

SUMMARY OF THE HINDU

FOR BPSC EXAMINATION

ENGLISH

DATE

21/03/2024

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THE HINDU National

▶ In SC, center defends appointment of new ECs

- In Supreme Court, the Union government refuted allegations that it had rushed to fill vacancies with 'favored 'persons .
- It was regarding filling of Election Commissioners (ECs) vacant posts recently by new Laws.
- Center cited that the General Election was scheduled to take place and manpower in form of EC was required.
- On petitioners demand that CJI be included in the committee that chooses ECs was "fundamentally fallacious ".Center reminded that ECs were chosen entirely by Executive before 2023.

CCI rejects pleas against Google play store's billing policy

- Competition Commission of India (CCI) on Wednesday dismissed four petitions by Indian app companies filed against Google's new play store billing policy to levy 11% to 26% charge on app payments.
- Indian origin app firms alleged that Google's play store payment policies are anti competitive .
- Recently Google had banned a few apps from its Play store for not complying with payment rules . However after Government intervention these were restored

▶ Lok Sabha election procedure kicks off as EC notifies first phase nomination window

- The nomination process for the first phase of Lok Sabha elections began on Wednesday, with issuance of notification by Election Commission.
- A total of 102 seats in 21 states and Union territories will go on polls in first phase on April 19

➡ TamilNadu CM released manifesto ; pledges more autonomy for states

- TamilNadu's CM M K Stalin on Wednesday released his party's manifesto for the Lok Sabha Polls.
- Among the key poll promises are: Granting more autonomy to states, Appointment of Governor after consulting chief ministers, Abolition of Article 356 and Article 361, establishment of a branch of Supreme Court in Chennai; statehood for puducherry; Reduction of prices of LPG, Petrol and Diesel to ₹500, ₹75 and ₹65 respectively

▶ Modi cancels visit to Bhutan due to inclement weather

- A day ahead of his planned departure, Prime Minister Prime Minister Narendra Modi put off his visit to Bhutan due to "inclement whether ", MEA Announced.
- PM was scheduled to land on Bhutan's Paro Airport on 21 March . But due to heavy rain and possibility of snowfall mutual decision to cancel the visit took place .
- New date is being finalized .
- The information wasgiven by MEA

PM speakers to Putin, Zelensky, calls for dialogue diplomacy

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday spoke to Russian President Vladmir Putin and Ukrainian President Valdmir Zelensky and called for early "end to the ongoing conflict".
- Mr Modi first called to the Russian President and congratulated him for recent election wins .
- Later he called Mr. Zelensky and reinterated India's commitment to "do everything within its means to support a peaceful solution".
- Mr Zelensky has called upon India to participate in Inaugural Peace Summit in Switzerland .
- Ukrianian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba is also expected to visit later this month.

➡ Don't use counseling to turn LGBTQ persons against their identity , says SC

- The Supreme Court has cautioned judges against using Court ordered counselling for members of LGBTQ+ community to turn them against their own identity .
- "judges must eschew the tendency to substitute their own subjective values for the values which are protected by Constitution "CJI DY Chadrachued observed

➡ Center notifies fact check unit to screen online content

- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity) has notified the Press Information Bureau's (PIB) as a fact checking unit as a designated body to flag misinformation.
- Now if PIB flags certain content on social media platform as 'misinformation ', the social media sites will have to remove that content .
- This is in accordance with IT rules ,2021



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⇒ Zomato scrapsgreen Uniform for 'veg fleet '

- Zomato recently launched a "pure veg fleet ".
- For "pure veg fleet "delivery the delivery was to be done. from a restaurant that served only Vegetarians. The dresses under "pure veg mode" were kept green, away from Usual red by Zomato.
- Zomato however has done away with Green clothing for delivery persons after a huge uproar on social media that it will result into discrimination based on caste, religion

⇒ BEML conducts maiden test firing of indigenous 1500 HP engine for main battle tanks

• BEML has successfully conducted maiden test firing of indigenously built 1500 HorsePower engine for main battle tanks

WORLD

▶ IMF to release 1.1billion dollar from bailout fund to Pakistan

- Pakistan and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) reached an agreement for the release of 1.1 billion dollars from the 3 Billion dollar bailout following days long talks with Islamabad, the IMF said on Wednesday.
- The agreement was signed last year between Shahbaz Sharif govt and IMF.
- In a statement on Wednesday, the IMF said that "Pakistan's economy and financial position has improved "in recent months.
- Recently Imran Khan had wrote a letter to IMF, saying that the elections were rigged and IMF should look into audit report of elections before making an agreement with Pakistani govt.

▶ Irish PM Leo Vadakar announces resignation

- Ireland PresidentLeo Vadakar on Thursday announced his retirement citing "personal and political reasons".
- "After seven years in office, I am not longer the best person for that job ", he said.
- "My reasons for stepping down are personal and political, but mainly political".
- Earlier this month ,Mr Vadakar was widely blamed for a twin defeat , including the biggest ever referendum loss by government.

→ Australia hosts China FM sees 'stability ' relations despite evident tensions.

- Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited Australia for the first time since 2017 . He met his Australian counterpart Penny Wang .
- The two sides shared warm words .
- Mr. Wang saying that the two sides had "broken the ice "and that "mutually trust "and "good momentum "are slowly building.
- Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong praised renewed "stability" in relations and said it was crucial to recognise "how much progress we have made in short period of time "
- Australia being a member of five eyes and close to US is having a tensed relation with China . Still there are lots of issues including South China Sea , Taiwan and Hong Kong over which Australia is not in favour of China .

Text / Context

➡ Why has Karnataka banned certain coulori f agent?

- Karnataka became the third South Indian state to ban the use of certain colouring agent in Cotton Candy and Gobi Manchurian that are found to be harmful.
- TamilNadu and Goa has already banned these .
- The harmful chemicals used as added colors were: Sunset Yellow, Tartrazine mainly. These are found to be carcinogenic and harmful for health

Science

NASA craft that diverted space rock also diverted it .

- In 2022 NASA sent its DART spacecraft to slam into the asteroid Demorphous.
- NASA recentlu said that the collision not only changed asteroid's path but also it's shape .
- DART (Double Asteroid Redirection Test) collided on September 26,2022 at a speed of 22, 530 kmph.
- The shape of Dimorphous was about 25 km wide , roughly 11 million km from earth

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70th BPSC PT (Prelims) TEST SERIES SCHEDULE

Test No.	Date	Time	Туре
1	07 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
2	14 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	POLITY
3	21 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
4	28 April 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	GENERAL SCIENCE
5	05 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
6	12 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	GEOGRAPHY
7	19 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
8	26 May 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	ECONOMY
9	02 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
10	09 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	ANCIENT HISTORY
11	16 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
12	23 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	MEDIEVAL HISTORY
13	30 June 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
14	07 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	MODERN HISTORY
15	14 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
16	21 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	BIHAR SPECIAL
17	28 July 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
18	04 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	CURRENT AFFAIRS
19	11 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
20	18 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
21	25 August 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH
22	01 September 2024 (Sunday)	11:00 am To 02:00 pm	FULL LENGTH

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