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National & States Affairs

501. On April 26, India entered the 'Guinness Book of World Records' for waving the maximum number of national flags simultaneously. 78,220 tricolors were waved at the 'Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav' programme organised at Bhojpur, Bihar in the presence of Home Minister Amit Shah. The event was held to pay a tribute to the victory of the then King of Jagdishpur, Veer Kunwar Singh. The previous world record was of about 56,000 when Pakistani flags were waved at a function in Lahore in 2004. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India entered the 'Guinness Book of World Records' for waving 78,220 national flags simultaneously – at Bhojpur, Bihar
- 'Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav' programme – organised at Bhojpur, Bihar
- Bihar: Capital – Patna | CM – Nitish Kumar | Governor – Phagu Chauhan

502. On April 21, NITI Aayog released the draft Battery-swapping Policy, targeted at electric two-wheelers and three-wheelers, to expedite large-scale adoption of EVs. Battery swapping involves exchanging discharged batteries for charged ones. The draft policy recommends prioritising all metropolitan cities with a population greater than 4 million for development of battery-swapping networks under the first phase (1-2) years. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NITI Aayog – released the draft Battery-swapping Policy to expedite large-scale adoption of EVs
- HQs of NITI Aayog – New Delhi | CEO – Amitabh Kant
- Chairperson – Narendra Modi | Vice Chairperson – Suman Bery

503. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 500 KW Solar Plant at Palli village in Jammu's Samba district. Palli has become India's first Carbon-neutral Panchayat and fully powered by Solar Energy. Palli village was also an example of the slogan 'Sab ka Prayas' (Everyone's efforts). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- PM Narendra Modi – inaugurated the 500 KW Solar Plant at Palli village, Samba, J&K
- With this, Palli became India's first Carbon-neutral Panchayat
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

504. In April 2022, Commerce Ministry relaxed various norms under the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme in order to reduce compliance requirements and facilitate ease of doing business. The changes include - Exporters can file Export Obligation (EO) by June 30 of each year instead of by April 30, but any delay will be subject to a late fee of Rs 5,000. Requests for Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months of expiry, instead of 90 days. Requests for block-wise Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months of expiry. However, applications made after 6 months and up to 6 years will entail a late fee of Rs 10,000 per authorisation. Earlier, no specified time limit was prescribed, leading to discretionary interpretations. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Commerce Ministry eased certain norms under EPCG scheme to promote ease of doing business
- Changes:
 - Exporters can file Export Obligation (EO) by June 30 of each year instead of by April 30
 - Requests for Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months of expiry, instead of 90 days
 - Requests for block-wise Export Obligation extension should be made within 6 months



505. On April 20, PM Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the Indian Railways' 9000 horse power (HP) electric locomotives in Dahod, Gujarat as part of the 'Make in India' and 'Make for World' initiatives. An investment of more than Rs 20,000 Cr is being done in the project. The project is capable to haul a load of 4500 tonnes of cargo load at a maximum speed of 120 kmph. Indian Railway expects that the first locomotive will turn out from the factory in early 2024. The locomotive will be manufactured with the use of Green Energy and will have a green manufacturing tag. Dahod is the main Railway Station on Delhi-Mumbai Route. Dahod Railway workshop was established in 1926. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi – laid the foundation stone of 9000 HP electric locomotives in Dahod, Gujarat (Investment – 20 Cr)
- The project is capable to haul a load of 4500 tonnes of cargo load at a maximum speed of 120 kmph
- HQs of Indian Railways – New Delhi | Chairman & CEO – Vinay Kumar Tripathi
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat

506. On April 26, The Civil Aviation Ministry and the Himachal Pradesh government signed an MoU for the development of a Greenfield Airport in Nagchala, in the district of Mandi, Himachal Pradesh. The airport is being developed under the ministry's Greenfield Airport Policy. A Joint Venture firm between the state government of Himachal Pradesh and the Airport Authority of India (AAI) has been formed. The expected land requirement for the upcoming airport is around 515 acres and the airport project is estimated to cost around Rs 900 Cr excluding the cost of land. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Civil Aviation Ministry + Himachal Pradesh = MoU to develop a Greenfield Airport in Nagchala, Mandi, HP
- Ministry of Civil Aviation: Jyotiraditya M. Scindia | Constituency – Guna, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Civil Aviation: V. K. Singh
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

