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Weekly Current Affairs

English

National

1. Mange Outbreak reported in Mudumalai

The Outbreak of Mange disease among a pack of Asiatic Wild dogs is being monitored by Forest Department officials in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve (MTR) in Nilgiris. Mange is a skin disease caused due to mite Infestations and is transmitted between animals by direct contact. The IUCN status of Asiatic Wild Dog is Endangered and the species is found throughout Eastern and Southeastern Asia.

2. IPC issues alert on painkiller Nimesulide

The Indian Pharmaceutical Commission (IPC) recently issued an alert on the painkiller drug Nimesulide. The alert has been issued as the pill can trigger rashes on the skin. IPC is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and its basic function is to regularly update the standards of drugs required for the treatment of diseases prevailing in the region.

3. CDP-SURAKSHA

A new digital platform called CDP-SURAKSHA was launched by the Government of India. The major objective of the platform is to disburse subsidies to horticulture farmers under the Cluster Development Program. SURAKSHA stands for System for Unified Resource Allocation, Knowledge and Secure Horticulture Assistance.

4. Candidates have Right to Privacy from Voters

In a major ruling, the Supreme Court announced that candidates contesting elections have Right to Privacy from voters. The apex court said that candidates don't need to declare every movable asset. Right to Privacy was declared as a fundamental Right protected under Article 21 of

the Indian Constitution.

5. India achieved its target to eliminate Kala Azar

As per the data from National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC), India has achieved its target to eliminate the second deadliest parasitic disease Kala Azar or Visceral Leishmaniasis. The deadliest parasitic disease in the world is Malaria. India accounted for 18% of the global burden of Kala Azar in 2020 as per WHO. Kala Azar is a Neglected Tropical Disease and is endemic in 76 countries



6. 4th edition of Health of Nation Report 2024

The World Health Day 2024 witnessed the launch of the 4th edition of Health of Nation Report 2024 by Apollo Hospitals. The report stated alarming trends in Non-Communicable diseases (NCD) along with dubbing India as the Cancer Capital of the World. One in three Indians is Pre-diabetic, 2 in 3 are pre-hypertensive and one in 10 suffers from Depression.

7. Pin Code MH-1718

More than 10000 letters and mails had been posted and cancelled at India's first post office in Antarctica. The post office was set up in 1984 at the Dakshin Gangotri, the country's first scientific base. After 40 years, the letters which are to be sent to Antarctica will now be having a new Pin Code-MH-1718. The second branch of the post office has been set up at the Bharati Research Station in the continent.

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8. Double Property tax for Non Marathi signboard

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) imposed Double Property Tax for Non-Marathi-Non Devanagari signboards starting May 1, 2024. The Supreme Court gave 2 months for displaying Marathi language or devanagari script on signboards and shops before November 23, 2023 deadline. The action is being taken for non compliance of Supreme Court's directive as per Maharashtra Shops and Establishments (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service), Rules, 2018.



9. 28000 Homes completed under SWAMIH Fund

Over 28000 homes have been completed since 2019 under the Special Window for Affordable and Mid-Income Housing (SWAMIH) Fund. The Fund has played a critical role in development of ancillary industries in the real estate sector according to National Real Estate Development Corporation (NAREDCO). The Fund is managed by SBICap Ventures Ltd.

10. Mid day meal scheme

A delegation from Indonesia visited India to learn best practices in mid-day meal scheme and digital inclusion. The major objective of the visit is aimed at fostering cooperation in Biotechnology, agriculture and digital infrastructure. Mid day meal scheme is the largest school feeding programme for children across classes 1 to 8. It is a centrally sponsored scheme under the Ministry of Education and it

was renamed to Pradhan Mantri Poshan Scheme

11. 73000 applications received since launch of Suvidha Portal

Since the announcement of the Lok Sabha Elections, the Suvidha Portal of Election Commission of India received 73000 applications seeking for various campaigning activities. The applications included requests for booking rally grounds, opening temporary party offices and operating video publicity vans. The Suvidha Portal streamlined the process of obtaining and acting upon requests for permissions and facilities from political parties.

