



- ✓ This is considered a major technological breakthrough.
- ✓ The MIRV technology means a single missile can carry multiple warheads. It will ensure that a single missile can deploy multiple warheads at different locations, government sources said.

## REPORT

- **India Tops Global Arms Imports - SIPRI Report**
- ✓ According to the latest data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India was the world's top arms importer for the period 2019-2023.



- ✓ India's arms imports witnessed a 4.7% increase compared to the 2014-2018 period.
- ✓ Despite Russia remaining India's main arms supplier, accounting for 36% of its imports, the report notes that this is the first five-year period since 1960-1964 when deliveries from Russia (or the Soviet Union before 1991) made up less than half of India's arms imports.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

- **No Smoking Day 2024: March 13**
- ✓ No Smoking Day is organised on each second Wednesday of March. This year, No Smoking Day falls on 13 March.



- ✓ It aims to increase awareness of the harmful effects of tobacco use.
- ✓ In India, there are over 26 crore tobacco smokers, and diseases linked to tobacco use claim the lives of over 10 lakh people annually.
- ✓ Passive smoking often leads to asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia.
- ✓ Theme - 'Protecting children from tobacco industry interference'.

