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FIRST WEEK CURRENT AFFAIRS



APRIL 2024

APRIL 01-07

1. Recently, where was the first Nuclear Energy Summit held?

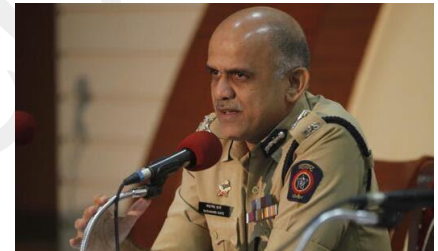
- A. New Delhi
- B. Brussels
- C. Moscow
- D. Beijing



- ✓ Leaders from 34 countries convened in Brussels for the Nuclear Energy Summit on March 21. Organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Belgium, the summit aimed to explore strategies for leveraging nuclear power in achieving net-zero emissions and sustainable development goals. Technical panels delved into maximizing nuclear energy's potential.

2. Recently, who has been appointed as the Director General of National Investigation Agency (NIA)?

- A. Kuldeep Singh
- B. Kaliraj Mahesh Kumar
- C. R S Krishna
- D. Sadanand Vasant Date



- ✓ The central government recently appointed new Director Generals for key agencies. Sadanand Vasant Date, a 1990 batch IPS officer from Maharashtra, now heads the National Investigation Agency (NIA). Rajeev Kumar Sharma, also from the 1990 batch but from Rajasthan cadre, will oversee the Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPRD).

3. Indian Agriculture Research Institute has demanded legal action against which country for cultivating basmati varieties protected in India?

- A. Afghanistan
- B. Pakistan
- C. Myanmar
- D. Bangladesh



- ✓ In March 2024, the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has urged legal action against Pakistan for cultivating its improved basmati rice varieties without authorization. The IARI has raised concerns that Pakistan is "illegally" growing the varieties, which could endanger India's \$5.5 billion export market. The IARI has found that varieties like Pusa-1121 and 1509 Basmati are grown in Pakistan under new names.

4. Who won women's singles title at the WTT Feeder Beirut II 2024 in Beirut, Lebanon?

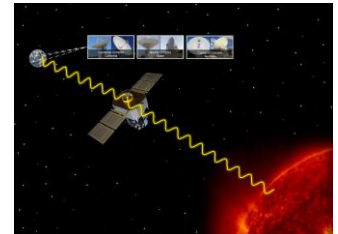
- A. Sreeja Akula
- B. Sarah D Nutte
- C. Suh Hyo
- D. Ayhika Mukherjee



- ✓ **Sreeja Akula, ranked 47th globally, won the women's singles title at WTT Feeder Beirut II 2024 in Lebanon, defeating Sarah D Nutte of Luxembourg in a thrilling final. The Indian paddler, aged 25, secured victory after coming from behind, with scores of 6-11, 12-10, 11-5, 11-9. Notably, she had beaten top seed Suh Hyo Won of South Korea earlier in the tournament. This marks her second WTT singles career title.**

5. Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) is a project of international collaboration between which two space agencies?

- A. JAXA and ISRO
- B. CNSA and ROSCOSMOS
- C. ESA and NASA
- D. CNSA and ISRO



- ✓ **A scientist recently discovered the 5,000th comet using Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) data. SOHO, a collaboration between ESA and NASA, launched in 1995 to study the Sun from the first Lagrangian Point. Equipped with 12 scientific instruments, it continuously observes the solar atmosphere, helioseismology, and solar wind. Despite its mission ending in 1998, SOHO persists, providing invaluable insights into the Sun's dynamics and discovering numerous comets.**

6. Recently, which ministry notified new wage rates for unskilled manual workers under the MGNREGA, 2005 for FY 2024-2025?

- A. Ministry of Rural Development
- B. Ministry of Agriculture
- C. Ministry of Power
- D. Ministry of Home Affairs



ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
**MINISTRY OF RURAL
DEVELOPMENT**
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

- ✓ **The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) has announced new wage rates for unskilled manual workers under MGNREGA for FY 2024-2025. MGNREGA guarantees 100 days of wage employment annually to rural adult household members. MoRD adjusts state-wise wage rates yearly based on CPI-AL changes, as mandated by MGNREGA's Section 6. This ensures fair compensation for rural laborers, supporting livelihoods in alignment with inflation rates.**

7. According to the Brand Finance 2024 report, which is the world's strongest insurance brand?

- A. Oriental General Insurance
- B. Life Insurance Corporation of India
- C. HDFC Life Insurance
- D. Max Life Insurance



- ✓ In the 2024 Brand Finance Insurance 100 report, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) maintains its global dominance, solidifying its position as the strongest insurance brand with a stable brand value of Rs 816 billion. Cathay Life Insurance follows closely.
- ✓ Meanwhile, Chinese insurers like Ping An, China Life Insurance, and CPIC assert their dominance, with Ping An leading the pack with a significant increase in brand value to Rs 2799 billion, showcasing China's influence on the international insurance landscape.

8. 2024 - Food Waste Index Report is released by which organization?

