

# Weekly Current Affairs 2nd Week April 2022



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### Important News: State

#### First ever NTCA meeting outside National Capital held at Arunachal Pradesh



#### Why in News?

- The 20th Meeting of **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** was held in Pakke Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh under the chairmanship of Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change Bhupender Yadav.
- For the first time in history the NTCA meeting happened outside the national capital.

#### About National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA):

- NTCA was established in December 2005, following a recommendation of the Tiger Task Force, constituted by the Prime Minister of India for reorganised management of Project Tiger and the many Tiger Reserves in India.
- A programme for protection called, 'Tiger Protection Program' (popularly known as Project Tiger) was started in 1973, by the Government of India in co-operation with WWF.

Source: PIB

#### Mumbai recognized as '2021 Tree City of the World' by United Nations



#### Why in News?

- **Mumbai** has been recognised as '**2021 Tree City of the World**' by the **Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** of the **United Nations (UN)** jointly with **Arbor Day Foundation**.

#### Key Points

- Mumbai received recognition for its "commitment to growing and maintaining urban trees and greenery in building healthy, resilient and happy cities".

- Mumbai is the second city in India to receive this distinction.
- Previously, Hyderabad was the only city in India to receive this honour.
- The United Nations' 'Tree City of the World' programme provides direction, assistance, and worldwide recognition for communities' dedication to its urban forest, and provides a framework for a healthy, sustainable urban forestry.

**Source: Indian Express**

## Important News: India

### Ministry of I&B constitutes AVGC Promotion Task Force



#### Why in News?

- The **Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (I&B)** has constituted an **Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC)** Promotion Task Force.

#### Key Points

- The AVGC Promotion Task Force shall be **headed by Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**.
- The AVGC Promotion Task Force has been constituted to promote the AVGC sector in the country under the aegis of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

**Source: The Hindu**

### Cabinet approves extension of Atal Innovation Mission



#### Why in News?

- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved continuation of **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)**, till March 2023.

The intended targets that will be achieved by AIM are:

- Establishing 10000 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs)
- Establishing 101 Atal Incubation Centers (AICs)
- Establishing 50 Atal Community Innovation Centers (ACICs)
- Supporting 200 startups via the Atal New India Challenges
- The total budgeted expenditure of Rs. 2000+ crore shall be incurred in the process of the establishment and supporting the beneficiaries.



### About Atal Innovation Mission (AIM):

- The Mission has been set up under the NITI Aayog, in accordance with the Finance Minister's declaration in the 2015 Budget Speech.
- The objectives of the AIM are to create and promote an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship across the country via interventions at school, university, research institutions, MSME and industry levels.

Source: Business Standard

### State Energy and Climate Index Round- 1

Score and Ranking of Larger States								
Rank	States/UTs	DISCOM's Performance	Access, affordability & reliability	Clean Energy Initiatives	Energy Efficiency	Env Sustain-ability	New Initiatives	SECI score
1	Gujarat	72.7	52.4	39.2	40.1	35.1	5.5	50.1
2	Kerala	64.4	67.3	21.5	58	46.9	7.7	49.1
3	Punjab	77.1	46.8	26.1	35.1	37	2.3	48.6
4	Haryana	69.8	53.6	42.9	11.7	33.4	6.9	47.9
5	Uttarakhand	61.9	55.3	18.5	50.5	48.7	14.7	46.5
6	Maharashtra	57.7	51.2	34	75.7	36.2	10.4	46.0
7	Himachal Pradesh	57	56.3	14.3	20.1	52.1	38.1	45.4
8	Karnataka	56.8	45.5	27	57.2	41.7	14.5	43.8
9	Tamil Nadu	57.3	46.3	21.7	85.4	39.2	4	43.4
10	Assam	67.3	38.3	4.3	39	39.9	17.6	42.6
11	Telangana	55.1	60.4	18	64.7	34.6	0.4	41.9
12	Andhra Pradesh	65.1	42.6	16.9	40	35	0	41.6
13	Uttar Pradesh	59.9	37.8	12.6	42	30.9	27.4	41.0
14	West Bengal	55.3	52	8.5	27.7	40.9	9	38.9
15	Bihar	61.3	45	4.9	22.8	33.7	7.6	38.3
16	Odisha	59.0	57.4	4.8	21.8	22.6	0.9	37.1
17	Rajasthan	49.2	42.9	15.5	44	31.4	4.8	35.4
18	Jharkhand	58.3	46.5	2.9	17.2	19	9.3	35.2
19	Madhya Pradesh	53.7	42.7	6.2	8.3	24.1	3.3	32.6
20	Chhattisgarh	58.4	45.4	2.1	0	5.8	4.2	31.7

