

Daily Current Affairs 08/04/2021

1. Jeff Bezos tops Forbes' billionaire list; Mukesh Ambani is no. 10



- Forbes has released its 35th annual World's Billionaires List 2021.
- **Jeff Bezos** is the world's richest person for the fourth year running, worth \$177 billion.
- **Mukesh Ambani** of India has become the richest person in Asia, ranked No. 10.
- The number of billionaires on Forbes' 35th annual list of the world's wealthiest has increased to 2755. Altogether they are worth \$13.1 trillion.

- **India** has the third highest number of billionaires with 140 in the world after the U.S. (724) and China (698).

| Rank | Name | Wealth | Company |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Jeff Bezos | \$177 billion | Amazon |
| 2 | Elon Musk | \$ 151 billion | Tesla, SpaceX |
| 3 | Bernard Arnault | \$ 150 billion | LVMH |
| 10 | Mukesh Ambani | \$ 84.5 billion | Reliance Industries |

2. Stand-Up India Scheme: More than Rs 25,586 crore sanctioned by the Banks in 5 years



- Rs. 25,586 crore has been sanctioned under Stand Up India Scheme to over 1,14,322 accounts upto 23.03.2021 since inception of the Scheme.
- **About Stand up India Scheme:** It was launched on 5th April 2016.
- This scheme has been extended up to the year 2025.

- The **objective** of Stand-Up India is to promote entrepreneurship amongst women, Scheduled Castes (SC) & Scheduled Tribes (ST) categories.
 - Stand Up India Scheme facilitates bank loans between 10 lakh and 1 crore to at least one SC or ST borrower and at least one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up a greenfield enterprise. This enterprise may be in manufacturing, services or the trading sector.
3. **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin: 92% target achieved in the 1st phase**



- A target of 1 crore houses was set for completion in the 1st phase of the **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G)** scheme i.e. from 2016-17 to 2018-19, against which 92% target of completion has been achieved.
- The government is confident that all the houses in the Permanent Wait List would be completed by the end of Amrut Mahtosava.
- **About Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G):** It is one of the flagship programmes of the Government of India which is driven by the noble objective of providing “Housing for All” by the year 2022.
- It was launched in November 2016 by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

4. **India hosts first meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors**



- This was the first meeting of the BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors under India Chairship on April 6, 2021.
- The meeting was jointly chaired by Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Shri. Shaktikanta Das.

- The Finance Minister talked about thematic priorities for New Development Bank for discussion during 2021 and the issues of membership expansion.
- **Note:** The theme of BRICS this year is -"**BRICS@15: Intra BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation, and Consensus**".
- The **13th BRICS Summit** will be held under India's Chairship in 2021, and it will be the third time India will host the BRICS Summit after 2012 and 2016.
- **Facts about BRICS:**
Formation: 2009
Countries: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa

5. Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan launches the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP)



- The Integrated Health Information Platform is the next generation highly refined version of the presently used **Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)**.

- In addition to tracking 33 diseases now as compared to the

earlier 18 diseases, it shall ensure near-real-time data in digital mode.

- This is the world's biggest online disease surveillance platform. It is in sync with the National Digital Health Mission and fully compatible with the other digital information systems presently being used in India.
- 6. Russia registers World's first COVID-19 vaccine 'Carnivac-Cov' for animals**



- According to agricultural regulator Rosselkhoz nadzor, Russia has registered the world's first vaccine for animals 'Carnivac-Cov' against COVID-19, after tests showed it generated antibodies against the virus in dogs, cats, foxes and mink.
 - **Note:** Russia already has three coronavirus vaccines for humans: Sputnik V, EpiVacCorona and CoviVac.
- 7. Chintan Vaishnav appointed as new Mission Director for Atal Innovation Mission**



- Acclaimed socio-technologist Dr Chintan Vaishnav has been appointed as the new Mission Director for Atal Innovation Mission (AIM).
- He will replace Ramanathan Ramanan, who had been leading AIM as its first Mission Director since June 2017.
- Dr Vaishnav is moving from his present assignment at Massachusetts Institute of Technology,

USA, to head AIM.

- **About Atal Innovation Mission (AIM):** It is a flagship initiative set up by the NITI Aayog to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the country and was set up in 2016.

8. Nguyen Xuan Phuc sworn in as Vietnam's president: Pham Minh Chinh as Prime Minister



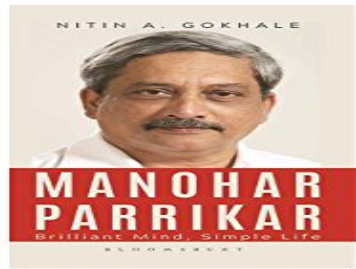
- Nguyen Xuan Phuc has been formally sworn in as president in the Vietnamese capital, Hanoi.
- Nguyen Xuan Phuc, of Communist Party of Vietnam, was Vietnam's prime minister for the last five years.
- Vietnam's National Assembly confirmed Pham Minh Chinh of Communist Party of Vietnam, a career security official, as the Southeast Asian country's next Prime Minister.

• **Facts about Vietnam:**

Capital: Hanoi

Currency: Vietnamese dong

9. A book titled 'Manohar Parrikar: Brilliant Mind, Simple Life' by Nitin Gokhale



- This book is as much a personal tribute by the author to Manohar Parrikar, as an honest attempt to capture the persona of Parrikar the man, the politician and patriot.
- Manohar Parrikar was India's first IIT-qualified Chief Minister. He served as the Chief Minister of Goa and Defence Minister of India.
- **Nitin Gokhale**, one of South Asia's leading Strategic Analysts, is a renowned author, media trainer and founder of a specialised defence related website BharatShakti.in and Strategic News International.

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