

Daily Current Affairs 27/04/2021

1. 551 PSA Oxygen Generation Plants to be set up in public health facilities across the country through PM CARES



- In line with Prime Minister's direction of boosting availability of oxygen to hospitals, the PM CARES Fund has given in-principle approval for allocation of funds for installation of 551 dedicated **Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Medical Oxygen Generation Plants** inside public health facilities in the country.
- These dedicated plants will be established in identified Government hospitals in district headquarters in various States/UTs.
- The procurement will be done through the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- **Note:** The PM CARES Fund had earlier this year allocated Rs.201.58 crores for installation of additional 162 dedicated Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Medical Oxygen Generation Plants inside public health facilities in the country

2. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology announces #FOSS4GOV Innovation Challenge



- The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology announced a **#FOSS4GOV Innovation Challenge** to accelerate adoption of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) In Government.
- The **#FOSS4GOV Innovation Challenge** calls upon FOSS innovators, technology entrepreneurs and Indian Startups to submit implementable open

source product innovations in CRM and ERP with possible applications for Govtech in Health, Education, Agriculture, Urban Governance etc.

- To increase awareness about the usage of FOSS in governance and Government functioning, and adoption of FOSS, a virtual roundtable discussion '**Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) in Government**' was organized by the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology in collaboration with Omidyar Network India.**
- **Note:** India is well positioned to become a vibrant hub for Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) innovations, due to the large number of 4G data subscribers in India, 96% of whom access the digital world via open-source based mobile operating systems (primarily Android).
- Some of India's largest-government projects (including Aadhaar) and many technology start-ups have also been built using FOSS.
- Acknowledging the huge potential of FOSS, the Government of India had issued a **Policy on Adoption of Open Source Software in 2015.**

3. Indian and French Navy bilateral exercise 'VARUNA-2021'



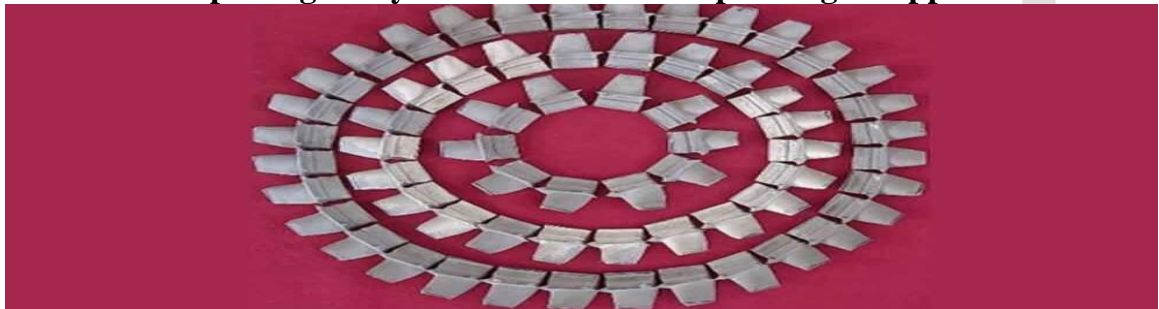
- The 19th edition of the Indian and French Navy bilateral exercise 'VARUNA-2021' is scheduled to be conducted in the Arabian Sea from 25th to 27th April 2021.
- The three day exercise will see high tempo-naval operations at sea, including advanced air defence and anti-submarine exercises, intense fixed and rotary wing flying operations, tactical manoeuvres, surface and anti-air weapon firings, underway replenishment and other maritime security operations.
- On completion of exercise VARUNA-21, to consolidate accrued best practices and enhance interoperability, Indian Navy's guided missile frigate INS Tarkash will continue to exercise with the French Navy's Carrier Strike Group (CSG) from 28th April to 1st May 2021.
- VARUNA-21 highlights growing bonhomie and showcases increased levels of synergy, coordination and inter-operability between the two friendly navies. These interactions further underscore the shared values as partner navies, in ensuring freedom of seas and commitment to an open, inclusive Indo-Pacific and a rules-based international order.