### Why in News?

- NITI Aayog has launched the **State Energy & Climate Index (SECI)-Round I** on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

### Key Points

- Gujarat, Kerala, and Punjab** have been ranked as the top three performers in the category of larger states.
- Goa**, emerged as the top-performing state in the smaller states category, followed by Tripura, and Manipur.
- Among UTs, **Chandigarh, Delhi, and Daman & Diu/Dadra & Nagar Haveli** are the top performers.
- The State Energy & Climate Index Round-I will help initiate a dialogue with the states on the energy sector so that much required policy improvements can be made.
- The State Energy & Climate Index Round-I ranks the states' performance on 6 parameters, namely, (1) DISCOM's Performance (2) Access, Affordability and Reliability of Energy (3) Clean Energy Initiatives (4) Energy Efficiency (5) Environmental Sustainability; and (6) New Initiatives.
- The parameters are further divided into 27 indicators. Based on the composite SECI Round I score, the states and UTs are categorized into three groups: Front Runners, Achievers, and Aspirants.

Source: PIB

## MoU signed between UIDAI and ISRO for technical collaboration



### Why in News?

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the **Unique Identification Authority Of India (UIDAI)**, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), New Delhi and **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC)**, **ISRO**, Hyderabad, for technical collaboration.

### Key Points

- NRSC will be developing the Bhuvan-Aadhar portal providing information and locations of the aadhaar centres across India.
- NRSC will also provide a web-based portal to collect and store data pertaining to existing and new enrolment centres to improve citizen centric services by carrying out regular statutory inspections.
- Bhuvan will facilitate complete geographic information storage, retrieval, analysis and reporting for Aadhaar centres, with a high resolution backdrop of natural color satellite images.

### About Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI):

- UIDAI is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 ("Aadhaar Act 2016") on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- UIDAI has so far issued Aadhaar numbers to more than 132 crore residents.

Source: PIB

## 5G Vertical Engagement and Partnership Program (VEPP)



### Why in News?

- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has invited Expression of Interest (EoI) for "**5G Vertical Engagement and Partnership Program (VEPP)**" initiative to build strong collaboration partnerships across 5G Use-case ecosystem stakeholders with velocity and with an exclusive emphasis to address User/Vertical Industry needs.

## Key Points

- In order to multiply the 5G opportunities across the usage verticals, under the guidance of Secretary (Telecom), an **Inter-Ministerial Committee** chaired by Member (Technology), Digital Communications Commission is constituted with representatives from Ministry of Electronics and IT, Department of Science and Technology & relevant Vertical Ministries viz. Agriculture, Health, Urban Affairs, Education, Power, Mines, Jalshakthi, Commerce, Ports, Railways, Heavy Industries, Road Transport, Tourism etc. to facilitate collaborative efforts across stakeholders.
- “5G Vertical Engagement and Partnership Program” is being offered to Industry verticals which have potential as testing cum breeding grounds for innovative 5G use cases, through an Expression of Interest (EoI) to enable close collaboration between User verticals and 5G Tech stakeholders (Service providers, Solution providers & partner OEMs).

## About 5G Technology:

- 5G is the 5th generation mobile network.
- It is a new global wireless standard after 1G, 2G, 3G, and 4G networks.
- Internet speeds in the high-band spectrum of 5G has been tested to be as high as 20 Gbps (gigabits per second).

**Source: Indian Express**

## Utsav Portal

### Why in News?

- Union Minister for Tourism, Culture and DONER G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the 2 days Conference of **Amrit Samagam** being held from 12th – 13th April in New Delhi.
- During the inaugural day of the 2 days' Amrit Samagam Conference, G. Kishan Reddy also launched the **Utsav Portal**.



## Key Points

- The Utsav Portal website, a digital initiative launched by the Ministry of Tourism, aims to showcase all the events, festivals and live darshans across India to promote different regions of the country as popular tourist destinations worldwide.