- A. UNEP
- B. UNDP
- C. WHO
- D. ILO



- ✓ The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) released its 3rd Food Waste Index Report in 2024, revealing that in 2022, 1.05 billion metric tonnes of food, 19% of the global supply, were wasted. This waste contrasts starkly with 783 million people experiencing hunger worldwide. The report emphasizes the need to tackle food waste to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 12.3. Households are the largest contributors, responsible for 60% of wastage. Annual per capita food wastage is estimated at 79 kg.

9. Recently, Government of India is establishing new atomic clocks at which places?

- A. Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore
- B. Kozhikode, Cannanore and Wayanad
- C. Bengaluru, Bhopal and Lucknow
- D. Bhubaneswar, Jaipur and Hyderabad



- ✓ The Indian government is deploying atomic clocks nationwide to ensure all devices align with Indian Standard Time, countering reliance on US-based servers. Developed by only four countries, atomic clocks were invented in 1955. The CSIR-NPL New Delhi is India's timekeeper, maintaining seven atomic clocks. New clocks are being installed in Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, and Hyderabad, expanding from Faridabad and Ahmedabad.

10. Recently, who was inducted into the World Billiards Museum's Hall of Fame in Shangrao, China?

- A. Geet Siriram Sethi
- B. Rudolf Walter Wanderone
- C. Earl Strickland
- D. Pankaj Advani



- ✓ In March 2024, Pankaj Advani, an Indian billiards player, was inducted into the World Billiards Museum's Hall of Fame in Shangrao, China. Advani was inducted after winning the 26th IBSF title in China. The museum covers 13,500 square meters and offers an overview of snooker's history, equipment, events, cultural traditions, and people.

11. Tantalum, a rare metal, was recently discovered in which river?

- A. Gomti
- B. Sutlej
- C. Kaveri
- D. Godavari



- ✓ Traces of tantalum, a rare metal crucial in electronics, were found in the Sutlej River by Indian Institute of Technology, Punjab researchers. Tantalum is vital for capacitors and resistors in devices like smartphones and laptops. Its discovery hints at untapped mineral wealth beneath the riverbed, sparking interest in further exploration. Tantalum's unique properties make it valuable, potentially impacting various industries and the local economy.

12. Recently, which organization has launched a new network for coronaviruses, CoViNet?

- A. World Bank
- B. WHO
- C. WTO
- D. UNICEF



- ✓ The World Health Organization (WHO) launched CoViNet, a global network of laboratories specializing in human, animal, and environmental coronavirus surveillance. It aims to detect and monitor emerging coronaviruses, including potential novel strains, enhancing risk assessment and informing WHO policies. CoViNet will expand surveillance capabilities, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, to monitor MERS-CoV and other significant coronaviruses.

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1. Recently, which space company has successfully test-fired the 'Kalam-250' at the propulsion testbed of the ISRO?

- A. Bellatrix Aerospace
- B. AgniKul Cosmos
- C. Skyroot Aerospace
- D. Kawa Space



- ✓ Skyroot Aerospace recently conducted a successful test-fire of the Kalam-250 at ISRO's Satish Dhawan Space Centre. This second stage of the Vikram-1 space launch vehicle features a carbon composite rocket motor, EPDM thermal protection, and precision thrust vector control. Developed by Skyroot Aerospace, it will propel the launch vehicle from the atmosphere into outer space, playing a vital role in its ascent.

2. United Nations Secretary-General has appointed which Indian as his Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction?

- A. Nikhil Seth
- B. Kamal Kishore
- C. Shailesh Tinaikar
- D. Satya S Tripathi



- ✓ India's National Disaster Management Authority official, Kamal Kishore, appointed by UN Secretary-General António Guterres as special representative for disaster risk reduction. Kishore (55), currently serving as NDMA's secretary to the government of India, succeeds Mami Mizutori.
- ✓ Appointed assistant secretary-general and special representative of the secretary-general for disaster risk reduction at UNDRR, Kishore's role is crucial in global disaster mitigation efforts, announced by the UN spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric.

3. Kuttanad wetland system is located in which state?

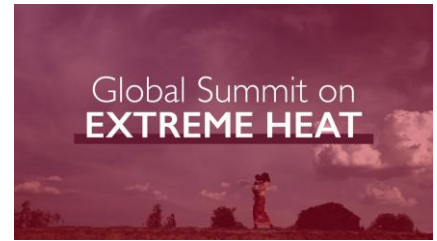
- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Maharashtra



- ✓ Kuttanad, renowned for rice cultivation below sea level, faces a severe water crisis due to pollution, salinity, and erratic weather. Kuttanad, a delta on Kerala's west coast, hosts the unique Kuttanad Below Sea-level Farming System, practicing rice cultivation below sea level in "Puncha Vayals" comprising Karapadam, Kayal, and Kari fields. The region is part of the Vembanad Kol wetland ecosystem, a Ramsar Site.

4. Global Summit on Extreme Heat, recently hosted by which two organizations?

- A. USAID and Red Cross
- B. UNICEF and UNDP
- C. UNEP and WTO
- D. WHO and ILO



- ✓ The 1st Summit on Extreme Heat, organized by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), aims to address the impacts of record-high temperatures in 2023. Initiatives include the IFRC and USAID Extreme Heat Global Action Hub, Fire Grand Challenge Prize, FEWS NET.