12. RBI conducted Consumer Confidence Survey

The Reserve Bank of India conducted the latest bimonthly Consumer Confidence Survey in March 2024. The Survey unveiled a remarkable surge in consumer confidence reaching its peak in mid 2019. The Survey is conducted across various cities to measure consumer's perception of the prevailing economic situation.

13. Yoga Mahotsav organised in Pune

A Yoga-Mahotsav took place in Pune to mark the commencement of the 75-day countdown to the International Day of Yoga. Celebrated annually on June 21st, the official theme for this year's International Day of Yoga is 'Yoga for Women Empowerment', coinciding with its 10th edition.

14. Ikshvaku period coins discovered at Phanigiri

Ishvaku period coins were found during excavations at an early historic site of Phanigiri in Telangana. Phanigiri is a renowned Buddhist Heritage site located on the ancient trade route 'Dakshinapatha'. The Ikshvaku dynasty was feudatory under the Satavahana Empire. The Puranas mention Ikshvakus as Andhrabhrtyas

(servants of Andhras) and Sriparvatiyas.



15. Pashmina March Called off by Leh Apex Body

Recently, demands for granting statehood to the Union Territory of Ladakh and its inclusion in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution has resulted in protests by the citizens. Ladakh was made a Union Territory after the State of Jammu & Kashmir was bifurcated in 2019 by Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act. Activist Sonam Wangchuk called for a 'Pashmina March' towards Changthang border to attract the government's attention to the issue.

16. China renaming parts in Arunachal Pradesh

China released a list of 30 new names for various places in the Indian State of Arunachal Pradesh. It was the fourth such list released by China. After the communists took power in China, they pulled the country out of all international agreements. The People's Republic of China disputes the legal status of the McMohan Line, the boundary between Tibet and British India that was agreed at the Simla Convention (1914). China claims territory to the south of McMohan Line in Arunachal Pradesh. China bases its claims on the historical ties that have existed between the monasteries in Tawang and Lhasa. The border between China and India has never been delimited.

17. Mobile Application for RBI Retail Direct scheme

To facilitate seamless investment in government

securities by retail investors, RBI (Reserve Bank of India) is planning to launch a mobile application as an extension of its Retail Direct Scheme. RBI's Retail Direct Scheme, introduced in 2021, gives access to individual investors to maintain government security accounts (gilt-accounts) with RBI and invest in government securities, The application will enable investors to buy securities in primary auction as well as buy/sell securities through NDS-OM platform which is RBI's screen based, anonymous electronic order matching system for trading in government securities in the secondary market.

18. Damage to Kumittipathi Cave Paintings

The ancient cave paintings in the Pathimalai Cave in Kumittipathi (Coimbatore), believed to be about 3000 years old, were destroyed by miscreants.

Painted with white pigment, these ancient cave paintings depict an elephant, a chariot (a chariot) and scenes from the life of early inhabitants.

Small pits and holes can also be found in the cave which are believed to have been used to store water and other items.

These cave paintings are among the important rock arts of the Kongu region of Tamil Nadu.



19. Harappans indigenous to Rakhigarhi site

Rakhigarhi - an Indus Valley site in Haryana's Hisar - considered to be the largest site from the pre-Harappan period had indigenous Harappan

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population. The revision was made by NCERT (National Council for Education Research and Training) in Class XII history books as per ASI's (Archaeological Survey of India) findings. The archaeological findings also indicate that Harappans were based in Rakhigarhi even before the migration of Aryans. ASI findings indicated the presence of industrial society, a planned city with a complex street system on raised platforms, houses with extensive layouts and a drainage system. These findings also showed that the Harappans followed a democratic system.

