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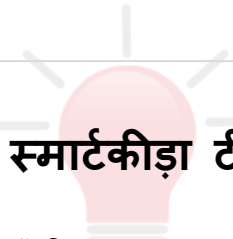
Hi Folks! We hope you all are doing well. We would like to state here that this PDF is meant for preparing for the upcoming MockDrill Test of April 2021 Month at Testzone. In this Current Affairs PDF we have added all the important Current Affairs information in form of 'Key-points' which are crucial 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

301. On April 13, With an aim to provide single-window access to the energy data for the country, NITI Aayog has launched India “Energy Dashboards (IED) Version 2.0”. This includes monthly data and API linked data from some portals maintained by the government agencies. Niti Aayog had launched the Version 1.0 in May 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – launched India “Energy Dashboards (IED) Version 2.0”
- The “IED Version 1.0” was launched – in May 2017
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

302. On April 13, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal has virtually launched “e-SANTA” (Electronic Solution for Augmenting NaCSA farmers' Trade in Aquaculture), an electronic marketplace providing a platform to connect aqua farmers and the buyers. National Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture (NaCSA) is an extension arm of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – lauched “e-SANTA” web portal
- E-SANTA – Electronic Solution for Augmenting NaCSA farmers' Trade in Aquaculture
- NaCSA – an arm of MPEDA
- e-SANTA will RAISE the lives & income of farmers by:
 - Reducing Risk
 - Awareness of Products & Markets
 - Increase in Income
 - Shielding Against Wrong Practice
 - Ease of Processes

303. On April 13, The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) has granted approval to Russia’s coronavirus vaccine “Sputnik-V” for restricted use in India. “Sputnik V” is the 3rd COVID-19 vaccine approved by the Subject Expert Committee (SEC) and the DCGI after ‘Covishield’ and ‘Covaxin’ vaccines. With this approval, India has become the 60th country to approve ‘Sputnik V’ vaccine. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Russia’s coronavirus vaccine “Sputnik V” – the 3rd COVID-19 vaccine approved by – the SEC & DCGI
- Russia – Moscow – Russian Ruble | PM – Mikhail Mishustin | President – Vladimir Putin
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) – V G Somani



304. On April 12, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has released a commemorative postage stamp in the memory of former Chief of Brahma Kumaris Rajyogini Dadi Janki in New Delhi. Communications and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad was also present on the occasion. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- M Venkaiah Naidu – released a commemorative postage stamp in the memory of “Dadi Janki” in New Delhi
- Dadi Janki – Former Chief of Brahma Kumaris Rajyogini

305. On April 11, The Arhtiyas or Commission Agents withdrew their strike after Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh assured them that they would remain an integral part of the procurement system. Around 40,000 Arhtiyas across the State had gone on strike to protest against the direct benefit transfer (DBT) of the minimum support price (MSP) to farmers for their crops. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Arhtiyas or Commission Agents – withdrew their strike over MSP – in Punjab
- Punjab: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Captain Amarinder Singh | Governor – V. P. Singh Badnore

306. On April 12, India has banned the export of anti-viral drug ‘Remdesivir’ and its active pharmaceutical ingredients as demand rocketed due to a record surge in Covid-19 infections, leading to shortages in many parts of India. Remdesivir is made by US pharma giant Gilead. It was first manufactured in 2014. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India – banned the export of anti-viral drug ‘Remdesivir’ due to shortages in many parts of India
- It was first manufactured in – 2014

307. On April 12, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh has launched “75 series” Pension awareness programme to mark 75 years of India’s independence. The other “75” related activities would be the imparting of training on “Bhavishya” (Online Pension Sanction Module) through 75 offices of the Government of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Jitendra Singh – launched “75 series” Pension awareness programme to mark 75 years of India’s independence

308. On April 12, PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 6th edition of the Raisina Dialogue. The dialogue was held virtually from April 13 to 16, 2021. The Raisina Dialogue is India’s flagship conference on Geopolitics and Geoeconomics, held annually since 2016. It is jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Observer Research Foundation. The theme for the 2021 Edition is “#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 6th edition of the Raisina Dialogue (held annually since 2016)
- Theme – “#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control”



309. On April 13, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has launched a “National Nursery Portal” to connect nursery operators with consumers. The Portal is developed by the National Horticulture Board (NHB) and it will help consumers to connect with nurseries and get information about the availability and prices of quality planting material. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Singh Tomar – launched a “National Nursery Portal” – developed by National Horticulture Board
- HQs of NHB – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD – Rajbir Singh

310. On April 12, The IRDAI has notified the extension of its Regulatory Sandbox by another 2 years to enable the completion of the experiment of the existing sandbox proposals and also to allow new sandbox proposals for the experiment. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI – notified the extension of its Regulatory Sandbox by another 2 years
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur

311. On April 9, The IRDAI has eased the rules for Indian insurers investing in domestic Fund of Funds (FoF) including those which back startups. Insurers are not allowed to invest in fund of funds that invest in overseas companies. No investment is permitted into Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) which undertake leverage or borrowing other than to meet day-to-day operational requirements and as permitted under SEBI (Alternative Investment Funds) Regulations, 2012. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IRDAI eased the rules for Indian insurers investing in domestic Fund of Funds (FoF)
- Insurers are not allowed to invest in Fund of Funds (FoF) that invest in overseas companies
- HQs of IRDAI – Hyderabad, Telangana | Chairman – Subhash Chandra Khuntia | Executive Dr. – Suresh Mathur

312. On April 12, Dr Harsh Vardhan has chaired ICMR’s International Symposium titled “One Health in India: Research informing biosafety, preparedness and response” through video conference. He launched a special issue of ICMR’s Indian Journal of Medical Research which discusses the One Health approach. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – chaired ICMR’s International Symposium titled “One Health in India: Research informing biosafety, preparedness and response”
- HQs of ICMR – New Delhi, India | Director General – Balram Bhargava | Established in – 1911
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare – Dr. Harsh Vardhan (Constituency – Chandni Chowk, Delhi)

