

Daily Current Affairs

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Important News: International

1. India-CARICOM Ministerial Meeting

Why in news: India's External Affairs Minister co-chaired the 4th India-CARICOM ministerial meeting with his Jamaican counterpart.



A.CARICOM, which stands for Caribbean Community, is the oldest surviving integration movement in the developing world.

B.It is an organization of Caribbean countries and dependencies that was originally established in 1973 as the Caribbean Community and Commons Market by the Treaty of Chaguaramas.

C. The Objectives are:

a.To promote economic integration and cooperation among members.

b.To ensure that the benefits of integration are shared equally;

c.Coordinating foreign policy.

D. It has 15 members; Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands have the status of associate members.

E.The presidency of the community is rotated every six months between the heads of member states. The CARICOM Secretariat in Georgetown, Guyana, is the principal administrative organ of the community and is headed by a Secretary-General who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Community.



F. In 2007, CARICOM officially inaugurated the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ), which serves as the final court of appeal for CARICOM members and also handles regional trade disputes.

(SOURCE – ECONOMIC TIMES)

2. Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2023

Why in news: India's rank in the recently released World Bank's Logistics Performance Index 2023 has improved by six places.



A. It is issued by the World Bank. It is an interactive benchmarking tool that helps countries identify challenges and opportunities they face in their performance on business logistics.

B. It measures the ease of establishing reliable supply chain connections and structural factors that make this possible, such as the quality of logistics services, infrastructure related to trade and transportation, as well as border controls.

C. LPI 2023 allows comparisons across 139 countries.

D. LPI 2023, for the first time, measures trade speed with indicators derived from large datasets tracking shipments.

E. Singapore and Finland are the most efficient and highest ranked LPI countries according to the 2023 LPI.

F. India is ranked 38th out of 139 countries, up six places from the previous index.

G. The two key drivers of India's jump in the index could be modernisation and digitisation, which the report cited as the reason for emerging economies like India to overtake advanced countries

(SOURCE – NEWS ON AIR)

Important News: National



3. Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project

Why in news: Recently, Prime Minister praised the completion of Bihar portion of Barauni-Guwahati pipeline under Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project.



A. The project is also known as Jagdishpur-Haldia and Bokaro-Dhamra Pipeline Project (JHBDPL) project.

B. It was launched in 2016 and will cater to the energy needs of five states namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.

C. The pipeline will connect six districts of Bihar to the national gas grid. The project will provide access to clean natural gas for industries, CNG for vehicles and PNG for homes, promoting a sustainable lifestyle.

D. The total length of the pipeline under the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project is 3,384 km, out of which 766 km pipeline is in the state of Odisha and the remaining 2,618 km is in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam.

E. The seven main stations include Varanasi, Patna, Bokaro, Jamshedpur, Kolkata, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack as major beneficiaries of the project.

F. The project is being implemented by GAIL

(SOURCE - INDIAN EXPRESS)

4. e-Gram Swaraj and GeM portal

Why in news: On the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day and marking 30 years of Panchayati Raj in India, Prime Minister will inaugurate an integrated e-Gram Swaraj and GeM portal for public procurement at the Panchayat level in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.



A..The e-Gram Swaraj-GeM integration aims to enable panchayats to procure their goods and services through GeM by leveraging the e-Gram Swaraj platform.

B.This will help the entire buyer-seller ecosystem to flourish, thereby strengthening the Digital India programme as well as giving a major boost to the rural economy and entrepreneurship.

C. It envisages increasing GeM's existing user base of around 60,000 to over 3 lakh in a phased manner. And bring transparency in procurement by panchayats by making the process digital.

D.Encouraging local vendors (proprietors, self-help groups, cooperatives, etc.) to register on GeM as panchayats largely procure from such vendors.

E.Panchayats will have access to doorstep delivery of quality-assured items at standardised and competitive rates.

(SOURCE – INDIAN EXPRESS)

Important News: National

5. Indian Space Policy 2023

Why in news: The government has approved the Indian Space Policy (ISP) 2023, to boost private sector participation and increase investments in the space sector from private companies.

