

# SHAKTHII ACADEMY - CHENNAI

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2024, April 1-2

## Ms Sheyphali B. Sharan:

- ➔ Ms Sheyphali B. Sharan has assumed charge as the Principal Director General, Press Information Bureau, upon the superannuation (retirement) of Shri Manish Desai.
- ➔ Ms. Sharan is an officer of the 1990 batch of Indian Information Service. During her illustrious career spanning over three decades, Ms. Sharan has held cadre portfolios of largely looking after media publicity work as Press Information Bureau officer for Ministries such as Finance, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. She has also served as the Spokesperson for Election Commission of India.



## Novak Djokovic:

- ➔ Novak Djokovic, the 24-time Grand Slam champion, continues to break records on the ATP Tour. As of this week, he begins his 419th week as the World No. 1, extending his huge record.
- ➔ On Sunday, April 9, 2024, Djokovic will surpass Roger Federer's record and become the oldest World No. 1 in ATP Rankings history at the age of 36 years and 321 days.

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## Indian Air Force:

- ➔ The Indian Air Force (IAF) is showcasing its might and capability to carry out high-octane operations during the upcoming 'Gagan Shakti-2024' exercise "in a realistic environment" from April 1-10.
- ➔ 'Gagan Shakti' was last held in 2018, when the IAF clocked more than 11,000 sorties during the two-phase air manoeuvres.
- ➔ The previous edition saw the concentration of the force's deployed assets move from the western sector to the eastern front in less than 48 hours. It sought to test the IAF's readiness for a two-front war with China and Pakistan.
- ➔ The IAF practiced every manoeuvre, including deep strikes, air dominance, maritime operations, and air defence, to prepare for a short and intense war.



## Dosti:

**26, G3, Paris Ganga Apartments, Gangai  
Amman Koil St, Alagiri Nagar, Vadapalani,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600026**

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- ➔ Highlighting the importance of “collaboration and interoperability” among the coast guards personnel of the Maldives, India, and Sri Lanka, Maldivian Defence Minister Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon said the trilateral exercise ‘Dosti’ will unite the troika to address “shared maritime security concerns through collaboration”.
- ➔ Indian Coast Guard ships Samarth and Abhinav, along with Sri Lanka Naval Ship Samudura, are participating in the exercise ‘DOSTI-16’, while Bangladesh is participating as an observer.
- ➔ Sri Lanka has described ‘Dosti’ as a trilateral exercise that aims to enhance cooperation, strengthen friendship, improve mutual operational capability, and develop interoperability among the Coast Guard personnel of India, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka.



## GI:

- ➔ The northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh has taken the lead in having the highest number of Geographical Indication (GI) certified products in the country. With the recent addition of 15 new products, Uttar Pradesh now boasts a total of 69 GI-tagged products, surpassing Tamil Nadu's 58.
- ➔ The holy city of Varanasi has emerged as a leader in GI-tagged goods production, with a remarkable 30 certified products – the highest from a single geographical area. GI certification ensures that these products are unique representations of a specific culture, society, or craft.



## Tripura:

- Three traditional products from Tripura have recently received the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The products are Matabari pera prasad, Rignai pachara textiles and Risa. With this, Tripura now has 4 GI Protected products.
- The GI tag ensures legal protection against unauthorised imitation or misuse of the products produced in a particular geographical region, safeguarding their authenticity and preserving the cultural heritage associated with them.
- This recognition also facilitates market access and promotion, both domestically and internationally, thereby fostering economic opportunities for local communities involved in their production.



## CoViNet:

- ➔ The World Health Organization (WHO) has introduced CoViNet, a global initiative aimed at enhancing the detection, monitoring, and assessment of coronaviruses worldwide.
- ➔ CoViNet expands upon the existing WHO COVID-19 reference laboratory network to encompass a broader spectrum of coronaviruses, including SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV, and potential novel strains of public health concern.



## Utkal Diwas:

- ➔ Utkal Diwas, also known as Odisha Day or Utkala Dibasa, is a significant annual celebration held in the Indian state of Odisha. It is observed on 1st April every year to commemorate the formation of the state of Odisha on April 1, 1936.
- ➔ This day holds immense cultural and historical importance for the people of Odisha, as it represents the culmination of a long-standing struggle for a separate state, distinct from the combined Bihar and Orissa provinces during the British colonial era.



## Reserve Bank of India:

- ➔ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the nation's central banking institution, is entering its 90th year on April 1st, 2024.
- ➔ To mark this significant occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is attending the event at Mumbai's National Centre for the Performing Arts.
- ➔ The RBI was established on April 1, 1934, following recommendations from the Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance to maintain the country's monetary stability. Its operations commenced on April 1, 1935, with Sir Osborne Smith as the first Governor.
- ➔ Over the years, the RBI has seen 26 Governors, with the current Governor being Shaktikanta Das, who assumed office in October 2021. The Central Office of the RBI was initially in Kolkata but was shifted to Mumbai in 1937.



## April Fool's Day:

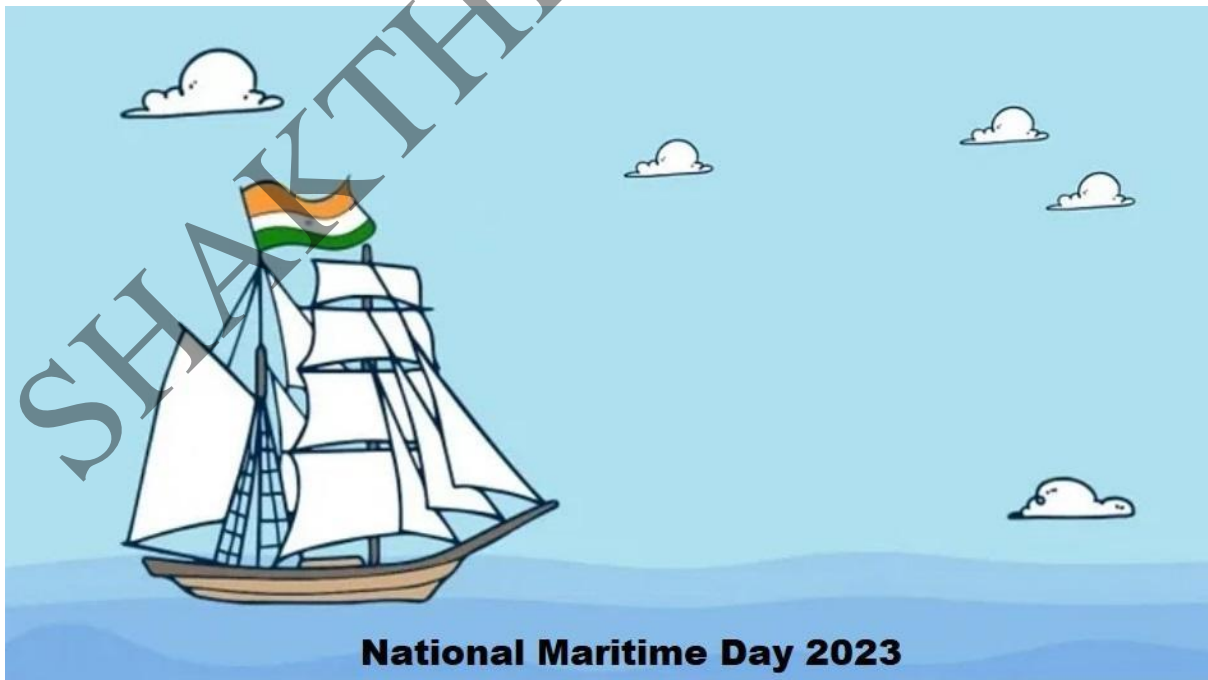
- ➔ April Fool's Day, celebrated on April 1st every year, is a day dedicated to humor, pranks, and light-hearted fun. Despite being an unofficial holiday, it enjoys widespread recognition and participation across the globe, including in India.
- ➔ One notable reference to April Fool's Day dates back to a 1561 poem by Flemish poet Eduard de Dene, depicting a nobleman sending his servant on foolish errands on April 1st. This exemplifies the long-standing tradition of playing pranks on this day, rooted in folklore and cultural customs.





### National Maritime Week:

- ➔ On March 29, 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was honoured with the 'Merchant Navy Flag', pinned on his lapel by Secretary T.K. Ramachandran of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- ➔ This marked the beginning of the National Maritime Week celebrations, which span from March 29 to April 5.



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## World Autism Awareness Day:

- World Autism Awareness Day is on April 2nd every year. It aims to raise awareness and support for people with autism.
- The theme for 2024 is “Empowering Autistic Voices.” A report says around 18 million people in India have autism. Between 1-1.5% of children aged 2-9 years old are diagnosed with autism. Boys are more commonly affected than girls.



## Bharat Ratna:

- The President of India, Droupadi Murmu conferred India’s highest civilian award, Bharat Ratna, on the former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh, PV Narasimha Rao, former Deputy Prime Minister Lal Krishna Advani, former Chief Minister of Bihar Karpoori Thakur and famous agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan. Except for Lal Krishna Advani, the Bharat Ratna to Chaudhary Charan Singh, PV Narasimha Rao, Karpoori Thakur, and M.S. Swaminathan were awarded posthumously.
- This year, the government conferred Bharat Ratna on five people. This is the highest number in a year for Bharat Ratna and the maximum since 1999 when four people were conferred with Bharat Ratna. The provision of Bharat Ratna was introduced in 1954.

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## Nepalese and Indian Sanskrit scholars:

- ➔ Nepalese and Indian Sanskrit scholars have proposed to organise an International Sanskrit Conference every year and set up a study centre to conduct research and arrange publication of Sanskrit scriptures, especially the manuscripts found in the Himalayan nation.
- ➔ The prime objective of the international conference was to strengthen the Nepal-Indian relations and promote Sanskrit education in Nepal and India.



## Afar Triangle:

- Geologists predict that the rift in the Afar Triangle on the African continent could lead to the formation of a new ocean in 5 to 10 million years.
- This is a rare geological phenomenon that involves the gradual separation of tectonic plates. The process results in the creation of a distinct continent in East Africa.



## MS Dhoni:

- MS Dhoni has become the first Indian wicketkeeper-batter to hit 7000 T20 runs, achieving the milestone against DC with a performance of 37 off 16 balls.
- MS Dhoni has also become the first wicketkeeper to complete 300 dismissals in T20 cricket.



## Romania and Bylgaria:

- ➔ Romania and Bylgaria have partially joined the Schengen area, allowing air and sea travellers free access but keeping land checks due to Austria's concerns.
- ➔ The European Union celebrated this as a "huge success" and a "historic moment" for the expansion of the World's largest ID-Check-free-zone.
- ➔ Before this, the Schengen Area included 23 European Union countries plus Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.



## French lawmakers:

- ➔ French lawmakers are debating legislation banning discrimination over the texture, length, colour or style of someone's hair.
- ➔ The bill would amend existing anti-discrimination measures in the labour code and criminal code to explicitly hair discrimination.



## Germany:

- ➔ Germany has legalized recreational cannabis, adults over 18 are now permitted to carry 25g and cultivate up to three plants themselves.
- ➔ It has become the largest EU nation to adopt such liberal cannabis laws, amidst considerable controversy. The new legislation has been aimed at regulation use and easing the strain on illegal trade.



## "India Out":

- ➔ Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina pointed out that even the opposition leaders wives saris are Indian. Her shutting down the "India Out" campaign was reminiscent of what happened in Maldives.
- ➔ The Bangladesh National Party has been stocking anti-India sentiment in the country in a bid to stay relevant and make electoral gains.



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## Shigmotsav:

- ➔ Shigmotsav, celebrated from March 26 to April 8, 2024 marks the spring season in Goa with a fusion of Holi and carnival traditions, featuring parades, folk dances and floats.
- ➔ It originated as a harvest festival, evolving into a vibrant showcase of Goa's rich cultural heritage.



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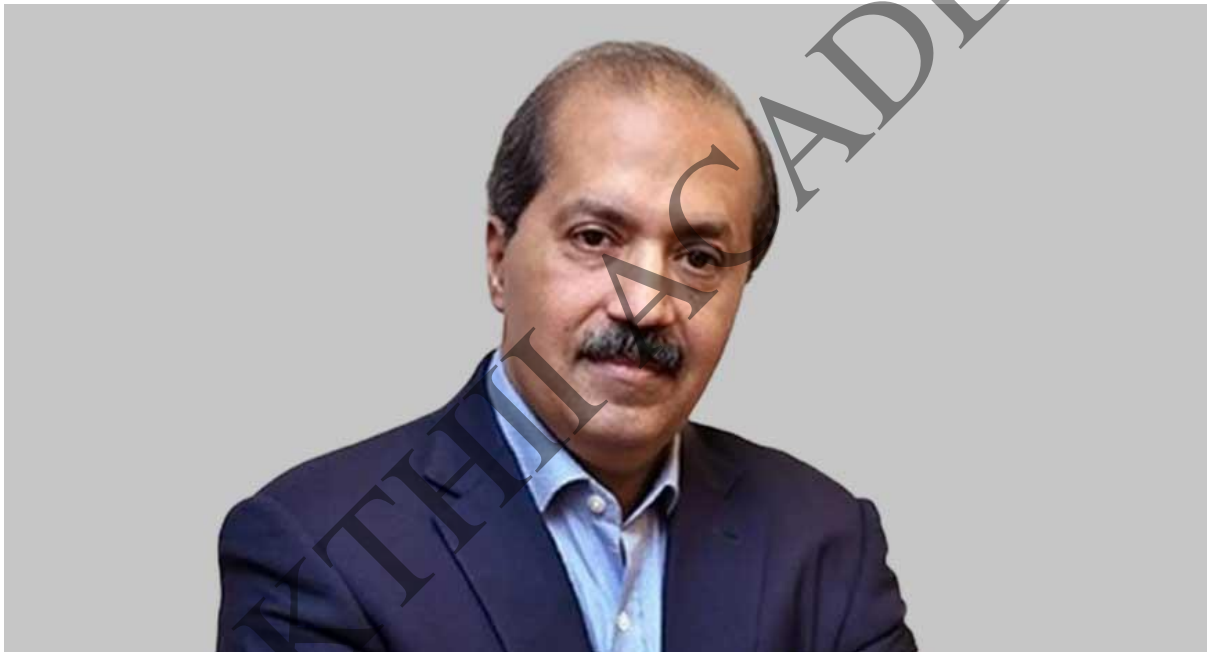
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2024, April 3

## ASSOCHAM:

- The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), a prominent industry chamber, has appointed Sanjay Nayar as its new President. Nayar has replaced Ajay Singh, the Co-Founder of SpiceJet airline, whose tenure has ended.
- Sanjay Nayar is a well-known figure in the global financial markets. He was the former Chief Executive of KKR India, a leading investment firm.
- Nayar brings with him over 40 years of experience in financial and capital markets. He has worked for 25 years at Citigroup and nearly 14 years at KKR, before retiring last year.



## Santosh Kumar Jha:

- Santosh Kumar Jha, an Indian Railway Traffic Services (IRTS) officer of the 1992 batch, will assume the role of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRCL) on April 1, 2024.
- Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRCL) is a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Railways. With Jha's appointment, KRCL is poised to benefit from his extensive knowledge and leadership abilities.

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## Sandeep Jain:

- ➔ Sandeep Jain, an auto-component manufacturer and alumnus of IIT-Kanpur, has been unanimously elected as the President of the Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) for the year 2024-25.
- ➔ In line with FISME's tradition of holding annual elections, Jain's name was approved in a meeting of the Central Executive Committee held in New Delhi.
- ➔ FISME elects one-third of its CEC members annually, and the newly constituted body elects the President for the year.



## Kodaikanal Solar Observatory:

- ➔ Perched atop the picturesque Palani Hills in Tamil Nadu, the iconic Kodaikanal Solar Observatory (KSO) recently commemorated a remarkable milestone – its 125th anniversary of studying the celestial body that sustains life on Earth, the Sun.
- ➔ Established on April 1, 1899, by the British, the Kodaikanal Solar Observatory has been a cradle of groundbreaking research in solar astrophysics for over a century.

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- Throughout its illustrious history, the observatory has been the birthplace of numerous pathbreaking discoveries that have profoundly impacted our perception of the Sun and its intricate workings.

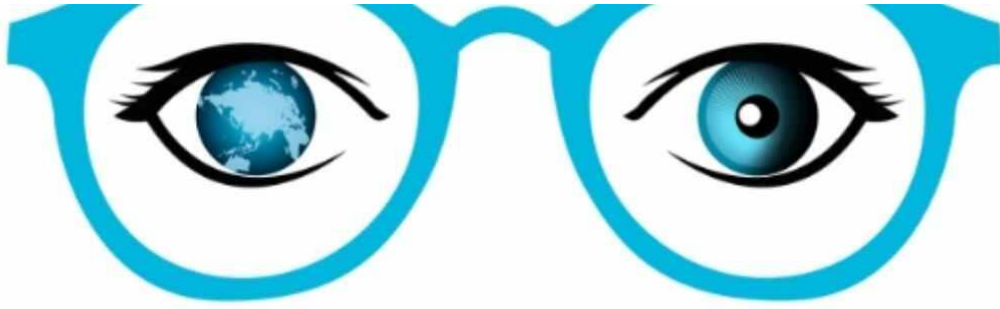


## Prevention of Blindness Week:

- Our eyes are very important and allow us to see the world around us. However, many people around the world suffer from blindness or vision problems. To address this, the Indian government has declared April 1 to April 7 as Prevention of Blindness Week.
- This week aims to create awareness about the importance of taking care of our eyes and getting regular eye examinations to prevent eye diseases like age-related macular degeneration. In 1960, Jawaharlal Nehru and Raj Kumari Amrit Kaur started the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness.
- It is a voluntary organization that accepts donations and works with other groups to fight blindness. India was the first country to take a loan from the World Bank to help eliminate blindness.
- The theme for Prevention of Blindness Week 2024 is decided by the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The theme for this year has not been announced yet.

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From April 1 to April 7

# Prevention of Blindness Week

## Indian economy:

- ➔ The Indian economy is projected to grow at 7.5 per cent in 2024, the World Bank has said, revising its earlier projections for the same period by 1.2 per cent.
- ➔ According to the report, South Asia is expected to remain the fastest-growing region in the world for the next two years, with growth projected to be 6.1 per cent in 2025.

## ECONOMY



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## EVI:

- ➔ EVI is the world's first emotionally intelligent voice AI developed by Hume. It is powered by Hume's proprietary empathic large language model.
- ➔ EVI processes the tune, rhythm and timbre of speech which allows it to unlock new capabilities like knowing when to speak and generating more empathic language with the right tone of voice.



## "One Vehicle, One FASTag":

- ➔ To enhance the efficiency of the electronic toll collection system and provide seamless movement at toll plazas, the NHAI has taken the "One Vehicle, One FASTag" initiative.
- ➔ It employs Radio Frequency Identification technology for making toll payments.
- ➔ FASTag is an electronic toll collection system in India, operated by the National Highways Authority of India.



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2024, April 4-5

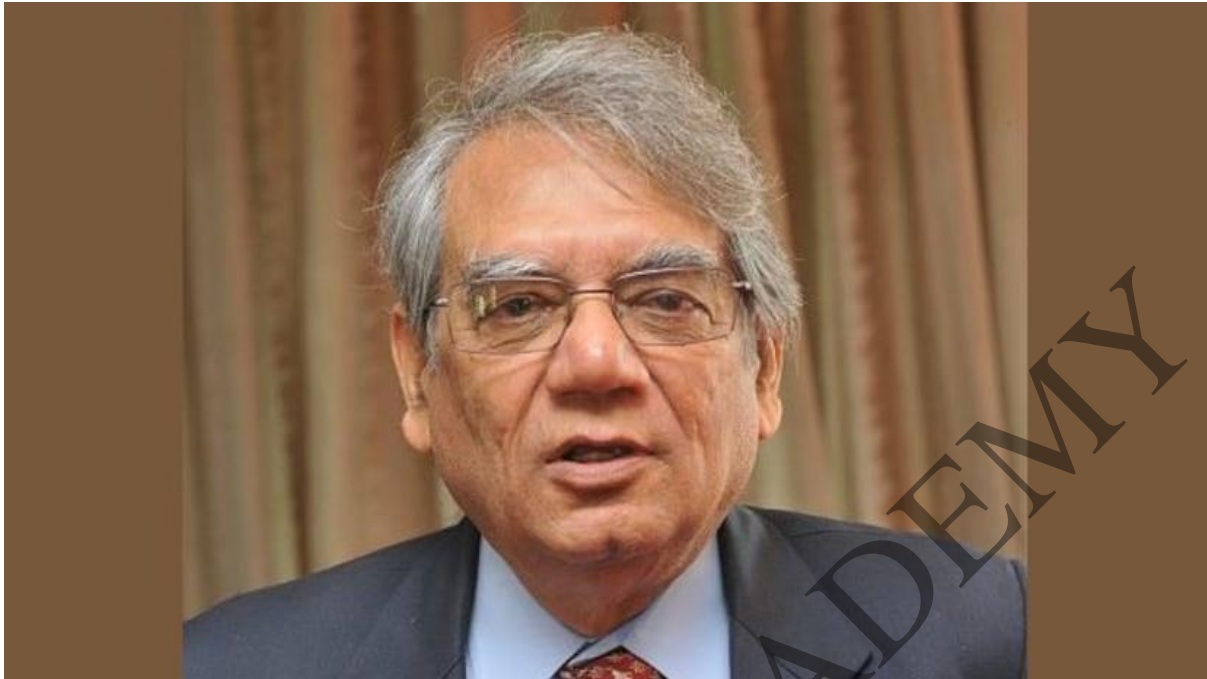
## Ayushmann Khurrana:

- ➔ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has roped in popular actor Ayushmann Khurrana to encourage the youth to exercise their franchise in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.
- ➔ The 39-year-old actor features in the ECI's campaign video that urges youngsters to vote in the upcoming elections.
- ➔ Santosh Ajmera, Director of Voter Education at ECI, New Delhi, praised Khurrana for supporting the ECI's campaign, aimed at addressing urban and youth apathy in electoral participation.



## Rakesh Mohan:

- ➔ The World Bank Group has appointed former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) deputy governor Rakesh Mohan as a member of its Economic Advisory Panel.
- ➔ This panel will be chaired by Lord Nicholas Stern, the IG Patel Professor of Economics and Government at the London School of Economics. World Bank Group Chief Economist Indermit Gill will co-chair the panel.



## **FIDE rankings:**

- ➔ In the latest FIDE rankings released by the world governing body of chess, India has a new number 1 chess player – Arjun Erigaisi. With a standard rating of 2756, Erigaisi is ranked ninth in the world.
- ➔ This is his debut in the top 10 of the Open standard list. Following Erigaisi is the five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand, who is the second-ranked Indian on the FIDE list.
- ➔ The 21-year-old Erigaisi collected eight points in the 5th Shengzhen Chess Masters and Bundesliga, which propelled him to the ninth position on the list.



## ‘Agni-Prime’:

- ➔ The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and India’s Strategic Forces Command (SFC) have successfully conducted a flight test of the new generation ballistic missile called ‘Agni-Prime’. The test occurred at Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, off Odisha’s coast.
- ➔ The data was captured by several range sensors placed at different locations, including two downrange ships placed at the terminal point.
- ➔ The launch was witnessed by the Chief of Defence Staff, Chief of Strategic Forces Command, and other senior officials from DRDO and the Indian Army.

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## Army Medical Corps:

- ➔ The Army Medical Corps (AMC) celebrated its 260th Raising Day on 03rd April 2024.
- ➔ Raised in the year 1764, the Corps has rendered selfless service to the nation over centuries of progress, development, dedication, and sacrifice, both in combat and in peace, living up to the Corps motto of 'Sarve Santu Niramaya' meaning 'let all be free from disease'.



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## NATO:

- The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is marking its 75th anniversary this year. The alliance, founded in 1949, will hold a special event in Brussels, Belgium to commemorate this milestone.
- NATO was originally founded by 12 countries, including the United States, Canada, and several Western European nations.
- Over the past seven decades, NATO's membership has almost tripled, with 30 countries now part of the alliance.
- Most recently, Finland became the 31st member in April 2023. Sweden has also been accepted as the 32nd member, and Hungary is in the process of ratifying its accession.