313. On April 12, Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr Harsh Vardhan has launched a new mission called “Aahaar Kranti” with the motto of ‘Uttam Aahaar Uttam Vichaar’ or ‘Good Diet-Good Cognition’. The “Aahaar Kranti” movement is designed to address the peculiar problem being faced by India and the world called ‘hunger and diseases in abundance’. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Dr Harsh Vardhan – launched a new mission called “Aahaar Kranti”
- Motto of the mission – ‘Uttam Aahaar Uttam Vichaar’ or ‘Good Diet-Good Cognition’

314. On April 13, NITI Aayog, in partnership with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Centre for Social and Behaviour Change, Ashoka University have launched “Poshan Gyan” website, a national digital repository on Health and Nutrition. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – launched “Poshan Gyan” website - a National Digital Repository on Health and Nutrition
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar

315. On April 12, India’s first Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) has arrived at H-Energy’s Jaigarh Terminal in Maharashtra. This will also be the first year-round Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal in Maharashtra. The LNG terminal is located at JSW Jaigarh Port in Ratnagiri district. The port is the first deep water, 24x7 operational private port in Maharashtra. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s 1st Floating Storage & Regasification Unit – arrived at H-Energy’s Jaigarh Terminal – in Ratnagiri, Maharashtra
- Maharashtra: CM – Uddhav Thackeray | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

316. On April 12, The Haryana government has approved purchase of 200 acre of land for setting up of the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) in Rewari. The committee has approved the purchase of 200 acre at the rate of ₹40 lakh per acre. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – approved purchase of 200 acre of land for setting up of the AIIMS – in Rewari
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

317. On April 11, The popular 3-day annual “Sangken” festival began on April 14 marking the beginning of Theravada Buddhist New Year. Theravada Buddhist community in Arunachal Pradesh celebrates this festival which is also known as “Water Festival”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sangken festival (Water Festival) – marked the beginning of ‘Theravada Buddhist New Year’ – in Arunachal Pradesh
- Theravada Buddhist community in Arunachal Pradesh celebrates this festival
- Arunachal Pradesh: Capital – Itanagar | CM – Pema Khandu | Governor – B D Mishra



318. On April 14, Complaints of atrocities against Scheduled Castes can now be registered with the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) through its online portal “NCSC Grievance Management Portal” launched by Ravi Shankar Prasad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ravi Shankar Prasad – launched “NCSC Grievance Management Portal” – for Scheduled Castes (SC)
- [HQs of NCSC – New Delhi | Chairman – Vijay Sampla](#)

319. On April 14, The Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India Prof. K. Vijay Raghavan has virtually launched the “MANAS” App to promote Mental well-being among citizens. ‘MANAS’ which stands for ‘Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System’ was endorsed as a national program by the Prime Minister’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- K Vijay Raghavan – launched the “MANAS” App to promote Mental well-being among citizens
- MANAS – Mental Health And Normalcy Augmentation System
- [Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India – K. Vijay Raghavan](#)

320. On April 15, The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has constituted an 8-member National Task Force to combat air pollution and monitor remedial steps to improve air quality. The Bench is headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel. India targets 20-30% reduction in Particulate Matter concentrations by 2024 under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NGT – constituted an 8-member National Task Force to combat air pollution
- The Bench is headed by – Adarsh Kumar Goel
- India targets 20-30% reduction in Particulate Matter concentrations under NCAP – by 2024
- [Chairperson of NGT – Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel | The National Green Tribunal Act – 2010](#)

321. As on April 14, India has operationalised 75,532 Ayushman Bharat-Health and Wellness Centres so far and is on track to functionalize 1.5 lakh HWCs by December 2022. PM Narendra Modi had inaugurated the first such Health and Wellness Centre at Jangla, Bijapur district, Chhattisgarh in 2018. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India operationalised 75,532 Ayushman Bharat-Health & Wellness Centres
- India will functionalize 1.5 lakh HWCs – by Dec 2022
- First such Health & Wellness Centre was inaugurated in 2018 – at Bijapur, Chhattisgarh

322. On April 14, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) have collaborated to empower Atal Tinkering Lab school students for world class future ready innovation skills across India. They will empower & mentor school student innovators across the country through AICTE Institution Innovation councils (IICs). [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- AIM + AICTE = collaboration to empower Atal Tinkering Lab school students through AICTE IICs
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Ramanan Ramanathan)
- HQs of AICTE – New Delhi | Chairman – Anil D. Sahasrabudhe
- AICTE – functions under Ministry of Education

323. The Directorate of Archives and Archaeology (DAA) of the Goa government inaugurated the Advanced Antiquities Management System on March 30 that it claimed was the first such system in the country for storage of antiquities. The system catalogues 83 antiquities at present. [{Read more}](#)

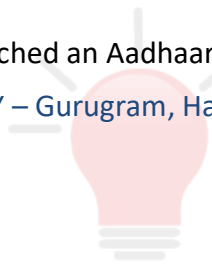
Key Points:

- Goa – inaugurated the “Advanced Antiquities Management System” – the 1st such system for storage of antiquities
- Goa: Capital – Panaji | CM – Pramod Sawant | Governor – Bhagat Singh Koshyari

324. On April 21, ETMONEY, has launched an Aadhaar-based SIP payments feature. With this, anyone can now start a mutual fund Systematic Investment Plan (SIP) online and set up automatic payments using an Aadhaar-based OTP (one-time password) verification. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- ETMONEY – launched an Aadhaar-based SIP payments feature
- HQs of ETMONEY – Gurugram, Haryana | Founder & CEO – Mukesh Kalra



