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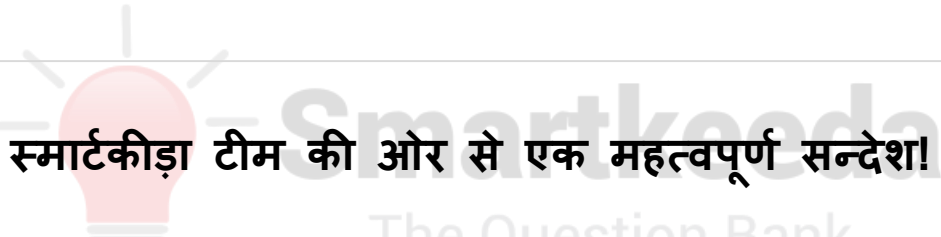
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of April 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial if you want to score a high rank in Current Affairs Mocks at Testzone. Therefore, we urge you to go through each piece of information carefully and try to remember the facts and figures because the questions to be asked in the Current Affairs MockDrill will be based on the information given in the PDF only.

We hope you will make the best of use of this PDF and perform well in MockDrill Tests at Testzone.

All the best!

Regards

Team Smartkeeda



स्मार्टकीड़ा टीम की ओर से एक महत्वपूर्ण सन्देश!

मित्रों! हम आशा करते हैं की आप सभी स्वस्थ और कुशल होंगे। इस सन्देश के माध्यम से हम आपसे यह कहना चाहते हैं की ये PDF अप्रैल 2021 माह में Testzone पर होने वाले MockDrill Test में आपकी तैयारी को बेहतर करने के लिए उपलब्ध करायी जा रही है। इस PDF में हमने कुछ अति आवश्यक 'Key-Points' के माध्यम से आपको सम-सामयिकी (Current Affairs) सूचनाओं से अवगत कराया है और अगर आप MockDrill में अपनी योग्यता सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं तो आपके लिए हर सूचना को पढना, समझना और उसे याद रखना भी अति आवश्यक है क्योंकि MockDrill में शामिल किए गए प्रश्न PDF में दी गयी सूचना या जानकारी पर ही आधारित होंगे।

हम आशा करते हैं की आप इस PDF का भरपूर लाभ उठाते हुए आने वाले MockDrill Test में बेहतर अंक प्राप्त करेंगे।

आभार,

टीम स्मार्टकीड़ा



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National & States Affairs

101. On April 2, Union Government has approved a Rs 780 Cr project for upgradation of Kargil Zaskar road. The 2 lane Kargil Zaskar NH 301 road is sanctioned under EPC mode. Zaskar-Kargil road was declared National Highway in 2017 by the Centre and it also connects Suru valley, Sankoo valley of Kargil Ladakh with the Highway. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Government approved a Rs 780 Cr project for upgradation of Kargil Zaskar road
- Zaskar-Kargil road was declared National Highway – in 2017

102. With the change in season and rise in temperature, Culex or common House Mosquitoes have made reappearance across Delhi. Culex mosquitoes are known carriers of Japanese encephalitis, a potentially life-threatening but rare viral disease that causes acute inflammation of the brain. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Culex mosquitoes – made reappearance across Delhi
- Culex mosquitoes are known carriers of “Japanese Encephalitis”

103. On April 1, Walmart-owned PhonePe has crossed 1 billion UPI (unified payments interface) transactions. Its total transactions for last month across UPI, cards and wallet were 1.3 billion in March. PhonePe recently crossed the 280-million registered user milestone. The UPI has broken a new record, crossing Rs 5 trillion in value in March across 2.73 billion transactions, according to the NPCI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PhonePe – crossed 1 billion UPI transactions in March (Total transactions across UPI, cards and wallet - 1.3 billion)
- HQs of PhonePE – Bangalore, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Sameer Nigam | Founded in – 2015

104. On April 4, Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan has approved the “National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021” which aims to lower the high cost of treatment for rare diseases. A provision for financial support up to Rs 20 lakh under the Umbrella Scheme of Rastriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) is proposed for the treatment of those rare diseases that require a one-time treatment. A National Consortium will be set up with the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as convenor for indigenous research of Rare Diseases. 8 health facilities will be designated as Centre of Excellence (CoE) and these will also be provided one-time financial support of up to Rs 5 Cr for upgradation of diagnostics facilities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr. Harsh Vardhan – approved the “National Policy for Rare Diseases 2021”
- Financial support up to Rs 20 lakh is proposed under the Umbrella Scheme of Rastriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN)
- A National Consortium will be set up with the Department of Health Research
- 8 health facilities will be designated as Centre of Excellence (CoE) – with financial support of up to Rs 5 Cr



105. TRIFED under Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched “Sankalp se Siddhi” - Village & Digital Connect Drive. Starting from April 1, 2021, this 100 day drive will entail 150 teams visiting 10 villages each. The main aim of this drive is to set up the ‘Van Dhan Vikas Kendras’ with the help of its MSP for MFP scheme in these villages. Van Dhan Yojana was launched in 2018 with 75% funds from central government while 25% funds from state government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TRIFED – launched “Sankalp se Siddhi” - Village & Digital Connect Drive
- This 100 day drive will entail 150 teams visiting 10 villages each
- The main aim of this drive is to set up the ‘Van Dhan Vikas Kendras’ with the help of its MSP for MFP scheme
- TRIFED works under – Ministry of Tribal Affairs (Arjun Munda – Khunti, Jhrakhand)
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna | Launched in – 1987

106. The Road Transport Ministry has brought in effect the ‘National Register’ for Driving Licenses (DLs) from March 31 to weed out duplicate driving licenses. While, most of the States’ driving licenses are already on the “Sarathi” portal of the National Informatics Centre (NIC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Road Transport Ministry – brought in effect the ‘National Register’ for Driving Licenses (DLs) from March 31
- “Sarathi” portal of NIC – associated with Driving Licenses
- HQs of NIC – New Delhi | Director General – Neeta Verma

107. Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd (TRIFED) has launched 2 competitions - “Be the Brand Ambassador of Tribes India” and “Be a ‘Friend’ of TRIBES INDIA” in association with MyGov.in with the sole objective of promoting tribal craft, culture and lifestyle. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TRIFED + MyGov.in = launched “Be the Brand Ambassador of Tribes India” & “Be a ‘Friend’ of TRIBES INDIA”
- TRIFED works under – Ministry of Tribal Affairs (Arjun Munda – Khunti, Jhrakhand)
- HQs of TRIFED – New Delhi | MD – Pravir Krishna | Launched in – 1987

108. West Bengal accounts for the highest collection of about Rs 90,000 Cr from Small Savings Schemes such as NSC and PPF among the states and UTs, which is about 15% of the total corpus. It is followed by Uttar Pradesh with gross collection of Rs 69,660.70 Cr, as per data collated by the National Savings Institute under the finance ministry. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- West Bengal – accounts for the highest collection of about Rs 90,000 Cr from Small Savings Schemes as NSC & PPF
- 2nd – Uttar Pradesh (Rs 69,660.70 Cr)
- West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata | CM – Mamta Banerjee | Governor – Jagdeep Dhankar



109. Punjab Cabinet has approved the establishment of an Enforcement Directorate (ED) to check illegal mining in Punjab. The ED will be set up in the mining and geology wing of the water resources department and it will be headed by a senior police officer not below the rank of deputy inspector general of police (DIG). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Punjab Cabinet – approved the establishment of an Enforcement Directorate to check illegal mining in Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

110. On April 5, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan has virtually launched the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP). This platform will track 33 diseases. India is the first country in the world to adopt such an advanced disease surveillance system. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – launched the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) (India is the 1st country)
- This platform will track 33 diseases

111. On April 7, The Supreme Court has unveiled its Artificial Intelligence (AI) portal “SUPACE” (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court’s Efficiency), designed to make research easier for judges, thereby easing their workload. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Supreme Court unveiled its AI portal “SUPACE” (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court’s Efficiency)
- 48th Chief Justice of India – Justice N. V. Ramana

112. On April 6, Markets regulator SEBI has modified its framework pertaining to contribution of asset management companies (AMCs) for setting up of Limited Purpose Clearing Corporation (LPCC) by mutual funds. As per the newly issued guidelines, AMCs are required to contribute ₹150 Cr as share capital for setting up of LPCC by mutual funds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AMCs are required to contribute ₹150 Cr as share capital for setting up of LPCC by mutual funds
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992

113. The Supreme Court-appointed committee on the 3 contentious Central Farm Laws has submitted its report to the Supreme Court. Anil Ghanvat, Ashok Gulati and Pramod Kumar Joshi are part of the committee. The three contentious farm laws are: Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Supreme Court-appointed committee on 3 contentious Central Farm Laws – submitted its report to the SC
- Members of the committee - Anil Ghanvat, Ashok Gulati and Pramod Kumar Joshi
- Three contentious Farm Laws:
 - Farmers’ Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act
 - Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance & Farm Services Act
 - Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act



114. On April 7, The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G), a flagship programme of the Central government, has achieved 92% target of its 1st phase i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19. The government is confident that all the houses in the Permanent Wait List (PWL) would be completed by the end of Amrut Mahtosava. PMAY-G scheme is monitored through MIS-AwaasSoft & Awaas App. The minimum size of a house under the scheme is 25 Square metre. The cost is shared between Central & State government in the ratio 60:40. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PMAY-G – achieved 92% target of its 1st phase i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19
- PMAY-G – launched in 2015 | PMAY-G scheme is monitored through – MIS-AwaasSoft & Awaas App
- Minimum size of a house under PMAY-G scheme – 25 Sqm | Cost shared between Central & State gov – 60:40

115. On April 6, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha have launched two mobile applications “Hamari Sadak” and “Tameer Taraqqi” which will allow residents to register and track their grievances. It will strengthen the e-Governance structure and enhancing transparency in its Public Works System. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- J & K – launched two mobile applications “Hamari Sadak” & “Tameer Taraqqi”
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

116. On April 7, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched “Madhukranti portal” and “Honey Corners” of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) in New Delhi. Madhukranti portal is an initiative of National Bee Board. An MoU between National Bee Board and Indian Bank was signed for this project. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – launched “Madhukranti portal” & “Honey Corners” of NAFED – in New Delhi
- National Bee Board + Indian Bank = an MoU for this project
- HQs of National Bee Board (NBB) – New Delhi | Chairman – Sanjay Agarwal
- HQs of Indian Bank – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CEO – Padmaja Chunduru | ED – Imran Amin Siddiqui

117. On April 7, ReNew Power has planned to invest \$9 billion in wind and solar projects by 2025 amid a government-backed effort to reduce emissions. The company aims to more than triple its renewable power capacity to 18.5 GW by 2025. India is the world’s third-biggest emitter of greenhouse gases. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ReNew Power – planned to invest \$9 billion in wind & solar projects by 2025
- Company’s aim: To more than triple its renewable power capacity to 18.5 GW by 2025
- India – world’s 3rd biggest emitter of Greenhouse Gases
- HQs of ReNew Power – Gurugram, Haryana | MD & Chairman – Sumant Sinha



118. On April 7, India's Military farms have been closed after 132 years of service. The farms were set up with the sole requirement of supplying hygienic cow milk to troops in garrisons across British India. The first military farm was raised on February 1, 1889 at Allahabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Military farms have been closed after 132 years of service
- The first military farm was raised – on February 1, 1889 at Allahabad