507. On April 24, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare organized the "Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari" campaign from April 25-30, 2022 under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' in association of various other Ministries/Departments of Government of India. The Department of Agriculture Research & Education organised a Krishi Mela at each Krishi Vigyan Kendra and field exhibition on natural farming. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare – organized the "Kisan Bhagidari, Prathmikta Hamari" campaign
- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Narendra Singh Tomar | Constituency – Morena, Madhya Pradesh
- MoS in Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare: Shobha Karandlaje & Kailash Choudhary

International Affairs

508. On April 21, the United States conducted an Open-air study of Genetically Engineered Mosquitoes with an aim to suppress a wild population of virus-carrying mosquitoes. The aim of the experiment by Oxitec, a United Kingdom-based biotechnology firm, is to reduce the population of wild Aedes aegypti mosquitoes that is a vector for viruses such as chikungunya, dengue, zika and yellow fever. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- US conducted an Open-air study of Genetically Engineered Mosquitoes
- US – Washington, D.C. – US Dollar | 46th President – Joe Biden | 49th VP – Kamala Harris

509. On April 23, Argentina announced to launch a campaign in India demanding negotiation with the United Kingdom to settle the territorial dispute over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas). The initiative coincides with the 40th anniversary of the conflict between the UK and Argentina. The Falklands War remains an emotive issue both in the UK and Argentina. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Argentina – launched a campaign in India demanding negotiation with the UK to settle the territorial dispute over 'Falkland Islands'
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso | President – Alberto Fernandez

510. On April 22, popularly known as Earth Day, Twitter decided to ban Climate Change ads running on the platform that mislead and did not have a scientific consensus when discussing topics around climate change. The platform stated that climate denialism should not be monetized. It also highlighted the need for 'hubs of credible, authoritative information' around climate change. Twitter has been involved in taking an environmentally sustainable approach in running its operations and it is now reaching close to its plans of achieving 100% carbon-neutral power sourcing in all its data centers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 22 – Earth Day
- Twitter – to ban Climate Change ads running on the platform that mislead
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

511. On April 26, SEBI restructured its Advisory Committee on Market Data that recommends policy measures pertaining to areas like securities market data access and privacy. The panel now has 21 members (earlier 20). The committee is chaired by M S Sahoo. The Panel is responsible for recommending appropriate policy for access to securities market data. In addition, the committee recommends standardization of data definitions; data identification logic (usage of uniform codes for identifying and storing data - raw data and derived data) and data validation techniques (single source of truth, validation). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SEBI – restructured its Advisory Committee on Market Data & increased its member to 21 from 20 earlier
- The committee is chaired by – M. S. Sahoo
- HQs of SEBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Chairman – Madhabi Puri Buch | Established in – 1992

512. On April 26, Airtel Payments Bank partnered with IndusInd Bank to offer fixed deposit (FD) facilities to its customers. Customers can now book fixed deposits starting from Rs 500 up to Rs 190,000 within minutes through a seamless digital journey on the Airtel Thanks app. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- APB + IndusInd Bank = partnership to offer FD facilities to its customers
- HQs of APB – New Delhi | CEO – Anubrata Biswas | Founded in – 2017
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, MH | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”

513. On April 25, Suryoday Small Finance Bank partnered with New York-based Kyndryl to drive its technology transformation program, improve operational efficiency, and increase digital banking adoption among its customers as part of a 5-year transformation deal. Kyndryl will manage the bank’s critical core and mobile banking application ecosystem and provide deep expertise in hybrid cloud services, data analytics, and IP-based transformation services frameworks. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Suryoday SFB + Kyndryl (US) = partnership to drive its digital & IT transformation program for 5 years
- HQs of Suryoday SFB – Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra | CEO – Baskar Babu Ramachandran

514. On April 25, Government of India amended the “Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020” based on the approvals given by the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC). Domestic Industry will not have to furnish Integrity Pact Bank Guarantee (IPBG) for acquisitions costing more than ₹100 Cr. Instead, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) will be taken as a bid security for all acquisition cases with Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) costing more than ₹100 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Govt amended the “Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020” based on the approvals given by DAC
- Domestic Industry will not have to furnish IPBG for acquisitions costing more than ₹100 Cr
- EMD will be taken as a bid security for all acquisition cases with AoN costing more than ₹100 Cr