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International Affairs

325. On April 12, Tropical cyclone Seroja has ripped across a 1,000km (621-mile) stretch of Western Australia, leaving a trail of damage. The Bureau of Meteorology stated that it was the first cyclone to hit some affected areas since 1956. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Cyclone Seroja – has hit ‘Western Australia’
- Western Australia – Perth – Australian Dollar

326. On April 13, China has opened a 5G signal base at the “Ganbala Radar Station” in the remote Himalayan region of Tibet. Ganbala radar station is the world's highest manually operated radar station at an elevation of 5,374 meters. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- China – opened a 5G signal base at the “Ganbala Radar Station” - the world's highest radar station (at 5,374 meters)
- “Ganbala Radar Station” is located in – Tibet
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping



327. On April 13, New Zealand has become the first country to introduce a law that will require banks, insurers and investment managers to report the impacts of climate change on their business. All banks with total assets of more than NZ\$1 billion (\$703 million) and insurers with more than NZ\$1 billion in total assets under management will have to make disclosures. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- New Zealand – became the 1st country in the world to introduce Climate Change Law for financial firms
- New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar (NZD) | Prime Minister – Jacinda Ardern

328. On April 13, Bharti group-backed Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite communications company OneWeb has partnered with the Kazakhstan government to accelerate connectivity in the country. The company will facilitate the establishment of a Low Earth Orbit Centre of Excellence in Kazakhstan and enable OneWeb's service delivery across the whole of Central Asia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- OneWeb + Kazakhstan = to establish a Low Earth Orbit Centre of Excellence in Kazakhstan
- HQs of OneWeb – London, UK | CEO – Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge | President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

329. On April 13, Japan has decided to release more than 1 million tonnes of contaminated water from the destroyed Fukushima nuclear station into the sea. The first release of water will take place in about two years. The plant's operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., says its storage capacity will be full in the fall of 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Japan – decided to release more than 1 million tonnes of contaminated water from 'Fukushima Nuclear Station'
- Japan – Tokyo – Yen | PM – Yoshihide Suga

330. On April 9, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have launched the construction of an International Center for Trade and Economic Cooperation named 'Central Asia' on the borders of the two countries. Kazakhstan is Uzbekistan's 3rd largest trade partner after China and Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Uzbekistan + Kazakhstan = launched the construction of an International Center for Trade & Economic Cooperation
- Uzbekistan – Tashkent – So'm | President – Shavkat Mirziyoyev
- Kazakhstan – Nur-Sultan – Tenge | President – Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

331. The melting of Antarctica's "Thwaites Glacier", also called the "Doomsday Glacier" has long been a cause of concern because of its high potential of speeding up the global sea level rise happening due to climate change. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Thwaites Glacier" (also called "Doomsday Glacier") – located in Antarctica



332. On April 14, In Chile, more than 4,200 tonnes of salmon have fallen victim to killer algae. Chile is the world's second-largest producer of salmon. There are around 18 salmon farms in the south of Chile which produces around 26% of the world's salmon. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Deadly algae kill 4,200 tonnes of 'Salmon' in Chile
- Chile – Santiago – Peso | President – Sebastian Pinera

Banking & Economic Affairs

333. On April 13, Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched a Digital Initiative “PNB@Ease” under which every transaction undertaken by a bank branch will be initiated and authorised by customers themselves. PNB@Ease outlets will be loaded with 5 Kiosks i.e. ATM, Bunch Note Acceptor, Account Opening Kiosk, Card Issuance Kiosk and internet-enabled Kiosk. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PNB – launched a Digital Initiative “PNB@Ease”
- PNB@Ease outlets will be loaded with 5 Kiosks:
 - ATM, Bunch Note Acceptor, Account Opening Kiosk, Card Issuance Kiosk & internet-enabled Kiosk
- HQs of PNB – New Delhi | MD & CEO – S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao

334. On April 13, The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 25 Cr on Yes bank for allegedly perpetrating fraud on its customers by influencing them to alter their investment positions from fixed deposits (FD) to risky AT-1 (additional tier-1) bonds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – imposed a penalty of Rs 25 Cr on Yes bank – in 'AT-1 bonds' case
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Ajay Tyagi | Established in – 1992
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

335. On April 14, Finance Ministry has amended the “Post Office Savings Account Scheme, 2019”. Account Maintenance Fee which is levied for non-maintenance of minimum balance in the post office savings account has been reduced to Rs 50 from Rs 100. Currently, an account holder is required to maintain a minimum balance of Rs 500. Deposit required for opening of account is Nil. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Finance Ministry – amended the “Post Office Savings Account Scheme, 2019”
- Account Maintenance Fee for non-maintenance of minimum balance – reduced to Rs 50 (from Rs 100)



336. On April 9, Yes Bank has executed its first Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) linked trade borrowing transaction with American Lender 'Wells Fargo Bank'. SOFR is an identified replacement for USD LIBOR (London Inter-Bank Offered Rate), which is likely to be phased out at the end of 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Yes Bank – executed its 1st “SOFR” linked trade borrowing transaction – with Wells Fargo Bank (US)
- SOFR – Secured Overnight Financing Rate
- HQs of Yes Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prashant Kumar | Tagline – “Experience our Expertise”

337. On April 13, India’s Retail inflation rose to a 4-month high of 5.52% in March on account of rising food prices as well as costlier fuel. While the Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based retail inflation was 5.52% in March and the Consumer Food Price Inflation (CFPI) soared to 4.94%. Core inflation was also increased to a 29-month high of 5.96% in March. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India’s Retail inflation – increased to a 4-month high of 5.52% in March
- CPI-based retail inflation – 5.52% | CFPI – 4.94% | Core inflation – 5.96%