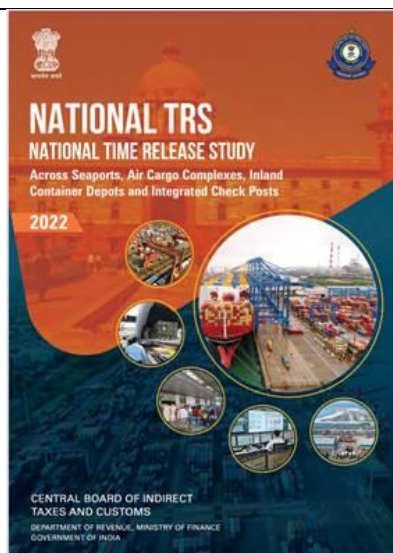
## Note:

- The Ministry had also released a digital Calendar on the theme of dedicated tourist sites on AKAM (Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav) on the occasion of **National Tourism Day on 25th January**.
- The Ministry has sanctioned 03 projects during 2021-22 for a total amount of Rs 112.25 crore, with the objective of integrated development of identified pilgrimage and heritage destinations, under the **PRASHAD Scheme**.
- The Ministry has also recently revamped its Swadesh Darshan Scheme as **Swadesh Darshan 2.0**.

**Source: PIB**



## National Time Release Study, 2022



### Why in News?

- Vivek Johri, Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) released the **National Time Release Study (NTRS), 2022**.

### Key Points

- NTRS 2022 is essentially a performance measurement tool for assessing the cargo clearance process of international trade, as recommended by the World Trade Organization (WTO) under the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and the World Customs Organization (WCO).
- NTRS covered 15 major Customs formations, including four port categories - seaports, air cargo complexes (ACCs), inland container depot (ICDs) and integrated check posts (ICPs), which handle about 80 percent of the bills of entry (imports documents) and 70 percent of the shipping bills (export documents).
- The NTRS 2022 has reported further improvement in the average cargo release time for all the four port categories in 2022 over corresponding period of the previous year: by 2 percent for ICPs to significantly higher 16 percent for ACCs. For the sea cargo cleared through the seaport or inland container depots average release time has improved by 12 percent.
- With this improvement, the ICPs have achieved the National Trade Facilitation Action Plan (NTFAP) target release time to be achieved by 2023, whereas the other three port categories have reached 75 percent of NTFAP target.

**Source: PIB**

## India holds maiden MEA-led Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group on Neighbourhood outreach

### Why in News?

- Recently, the first meeting of **Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group (IMCG)** on India's neighbourhood outreach was convened by Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla.

### Key Points

- The focus of the meeting was construction of border infrastructure that would facilitate greater trade with neighbours like Nepal; special needs of countries such as Bhutan and Maldives in terms of supply of essential commodities; opening rail connectivity with Bangladesh; Humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan and Myanmar; and Fisheries issue with Sri Lanka.



### About Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group (IMCG):

- IMCG is supported by inter-ministerial joint task forces (JTFs) convened by joint secretaries in the External Affairs Ministry.
- A whole-of-government approach has been adopted to ensure greater connectivity, stronger inter-linkages and greater people-to-people connect under the “Neighbourhood First” policy.
- This includes coordination with various ministries, departments, and agencies of the Central and state governments.

Source: ET

## Important News: World

### UNGA votes to suspend Russia from Human Rights Council



### Why in News?

- The **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** has suspended **Russia** from the **Human Rights Council (HRC)** amid its ongoing war with Ukraine.

### Key Points

- The resolution titled ‘Suspension of the rights of membership of the Russian Federation in the Human Rights Council’ was adopted with 93 votes in favour, 24 against and 58 abstentions, including India.
- With this, Russia became the second country to have its membership rights stripped at the rights council, which was established in 2006.
- In 2011, Libya was suspended by the assembly.

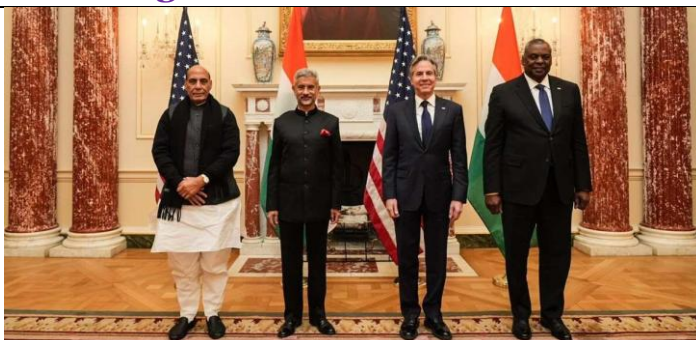
### About United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC):

- The United Nations Human Rights Council is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
- **Founded:** 15 March 2006

Source: Indian Express



## India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue



### Why in News?

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh along with External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar participated in the **4<sup>th</sup> India-USA 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue** on April 11, 2022 in Washington DC. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin represented the United States.
- All four high officials were present as Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden met virtually on April 11, ahead of the 2+2 dialogue.