International

1. India becomes fourth largest exporter of Digitally delivered Services

As per the data released by WTO in its Global Trade Outlook and Statistics Report 2024, India emerged as the 4th largest exporter of digitally delivered services. India's digitally delivered services exports reached USD 257 billion in 2023 with the help of AI adoption driving innovation and job creation. The first three countries are the USA, UK and Ireland.

2. ADB upgrades India's GDP growth forecast

The Asian Development Bank upgraded India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate from 6.7% to 7.2% for Fiscal year 2025 as per the latest report published by the Bank. The Chinese economy is forecasted to grow at 4.8%. ADB is a regional development bank established in 1966 whose primary focus is to foster economic growth and cooperation among countries in the Asia-Pacific region. It is headquartered at Manila, Philippines.

3. 2024 QS World University Rankings

The 2024 QS World University Rankings was published recently by Global higher education consultancy Quacquarelli Symonds. The report stated that 69 Indian Universities have made it into the Rankings with 424 entries. The JawaharLal Nehru University (JNU) was globally ranked 20th and lead among Indian Institutions.

4. IMF releases Fiscal Monitor Report

The IMF in its recently published Fiscal Monitor Report stated that industrial policy could drive innovation if done well, but it is no magic cure for slow economic growth. The report provides an overview of latest public finance developments and it is prepared twice a year based on databases used for World Economic Outlook (WEO) and the Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR).

5. Global trade Outlook and Statistics Report

The latest edition of Global trade Outlook and Statistics Report was published recently by the World Trade Organisation. The report analyses recent global trade developments and presents organisations forecast for World trade for next year. The World Merchandise trade volume is projected to grow by 2.6% in 2024 as per the report. WTO is an Intergovernmental organisation which came into operation in 1995 following the 1994 Marrakesh Treaty.

6. 2024 Global Hepatitis Report

The Global Hepatitis Report 2024 was released by the World Health Organisation (WHO). India has the highest number of Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C cases in the world as per the report. It is the first Consolidated WHO report on viral Hepatitis epidemiology, service coverage and product access. Hepatitis refers to an inflammatory condition of the Liver and is a viral infection.

7. Ship mounted defence system C-DOME

The Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) deployed its ship-mounted defence system called C-DOME for the first time. It was deployed against a suspicious target that entered the country's airspace near the southern city of Eilat. The C-DOME system is the Naval version of Israel's Iron Dome Air Defence System which gives protection against rocket and Missile attacks.



8. Mountain Cleaning Campaign 2024 at Mt. Everest

The Nepal Army has launched the Mountain Cleaning Campaign 2024 at Mt. Everest with the aim of collecting around 10 tonnes of garbage and five bodies lying at the mountain. The major aim is to control human-made pollution and address problems related to climate change. The Campaign will be led by Major Aditya Karki with a 12 member team from Everest Base Camp.

9. India invoked Peace Clause for the fifth time in a row

Peace clause was invoked by India at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for the marketing year 2022-23. The Peace clause was invoked due to breaching the subsidy limit for rice offered to its farmers. The Peace Clause refrains WTO members from challenging any breach in the prescribed subsidy ceiling given by a developing nation at the dispute settlement forum of WTO. India had invoked the Peace clause for the fifth time in a row.



10. Russia declares Federal Emergency

A Federal Emergency was declared in the southern Orenburg region of Russia as the Ural river inundated Orsk. The Ural River originates in the Ural mountains and flows through Russia and Kazakhstan along the Continental Boundary between Europe and Asia. The Ural River is Europe's third longest river and is also known as the Zhayyq River.

11. New members in AUKUS

The US, UK and Australia are set to bring new members into the AUKUS security Pact to deter China. AUKUS is a trilateral security partnership established in 2021 to strengthen the ability of each government to support security and defence interests. The AUKUS recently agreed to bring in new partners like Japan, South Korea etc to push back against China's growing power in the Indo-Pacific region.

