



Rapid Fire Current Affairs

World Sparrow Day

Every year on **20th March**, [World Sparrow Day](#) is observed, it is designated to raise awareness about sparrow conservation and protection, as their numbers are declining globally. The theme of World Sparrow Day 2023 is **"I Love Sparrows"**, with the goal of encouraging more people to appreciate the relationship **between humans and sparrows**. According to the survey conducted by **the Travancore Nature History Society (TNHS)**, The [house sparrow](#) population in Thiruvananthapuram city has recorded a significant reduction. The decline in population has been attributed to the oppressive heat and a lack of food supplies in the traditional areas of the city.

Read more: [World Sparrow Day](#)

herSTART

Recently, **Government of India has launched a monthly allowance of Rs. 20,000** for up to one year for **women-led Startups under 'herSTART'** platform. **Women-led business enterprises** are playing a noticeable role in society by generating employment opportunities in the country, bringing in demographic shifts and inspiring the next generation of women founders.

herSTART is a platform to **boost innovation and start-up efforts of women** entrepreneurs and also help them connect with various government and private enterprises. In India at least 36 unicorns and potential unicorns in India have at least one-woman founder or co-founder. India is focussing on creating women-led entrepreneurship through initiatives, schemes, networks and communities and activating partnerships among diverse stakeholders in the [Startup ecosystem](#).

Currently, As of January 2023, 47 companies' world over has achieved the decacorn status (startups that have a valuation of over 1 billion dollars). Presently, India has **five Startups** namely, **Flipkart, BYJU's, Nykaa, Swiggy and PhonePe** added in the **decacorn unit**.

Kalanidhi Awards 2023

Recently, Carnatic vocalist **Bombay Jayashri**, who is known for her melodic and meditative style of singing and is recognised by a [Padma Shri](#) from the Indian government has been selected for the [Sangita Kalanidhi award of the Music Academy](#) for 2023. **Sangita Kalanidhi award** is considered the **highest accolade in the field of Carnatic music**, it came into existence in 1942. The award comprises a **gold medal** and a **birudu patra (citation)**.

Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari has been selected for [The Nritiya Kalanidhi award](#) for dance. Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari excels both in [Bharathanatyam](#) and [Kuchipudi](#).

Read more: [Sangita Kalanidhi award](#)

Enemy Properties

Recently, the home ministry has begun the process to sell **enemy properties**. These are immovable

assets left behind by people who have **taken citizenship in [Pakistan and China after wars](#)** with these countries. The guidelines for disposal of enemy properties have been changed, under which the process for eviction of enemy properties now shall be initiated with the help of a **[district magistrate](#)** or **[deputy commissioner](#)** before the sale of properties.

Enemy properties valued between Rs 1 crore and Rs 100 crore will be disposed of by the **Custodian of Enemy Property of India** an authority created under **the Enemy Property Act, 1968** through an electronic auction or otherwise, as may be decided by the central government and at the rate determined by the **Enemy Property Disposal Committee**.

A survey conducted by the **Directorate General of Defence Estates** will assess the present condition and **value of the enemy properties identified by the CEPI**. There are a total of 12,611 establishments of enemy property, estimated to be worth over Rs. 1 lakh crore, in the country. Out of the 12,611 properties vested with the CEPI, **12,485 were related to Pakistani nationals and 126 to Chinese citizens**. The **highest number of enemy properties were found in Uttar Pradesh and least is Andhra Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.

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