338. On April 13, National Housing Bank (NHB) has launched a ₹10,000 Cr “Special Refinance Facility-2021” (SRF-2021) to provide short term refinance support to Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) and other eligible Primary Lending Institutions (PLIs). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHB – launched a ₹10,000 Cr “Special Refinance Facility-2021” (SRF-2021) Scheme
- HQs of NHB – New Delhi | Chairman & MD – R. V. Verma

339. On April 12, Bank credit grew 5.56% to Rs 109.51 lakh Cr, while deposits rose 11.4% to Rs 151.13 lakh Cr in the financial year ended March 31, 2021, as per the data released by the RBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bank Credit – rose 5.56% to Rs 109.51 lakh Cr – in FY ended on March 31, 2021
- Bank Deposits – rose 11.4% to Rs 151.13 lakh Cr – in FY ended on March 31, 2021
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935

340. On April 9, G20 finance ministers have finally given their nod to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to issue fresh Special Drawing Rights (SDR) worth \$650 billion to member countries. Ministers and governors also agreed on a final extension of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) by 6 months through end-December 2021. SDR is an international reserve asset created by the IMF. One SDR is currently valued at \$1.425. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G20 finance ministers – gave their nod to the IMF to issue fresh Special Drawing Rights (SDR) worth \$650 billion
- HQs of IMF – Washington, D.C., USA | President – Kristalina Georgieva | Member countries – 190



341. On April 11, According to a study revealed by the IIT Bombay, State Bank of India (SBI) has been imposing Excessive Charges on certain services provided to poor persons having Zero-Balance or Basic Savings Bank Deposit Accounts (BSBDA). SBI has collected Rs 300 Cr from Zero Balance Accounts in 5 years (2015-20) from among nearly 12 Cr Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account (BSBDA) holders of SBI. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI is imposing Excessive Charges on certain services provided to poor persons having Zero-Balance or BSBDA
- According to IIT Bombay: SBI collected Rs 300 Cr from Zero Balance Accounts in 5 years (2015-20)
- HQs of SBI Bank – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara
- MD – Challa Sreenivasulu Setty | Ashwani Bhatia | Ashwini Kumar Tewari | Swaminathan Janakiraman

342. On April 12, Axis Bank customers can now send money abroad in over 100 currencies through ‘Send Money Abroad’ feature in their Axis Mobile App. They can send up to \$25,000 per transaction for various purposes. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Axis Bank – allowed its customers to send money abroad in over 100 currencies via ‘Send Money Abroad’ feature
- Amount limit per transaction – \$25,000
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

343. On April 13, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank announced its collaboration with fintech NIRA as a part of its strategy of leveraging its API Banking platform for fintech partnerships. Through this partnership, salaried customers can apply for a Personal Loan by using the NIRA app. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ujjivan SFB + NIRA = fintech partnerships to provide personal loans
- HQs of Ujjivan SFB – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD & CEO – Nitin Chugh
- HQs of NIRA – Bengaluru, Karnataka | MD – Remya Sumesh

344. On April 15, The World Bank Group entity International Finance Corporation (IFC) is partnering with JC Flowers and also announced to invest \$100 million in “JC Flowers India Opportunities Fund” to help domestic lenders resolve their distressed assets and free up capital for new lending. It is a part of IFC’s Distressed Asset Recovery Program (DARP) work in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IFC will invest \$100 million in “JC Flowers India Opportunities Fund” to help domestic lenders
- IFC – an entity of the World Bank Group
- DARP – Distressed Asset Recovery Program
- HQs of IFC – Washington, D.C., USA | CEO – Makhtar Diop | Head of IFC India – Jun Zhang



345. The theft of around Rs 4.04 Cr by a private security guard from the 'Currency Chest' of Axis Bank in Chandigarh's Sector 34 has put the affairs of currency chests in the spotlight. 'Currency Chest' is a place where the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) stocks the money meant for banks and ATMs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- A theft of around Rs 4.04 Cr from the 'Currency Chest' of Axis Bank – took place in Chandigarh
- Currency Chest – a place where the RBI stocks the money meant for banks & ATMs
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established in – 1st April 1935
- HQs of Axis Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Amitabh Chaudhry | Tagline – “Badhti ka Naam Zindagi”

346. On April 15, RBL Bank and Mastercard have partnered to launch a mobile based consumer-friendly payment solution, “Pay by Bank” app, a first-of-its-kind payment functionality in India. To provide enhanced security, 'Pay by Bank App' ensures that Bank customer's payment credentials are never exposed to the merchant, making the transaction completely secure. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- RBL Bank + Mastercard = launched “Pay by Bank” app
- HQs of RBL Bank – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Vishwavir Ahuja
- HQs of Mastercard – New York, USA | CEO – Michael Miebach



Defence Affairs

347. On April 12, “Shantir Ogrosena”, a 10-day multinational military exercise in which troops of 4 countries including India participated from April 4 to 12 at Bangabandhu Senanibas (BBS), Bangladesh. The armed forces of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka participated in the multilateral UN-mandated counterterrorism exercise. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Shantir Ogrosena” – a 10-day Multinational Military Exercise – conducted in Bangladesh
- India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka participated in the multilateral UN-mandated Counterterrorism Exercise
- Bangladesh – Dhaka – Taka | PM – Sheikh Hasina | President – Abdul Hamid

Sports & Games

348. On April 12, Resolute and relentless, Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa has won the prestigious “Polgar Challenge” during the Julius Baer Challengers Chess Tour. Praggnanandhaa (15.5 points) scored 14 victories. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- R. Praggnanandhaa ([India-Chess](#)) – won the “Polgar Challenge” during the Julius Baer Challengers Chess Tour



349. On April 13, New Zealand men's captain Kane Williamson was awarded the "Sir Richard Hadlee Medal" for the 4th time in 6 years. While Amelia Kerr and Devon Conway claimed double honours at the New Zealand Cricket Awards for the 2020-21 season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kane Williamson ([New Zealand - Cricket](#)) – awarded the "Sir Richard Hadlee Medal" for the 4th time in 6 years
- [New Zealand – Wellington – Dollar \(NZD\) | Prime Minister – Jacinda Ardern](#)