## UPI transactions in India:

- In the second half of 2023, UPI transactions in India witnessed a remarkable surge of 56% year-on-year, outpacing the modest growth of 6% in card transactions, according to a report by payment service provider Worldline.
- The report reveals that the volume of UPI transactions soared to 65.77 billion, marking a substantial increase from 42.09 billion in the same period.
- Moreover, transaction value saw a significant rise of 44%, reaching Rs 99.68 trillion from Rs 69.36 trillion.



## SJVN & IIT Patna:

- ➔ SJVN, formerly Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam, has forged a strategic partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology Patna (IIT Patna) aimed at revolutionizing tunneling project performance through the integration of advanced geological models.
- ➔ The primary objective of the MoU is to leverage advanced geological models developed by IIT Patna to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of SJVN's tunneling projects.



## Manohar International Airport:

- ➔ The Manohar International Airport in Mopa, Goa, has become the 14th airport in India to launch the Digi Yatra system.
- ➔ This biometric-enabled system uses facial recognition technology to automate the entry and verification of passengers at various airport checkpoints, making the travel experience more seamless and convenient.
- ➔ The Digi Yatra system is already operational in 13 other Indian airports, including Delhi, Bengaluru, Varanasi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and Mumbai, among others.
- ➔ The Digi Yatra system allows passengers to link their Aadhaar number to a Digi Yatra ID on their mobile app. At the airport, they can simply scan their boarding pass, and the facial recognition system will confirm their identity, allowing them to proceed through security and boarding without manual checks.



## Geographical Indication:

- ➔ In a significant milestone for agricultural recognition, the indigenous wheat variety from the Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh, locally known as Kathiya Gehu, has been granted the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ➔ This is the first farm produce from Uttar Pradesh to receive this honor. Uttar Pradesh has emerged as a leader in acquiring GI tags, becoming the first state to achieve a remarkable 69 GI tags.
- ➔ These tags highlight India's rich cultural diversity and agricultural heritage.





## **United Nations Observes International Mine Awareness Day:**

- ➔ The United Nations Observes International Mine Awareness Day on 4th April. International Mine Awareness Day is a day dedicated to raising awareness about the serious impact of landmines and other explosive remnants of war on civilians.
- ➔ It also aims to promote the protection of persons with disabilities in conflict and peacebuilding settings. The theme for International Day for Mine Awareness & Assistance in Mine Action 2024 is 'Protecting Lives, Building Peace'.



## ‘International Conscience Day’:

- ➔ ‘International Conscience Day’ is celebrated every year on 5 April. This day is celebrated to remind people to introspect, follow their conscience and do the right thing. The theme for the International Day of Conscience in 2024 is ‘Promoting a Culture of Peace with Love and Conscience’.
- ➔ This theme emphasizes the importance of cultivating a global mindset focused on peace, compassion, and moral integrity.



### **National Maritime Day:**

- ➔ National Maritime Day is observed annually on April 5 in India. It is a day dedicated to recognizing the importance of the maritime sector in the country's international trade and economic growth.
- ➔ The date marks a significant milestone in India's maritime history. On April 5, 1919, the first Indian commercial ship, SS Loyalty, embarked on a journey to the United Kingdom, breaking the British monopoly on sea routes. This event was a crucial step in the development of India's shipping industry.



## First privately managed strategic petroleum reserve:

- ➔ India plans to build its first privately managed strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) by 2029-30, granting the operator the freedom to trade all of the stored oil.
- ➔ Allowing a fully commercial SPR mirrors the model adopted by countries such as Japan and South Korea, which allow private lessees, mostly oil majors, to trade the crude.
- ➔ So far, India has allowed only partial commercialization for its three existing SPRs in southern India, which have a combined capacity of 36.7 million barrels.



## International Carrot Day:

- International Carrot Day is celebrated every year on 4 April. This day is dedicated to the popular carrot vegetable and all the activities that are associated with it.
- Objective – To raise awareness about the potential health benefits of carrots, including reducing the risk of cancer, heart disease, and obesity.
- The Carrot Day was founded in 2003 to spread knowledge about the carrot and its good attributes around the world.
- The day is increasingly popular, and 4th April 2012 carrot day celebration was reported from France, Italy, Sweden, Russia, Australia, UK and Japan.



## World's most powerful laser:

- A research centre in Romania has recently unveiled “the world’s most powerful laser”, which is based on the inventions of 2018 Nobel Physics Prize winners Gerard Mourou and Donna Strickland.
- The laser, as per the Romanian research centre, is expected to revolutionize everything from the health sector to space exploration.
- The laser at the research centre, situated near the Romanian capital Bucharest, is operated by the French company Thales, using Nobel prize-winning inventions.



## India's first home-grown gene therapy for cancer at IIT Bombay:

- ➔ The President of India launched India's first home-grown gene therapy for cancer at IIT Bombay. The line of treatment is named "CAR-T cell therapy".
- ➔ India's first CAR-T cell therapy has been developed through collaboration between the IIT, Bombay and Tata Memorial Hospital in association with industry partner ImmunoACT.

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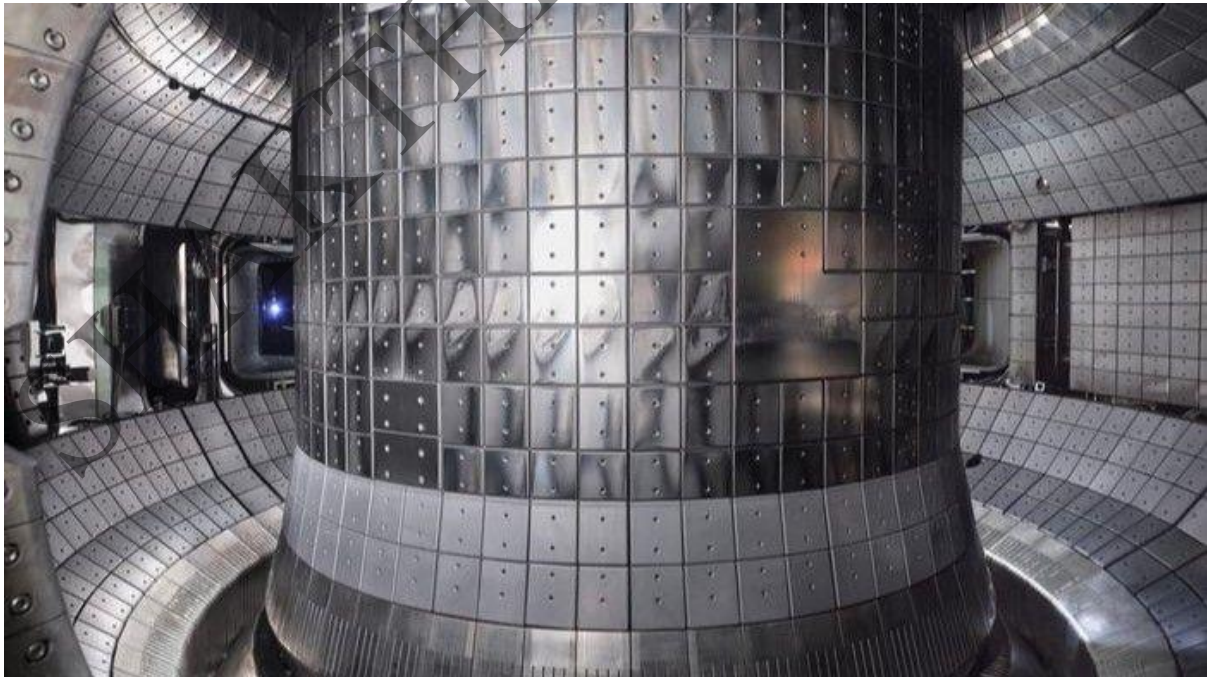
## Press Trust of India:

- ➔ Press Trust of India has joined Meta's Third Party Fact-Checking Partnership to target misinformation on Facebook, Instagram and Whatsapp.
- ➔ Meta has announced PTI's inclusion, emphasizing the expansion of its fact-checking network ahead of Lok Sabha elections.
- ➔ The collaboration aims to identify, review, and rate potentially misleading content, enhancing information credibility on these platforms.



## Korean KSTAR nuclear reactor:

- ➔ Korean KSTAR nuclear reactor achieved a new milestone by sustaining 100 million degrees Celsius plasma for 48 seconds, beating its 2021 record of 30 seconds.
- ➔ This achievement edges closer to practical nuclear fusion, a clean energy source to maintain these temperatures for 300 seconds by 2026. In Dec 2020, It reclaimed 100 million degrees for 20 seconds.





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## UN Human Rights Council:

- ➔ The UN Human Rights Council adopted a resolution to protect intersex rights. 24 countries voted in favour, 23 abstained and none voted against the resolution, which was spearheaded by Finland, South Africa, Chile and Australia.
- ➔ It addressed the rights of 1.7% of babies born intersex, challenging binary gender norms.



## Israel's Knesset:

- ➔ Israel's Knesset passed a pivotal environmental law, aligning with EU standards, aiming for significant pollution reduction.
- ➔ The reform replaced multiple permits with a unified environmental permit, simplifying regulations for around 1,500 factories.
- ➔ It prioritized mitigation of environmental risks with a nuanced approach to licensing, benefiting both large enterprises and small businesses.



## "Project Akashteer":

- ➔ Indian Army inducted "Akashteer" system to enhance air defence posture. "Project Akashteer" is a cutting edge initiative designed to automate air defense control and reporting processes by digitizing them.
- ➔ By integrating radar and communication systems at all levels into a unified network, "Akashteer" aims to deliver an unprecedented level of situational awareness and control.

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## Vedanta's BALCO:

- Vedanta's BALCO has become the first Indian company to receive the ASI Performance Standard V3 certification, recognizing its sustainable aluminium production practices.
- BALCO's achievement reflects its pioneering position in sustainable aluminium production globally and it's on path to achieving Net Zero by 2050.



## Human skeleton:

- A human skeleton found near Kutch Harappan graveyard. Archaeologists excavated skeletons, along with pottery artifacts and animal bones.
- In 2018, archaeologists from the university of Kerala in collaboration with Krantiguru Shyamji Krishna Varma Kachchh University, Bhuj unearthed a mass burial site with 500 graves in Kutch district.



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2024, April 6

## National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Ltd:

- ➔ The National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Ltd (NCDFI), the national-level apex dairy cooperative, has elected its new Board of Directors.
- ➔ In the elections held, Dr. Meenesh Shah was unanimously chosen as the new Chairman of the organization.
- ➔ The election process was conducted by Praveen Chaudhary, IAS, the District Collector of Anand, who served as the Returning Officer.
- ➔ Prior to the Board elections, the NCDFI General Body had elected eight directors to the Board in an unopposed process on April 04, 2024.



## Bilquis Mir:

- ➔ Bilquis Mir, a canoeist from Jammu and Kashmir, is set to make history as the first woman from India to represent the country as a jury member at the upcoming Summer Olympics in Paris.
- ➔ This prestigious appointment was officially conveyed through a letter from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to the J&K administration.

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## SJVN Limited:

- ➔ SJVN Limited, a leading public sector undertaking, has been honored with two prestigious awards at the 15th CIDC Vishwakarma Awards 2024.
- ➔ The awards were given by the Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC) in recognition of SJVN's remarkable contributions to corporate social responsibility (CSR).



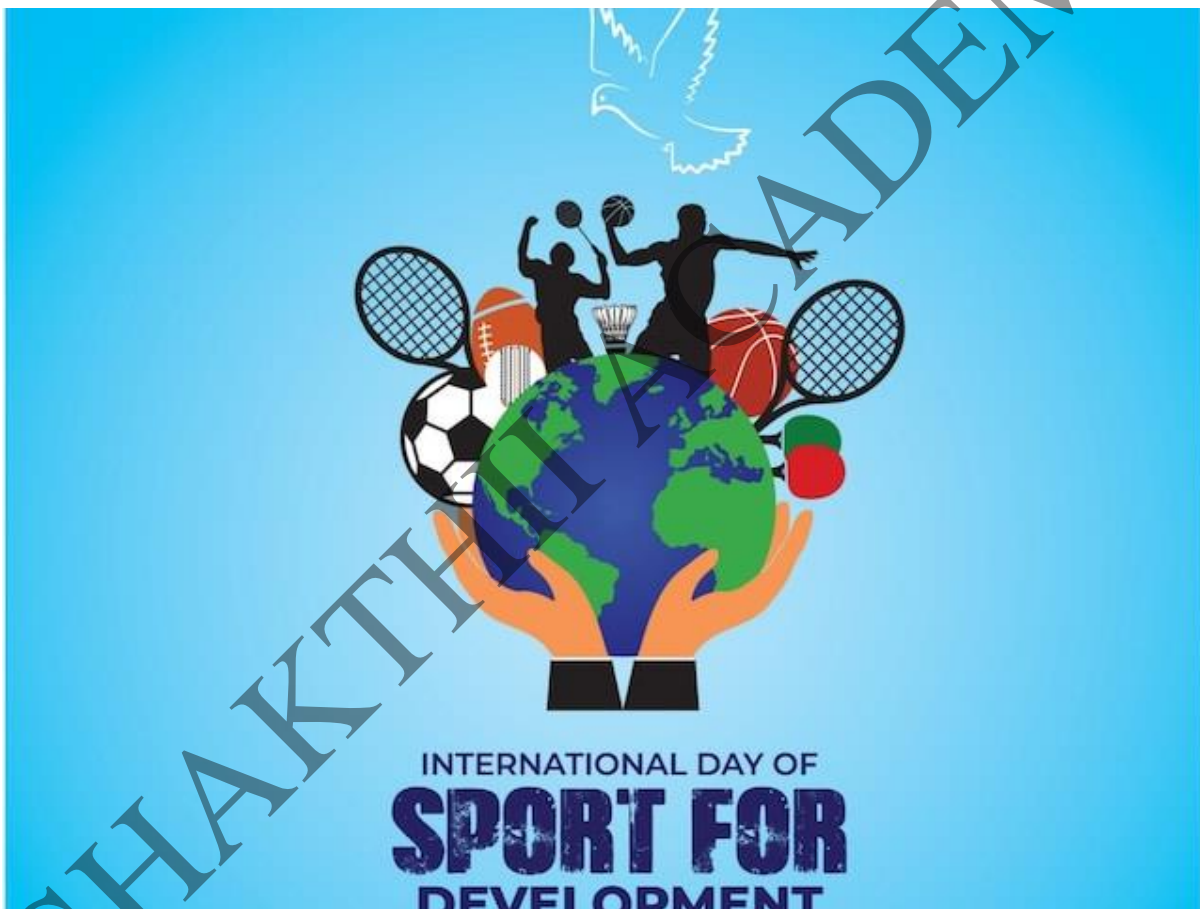
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## International Day of Sport for Development and Peace:

- Every year on April 6th, the world celebrates the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP).
- This day is dedicated to recognizing the positive impact that sports and physical activity can have on people's lives and communities around the globe.
- The global theme for IDSDP 2024 is "Sport for the Promotion of Peaceful and Inclusive Societies".
- This emphasizes the unique ability of sports to unite people, foster social change, and contribute to sustainable development and lasting peace.



## National Handmade Day:

- National Handmade Day is an annual celebration held on the first Saturday of April, which this year falls on April 6, 2024.
- This day is dedicated to honoring, appreciating, and recognizing the skilled individuals who create handmade goods.
- The theme for National Handmade Day 2024 is 'Buy a Handmade Product'. This day encourages people to support local businesses and artisans by purchasing handmade items.

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## National Library Day:

- ➔ National Library Day is celebrated every year on April 6th. On this day, people come together to celebrate the important role that libraries and librarians play in our society.
- ➔ It's a day to reflect on the importance of reading and making books accessible and affordable for everyone.
- ➔ Libraries have been around for a very long time, dating back thousands of years.
- ➔ The first organized library was created in the 7th century BC by an Assyrian ruler named Ashurbanipal. It had around 30,000 clay tablets sorted by topic.

#kvgn



**HAPPY**  
**National Librarian's Day**

Celebrates  
129th  
Birth Anniversary of  
Father of Library Science

Dr. S.R. Ranganathan  
12th August  
1892-1972

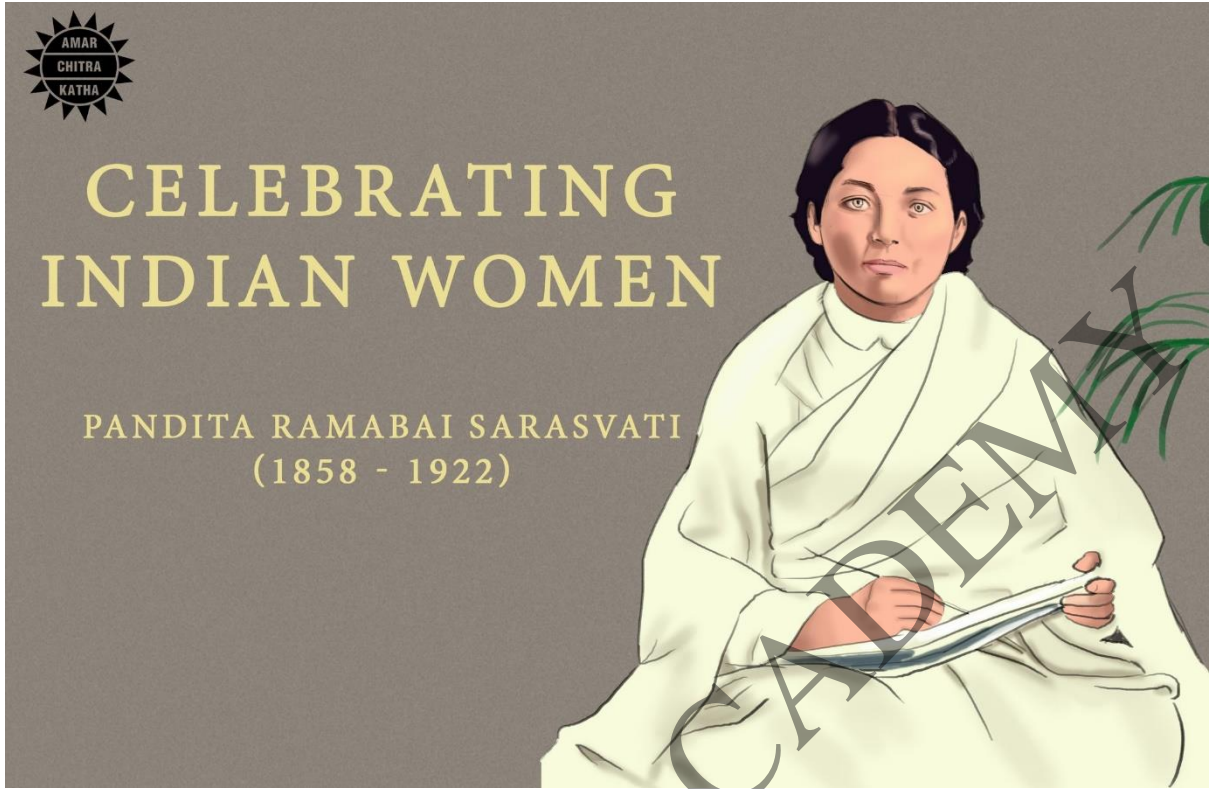
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### Pandita Ramabai:

- ➔ April 6 marks the death anniversary of Pandita Ramabai. She was an Indian Social Reformer. She was the first woman to be awarded the titles of Pandita as a Sanskrit Scholar and Sarasvati after being examined by the faculty of the University of Calcutta.
- ➔ She was one of the 10 women delegates of the congress session of 1889. She started Arya Mahila Samaj at Pune. She founded the Mukti mission for education of child widows.

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2024, April 7

## Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL):

- ➔ Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed an MoU to jointly develop an indigenous Train Control Management System (i-TCMS), aimed at what they called “revolutionising” rail communication technology in the country.
- ➔ The primary objective of this partnership is to identify potential areas of cooperation between BEML and BEL, with a focus on exploring the joint development of high-value products and solutions tailored to the requirements of Indian Railways and Metro systems.



## Importing urea:

- ➔ According to the Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Mansukh Mandaviya, India will stop importing urea by the end of 2025 due to an increase in local production capacity with the commissioning of new fertilizer plants.
- ➔ India is a big importer of Urea and meets around 30% of its 35 million tonnes of annual urea requirement from imports.

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- The urea production in the country increased from 225.08 lakh tonnes in 2014-15 to 284.95 lakh tonnes in 2022-23.



## SPG:

- Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Love Kumar has been appointed as Inspector General in Special Protection Group (SPG). Kumar is a 2004-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Uttar Pradesh cadre.
- He has been appointed to the post for a period of two years with effect from the date of assumption of post or till further orders, whichever is earlier. Currently, he is posted as DIG in the same group.



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## International team of astronomers:

- An International team of astronomers and astrophysicists has confirmed the first known observance of a tidally locked super-Earth exoplanet.
- In a tidally locked situation, a celestial body's rotation period matches its orbital period, resulting in the same side always facing its planet.
- It is a result of gravitational forces between a moon and its planet or a planet and its star.



## World Health Day:

- World Health Day is a global health awareness day celebrated every year on 7th April, under the sponsorship of the World Health Organization.
- In 1948, the WHO held the First World Health Assembly. The date of 7 April marks the founding of WHO in 1948.
- Later it was decided to celebrate 7 April of each year with effect from 1950 as this day. Theme for 2024: "My Health, My Right".



### "Sagar Kavach":

- ➔ "Sagar Kavach", a comprehensive coastal security exercise was conducted off the coast of the Lakshadweep Islands to assess and enhance the preparedness of maritime security agencies.
- ➔ The drill simulated various security scenarios to analyse the response capabilities of the Indian Coast Guard, Navy and local police forces in safeguarding the coastal and territorial waters.

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## United Nations:

- ➔ India to lose 5.8% of daily working hours amid heat stress in 2030: United Nations. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific report highlights severe effects on outdoor workers, agriculture, construction and indoor factory sectors.
- ➔ Rising temperatures correlate with reduced labor productivity, economic output and fiscal revenue collection.





## Economist Intelligence Unit Business Environment:

- ➔ Singapore, Denmark and United States are the best places in the world to conduct business, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit Business Environment Ranking.
- ➔ Germany and Switzerland placed 4th and 5th while Canada, Sweden, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Finland made up rest of the top 10. India ranked 51st in the list with a score of 1.08. Singapore retained top spot for 16th consecutive year.



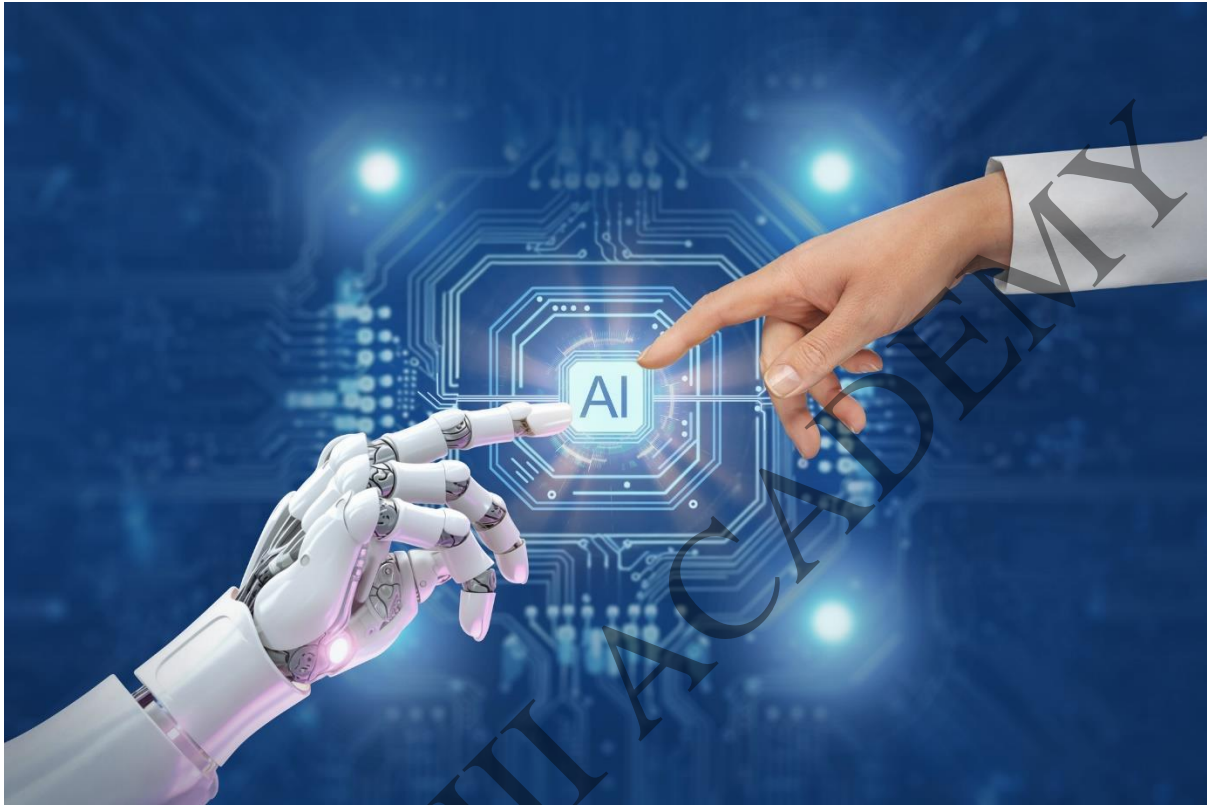
## US and UK:

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- ➔ US and UK signed 1st bilateral AI safety agreement to share expertise and assess AI risks, aiming to regulate emerging technologies.
- ➔ Deal Supports collaboration between new UK AI safety institute and upcoming US counterpart, focusing on evaluating private AI models.