12. National Emergency declared in Sierra Leone due to drug abuse

Sierra Leone shares its borders with Liberia. Positioned in West Africa, Sierra Leone borders Liberia to the southwest. This geographical proximity facilitates cultural and economic exchanges between the two nations. The border between Sierra Leone and Liberia spans a considerable distance, contributing to the historical, social, and economic interconnectedness of the regions.

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This border serves as a vital link for trade, transportation, and diplomatic relations, fostering collaboration and mutual development endeavors between the two neighboring countries.

13. India tops WADA Anti-Doping report

As per the World Anti-Doping Report released by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), India has emerged as the country with the highest percentage of doping offenders, followed by South Africa at 2nd. In the recent report, based on the testing figures for 2022, India's doping violations outnumbered those of major sporting nations such as the US, Russia and France. Interestingly, India was 2nd in the previous edition of the report based on testing figures for 2020. The findings of this report raises the concern of widespread issue of doping among Indian athletes as well as the lack of knowledge about banned supplements among Indian coaches, doctors and physiotherapists.

Sports

1. East Zone Beats West to win Women's Inter Zonal Multi-Day Trophy 2024 Final

The Final of the Inter Zonal Multi Day trophy held at Maharashtra Cricket Stadium was won by East Zone. The East Zone had beaten the South Zone by 1 wicket. The Player of the Series was Deepti Sharma and the Player of the Match was Minnu Mani. The Player of the series award was given by Former India Captain Shubhangi Kulkarni.

2. Monterrey eliminated Inter Miami at CONCACAF championship cup

In the second leg of the quarter final clash of CONCACAF Championship cup, Monterrey

defeated Lionel Messi's Inter Miami with the scoreline of 3-1. The goals were scored by Brandon Vazquez, German Berterame, Jesus Gallardo to give Monterrey the lead. The match was held in Guadalupe, Mexico.

3. Maharashtra dominates National Masters Table Tennis Championships 2024

The National Masters Table Tennis Championships 2024 was dominated by Maharashtra bagging 46 medals with 11 gold and 10 silver. Manish Rawat secured the gold in Men's 50 plus category while Malaykumar Thakkar and Prasad Naik won Silver and bronze medals.

4. Sumit Nagal becomes first ever Indian to win main draw match at Monte Carlo Masters

The rising Indian Tennis star Sumit Nagal becomes first Indian to win a main draw match at Monte Carlo Masters. Nagal stunned 38th ranked Matteo Arnaldi in the first round. The scoreline of the match was 5-7, 6-2,6-4. The match lasted for 2 hours and 37 minutes and Nagal recorded his third win Over a top 50 player.



5. Djokovic becomes the oldest World No. 1 in ATP rankings history

The Serbian Tennis Ace Novak Djokovic breaks Roger Federer's record by becoming the oldest World No. 1 in ATP rankings history. Novak

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Djokovic with 24 majors is currently 36 years and 321 days old. He also holds the record for most weeks (419) spent as the top ranked male player.

6. Sumit Nagal qualifies for Monte Carlo Masters Mains draw

India's top-ranked player, Sumit Nagal, qualifies for the main draw of Monte Carlo Masters. Sumit is set to become the first Indian to feature in the main draw of the ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) event in Monaco since Ramesh Krishnan in 1982.

7. Vidit Gujarathi beats World Number 3 Hikaru Nakamura

Vidit Gujarati - ranked 24 - defeated World No. 3 Hikaru Nakamura at the ongoing FIDE 2024 Candidates Chess Tournament, ending the latter's 47-game unbeaten streak. Hikaru, considered one of the pre-tournament favourites, was defeated by 29-year old Vidit in just 29 moves in Round 2 of the tournament. The tournament is being played in Toronto, Canada.