### Key Points

#### Dialogue with the US:

- The US is India's oldest and most important 2+2 talks partner.
- The first 2+2 dialogue between the two countries was held during the Trump Administration, when then Secretary of State Michael Pompeo and then Secretary of Defence James Mattis met the late Sushma Swaraj and then Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi in September 2018.
- The second and third editions of the 2+2 dialogues were held in Washington DC and New Delhi in 2019 and 2020 respectively.

#### Defence and strategic agreements:

- India and the US have signed a troika of "foundational pacts" for deep military cooperation, beginning with the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) in 2016, followed by the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) after the first 2+2 dialogue in 2018, and then the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) in 2020.

#### 2+2 talks between India and allies:

- The 2+2 dialogue is a format of meeting of the foreign and defence ministers of India and its allies on strategic and security issues.
- India has 2+2 dialogues with four key strategic partners: the US, Australia, Japan, and Russia. Besides Russia, the other three countries are also India's partners in the Quad.

**Source: Indian Express**

## Important News: Defense

### Defence Minister Rajnath Singh releases the third positive indigenisation list

#### Why in News?

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the **third positive indigenisation list of 101 items**, comprising major equipment/platforms.
- It is based on the first list (101) and second list (108) that were promulgated on August 21, 2020 and May 31, 2021 respectively.



### Key Points

- The list, notified by the Department of Military Affairs, Ministry of Defence, lays special focus on equipment/systems, which are being developed and likely to translate into firm orders in the next five years.
- These weapons and platforms are planned to be indigenised progressively with effect from December 2022 to December 2027.
- The third list comprises highly complex Systems, Sensors, Weapons and Ammunitions like Light Weight Tanks, Mounted Arty Gun Systems, Guided Extended Range (GER) Rocket for PINAKA MLRS, Naval Utility Helicopters (NUH), Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (NGOPV) etc.

**Source: PIB**

## Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'HELINA' successfully flight tested



### Why in News?

- Indigenously developed helicopter launched **Anti-Tank Guided Missile (ATGM) 'HELINA'** was successfully flight tested at high-altitude ranges as part of user validation trials in Pokhran.

### Key Points

- The flight-test was jointly conducted by the teams of scientists from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF).
- The flight trials were conducted from an Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) and the missile was fired successfully engaging a simulated tank target.
- Helina has a maximum range of seven kilometers and has been designed and developed for integration on weaponized versions of the ALH.
- Helina has been developed by Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad under the Missiles and Strategic Systems (MSS) cluster of the DRDO. Successful user trials of the missile have been conducted since 2018.

**Source: Indian Express**

## India - Australia Maritime Patrol Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA) Coordinated Operations



### Why in News?

- A **P8I Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA)** of the Indian Navy has arrived at Darwin, Australia.

### Key Points

- The aircraft and its crew would be undertaking an operational turnaround at Darwin.
- During its stay, the team from the Indian Navy's maritime patrol squadron, Albatross, is scheduled to engage with its counterparts from the 92 Wing of the Royal Australian Air Force.
- P8 aircraft from both the countries, would be conducting coordinated operations in Anti-Submarine Warfare and surface surveillance, to enhance maritime domain awareness.
- The P8 aircraft, with their demonstrated long reach, have operated jointly during **Malabar and AUSINDEX series of exercises**, and have a common understanding of operating procedures and information sharing.

**Source: India Today**

## Science and Technology

### IIT Madras launches India's first indigenously developed polycentric prosthetic knee 'Kadam'



### Why in News?

- **IIT Madras** researchers have launched the country's first Made-in-India polycentric prosthetic knee '**Kadam**'.

### Key Points

- The polycentric knee has been developed in association with **Society for Biomedical Technology (SBMT)** and **Mobility India**.
- **SBMT** was established under DRDO by former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam to



enable indigenous medical device development.

- **Mobility India**, an NGO in Bengaluru, will mass manufacture and take Kadam to the market along with overseeing the processes of fitment and training and ensuring easy access for the users.
- It was developed by a team at TTK Center for Rehabilitation Research and Device Development (R2D2) at IIT Madras, which also developed and commercialized 'Arise,' the country's first standing wheelchair and NeoFly-NeoBolt, an active wheelchair.