## Gravity hole:

- ➔ In the Indian Ocean, there exists a phenomenon known as a "gravity hole" where the Earth's gravitational pull is weaker, resulting in a depression in the sea level by over 328 ft.
- ➔ It was officially acknowledged as the Indian Ocean geoid low and stands out as the most prominent gravitational anomaly in this region.

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## UP Board of Madarsa Education Act:

- ➔ The Supreme Court issued an interim stay on an Allahabad High Court order labeling the UP Board of Madarsa Education Act, 2004, as unconstitutional.
- ➔ SC Bench led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud cited concerns over the impact on 17 lakh students and questioned the HC's interpretation regarding secularism.



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2024, April 8-9

## Manoj Panda:

- The appointment of Manoj Panda fills a vacancy in the Sixteenth Finance Commission, allowing it to commence its duties.
- Panda, an esteemed economist and former director of the Institute of Economic Growth, joins as a full-time member.
- Manoj Panda, renowned economist and former director of the Institute of Economic Growth, has been appointed as a full-time member of the Sixteenth Finance Commission by the Centre. This appointment completes the panel, enabling it to begin its crucial tasks.



## Igla-S Man Portable Air Defence Systems (MANPADS):

- The Indian Army has bolstered its Very Short Range Air Defence (VSHORAD) capabilities with the acquisition of Igla-S Man Portable Air Defence Systems (MANPADS) from Russia.
- This procurement, part of a larger deal for 120 launchers and 400 missiles, signifies a significant upgrade over outdated systems.

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## GUJCOST:

- ➔ GUJCOST has been appointed as the Nodal Centre for ISRO's START programme, aimed at nurturing aspiring scientists and engineers in the field of space science and technology.
- ➔ The programme, conceptualized by ISRO, provides an introductory online platform covering various areas of space science research.

GUJCOST- GUJARAT COUNCIL ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

## ISRO recognizes GUJCOST as space tutor

**Ahmedabad:** ISRO has recognized Gujarat Council on Science & Technology as 'space tutor' to carry out space education among students and citizens in the state.

“GUJCOST will design and develop interesting and innovative awareness and outreach activities to spark an interest in space technology among students and the common people,” said an official. “It will be carried out through science centres.”

### Geographical Indication:

- Miraj's Sitar and Tanpuras Awarded Geographical Indication Tags. The small town of Miraj in Maharashtra's Sangli district is known for its craftsmanship in making musical instruments, particularly sitars and tanpuras.
- These instruments have now been awarded the coveted Geographical Indication (GI) tags, recognizing their unique origin and quality.



## Gangaur:

- ➔ Gangaur is an important festival celebrated throughout Rajasthan, commemorating the union of Lord Shiva (Gan) and Goddess Parvati (Gauri).
- ➔ The term “Gan” refers to Lord Shiva, while “Gauri” or “Gaur” represents Goddess Parvati, Shiva’s heavenly consort. Gangaur symbolizes the happiness and auspiciousness of marriage, making it a significant celebration for the people of Rajasthan.



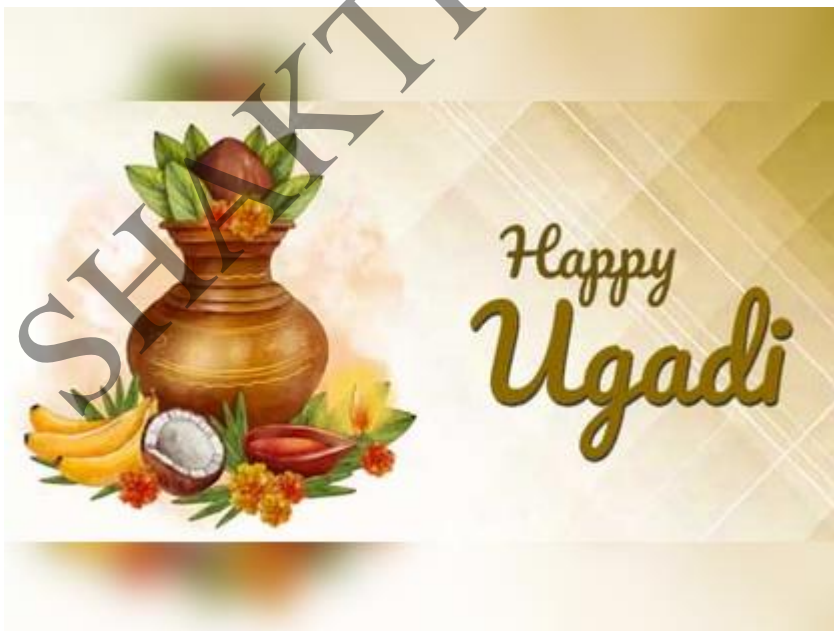
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## Ugadi 2024:

- ➔ Ugadi 2024, falling on April 9th, marks the New Year for states like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana. Rooted in Hindu mythology, it celebrates the creation of the world by Lord Brahma.
- ➔ Families partake in rituals like oil baths and Panchanga Sravanam, embracing the arrival of spring and the promise of a new era with joyous festivities and cultural traditions.
- ➔ Ugadi, the traditional New Year festival celebrated across several states in India, including Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana, falls on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, according to Drik Panchang.



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## ‘Booth Raabta’:

- ➔ In Punjab, under the unique initiative of the District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner of Malerkotla, Dr. Pallavi, a special website named ‘Booth Raabta’ has been launched to provide election-related information to the people of the district.
- ➔ The website boothraabta.com will be helpful not only to the voters but also to the polling personnel in any circumstances.



## National Zoo Lovers Day:

- ➔ National Zoo Lovers Day is celebrated every year on 8 April. National Zoo Lovers Day encourages us to explore our local zoos. Each year millions of people visit zoos and learn about the many animals that live there.
- ➔ Also known as zoological parks, many of them serve as breeding centers. These facilities are relied upon when species are endangered or at risk of becoming endangered.
- ➔ They also provide education to the public about a broad variety of animals and their habitats.



## Bravery Day (Valour Day):

- ➔ Every year April 9 is celebrated as Bravery Day (Valour Day) to pay tribute to the brave soldiers of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF). This year, CRPF is celebrating its 59th Bravery Day.
- ➔ In 1965, a group of Pakistani soldiers attacked some other Indian soldiers near the Rann of Kutch.
- ➔ The Indian soldiers were unaware of this sudden attack, as they did not know that the attack was going to happen.
- ➔ During this attack, a CRPF officer named Bhavana Ram had saved a place called Sardar Post from infiltrators in a fight. This was the first time that a special group of police fought directly with Pakistani soldiers and they won. Six police officers died in this fight.

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## National Mature Women's Day:

- ➔ National Mature Women's Day is observed every year on 9 April. It's a special holiday for the special older women in our lives — a day to recognize mature and confident women.
- ➔ This day is all about reminding women that they are special regardless of their advancing years. It was celebrated since 2021.

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## World's first refrigerator:

- ➔ A team of researchers at Saarland University and the Center for Mechatronics and Automation Technology has developed the world's first refrigerator cooled with artificial muscles made of nitinol, a nickel titanium alloy.
- ➔ The technology is based on a simple principle of removing heat from a space by stretching wires and releasing them again.

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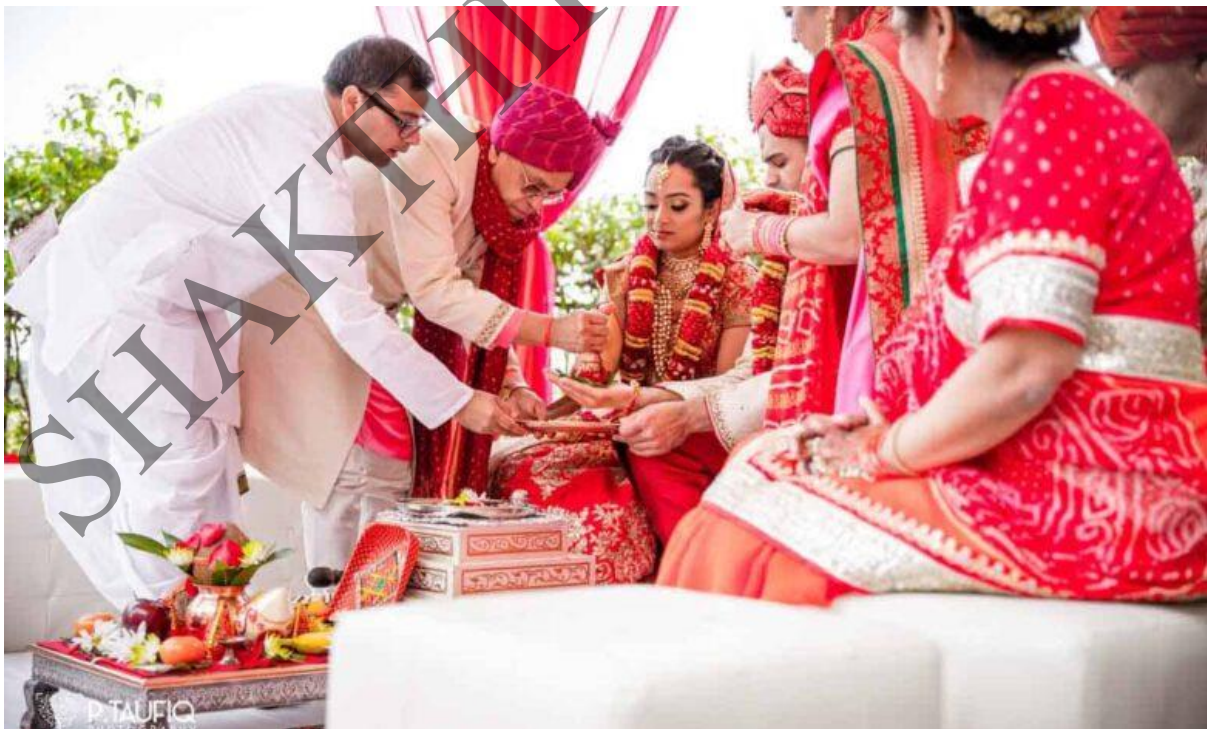
## Total Solar Eclipse:

- ➔ On April 8<sup>th</sup>, Total Solar Eclipse mania gripped all of Mexico, the U.S and Canada. The moon swept in front of the sun, blotting out daylight.
- ➔ A total Solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the sun and Earth completely covering the sun's face for observers on a specific part of Earth called the "path of totality".
- ➔ It is rare, unforgettable astronomical event during which daytime sky darkens significantly, mimicking the appearance of dusk or dawn.



## "Kanyadaan":

- ➔ A bench of Justice Subhash Vidyarthi clarifies that "Kanyadaan" is not mandatory under the Hindu Marriage Act 1955.
- ➔ The court emphasized on "Saptapadi"(seven steps or saat pheras) as marriage's fundamental ritual.



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## SpaceX:

- SpaceX successfully deployed the TSAT-1A satellite developed by Tata Advanced Systems Limited in partnership with Satellogic Inc.
- The launch took place from SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from Kennedy Space Center, Florida. TSAT-1A is designed to deliver high-resolution optical satellite images.



## "Early Warnings for All":

- India is aiding Nepal, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Mauritius in developing early warning systems as part of the United Nations "Early Warnings for All" initiative.
- According to WMO, 101 countries now have multi-hazard early warning systems. It is projected that by 2030, the world could face 560 medium-to-large-scale disasters each year.



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2024, April 10-11

## Air India:

- ➔ Air India has appointed Jayaraj Shanmugam, an industry veteran with 25 years of experience spanning across airlines, airports, and telecom industries, as the Head of Global Airport Operations.
- ➔ This decision comes amidst the airline's efforts to enhance its operations and customer experience as part of the Vihaan.AI transformation journey.



## Harendra Singh:

- ➔ Former Indian hockey player and Dronacharya awardee Harendra Singh has been selected by Hockey India as the coach of the senior national women's hockey team.
- ➔ He will replace Janneke Schopman, a former Dutch hockey player, who resigned last month as the coach of the national women's team after the Indian team failed to qualify for the Paris Olympics 2024.

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## Sumit Nagal:

- ➔ In a historic moment for Indian tennis, Sumit Nagal becomes the first Indian player to win an ATP Masters 1000 match on clay courts, marking a significant milestone in his career.
- ➔ Nagal's remarkable feat at the Rolex Monte Carlo Masters cements his status as India's top tennis player.



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## Hurun Global Unicorn Index:

- In 2024, the global unicorn landscape witnessed significant developments and challenges, as outlined in the Hurun Global Unicorn Index.
- While the United States maintained its lead with 703 unicorns and China followed with 340, India ranked third with 67 unicorns.
- However, India experienced a notable decline in unicorn creation for the first time since 2017, attributed primarily to a lack of investment despite robust stock market performance.



## ‘InfluenceMap’:

- According to a report released by the think tank ‘InfluenceMap’, just 57 companies are responsible for 80% of the world’s carbon emissions from fossil fuels and cement over the past seven years.
- These 57 companies are involved in the production of oil, gas, coal, and cement in the world. The report concludes that the net zero target set under the Paris Climate Change Agreement in 2015 has not been achieved, and fossil fuels have not been able to have a significant impact on production.
- The production of cement and fossil fuels has reached unprecedented levels, and most of the emissions growth has come from a relatively small number of large companies.



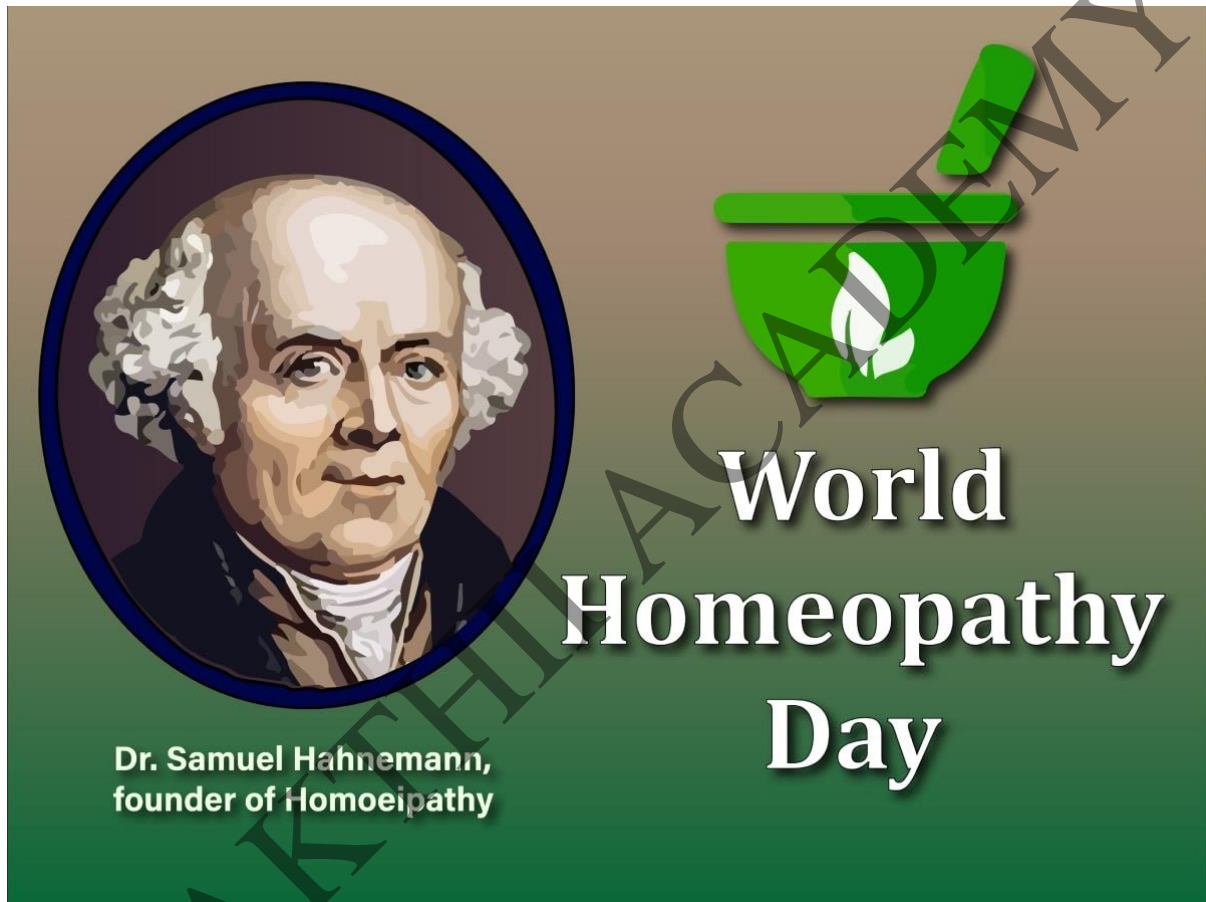
## WHO:

- ➔ The World Health Organisation's (WHO) 2024 Global Hepatitis Report reveals that India is second only to China in the number of Hepatitis B and C infections, with 3.5 crore cases.
- ➔ Hepatitis, characterized by liver inflammation, poses significant health risks and can be fatal. The report highlights that 254 million people are affected by Hepatitis B and 50 million by Hepatitis C globally.



## World Homeopathy Day:

- World Homeopathy Day is observed on April 10th every year. The theme for World Homeopathy Day 2024 is “Homeoparivar: One Health, One Family.”
- Homeopathy is a form of alternative medicine that believes in the power of tiny homeopathic substances to cure the symptoms of a condition.
- The word “homeopathy” comes from the Greek words “homeo,” meaning “similar,” and “pathos,” meaning “suffering or disease.”



## National Safe Motherhood Day:

- National Safe Motherhood Day, observed annually on April 11th, is a crucial occasion to highlight the importance of maternal health and well-being.
- This day serves as a powerful reminder of the need to prioritize the care and support for mothers, ensuring a safe and healthy journey through pregnancy and childbirth.



APRIL 11  
NATIONAL SAFE  
MOTHERHOOD  
DAY

## Parkinson's Day:

- ➔ World Parkinson's Day is observed annually on April 11 to raise awareness about Parkinson's disease, a neurodegenerative disorder that affects millions of people worldwide.
- ➔ This day serves as a reminder of the challenges faced by individuals living with Parkinson's, as well as their caregivers and families.

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**WORLD  
PARKINSON'S DAY**

11 April

### 1 lakh MW:

- ➔ India aims to increase its nuclear power production to 1 lakh MW by 2047, a significant jump from the current 8,000 MW. This goal was highlighted by Atomic Energy Commission Chairman A K Mohanty at the release of a report on energy transitions.
- ➔ He said the breeder reactors would contribute 3 GW of nuclear power, while 17.6 GW would come from light water reactors built with international cooperation and another 40-45 GW would come from the pressurized heavy water reactors.



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## Sittwe:

- ➔ After Chabahar, India has gained the rights to operate a second overseas port, Sittwe, in Myanmar.
- ➔ The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has approved a proposal for India Ports Global (IPGL) to take over the operations of the entire port located on the Kaladan River. IPGL is a company 100 per cent owned by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- ➔ In the Indian Ocean, China and India are engaged in a struggle to expand their economic influence. Ports have become highly significant in this rivalry. China, in particular, has been aggressively seeking to acquire operating rights for numerous ports.



## European Union (EU) and India:

- ➔ The European Union (EU) and India have launched an Expression of Interest (EoI) for startups working in Battery Recycling Technologies for Electric Vehicles (EVs) for a matchmaking event.

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- The matchmaking aims to enhance the cooperation between European and Indian Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and startups in the clean and green technologies sector.



## Society For Innovation & Entrepreneurship (SINE), IIT Bombay and Canara Bank:

- The Society For Innovation & Entrepreneurship (SINE), IIT Bombay and Canara Bank entered into a MoU to provide financial support to startups.
- Under its Canara Start-Up Scheme, Canara Bank is providing financial support for the creation, promotion, diversification, and modernization of industrial units across India.
- SINE, as a technology business incubator, offers comprehensive incubation and acceleration support from start to finish for technology startups.



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## TSAT-1A:

- Tata Advanced Systems (TASL), Tata Sons' wholly-owned subsidiary, has launched India's first private sector-built sub-metre resolution earth observation satellite, TSAT-1A, in collaboration with Satellogic.
- The satellite was launched from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, by SpaceX. The satellite was assembled at TASL's facility in Karnataka. Elon Musk's SpaceX launched a total of 11 satellites in its maiden Bandwagon flight.



## “Experimental Licence module for 100 5G Labs”:

- In a move to smoothen the processes for 100 5G Labs across academic institutions in India, one of the “Experimental Licence module for 100 5G Labs” was launched during a 5G workshop at IIT Madras.
- This initiative aims to simplify the experimental licence requirements for these institutions, facilitating smoother operations and fostering innovation in the 5G domain.
- The primary objective behind this initiative is to cultivate competencies and engagement in 5G technologies among students and start-up communities.

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## IIT Jodhpur:

- IIT Jodhpur develops a nanosensor for early detection of serious diseases by targeting cytokines.
- The nanosensor utilizes semiconductor technology and Surface enhanced Raman Scattering to detect diseases in 30 minutes.



## Nilgiri:

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- ➔ The Central government has released the rank of 299 districts across the country.
- ➔ Nilgiri district of Tamil Nadu achieved 1st place, while Mahoba district of Uttar Pradesh ranked 2nd in the country under the Jal Jeevan Mission.



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2024, April 12-13

## Sachidananda Mohanty:

- ➔ Sachidananda Mohanty has been appointed as a Member of the University Grants Commission (UGC) for a period of three years with immediate effect.
- ➔ The appointment was made by the Ministry of Higher Education, Government of India, as per a gazette notification.



## Jawaharlal Nehru University:

- ➔ In a momentous achievement, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has secured the top position in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024, reaffirming its status as India's premier academic institution.
- ➔ This remarkable feat not only underscores JNU's commitment to academic excellence but also reflects India's growing prominence in the global education landscape.

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## International Day of Human Space Flight:

- ➔ The International Day of Human Space Flight is commemorated every year on April 12 to mark the beginning of the space era for mankind.
- ➔ The United Nations General Assembly, on April 7, 2011, passed a resolution to establish the International Day of Human Space Flight on a particular day every year.
- ➔ The primary reason behind choosing April 12 as the date is rooted in the Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin's achievement to orbit Earth aboard the Vostok 1 spacecraft on this day.
- ➔ This achievement by Gagarin paved the path for space exploration for the benefit of humanity.



## Baisakhi 2024:

- ➔ Baisakhi 2024, celebrated on April 13th, marks the founding of the Sikh Khalsa in 1699 by Guru Gobind Singh. It's a time for Sikhs to reflect on their faith's values of equality and service, amidst vibrant festivities worldwide.
- ➔ The occasion also signifies the beginning of the harvest season and the solar New Year in North India. Baisakhi, known as Vaisakhi in Sikh tradition, is a festival eagerly anticipated by millions across India. In 2024, Baisakhi falls on April 13th, a Saturday.





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## Jallianwala Bagh Massacre:

- ➔ The Amritsar Massacre, also known as the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, remains one of the darkest episodes in India's struggle for independence.
- ➔ On April 13, 1919, General Dyer ordered his soldiers to open fire on an unarmed gathering in Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar, leading to hundreds of deaths and injuries.
- ➔ In 2024, India observes 105th anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre which serves as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made in the pursuit of freedom. The repercussions of this atrocity continue to reverberate through history, influencing political discourse and public memory.