119. On April 6, While addressing at “National Dialogue on Manufacturing Excellence and Innovation for Competitiveness and Sustainability of Chemicals Manufacturing” in New Delhi, D V Sadananda Gowda has stated that Indian chemicals industry is expected to reach USD 304 billion by 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian chemicals industry is expected to reach \$304 billion by 2025
- Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers – D. V. Sadananda Gowda (Constituency – Bangalore, Karnataka)

International Affairs

120. On April 7, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the legislation that may be able to keep him in power until 2036, when he will be 83 years old. Vladimir Putin is a former KGB officer has run the country for more than 20 years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the legislation that allows him to stay as President until 2036
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

121. On April 7, As the ice-covered parts of the Arctic Ocean melt due to climate change, China has shown its interest to take part in building “Polar Silk Road”, raising prospects for the emergence of a new sea route. Connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, the Transpolar Sea Route (TSR) will cut across the centre of the Arctic Ocean, passing close to the North Pole. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China has shown its interest to take part in building “Polar Silk Road” – in Arctic Ocean
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

122. On April 8, LG Electronics, the South Korean giant, has exited the Smartphone Business. LG will complete the winding down of its smartphone business by July 31, this year. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- LG Electronics – exited the Smartphone Business
- HQs of LG Electronics – Seoul, South Korea | CEO – Kwon Bong-seok



123. On April 6, The government has decided to reduce oil imports from Saudi Arabia by a whopping 36% in May. Iraq was India's biggest crude oil supplier at 8,67,500 bpd, followed by the US, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The government decided to reduce oil imports from 'Saudi Arabia' by a whopping 36% in May
- India's biggest crude oil suppliers: Iraq, US, Nigeria & Saudi Arabia

124. On April 8, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has handed over a fast patrol vessel called 'PS Zoroaster' to Seychelles and inaugurated a solar power plant, a court building and 10 community development projects in Seychelles at a virtual event. The new magistrates' court building in the capital city Victoria is India's first major civil infrastructure project in Seychelles built with grant assistance. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi:
 - handed over a Fast Patrol Vessel called 'PS Zoroaster' to Seychelles
 - inaugurated a Solar Power Plant in Seychelles
 - inaugurated a new Magistrates' Court Building built with India's assistance in Victoria, Seychelles
 - inaugurated 10 community development projects in Seychelles
- Seychelles – Victoria – Seychellois Rupee | President – Wavel Ramkalawan



125. FDI equity inflows into India during April-January 2020-21 grew by 28% to \$54.18 billion, according to the Commerce and Industry Ministry data. Total FDI (which includes reinvested earnings) during the 10-month period in FY21 increased by 15% to \$72.12 billion. Singapore is at the top with 30.28% of the total FDI equity inflow followed by the US (24.28%) and the UAE (7.31%). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FDI equity inflows into India during April-January 2020-21 increased – by 28% (to \$54.18 billion)
- FDI during the 10-month period in FY21 increased – by 15% (to \$72.12 billion)
- 1st – Singapore (30.28%) | 2nd – US (24.28%) | 3rd – UAE (7.31%)

126. On April 7, IDBI Bank has approved a Rupee Bond borrowing limit of Rs 8,000 Cr for the next financial year (FY22). Within this borrowing plan, the bank may issue additional tier I bonds and infrastructure bonds up to Rs 3,000 Cr and Rs 1,000 Cr respectively, by way of private placement in FY22. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IDBI Bank – approved a Rupee Bond borrowing limit of Rs 8,000 Cr for FY22
- HQs of IDBI Bank – Mumbai, MH | CEO – Rakesh Sharma



127. On April 6, The RBI has announced that the applicable average base rate to be charged by Non-Banking Financial Company - Micro Finance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs) to their borrowers for the quarter beginning April 1, 2021, will be 7.81%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- The applicable average base rate to be charged by NBFC-MFIs – 7.81%
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

128. On April 7, The RBI has extended the classification of NBFCs under Priority Sector Lending (PSL) for another 6 months, up to September 30, 2021. With a view to encouraging farm credit to individual farmers against pledge/ hypothecation of agricultural produce, the RBI has enhanced the loan limit under PSL from ₹50 lakh to ₹75 lakh per borrower. The RBI has mandated all scheduled commercial banks and foreign banks to set aside 40% of their Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANDC) for lending to these sectors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI – extended the classification of NBFCs under Priority Sector Lending (PSL) for another 6 months (up-to Sep 30)
- RBI – enhanced the loan limit under PSL to ₹75 lakh per borrower (from ₹50 lakh)
- RBI – mandated all scheduled commercial banks and foreign banks to set aside 40% of their ANDC for lending
- Categories under PSL: Agriculture, Micro and Small Enterprises, Education, Housing, Export Credit & others
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

129. On April 7, The Reserve Bank of India has doubled the current deposit limit for Payment Bank Savings Accounts to ₹2 lakh from ₹1 lakh to boost payments banks. Airtel Payments Bank was the 1st payment bank to implement the policy. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBI doubled the current deposit limit for Payment Bank Savings Accounts to ₹2 lakh
- Airtel Payments Bank – 1st payment bank to implement this policy
- India's 1st Payment Bank to get license from RBI – Airtel Payments Bank
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

130. On April 7, Jana Small Finance Bank has partnered with Axis Securities, a subsidiary of Axis Bank, to provide customers with a 3-in-1 account that combines banking and investing. The 3-in-1 account integrates Savings Bank Account maintained by Jana Small Finance Bank and Demat and Trading Accounts maintained by Axis Securities. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jana SFB + Axis Securities = to provide customers with a 3-in-1 account (Savings, Demat & Trading a/c)
- HQs JSFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Ajay Kanwal
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”