5. Koramangala-Challaghatta (KC) Valley project is related to which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Kerala
- D. Goa



- ✓ The Centre aims to expand Karnataka's KC Valley project nationwide for wastewater reuse. It refills lakes in dry districts like Bengaluru Rural, Kolar, and Chikballapura.
- ✓ The project's success in recharging groundwater led the Ministry to consider replication for lake rejuvenation across states. It receives partial funding under the Atal Bhujal Yojana. India generates 72,368 MLD of wastewater daily. Sujalam 2.0 greywater recycling project was launched recently for kitchen, bathing, and laundry runoff reuse.

6. Khavda Renewable Energy Park is located in which state?

- A. Gujarat
- B. Rajasthan
- C. Odisha
- D. Haryana



- ✓ Adani Green Energy Limited has operationalized 1,000 MW of solar energy at the Khavda Renewable Energy Park in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat. Covering 726 square kilometers, it's the world's largest hybrid renewable energy park, featuring windmills and solar panels. Fully operational by December 2026, it's set to be visible from space. Expected to generate 30 GW of clean energy, it could power 16.1 million homes annually, avoiding 58mn tonnes of CO2 emissions.

7. Recently, Tata Motors and HPCL planned to set up how many EV charging stations by the end of 2024?

- A. 5000
- B. 3000
- C. 8000
- D. 18000



- ✓ **TPEM and HPCL signed an MoU on March 27, 2024, to establish EV charging stations nationwide. The collaboration aims to install 5,000 chargers at HPCL pumps by December. With 21,500 petrol pumps across India, HPCL plans to enhance customer experience by collecting charger usage data. TPEM will strategically select charger locations.**

8. Gyalzung project is associated with which country?

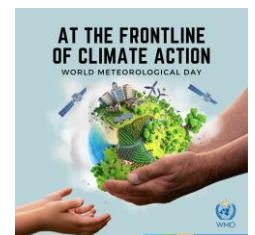
- A. Nepal
- B. Myanmar
- C. Bhutan
- D. Sri Lanka



- ✓ **India disbursed the second installment of ₹500 crore to Bhutan for infrastructure development under the GyalSung Project. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit to Bhutan, concluded on March 23, and emphasized India's commitment to Bhutan's development. Modi pledged ₹10,000 crore over five years to Bhutan. This reaffirms India's support for its Himalayan neighbor's growth, strengthening bilateral ties and regional cooperation.**

9. What was the theme of METOC seminar 'MEGHAYAN-24'?

- A. At the Frontline of Climate Action
- B. The Future of Weather, Climate and Water across Generations
- C. Early Warning and Early Action
- D. The Ocean, Our Climate and Weather



- ✓ **World Meteorological Day on March 23 commemorates the establishment of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1950, recognizing meteorologists' vital role. Recently, a METOC seminar named "Meghayan-24" was organized by Indian Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre. Admiral R Hari Kumar emphasized the urgency of addressing climate change, aligning with WMO's theme "At the Frontline of Climate Action."**

10. Yunhai-3 02, an environmental monitoring satellite, recently launched by which country?

- A. Russia
- B. China
- C. Japan
- D. India



- ✓ China launched the Yunhai-3 02 satellite for environmental monitoring from Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in Shanxi Province. The satellite, now in its designated orbit, will focus on atmospheric and marine environment detection, space environment monitoring, disaster prevention, and scientific research.

11. Cumbum valley is located in which district of Tamil Nadu?

- A. Madurai
- B. Tenkasi
- C. Theni
- D. The Nilgiris



- ✓ Cumbum Valley, known as the “Grapes City of South India,” is known for Panneer Thratchai grapes, comprising 85% of India’s production. Introduced in 1832 by a French priest, these grapes thrive year-round, unlike elsewhere. Recognized for its rapid growth and early maturity, it earned a Geographical Indication tag in 2023. Cumbum Valley’s grapes, rich in nutrients, are used for wine, spirits, and more. Its location in Tamil Nadu’s Western Ghats adds to its allure.

12. Gagan Shakti 2024 exercise, recently conducted by Indian Air Force at which place?

- A. Jaipur
- B. Pokhran
- C. Jodhpur
- D. Ajmer



- ✓ The Indian Air Force (IAF) is set to conduct ‘Gagan Shakti-2024’, the nation’s largest air military exercise, involving all Air Force stations. Held every five years, it will commence on April 1, 2024, at Pokhran’s field firing range. Approximately 10,000 airmen will participate, with maneuvers spanning the Western and Northern fronts.

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1. Recently, which institute hosted the International Chess Federation (FIDE) rated chess tournament?

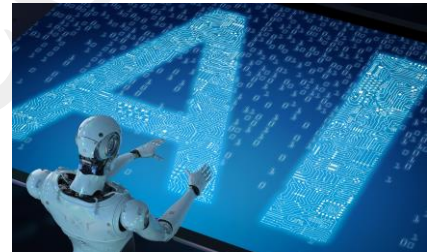
- A. IIT Madras
- B. IIT Kanpur
- C. IIT Delhi
- D. IIT Hyderabad



- ✓ IIT Madras hosts the 6th Shaastra Rapid FIDE Rated Chess Tournament from March 30 to 31, 2024, in Chennai. It's the sole IIT in India to conduct an annual Open Rapid Rating Tournament. Over 35 players from IIT Madras join, alongside international players from countries like Australia, England, America, and Singapore.