## NTPC Limited:

- ➔ NTPC Limited has launched a new edition of its flagship corporate social responsibility initiative, Girl Child Empowerment Mission (GEM).
- ➔ This program aligns with the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (Save the Girl Child, Educate the Girl Child) campaign launched by the Government of India.
- ➔ GEM aims to nurture the imaginations of girls. And also, to eliminate gender inequality by promoting their ability to explore opportunities.



## Citroën:

- ➔ French carmaker Citroën became the first multinational car manufacturer in India to export domestically made electric vehicles to the international market.
- ➔ Initial shipment of 500 units of the Made-in-India Citroën ë-C3 to Indonesia was ceremonially flagged from Kamarajar Port.
- ➔ The move aligned with Citroën's global ambitions of democratising electric mobility to increase the adoption of sustainable and clean modes of transportation.

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## HDFC Bank:

- ➔ Private lender HDFC Bank has opened a branch at Kavaratti Island in Lakshadweep, making it the only private sector bank to have a branch in the Union Territory.
- ➔ This branch is aimed at upgrading the banking infrastructure in the Union Territory by offering a wide range of services with a focus on personal banking, and digital banking which also includes customised digital solutions including QR based transaction to retailers.

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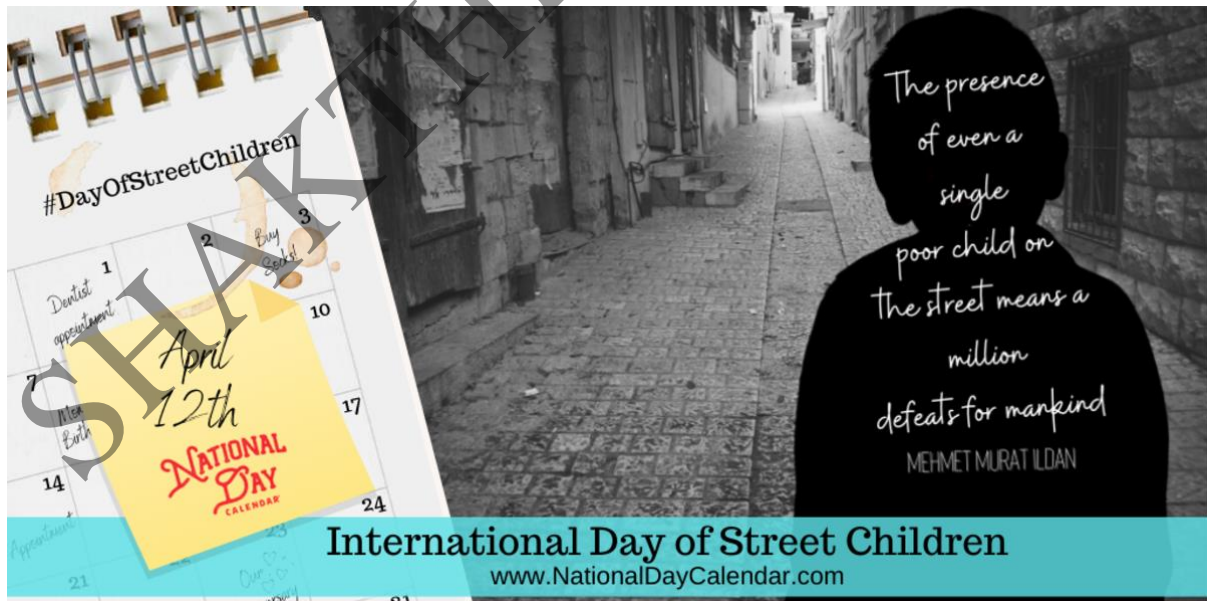
## National Submarine Day:

- ➔ National Submarine Day is observed every year on 11 April. This day is significant as it marks the beginning of the modern submarine era.
- ➔ The day also serves as a reminder of the contributions made by submarines to the nation's defence and security.



## International Day for Street Children:

- ➔ The International Day for Street Children is observed on April 12 every year. The day is dedicated to raising awareness about the plight of street children and to promoting their inclusion and well-being.
- ➔ Street children are defined as children under the age of 18 who live on the streets or in makeshift camps and are not given adequate protection or supervision.



## Vostok 1:

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- Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin was a Soviet Pilot and cosmonaut who aboard the first successful crewed spaceflight, became the 1st human to journey into outer space. Traveling on Vostok 1, Gagarin completed one orbit of Earth on 12 April 1961.
- Vostok 1 was Gagarin's only spaceflight, but he served as the backup crew to Soyuz 1, which ended in a fatal crash, killing his friend Vladimir Komarov.



## "World Cybercrime Index":

- India ranked number 10 in cybercrime with frauds involving people to make advance fee payments being the most common type.
- An international team of researchers has compiled the "World Cybercrime Index" that ranked roughly 100 countries. In this index, 1st Russia, 2nd Ukraine, 3rd China.



## Siachen glacier:

- ➔ The Siachen glacier at the height of around 20,000 feet in the Karakoram mountain range is known as the highest militarised zone in the world where soldiers have to battle frostbite and high winds.
- ➔ Under its "Operation Meghdoot", the Indian Army established its full control over the glacier on April 13, 1984. In January 2023, Captain Shiva Chauhan became the first woman deployed in Siachen.



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## U.S white house:

- The U.S white house officially tasked NASA with establishing a time standard for the moon, called Coordinated Lunar Time which international bodies can use to coordinate their activities on the Lunar Surface.
- Establishing a lunar time zone will better enable communications between spacecraft, data transfers, landing, docking and navigation.



## Digital services exports:

- India scores ahead of China in digital services exports in 2023. In Europe and Asia, exports rose by 11% and 9%, according to the Global Trade Outlook and Statistics report released by the WTO.
- India has become the world's 4th largest exporter of digitally delivered services, constituting over a fifth of global trade in services.





## Aniruddha bose:

- ➔ The supreme court has appointed Justice Aniruddha bose as the Director of the National Judicial Academy.
- ➔ He served as an advocate in the Calcutta High Court and was appointed as Permanent Judge of Calcutta High Court in 2004.



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## Anurag Kumar IPS:

- The Appointments committee of the Cabinet has approved the appointment of Anurag Kumar IPS for the post of Joint Director in CBI.
- CBI Headquarters: New Delhi. Founded: 1 April 1963.



## Gopi Thotakura:

- Gopi Thotakura is set to become the 1st Indian Space tourist.
- And also this marks him the second Indian to venture into space after winning commander Rakesh Sharma in 1984.



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2024, April 14-15

## Vandita Kaul:

- In a significant development, Senior Bureaucrat Vandita Kaul, a seasoned professional with a wealth of experience in financial services and banking, has been appointed as the Secretary of the Department of Posts.
- Kaul, a 1989-batch Indian Postal Service officer, currently serves as Member (Banking & Direct Benefit Transfer) of the Postal Services Board. She will succeed Vineet Pandey upon his superannuation.



## Rashmi Kumari:

- In a display of unparalleled skill and consistency, Rashmi Kumari has etched her name deeper into the annals of Indian carrom history by claiming her 12th National Carrom Championship title.

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- ➔ The three-time World Champion overcame a tough challenge from K Nagajothi in the women's final, emerging victorious with a scoreline of 25-8, 14-20, 25-20.



## Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Army:

- ➔ In a significant milestone for India's defense capability, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Army have successfully conducted trials of the indigenously designed and developed Man Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) Weapon System.
- ➔ This indigenously developed marks a crucial step towards achieving self-reliance in advanced technology-based defense systems, as underscored by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh.



## Plastic waste:

- ➔ India ranks among the top twelve countries responsible for 60% of the world's mismanaged plastic waste, as highlighted in the recent Plastic Overshoot Day report by Switzerland's EA Earth Action.
- ➔ Despite having the lowest per capita plastic waste production globally, India is expected to generate 7.4 million tons of mismanaged plastic waste in 2024, a figure the report deems "very high".
- ➔ China, India, Russia, Brazil, Mexico, Vietnam, Iran, Indonesia, Egypt, Pakistan, the United States, and Turkey account for 60% of the world's mismanaged plastic waste.



## Avantika Vandhanapu:

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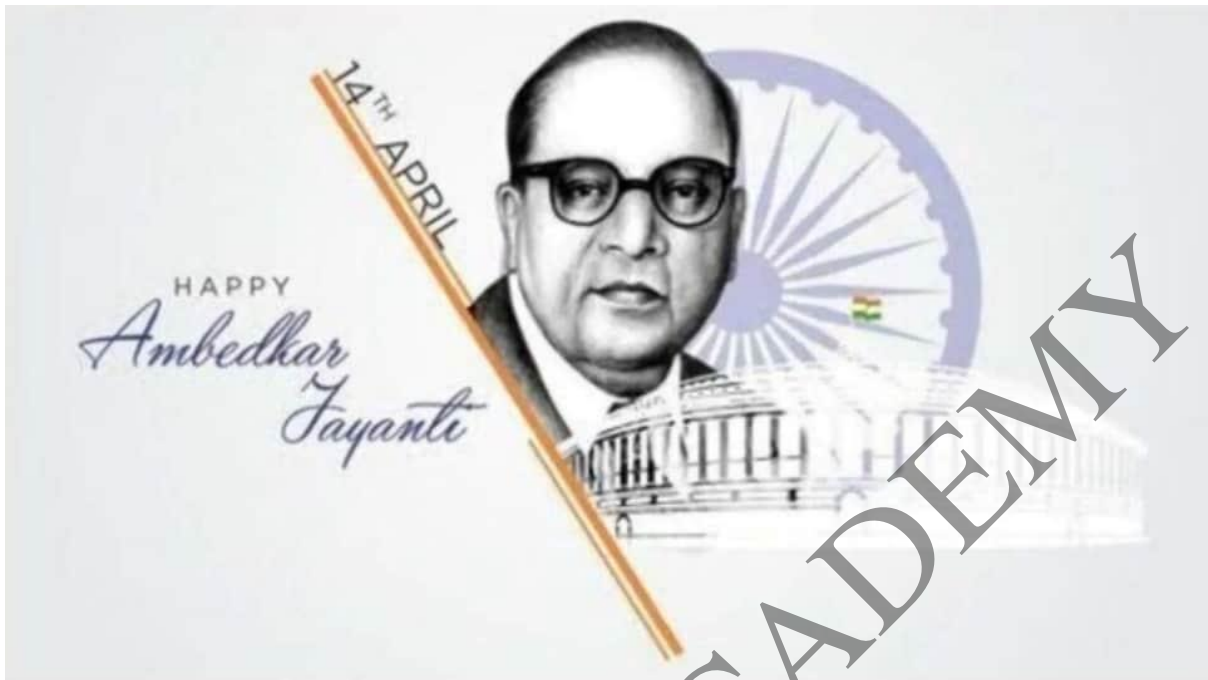
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- ➔ In a remarkable achievement, Indian-American actress Avantika Vandanapu, best known for her role as Karen Shetty in the 2024 musical comedy “Mean Girls,” has been honored with the prestigious “South Asian Person of the Year” award by Harvard University.
- ➔ This accolade recognizes Vandanapu’s outstanding contributions to the arts and her role in promoting South Asian representation in global media.



## Ambedkar Jayanti 2024:

- ➔ Ambedkar Jayanti 2024, celebrated on April 14, commemorates the birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar. As a leading jurist and social reformer, Ambedkar’s legacy inspires the fight against caste discrimination and inequality in India.
- ➔ It’s a day to reflect on his ideals and renew commitments to social justice. Ambedkar’s legacy continues to inspire generations, making this day a significant occasion in India’s cultural and political calendar.



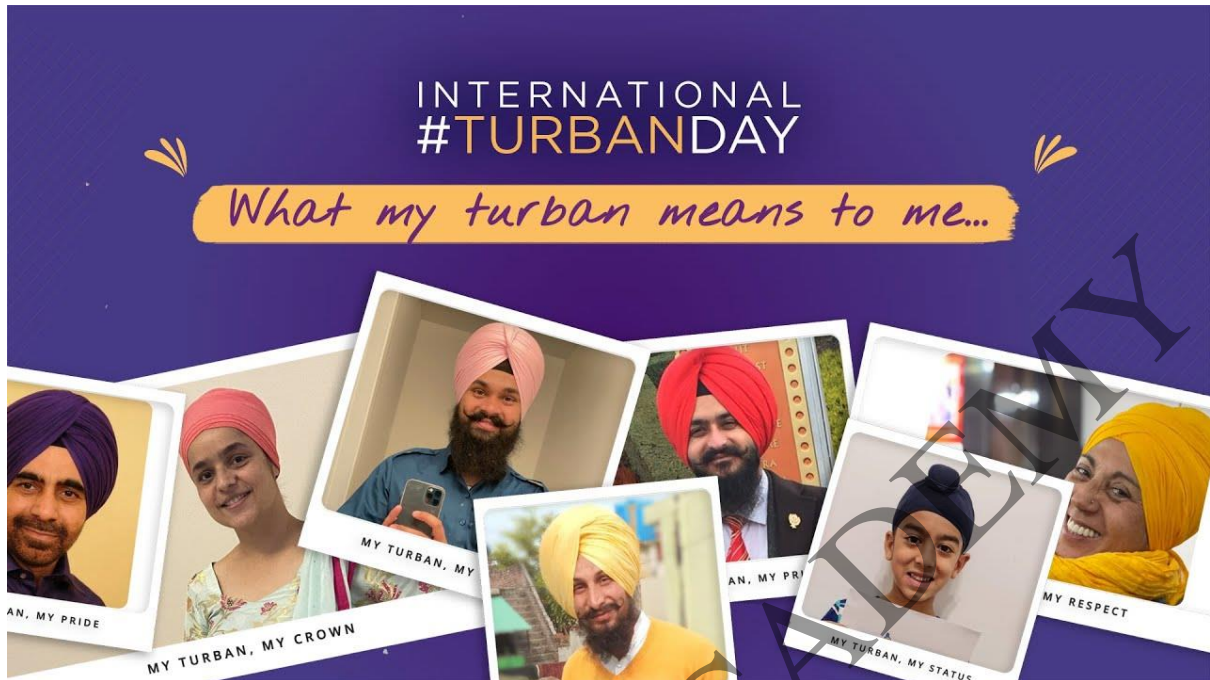
## International Turban Day:

- ➔ International Turban Day is an annual celebration observed on April 13th to honour the rich cultural and religious significance of the turban in Sikhism.
- ➔ This day serves as a platform to raise awareness about the importance of the turban as a symbol of Sikh identity and to promote religious harmony and intercultural understanding.
- ➔ The choice of April 13th as International Turban Day holds deep significance for the Sikh community.
- ➔ This date coincides with the celebration of Baisakhi, a major Sikh festival that marks the birth of the Khalsa Panth. On this day in 1699, the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, established the Khalsa Panth at Anandpur Sahib, a pivotal moment in Sikh history.



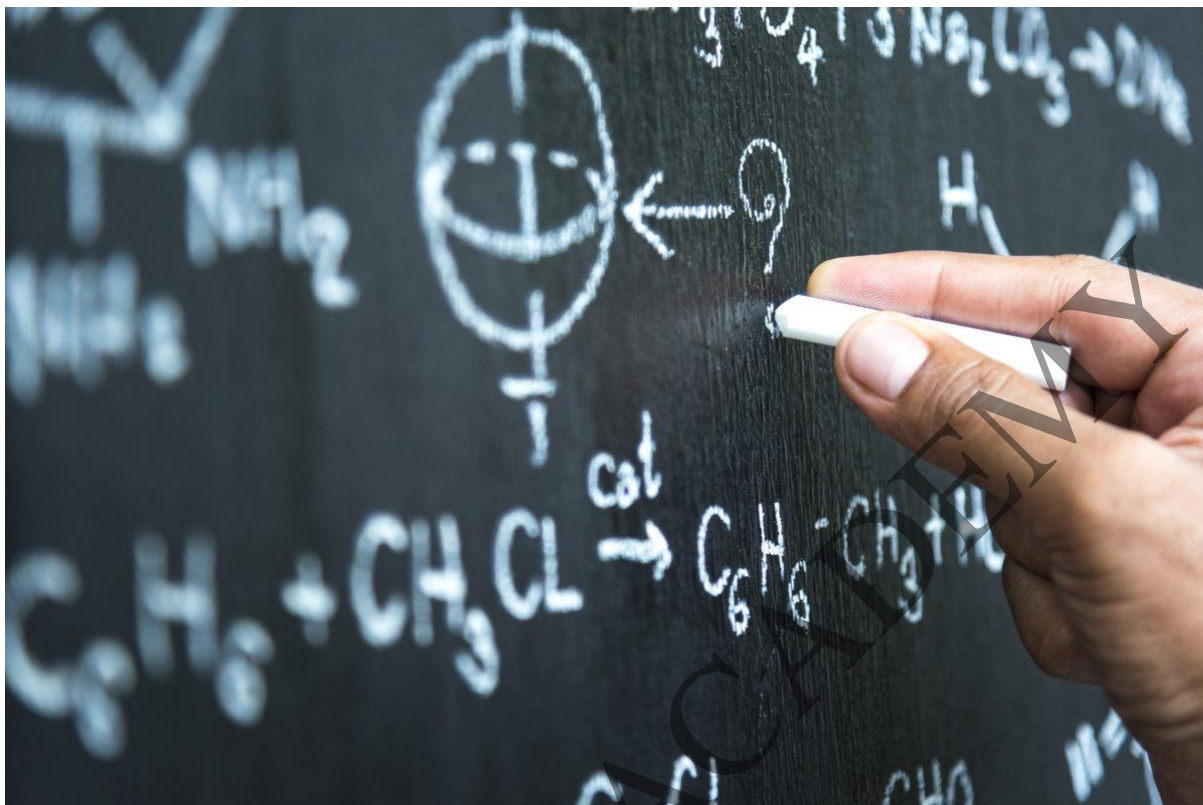
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## World Quantum Day:

- ➔ On April 14, 2024, India celebrates World Quantum Day, a global initiative to raise awareness and appreciation of quantum science and technology.
- ➔ As a nation aspiring to become a global leader in various fields of Quantum Science and Technology, India's efforts have gained significant momentum with the launch of the National Quantum Mission (NQM) in 2023.



## World Art Day:

- Every year on April 15th, people around the globe celebrate World Art Day, a tribute to the enduring impact of art across various cultures and societies.
- This date was specifically chosen to honor the birthday of Leonardo da Vinci, who is emblematic of artistic freedom and peace.
- World Art Day not only celebrates the remarkable contributions of artists but also emphasizes the vital role of art in human communication, cultural identity, and personal freedom.
- The theme for World Art Day 2024, “A Garden of Expression: Cultivating Community Through Art,” invites us to explore how art brings communities together, nurturing a shared sense of identity and mutual understanding.

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### Defence Ministry:

- ➔ The Defence Ministry has issued a tender to the public sector firm Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for purchasing made-in-India 97 LCA Mark 1A fighter jets expected to be worth over Rs 65,000 crore.
- ➔ This is set to be the largest order for indigenous military hardware to be placed by the Indian government ever.



## India and Uzbekistan:

- ➔ The 5th edition of the 'Dustlik' joint military exercise between India and Uzbekistan begins in Uzbekistan. The 14-day exercise will be conducted in Termez District of Uzbekistan from 15 to 28 April 2024.
- ➔ During the 14-day exercise, soldiers from the Indian Armed Forces and the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan will undergo comprehensive joint training sessions.

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## Election Commission of India:

- The Election Commission of India (ECI) has introduced home voting for the first time in a Lok Sabha Election.
- This initiative aims to make voting easier for elderly citizens and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.
- Now, voters above 85 years of age and PwDs with 40% benchmark disability can choose to vote from home.



## Iran & Israel:

- ➔ Iran has launched hundreds of drones and missiles against Israel. Iran's Revolutionary Guards have stated that Operation 'True Promise' is a response to Israeli actions and is part of their strategy to punish Israel for its perceived crimes.
- ➔ The attack was in response to the April 1 Israeli strike on the Iranian consulate in Damascus that killed seven IRGC members, including two generals in charge of leading operations in Syria and Lebanon, along with six other people.



## Angara-A5:

- ➔ Russia has successfully launched the Angara-A5 rocket from the Vostochny Cosmodrome.
- ➔ The Angara family of rockets, developed to replace the Soviet-designed Proton rockets, is central to Russia's strategy to secure its independence in accessing outer space and to reduce reliance on the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.



## Tamil New Year:

- ➔ Puthandu, also known as Tamil New Year, marks the beginning of the year on the Tamil calendar and is widely celebrated by Tamil people worldwide.
- ➔ Observed on the first day of the Tamil month Chittirai, its date is determined by the solar cycle of the Hindu calendar, typically falling around April 14 on the Gregorian calendar. Similar New Year celebrations occur in various states across India, such as Ugadi in Telangana, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Poila Baisakh in West Bengal.
- ➔ These festivities herald the onset of the harvest season and are commemorated with grandeur. Families come together to partake in traditional rituals, rejoicing in their state's rich cultural heritage.





## Renewable capacity:

- ➔ India added a record 18.48 GW renewable capacity in 2023-24, 21% higher than previous year. Total renewable capacity is 143.64 GW, aiming for 500 GW by 2030, needing 50 GW/year.
- ➔ Gujarat and Rajasthan have the largest renewable energy capacities of about 27GW each.



## UK's foreign office:

- ➔ UK's foreign office has updated its travel advisory, adding Pakistan alongside countries like Russia, Ukraine, Israel and Iran to its list of destinations considered "too dangerous".
- ➔ Pakistan terror attacks and counter-terror operations in 2023, marking the highest fatality rate since 2017.

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2024, April 16

## Rohit Sharma:

- In a remarkable display of power-hitting, India and Mumbai Indians star batter Rohit Sharma has become the first Indian cricketer to smash 500 sixes in the T20 format.
- This historic achievement was reached during Rohit's stellar performance in the Indian Premier League (IPL) match against Chennai Super Kings at the Wankhede Stadium.



## Skywalk bridge:

- In a remarkable feat of engineering and tourism development, the state of Uttar Pradesh has unveiled its first-ever glass skywalk bridge, located at the enchanting Tulsi (Shabari) Waterfall in Chitrakoot.
- This innovative and visually stunning structure, shaped like Lord Ram's bow and arrow, is poised to become a premier eco-tourism destination for visitors to the region.

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## Mamta G. Sagar:

- ➔ Mamta G. Sagar, a renowned Kannada poet, writer, academic, and activist based in Bengaluru, has added another feather to her cap by winning the prestigious World Literary Prize from the World Organization of Writers (WOW).
- ➔ This prestigious accolade recognizes Sagar's exceptional contributions to the world of literature, solidifying her status as a trailblazing literary icon.



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## 35 ambulances and 66 school buses:

- ➔ The India government gifted 35 ambulances and 66 school buses to various organizations, spread across different districts of Nepal, and working in the field of health and education respectively.
- ➔ The keys of the vehicles were handed over by Naveen Srivastava, Ambassador of India to Nepal in the presence of Barsha Man Pun, Finance Minister, Government of Nepal.



## Airports Council International (ACI) World:

- ➔ The Airports Council International (ACI) World, a global organization which measures and assesses airport standards—ranked Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport as the tenth busiest airport in the world in 2023.
- ➔ The IGI Airport was ranked 9th in 2022, 13th in 2021, and as the 17th busiest airport in 2019, before the coronavirus pandemic. The IGI airport in the capital handled 7.22 crore passengers annually.



## Sanjana Sanghi:

- ➔ Sanjana Sanghi has been appointed as Brand Ambassador of SPACE India. Sanjana Sanghi is a rising young Bollywood star and UNDP Youth Champion.
- ➔ Her commitment to social activism and advocacy for education make her the ideal fit for this role at SPACE India and SPACE Arcade.



## Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) Weapon System:

- ➔ The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) carried out successful trials of the Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) Weapon System at Pokhran Field Firing Range, Rajasthan.
- ➔ The Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) Weapon System was indigenously designed and developed by DRDO.



## World Voice Day:

- ➔ World Voice Day is celebrated every year on April 16. Objective – To raise awareness about the importance of the human voice and vocal health.
- ➔ Theme 2024 – Educate. Celebrate. The first World Voice Day was celebrated in 1999, with events held in over 50 countries.