Defence Affairs

515. On April 20, two different variants of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile were test-fired successfully from the Indian Navy’s frontline guided-missile destroyer INS Delhi and Indian Air Force (IAF)’s frontline fighter jet Sukhoi-30 MKI. On March 5, the Indian Navy successfully test-fired an advanced version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from the stealth destroyer INS Chennai in the Indian Ocean. The first test launch of the initial version of BrahMos took place in 2001. The Indian Navy began deploying BrahMos on its frontline warships in 2005. A combination of the names of India’s Brahmaputra and Russian Moskva rivers, BrahMos missiles are designed, developed and produced by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture company set up by the DRDO & Mashinostroyeniya of Russia. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Two different variants of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile were test-fired from INS Delhi & Sukhoi-30 MKI
- BrahMos missiles – developed by BrahMos Aerospace - a JV between DRDO (India) & Mashinostroyeniya (Russia)
- HQs of BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd – New Delhi | DG – Atul Dinkar Rane





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Sports & Games

516. On April 25, Russian Tennis player Andrey Rublev defeated Novak Djokovic to win the men's single title at the "Serbia Open 2022", for his third title of the 2022 season. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Andrey Rublev (Russia - Tennis) – won the men's single title at the "Serbia Open 2022" (defeating - Novak Djokovic)

517. On April 18, Haryana was crowned the Champions of the 12th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship, beating Tamil Nadu. Haryana won the trophy for the first time since 2011. The Championship was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from April 6 to 17, 2022. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Haryana – winner of the 12th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship (defeating - Tamil Nadu)
- Haryana: Capital – Chandigarh | CM – Manohar Lal Khattar | Governor – Bandaru Dattatraya

518. On April 25, a strong Indian contingent of 65 athletes participated in the 24th Summer Deaflympics held in Caxias do Sul, Brazil from May 1, 2022. It is the largest and the youngest contingent ever from India to participate in the Deaflympics. The athletes will compete in a total of 11 sports disciplines. In the last Deaflympics 2017 in Turkey, India clinched a total of 5 medals; 1 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Indian contingent of 65 athletes participated in the 24th Summer Deaflympics – held in Brazil
- Last Deaflympics was held in 2017 – in Turkey

519. On April 24, teenaged Indian Grandmaster D. Gukesh won the "Menorca Open Chess Tournament". Indian players dominated, taking seven spots in the top 10. India's Aryan Chopra finished second with 5.5 points while Armenia's Shant Sargsyan took the third place. Gukesh defeated fellow Indian B Adhiban in the seventh and final round. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- D. Gukesh – won the "Menorca Open Chess Tournament" | 2nd – Aryan Chopra | 3rd – Shant Sargsyan (Armenia)

Appointments & Resignations

520. On April 24, Emmanuel Macron was re-elected as the President of France for five more years in a historic win. This is the first time in two decades that France has chosen a president for a second straight term. He celebrated with his supporters in front of the Eiffel Tower Paris. He won in the second round of the presidential election with 58.55% of the votes, while his rival, far-right presidential candidate, leader of the National Rally party Marine Le Pen got 41.45%. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Emmanuel Macron – re-elected as the President of France
- France – Paris – Euro | President – Emmanuel Macron | PM – Jean Castex



521. On April 24, Union Jal Shakti ministry appointed Justice Vineet Saran of the Supreme Court and Justice Ponugoti Naveen Rao of the Telangana high court as chairman and member respectively of the Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal. Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal was constituted in 1986 for verification of the quantum of usage of water claimed by Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. Justice Ashok Bhushan who was functioning as chairman relinquished the post after he was made chairman of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal in November 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Justice Vineet Saran (Supreme Court) – appointed as Chairman of the Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal
- Justice Ponugoti Naveen Rao (Telangana HC) – appointed as member of the Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal

522. On April 25, Political newcomer liberal Robert Golob defeated Slovenia’s three-time Prime Minister conservative Janez Jansa in the Slovenian Parliamentary Elections. Robert is associated with Freedom Movement. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Robert Golob – appointed as the Prime Minister of Slovenia (defeating & succeeding - Janez Jansa)
- [Slovenia – Ljubljana – Euro](#) | [PM – Robert Golob](#)

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

523. On April 25, the state planning department’s key initiative of e-proposal system, part of Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA), won “World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) Prizes, 2022”. Chief minister Conrad K Sangma initiated MeghEA in 2019. Meghalaya was selected among the top 360 projects across the world, out of which, UN selected the top 5 in 18 categories and awards them as Champion Project. Meghalaya has been selected by the UN as one of these Champion Projects. One among these top 5 will be declared the winning project. Meghalaya’s e-proposal system is poised to win the winner award also for which the prize ceremony will be held on May 31 in Geneva, Switzerland. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- e-proposal system of Meghalaya Enterprise Architecture (MeghEA) – won “WSIS Prizes 2022”
- MeghEA was initiated in 2019
- [Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong](#) | [CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma](#) | [Governor – Satya Pal Malik](#)

524. Kishore Kumar Das, founder of the educational charity organisation “Bidyanondo”, is recognised as the 223rd Commonwealth Point of Light. Queen Elizabeth II, as Head of the Commonwealth, conferred the honour on Kishore in honour of his exceptional voluntary service through ‘Bidyanondo’, which has improved access to education for over 1,200 children from marginalised backgrounds. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Kishore Kumar Das (‘Bidyanondo’ founder) – received the UK’s 223rd “Commonwealth Point of Light”

525. Formula One world champion Max Verstappen and Jamaican Olympic sprinter Elaine Thompson-Herah have been named Laureus World Sportsman of the Year and Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year in 2022. Italy men’s football team received the Laureus World Team of the Year Award. American football quarterback Tom Brady won the Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award. Italian motorcycle racer Valentino Rossi won the Laureus Sporting Icon Award. British tennis player Emma Raducanu won the Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- “The 2022 Laureus World Sports Awards”:
- Laureus World Sportsman of the Year Award – Max Verstappen
- Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year Award – Elaine Thompson-Herah
- Laureus World Team of the Year Award – Italy Men’s Football Team
- Laureus Lifetime Achievement Award – Tom Brady
- Laureus Sporting Icon Award – Valentino Rossi
- Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year Award – Emma Raducanu

526. As many as 24 eminent writers, playwrights and novelists are conferred with the “Sahitya Akademi Awards 2021” by Sahitya Akademi president Dr. Chandrashekhara Kambar in New Delhi. These awards were provided for best writings in 24 Indian languages. The awardees are - Eminent Assamese novelist Anuradha sarma for her novel - Iyat Ekhan Aronya Asil, Bengali writer Bratya Basu, Bodo Poet Dr. Devakanta Ramchiary, Dogri Fiction writer Raj Rahi, English writer Namita Gokhale, Gujarati Poet Yagnesh Dave, Hindi playwright Daya Prakash Sinha, Urdu Poet Chander Bhan Khayal, Maithili Novelist Jagdish Prasad Mandal, Manipuri Writer & Critic Thokchom Ibohanbi Singh, and many more. The winners of Gujarati, Maithili, Manipuri and Urdu were announced in February 2022, while the rest of 20 winners were announced in 2021. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Chandrashekhara Kambar – bestowed the “Sahitya Akademi Awards 2021” to 24 awardees in New Delhi
- Some important awardees:
 - Yagnesh Dave (Gujarati Poet)
 - Jagdish Prasad Mandal (Maithili Novelist)
 - Chander Bhan Khayal (Urdu Poet)
 - Thokchom Ibohanbi Singh (Manipuri Writer & Critic)
 - Anuradha Sarma (Eminent Assamese Novelist)
 - Bratya Basu (Bengali Writer)
 - Devakanta Ramchiary (Bodo Poet)
 - Namita Gokhale (English Writer)

Important Days & Dates

527. Every year, World Malaria Day is observed on April 25 to create a global awareness of the disease named malaria. For 2022, the theme is “Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives”. World malaria day first began as Africa Malaria Day. This day has been observed by the African government since 2001 but was first marked in 2008. The 60th session of the World Health Assembly converted Africa Malaria Day to World Malaria Day. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 25 – World Malaria Day
- 2022’s theme – “Harness innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives”



