

Daily Current Affairs: 20.04.2021

1. National climate vulnerability assessment report identifies eight eastern states as highly vulnerable



- The report titled '**Climate Vulnerability Assessment for Adaptation Planning in India Using a Common Framework**', which identifies the most vulnerable states and districts in India with respect to current climate risk and key drivers of vulnerability, was released by DST Secretary Professor Ashutosh Sharma.
- The National climate vulnerability assessment report has identified **Jharkhand, Mizoram, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, and West Bengal** as states highly vulnerable to climate change.
- Among all states, Assam, Bihar, and Jharkhand have over 60% districts in the category of highly vulnerable districts.
- A total of 94 representatives from 24 states and 2 Union Territories participated in the nation-wide exercise jointly supported by the **DST and the Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC)**.
- **Note:** DST (Department of Science and Technology) has been implementing **2 national missions** on climate change as part of the National Action Plan on Climate Change.
- These are **National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE)** and **National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change (NMSKCC)**.
- As part of these missions, DST has been supporting the State Climate Change Cells in 25 States and Union Territories.

2. "Hydrogen Economy – New Delhi Dialogue 2021"



- **The Energy Forum (TEF and the Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry (FIPI)**, under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India, has organized a Hydrogen Roundtable titled "Hydrogen Economy New Delhi Dialogue-2021" recently in April 2021.

- Union Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan addressed the Hydrogen Economy- New Delhi Dialogue.
- **The objective of the Roundtable** is to understand the progress of the Hydrogen ecosystem across continents and contribute to creating synchrony among the think tanks, Governments and the industry to join forces for developing innovative and sustainable technologies at attractive costs.
- **Note:** India will spend \$200 million over the next 5 to 7 years to promote the use of hydrogen.
- The Government of India recently announced the **National Hydrogen Mission** in the Union Budget 2021 for making a hydrogen roadmap for the country. Work is going on a pilot project on **Blue Hydrogen, Hydrogen CNG (H-CNG) and Green Hydrogen**.

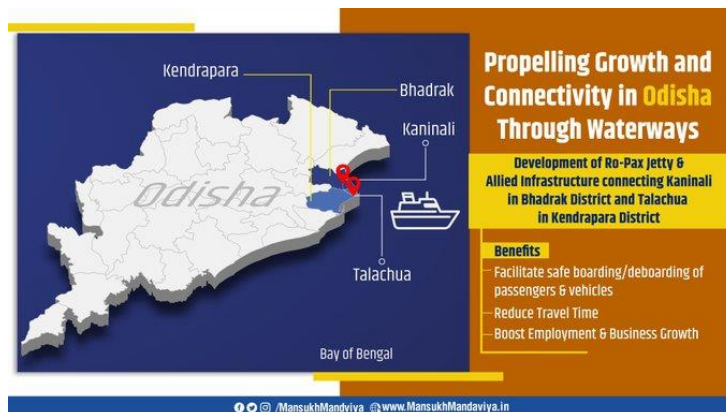
3. Ministry of Tourism signs MoUs with Online Travel Companies to strengthen hospitality and tourism industry



- The Ministry of Tourism signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Online Travel Companies- Cleartrip and Ease My Trip**.
- **The primary objective** of this MoU is to provide extensive visibility to accommodation units which have self-certified themselves on **SAATHI (System for Assessment, Awareness & Training for the Hospitality Industry) on the OTA platform (Online travel agencies)**.
- The MoU also outlines both parties to encourage Units to register on **NIDHI (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry)** and thereby on **SAATHI** and encourage local tourism Industry with appropriate safeguards for curbing spread of COVID-19.

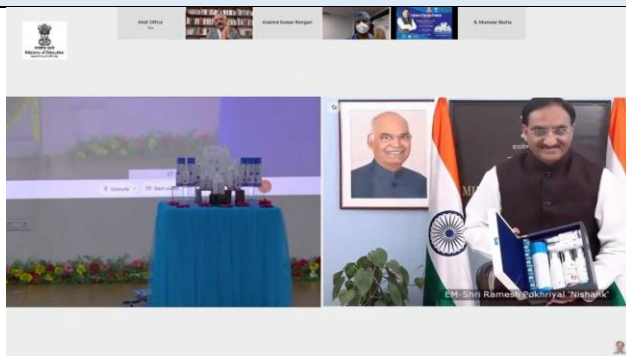
4. Rs 110 crore ROPAX Jetty Project to come up on river Dhamra in Odisha

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has accorded administrative approval for sanction of Rs 50.30 crore for developing all-weather ROPAX (Roll-on/Roll-off Passenger) Jetty and allied infrastructure connecting **Kaninali in Bhadrak district & Talachua in Kendrapara district, Odisha** under the **Sagarmala initiative**.
- The Government of Odisha will fund another 50% cost of the project.