350. On April 14, India fast bowler Bhuvneshwar Kumar was named "ICC Men's Player of the Month" for March 2021. In the women's category, South Africa's Lizelle Lee was named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for March 2021. Bhuvneshwar Kumar, took 6 ODI wickets and 4 T20I wickets. Lizelle Lee played 4 ODIs against India and scored a hundred and two half-centuries. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bhuvneshwar Kumar – named "ICC Men's Player of the Month" for March 2021
- Lizelle Lee ([South Africa](#)) – named "ICC Women's Player of the Month" for March 2021

351. On April 14, Former Zimbabwe captain Heath Streak was banned from all forms of Cricket for 8 years by the International Cricket Council (ICC) after he accepted 5 charges of breaching the ICC anti-corruption code. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Heath Streak ([Zimbabwe](#)) – banned from all forms of Cricket for 8 years – by the ICC
- [Zimbabwe – Harare – Dollar | President – Emmerson Mnangagwa](#)

Important Days & Dates

352. This year, with the ongoing pandemic and surge in Covid-19 cases, the Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorder Society (PDMDS) has virtually celebrated the "World Parkinson's Day" on April 11 with a themed "The year that was... Connected we live better". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 11 – World Parkinson's Day
- Theme – "The year that was... Connected we live better"

353. April 13 has marked the day of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, and this is the 102nd anniversary of the incident. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre refers to the incident that took place in 1919 at Amritsar's Jallianwala Bagh. The incident is seen as a major turning point in the national freedom movement of India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 13 – 102nd anniversary of Jallianwala Bagh Massacre or Amritsar Massacre – 1919
- [Jallianwala Bagh – located in Amritsar, Punjab](#)



354. The Global Community is celebrating “World Chagas Disease Day” for the second time on April 14, 2021. The disease also known as ‘American Trypanosomiasis’, can be transmitted by vectorial transmission. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – 2nd edition of “World Chagas Disease Day”
- Chagas disease is also known as ‘American Trypanosomiasis’

355. National Fire Service Day was recently observed on April 14. This year, the theme is “Maintenance of fire safety equipment is key to mitigate fire hazards”. The Day is observed to pay homage to 66 firemen and officers of the Mumbai Fire Brigade who lost their lives while fighting a major fire on the ship, Fort Stikine, in 1944. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 14 – National Fire Service Day
- Theme – “Maintenance of fire safety equipment is key to mitigate fire hazards”

356. International Day for Street Children is recently observed on April 12. This year, the theme is “Access to Essential Services”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 12 – International Day for Street Children
- Theme – “Access to Essential Services”



357. Indian Army has observed 36th “Siachen Day” remembering the gallant martyrs of Siachen. On April 13, 1984, the Indian Army launched “Operation Meghdoot” to secure Bilafond La and other passes on the Saltoro Ridgeline from Pakistani aggression. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 13 – 36th “Siachen Day” observed by Indian Army
- Indian Army launched “Operation Meghdoot” – on April 13, 1984
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Gen. Manoj Mukund Naravane | Vice Chief – Chandi Prasad Mohanty

358. On April 11, World Art Day was observed on April 15, by the International Association of Art (IAA) to promote awareness about fine arts worldwide. The day was celebrated for the first time in 2012. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 15 – World Art Day – by the International Association of Art (since 2012)
- HQs of IAA – Paris, France



359. The 72nd Himachal Day was celebrated on April 15 with gaiety and fervour in the state. Governor Acharya Devvrat unfurled the national flag at an event on the historic Ridge maidan in Shimla to mark the day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 15 – 72nd Himachal Day
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

360. On April 14, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has hoisted the Indian tricolour flag at the INA Martyr's complex in Moirang, Bishnupur district to mark the 77th anniversary of the Flag Hoisting Day of the Indian National Army (INA). It was on April 14, 1944 the flag of the INA was hoisted for the first time on the Indian soil at Moirang. [{Read more}](#)

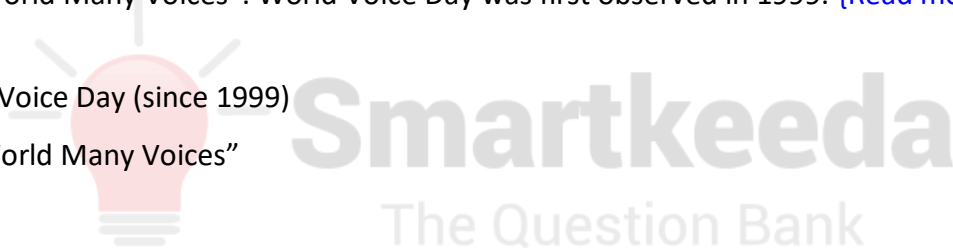
Key Points:

- April 14 – 77th anniversary of “Flag Hoisting Day” of the Indian National Army
- The flag of the INA was hoisted for the first time on – April 14, 1944 – at Moirang, Manipur
- INA Martyr's Complex – in Moirang, Manipur

361. World Voice Day is observed globally on April 16 and celebrates the phenomenon of voice. The theme for this year is “One World Many Voices”. World Voice Day was first observed in 1999. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 16 – World Voice Day (since 1999)
- Theme – “One World Many Voices”



Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

362. On April 12, Bengaluru-based Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has bagged the first place for Innovative Training Practices 2019-20 at the 30th National Award ceremony held recently at New Delhi by Indian Society for Training & Development (ISTD). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- HAL – bagged the first place for “Innovative Training Practices 2019-20” at the 30th National Award – by ISTD
- HQs of HAL – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Amitabh Bhatt