Defence Affairs

131. On April 7, INS Sarvekshak, a hydrographic survey ship, is deployed to Mauritius for undertaking joint hydrographic surveys along with their Mauritian counterparts. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INS Sarvekshak – sent to Mauritius to undertake Joint Hydrographic Surveys
- Mauritius – Port Louis – Mauritian rupee | PM – Pravind Kumar Jugnauth

Schemes & Initiatives

132. As on April 4, More than ₹25,000 Cr have been sanctioned to over 1.14 lakh accounts under the 'Stand Up India scheme' that was launched by the government 5 years ago to promote entrepreneurship among SCs, STs & women. As per the scheme, bank loans between ₹10 lakh and ₹1 Cr are routed to at least one SC or ST borrower, and at least one woman borrower. The scheme has now been extended till 2025. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Over ₹25,000 Cr sanctioned to over 1.14 lakh accounts under 'Stand Up India scheme' – among SCs, STs & women
- 'Stand Up India scheme' is extended – till 2025 | The scheme was launched – in 2016

133. Uttar Pradesh government has launched a 'Unique Gift Scheme' to promote Covid Vaccination in the state. On the occasion of World Health Day on 7th April, state government will conduct a lucky draw for those who have taken the vaccine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uttar Pradesh – launched a 'Unique Gift Scheme' to promote Covid Vaccination in the state
- UP: Capital – Lucknow | CM – Yogi Adityanath | Governor – Anandiben Patel

134. On April 7, Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare along with Shri Arjun Munda, Union Minister of Tribal Affairs has launched "Anamaya" initiative, the Tribal Health Collaborative. The initiative is supported by Piramal Foundation and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan + Arjun Munda = launched "Anamaya" initiative - the Tribal Health Collaborative
- The initiative is supported = by Piramal Foundation (Mumbai) + Melinda Gates Foundation (US)

135. On April 7, The Union Cabinet has approved two Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes for White Goods (Air-conditioners and LED lights) with an outlay of ₹6,238 Cr and high-efficiency Solar Photovoltaic Modules with an outlay of ₹4,500 Cr. The scheme would extend an incentive of 4% to 6% on incremental sales of goods made in India for 5 years. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- The Cabinet approved PLI schemes for White Goods (₹6,238 Cr) & Solar Photovoltaic Modules (₹4,500 Cr)
- White Goods: Air-conditioners and LED lights
- Total 13 sectors are listed under the PLI scheme

Sports & Games

136. On April 4, Indian players have topped the medal tally at the 3rd Fazza-Dubai Para Badminton International in Dubai with 21 medals, including 5 Gold, 6 Silver and 10 Bronze. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – topped the medal tally at the 3rd Fazza-Dubai Para Badminton International in Dubai
- Total medal 21 = 5 Gold + 6 Silver + 10 Bronze

137. The Indian team has retained the 8th spot in the rankings despite losing their 3rd match in the competition. Indian Captain Virat Kohli is ICC's No. 1 batsman in ODI format. The rankings were topped by England, followed by Australia & New Zealand. India, who is the host in 2023, and the other top 7 teams will qualify automatically for the World Cup. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian team – retained the 8th spot in the rankings of the ICC World Cup Super League Standings
- ICC's No. 1 batsman in ODI format – Virat Kohli
- 1st – England | 2nd – Australia | 3rd – New Zealand
- Total 8 teams will qualify automatically for the “2023 Cricket World Cup”

138. On April 8, Sailor Nethra Kumanan has become the first Indian woman sailor to qualify for the Olympics. The 23-year-old from Chennai booked her maiden Olympics ticket by topping the Laser Radial race at the Mussanah Open Championship in Oman. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nethra Kumanan (Sailor-Tamil Nadu) – became the 1st Indian Woman Sailor to qualify for the Olympics
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami | Governor – Banwarilal Purohit



Important Days & Dates

139. Every year, April 4 is observed as the “International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action”. The day was approved by the General Assembly on 8 December in the year 2005. This year, the theme is “Perseverance, Partnership, and Progress”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 4 – International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action
- Theme/New Exhibit – “Perseverance, Partnership, and Progress”

140. April 5 is celebrated all around the world as “International Day of Conscience”. Declared by the United Nations, this day is observed in order to self-reflect on our life and try and do the right things all the time. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 5 – 2nd International Day of Conscience (1st was observed in 2020)

141. Every year on April 5, the “National Maritime Day” is celebrated, in an effort to create awareness in supporting safe and environmentally sound intercontinental commerce and the global economy. The World Maritime Day is observed on the last week of September on Thursday annually. The day was observed for the first time in 1964 and this year, marks the 58th edition of the National Maritime Day. This year, the theme is “Sustainable Shipping beyond COVID-19”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 5 – 58th “National Maritime Day” (since 1964)
- Theme – “Sustainable Shipping beyond COVID-19”

142. Freedom fighter Babu Jagjivan Ram’s 114th birth anniversary was celebrated on 5 April 2021. Jagjivan Ram had participated in the Indian Independence movement and was a member of Cabinet led by the then PM Jawaharlal Nehru. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 5 – 114th birth anniversary of Babu Jagjivan (a Freedom fighter)

143. The United Nations has designated April 6 as “International Day of Sport for Development and Peace” to celebrate sport as an enabler of positive social change and community development. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 6 – “International Day of Sport for Development and Peace”

144. The United Nations proclaimed April 7 as the “International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda” to honour and remember those who suffered and lost their lives in the East African Nation 27 years ago. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 7 – “International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi in Rwanda”



145. “World Health Day” is observed every year on April 7 since 1950. This day is aimed at creating awareness of a specific health theme and also to highlight a priority area of concern for the WHO. This year, the theme is “Building a fairer, healthier world”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 7 – “World Health Day”
- Theme – “Building a fairer, healthier world”
- [HQs of WHO – Geneva, Switzerland](#) | [DG – Tedros Adhanom](#) | [Member Countries – 194](#)