- This project will reduce travel time for passengers from 6 hours by road to 1 hour by waterway.
- Kaninali in Bhadrak district and Talachua in Kendrapada district, are located on the northern and southern banks of **River Dhamra** respectively.
- The project will facilitate indirect employment opportunities to locals around Dhamra River and reduce road distance of ~200 km from Talachua to Dhamra.

5. Union Minister of Education launches “World 1st affordable and long-lasting hygiene product DuroKea Series”



- Union Minister of Education Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’ launched “World 1st affordable and long-lasting hygiene product DuroKea Series”, **developed by IIT Hyderabad researchers.**
- Researcher from Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad led Dr. Jyotsnendu Giri, Associate Professor in Biomedical Engineering and founder EaffoCare Innovation Pvt. Ltd incubating at iTIC, IIT Hyderabad has developed innovative DuroKea long-lasting technologies to combat COVID-19 virus spreading.
- This next generation DuroKea antimicrobial technology starts at Rs. 189, kills 99.99% of germs instantly and leaves behind the long-lasting protective nanoscale coating up to 35 days till next wash.

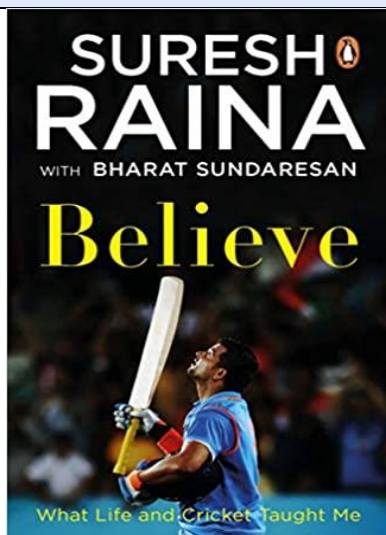
6. Asian Wrestling Championships 2021

- (Almaty, Kazakhstan: April 13-18, 2021)
- **India finishes 3rd place** in the medals table in the 34th edition of the Senior Asian Wrestling Championships 2021.



Place	Countries	Medals
1	Iran	17 Medals (7 Gold, 5 Silver, 5 Bronze)
	Kazakhstan	17 Medals (7 Gold, 5 Silver, 5 Bronze)
3	India	14 Medals (5 Gold, 3 Silver, 6 Bronze)

7. Suresh Raina's memoir 'Believe' to release soon



- Suresh Raina has penned his memoir '**Believe: What Life and Cricket Taught Me**' along with cricket writer Bharat Sundaresan.
- The book will be published by **Penguin Random House India** and is expected to be out on May 12, 2021.

- In this book, Suresh Raina takes us through the challenges he faced as a young cricketer.
- **Suresh Raina** is one of India's most successful international cricketers. Raina was part of the World Cup-winning team in 2011.

8. Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga receives second highest civilian French honour



- Oscar-winning producer Guneet Monga, known for films like "The Lunchbox" and "Masaan", was awarded with '**Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters**' 2021, the second highest civilian French honour by French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Dria.
- Monga was given the award for her contribution to world cinema through her Indo-French productions and her relentless work towards women empowerment.

9. Marathi film 'Puglya' wins Best Foreign Language Feature at Moscow International Film Festival 2021



- The film has been directed and produced by Vinod Sam Peter under the banner Abraham Films.
- Puglya is a story that revolves around a pug and two boys, Rushab and Datta, who are around 10 years old.

10. Noted Hindi litterateur Narendra Kohli passes away

- Eminent writer and litterateur of the Hindi world, Narendra Kohli, passed away.
- Na Bhooto Na Bhavishyati was his best book.



- He was awarded the Vyas Samman (2012) and Padma Shri (2017).

11. Former Assam Chief Minister Bhumidhar Barman passes away



- Mr. Barman, a veteran Congress leader, was a two-time Chief Minister of the state.
- His first term as the Chief Minister lasted from April 22 to May 14, 1996. He was again made the Chief Minister in 2010.
- The seven-term MLA was first elected to the Assam Assembly in 1967.