363. On April 12, Filmmaker Guneet Monga is to be conferred with the “Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres” (Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters), which is the second-highest French civilian honour. Monga is a BAFTA nominee and one of the first Indian producers inducted to be in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Guneet Monga – conferred with the “Knight of the Order of Arts & Letters” (2nd highest French civilian honour)



364. The Spanish city of Seville will host the 22nd Laureus World Sports Awards on May 6 in a virtual ceremony owing to the raging COVID-19 pandemic. The last was in Barcelona in 2007. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Seville ([Spain](#)) – to host the 22nd Laureus World Sports Awards
- The last was in Barcelona in 2007
- [Spain – Madrid – Euro | PM – Pedro Sanchez](#)

365. On April 15, Birla Cellulose, part of the Aditya Birla Group that produces manmade cellulosic fibre (MMCF), has emerged as a winner in the first edition of the “National Innovative and Sustainable Supply Chain Awards” by UN Global Compact Network India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Birla Cellulose – won the first edition of “National Innovative and Sustainable Supply Chain Awards”
- [HQs of Birla Cellulose – Mumbai, Maharashtra](#)

366. On April 15, Virat Kohli was named Wisden Almanack's “ODI player of the 2010s”, while England all-rounder Ben Stokes was declared the “Cricketer of the Year” for a second successive time by the highly-rated annual publication. Other cricketers were also named as given below. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Virat Kohli – named “ODI player of the 2010s” or “Cricketer of the decade for 2010s” by Wisden Almanack
- Ben Stokes (England) – named “Cricketer of the Year” or “Wisden's leading cricketer” (men)
- Beth Mooney (Australia) – named “Wisden's leading cricketer” (women)
- Sachin Tendulkar – named “ODI Cricketer of the 1990s”
- Kieron Pollard (West Indies) – named “Leading T20 Cricketer in the World”

Appointments & Resignations

367. On April 12, Conservative Guillermo Lasso won Ecuador’s presidential election on April 11. Guillermo Lasso will take over from beleaguered Lenin Moreno on May 24. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Guillermo Lasso – elected as the President of Ecuador
- [Ecuador – Quito – US Dollar | President – Guillermo Lasso](#)

368. President Ram Nath Kovind, under the provisions of Article 324, has appointed Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra to take over as Chief Election Commissioner from Sunil Arora, whose tenure ended on April 12. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Sushil Chandra – appointed as Chief Election Commissioner (by replacing - Sunil Arora)
- He is appointed by the President under the provisions of Article 324



369. On April 13, Elista, a brand backed by the prestigious TeknoDome Group has announced the ace cricketer Suresh Raina as its Brand Ambassador. The cricketer will be seen endorsing the brand's LED TVs and Coolers for all its campaigns. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suresh Raina – has been appointed as Brand Ambassador of Elista
- Parent company of Elista – TeknoDome
- Global HQs of TeknoDome – Dubai, UAE | Indian HQs of TeknoDome – Noida, Uttar Pradesh

370. On April 14, President of Haiti, Jovenel Moise has appointed Claude Joseph as the new Prime Minister (PM) of Haiti after the resignation of Joseph Jouthe. Currently, he was serving as minister of Foreign Affairs of Haiti. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Claude Joseph – appointed as new Prime Minister of “Haiti” (by replacing - Joseph Jouthe)
- Haiti – Port-au-Prince – Haitian gourde | President – Jovenel Moise | PM – Claude Joseph

371. On April 15, Smartphone brand Tecno has roped in Ayushmann Khurrana as its Brand Ambassador for 2021. The actor will be seen spearheading the new brand campaign across Tecno’s product lines Spark, Camon and Pova. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ayushmann Khurrana – appointed as Brand Ambassador of ‘Tecno’
- HQs of Tecno – Shenzhen, China | Founder & CEO – George Zho

Amount & Agreements

372. On April 13, Deutsche Bank has signed a pact with National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) for granting a loan of Rs 600 Cr. The NCDC also signed an MoU with Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) for industry participation in farm and cooperative sector. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Deutsche Bank + NCDC = a pact to grant a loan of Rs 600 Cr to NCDC
- HQs of Deutsche Bank – Frankfurt, Germany | CEO – Christian Sewing | President – Karl von Rohr
- HQs of Deutsche Bank AG, India – Mumbai, Maharashtra
- HQs of NCDC – New Delhi | MD – Sundeep Kumar Nayak



Ranks, Reports & Surveys

373. On April 13, With the completion of 91% target allotted under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), the Jammu and Kashmir clinched the 3rd spot while the Udhampur district has bagged top position among 30 districts across India for constructing roads of the maximum length of 560.49 km in 2020-21. Chhattisgarh has bagged the 1st place among all states/UTs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Udhampur (J&K) – bagged top position among districts across India for implementation of “PMGSY”
- Chhattisgarh – bagged top position among states/UTs across India for implementation of “PMGSY”
- PMGSY was launched in – 2000 (by the then PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee)

Acquisitions & Mergers

374. On April 12, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of 60% shareholding in Magma Fincorp Ltd by Rising Sun Holdings Private Ltd and Sanjay Chamria and Mayank Poddar. Rising Sun is part of Serum Institute of India (SII). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI – approved the acquisition of 60% stake in Magma Fincorp Ltd – by Rising Sun Holdings Pvt Ltd
- Additional 4.68% stake – acquired by Sanjay Chamria & Mayank Poddar
- HQs of Magma Fincorp Ltd – Kolkata, West Bengal | CEO & MD – Manish Jaiswal

375. On April 13, The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved Adani Ports and Special Economic Zones Ltd's (APSEZ) acquisition of 89.6% stake in Gangavaram Port Ltd under Section 31(1) of the Competition Act, 2002. The port is located in the northern part of Andhra Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- CCI – approved APSEZ's acquisition of 89.6% stake in Gangavaram Port – under Section 31(1) of Competition Act, 2002
- Gangavaram Port – located in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- HQs of CCI – New Delhi | Chairman – Ashok Kumar Gupta | Established in – 2003
- HQs of APSEZ – Ahmedabad, Gujarat | CEO – Karan Adani