2. What is 'Stargate'?

- A. Black hole
- B. Meteorological satellite
- C. AI Supercomputer
- D. Nuclear powered submarine



- ✓ Microsoft and OpenAI are jointly embarking on a \$100 billion project to create "Stargate," an AI supercomputer. Scheduled for launch in 2028, it follows OpenAI's AI upgrade in 2022. The project aims to surpass existing data centers' capabilities by 100 times. Divided into five phases, with Stargate as the fifth, a smaller fourth-phase supercomputer is slated for release in 2026.

3. Recently, who was honored with the 'International Culture Award 2024'?

- A. Rizwana Hasan
- B. Meena Charanda
- C. Najla Mangoush
- D. Taif Sami Mohammed



- ✓ Professor Meena Charanda, Principal of Kalindi College, Delhi University, received the 'International Culture Award' in 2024 for her exceptional contributions to education and social service. The honor was bestowed upon her at the India International Center on March 30, 2024.

4. What is the name of the Iranian fishing vessel which was recently rescued by Indian Navy from pirates?

- A. Bayandor
- B. Kaivan
- C. Sahand
- D. Al Kamar



- ✓ The Indian Navy rescued the Iranian fishing vessel Al Kamar and its 23 Pakistani crew members from armed pirates in the Indian Ocean under Operation Sankalp. INS Sumedha and INS Trishul conducted the operation, about 90 nautical miles southwest of Socotra. The Socotra Archipelago, near the Gulf of Aden, is under Yemen's jurisdiction.

5. Cnemaspis vangoghi belongs to which species?

- A. Lizard
- B. Spider
- C. Fish
- D. Frog



- ✓ Scientists from the Thackeray Wildlife Foundation in India discovered Cnemaspis vangoghi, a new lizard species in Tamil Nadu's Southern Western Ghats. Named after Vincent Van Gogh, it measures up to 3.4 cm. Preferring rocky habitats, it can be found on buildings and trees. Alongside C. vangoghi, another species, Cnemaspis sathuragiriensis, was identified in the same region. Both species inhabit low-elevation forests in the Srivilliputhur-Megamalai Tiger Reserve.

6. Eco-Niwas Samhita (ENS), a residential energy conservation building code, was developed by which organization?

- A. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)
- B. Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)
- C. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- D. Department of Science and Technology



- ✓ The Eco-Niwas Samhita (ENS) introduced the Residential Envelope Transmittance Value (RETV), a metric measuring heat transfer in buildings. It's a Residential Energy Conservation Building code by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), setting standards for energy-efficient residential buildings. ENS 2018 (Part 1) focuses on envelope designs, while ENS Part 2 (ENS 2021) addresses code compliance and electromechanical systems. Lower RETV values lead to cooler indoor environments and decreased energy usage.

7. Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which district of Tamil Nadu?

- A. Thanjavur
- B. Nagapattinam
- C. Sivaganga
- D. Pudukkottai

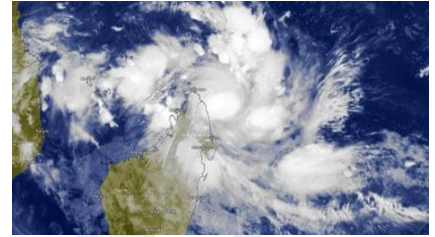


- ✓ The Forest Department conducted the annual wildlife census at Point Calimere, located in Kodiakkarai, Tamil Nadu. Also known as Cape Calimere, it's situated on the Coromandel Coast, about 9 km south of Vedaranyam.

- ✓ This area boasts historical significance with structures like the Kodi Kuzhagar temple from the Chola period and a Chola lighthouse, destroyed during the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. The forests here are remnants of the East Deccan dry evergreen forests ecoregion.

8. Recently, which country of East Africa was hit by the tropical cyclone named 'Gamane'?

- A. Madagascar
- B. Tanzania
- C. Kenya
- D. Mauritius



- ✓ Tropical cyclone Gamane struck Madagascar, claiming 18 lives and displacing thousands, reported by the country's disaster management office. Madagascar, the world's second-largest island, spans 592,800 sq. kilometers in the Indian Ocean. Its geography comprises three regions: eastern coastal strip, central plateau, and western low plateaus.

9. P-800 Onyx Missile is developed by which country?

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. Russia
- D. India



- ✓ Russia's Onyx supersonic cruise missile, known as the P-800 Onyx or Oniks, is set to become deadlier with a new target seeker. With speeds exceeding 3,000 km/h, it's tough to intercept. Operating at low altitudes, it's stealthy and versatile, targeting ships and ground objects. It boasts a range of up to 300 km.

10. What is 'INDRA App'?

- A. A multipurpose app that will help astronauts to carry activities
- B. It disseminates weather related information and forecasts
- C. It provides digital financial data to states
- D. It is related to Anganwadi workers



- ✓ The INDRA app, launched during World Meteorological Day celebrations by School of Naval Oceanology & Meteorology and Indian Naval Meteorological Analysis Centre at Southern Naval Command, facilitates weather information dissemination. Developed by BISAG and Indian Navy, it aids quick decision-making.