**Source: India Today**

## Schemes

### Cabinet approves distribution of fortified rice across Government Schemes



#### Why in News?

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has accorded its approval for supply of fortified rice throughout the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman-PM POSHAN [erstwhile Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)] and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) of Government of India in all States and Union Territories (UTs) by 2024 in a phased manner.

#### Key Points

- The entire cost of rice fortification (around Rs. 2,700 crore per annum) would be borne by the Govt. of India as part of food subsidy till its full implementation upto June, 2024.
- Earlier, the Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on "Fortification of Rice and its Distribution under Public Distribution System" was implemented for a period of 3 years beginning from 2019-20.

**Source: Indian Express**

### 'AVSAR' Scheme



### Why in News?

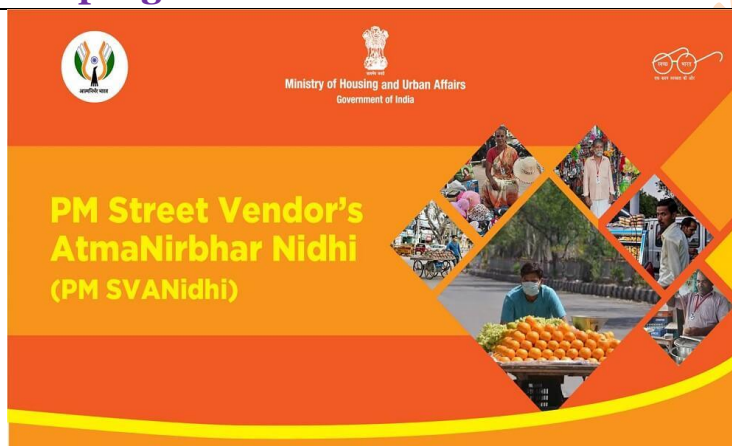
- **Airport Authority of India (AAI)** has taken an initiative to allocate space to **Self Help Groups (SHGs)** at its airports for selling/showcasing the self-made products of their region through '**AVSAR**' Scheme.

### About "AVSAR" (Airport as Venue for Skilled Artisans Of The Region) Scheme:

- Under "AVSAR", an opportunity to help the indigent to mobilize their households into functionally effective self-earned groups for self-reliance and self-dependence, has been provided.
- Under this scheme, an area of 100-200 square feet has been earmarked at each AAI operated airport.

Source: PIB

### 'SVANidhi se Samriddhi' program



### Why in News?

- Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) launched '**SVANidhi se Samriddhi**' program in additional 126 cities across 14 States/ UTs.

### Key Points

#### About 'SVANidhi se Samriddhi' program:

- '**SVANidhi se Samriddhi**', an additional program of PMSVANidhi was launched on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 in 125 cities in Phase 1, **covering approximately 35 Lakh Street vendors and their families.**
- Considering the success of Phase I, MoHUA launched the program expansion to additional 126 cities with an aim to cover 28 Lakh Street vendors and their families, with a total target of 20 Lakh scheme sanctions for FY 2022-23.

#### About PMSVANidhi Scheme:

- MoHUA has been implementing Prime Minister Street Vendors AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), a Central Sector Scheme since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020.
- The scheme aims to provide an affordable working capital loan to Street Vendors and has successfully crossed the 30 Lakh mark.
- Under the program, socio-economic profiling of PMSVANidhi beneficiaries and their families is conducted to assess their eligibility for 8 Government of India's welfare schemes and facilitate sanctions of eligible schemes.
- These schemes include Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, PM Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Registration under Building and other Constructions Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act (BOCW), Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana, National Food Security Act (NFSA) portability benefit – One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC), Janani Suraksha Yojana, and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).

- Quality Council of India (QCI) is the implementing partner for the programme.

**Source: PIB**

## Awards and Honours

### 56th Jnanpith Award presented to Assamese poet Nilamani Phookan

#### Why in News?

- Eminent Assamese poet **Nilamani Phookan** was conferred the **56th Jnanpith Award**, the ceremony of which was held for the first time in Assam.

#### Key Points

- Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and the Chairperson of Jnanpith Selection Board Pratibha Ray handed over the trophy, cheque and other mementos to the 88-year-old Phookan.
- Phookan is the third Assamese to receive the Jnanpith Award after novelist Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya (1979) and Mamoni Raisom Goswami (2000).
- Phookan had won the Sahitya Academy Award in 1981 for his poetry collection 'Kobita'.
- He was conferred with the Padma Shri in 1990 and the Sahitya Academy Fellowship in 2002.