376. On April 14, GE Power India has acquired 50% stake in NTPC GE Power Services Pvt Ltd for Rs 7.2 Cr. This investment and JV with NTPC Ltd is expected to strengthen company's portfolio and open avenues for expanded scope of business for future projects. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- GE Power India – acquired 50% stake in NTPC GE Power Services Pvt Ltd – for Rs 7.2 Cr
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975



377. On April 15, Nettle Infrastructure Investments, a wholly-owned arm of Bharti Airtel has acquired 100% stake in OneWeb India Communications Pvt Ltd for an undisclosed sum. OneWeb is a low earth orbit (LEO) satellite communications operator, co-owned by Bharti Global and the UK government. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nettle Infrastructure Investments (Bharti Airtel) – acquired 100% stake in OneWeb India Communications
- HQs of OneWeb – London, UK | CEO – Adrian Steckel | Executive Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal
- HQs of Bharti Airtel – New Delhi | CEO & MD – Gopal Vittal | Chairman – Sunil Bharti Mittal

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

378. On April 12, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has partnered with Accenture to digitally transform the sales and distribution network of India's second largest Oil and Gas Company. Accenture will use its capabilities in data, artificial intelligence (AI) and cloud technologies to build, design and implement a digital platform, called IRIS. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- BPCL + Accenture = partnership to digitally transform the sales and distribution network of BPCL
- HQs of BPCL – Mumbai, MH | CMD – K Padmakar

379. On April 13, INOXCV (INOX India Pvt. Ltd.) has signed a MoU with leading Japanese conglomerate Mitsui & Co. (Asia Pacific) Pte. Ltd. (Mitsui) for partnering by sharing technical and commercial expertise for further establishing a virtual pipeline to service the growing demand of LNG in India. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- INOXCV + Mitsui = an MoU to establish a virtual pipeline to service the growing demand of LNG in India
- HQs of INOXCV – Vadodara, Gujarat | CEO – Deepak Acharya
- HQs of Mitsui & Co. – Tokyo, Japan | CEO – Tatsuo Yasunaga

380. On April 13, NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Embassy of Denmark in India have signed an agreement to jointly work towards promoting innovation and entrepreneurship among aspiring entrepreneurs. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- AIM (NITI Aayog) + Denmark = an agreement to promote Innovation & Entrepreneurship
- Denmark – Copenhagen – Danish krone | PM – Mette Frederiksen
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Ramanan Ramanathan)
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Rajiv Kumar



381. On April 12, Global life science major Bayer has signed a statement of intent (SoI) for a strategic partnership with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) to create and promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in healthcare & agriculture sectors. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Bayer + AIM = a statement of intent (SoI) to create & promote a culture of innovation in Healthcare & Agriculture
- HQs of Bayer – Leverkusen, Germany | CEO – Werner Baumann
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Ramanan Ramanathan)

382. On April 15, Oberoi Group has signed an MoU with Energy Efficiency Services Ltd (EESL) to reduce its overall carbon footprint by implementing Clean Energy Efficiency Initiatives. Under the partnership, EESL, through its nationwide network, will collaborate with all Oberoi Group Hotels to evaluate opportunities for saving energy and lowering emissions. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Oberoi Group + EESL = an MoU to reduce its overall Carbon Footprint
- HQs of Oberoi Group – Delhi | CEO – Vikram S. Oberoi
- HQs of EESL – New Delhi | MD – Rajat Sud | Chairman – Rajeev Sharma

383. On April 15, Union Agriculture Ministry has signed an MoU with Microsoft for a pilot project in 100 villages of 6 states to increase farmer's income. These states are Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. Microsoft will develop farmer interface for smart and well-organized agriculture, including post-harvest management and distribution. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Agriculture Ministry + Microsoft = an MoU for a pilot project in 100 villages of 6 states
- 6 states – UP, MP, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan & Andhra Pradesh
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – Narendra Singh Tomar (Constituency – Morena, MP)
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, USA | CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975

384. On April 15, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog has signed an agreement with Dassault Systemes Fondation to jointly work towards providing a digitally rich ecosystem of Innovation in India and promoting STEM based innovation and entrepreneurship among Youth. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Atal Innovation Mission + Dassault Systemes = an agreement for seeding future Innovators & Entrepreneurs
- AIM – a flagship of NITI Aayog (HQs of AIM – New Delhi | Director – Ramanan Ramanathan)
- HQs of Dassault Systemes - Velizy-Villacoublay, France | CEO – Bernard Charles



385. On April 15, Facebook has signed a deal to buy Renewable Energy in India from a local firm's wind power project. The 32 megawatt Wind Power Project, located in southern Karnataka state, is part of a larger portfolio of wind and solar projects that Facebook and Mumbai-based CleanMax are working together. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Facebook – signed a deal to buy Renewable Energy in India from a local firm's wind power project
- Facebook + CleanMax (Mumbai) = working together on 32 MW Wind Power Project – in Karnataka
- HQs of Facebook – California, United States | CEO – Mark Zuckerberg | Founded in – 2004

386. On April 15, SBI General Insurance and Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank, one of the key Banks in North Bengal, have signed a Corporate Agency Agreement recently. Under this strategic tie-up agreement, SBI General Insurance will offer a comprehensive range of general insurance products. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SBI General Insurance + Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank = Corporate Agency Agreement
- HQs of SBI Gen Ins. – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Prakash Chandra Kandpal | Tagline – ‘Suraksha aur Bharosa Dono’

Books & Authors

387. Paro Anand's "Being Gandhi" book caters to as much as the young readers as it does to the adults. Paro's story encaptures the growing relevance of Gandhian philosophy and the need to revisit it with each decade's passing and with each plague of social and political divide. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Being Gandhi" book – authored by Paro Anand