11. Recently, which ministry issued an advisory to the Artificial Intelligence industry?

- A. Ministry of Communication
- B. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- C. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- D. Ministry of Law and Justice



- ✓ **The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) issued an advisory to the AI industry, particularly targeting major platforms like Google. It requires platforms to submit an action report within 15 days. Key points include needing permission for testing AI models, explicit approval for under-tested or unreliable AI, and proper labeling of potential errors.**

12. Maravakandy Dam is located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Karnataka
- D. Telangana



- ✓ **With fishing halted, migratory birds flock to Maravakandy Dam in the Nilgiris. Situated 35 km from Ooty in Tamil Nadu, it was constructed in 1951 over Aravarihalla stream, a Sigur River tributary. This dam serves as the main water source for the Moyar hydroelectric powerhouse, attracting diverse avian species during migratory seasons.**

13. Katchatheevu Island is situated between which two countries?

- A. India and Bangladesh
- B. India and Myanmar
- C. India and Sri Lanka
- D. Spain and France



- ✓ **Documents obtained through an RTI application by Tamil Nadu's BJP chief K Annamalai reveal India's inconsistent approach to the Katchatheevu island dispute with Sri Lanka. Katchatheevu, a small island in the Palk Strait, lacks a permanent settlement and freshwater source. Administered by both India and Sri Lanka historically, a 1974 agreement marked its boundary.**

14. 2024 - Utkal Divas is related with which state?

- A. Odisha
- B. Bihar
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Telangana



- ✓ Utkal Diwas, also known as Odisha Day, commemorates the formation of Odisha on April 1, 1936. It signifies the state's cultural and historical significance, marking the end of a struggle for a separate identity from British colonial rule. Celebrated annually, it showcases Odisha's rich heritage through festivities, including decorations and cultural displays.

15. Recently, how many sites have been added to the Global Geoparks network?

- A. 16
- B. 17
- C. 18
- D. 19



- ✓ In March 2024, UNESCO's Executive Board added 18 new sites to the Global Geoparks network, bringing the total number of sites to 213 across 48 countries. The new sites are located in Belgium, the Netherlands, Brazil, China, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, and Spain. Global Geoparks are single geographical areas that are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education, and sustainable development.

16. Recently, which city is being established by the armed forces as the country's first tri-service common defense station?

- A. Chennai
- B. Mumbai
- C. Vellore
- D. Barrackpore



- ✓ The Armed Forces plan to transform Mumbai into India's inaugural tri-service common defense station for the Army, Navy, and Indian Air Force (IAF). This aims at fostering jointness among the services preceding the establishment of integrated theatre commands. Theatreization involves integrating army, air force, and navy capabilities to optimize resources for warfare.

17. Recently, who clinched the 2024 Miami Open men's doubles title at the Hard Rock Stadium in Florida, USA?

- A. Carlos Alcaraz and Sinner Jannik
- B. Rohan Bopanna and Matthew Ebden
- C. Daniil Medvedev and C. Norrie
- D. Ivan Dodig and Austin Krajicek



- ✓ Indian tennis star Rohan Bopanna, with Australian partner Matthew Ebden, secured the 2024 Miami Open men's doubles title on March 31, 2024, at the Hard Rock Stadium, Florida. They overcame Ivan Dodig and Austin Krajicek, reclaiming their ATP World No.1 rank. Bopanna, breaking his own record, became the oldest player to win an ATP 1000 Masters Championship.

18. Clean Energy Transitions Programme annual report 2023, recently released by which government agency?

- A. International Energy Agency (IEA)
- B. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- C. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- D. Ministry of Power



- ✓ The International Energy Agency (IEA) recently released its 2023 Clean Energy Transitions Programme report. Established in 2017, the program aims to accelerate global progress towards a net-zero energy system, aligning with the Paris Agreement and UN Sustainable Development Goals. IEA, founded in 1974 amidst an oil crisis, operates within the OECD framework, collaborating with governments and industries worldwide. With 31 member countries and stringent criteria for candidacy, it focuses on shaping a secure, sustainable energy future.

19. Recently, who were named the women's and men's player of the year, respectively, at the sixth annual Hockey India Awards?

- A. Gurjit Kaur and Manpreet Singh
- B. Rani Rampal and Vivek Prasad
- C. Salima Tete and Hardik Singh
- D. Savita Punia and Krishan Pathak



- ✓ Hockey India Awards 2023 were held on March 31, 2024, in New Delhi. Salima Tete and Hardik Singh were named Women's and Men's Players of the Year, respectively. Started in 2014, the awards honor India's top hockey talents. Hardik Singh, Vice-Captain from Punjab, won FIH Player of the Year and Best Midfielder awards. Salima Tete, from Jharkhand, received recognition for her achievements at the Asian Games and as the AHF Emerging Player of the Year.

20. Recently, which state emerged as the largest exporter of electronic goods, contributing 30% to the country's total electronic goods exports in FY 2023-24?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Telangana



- ✓ Tamil Nadu is India's largest exporter of electronic goods, contributing 30% to the country's total electronic goods exports in FY 2023-24. From April 2023 to January 2024, Tamil Nadu's electronics exports were valued at \$7.37 billion, which is 32.52% of India's total export of electronic system design and manufacturing (ESDM) goods of \$22.65 billion for the same period. Historically, Tamil Nadu lagged behind Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka in this sector until FY 2021-22. However, in recent years, Tamil Nadu has experienced consistent growth.