Days

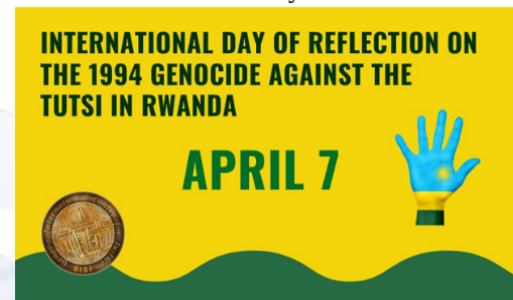
1. World Homeopathy Day observed on April 10

The World Homeopathy day was observed on April 10, 2024 under the theme "Homeoparivar: One Health, One Family". The day is observed to

honour the work of German Physician and Chemist Dr Samuel Hahnemann on his birth anniversary. The origin of Homeopathy dates back to the 5th century BCE. The President of India inaugurated a two day Homoeopathy Symposium, organised by the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy.

2. International Day of Reflection on 1994 Rwanda Genocide on April 7

The International Day of Reflection on 1994 Rwanda Genocide was observed by UNESCO on April 7. The day was established by UNGA in 2003. On this day the genocide was perpetrated against members of the Tutsi minority by Hutu extremist led government. More than 1 million Tutsi were murdered on this day.



3. Total Solar Eclipse on April 8

The First Solar Eclipse commonly known as Surya Grahan, of 2024 was witnessed on April 8. It was a rare total Solar Eclipse where the moon entirely covered the sun and the spectacle appeared as a Ring of Fire. The Total Solar Eclipse takes place when the moon passes between the Sun and Earth completely blocking the face of the sun.

4. Death anniversary of Mangal Pandey celebrated on April 8th

The Death Anniversary of Freedom Fighter Mangal Pandey who played a significant role in Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 also known as 1st War of Independence is celebrated every year on April

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8. Mangal Pandey born on July 19, 1827 served as a sepoy in the 6th company of the 34th Bengal Native Infantry in Barrackpore. Pandey fired at his senior Sergeant Major and thus was hanged on April 8, 1857 by the order of Court Martial.

5. World Health Day

World Health Day is celebrated every year on 7th April to mark the anniversary of founding of the World Health Organisation (WHO). World Health Assembly, the governing body of WHO, established World Health Day to commemorate the organisation's founding and raise awareness about global health issues. The theme for World Health Day 2024 is 'My health, my right'.



6. 75 years signing of Washington Treaty

Foreign Ministers from NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) countries met at its Headquarters in Brussels (capital of Belgium) to mark the 75 years since the signing of the treaty. NATO - an intergovernmental military alliance was established in the aftermath of World War II, by the Washington Treaty signed on 4 April, 1969. Currently, NATO has 32 members - with Sweden being the newest addition in 2024. The combined military spending of NATO countries constitutes 55 percent of the global military spending.

Person In News

1. Justice Aniruddha Bose appointed as head of National Judicial Academy

Justice Aniruddha Bose has been appointed as the head of the National Judicial Academy (NJAC), Bhopal by the Supreme Court of India. Justice Bose recently retired from the Supreme Court after serving a five year tenure. The National Judicial Academy was established in 1993 in Bhopal under the aegis of the Supreme Court of India.

2. Peter Higgs dies at 94

The British Physicist Peter Higgs who proposed the existence of a mass giving particle known as the Higgs Boson or God Particle died at the age of 94. The discovery won him and Belgian Physicist Francois Englert the 2013 Physics Nobel Prize. The Higgs boson is the fundamental force carrying particles of the Higgs field, responsible for granting fundamental particles their mass. It was discovered in 2012.



Science and tech/Space/Defence

1. Prestigious John L. 'Jack' Swigert Jr. Award given to Chandrayaan-3 team

The Prestigious John L. 'Jack' Swigert Jr. Award for Space Exploration was conferred to ISROs

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Chandrayaan-3 team. The award was received by India's Consul General in Houston DC Manjunath on behalf of ISRO. The Chandrayaan-3 mission launched in July 2023 by ISRO made India the first country to land on the Moon's South Pole.