388. Suresh Raina has penned his memoir "Believe: What Life and Cricket Taught Me" along with cricket writer Bharat Sundaresan. The announcement about the memoir was made by publisher Penguin Random House India on April 13, 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- "Believe: What Life and Cricket Taught Me" book – authored by Suresh Raina
- Publisher – Penguin Random House India

389. On April 14, PM Narendra Modi has addressed the Association of Indian Universities' 95th Annual Meet and National Seminar of Vice-Chancellors. He launched 4 books related to Dr BR Ambedkar, authored by Kishor Makwana. The event was hosted by Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Modi addressed – Association of Indian Universities' 95th Annual Meet & National Seminar of Vice-Chancellors
- He launched 4 books related to "Dr BR Ambedkar" – authored by Kishor Makwana
- Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University – located in Ahmedabad, Gujarat



Obituaries

390. On April 12, Pakistani Human rights crusader and former journalist Ibn Abdur Rehman has passed away. He had won the “Ramon Magsaysay award” for his work on fostering India-Pakistan relations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ibn Abdur Rehman ([Pakistan](#)) – Human Rights Activist & Former Journalist – passed away (Ramon Magsaysay award)
- [Pakistan](#) – [Islamabad](#) – [Pakistani Rupee](#) | [PM](#) – [Imran Khan](#) | [President](#) – [Arif Alvi](#)

391. On April 12, Renowned Historian and Padma Shri Awardee (2020) Dr Yogesh Praveen has passed away in Lucknow. Praveen is the author of countless books, essays, poems, and stories on Awadh and Lucknow. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Dr Yogesh Praveen – a Historian – passed away (Padma Shri in Literature & Education - 2020)

392. On April 12, Former India hockey player Balbir Singh Junior has passed away at the age of 88. He was a member of the silver medal- winning “1958 Asian Games” Indian hockey team. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Balbir Singh Junior – Former India Hockey Player – passed away
- Silver medal - winning “1958 Asian Games”

393. Former Chief Election Commissioner G. V. G. Krishnamurty has passed away due to age-related ailments. He was 86. Krishnamurty served during his tenure from October 1, 1993 to September 30, 1996. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- G. V. G. Krishnamurty – Former Chief Election Commissioner – passed away

Person in News

394. On April 13, Minister of Defence of Republic of Kazakhstan Lieutenant General Nurlan Yermekbayev is on an official visit to India from April 7-10, 2021. This will be the first meeting after Lieutenant General Nurlan Yermekbayev was re-appointed as Defence Minister of Kazakhstan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Nurlan Yermekbayev ([Defence minister of Kazakhstan](#)) – was on an official visit to India from April 7-10
- [Kazakhstan](#) – [Nur-Sultan](#) – [Tenge](#) | [President](#) – [Kassym-Jomart Tokayev](#)



Science & Technology

395. On April 12, Commerce & Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal has launched DGFT's "Trade Facilitation" mobile app for promoting ease of doing business and providing quick access to information to importers/exporters. It has been developed by the Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Piyush Goyal – launched DGFT's "Trade Facilitation" mobile app (developed by – TCS)
- DGFT functions under – "Ministry of Commerce & Industry" (Piyush Goyal – Maharashtra)
- HQs of DGFT – New Delhi | Director General – Amit Yadav
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan

396. On April 13, the occasion of its 34th Foundation Day, the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) has launched 3 new technology solutions that are meant to tackle cybersecurity and supercomputing needs in India. The three technologies include: Cyber Security Operation Centre (CSoC), Parallel Development Environment (ParaDE) and the Automatic Parallelizing Compiler (CAPC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 13 – 34th Foundation Day of C-DAC
- C-DAC – launched 3 new technology solutions: CSoC, ParaDE & CAPC
- CSoC is located – at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- HQs of C-DAC – Pune, Maharashtra | Director General – Hemant Darbari

397. On April 14, The Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Center has announced that the UAE is partnering with Japan's ispace company to send a rover named "Rashid" to the moon on an unmanned spacecraft by 2022, rather than 2024. UAE has also set the ambitious goal of building a human colony on Mars by 2117. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- UAE + ispace (Japan) = partnership to send a rover named "Rashid" to the moon by 2022
- UAE's ambitious goal of building a human colony on Mars – by 2117
- UAE – Abu Dhabi – Dirham | President – Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan

398. On April 14, Nine teams of scientists from India and Sri Lanka will undertake Scientific Research Projects in 9 different fields with bilateral support from the two countries. The cooperation between India and Sri Lanka was initiated in 2008. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- 9 teams of scientists from India & Sri Lanka – to undertake Scientific Research Projects in 9 different fields
- Sri Lanka – Colombo/Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte – Sri Lankan rupee
- PM – Mahinda Rajapaksa | President – Gotabaya Rajapaksa



399. On April 10, Researchers from the IIT Kharagpur have found a novel Betel Leaf Oil Extraction Technology that they claim is more efficient. The extractor is capable of saving 44% of the time and 30% of the energy requirement while increasing the oil yield by more than 16%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- IIT Kharagpur – found a novel Betel Leaf Oil Extraction Technology

400. On April 13, The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has approved additional funding towards clinical studies of India's first of its kind mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine - “HGCO19”, developed by Pune-based biotechnology company Gennova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd. Vaccine Discovery Programme supported by the Department of Biotechnology under the “Mission COVID Suraksha - The Indian COVID-19 Vaccine Development Mission” moves into clinical trials. The programme is implemented by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “HGCO19” - India's first mRNA-based COVID-19 vaccine – developed by Gennova Biopharmaceuticals Ltd (Pune)
- Vaccine Discovery Programme – is implemented by BIRAC ([New Delhi](#))





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