146. Europe has observed “International Romani Day” intended to raise awareness for the situation of the Roma people, every April 8 since 1990, when it was first commemorated. The date was chosen in remembrance of the first World Romani Conference held on April 8, 1971, in London, England. This year marked the 50th anniversary of the 1st Romani Congress. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 8 – “International Romani Day” (first commemorated in 1990)
- 2021 marked the 50th anniversary of the 1st Romani Congress that was held on April 8, 1971, in London, England



Meetings, Conferences and Summits

147. Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Prakash Javadekar has participated in the virtual Climate and Development Ministerial meet in the run up to COP26, the 26th UN Climate Change Conference 2021. COP26 will be hosted by Glasgow, UK. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prakash Javadekar – participated in the virtual Climate & Development Ministerial meet in the run up to “COP26”
- Glasgow, UK – to host COP26

148. On April 6, Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre has attended a “Consultation Meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries”. The meeting will be held on the theme, “E9 initiative: Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4”. The 9 Countries are China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico & Nigeria. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sanjay Dhotre – attended “Consultation Meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries”
- Theme – “E9 initiative: Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4”



149. On April 6, India has hosted a “Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors” virtually on April 6, 2021. This was the first such meeting under India Chairship in 2021. Nirmala Sitharaman & Governor of RBI, Shaktikanta Das Chaired the meeting. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – hosted the 1st “Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors” in 2021
- BRICS Member Countries – 5 – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
- Chairmanship of BRICS – Russia in 2020 & Indian in 2021

150. On April 7, Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman has participated in the 2nd edition of “G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting” under the Italian Presidency to discuss policy responses to global challenges to restore strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth. She supported the extension of Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) till December 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nirmala Sitharaman – participated in 2nd “G20 Finance Ministers & Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting”
- The meeting was held under the Presidency of – Italy



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

The Question Bank

151. Kerala Agricultural University has been selected for the “Chancellor’s Award 2020” in the category of Specialised Universities. The award was instituted by the Governor of Kerala and Chancellor of Universities. The award carries prize money of ₹1 Cr and citation. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kerala Agricultural University – selected for the “Chancellor’s Award 2020” (Category – Specialised Universities)
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

152. On April 2, Professor Suman Chakraborty has been selected for the 30th GD Birla Award for Scientific Research for his outstanding contribution to engineering science and its applications in developing technologies for affordable healthcare. Sumon Chakraborty is a faculty member at IIT Kharagpur. Instituted in 1991, the award recognises eminent Indian scientists below the age of 50 for their original and outstanding contributions to any branch of science or technology. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suman Chakraborty (IIT Kharagpur) – selected for the 30th GD Birla Award for Scientific Research
- The award was instituted – in 1991 (for Indian scientists below the age of 50)



153. ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) named Jeffrey David Ullman and Alfred Vaino Aho, “2020 ACM A.M. Turing Award” recipients for their work with fundamental algorithms and theory underlying programming language implementation and educating generations with influential books. The ACM A.M. Turing Award is considered the Nobel of Computing Science with \$1 million prize. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Jeffrey David Ullman & Alfred Vaino Aho – recipient of “2020 ACM A.M. Turing Award”

Appointments & Resignations

154. On April 1, Lieutenant General Manjinder Singh has taken over as the Chief of Staff (CoS) of the Western Command. The command's area of responsibility covers Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and parts of Jammu. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Manjinder Singh – took over as the Chief of Staff (CoS) of the Western Command
- HQs of Western Command – Chandi Mandir, Haryana | CoS – Lieu. Gen. Manjinder Singh

155. On April 5, Chintan Vaishnav has been appointed as new Mission Director for Atal Innovation Mission (AIM). He will be replacing Ramanathan Ramanan to take over as the second Mission Director of AIM. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chintan Vaishnav – appointed as new Mission Director for Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

156. On April 5, Pham Minh Chinh, a member of the Communist party, is appointed as Vietnam's next Prime Minister. Outgoing PM Nguyen Xuan Phuc was appointed the new President. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pham Minh Chinh – appointed as new Prime Minister of Vietnam
- Nguyen Xuan Phuc – appointed as new President of Vietnam
- Vietnam – Hanoi – Vietnamese dong | PM – Pham Minh Chinh | President – Nguyen Xuan Phuc

157. On April 5, Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu was elected as post-war Kosovo’s 7th President and its 2nd female one for a 5-year term. She has replaced Hashim Thaci. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu – appointed as 7th President (2nd female) of Kosovo – for a 5-year term
- Kosovo – Pristina – Euro | President – Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu



158. On April 3, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor B. P. Kanungo has stepped down on 2 April after completing his term, cutting short all expectations of an extension of his tenure. Kanungo was appointed deputy governor in 2017 for 3 years. His term was extended by one year in 2020. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- B. P. Kanungo – stepped down from of the post of Deputy Governor of RBI (appointed in 2017 for 3 years)
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

159. On April 2, Former Gujarat DGP Shabir Hussein Shekhadam Khandwawala has taken over from Ajit Singh as the head of the BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit. Ajit Singh, a former DGP of Rajasthan, had joined in April 2018 and his term ended on March 31. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shabir Hussein Shekhadam Khandwawala – appointed as the chief of BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit

160. On April 4, President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Justice Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana as Chief Justice of India with effect from April 24. CJ Sharad A. Bobde had recommended Justice Ramana, the seniormost judge of the Supreme Court, for appointment as the 48th Chief Justice of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice N. V. Ramana – appointed as 48th Chief Justice of India – by President Ram Nath Kovind
- [President appoints Chief Justice of India – under Article 124](#)