2. First Fractal Molecule discovered in Nature

A team of researchers from Max Planck Institute in Marburg and Philipps University have discovered the first Fractal Molecule in Nature. A microbial enzyme called Citrate Synthase was discovered from a Cyanobacterium that spontaneously assembles into a pattern known as Sierpinski Triangle. Fractal is a never ending pattern with infinitely complex and self-similar different scales.

3. OpenAI's GPT-4 vision

An improved version of the GPT-4 turbo with vision capability was recently unveiled by OpenAI in its latest Generative AI model. It can analyse image inputs from users and it is capable of taking information in multiple modalities like text and images or text and audio. It can help in academic research, interpreting historical documents and manuscripts etc.

4. Mercenary Spyware Attack

Apple issued a warning in 92 countries including India amongst iPhone users of possible Mercenary Spyware Attacks. The Mercenary Spyware attacks are highly complex, Target

specific individuals like Pegasus. It is designed to remotely infiltrate and compromise smartphones and other devices.

5. Wigner crystal visualised for the first time

Scientists at Princeton University have visualised the Quantum crystal of Frozen electrons also known as the Wigner Crystal for the first time. It is a strange kind of matter made entirely of electrons. It is the solid phase of electrons first predicted by Eugene Wigner in 1934. The Wigner Crystal instead of following the familiar laws of physics, follows the laws of Quantum physics.

6. Defence Attaches posted by India to new nations for the first time

In a big move to expand strategic ties with key regions across the globe, India has begun posting military and defence attachments to several new countries. Around 15-16 new attachments from Army, Navy and Air Force are now posted to countries like Poland, Armenia, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Philippines, Tanzania, Mozambique and Djibouti. India cut down the number of military officials posted at larger missions in Russia, France and the UK.

7. First Results from DESI

The Dark Research Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI) was used by researchers to make the largest 3D map of our Universe and World leading measurements of dark energy. The DESI began its five year survey to map the Universe and study dark energy in May 2021. It was installed on the 4 metre Mayall Telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona, US in 2019.

8. TSAT-1A deployed by SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket

The Earth Observation Satellite TSAT-1A built by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) was deployed in space by the SpaceX Falcon 9

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rocket. It is a sub-metre resolution optical satellite built with the collaboration of Latin American Company Satellogic Inc. The launch took place from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida in the USA.

9. Igla-S Air Defence system

The first batch of 24 Russia-made Igla-S Man Portable Air Defence System (MANPADS) was received by India. 120 launchers and 400 missiles were also part of a larger deal which included domestic production in India. The induction of the Igla-S system enhances the Indian Army's Very Short Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) capabilities

10. Lab Grown Minibrains

Researchers have developed Minibrains in the lab that may help explain why concussions and other traumatic brain injuries raise people's risk of Dementia. The Lab grown Minibrains are scientifically known as Brain Organoids and serve as miniature simplified models of full size human brains. They are developed from stem cells which can be either from adult human cells or more rarely human embryonic tissue.

11. Parivartan Chintan - A tri Service Conference

Parivartan Chintan, a tri-service conference on Jointness & Integration will be chaired by Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Anil Chauhan. The 'Chintan' will be the first ever conference of the Heads of all Tri- Services Institutions. It is an initiative to promote jointness and integration among the three services to enable multi domain operations and better coordination to be ready for the envisaged future wars.



