News Analysis (02 Jan, 2020)

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2020 as Year of the Nurse and Midwife: WHO

Why in News

The **World Health Organisation (WHO)** has designated the year **2020 as the "Year of the Nurse and midwife",** in honour of the **200th birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale.**

- The declaration of **"Year of the Nurse and midwife"** will help to strengthen nursing and midwifery for Universal Health Coverage.
  - Strengthening nursing will help to achieve **Sustainable Development Goals,** in particular the **(SDG) 3 - ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages, SDG 5-promoting gender equity and SDG 8- contributing to economic development.**
  - Nurses and midwives constitute more than 50% of the health workforce in many countries.
- The declaration will also help to endorse **"The NursingNow!"** a **three-**year campaign **(2018-2020)** to improve health globally by raising the status of nursing.
- Moreover, WHO is also leading the development of the **first-ever State of the World's Nursing report** which will be launched in 2020.

Florence Nightingale

- Florence Nightingale was a **British nurse, statistician, and social reformer** who is also considered as a **foundational philosopher of modern nursing.**
- She was born in Florence, **Italy,** on **May 12, 1820.** The year 2020 marks a **bicentenary year** of her birth.
- During the Crimean War, she and a team of nurses improved the unsanitary conditions at a British base hospital, greatly reducing the death count. Her writings sparked worldwide health care reform.
- She was known for her night rounds to aid the wounded, establishing her image as the **'Lady with the Lamp'.**

MANI App by RBI

Why in News

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched a **mobile app- Mobile Aided Note Identifier (MANI)** to help **visually-impaired people to identify the denomination of currency notes.**

- There were reports of problems faced by visually-challenged people in identifying new currency notes launched after demonetisation (2016).
- The application **can scan the currency notes** using the camera of the mobile phone. However, the app **does not authenticate** a note as either **genuine or counterfeit.**
- It also gives **audio output** in **Hindi and English.**
- The application will work on Android and iOS operating systems. It will work in offline mode once installed.

Source: ET

Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System (PPRTMS)

Why in News

The **Election Commission of India** has launched a **"Political Parties Registration Tracking Management System(PPRTMS)".**

- The salient feature in the PPRTMS is that the applicant, who is applying for a political party registration from 1st January, 2020 will be able to track the progress of his/her application and will get status updates through SMS and e-mail.
- Registration of political parties is governed by the provisions of **Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.**
  - An association seeking registration under the above mentioned Section has to submit an application to the Commission within a period of 30 days following the date of its formation.

Source: PIB

Sangita Kalanidhi Award

Why in News

Recently, **S.Sowmya** has been conferred with **Sangita Kalanidhi Award. The award is conferred by the Madras Music Academy.**

- It is considered the highest award in the field of **Carnatic music.**
- The award comprises of a gold medal and a birudu Patra (citation).

Madras Music Academy

- **Music Conference** held along with **All India Congress Session** in **Madras (1927)** laid the idea of a Madras Music Academy. Thus it is an **offshoot** of INC madras session, 1927.
- It plays an important role in promoting Carnatic Music.

Carnatic music

- Carnatic music is a system of music commonly associated with southern India including the states **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu,** but also practised in **Sri Lanka.**
- It is one of two main genres of Indian classical music that evolved from ancient Hindu traditions, the other genre being Hindustani music, which **emerged** as a distinct form because of **Persian and Islamic influences in northern India.**

Source: TH