161. On April 6, The government has appointed S. Ramann as Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for a period of 3 years. Ramann, a 1991-batch Indian Audit & Accounts Service officer, is currently the CEO of National E-Governance Services Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- S. Ramann – appointed as Chairman and MD of SIDBI for a period of 3 years
- HQs of SIDBI – Lucknow, UP | MD & Chairman – S. Ramann | Established in – 1990

162. On April 6, The Union Government has approved the appointment of Tarun Bajaj as new Revenue Secretary under the Ministry of Finance. The appointment committee of the cabinet has also approved the appointment of Ajay Seth as new secretary for Department of Economic Affairs (DEA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Tarun Bajaj – appointed as Revenue Secretary
- Ajay Seth – appointed as Secretary for Department of Economic Affairs

163. On April 7, Niger's newly-elected President Mohamed Bazoum has appointed Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou as Prime Minister. Mahamadou had also served as Niger's mines and energy minister and as finance minister. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou – appointed as Prime Minister of Niger
- Niger – Niamey – West African CFA franc | President – Mohamed Bazoum | PM – Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou



164. On April 7, Vivo has announced Virat Kohli, the sports icon, as the Brand Ambassador. With the association, vivo aims to reach the millennials and technologically driven consumers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – appointed as brand ambassador of Vivo
- HQs of Vivo – Dongguan, China | CEO – Shen Wei

Amount & Agreements

165. On April 5, Dutch development bank FMO will invest \$137 million (about ₹1,000 Cr) in India's Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF), managed by EverSource Capital, while the fund aims to raise a total of \$940 million. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- FMO – will invest \$137 million (about ₹1,000 Cr) in India's Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF)
- GGEF is managed by – EverSource Capital (Mumbai) | GGEF aims to raise a total of \$940 million
- HQs of FMO – The Hague, Netherlands | CEO – Peter van Mierlo



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

166. On April 6, After the U.S. and China, India has the 3rd highest number of billionaires (140) in the world followed by Germany with 136 and Russia with 117, according to the Forbes' 35th Annual world's Billionaires list. The list is topped by Amazon CEO and Founder Jeff Bezos for the fourth year in a row with net worth of \$177 billion. Jeff is followed by SpaceX founder Elon Musk with net worth of \$151 billion. Mukesh Ambani, the richest person in India and in Asia, is ranked 10 on the global billionaires' list with a net worth of \$84.5 billion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Forbes' 35th Annual world's Billionaires list: Top – Jeff Bezos (\$177 billion) | 2nd – Elon Musk (\$151 billion)
- Mukesh Ambani (richest person in India and in Asia) – ranked 10th in the Billionaires list (\$84.5 billion)
- India – has the 3rd highest number of billionaires (140) in the world (1st – US & 2nd – China)
- HQs of FORBES – Jersey City, New Jersey



Acquisitions & Mergers

167. On April 5, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) has acquired 25% stake of Vishwa Samudra Holdings in Krishnapatnam Port for Rs 2,800 Cr. This will result in APSEZ increasing its stake from 75% to 100% in Krishnapatnam Port. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- APSEZ – acquired 25% stake (Rs 2,800 Cr) of Vishwa Samudra Holdings in Krishnapatnam Port
- Krishnapatnam Port – 100% owned by APSEZ (located in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh)
- HQs of APSEZ – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani

168. Axis Bank has entered into a Share Purchase Agreement for sale of 100% stake in its subsidiary, Axis Bank UK Limited to OpenPayd Holdings Ltd. The sale is to be completed by September 30, 2021 subject to approval of 'Change in Control'. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Axis Bank – to sell 100% stake of its UK subsidiary – to OpenPayd Holdings Ltd
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”
- HQs of OpenPayd Holdings Ltd – London, UK | Founder – Dr. Ozan Ozerk

169. On April 6, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the 100% acquisition of Principal Asset Management Private Ltd, Principal Trustee Company Private Ltd and Principal Retirement Advisors Private Ltd by Sundaram Asset Management Company Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI approved the 100% acquisition of PAMPL + PTCPL + PRAPL = by Sundaram Asset Management Company Ltd
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of Sundaram Asset Management Company – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD – Sunil Subramaniam

170. On April 6, Byju's is acquiring Aakash Educational Services Ltd (AESL) estimated at \$950 million. Byju's is also finalising the acquisition of Toppr, an online learning firm, for \$150 million. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Byju's is acquiring Aakash Educational Services Ltd (AESL) for \$950 million
- HQs of Byju's – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Byju Raveendran | Founded in – 2011

171. On April 8, Axis Bank and its subsidiaries, Axis Capital Ltd and Axis Securities Ltd (together Axis Entities), have completed acquisition of 12.99% stake in Max Life Insurance Company Ltd. The Axis Entities have a right to acquire an additional stake of up to 7% in Max Life. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Axis Entities – completed acquisition of 12.99% stake in Max Life Insurance
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”
- HQs of Max Life Ins. – New Delhi | MD & CEO – Prashant Tripathy



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

172. On April 4, Telangana has signed an MoU with Wadhvani Institute for Artificial Intelligence to aid cotton ryots in 2,800 villages. Cotton is the third largest crop cultivated in India after paddy and wheat. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Telangana + Wadhvani Institute for AI = to aid cotton ryots in 2,800 villages
- Cotton – 3rd largest crop cultivated in India | India – World’s largest Cotton producer
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Location of Wadhvani Institute for AI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – P. Anandan

173. Spices Board India and UNDP India’s Accelerator Lab have signed an MoU, with the aim to build a blockchain based traceability interface for Indian spices to enhance transparency in supply chain and trade. UNDP and Spices Board India are working towards integrating the Blockchain Traceability Interface with the “e-Spice Bazaar portal”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Spices Board India + Accelerator Lab (UNDP) = an MoU to build a blockchain based traceability interface for Indian spices
- Spices Board India – functions under Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- HQs of Spices Board India – Kochi, Kerala | Chairman – AG Thankappan
- HQs of UNDP – New York, USA | Administrator – Achim Steiner | Founded in – 1965