21. Vaigai, Mettur, and Papanasam dams, recently seen in news due to water level, are located in which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Goa



- ✓ Recent news highlighted water levels in several dams including Vaigai, Mettur, and Papanasam. Vaigai Dam in Tamil Nadu serves Madurai's water needs. Mettur Dam, on the Cauvery River, is one of India's largest, with inflows from Karnataka. Papanasam Dam irrigates fields in Tirunelveli and Tuticorin, considered holy due to its association with Lord Shiva.

22. Chamayavilakku festival is associated with which state?

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Telangana



- ✓ Chamayavilakku or the Kottankulangara Festival, celebrates goddess Bhagavathy in Kerala. Men don women's attire, carrying lamps in processions. They hold Chamayavilakku, symbolizing devotion, circling the temple. Boys under 10 dress as girls for Kakkavilakku daytime rituals.

23. Recently, who has been appointed as India's next ambassador to Niger?

- A. Pankaj Saran
- B. P R Chakraborty
- C. Vikram Misri
- D. Sita Ram Meena



- ✓ Sita Ram Meena, a 2008 batch IFS officer, has been appointed as India's Ambassador to the Republic of Niger. Previously serving as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, this appointment marks a significant career advancement. Mr. Meena's diplomatic experience and expertise position him well for this new role, which underscores India's commitment to strengthening ties with Niger on the international stage.

24. What is the theme of World Autism Awareness Day 2024?

- A. Empowering Autistic Voices
- B. The Transition to Adulthood
- C. Inclusive Quality Education for All
- D. Assistive Technologies, Active Participation

- ✓ World Autism Awareness Day, observed annually on April 2nd, advocates for improving the lives of individuals with autism and promoting their human rights. Established by a UN resolution in 2007, the day raises public awareness and encourages inclusive actions. The 2024 theme for the day is, "Empowering Autistic Voices".

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1. Recently, which port in India emerged as the top cargo-handling port in India in 2023-24?

- A. Karaikal port
- B. Paradip port
- C. Kandla port
- D. Kochi port



- ✓ **Paradip Port Authority in Odisha surpassed Deendayal Port Authority in Kandla as India's top cargo-handling major port in 2023-24. Handling 145.38 MMT of cargo, it registered a 7.4% growth from the previous year. It's capable of handling 289 MMT. Established in 1962, it became India's 8th major port in 1966, now under the Ministry of Ports.**

2. Judith Suminwa Tuluka became the first woman Prime Minister of which country?

- A. Angola
- B. Zambia
- C. Congo
- D. Rwanda



- ✓ **Judith Suminwa Tuluka became the Democratic Republic of Congo's first female Prime Minister, succeeding Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde. This historic appointment by President Felix Tshisekedi fulfilled a campaign promise. Tuluka, former Planning Minister, and assumed office just a month after Lukonde resigned from the position, which he held for three years.**

3. REC Limited, recently won the SKOCH ESG Award 2024, comes under which ministry?

- A. Ministry of Power
- B. Ministry of Defence
- C. Ministry of Agriculture
- D. Ministry of Corporate Affairs



- ✓ **REC Limited, a Ministry of Power entity, clinched the SKOCH ESG Award 2024 in 'Renewable Energy Financing'. This accolade acknowledges REC's dedication to sustainable financing, driving the shift towards renewable energy. As a pivotal player in India's clean energy transition, REC spearheads numerous sustainable projects and engages in discussions with developers across various green sectors. The SKOCH ESG Awards highlight organizations' commitment to environmental, social, and governance factors, crucial for India's sustainable future.**

4. Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) initiative is related to which disease?

- A. Dengue
- B. HIV/AIDS
- C. Tuberculosis
- D. Malaria



- ✓ The completion of twenty years of the Free Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) initiative marks a significant milestone in HIV/AIDS treatment. Started on April 1, 2004, it provides vital treatment for Persons living with HIV (PLHIV). This initiative utilizes a combination of drugs to suppress HIV replication, drastically reducing HIV prevalence and new infections globally. In 2023, HIV prevalence in 15–49-year-olds dropped to 0.20%, with India's share in PLHIV decreasing to 6.3%.

5. Shigmo festival is celebrated in which state?

- A. Karnataka
B. Madhya Pradesh
C. Odisha
D. Goa



- ✓ Spring has sprung in Goa, igniting the vibrant Shigmo Festival, celebrating Konkan tradition. Lasting from March 26 to April 8, 2024, it bids farewell to winter, welcoming spring's warmth. A fusion of Holi's energy and carnival's flamboyance, Shigmo showcases grand parades with folk performances and mythological floats.

6. Who won the 56th National Kho Kho Championship 2023-24?

- A. Uttar Pradesh
B. Karnataka
C. Maharashtra
D. Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ The 56th National Kho Kho Championship 2023-24 saw Maharashtra dominating both men's and women's categories at Delhi's Karnail Singh Stadium and Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium. Maharashtra's men's team won against Indian Railways in a thrilling final, while the women's team led by Sampada Maurya triumphed over Airport Authority of India. The championship featured 37 teams in each category, organized by the Kho Kho Federation of India.