#### About Jnanpith Award:

- The Jnanpith Award is the oldest and the highest Indian literary award presented annually by the Bharatiya Jnanpith to an author for their "outstanding contribution towards literature".

**Source: Indian Express**

### PM Narendra Modi to receive inaugural Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award



#### Why in News?

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be honoured with the inaugural Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award, instituted in the memory of the veteran singer (Lata Mangeshkar) who passed away in February this year.

#### Key Points

- Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan informed that the award ceremony



will be held on 24th of April at Mumbai's Shanmukhanand Hall.

- The Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar will be given every year to only one individual who has made path-breaking, spectacular and exemplary contributions to the nation, its people and society.

**Source: India Today**

## NMDC wins two awards at 80th SKOCH Summit 2022

### Why in News?

- The largest iron ore producer of India, **National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**, under Ministry of Steel awarded one gold and one silver award in the 80<sup>th</sup> SKOCH Summit 2022.



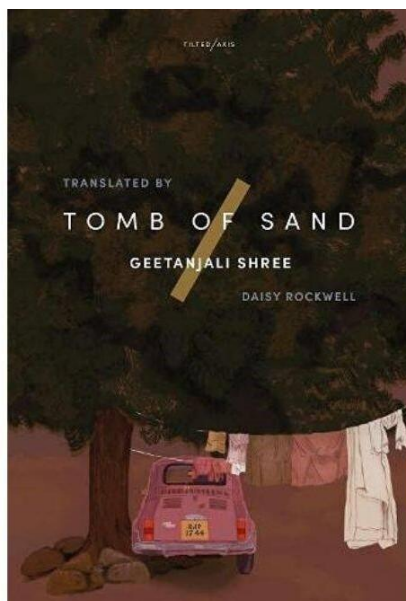
### Key Points

- The theme for the SKOCH Summit was 'State of BFSI & PSUs'.
- NMDC won the Gold Award in the category social responsibility for the project 'Promotion of Technical Education & Skill Development in Dantewada District through NMDC ITI Bhansi' and the Silver Award in the category digital inclusion for the 'Project Kalpataru' for ERP implementation.

**Source: The Hindu**

## Books and Authors

### Geetanjali Shree's 'Tomb of Sand' first Hindi novel on International Booker shortlist



### Why in News?

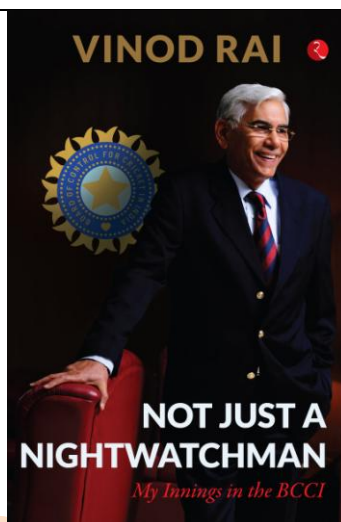
- Author **Geetanjali Shree's** novel '**Tomb of Sand**' became the first Hindi language work of **fiction** to be shortlisted for the **International Booker Prize**.

### Key Points

- Shree's book, translated into English by Daisy Rockwell and described by the judges as "loud and irresistible novel", will compete with five other titles from around the world for the prestigious 50,000 pounds literary prize, which is split evenly between the author and translator.
- The winner for 2022 will be announced at a ceremony in London on May 26.

**Source: Indian Express**

### Former CAG Vinod Rai's book 'Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI'



### Why in News?

- Former CAG (Comptroller and Auditor General) and chief of Supreme court-appointed CoA (Committee of Administrators), Vinod Rai has penned a book titled as, "Not Just A Nightwatchman: My Innings with BCCI".

### Key Points

- In the book Vinod Rai has narrated his stint of 33 months at BCCI, when he was appointment as the head of the Supreme Court-mandated Committee of Administrators (CoA) in the BCCI.
- The book has been published by Rupa Publications India.
- Vinod Rai is a former IAS officer who served as the 11th Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

## Important Days

### April 13, Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

### Why in News?

- The Jallianwala Bagh massacre, also known as the Amritsar massacre, took place on 13 April 1919.