528. “International Day of Multilateralism & Diplomacy for Peace” falls on April 24 annually. The day was established on December 12, 2018 through a UN resolution and was first observed on April 24, 2019. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – “International Day of Multilateralism & Diplomacy for Peace” (since 2019)

529. Every year, 24 April is celebrated as National Panchayati Raj Day by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. It is celebrated to commemorate the passing of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1992. The Amendment came into effect in 1993. The first Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated during the Manmohan Singh regime in 2010. The 73rd Amendment Act, also known as the Panchayati Raj amendment act allowed the state governments to take necessary steps and measures that can help in the formation of gram panchayats and allow them to operate as ‘units of self-governance’. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 – “National Panchayati Raj Day” to commemorate the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (since 2010)
- Celebrated by – Ministry of Panchayati Raj | The day was first celebrated during the Manmohan Singh regime
- Ministry of & Panchayati Raj: Giriraj Singh | Constituency – Begusarai, Bihar
- MoS in Ministry of Panchayati Raj: Faggansingh Kulaste & Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti

530. Every Last Saturday of April is observed as “World Veterinary Day” or “World Day for Laboratory Animals” to commemorate the suffering of millions of animals caged in laboratories around the world. In 2022, it was observed on April 24. In 1863, in Hamburg (Germany), Veterinary College Professor John Gamgee from Edinburgh led the first International Veterinary Congress meeting. In 2022, the theme is “Strengthening Veterinary Resilience”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 (Last Saturday of April) – “World Veterinary Day” or “World Day for Laboratory Animals”
- 2022’s Theme – “Strengthening Veterinary Resilience”

531. World Intellectual Property Day is observed every year on April 26. The day is celebrated to raise awareness of the impact of how patents, copyright, trademarks and design affect our daily life. The WIPO Convention came into effect in 1970 and in the year 2000, World Intellectual Property Organization's member states declared April 26 as World Intellectual Property. In 2022, the theme is “IP and Youth Innovating for a Better Future”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 26 – “World Intellectual Property Day” (since 2000)
- Theme – “IP and Youth Innovating for a Better Future”

532. International Chernobyl Remembrance Day is observed on 26 April every year to mark the nuclear accident that occurred on April 26, 1986 in Chernobyl, Ukraine. This year, the day marks the 36th anniversary of the accident. The catastrophe at Chernobyl is considered to be the biggest nuclear accident in the world. It exposed around 8.4 million people in the three countries to radiation. On 8 December 2016, the United Nations General Assembly declared 26 April as International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day. The day was first observed in 2017. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 26 – International Chernobyl Remembrance Day (since 2017)
- 36th anniversary of the nuclear accident that occurred on April 26, 1986 in Chernobyl, Ukraine
- Ukraine – Kyiv – Ukrainian hryvnia | President – Volodymyr Zelensky



533. “World Penguin Day” is a celebratory and educative initiative on April 25 that encourages people to learn more about penguins and their environment, how important they are to our ecosystems and the threats that they face. Moreover, January 20 is also observed as “Penguin Awareness Day”. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 25 – World Penguin Day
- January 20 – Penguin Awareness Day

534. World Immunization Week is observed in the last week of April (24-30), every year. The purpose of this day is to highlight the collective action needed and to promote the use of vaccines to protect people of all ages against disease. The theme of this year's World Immunization Week is “Long Life for All”. In 1796, Edward Jenner gave the world the first vaccination which was against cowpox. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- April 24 to 30 – World Immunization Week
- Theme – “Long Life for All”

Books & Authors

535. On April 24, Laura T. Murphy authored the book titled “The Story of a 21st Century Slave Revolt”. This book is the story of a small group of enslaved villagers in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, who founded their own town of Azad Nagar - Freedomville. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “The Story of a 21st Century Slave Revolt” book – authored by Laura T. Murphy

536. A new book “Chinese Spies: From Chairman Mao to Xi Jinping” traces the history of the modern Chinese secret service. Published by HarperCollins India, the book was released on 29 April on Softcover. Written by Roger Faligot, the book gives a credible and accessible account of Chinese intelligence agencies. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- “Chinese Spies: From Chairman Mao to Xi Jinping” book – authored by Roger Faligot
- Publisher – HarperCollins India