7. Recently, which institution established the Digital India Trust Agency (DIGITA) as a new tool to combat cybercrime?

- A. RBI
B. CBI
C. SEBI
D. NABARD



- ✓ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) plans to establish the Digital India Trust Agency (DIGITA) to counter cybercrime, focusing on legal app approval and curbing illegal loan apps. DIGITA aims to centralize verification of digital lending apps, ensuring compliance with RBI regulations.

8. "A Decade of Documenting Migrant Deaths" report, recently released by which organization?

- A. International Labour Organization (ILO)
- B. World Trade Organization (WTO)
- C. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- D. International Organization for Migration (IOM)



- ✓ **The International Organization for Migration (IOM) published "A Decade of Documenting Migrant Deaths" marking ten years of its Missing Migrants Project (MMP), initiated in 2014. Key findings reveal over one-third of migrants from conflict zones, with two-thirds of deaths unidentified. Major causes include drowning, accidents, and suffocation.**

9. What is 'bridge fuel'?

- A. Natural gas
- B. Coal
- C. Wind energy
- D. Solar energy



- ✓ **Natural gas is often termed a 'bridge fuel' aiding country in transitioning from coal and oil to renewable energy. As society shifts towards cleaner energy, bridge fuels like natural gas aim to minimize environmental impact. While natural gas emits less greenhouse gases, its role as a bridge fuel also hinges on factors like enhancing energy independence and reducing pollution costs.**

10. Kodaikanal Solar Observatory is situated in which district of Tamil Nadu?

- A. Madurai
- B. Theni
- C. Dindigul
- D. Karur



- ✓ **The Kodaikanal Solar Observatory celebrating its 125th year, is an Indian Institute of Astrophysics facility in Tamil Nadu. Pioneering in solar physics, it gained fame with John Evershed's discovery of the Evershed Effect in 1909. Over centuries, it's been pivotal in studying solar eclipses, sunspots, and solar flares, crucial for understanding the Sun's impact on Earth's atmosphere.**

11. 'One Vehicle One FASTag' initiative is launched by which organization?

- A. IREDA
- B. BHEL
- C. NHAI
- D. NPCI



- ✓ The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) launched the 'One Vehicle One FASTag' initiative to boost the adoption of FASTags for toll collection on national highways. It aims to link each vehicle with a single FASTag, curbing misuse of multiple tags per vehicle. This move enhances toll collection efficiency and streamlines the process, contributing to smoother traffic flow.

12. Recently, who has become the sole Indian weightlifter who qualified for the Paris Olympics 2024?

- A. Mirabai Chanu
- B. Kunjarani Devi
- C. Gurdeep Singh
- D. Karnam Malleswari



- ✓ Mirabai Chanu, Tokyo Olympics medallist, secures her spot at the Paris Olympics, making history as the sole Indian weightlifter to qualify. At the IWF World Cup in Phuket, Thailand, the 29-year-old Olympic silver medalist finished third in Group B of women's 49kg, earning 11th place overall. After a six-month injury lay-off, Chanu lifted a total of 184kg at the event, solidifying her berth for the 2024 Paris Games.

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1. What is the name of the Indian Coast Guard ship that recently made a port call in Vietnam as part of its overseas deployment to ASEAN countries?

- A. Tara Bai
- B. Samrat
- C. Samudra Paheredar
- D. Priyadarshini



- ✓ **The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Pollution Control Vessel Samudra Paheredar, along with a helicopter, docked at Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam on April 02, 2024, continuing its ASEAN deployment. Crew will focus on marine pollution response, search & rescue, and law enforcement through professional interactions, training, and sports events with Vietnam Coast Guard.**
- ✓ **Demonstrating India's shipbuilding prowess, the visit strengthens bilateral ties and showcases cooperation. 25 NCC cadets will join in environmental activities.**

2. 'NICES Programme' is operated by which organization?

- A. ISRO
- B. DRDO
- C. IEA
- D. SEBI



- ✓ **NICES programme, operated by ISRO and the Department of Space, called upon Indian researchers to combat climate change. Launched in 2012 under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, NICES monitors climate variability using Earth Observation satellites. Its objectives include disseminating Essential Climate Variables crucial for understanding Earth's climate.**

3. Bindyarani Devi belongs to which sports?

- A. Hockey
- B. Swimming
- C. Boxing
- D. Weight lifting



- ✓ **Bindyarani Devi, Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022 silver medalist, secured a bronze at the IWF World Cup 2024 in Phuket, Thailand, lifting 196 kg in the women's 55 kg category. Conversely, Tokyo Olympics silver medalist Mirabai Chanu placed 12th. Despite not medaling, Chanu qualified for the Paris Olympics 2024, becoming India's sole weightlifter to do so. Kang Hyon Gyong of North Korea clinched gold, while Romania's Mihaela Cambei took silver.**

4. Recently, who has taken over as president of industry body ASSOCHAM for 2024-25?

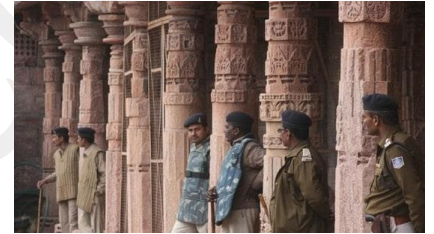
- A. Vineet Aggarwal
- B. Sanjay Nayar
- C. Deepak Sood
- D. Sunil Kanoria