WORLD  
VOICE  
DAY

## Save the Elephant Day:

- ➔ Save the Elephant Day is celebrated every year on 16 April. Objective – To raise awareness for these majestic creatures and take action to protect their future.



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- This day was created in 2012 by the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust to shine a light on the threats facing elephants, such as poaching and loss of habitat.
- Elephants are known for their intelligence, social bonds, and their important role in maintaining ecosystem balance.



## Tela & Tata Electronics:

- Tesla has inked a strategic agreement with Tata Electronics to acquire semiconductor chips for global operations.
- The development came after Government of India approved a policy under which EV companies would have to pay lower duty on imports of EVs if they agree to set up manufacturing facilities in India.

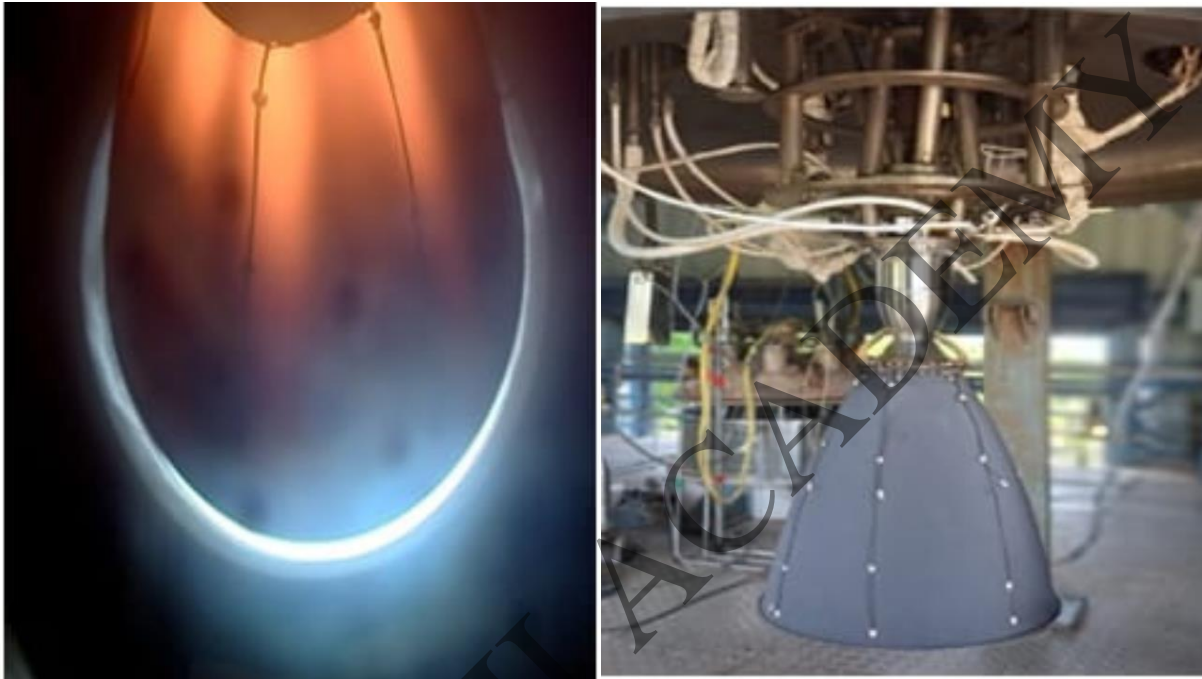


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## ISRO:

- ISRO has achieved a breakthrough in rocket engine technology with the development of a lightweight Carbon-Carbon nozzle for rocket engines, enhancing payload capacity.
- ISRO is the national space agency of the Government of India under the Department of Space. ISRO Founded year- 1969.



## Chandigarh University:

- Chandigarh University figures among the World's top 100 universities in 2 subjects and 1st in India in 3 subjects among private universities in QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024.
- Among the private universities, Chandigarh University secured top rank in India in 3 subjects-Hospitality Management, Petroleum Engineering, Social Sciences and Management.

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## IIT Bombay, Bhanuben Nanavati College of Architecture:

- IIT Bombay, Bhanuben Nanavati College of Architecture joined UK-University for sustainability study.
- It is a collaboration between BNCA, Liverpool John Moores University, IIT Bombay and the Pune Construction Engineering Research Foundation.



## Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association:

- The Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association to introduce hybrid pitch technology into their practice facilities.
- This cutting-edge technology will transform the game by providing a more durable, consistent and high performing playing surface.

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## Bharat Electronics Limited:

- ➔ Bharat Electronics Limited signs an MoU with IIT Mandi for collaboration in research and product development in semiconductors, quantum technologies and drones.
- ➔ This partnership aims to utilize the combined strengths of BEL and IIT Mandi to support the indigenisation of products in line with the 'Make in India' initiative.

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2024, April 17-18

## Saurabh Garg:

- In a significant move, the Central Government has entrusted IAS officer Saurabh Garg with the additional charge of Secretary of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).
- This decision, communicated through an order issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), underscores Garg's extensive experience and expertise in the realm of public administration.



## Wisden Cricketers:

- In the 2024 edition of the prestigious Wisden Cricketers' Almanack, two exceptional talents have been crowned as the Wisden Leading Cricketers in the World, Australian captain Pat Cummins and England all-rounder Nat Sciver-Brunt.
- Australian skipper Pat Cummins has cemented his place as one of the premier fast bowlers in the world, leading his side to remarkable achievements in the past year.
- The first Aussie since Michael Clarke to secure the top honor, Cummins' performances have been nothing short of iconic.

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- On the women's side, England's Nat Sciver-Brunt has been recognized as the Wisden Leading Cricketer in the World, a testament to her exceptional performances in the Ashes series.



## Madhya Pradesh:

- In the realm of environmental conservation, Madhya Pradesh emerges as a frontrunner in the effective execution of the Green Credit Programme (GCP) initiated by the central government.
- Over the past two months, the GCP has greenlit tree plantation initiatives spanning across 500 land parcels, encompassing 4,980 hectares spread over 10 states.
- Madhya Pradesh takes the lead in securing approvals for rehabilitating degraded forest lands, followed closely by Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, and Assam.
- Additional states partaking in this initiative include Bihar, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Odisha, collectively earmarking over 10,000 hectares for GCP interventions.



## Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterisation and Evaluation (SPACE):

- ➔ In a significant step towards enhancing India's naval capabilities, the Department of Defence (R&D) and the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have recently inaugurated a state-of-the-art facility called the Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterisation and Evaluation (SPACE) at the Underwater Acoustic Research Facility in Kulamavu, Idukki, Kerala.
- ➔ This cutting-edge facility, set up by the Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory of DRDO, is designed to serve as a premier testing and evaluation hub for sonar systems destined for the Indian Navy, a critical component of the country's maritime defense strategy.





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## ‘2024 Young Global Leader’:

- The World Economic Forum has named Adwaita Nayar, the co-founder of Nykaa and CEO of Nykaa Fashion, as a ‘2024 Young Global Leader’.
- This prestigious recognition highlights Nayar’s remarkable achievements as a change-maker and entrepreneur, solidifying her place among the most influential young leaders in the world.



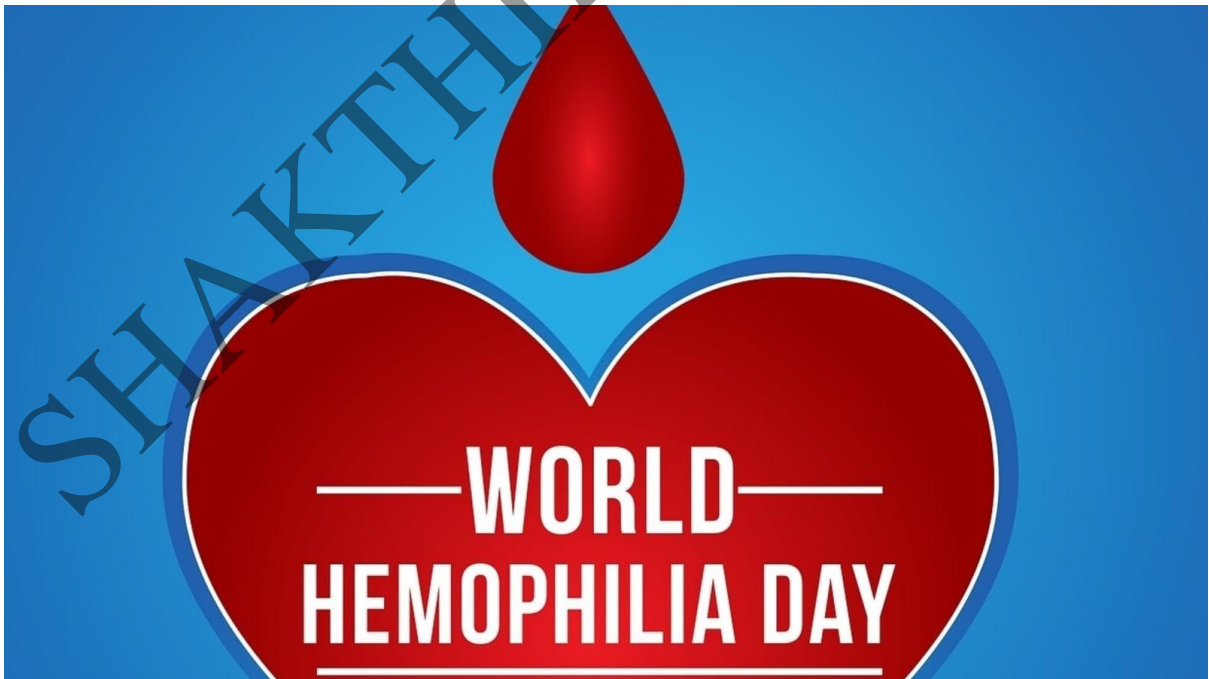
## Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award:

- In a momentous announcement, the prestigious Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award will be presented to the esteemed Hindi cinema actor, Amitabh Bachchan, this year.
- This honour, bestowed by the Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smriti Pratisthan Public Charitable Trust and the Mangeshkar family, serves as a testament to Bachchan’s exceptional contributions to the world of Indian cinema over the span of his illustrious five-and-a-half-decade career.



## World Hemophilia Day:

- ➔ World Hemophilia Day is an annual observance held on April 17th to raise awareness about hemophilia, a rare and inherited bleeding disorder.
- ➔ This year, the theme for World Hemophilia Day 2024 is "Equitable access for all: recognizing all bleeding disorders".



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## World Heritage Day:

- ➔ World Heritage Day, also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, is observed annually on April 18.
- ➔ This year, the special day falls on Thursday, April 18, 2024.
- ➔ The observance of this day aims to raise awareness about the diversity and importance of the world's cultural heritage, and the need to protect and preserve it for future generations.



## Exports:

- ➔ India exported electronics goods worth \$29.12 billion in 2023-24 (FY24), up 23.6 per cent compared to a year ago, even as the country's total exports contracted 3 per cent.
- ➔ According to commerce department officials, the top five export market of electronics good are — the US, United Arab Emirates, Netherland, United Kingdom, and Italy.



## Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras & Lightstorm:

- ➔ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with digital infrastructure provider Lightstorm for employment enablement and skill development programme in the country.
- ➔ The collaboration aims to address the skill gap among underprivileged students and support underserved youth, women, and job seekers from tier II and III cities.
- ➔ It will provide extensive placement assistance, including job readiness facilities, for students pursuing degrees in arts, science, and commerce.

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### India's first medical devices calibration facility:

- ➔ The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras has launched India's first medical devices calibration facility on wheels.
- ➔ The facility can calibrate up to 45 different life-saving medical devices including defibrillator analyser, electrical safety analyser, gas flow analyser, and dialysis reference meter.
- ➔ The calibration of medical devices on a regular basis is must to ensure accurate diagnosis and treatment of patients.

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## India's economy:

- ➔ In a recent report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India's economy is forecasted to grow at a rate of 6.5 percent in 2024.
- ➔ This projection follows a growth of 6.7 percent in 2023, indicating a continued upward trend. The report highlights India's position as the fastest-growing major economy globally.



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## Reserve Bank of India:

- Recently, the Reserve Bank of India green lighted investments in the country's Sovereign Green Bonds by Foreign Institutional Investors.
- A sovereign green bond is a type of debt security issued by a national government specifically to fund projects that have positive environmental and climate benefits.
- These bonds are part of a broader category known as "green bonds".



## CDP-SURAKSHA:

- The Union Government has come up with a new platform to disburse subsidies to horticulture farmers under the Cluster Development Programme- the centre's initiative to promote horticulture crops.
- The platform is known as CDP-SURAKSHA. The move seeks to push the growth of India's horticulture sector which contributes nearly one-third to the agriculture gross value addition.



## Sany India:

- ➔ Mining and construction equipment manufacturer Sany India launched the SKT105E Electric Dump Truck. This marks the first instance of an electric dump truck being manufactured locally in the country.
- ➔ Unveiled at the company's India facility, this truck is specifically designed to meet the rigorous demands of open-cast mining operations.



## PSA:

- ➔ Jammu and Kashmir court quashes man's detention under PSA, 1978. The Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978 is a preventive detention law aimed at preventing actions that threaten state security or public order.
- ➔ Detains under the PSA cannot apply for bail or have legal representation before the detaining authority.



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## Supreme Court:

- ➔ The Supreme Court told school transfer certificate inadequate to determine POCSO Victim age.
- ➔ It prioritizes school certificates, then official documents and lastly medical tests if needed.



## World's first Beauty Pageant for AI women:

- ➔ World's first Beauty Pageant for AI women is announced. The 1st "Miss AI" contest features Ai-generated models competing for a \$20,000 prize pool, judged on beauty, social media and technical creation skills.
- ➔ This is the first time such a contest is being organized and more are planned on fashion, diversity and computer-generated men.

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## Proba-3:

- ➔ The Indian Space Research Organisation will be launching the European Space Agency's new mission, designated as Proba-3 (Project for On-Board Autonomy) to study the Sun later this year.
- ➔ The launch is targeted for September and it will be carried from Sriharikota using ISRO's PSLV-XL rocket.

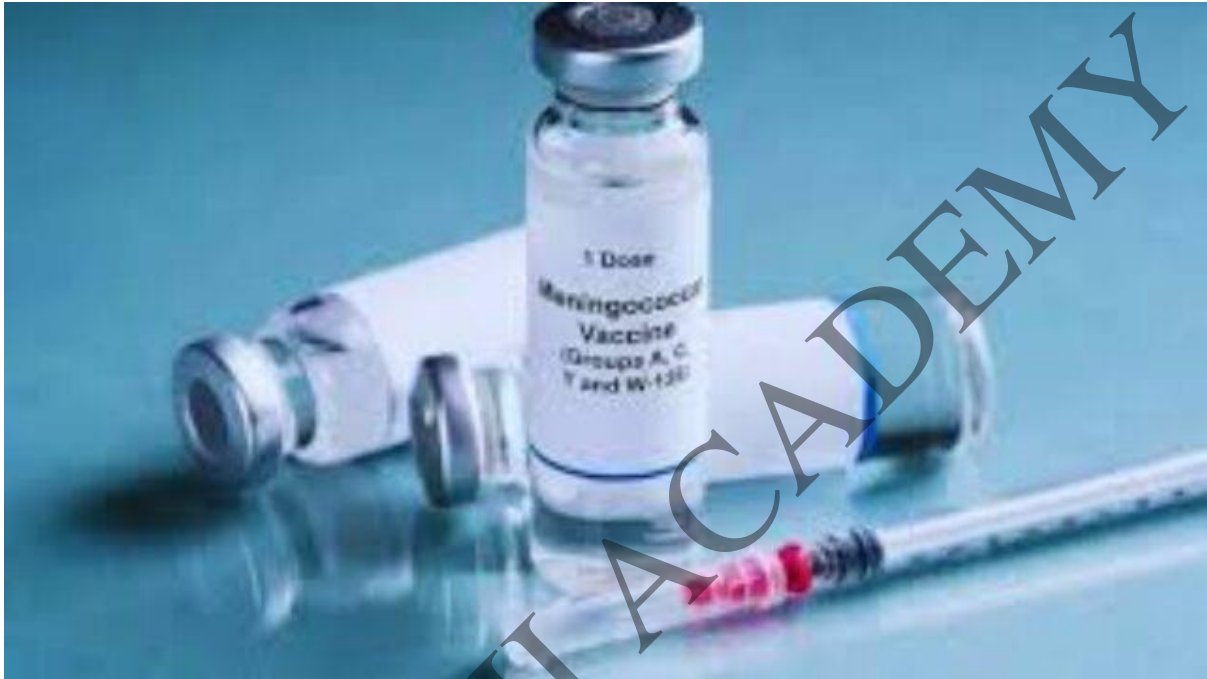


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## Nigeria:

- Nigeria launched World's First Universal Meningitis Vaccine. Nigeria introduced "MenFive" vaccine, combating all meningitis strains in under 5s, aiming to reduce disease impact in Africa's meningitis belt.
- This initiative sets a new global standard in the fight against meningitis.



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2024, April 19-20

## Dinesh Kumar Tripathi:

- The Government of India has appointed Vice Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, PVSM, AVSM, NM, currently serving as the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, as the next Chief of the Naval Staff with effect from the afternoon of April 30, 2024.
- He will succeed the present Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral R Hari Kumar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, who retires from service on the same day.



## Nalin Prabhat:

- In a significant move, the appointments committee of the Cabinet has approved two key appointments in India's premier security agencies.
- Nalin Prabhat, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG), while Sapna Tewari, a 1992 batch IPS officer of the Odisha cadre, has been appointed as the Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

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## DRDO:

- ➔ DRDO conducted a successful test flight of the Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha.
- ➔ The missile showcased excellent performance, closely monitored by various sensors and the Indian Air Force.
- ➔ During the test, all subsystems of the missile performed as expected, showcasing reliability and efficiency.



## BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles:

- ➔ In a significant move reflecting the deepening military cooperation between India and the Philippines amid rising tensions in the South China Sea, India has successfully delivered the first batch of BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to the Philippines.

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- ➔ This delivery marks the fruition of a \$375 million deal signed in January 2022, making the Philippines the first export customer for this joint venture missile between India and Russia.



## ISRO Chairman S. Somanath:

- ➔ At the 42nd Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) annual meet, ISRO Chairman S. Somanath announced India's pledge to achieve debris-free space missions by 2030.
- ➔ This commitment aligns with global efforts to ensure the sustainability of space exploration.
- ➔ Chairman Somanath highlighted ISRO's comprehensive plan for space exploration and utilization, emphasizing the importance of sustainability in future missions.



## ‘BH-3’:

- ➔ European astronomers have made a groundbreaking discovery – the largest stellar black hole in our Milky Way galaxy.
- ➔ Named ‘BH-3’, this celestial behemoth has a staggering mass 33 times greater than our Sun and is located a mere 2,000 light-years away from Earth.
- ➔ The existence of ‘BH-3’ was unveiled by the Gaia Space Observatory, a cutting-edge mission operated by the European Space Agency (ESA).
- ➔ Launched in 2013, the Gaia telescope is designed to map the positions, motions, and characteristics of billions of celestial objects with unprecedented precision.



## Geographical Indication:

- ➔ In a significant development, two iconic products from the historic city of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, have been granted the coveted Geographical Indication (GI) status.
- ➔ On April 16, 2024, the GI Registry Office based in Chennai announced that the Tiranga Barfi of Varanasi and the Dhalua Murti Metal Casting Craft have been included in the prestigious GI category.





## GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd:

- ➔ GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) has been honored with the 'Best Airport Staff in India & South Asia 2024' award by Skytrax. The announcement took place during the Passenger Terminal EXPO 2024 in Frankfurt, Germany, on April 17.
- ➔ This accolade underscores the exceptional quality of service provided by the airport's staff across various fronts, as evaluated through meticulous audits and assessments.

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## World Liver Day:

- ➔ On April 19th, the global community comes together to observe World Liver Day, an initiative dedicated to shedding light on the importance of liver health and promoting preventive measures against liver diseases.
- ➔ This year's theme, "Keep your liver healthy and disease-free," emphasizes the importance of preventive measures and regular health check-ups to detect and address liver-related disorders early on.



### Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd:

- ➔ Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) has opened an office in GIFT City, Gandhinagar, which will specialize in providing debt options denominated in foreign currencies.
- ➔ This will facilitate natural hedging and significantly reduce the financing costs for Green Hydrogen and Renewable Energy Manufacturing projects.



### Armed Forces Medical Services:

- ➔ The Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaborative research and training with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur.
- ➔ Under this MoU, AFMS and IIT Kanpur will team up to undertake research and develop new technologies to address health problems faced by soldiers in difficult terrains.

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## World Jackal Day:

- ➔ World Jackal Day is observed every year on 19 April. World Jackal Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the habitat of jackals and to promote their conservation.
- ➔ The first World Jackal Day was celebrated in 2023, which is associated with an organization called Gold Schackel, which means golden jackal.



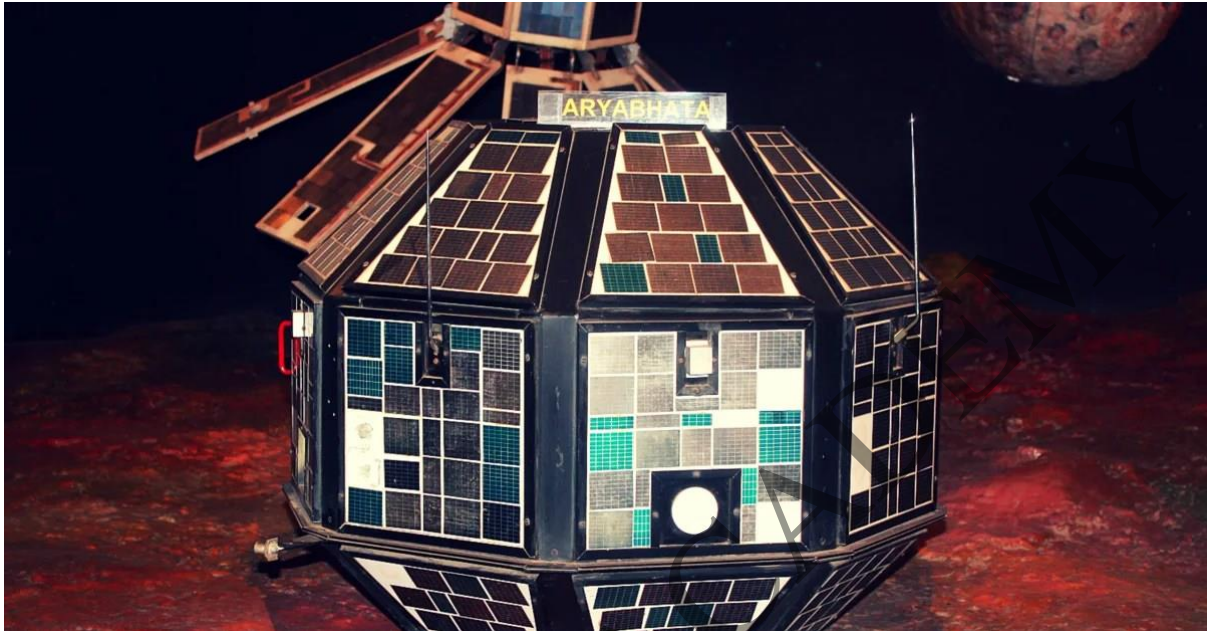
## Aryabhata:

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- ➔ Aryabhata, India's first satellite was launched on April 19th, 1975. The Aryabhata spacecraft, named after the famous Indian astronomer was India's first satellite.
- ➔ It was completely designed and fabricated in India and launched by a Soviet Kosmos-3M rocket from Kapustin Yar on April 19, 1975.



## Lok Sabha elections:

- ➔ India has initiated the 2024 Lok Sabha elections with the first phase of polling across 102 seats in 21 seats/UTs having started on 19th April.
- ➔ More than 16.63 crore voters are expected to participate. The Election Commission has deployed over 18 Lakh personnel and ensured security at 1.87 Lakh polling stations.