174. The Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, and Centre for Innovations in Public Systems (CIPS) have signed a Statement of Intent (Sol) to reinforce the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in India by developing a database of innovations in public systems for improving public services, amongst other things. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog (AIM) + CIPS = a Sol for innovations in public systems
- Location of CIPS – Hyderabad, Telangana
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Chintan Vaishnav)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

175. On April 6, Ladakh Administration, Leh Hill Council and Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) have signed an MoU to set up 50-Mega Watt Solar Power Project at Taru in Leh district. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ladakh Administration + Leh Hill Council + SECI = an MoU to set up 50-Mega Watt solar power project – in Leh
- HQs of SECI – New Delhi | Chairman – Praveen Kumar



176. On April 7, An MoU was signed between the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) of Ministry of AYUSH and Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying for research on new formulations in quality drugs for veterinary science through medicinal herbs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NMPB (AYUSH Ministry) + Dept of Animal Husbandry & Dairying = for research on quality drugs for Veterinary Science
- MoS of AYUSH – Shripad Yesso Naik | Constituency – North Goa

177. On April 7, The Union Cabinet has approved an MoU between National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL) and Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH), Kyoto University, Japan for Academic and Research Cooperation and Exchange. This arrangement was formalised in 2008 through an MoU. The above MoU was renewed in the year 2013. A fresh MOU to promote collaborative research, as per the new guidelines, was signed in November 2020 by both sides and exchanged. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NARL (Andhra Pradesh) + RISH (Japan) = an MoU for Academic & Research Cooperation and Exchange
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

178. On April 6, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd has signed an MoU with Karnataka Bank to offer better finance schemes to customers. Under this collaboration, customers can avail loans up to 85% of the on-road price of all new cars. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Maruti Suzuki India + Karnataka Bank = an MoU to offer better finance schemes to customers
- HQs of Maruti Suzuki India – New Delhi | Chairman – R C Bhargava | MD & CEO – Kenichi Ayukawa
- HQs of Karnataka Bank – Mangalore, Karnataka | CEO – Mahabaleshwara M. S.

Books & Authors

179. Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu has released a book titled “Neelimarani: My Mother, My Hero” at Raj Bhavan. The book is authored by Dr Achyuta Samanta, the ruling Biju Janata Dal MP from Kandhmal and founder of Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Neelimarani: My Mother, My Hero” book – authored by Dr Achyuta Samanta
- The book was released by – M. Venkaiah Naidu

180. Ahead of Class 10 and 12 board exams, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the updated edition of his book “Exam Warriors” which is written by him. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Exam Warriors” book – authored by Narendra Modi



181. On April 7, PM Narendra Modi has released the Hindi translation of the book “Odisha Itihaas”, written by Utkal Keshari Harekrushna Mahtab. The book, available in Odia and English so far, has been translated into Hindi by Shankarlal Purohit. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi has released the Hindi translation of the book “Odisha Itihaas”
- The book is written by – Harekrushna Mahtab (popularly known as ‘Utkal Keshari’)

Obituaries

182. On April 4, Veteran actress Shashikala has passed away at the age of 88. She is best known for her supporting roles in 1960s-70s films like 'Aarti', 'Gumrah' and 'Chhote Sarkar'. She received Padma Shri, India's fourth highest civilian award, in 2007 for her contribution to the Indian cinema. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shashikala – an Actress – passed away (Padma Shri in 2007)

183. Digvijaysinh Jhala (Zala), the first Environment Minister of India has passed away. He was the patriarch of the royal family of erstwhile princely state of Wankaner in present-day Morbi district of Gujarat. He was 89. He served as Environment Minister from 1982 to 1984. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Digvijaysinh Zala ([Morbi, Gujarat](#)) – first Environment minister of India – passed away
- “The Eco-vote: Peoples’ Representatives and Global Environment” book – authored by Digvijaysinh Zala

184. On April 1, Isamu Akasaki has passed away in Nagoya, Japan. He was 92. He was a Japanese physicist who helped develop blue light-emitting diodes, a breakthrough in the development of LEDs that earned him a “Nobel Prize in Physics in 2014” and transformed the way the world is illuminated. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Isamu Akasaki ([Japan](#)) – an Engineer & Physicist – passed away
- He developed – Energy Efficient Blue LED (Nobel Prize in Physics in 2014)
- [Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga](#)

185. On April 4, Well-known former International Table Tennis player Suhas Kulkarni has passed away. He was 68. He had also won National Masters’ TT Championship in Indore in 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suhas Kulkarni – Table Tennis player – passed away (winner of National Masters’ TT Championship 2019)



186. On April 6, Padmashree awardee Fatima Rafiq Zakaria has passed away due old age illness. She was renowned journalist, academician and chairman of Maulana Azad Educational Trust and president of Maulana Azad Education Society. She was 85. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Fatima Rafiq Zakaria – a Journalist & Academician – passed away

187. On April 4, Founder member of the Samajwadi Party and former UP minister Bhagwati Singh has passed away. He was 89. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhagwati Singh (Uttar Pradesh) – a Politician – passed away
- He was the founder member of – Samajwadi Party

188. On April 6, The president of Gita Press, Radheshyamc Khemka, has passed away following a brief illness. He was 87. Khemka took ‘Sanatan’ literature to the masses. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Radheshyamc Khemka – President of Gita Press (Gorakhpur) – passed away



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Person in News
The Question Bank