A.India currently accounts for about 2% of the global space economy (the United States has more than 50% share)

B.The Indian space industry was valued at \$7 billion in 2019 and aspires to grow to \$50 billion by 2024. India needs to use its cost-effectiveness in the space sector



C. The policy delineates the roles and responsibilities of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), space sector PSUNewSpace India Limited (NSIL), and Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Center (IN-SPACe).

- Strategic activities related to the space sector will be carried out by NSIL, which will work in a demand-driven mode.
- IN-SPACe will be the interface between ISRO and non-governmental entities.
- ISRO will focus its energies on developing new technologies, new systems and research and development.
- The operational part of ISRO's missions will be moved to theNewSpace India Limited.

D. The policy will help India increase its share in the global space economy substantially from less than 2% to 10% in the future.

(SOURCE –NEWS ON AIR)

6. PRAYAG Platform

Why in.news: PRAYAG Platform For Real-Time Analysis Of Yamuna, Ganga & Their Tributaries Launched.

A.The Ministry of Jal Shakti launched Prayag, a real-time monitoring centre for planning and monitoring projects, river water quality etc. during the 11th meeting of the Empowered Task Force of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).



B.Prayag (platform for real-time analysis of Yamuna, Ganga and their tributaries) monitors various projects through various online dashboards such as Ganga Tarang Portal, Ganga District Performance Monitoring System etc.

C.NMCG (2011; as a registered society) aims to rehabilitate and promote existing sewage treatment plants;

D.NMCG aims to rehabilitate and boost existing sewage treatment plants; curb pollution at exit points; maintain water flow without changing natural variations; restore surface and groundwater, etc. in Ganga and its tributary basins. It is being



implemented by the National Ganga Council National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)

(SOURCE –NEWS ON AIR)

Important News: States

7. UP on track to become first indian state with 100%Electric Vehicle in govt dept

Why in news: The Uttar Pradesh government has launched an ambitious scheme to promote the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the state. As part of this initiative, the government has set a target to convert all vehicles used by government departments to EVs in a phased manner by 2030.



A.The Uttar Pradesh government has issued instructions to all government departments to promote their use by purchasing electric vehicles (EVs) on a non-tender enrolment basis. Departments can also spend more than the maximum limit to buy EVs as per their requirement.

B.By achieving the target of converting all government vehicles to EVs before 2030, Uttar Pradesh aims to become the first state in the country to have 100% EVs in its government departments.

C.To encourage the adoption of EVs, the Uttar Pradesh government has also notified the Uttar Pradesh Electric Vehicle Manufacturing and Mobility Policy 2022.

D.The policy includes the following incentives:

- a.Tax and registration fee exemption for three years on the purchase of EVs.
- b.Exemption from tax and registration fee for five years on purchase of EVs manufactured in the state.

(SOURCE – NEWS ON AIR)



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Important News: Days

8. International day of multilateralism and diplomacy For peace

Why in news: On April 24, the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace is observed around the planet.

A.The day acknowledges the use of multilateral diplomacy and decision-making to achieve peaceful resolution of conflicts between countries.

B.This day is very important as it promotes international peace and the end of wars in the world through the use of international agreements, diplomacy and multilateral mechanisms.

C.The day was first declared by the UN Assembly keeping in mind that preserving the values of international cooperation and multilateralism is fundamental to the promotion and support of the three pillars of the United Nations:

- Peace & Security
- Evolution
- Human rights.

D.The day reaffirms the UN Charter and its principles for resolving disputes between the countries of the world by peaceful means. The day was first celebrated in the year 2019 after being established in 2018.

E.This day has the aim of generating and spreading knowledge about the advantages of diplomacy and multilateralism for peace, including raising activities through public and educational awareness.

F.The objective of this day is to promote the United Nations' principle aim of saving future generations from the hardships of war and achieving this through dispute settlements in peaceful manner.

(SOURCE – ECONOMIC TIMES)