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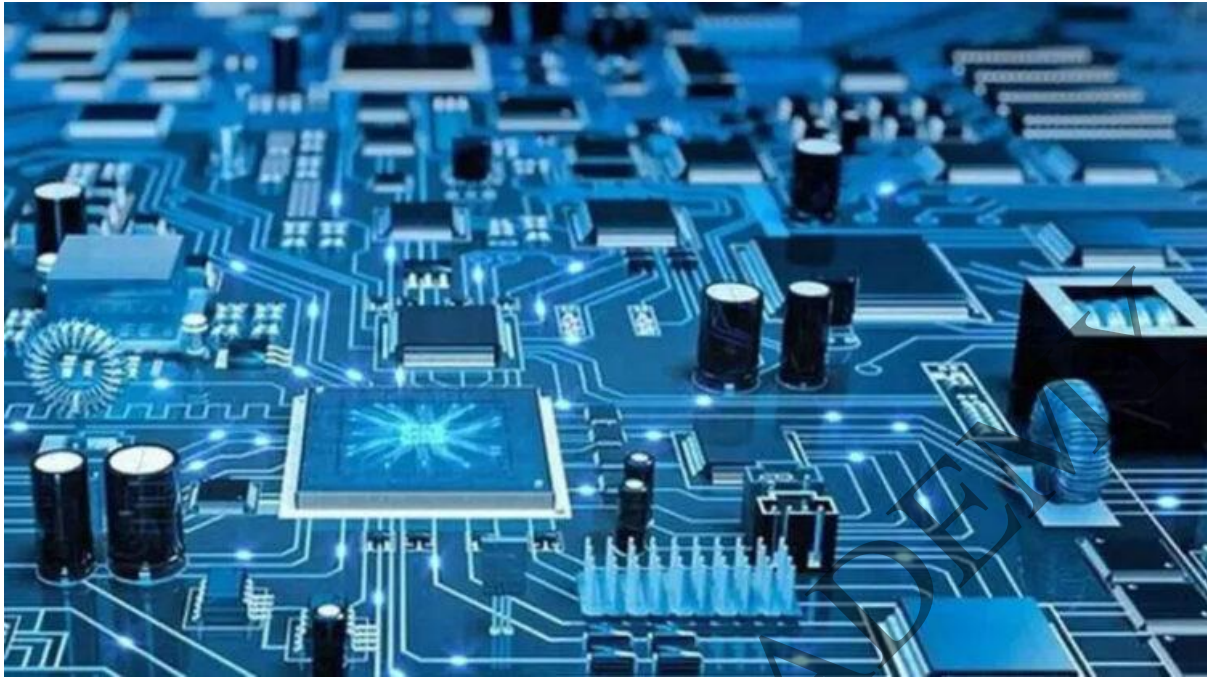
## Andhra Pradesh:

- ➔ Andhra Pradesh mandates a Permanent Education Number for students from the academic year 2024-25.
- ➔ Implemented by the Union Ministry of Education through UDISE+, the PEN initiative covers over 14.89 lakh schools and 26.5 crore children, facilitating easier documentation and student mobility.



## Electronics exports:

- ➔ Tamil Nadu has hit \$9.56 billion in electronics exports in FY23-24, being 33% of India's total. The exports nearly doubled from \$5.37 billion in FY22-23, showcasing rapid growth.
- ➔ Tamil Nadu is leading the list significantly over Karnataka's \$4.6 billion aiming for higher records next year.



## Veto:

- ➔ The United States vetoed a UN Security Council resolution for Palestinian full UN membership. The resolution has received 12 votes in favor, with Switzerland and the UK having abstained and the United States having opposed.
- ➔ The bid has aimed to elevate Palestine's status among 193 UNGA members. UNSC is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations. It has 5 permanent and 10 non-permanent members.



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2024, April 21-22

## Dommaraju Gukesh:

- In a remarkable achievement, Indian chess prodigy Dommaraju Gukesh, aged just 17, has made history by winning the FIDE Candidates tournament, becoming the youngest-ever challenger in the history of the World Chess Championship.
- Not only that, but Gukesh is also the first teenager to win the prestigious tournament.



## Indian Navy:

- The Indian Navy conducted a mega exercise, 'Poorvi Leher,' along the East Coast to validate its procedures and assess its preparedness to meet maritime security challenges in the region.
- The extensive drill witnessed the participation of ships, submarines, aircraft, and special naval forces. The exercise aimed to test the Indian Navy's operational readiness and interoperability with other services.

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- It was conducted in multiple phases, including combat training in a realistic scenario during the tactical phase and live-fire drills during the weapon phase, reaffirming the Navy's capability to deliver ordnance on target.



## Pavuluri Subba Rao:

- Pavuluri Subba Rao, the Founder, CEO, and Chairman of Ananth Technologies, has been conferred with the prestigious 'Aryabhata Award' by the Aeronautical Society of India (ASI).
- This honour recognizes Rao's "tremendous lifetime contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India".



## National Civil Service Day:

- ➔ National Civil Service Day is celebrated annually on April 21st in India. This year, the theme for National Civil Service Day 2024 is yet to be announced, but it is likely to focus on a current challenge or opportunity facing the Indian civil service.
- ➔ The first ever National Civil Services Day in India was celebrated on April 21, 2006. It was recognized to commemorate the first Home Minister of India – Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.



## International Mother Earth Day:

- ➔ On April 22nd, the world will unite to commemorate the 54th International Mother Earth Day.
- ➔ This annual event serves as a poignant reminder of the critical need to address the mounting environmental challenges threatening our planet, including rapidly rising pollution levels, deforestation, and global warming.
- ➔ This year's theme, "Planet vs. Plastics," aims to shed light on the detrimental effects of plastic pollution on human and environmental health.



## World Circus Day:

- ➔ World Circus Day is observed on the third Saturday of April. This year, World Circus Day was celebrated on 20 April 2024.
- ➔ This day is dedicated to the circus artists, performers, and creators who bring the magic of live entertainment to the fore.
- ➔ It is a time to recognize their hard work, dedication, and talent, as well as to raise funds for the circus industry. It is an opportunity to showcase the unique skills and talents of circus artists and to raise awareness about the industry.



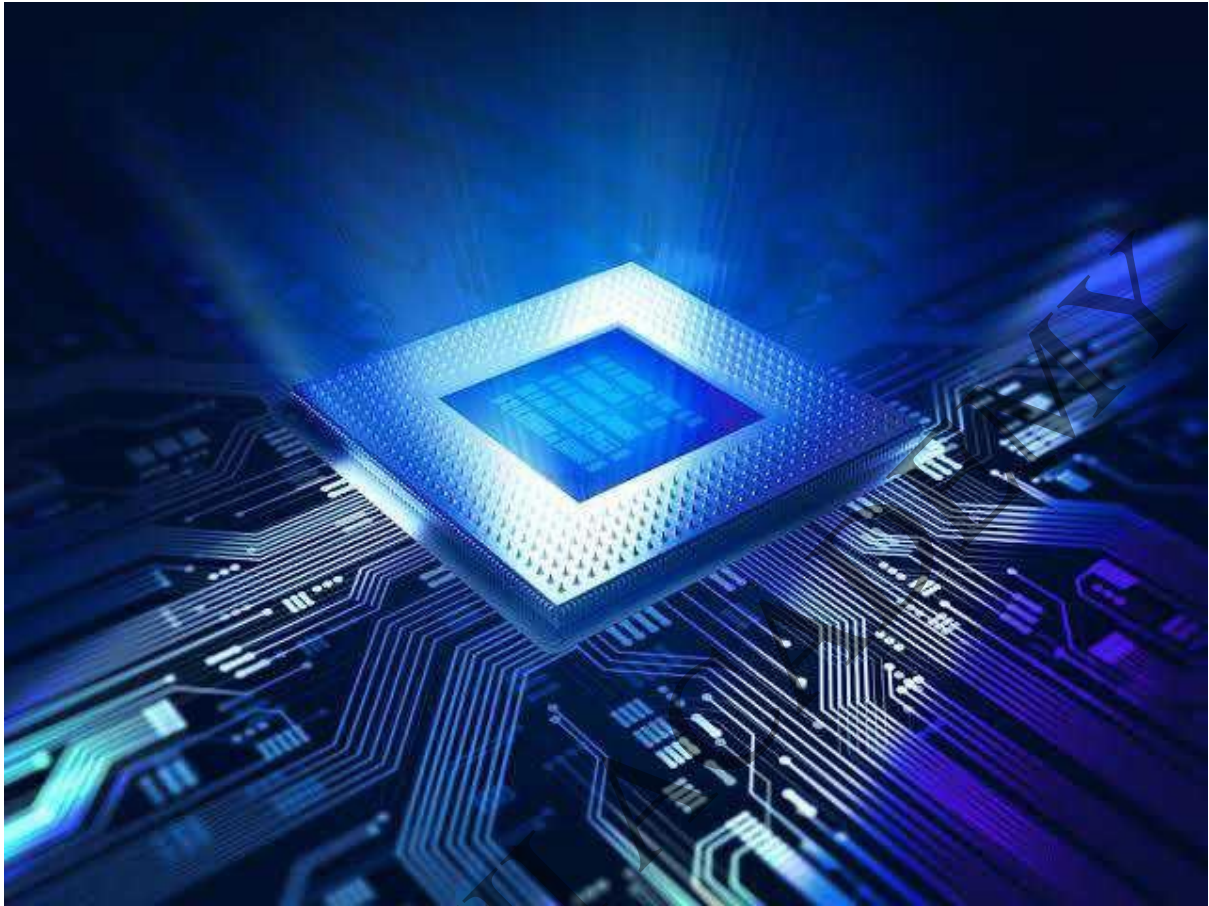
### Volunteer Recognition Day:

- ➔ Volunteer Recognition Day is observed every year on 20 April. The significance of this day is to recognise, honour, and celebrate the selfless sacrifices of volunteers who work for the good of society.
- ➔ Volunteers work for the betterment of society without expecting anything in return. We should take this opportunity to thank them for their good work. Their sacrifices deserve applause from the rest of the world.



### **Bharat Electronics Ltd:**

- ➔ Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi for co-operation in research and technology, product development, in the areas of semiconductors, quantum technologies, and drones.
- ➔ BEL is working in the fields of IoT, Cloud Computing, Big Data Analytics, Network Management Systems, Artificial Intelligence among others.



## World Curlew Day:

- World Curlew Day is observed every April 21 by various environmental organizations to raise awareness about the problems faced by curlews.
- Curlews are a group of birds comprising nine species from the genus Numenius. Long, slender, downcurved bills and mottled brown plumage are characteristics that can easily help identify the bird.





### India-Kuwait:

- ➔ Starting a Hindi program on Kuwait Radio on FM 93.3 and AM 96.3 is seen as a step to strengthen India-Kuwait relations.
- ➔ Kuwait is a country in West Asia. It is situated on the northern edge of Eastern Arabia at the tip of the Persian Gulf, bordering Iraq and Saudi Arabia, including maritime borders with Iran.



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2024, April 23

## ‘Nandini’:

- ➔ In a move to strengthen its international presence, ‘Nandini’, the dairy brand of the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF), has announced its decision to sponsor the cricket teams of Scotland and Ireland for the upcoming 2024 T20 World Cup.
- ➔ According to KMF’s managing director, MK Jagadish, the teams will prominently display the ‘Nandini’ brand during the matches.



## Seng Kihlang festival:

- ➔ The 34th Seng Kihlang festival, a revered event for adherents of the Khasi Indigenous Faith, recently concluded in Wahiajer, Meghalaya.
- ➔ Spanning from April 19, 2024, the festival celebrated the unity and traditions of the indigenous community.
- ➔ At the heart of this annual gathering lies the symbolic exchange of the Monolith, a cherished ritual that represents the enduring spirit of unity among believers. This year, the esteemed Monolith was received in Wahiajer from Seng Khasi Shaid Shaid, located in the West Khasi Hills.

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## Kerala:

- ➔ The southern Indian state of Kerala is renowned for its rich cultural tapestry, encompassing a diverse array of religions, landscapes, rituals, and histories.
- ➔ Amidst this vibrant melting pot, one festival stands out as a true embodiment of Kerala's profound cultural heritage – the Thrissur Pooram.
- ➔ Thrissur Pooram is a grand temple festival celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm, transcending religious boundaries.
- ➔ Although rooted in Hindu traditions, this seven-day extravaganza brings together people from all walks of life, united in a shared celebration of music, processions, fairs, and a spectacular display of fireworks.

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## Military spender:

- ➔ India has emerged as the fourth largest military spender globally in 2023, allocating \$83.6 billion for defense, following the United States, China, and Russia.
- ➔ This significant investment underscores India's commitment to enhancing its defense capabilities, particularly along the China border post the Ladakh standoff in 2020.



## KISS Humanitarian Award:

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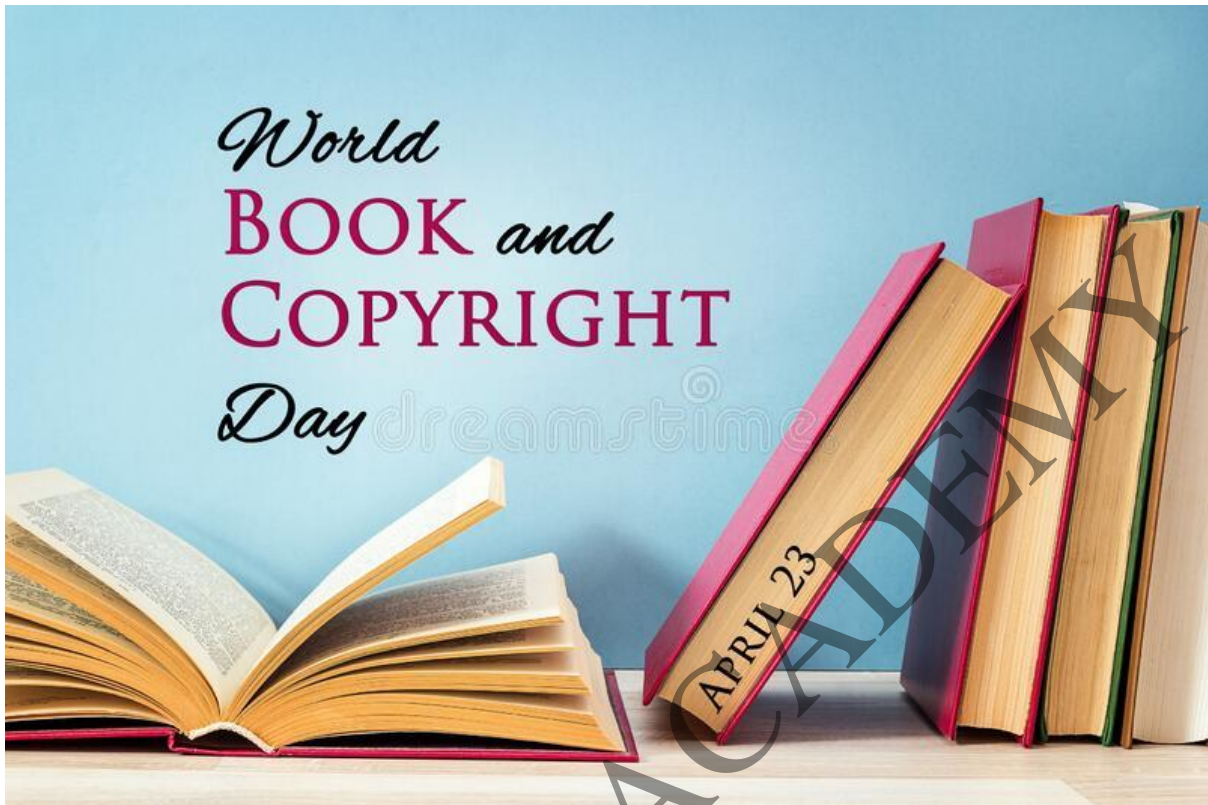
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- ➔ Renowned industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of the Tata Group, was honored with the esteemed KISS Humanitarian Award 2021 at a ceremony held at his Mumbai residence.
- ➔ The award, initiated in 2008 by Achyuta Samanta, recognizes individuals and organizations epitomizing humanitarian efforts globally.



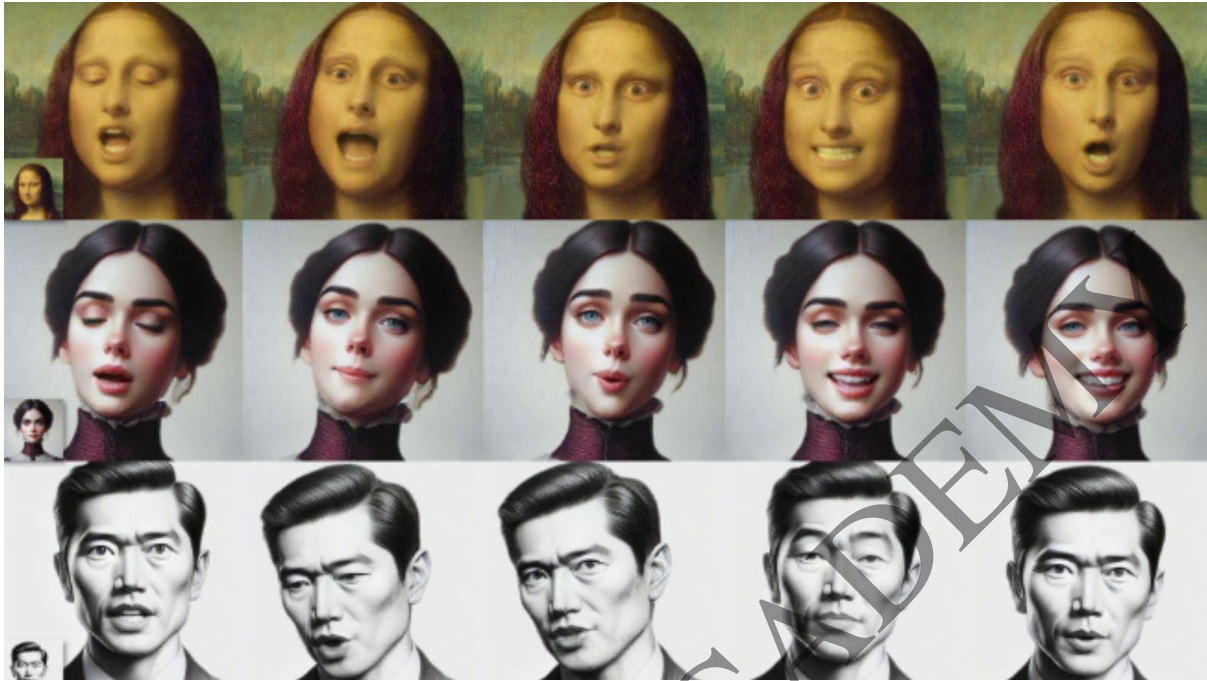
## World Book and Copyright Day:

- ➔ World Book and Copyright Day is a special day celebrated every year on April 23rd. The main purpose of this day is to promote reading, books, and copyright.
- ➔ On this day, events and activities happening all around the world to honour books and the people who create them – authors.
- ➔ It is a way to encourage everyone to read books and understand why it is important to protect the rights of writers and publishers.



## Microsoft:

- ➔ Microsoft has introduced a new VASA-1 AI model, a framework designed to generate lifelike talking faces for virtual characters, boasting appealing Visual Affective Skills (VAS).
- ➔ With just a single static image and a speech audio clip, the company says its VASA-1 can create life-like short videos. The model also gives several options to make changes to the video.



## World Creativity and Innovation Day:

- ➔ World Creativity and Innovation Day is celebrated every year on April 21. Objective – To raise awareness about the role of creativity and innovation in human development. Theme 2024 – Inspire.
- ➔ The day is dedicated to showcasing how creativity can be used to drive economic, social, and sustainable development. It also aims to raise awareness about the role of creativity in the creation of future-ready products, services, and technologies.





## World Table Tennis Day:

- World Table Tennis Day is celebrated every year on 23 April. It is not just a game of skill but also a medium for social change. The game brings people together and provides them with a peaceful and fun common goal.
- The history of table tennis dates back to the British military, when officers in India learned to play the game during their time in the country. The game was originally played with a golf ball, and books were used as racquets.

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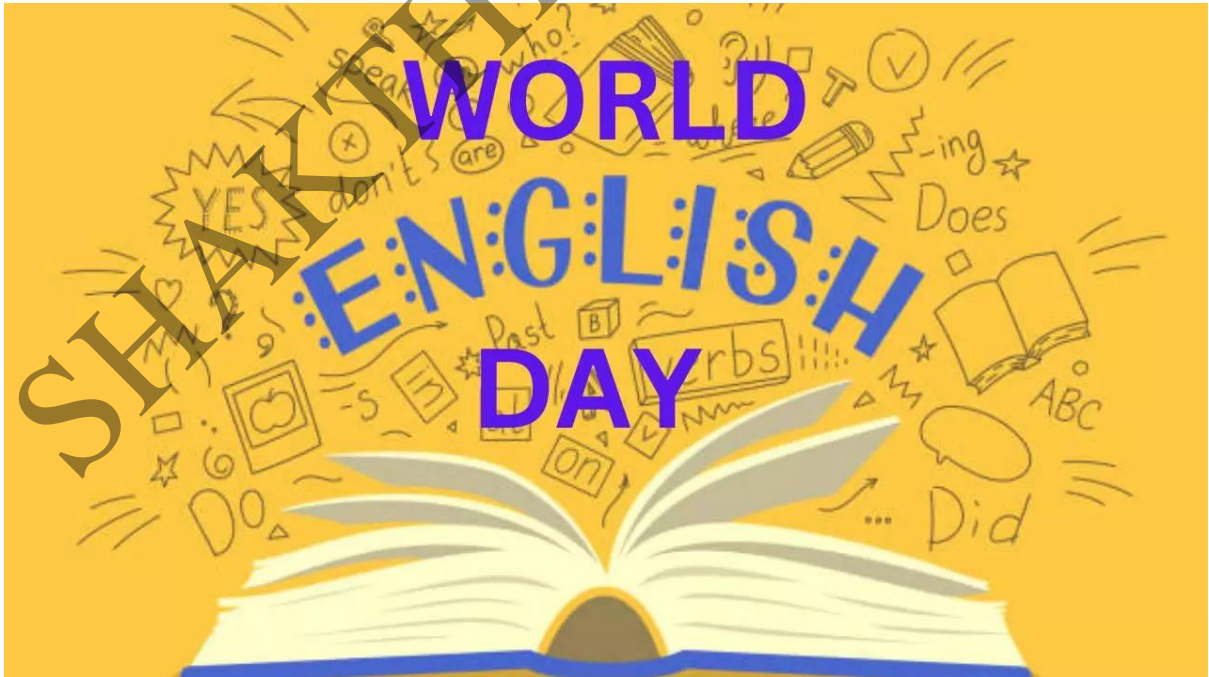
## Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis and Ember:

- ➔ Karnataka and Gujarat lead India's clean energy transition as per "Indian States-electricity Transition" report released by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis and Ember.
- ➔ In 2024, the report expanded to cover 21 states, representing 95% of India's power demand. It highlighted the need for improvement in Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.



## World English Day:

- World English Day is celebrated on April 23rd. It is celebrated to commemorate the birth and death anniversary of the English playwright and Poet William Shakespeare. It was established 1st time by UNESCO in 2010 to promote multilingualism and cultural diversity.



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## Sakshi Mittal:

- Sakshi Mittal has been selected for the appointment as Director of the Department of Personnel and Training.
- She has been selected for the appointment under the Central Staffing scheme for 5 years from the date of taking over charge. She was recommended for the Central Deputation by the Ministry of Home Affairs.



## Ph.D:

- UGC Chairman Jagadesh Kumar announced that candidates seeking to pursue a Ph.D must attain a minimum of 75% marks or equivalent scores in their undergraduate course.
- Previously, candidates applying for the National Eligibility Test were required to hold a master's degree with a minimum of 55 percent marks. A relaxation of 5% marks may be allowed for those belonging to SC, ST and OBC.



## Mukesh Dalal:

- ➔ Mukesh Dalal, the BJP candidate from Surat, wins unopposed after rejection of Congress candidate Nilesh Kumbhani's nomination. All other contenders withdrew from the race, securing Dalal's victory without contest.
- ➔ Voting for all 26 constituencies in Gujarat is scheduled for May 7, but with the result of Surat seat already out, polling will be held now only on 25 seats.



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2024, April 24-25

## Gita Sabharwal:

- ➔ The United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, has appointed Gita Sabharwal of India as the new UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia.
- ➔ Sabharwal assumed her post on Monday, bringing with her nearly three decades of experience in development, supporting climate transition, sustainable peace, governance, and social policy, while leveraging digital technology and data to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



## AMU:

- ➔ In a historic move, President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Professor Naima Khatoun as the first woman Vice-Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), breaking a century-old glass ceiling.
- ➔ The appointment, seen as part of the BJP government's outreach to Muslim women, comes days ahead of the second phase of the Lok Sabha election.