4. Project DANTAK completes 60 years in Bhutan



- Project DANTAK is commemorating its Diamond Jubilee in Bhutan.
- It may be recalled that over 1,200 DANTAK personnel laid down their lives while constructing important infrastructure in Bhutan.
- **Project DANTAK** was established on April 24, 1961 as a result of the visionary leadership of His Majesty the Third King and then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- Identifying the utmost importance of connectivity in spurring the socio-economic development and growth of Bhutan, DANTAK was tasked to construct the pioneering motorable roads in the Kingdom. DANTAK completed the road connecting Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang in 1968. In the same year, Thimphu was connected to Phuentsholing by DANTAK.
- **Facts about Bhutan:**
Capital: Thimphu
Currency: Bhutanese ngultrum
King: Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck
Prime Minister: Lotay Tshering

5. DRDO develops Single Crystal Blades for helicopter engine application



- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed single crystal blades technology and supplied 60 of these blades to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) as part of their indigenous helicopter development program for helicopter engine application.
- It is part of a program taken up by Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory (DMRL), a premium laboratory of DRDO, to develop five sets (300 in number) of single crystal high pressure turbine (HPT) blades using a nickel-based super alloy. The supply of the remaining four sets will be completed in due course.
- Helicopters used in strategic and defence applications need compact and powerful aero-engines for their reliable operation at extreme conditions. To

achieve this, state-of-the-art Single Crystal Blades having complex shape and geometry, manufactured out of Nickel based superalloys capable of withstanding high temperatures of operation are used.

- **Note:** Very few countries in the world such as the **USA, UK, France and Russia** have the capability to design and manufacture such Single Crystal (SX) components.

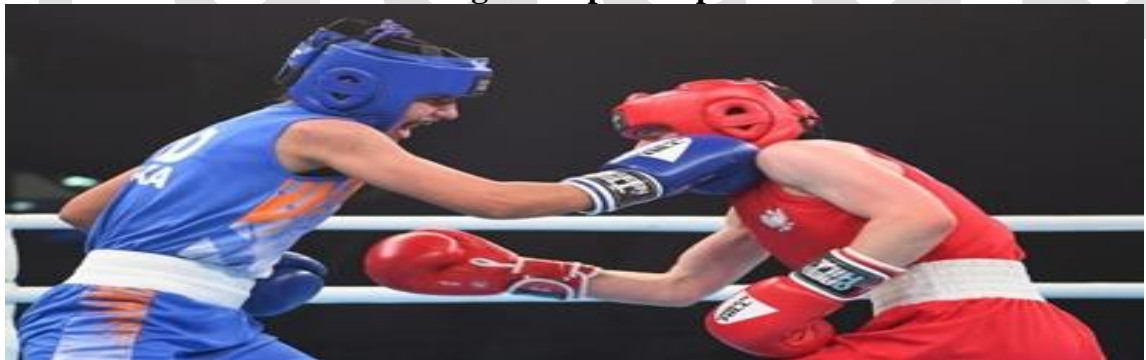
6. Rekha Menon becomes first woman chairperson of NASSCOM



NASSCOM, she became the first woman to head the IT industry's apex body.

- **About National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM):** It is an Indian non-governmental trade association and advocacy group focused mainly on Information Technology and Business Process Outsourcing industry. Established in 1988, NASSCOM is a non-profit organisation.

7. 2021 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships

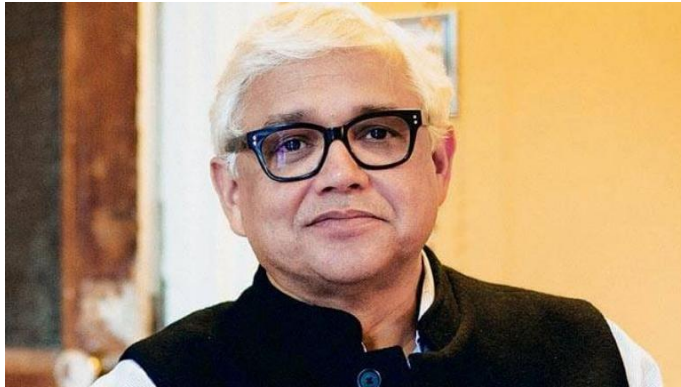


- The 2021 AIBA Youth World Boxing Championships were held in Kielce, Poland.
- India topped the medal table with eight gold and three bronze medals.
- **Medal table**

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	India	8	0	3	11
2	Russia	3	5	3	11
3	Uzbekistan	3	1	6	10

- **Note:** Gitika (48kg), Naorem Babyrojisana Chanu (51kg), Poonam (57kg), Vinka (60kg), Arundhati Choudhary (69kg), T Sanamacha Chanu (75kg) and Alfiya Pathan (+81kg) clinched gold medals as India finished at the No. 1 position in the women's section with seven gold medals.
- India's Sachin won the men's 56kg gold medal.

8. Jnanpith winner Amitav Ghosh's forthcoming publication 'The Living Mountain': A Fable for Our Times



- It is a fable for the current times: a cautionary tale of how humans have systematically exploited nature, leading to an environmental collapse.

- HarperCollins Publishers India will publish The Living

Mountain as a special standalone edition in January 2022 under its prestigious Fourth Estate imprint.

- Amitav Ghosh is an Indian writer and the winner of the 54th Jnanpith award, best known for his work in English fiction.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri by the Indian government in 2007.