12. Model to explain Arrokoth's Ice Core

'Arrokoth' is an icy space rock and the most distant space object that has been explored by a human spacecraft. Previously nicknamed as 'Ultima Thule', Arrokoth was discovered in 2014 by the Hubble Space Telescope and was explored in 2019 by The New Horizons Spacecraft launched by NASA. Arrokoth lies in the Kuiper Belt which is the outer zone of our Solar System beyond the planet Neptune

13. Launch of Agniku Agnibaan SOrTE postponed

AgniKul Cosmos, a space tech start-up based in Chennai, called off the launch of Agnibaan SubOrbital Technological Demonstrator (SOrTeD) for the second time. It is a customisable launch vehicle, powered by AgniKul's patented Agnilet engine, capable of carrying payloads upto 100 Kg to an altitude of 700 Km. Agnibaan SOrTeD will be the first step towards launching the world's first 3D printed rocket into space.

14. Akashteer Command and Control Centre under Project Akashteer

To enhance its Air-defense capabilities, the Indian army has initiated the induction of control and reporting systems under 'Project Akashteer'. Developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) as part of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative, 'Akashteer Command and Control System' aims to

automate air defense control and reporting processes by digitising them. This will significantly enhance the operational efficiency and integration of Indian Army's air defense mechanisms enabling swift engagement of hostile targets, reduce the risk of fratricide and ensure safety of friendly aircraft in contested airspace. The Indian Army has declared 2024 as the 'Year of Technology Absorption'.



Health/Agriculture/Environment

1. Rejuvenation of Iconic Baobab Tree

A mission was initiated by the Global Society for the Preservation of Baobabs and Mangroves (GSPBM) for the rejuvenation of the Iconic baobab trees in Madagascar. Baobab tree is a long lived tree also known as Upside-down tree and consists of 9 species out of which 2 are native to Africa, Six to Madagascar and one to Australia. The tree is also known as Tree of Life.

2. Chital species eats away Andamans forest cover

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration recently sought help from Wildlife Institute of India in a bid to manage the exceeding population of Chital (Spotted Deer) in Ross Island. Chital was introduced by the British to the tiny island in the 20th century and the species is native to mainland India. The species is listed as Least Concern by IUCN.

3. Clean Energy Investor Forum

The Clean Energy Investor Forum was organised by Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) in Singapore. The IPEF forum launched in May 2022 aims to mobilise investments into sustainable infrastructure, Climate technology and renewable energy projects. The Forum includes 14 member countries and comprises four pillars of Cooperation namely Trade, Supply Chain, Clean economy and Fair economy.

4. Neptis Philyra butterfly discovered

A team of Butterfly enthusiasts have discovered a rare butterfly species named Neptis Philyra for the first time in India in Tale Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh. The Butterfly species is commonly known as Long-streak sailor. The butterfly species is found across various regions of East Asia like Siberia, Korea, China etc. The Specie is a part of the Nymphalidae family.



5. Rules for Green Credit Programme announced by MoefCC

Recently, the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate change has notified rules for the Green Credit Program. The Green Credit Program is an initiative to reward and incentivize individuals and entities for their positive environmental contributions. Under this program, participants will be able to earn Green Credits for activities

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that promote environmental sustainability. This program is a part of the 'LiFE' campaign (Lifestyle for Environment).

6. Uttarakhand Government to assess GLOF risks in Himalayas

The State government of Uttarakhand recently set up two expert panels to conduct risk assessment and monitor five glacial lakes in the state that have been facing the risk of immediate danger - labelling them as High Risk Prone Areas, A Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) is a type of flood caused by the failure of a dam containing a glacial lake, for example when a body of water contained by a glacier melts or overflows the glacier. GLOFs can be highly destructive and can arrive with little prior warning causing significant damage to property, infrastructure, agricultural land and resulting in extensive loss of life. The Kedarnath floods of 2013 were a type of GLOF.

Miscellaneous

1. Shakti Festival of Music and Dance

The Sangeet Natak Akademi organised the festival under the title "Shakti- a festival of Dance and music" during the Navratri to rejuvenate the temple traditions in the country. The festival was organised under the series of Kala Pravah. The festival will take place from 9th april to 17th april at seven different Shakti Peethas. The festival was inaugurated at Kamakhya Temple, Guwahati.