Obituaries

537. On April 24, Eminent Odia litterateur Binapani Mohanty passed away. She was 89. She was awarded with several prestigious literary awards including Atibadi Jagannath Das award, Sahitya Akademi Award and Sarala Samman. Her literary career began with the publication of ‘Gotie Ratora Kahani’ in 1960. Her short story ‘Pata Dei’ won her the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1990. She was conferred Padma Shri in 2020. She was the founder of the Odisha Lekhika Sansad, an organisation for women writers. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Binapani Mohanty – Odia litterateur – passed away
- Awards: Atibadi Jagannath Das award | Sahitya Akademi Award | Sarala Samman | Padma Shri (2020)



538. Veteran statesman and former Chief Minister of Meghalaya James Dringwell Rymbai died at the age of 88. In 1982, Rymbai had entered into electoral politics and was voted as a member of the Meghalaya assembly from the Jirang constituency on an Indian National Congress ticket. The veteran politician became the CM on June 15, 2006 and served till March 2007. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- James Dringwell Rymbai – former Chief Minister of Meghalaya – passed away
- [Meghalaya: Capital – Shillong | CM – Conrad Kongkal Sangma | Governor – Satya Pal Malik](#)

Meetings, Conferences and Summits

539. On April 23, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval led India's first "Conference of Intelligence Agency Chiefs" held in Delhi. The conference is expected to bring together heads and deputy heads of the top intelligence and security organisations from more than 20 countries and their allies. The conference was organised by the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) and the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Ajit Doval led India's first "Conference of Intelligence Agency Chiefs" held in Delhi
- Conference was organised by = RAW + NSCS

540. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th edition of the "Raisina Dialogue 2022" held over three days from April 25 to April 27. The dialogue will witness the participation of European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen as the Chief Guest. The Raisina Dialogue 2022 is based on the theme "Terranova- Impassioned, Impatient, Imperilled". [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Narendra Modi inaugurated the 7th edition of the "Raisina Dialogue 2022" | Chief Guest – Ursula Von Der Leyen
- Theme – "Terranova - Impassioned, Impatient, Imperilled"

541. Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressed the 48th All India Police Science Congress organized by the Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) at Central Police Training Academy, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Amit Shah addressed the 48th "All India Police Science Congress" organized by BPR&D
- BPR&D works under – Ministry of Home Affairs
- [Ministry of Home Affairs: Amit Shah | Constituency – Gandhinagar, Gujarat](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Home Affairs: Nityanand Rai, Ajay Kumar & Nisith Pramanik](#)

542. Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is set to host 21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA), the kumbh of accountants, for the first time in 118 years of its existence. The event will be held from November 18 to 21 after outbidding France. About 6000 top accountants from 130 countries will participate in the programme physically. The event will take place in newly built Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. The WCOA is held every four years since it started in 1904. The theme, this time, would be "Building Trust Enabling Sustainability". [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- ICAI (India) – to host the 21st World Congress of Accountants (WCOA) from November 18 to 21, 2022 – in Mumbai
- WCOA is held every 4 years
- 2022's Theme – “Building Trust Enabling Sustainability”
- HQs of ICAI – New Delhi | President – Debashis Mitra | Vice President – Aniket Sunil Talati | Established in – 1949

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

543. Billionaire industrialist Gautam Adani surpassed Warren Buffet to become the 5th richest person in the world, according to Forbes. Currently, only four billionaires - Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Bernard Arnault and Bill Gates - are ahead of Adani. According to Forbes, 59-year-old Gautam Adani has a net worth of \$123.7 billion, higher than the \$121.7 billion fortune of Warren Buffett (dynamic data). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Forbes: Gautam Adani surpassed Warren Buffet to become the 5th richest person in the world
- First Four: Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Bernard Arnault & Bill Gates (respectively)

544. India's military expenditure of \$76.6 billion in 2021 was the third highest in the world, marking a 0.9% hike over the 2020 figures, according to a report released by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The five largest military spenders in 2021 were the United States, China, India, the United Kingdom and Russia. The top two - USA (\$801 billion) and China (\$293 billion) alone accounted for 52% of world military spending. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- SIPRI's report: India's military expenditure in 2021 – \$76.6 billion (3rd highest in the world & 0.9% hike over 2020)
- Top two: US – \$801 billion | China – \$293 billion