### Key Points

- Around 50 soldiers of the British Indian Army, under the command of Colonel Reginald Dyer, fired on unarmed people who had gathered for Baishakhi at Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar.
- The people, a majority of whom were Sikhs, had gathered in Jallianwala Bagh to celebrate Baisakhi

and also to condemn the arrest and deportation of two freedom fighters, Satya Pal and Dr Saifuddin Kitchlew.



- According to the British government, 379 people died and 1,200 were wounded in the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

**Source:** HT

## April 14, World Chagas Disease Day

### Why in News?

- World Chagas Disease Day is celebrated on April 14 to raise awareness around chagas disease.



### Key Points

- The **theme** for 2022 is 'finding and reporting every case to defeat chagas disease'.

### History:

- It was first celebrated on April 14, 2020, following the approval and endorsement received by the World Health Assembly at WHO in May 2019.
- It was named after Carlos Ribeiro Justiniano Chagas, the Brazilian doctor who diagnosed the first case on April 14, 1909.

**Note:** World Chagas Disease Day is one of 11 official global public health campaigns marked by the World Health Organization (WHO), along with World Tuberculosis Day, World Health Day, World Malaria Day, World Immunization Week, World No Tobacco Day, World Blood Donor Day, World Hepatitis Day, World Patient Safety Day, World Antimicrobial Awareness Week and World AIDS Day.

**Source:** who.int

## Sports

### India win first ever gold medal at WSF World Doubles Squash championships 2022

- India's Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Saurav Ghosal defeated Adrian Waller and Alison Waters of England in the mixed doubles finals to win India's first ever gold medal at WSF World Doubles Squash championship 2022 at Glasgow, Scotland.





- Apart from this, Dipika Pallikal also won the women's doubles gold with her partner Joshna Chinappa.

Source: newsonair

## Netherlands lift fourth FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup 2022 title



### Key Points

- The **Netherlands** lifted their fourth FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup 2022 title after beating Germany in the final at Potchefstroom, South Africa.
- Earlier, England defeated India in the shoot-out after a 2-2 draw to claim the bronze medal in the third-place match.
- The **2022 Women's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup** is the ninth edition of the Women's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup, the biennial women's under-21 field hockey world championship organized by the International Hockey Federation.

Source: newsonair

## Reports and Indexes

### Global Wind Report 2022



### Why in News?

- The **Global Wind Report for 2022** has been published by the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC).

## Key Points

### Highlights of the Report:

- Wind energy installations every year across the world must quadruple from the 94 GW installed in 2021 within this decade to meet the global climate targets.
- Without the necessary amplification, restricting global warming over pre-industrial levels to 1.5 degrees Celsius — a target set by the Paris Agreement — and achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050 may become difficult.
- New offshore installations in 2022 are likely to decline to the 2019 / 2020 levels, primarily due to the reduction of installations in China.
- However, market growth is expected to regain momentum from 2023, eventually passing the 30GW-mark in 2026.
- Carbon dioxide emissions can reduce by 0.3-1.61 gigatonnes every year by 2050 if offshore wind energy generation is scaled up.

### Scope in India:

- In India, more than 1.4 GW of wind was installed in 2021, exceeding the 1.1 GW of installations during the previous year.
- The Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has set a target of installing 5 GW of offshore capacity by 2022 and 30 GW by 2030. India is yet to develop its offshore wind energy facility.
- India can generate 127 GW of offshore wind energy with its 7,600 km of coastline.

### Related Initiatives:

- National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy
- National Offshore Wind Energy Policy

Source: DTE

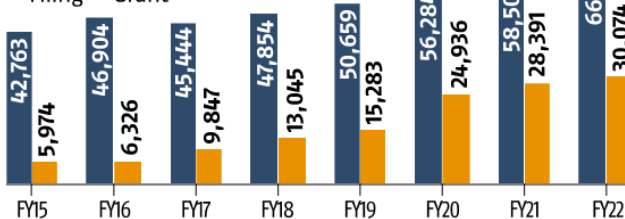
**For the first time in 11 years, the number of domestic patent filing surpasses the number of international patent filing in India**



### PATENT POWER

Filing and grant of patent applications

■ Filing ■ Grant



Source: PIB

## Why in News?

- India achieved yet another milestone in context of IP innovation ecosystem, wherein for the first time in the last 11 years, the number of domestic patent filing has surpassed the number of international patent filing at Indian patent office in the Quarter Jan-Mar 2022 i.e. of the total 19796 patent applications filed, 10706 were filed by Indian applicants against 9090 by non-Indian applicants.