- ✓ **Sanjay Nayar, former chairman of Sorin Investment Fund, assumes presidency at ASSOCHAM for 2024-25, succeeding Ajay Singh of SpiceJet. Nayar, with extensive global financial experience, notably at Citigroup and KKR, retired in 2023. He played pivotal roles in establishing KKR India operations and serves on Nykaa's board.**

5. Bhojshala Complex is situated in which state?

- A. Karnataka
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Odisha
- D. Goa



- ✓ **The Bhojshala complex, located in Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh, is a historically contested site between Hindus and Muslims. Protected by the Archaeological Survey of India, it holds significance as a temple for Hindus and a mosque for Muslims.**
- ✓ **An arrangement by ASI allows Hindus to conduct pujas on Tuesdays and Muslims to offer namaz on Fridays. Recently, the Supreme Court rejected a stay on ongoing scientific surveys, emphasizing no physical alterations to the structure.**

6. What is the theme of 'International Mining Awareness Day 2024'?

- A. Protecting Lives, Building Peace
- B. Safe Ground, Safe Steps, Safe Home
- C. Together for Mine Action
- D. Perseverance, Partnership, and Progress



- ✓ **International Mine Awareness Day, observed annually on April 4th, aims to raise awareness and eliminate landmines. The 2024 theme is "Protecting Lives, Building Peace." Previously, in 2023, the focus was "Mine Action Cannot Wait." This day established by the UN General Assembly in 2005.**

7. Which region of West Bengal was recently struck by a devastating tornado?

- A. Maynaguri
- B. Siliguri
- C. Darjeeling
- D. Kolkata



- ✓ Recently, a destructive tornado hit Mainaguri, Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal, leaving five dead and over a hundred injured within its 10-minute rampage. Tornadoes, though rare, afflict India's eastern regions like West Bengal, Odisha, and Jharkhand, especially pre-monsoon.
- ✓ A 2016 study by India Meteorological Department noted increased tornado activity in Bengal, with fatalities. Rising occurrences in India are attributed to factors like warming Bay of Bengal and unusual wind patterns.

8. Which organization recently collaborated with the Tamil Nadu State Forest Department for the successful radio-collaring of Nilgiri Tahr in Mukurthi National Park?

- A. World Health Organization (WHO)
- B. World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- C. Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
- D. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



- ✓ The Tamil Nadu State Forest Department, with WWF-India, radio-collared a male Nilgiri Tahr in Mukurthi National Park, marking the first collar operation without tranquilization. Nilgiri Tahr, also called Varaiyaadu, is Tamil Nadu's state animal and the sole mountain ungulate in southern India. With an endangered status, its habitat spans the Western Ghats.

9. What is Kallakkadal?

- A. Coastal flooding caused by swell waves
- B. A loosely defined region in the western part of North Atlantic Ocean
- C. It is traditional fishing technique in South India
- D. Newly discovered asteroids



- ✓ High sea waves, termed swell waves have flooded coastal homes in Kerala, known locally as Kallakkadal or swell surge. Occurring primarily during pre-monsoon and sometimes post-monsoon, Kallakkadal results from distant storms generating ocean swells. Coined by fishermen, Kallakkadal signifies the sea's thief-like arrival. These waves originate from the southern Indian Ocean, taking several days to reach Kerala's coast. UNESCO recognized the term in 2012.

10. According to World Bank, what is the projected economic growth of India for FY 2024-25?

- A. 6.3%
- B. 6.4%
- C. 6.6%
- D. 6.8%



- ✓ The World Bank revised India's GDP growth projection for FY 2024-25 to 6.6%, up by 20 basis points. Despite a slowdown from the current year's estimated 7.5% growth, robust public investment is anticipated to drive future growth. India's statistics ministry estimated the current year's GDP growth at 7.6%, higher than earlier projections.

- ✓ The projected slowdown in growth from 2023-24 to 2024-25 is attributed to decreased investment, though services and industry sectors are expected to remain strong.

11. LEADS programme 2024, is recently launched by which organization?

- A. Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) & Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
 B. Indian National Science Academy (INSA) & National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG)
 C. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
 D. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

- ✓ The 2nd INSA-NCGG LEADS program, held in New Delhi from April 1-7, 2024, is a collaborative effort between the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG). It aims to cultivate future leaders in science and technology, promoting visionary leadership and scientific excellence in India.

12. Recently, President of India launched India's first indigenous gene therapy for cancer at which place?

- A. IIT Chennai
 B. IIT Mumbai
 C. IIT Hyderabad
 D. IIT Delhi



- ✓ India's President Droupadi Murmu, launched the nation's inaugural home-grown gene therapy for cancer at IIT Mumbai. The groundbreaking "CAR-T cell therapy" offers affordable hope in the cancer fight. This medical milestone, a part of 'Make in India,' embodies 'Atmanirbhar Bharat.' Developed collaboratively by IIT Mumbai, Tata Memorial Hospital, and ImmunoACT, it marks a significant achievement in research and development.

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