## Compare the Market AU:

- ➔ A recent study conducted by Australian firm Compare the Market AU has revealed intriguing insights into global passport affordability and accessibility. According to the study, the Indian passport ranks as the second cheapest worldwide, with the UAE passport claiming the top spot for affordability.
- ➔ While the Indian passport offers a cost-effective option in terms of both acquisition cost and yearly expenses, its visa-free access is relatively limited compared to higher-priced passports.



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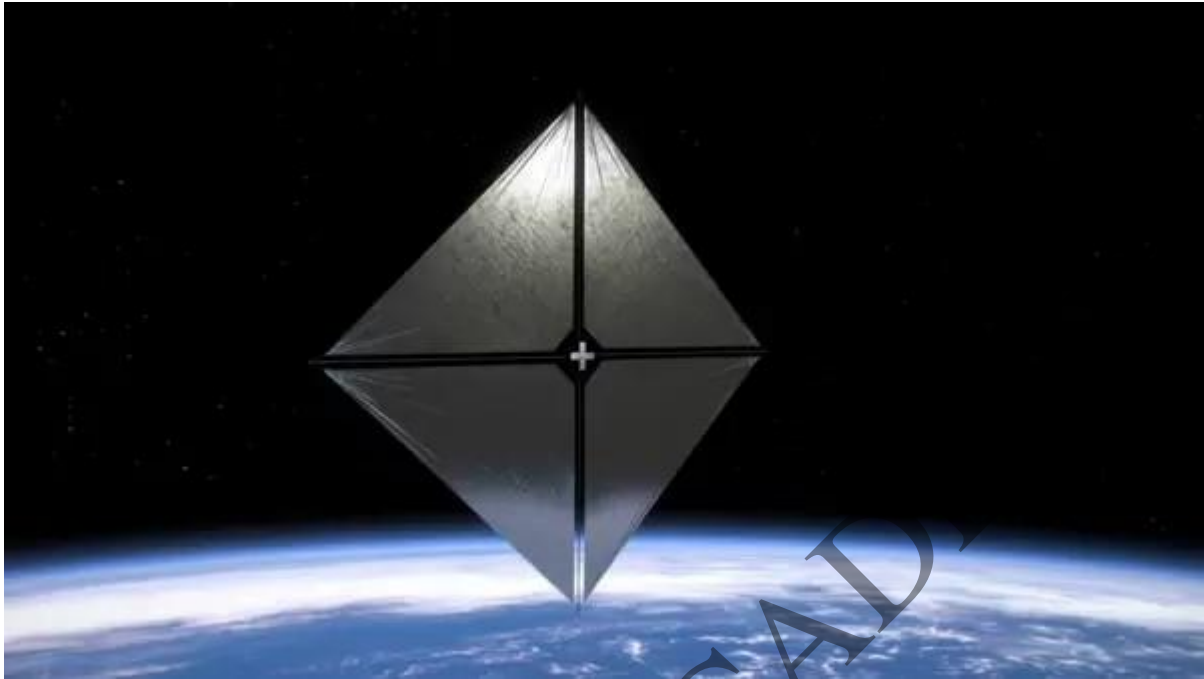


## NASA:

- ➔ NASA recently launched a groundbreaking space mission from New Zealand, deploying the Advanced Composite Solar Sail System spacecraft aboard Rocket Lab's Electron rocket.
- ➔ This innovative spacecraft utilizes solar energy for propulsion, marking a significant leap in space exploration technology.
- ➔ The spacecraft, equipped with a solar sail, was launched from New Zealand at 3:30 am IST and is set to orbit 1,000 kilometers above Earth. Upon deployment, the sail will measure approximately 80 square meters, harnessing sunlight to navigate through space.

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## NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge:

- ➔ Two Indian student teams have brought laurels to the country by winning prestigious awards at the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge (HERC).
- ➔ The KIET Group of Institutions from Delhi-NCR bagged the “Crash and Burn” award, while the Kanakia International School from Mumbai received the “Rookie of the Year” award.



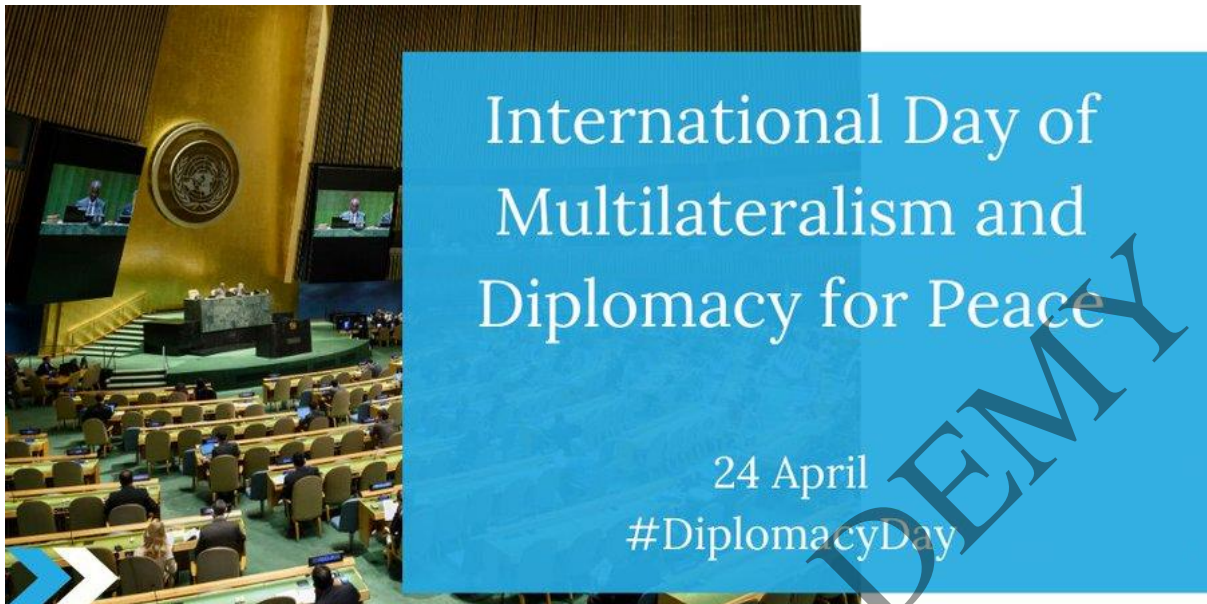
## National Panchayati Raj Day:

- ➔ National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated annually on April 24th to commemorate the establishment of the Panchayati Raj system in India.
- ➔ This decentralized form of governance, introduced by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1993, aimed to empower local self-governing bodies, known as Gram Panchayats, at the village level.



## International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace:

- ➔ Every year on April 24th, the world observes the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace.
- ➔ This significant occasion seeks to reaffirm the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, particularly the commitment to resolving disputes among nations through peaceful means.
- ➔ Multilateralism is often defined as a form of cooperation involving three or more states. However, this quantitative definition fails to capture the true essence of multilateralism.
- ➔ It is more than just a practice or a matter of the number of actors involved; it represents adherence to a common political project based on the respect of a shared system of norms and values.



### World Immunization Week:

- ➔ Every year, from April 24 to 30, the world celebrates World Immunization Week. This global campaign aims to raise awareness about the importance of vaccination and its role in protecting individuals, communities, and populations against preventable diseases.
- ➔ The theme for World Immunization Week 2024 is “Humanly Possible: Immunization for All”.



### World Malaria Day:

- ➔ Every year on April 25, World Malaria Day is observed to raise awareness about the prevention, treatment, and control of malaria, a life-threatening disease caused by mosquito

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bites. Malaria is prevalent in tropical and subtropical regions, but it is preventable with proper precautions and measures.

- This annual observance serves as a reminder of the global efforts needed to eradicate this disease and ensure a healthier world.
- The theme for World Malaria Day 2024, “Accelerating the fight against malaria for a more equitable world”, aligns with the World Health Day theme, “My Health, My Right”.



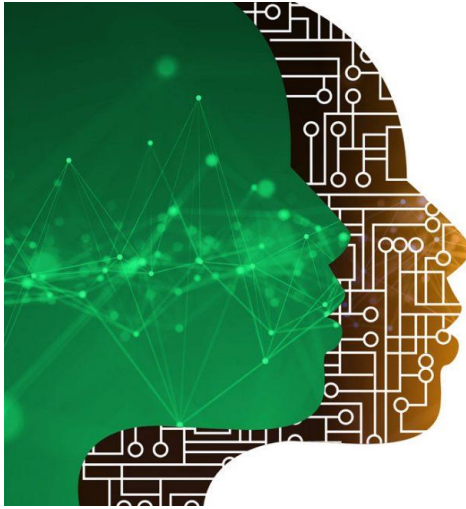
**WORLD  
MALARIA  
DAY** APRIL 25

## ICT Day:

- Every year on the fourth Thursday of April, the world celebrates International Girls in ICT Day.
- This important occasion aims to highlight the significance of girls and young women in the field of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and encourage them to pursue education and careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). This year, International Girls in ICT Day falls on April 25.

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27 April 2023

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### **International Delegate's Day:**

- ➔ Every year on April 25, the world celebrates International Delegate's Day, recognizing the crucial role of delegates who represent their countries at the United Nations (UN). Without these dedicated individuals, the UN would not exist.
- ➔ This day honours the delegates' commitment to the spirit of multilateralism and their efforts to work together under the UN to solve global problems.



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## Anglo-Manipuri War:

- In Manipur, Khongjom Day is observed on April 23 to pay homage to the brave souls who fought against the British in the Khongjom Battle during the Anglo-Manipuri War of 1891.
- This day holds great significance in the history of Manipur, as it commemorates the valor and sacrifice of those who laid down their lives to protect their homeland.
- The Anglo-Manipuri War of 1891 was a pivotal event in Manipur's history. During this war, the tiny kingdom of Manipur bravely fought against the British colonial expansion.
- Despite their courageous efforts, the Manipuri armies were eventually defeated at the Battle of Khongjom, leading to the loss of Manipur's sovereignty to the British.



## Reliance Jio:

- Reliance Jio become the world's largest mobile operator in terms of data traffic, ahead of China Mobile. The total traffic on the Jio network has reached 40.9 Exabytes, which is a 35.2 percent year-on-year increase.
- Also, Jio has a very strong and wide subscriber base of 481.8 million. Jio has also become the first Indian company to cross the ₹100,000-crore threshold in pre-tax profits.

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## Nidhi S Jain (IA&AS):

- ➔ The Central Government has approved the appointment of Nidhi S Jain (IA&AS) as Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of Cotton Corporation of India Limited (CCI). She has been appointed to the post for an initial period of three years.
- ➔ Nidhi is an Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS) service officer of 2009-batch. Presently, she is posted as Director of Audit (Environment & Scientific Departments), Branch office, Mumbai.



## DRDO:

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- A unit of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully developed the lightest bulletproof jacket in the country for protection against the highest threat level 6.
- This jacket is based on a new design approach where novel material along with new processes has been used.
- DRDO's Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur has successfully developed the lightest bulletproof jacket in the country for protection against 7.62 x 54 R API (level 6 of BIS 17051) ammunition.



Image posted on X by @DRDO\_India

## C-DOT:

- C-DOT, the premier Telecom R&D Centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur have signed an agreement for “Automated Service Management in 5G and Beyond Networks Using AI”.
- The primary objective is to develop AI frameworks for automated network management, fault detection, and diagnostic techniques by utilizing continuous information generated within the network like 5G.

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## Usain Bolt:

- ➔ Legendary Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt has been named by the International Cricket Council (ICC) as the ambassador for the 9th ICC Men's T-20 World Cup, which will be hosted by the West Indies and the United States of America jointly from 1 to 29 June 2024.
- ➔ As a brand ambassador, Usain Bolt will promote the World Cup event, attend T20 World Cup matches in the West Indies, and participate in fan engagement events to promote the cricket sport within the United States.



## Narsingh Pancham Yadav:

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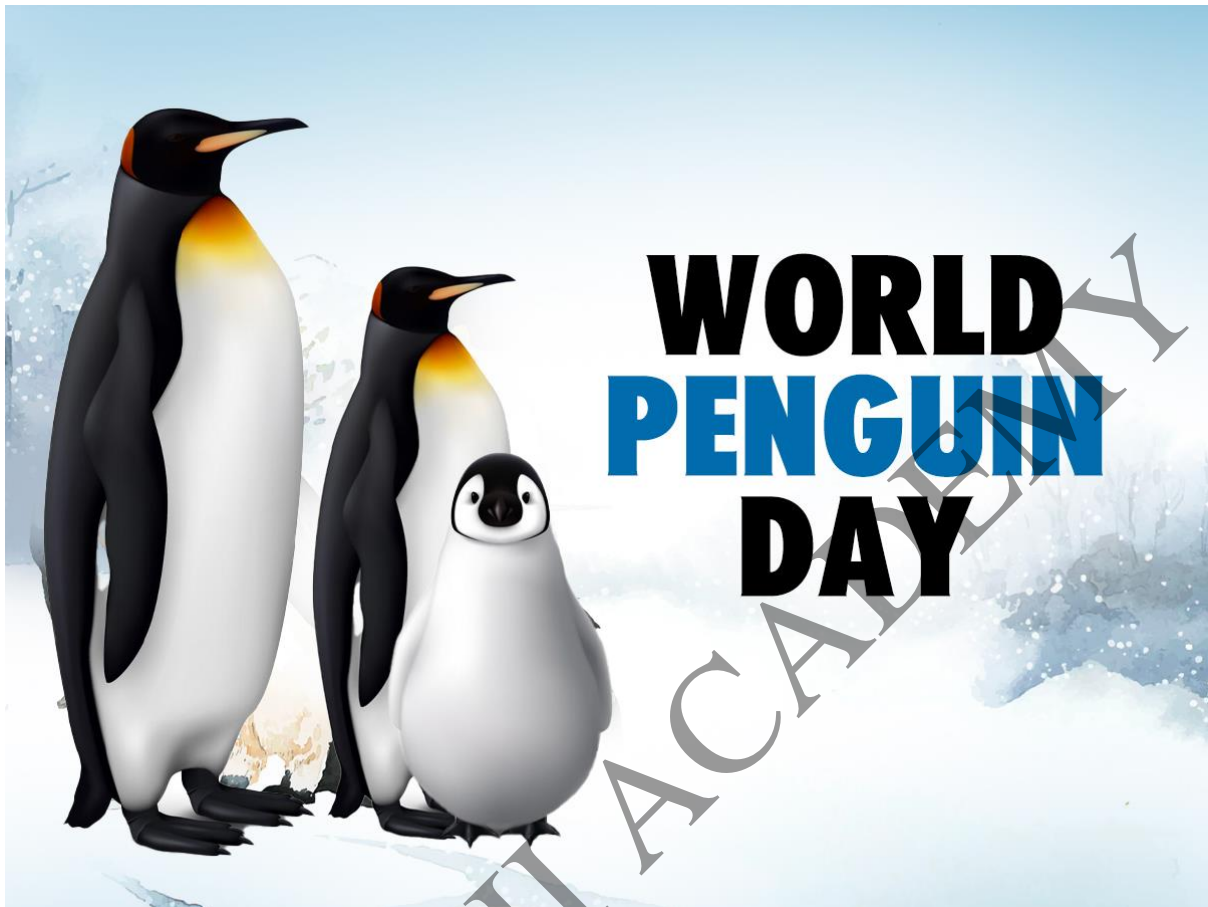
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- ➔ Former Commonwealth Games gold-medallist Narsingh Pancham Yadav was elected chairman of the Wrestling Federation of India's Athletes' Commission.
- ➔ A total of eight candidates were in fray for the seven positions and after polling, conducted on ballot paper, seven members got elected. They then chose Narsingh as chairman of the commission.



## World Penguin Day:

- ➔ World Penguin Day is observed every year on 25th April. This day is significant because it coincides with the start of the northern migration of Adelie penguins.
- ➔ Adelie penguins are one of the 17-20 species of penguins recognized worldwide. The southern hemisphere is home to most of the penguins, with a total of about 20 species known to humans.



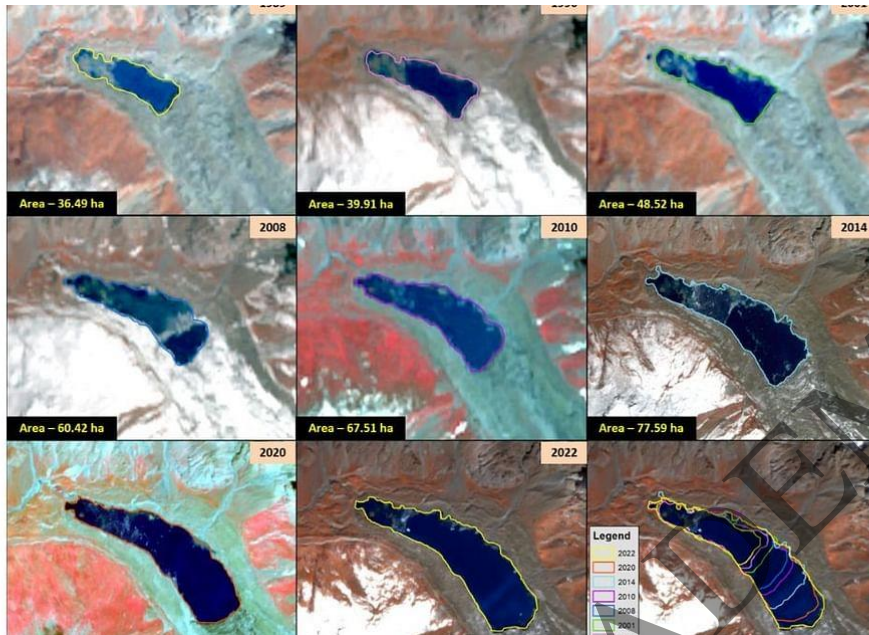
### Jammu and Kashmir:

- Jammu and Kashmir government requires officers and officials to use Digital Signature Certificates or Aadhaar based e-signatures for e-file signings.
- The mandate aims for a secure, digital working environment and to prevent unauthorized access in the e-office system.
- The implementation starts on June 1, as per the IT act 2000, across all departments and public sector units to enhance cybersecurity.



## ISRO's satellite:

- ➔ ISRO's satellite data analysis(1984-2023) showed significant melting in the Indian Himalayas, causing glacial lakes to expand.
- ➔ 676 out of 2,431 examined glacial lakes have more than doubled in size, indicating potential risks like GLOFs that could impact downstream communities.
- ➔ The phenomenon, linked to climate change, has affected crucial water sources and has created flooding risks.

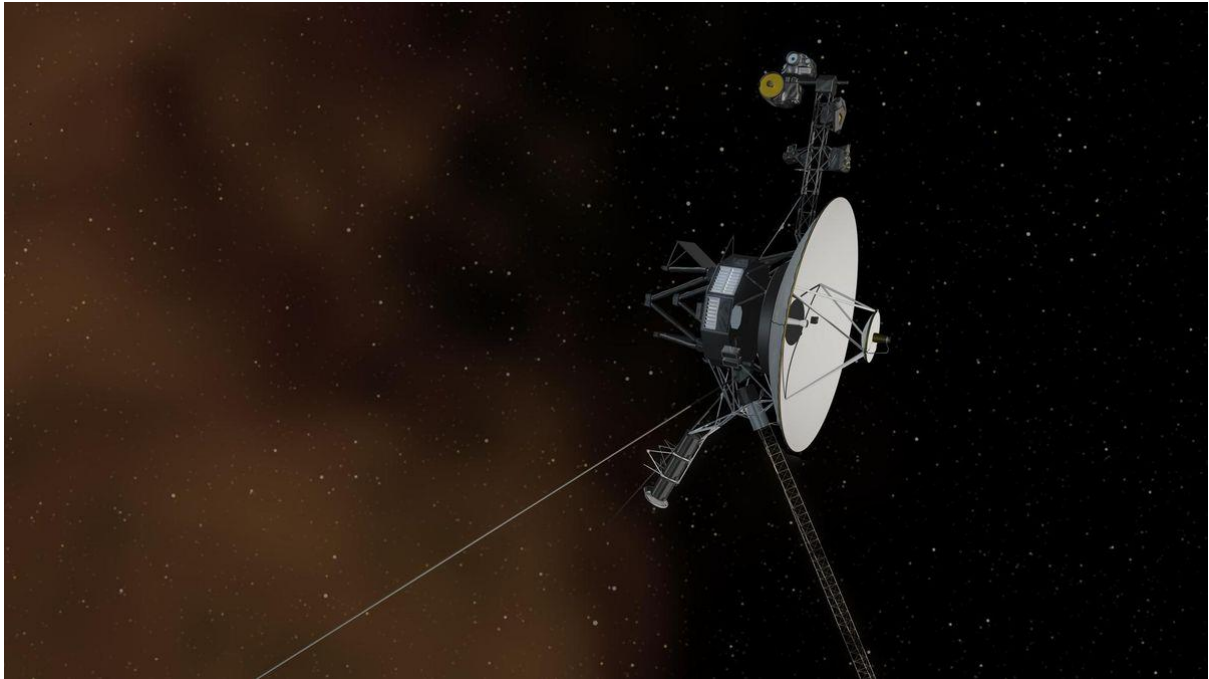


## Voyager 1:

- ➔ NASA's Voyager 1, the most distant human-made spacecraft, recently sent an update about the health and status of its onboard engineering systems after a pause of nearly five months.
- ➔ The spacecraft resumed its function of sending usable data about the health and status of its onboard engineering systems for the first time in nine months.
- ➔ For the first time since November, the US space agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), is set to enable the spacecraft to yield science data again and resume operation.

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2024, April 26-27

## T. Rabi Sankar:

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the re-appointment of T. Rabi Sankar as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a one-year term, effective from May 3, 2024.
- Sankar, a seasoned central banker with a career spanning over three decades at the RBI, was initially appointed as Deputy Governor on May 3, 2021, for a three-year period.



## Wrestling Federation of India:

- The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) has completed the process mandated by the United World Wrestling (UWW), the global governing body for the sport.
- As a condition for lifting the suspension of WFI, UWW had instructed the federation to establish an Athletes Commission to address the grievances of wrestlers.



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## Yuvraj Singh:

- ➔ The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the appointment of Indian cricket legend Yuvraj Singh as an ambassador for the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024.
- ➔ The announcement comes with just 36 days remaining until the highly anticipated global event for T20 cricket commences.



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## Sana Mir:

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the appointment of Pakistan cricket legend Sana Mir as the ambassador for the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier.
- Mir, who represented Pakistan in 226 international games, with 137 of them as captain, will bring her invaluable experience to the event.



## Air India:

- Air India has entered into a codeshare partnership with All Nippon Airways (ANA), Japan's largest airline.
- This agreement, effective from May 23, 2024, will allow passengers of both airlines to combine flights between India and Japan using a single ticket.
- Under the codeshare agreement, Air India will add its 'AI' designator code to ANA's flights between Tokyo Haneda and Delhi, as well as Tokyo Narita and Mumbai. Similarly, ANA will add its 'NH' code to Air India's flights between Tokyo Narita and Delhi.



## Indian Air Force:

- ➔ The Indian Air Force (IAF) has achieved a significant milestone by successfully testing a new version of an air-launched medium-range ballistic missile.
- ➔ The missile, codenamed ROCKS or Crystal Maze 2, was test-fired from a Su-30 MKI fighter jet in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



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## Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award:

- In a prestigious ceremony held at Mumbai's Dinanath Mangeshkar Natyagrih, actor Randeep Hooda was bestowed with the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award.
- This honor recognizes his remarkable contributions to Indian cinema and his recent film "Swatantrya Veer Savarkar".