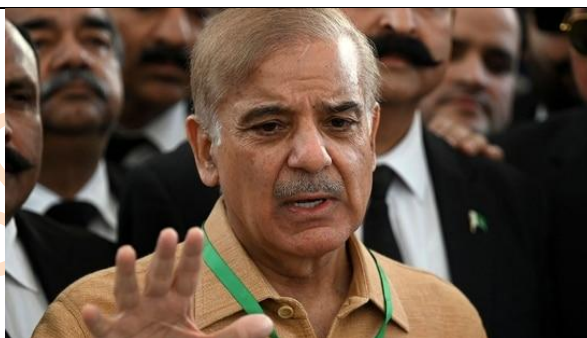
## Key Points

- Some of the key initiatives taken by the Government over the years that has bolstered India's IP regime includes fee concessions like 10% rebate on online filing, 80% fee concession for Start-ups, Small Entities and educational institutions, and provisions on expedited examination for Startups and MSMEs along with other categories.
- It will take India a step closer to India's ambitious target of being in the top 25 nations of Global Innovation Index.
- The cornerstone laid down by National IPR policy and the efforts made by the Government has transpired into the following achievements for India:
  - Filing of patents have increased from 42763 in 2014-15 to 66440 in 2021-22, more that 50% increase in a span of 7 years
  - Nearly five times increase in grant of patents in 2021-22 (30,074) as compared to 2014-15 (5978)
  - Reduction in Time of patent examination from 72 months in Dec 2016 to 5-23 months at present, for different technological areas
  - India's ranking in **Global Innovation Index** has increased to **46th in 2021** (+35 ranks) as compared to from 81st in 2015-16

**Source: Business Standard**

## New Appointments

### Shehbaz Sharif elected Pakistan's 23rd Prime Minister



## Why in News?

- Shehbaz Sharif, the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) president, was elected unopposed as the 23rd Prime Minister of Pakistan by the National Assembly, after a week-long constitutional crisis that climaxed when Imran Khan lost a no-confidence vote.

## Key Points

- Shehbaz, the younger brother of former three-time Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, received 174 votes.
- He has served as chief minister of the country's most populous and politically crucial Punjab province thrice.

**Source: HT**



## Manoj Soni appointed as UPSC's new chairman



### Why in News?

- Recently, eminent scholar-academician, **Dr Manoj Soni** was appointed as the new Chairman of the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**.

### Key Points

- Manoj Soni succeeds Pradip Kumar Joshi.
- Prior to this, Dr Manoj served as the vice-chancellor of two universities.

### About Union Public Service Commission (UPSC):

- UPSC is India's premier central recruitment agency for recruitment of all the Group 'A' officers under Government of India.
- The agency's charter is granted by Part XIV of the Constitution of India, titled as Services Under the Union and the States.
- Formed:** 1 October 1926
- Headquarters:** New Delhi

Source: ET

## Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla to be G20 coordinator



### Why in News?

- Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla will be appointed as coordinator for the G20 summit, which will be hosted by India in 2023.

### Key Points

- Shringla, who retires on April 30, 2022, will take charge of his new role as G20 coordinator on May 1, 2022.
- This is a newly created role for organising the summit. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal will remain the G20 sherpa.
- India will hold the presidency of the G20 from 1 December 2022 to 30 November 2023.

### About the G-20:

- The G-20 is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies.
- Its members account for more than 80% of world GDP, 75% of global trade and 60% of the population of the planet.

- The G-20 is made up of 19 countries and the European Union.
- The 19 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the UK, and the US.

**Source: Indian Express**

## **Iqbal Singh Lalpura reappointed as Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities**

### **Why in News?**

- The central government re-appointed retired Punjab-cadre IPS Officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura as the chairperson of the **National Commission for Minorities (NCM)**.



### **Key Points**

- Lalpura, who was first appointed as chairman in September last year, had to resign from the post in December to contest as the BJP candidate from Ropar assembly constituency, which he lost.

### **About National Commission for Minorities (NCM):**

- The Union Government set up the National Commission for Minorities under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992.
- Six religious communities, viz; Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Zoroastrians and Jains have been notified in Gazette of India as minority communities by the Union Government all over India.
- **Founded:** 17 May 1993
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi

**Source: HT**

# **Weekly Current Affairs 2nd Week April 2022**





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