189. 47-year-old Shyamala Goli swam across the 30km stretch of Palk Strait (Ram Setu) within the clocked time of 13 Hours and 47 minutes. With this, Shyamala has become the second Indian woman to swim across the Palk Strait, breaking Bula Choudhury’s record. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Shyamala Goli (Telangana) – swam across 30km stretch of Palk Strait (Ram Setu) – within 13 Hours and 47 minutes
- She has become the 2nd Indian woman to swim across the Palk Strait

190. On April 3, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has accepted an invitation by the Mayor of London to represent Delhi and India at the World Cities Cultural Forum, which comprises 40 world cities including London, Tokyo and New York. This year’s theme of this Forum is “The Future of Culture”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arvind Kejriwal – to represent Delhi and India at the World Cities Cultural Forum
- Delhi: CM – Arvind Kejriwal | Governor – Anil Baijal | Chief Secretary – Vijay Dev



191. On April 7, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov was on an official visit to India followed by a two-day trip to Pakistan. The focus of Lavrov's visit to the region was on the Afghanistan peace process and he spoke in New Delhi of the need for an "inclusive solution". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sergey Lavrov (Foreign Minister of Russia) – was on an official visit to India
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

192. On April 8, Israel's President Reuven Rivlin has invited Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to form a majority government in Israel's fourth election since April 2019. [{Read more}](#)

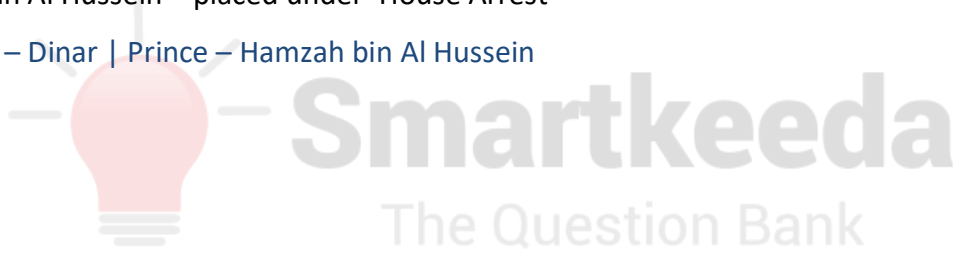
Key Points:

- Reuven Rivlin – invited Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to form a majority government
- Israel – Jerusalem – Israeli Shekel | President – Reuven Rivlin | PM – Benjamin Netanyahu

193. On April 8, Prince Hamzah bin Al Hussein, the former crown prince and half-brother of ruling monarch Abdullah, has reportedly been placed under House Arrest. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Prince Hamzah bin Al Hussein – placed under 'House Arrest'
- Jordan – Amman – Dinar | Prince – Hamzah bin Al Hussein



Science & Technology

194. On April 3, Russian scientists have launched one of the world's biggest underwater neutrino telescopes called the "Baikal-GVD" (Gigaton Volume Detector) in the waters of Lake Baikal, the world's deepest lake situated in Siberia. The construction of this telescope was started in 2016. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russian scientists – launched "Baikal-GVD" - an underwater neutrino telescopes – in Baikail lake
- Baikail lake (world's deepest lake) – situated in Siberia, Russia
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

195. On April 1, Paytm Money has launched a new Technology Development & Innovation Centre in Pune. The new facility at Pune will focus on driving product innovation for Paytm Money, specifically for equity, mutual funds, and digital gold. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Paytm Money – launched a new Technology Development & Innovation Centre – in Pune, Maharashtra
- HQs of Paytm Money – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Varun Sridhar
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari



196. On April 5, Defence laboratory Jodhpur (DLJ), a DRDO laboratory has developed an 'Advanced Chaff Technology' to safeguard naval ships against enemy missile attack. The DLJ has indigenously developed 3 variants of this critical technology - Short Range Chaff Rocket (SRCR), Medium Range Chaff Rocket (MRCR) and Long Range Chaff Rocket (LRCR), meeting Indian Navy's qualitative requirements. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- DLJ-DRDO – developed 3 variants of 'Advanced Chaff Technology' to safeguard Naval Ships
- HQs of DLJ – Jodhpur, Rajasthan

197. On April 5, Uranus, which is the seventh planet from the sun, is reflecting X-rays, according to a new study by scientists published in the Journal of Geophysical Research. Chandra X-ray Observatory of NASA has detected emission of X-rays on Uranus. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory detected emission of X-rays on – Uranus
- Discovery was published in – Journal of Geophysical Research
- HQs of NASA – Washington D.C., USA | Administrator – Bill Nelson | Founded in – 1958

198. Russia is testing a Nuclear Torpedo namely "Poseidon 2M39" in the Arctic that has the power to trigger Radioactive Tsunamis off the US coast. Russia would deploy the 'Poseidon 2M39' missile to its Arctic region next summer. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia is testing a Nuclear Torpedo namely "Poseidon 2M39" in the Arctic
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin

199. On April 6, A coalition of energy and industrial firms named "India H2 Alliance" (IH2A) has come together for commercializing hydrogen technologies and creating a hydrogen economy. This alliance is led by Chart Industries and Reliance Industries Ltd. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "India H2 Alliance" (IH2A) – for commercializing Hydrogen Technologies & creating a Hydrogen Economy
- This alliance is led by – Chart Industries (US) & Reliance Industries Ltd (Mumbai)

Ordinance, Bills and Acts

200. The President had promulgated the "Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021" for providing pre-packaged resolution for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) for maximum defaults up to Rs 1 Cr. The government has set the minimum default threshold for initiation of pre-packaged insolvency resolution process by a MSME corporate debtor at Rs 10 lakh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Pre-packaged insolvency resolution for MSMEs: Minimum default threshold – Rs 10 lakh | Maximum – Rs 1 Cr
- Maximum time limit for completion of the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP) – 330 days



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