Acquisitions & Mergers

545. In one of the world's biggest deals in the tech world, Elon Musk acquired the social networking platform Twitter for approximately \$44 billion with shares valued at \$54.20. But his bid initially saw Twitter's put in place a 'poison pill defence' against the hostile takeover. The 'poison pill' strategy is a limited-duration shareholder rights plan. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- Elon Musk – acquired Twitter for approx \$44 billion with shares valued at \$54.20
- Twitter – adopted a limited-duration shareholder rights plan also known as a 'poison pill' strategy
- HQs of Twitter – San Francisco, California, US | CEO – Parag Agrawal | Founded in – 2006



MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

546. On April 21, amid the visit of the UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson to India, the two countries signed a number of agreements. The MoU on Cooperation on Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership was signed between India's Department of Atomic Energy and the UK's Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Another MoU on Implementation of Global Innovation Partnership between India's Ministry of External Affairs and UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office was also signed. The two leaders (PM Modi and PM Johnson) reaffirmed their desire to strengthen India-UK civil nuclear cooperation and welcomed the UK's renewed collaboration with Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) for jointly promoting research and training on nuclear energy studies, radioactive applications, nuclear security, and safety. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- India + UK = an MoU on Cooperation on Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership
- India + UK = an MoU on Implementation of Global Innovation Partnership
- UK – London – Pound Sterling | PM – Boris Johnson

547. On April 25, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) partnered with SBI Cards & Payments Services Ltd to power the latter's next leg of digital transformation. TCS will enable SBI Card to further expand its e-card issuance, delighting end customers and giving it a competitive edge in the market. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- TCS + SBI Card = partnership to power SBI Card's next leg of digital transformation
- HQs of TCS – Mumbai, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Rajesh Gopinathan | Founded in – 1968

548. On April 25, Gujarat CM, Bhupendra Patel presided over the MoU signing between the Government of Gujarat's flagship technology incubator - iCreate (International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). The MoU will foster rapid economic development and help create world-class start-ups. iCreate will help establish new start-up incubators at select CSIR labs to boost commercialisation of CSIR's innovations. A joint venture between Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC) and Gujarat Entrepreneurship and Venture Promotion Foundation (GEVPF), iCreate is an independent centre to promote Narendra Modi's 'Start-up India' scheme. [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- iCreate (Gujarat) + CSIR = an MoU to harness India's tech strength
- "iCreate" = GMDC + GEVPF
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat
- HQs of CSIR – New Delhi | President – Narendra Modi | DG – Shekhar C. Mande | Established in – 1942

549. On April 23, "Prasar Bharati" signed an MoU with the Public Broadcaster of Argentina "Radio y Television Argentina (RTA)" for collaboration in the field of broadcasting. India and Argentina are strategic partners that share cordial relations and developmental partnerships in the areas of political, economic, scientific and technological cooperation. In March, Prasar Bharati also signed an MoU with Australia's public service broadcaster Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) for the same purpose. [{Read more}](#)



Key Points:

- Prasar Bharati + Public Broadcaster of Argentina (RTA) = an MoU for collaboration in the field of broadcasting
- HQs of Prasar Bharati – New Delhi | CEO – Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- Argentina – Buenos Aires – Peso | President – Alberto Fernandez

550. On April 27, an MoU was signed between the National Highways Logistic Management Limited (NHLML) and Ropeways & Rapid Transport System Development Corporation (RTDC) for development of 7 ropeways project for a total length of 57.1 km, as innovative transport solution in Himachal Pradesh. It is done under Parvatmala Yojana at a total cost of Rs 3,232 Cr. Nodal agency for the 'Parvatmala Yojana' is Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH). [{Read more}](#)

Key Points:

- NHLML + RTDC = an MoU for development of 7 ropeways project under 'Parvatmala Yojana' in Himachal Pradesh
- Nodal agency for the 'Parvatmala Yojana' – MoRTH
- Himachal Pradesh: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala | CM – Jai Ram Thakur | Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar





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