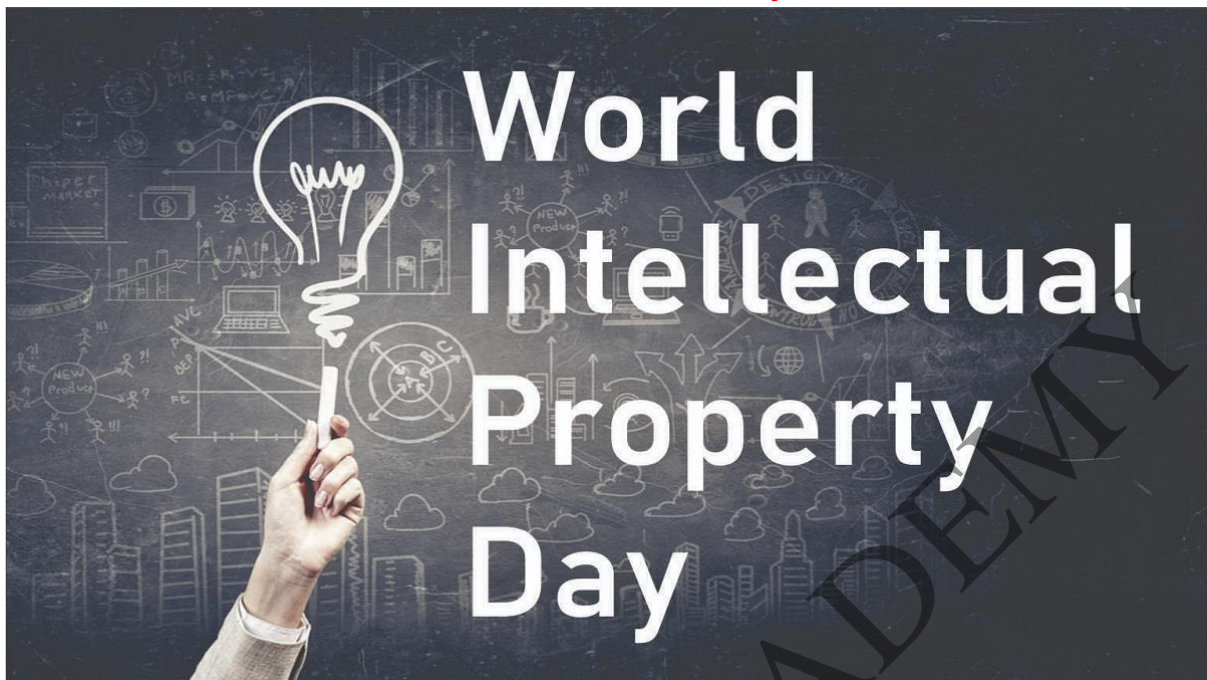
## Chernobyl Disaster:

- Every year, on April 26th, we observe the International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day. This day is dedicated to remembering the victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and raising awareness about this catastrophic event.
- In 1990, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. This marked the beginning of the United Nations' involvement in the recovery efforts.



## World Intellectual Property Day:

- ➔ World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated annually on April 26th by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
- ➔ This day is dedicated to promoting the role of intellectual property (IP) in stimulating innovation and creativity.
- ➔ The official theme for World Intellectual Property Day 2024 is 'IP and the SDGs: Building Our Common Future with Innovation and Creativity'.
- ➔ The theme highlights the importance of IP in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and creating a better future for all.



## World Veterinary Day:

- ➔ The World Veterinary Day (WVD) is an annual global celebration that honours the invaluable contributions of veterinarians to society.
- ➔ Observed on the last Saturday of April, this day aims to raise awareness about the crucial role veterinarians play in maintaining the health and welfare of animals and humans alike.
- ➔ This year, World Veterinary Day will be celebrated on Saturday, April 27, 2024. The theme for 2024 is “Veterinarians are Essential Health Workers,” highlighting the vital role veterinarians play in safeguarding public health and promoting the well-being of animals and the environment.



### Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam:

- ➔ Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) has inaugurated India's first multi-purpose green hydrogen pilot project at Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station in Himachal Pradesh.
- ➔ The project will produce hydrogen for the High Velocity Oxygen Fuel (HVOF) Coating Facility and generate 25 kW electricity.
- ➔ Aimed at advancing green hydrogen as a clean energy source, aligning with the National Green Hydrogen Mission.



## EVM and VVPAT:

- ➔ Supreme Court's decision on EVM and VVPAT demand for 100% matching rejected. SC guidelines: after the completion of the symbol loading process, the symbol loading unit should be sealed and preserved for 45 days.
- ➔ Post results, 2nd and 3rd candidates can request microcontroller memory test within 7 days; cost borne by requester, refundable if tampering found. Election Commission to explore counting paper slips via electronic machines and using bar codes for party symbols.





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## Supreme court:

- Supreme court has established that women employees have a constitutional entitlement to 2 year childcare leave, in addition to the obligatory maternity leave of 180 days.
- CJI Chandrachud, leading the bench, highlighted that denying such leave often coerces women into resigning from their positions.



## Sunil Kumar Yadav:

- Sunil Kumar Yadav has been selected for the appointment as Director in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- He has been selected for the appointment to the post under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years.



सत्यमेव जयते

# Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Government of India

## Anurag Chandra:

- ➔ Anurag Chandra has been appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.
- ➔ Chandra has been selected for the appointment to the post under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years.

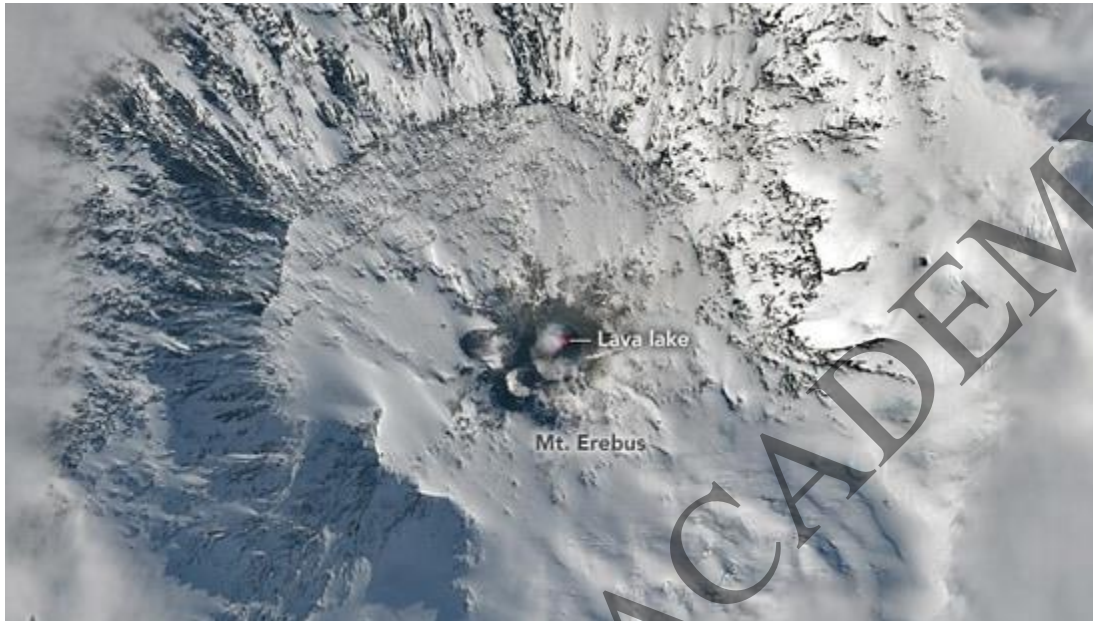


## Mount Erebus:

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- Mount Erebus, an active volcano in Antarctica, is reported to release gold dust worth \$6,000 every day into the atmosphere.
- Scientists have traced gold flecks from this volcano as far as 600 miles away. Discovered in 1841 by Sir James Clark Ross, Mount Erebus not only adds a unique aspect to geological studies but also poses an intriguing aspect of natural gold dispersion.



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2024, April 28-29

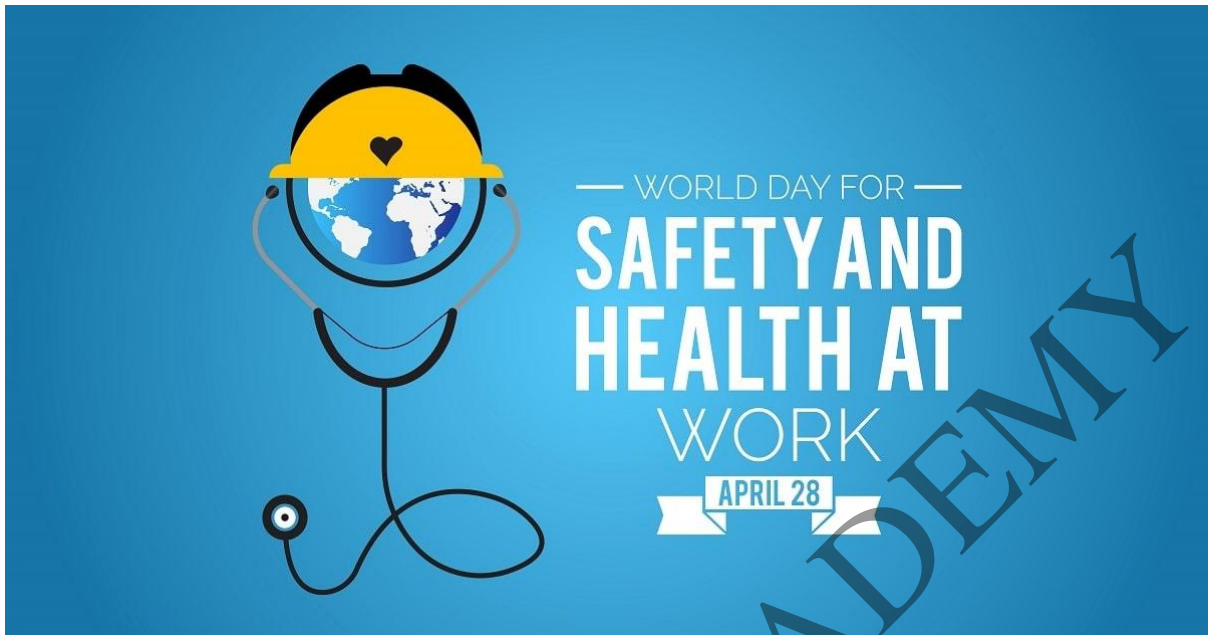
## Gina Justus:

- ➔ Gina Justus, an English High School teacher at the Sharjah Girls Branch in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), has been named the regional winner for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region at the prestigious 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards.
- ➔ This achievement celebrates her outstanding mentorship and dedication to charity work.



## World Day for Safety and Health at Work:

- ➔ The World Day for Safety and Health at Work is an annual international campaign observed on April 28th to promote safe and healthy working conditions for all workers.
- ➔ This day aims to raise awareness of the importance of occupational safety and health and to honour those who have suffered injuries, illnesses, or lost their lives due to work-related accidents or diseases.



## International Dance Day:

- ➔ International Dance Day, celebrated annually on April 29th, stands as a global tribute to the art of dance.
- ➔ Conceived by the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), an essential partner of UNESCO in the realm of performing arts, this day commemorates the birth of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727–1810), revered as the progenitor of modern ballet.



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## Alliance of Digital India Foundation:

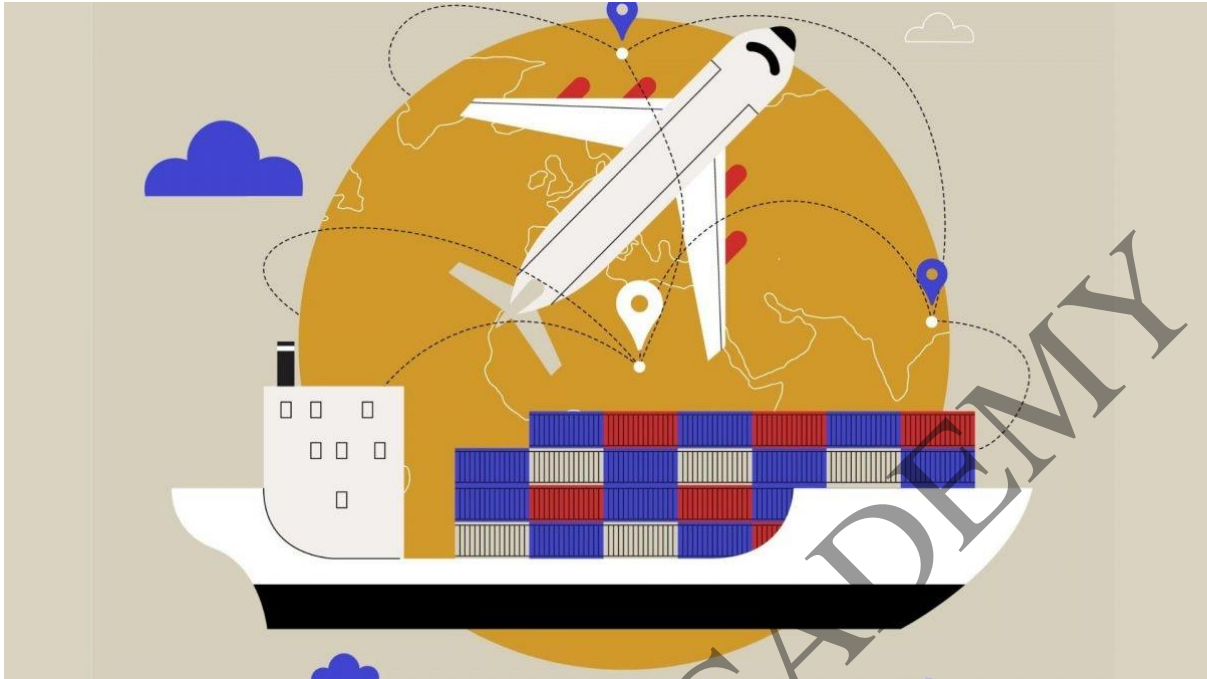
- ➔ The Alliance of Digital India Foundation (ADIF) has signed MoU with IIT Guwahati Technology Incubation Centre (IIT Guwahati TIC) to promote entrepreneurship and provide support to technology startups.
- ➔ Under the agreement, ADIF will provide alliance membership to IITG TIC's portfolio startup companies, giving them access to ADIF's startup toolkit of discounted services, resources and mentorship opportunities.



**ADiF**

## UNCTAD report:

- ➔ India's services exports jumped 11.4 per cent to USD 345 billion in 2023 despite global economic uncertainties, according to a UNCTAD report.
- ➔ While China's shipments from the sector contracted by 10.1 per cent to USD 381 billion. Sectors that contribute to India's services export growth include travel, transport, medical and hospitality.



## World Healing Day:

- ➔ World Healing Day (WHD) is celebrated every year on the last Saturday of April. This year, it celebrated on 27 April.
- ➔ World Healing Day is dedicated to promoting the benefits of mind-body practices and the emerging medical research on the subject. The day grew out of the founding event of World Tai Chi & Qigong Day.



## “Kamikaze drone”:

- ➔ The Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) has introduced a new “Kamikaze drone” resembling Russia’s Lancet drone.
- ➔ According to the state Tasnim news agency, the new Iranian drone — which has not yet been publicly named — is similar to the Russian Zala Lancet drone, which was first produced in 2020.





## Manoj Kumar:

- ➔ Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer Manoj Kumar has been appointed as new Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA).
- ➔ Kumar has been appointed as CVO of JNPA for an initial period of three years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.



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## Sarvadanand Barnwal:

- ➔ Sarvadanand Barnwal (ISS) has been selected for the appointment as Director in the Department of Land Resources.
- ➔ Barnwal has been selected for the appointment under the Central Staffing Scheme (CSS) for a period of five years from the date of taking over charge of the post or until further orders, whichever is earlier.



## World Pinhole Photography Day:

- ➔ World Pinhole Photography Day is observed every year on last Sunday of April. This year was celebrated on 28 April.
- ➔ The day aims to encourage people to pick up pinhole photography as a hobby and profession, and to share their techniques and pictures with the pinhole photography community.

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## UNCTAD:

- ➔ UNCTAD's rebranding as UN Trade and Development signals a renewed commitment to advocate for developing nations.
- ➔ Established in 1964 by the UN, UNCTAD aids countries in integrating into the global economy. It offers solutions to development challenges, helps diversity economies and manages financial risks.



## Rashmita Jha:

- ➔ Rashmita Jha (IRS) has been appointed as the Chief Vigilance Officer of NTPC limited. Rashmita is an Indian Revenue Service officer of the 1997 batch.

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- ➔ National Thermal Power Corporation is an Indian Maharatna Central Public Sector undertaking under the ownership of the Ministry of Power.



## Iraq's parliament:

- ➔ Iraq's parliament has passed a law criminalizing same-sex relationships with penalties including up to 15 years in prison.
- ➔ The law also targets those who promote homosexuality or prostitution and punishes gender expression that deviates from one's biological sex.
- ➔ Same-sex sexual acts are legal in more than 130 countries while more than 60 countries have criminalised gay sex.



## Shenzhou:

- China has launched its 7th crew to the Tiangong Space station. Shenzhou 18 is commanded by Ye Guangfu who was part of the Shenzhou 13 mission in 2021-2022.
- China began constructing its Tiangong space station in 2021, completing the T-shaped, three-module facility in late 2022.



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2024, April 30

## Krishna Ella:

- In a significant development, the Indian Vaccine Manufacturers Association (IVMA) has announced the appointment of Krishna Ella, co-founder and executive chairman of Bharat Biotech, as its new president for the next two years, effective April 2024.
- Ella will take over the presidency from Adar C. Poonawala, who held the position from 2019 to March 2024.



## Government of Tamil Nadu:

- The government of Tamil Nadu has launched a three-day survey of the Nilgiri Tahr, the state's iconic animal.
- This initiative aims to better understand and conserve this endangered species that faces numerous challenges, including habitat loss and poaching.
- The survey is being carried out in collaboration with renowned organizations such as the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
- This collaborative effort brings together expertise from various stakeholders, underscoring the multi-faceted approach required for effective conservation.

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## IIT Guwahati and SVEEP:

- ➔ IIT Guwahati and SVEEP collaborated to unveil a 3D-printed dummy ballot unit, aiming to educate citizens about voting intricacies, boost confidence, and enhance democratic participation.
- ➔ The initiative aims to enhance voter awareness and engagement, particularly among new voters and senior citizens, by providing a practical experience of the voting process.



## Alok Shukla:

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- Alok Shukla, a renowned environmental activist and convenor of Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan, has been selected for the prestigious 2024 Goldman Environmental Prize.
- Also known as the “Green Nobel Prize,” this annual award honours grassroots environmental champions worldwide for their outstanding contributions to environmental protection.



## Ayushman Bharat Diwas:

- Ayushman Bharat Diwas is celebrated annually on April 30 to raise awareness about the Ayushman Bharat Yojana and its goals.
- This year, it falls on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. The day was established by the government to highlight the scheme’s objective of providing better access to affordable and quality healthcare services, especially for the underprivileged.
- Launched in 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ayushman Bharat Yojana (PM-JAY) is a healthcare scheme that offers free health insurance of Rs. 5 lakh to more than 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families every year.
- The scheme covers three days of pre-hospitalization and 15 days of post-hospitalization care, ensuring comprehensive support for patients.

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### India's e-commerce landscape:

- India's e-commerce landscape is poised for a monumental gain by 2030, a report by investment promotion and facilitation agency Invest India has claimed.
- Forecasting a substantial surge to \$325 billion by 2030, the report added that the nation's digital economy is expected to reach an impressive \$800 billion by the same time.



## ‘Navratna’:

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) was granted ‘Navratna’ status by the Department of Public Enterprises.
- A non-banking financial institution under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, IREDA is engaged in promoting, developing and extending financial assistance for setting up projects related to new and renewable sources of energy.
- The Indian government grants Navratna status to premier public sector undertakings (PSUs), empowering them to execute significant investments of up to ₹1,000 crore without requiring approval from the central authority.

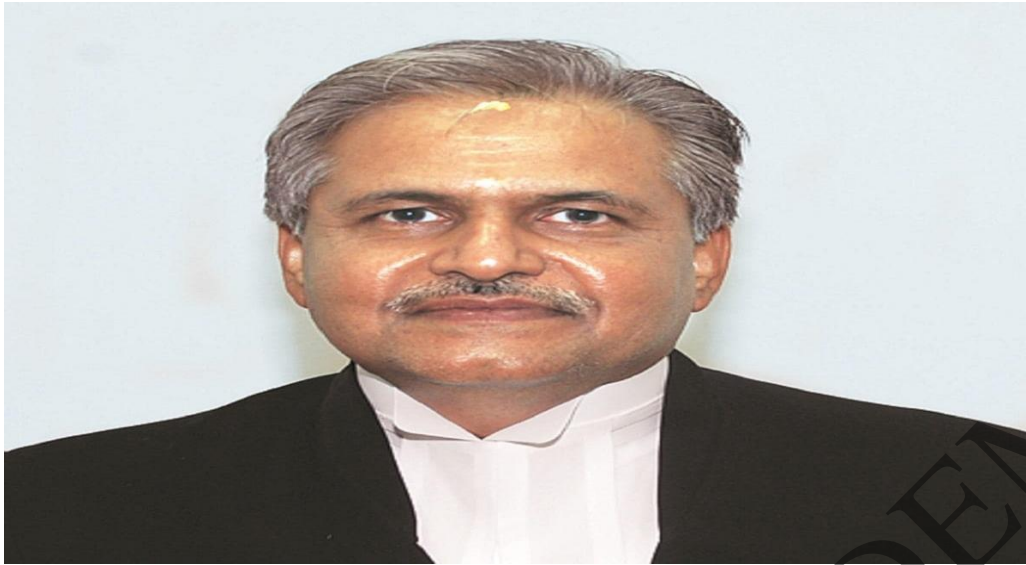


## Justice Dinesh Kumar:

- Retired Justice Dinesh Kumar took charge as the Presiding Officer of the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) for a four-year term.
- Before taking over as the presiding officer of SAT, Justice Dinesh Kumar was the chief justice of the Karnataka High Court. He retired from the post in February 2024.

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## International Jazz Day:

- ➔ International Jazz Day is celebrated every year on 30 April. This day is dedicated to the city of Tangier, Morocco, and the cultural heritage of jazz in Africa.
- ➔ The history of International Jazz Day dates back to November 2011, when the UNESCO General Conference proclaimed April 30 as International Jazz Day.



## National Honesty Day:

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- National Honesty Day is celebrated on 30 April, every year. It is a day dedicated to promoting honesty and building trust.
- The day is counterbalanced by April Fools' Day, which is known for jokes and deception. Honesty Day was first suggested by M. Hirsh Goldberg, the author of The Book of Lies in the early 1990s.



## Ocean Sun:

- NHPC Limited partners with Norwegian firm Ocean Sun to implement floating solar energy technology in India, focusing on photovoltaic panels on hydro-elastic membranes.
- The MoU was signed in a hybrid ceremony attended by representatives from Norway and India. NHPC Headquarters: Faridabad. Founded: 7 November, 1975.



## Kankesanthurai Port:

- ➔ India pledges USD 61.5 million to fully fund the renovation of Sri Lanka's Kankesanthurai Port in the Northern Province.
- ➔ The project aims to enhance connectivity, with direct ship service between Nagapattinam and Kankesanthurai reducing travel time.
- ➔ Initial project approval in 2017, with discussion on Public Private Partnership methods due to exceeding original estimates.

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## BWF World Junior Badminton Championships:

- ➔ India to host BWF World Junior Badminton Championships 2025, Guwahati. This marks India's first hosting of the BWF event since 2008, showcasing the country's growing prominence in the global badminton arena.
- ➔ BWF revealed that the next edition of the BWF Thomas and Uber Cup Finals will be held in Denmark in 2026.



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## ISHAN:

- ➔ Airports Authority of India has launched the ISHAN(Indian Single Sky Harmonized Air Traffic Management).
- ➔ To unify India's Flight Information Regions into 1 system managed from Nagpur. This consolidation is expected to enhance air traffic efficiency, safety and seamlessness.



## Hangor-class:

- ➔ China launched first of 8 Hangor-class submarine built for Pakistan. The Hangor-class submarines are a variant of the People's Liberation Army Navy Type 039B Yuan-class submarines.
- ➔ They have displacement of 2,800 tonnes and are 76 metres in length and 8.4 metres in width. The estimated cost is between \$4 billion and \$5 billion.





## Praveen Ranjan:

- Praveen Ranjan, a 2020-batch Indian Defence Accounts Services officer, was appointed Director in the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.
- Selected Under the Central staffing scheme for a tenure of 5 years or until further notice, whichever comes first.



वित्त मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF  
FINANCE

सत्यमेव जयते

## India and European Union:

- India and European Union are expanding cooperation on high technologies under the EU-India Trade and Technology council. Bharat 6G Alliance, initiated by the department of telecommunications, aims to unify industry, academia and research for 6G tech advancement.
- In 2023, it partnered with America's Next G alliance to develop 6G wireless technologies and enhance global supply chains.

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