

26th April 2023

INTERNATIONAL

1) The city of Ayodhya

- The city of Ayodhya has been chosen for a two-year pilot project aimed at producing biodiesel from waste.
- Belgium-based company Vito is expected to launch the project in Ayodhya soon.
- The company, which focuses on clean technology and sustainable development, has already started working on the project, according to officials.

2) Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

- To combat the falling value of the Zimbabwean currency, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has announced plans to introduce a gold-backed digital currency.
- The digital gold tokens will be a form of electronic money, backed by gold held at the RBZ. This will enable holders of small amounts of Zimbabwean dollars to exchange their money for tokens and protect themselves against exchange rate fluctuations.



3) Indian Institute of Technology in Africa in Tanzania

- IIT Madras is set to establish the first Indian Institute of Technology in Africa in Tanzania, with classes scheduled to begin in October.
- The new campus will be located in Zanzibar, and marks IIT Madras' first international campus. V Kamakoti, the institute's director, announced the plans during his address at IIT Madras' 64th Institute Day.
- A team of five IIT Madras professors visited Tanzania in February to hold discussions with officials about setting up the new campus.

4) Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu has become the 22nd president of Bangladesh

- Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu has become the 22nd president of Bangladesh, taking over from Abdul Hamid, in a ceremony attended by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, politicians, judges, and senior officials.













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- The event was held at the historic Durbar Hall of Bangabhaban, where Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury administered the oath to Shahabuddin. He was elected unopposed in February this year as the candidate of the ruling party, and after the ceremony, he signed the documents for the office of the president.

5) Japan's health ministry has approved the country's first abortion pill

- A panel in Japan's health ministry has approved the country's first abortion pill, in a major step for reproductive rights decades after other countries made abortion medication widely available.
- The ministry's pharmaceutical board granted approval to the MeFeego Pack, an abortion pill manufactured by British pharmaceutical Linepharma, according to a spokesperson from the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare.



NATIONAL

1) Jupiter, a neobanking startup

- Jupiter, a neobanking startup, has obtained a non-banking finance company (NBFC) license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), enabling the company to provide credit from its own resources.
- According to Jitendra Gupta, the founder of Amica Financial Technologies Ltd., which operates Jupiter, the company will appoint a professional chief executive officer to manage the NBFC operations.

2) SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara

- SBI opened its fourth branch exclusively for startups in Mumbai's BKC area.
- At the inaugural event, SBI Chairman Dinesh Khara stated that the branch's key objective is to offer comprehensive assistance to startups throughout their journey, from establishing their business entity to conducting IPOs and FPOs.

3) Index of Economic Freedom

- The Index of Economic Freedom is an annual report that measures the level of economic freedom in countries around the world.
- The index is published by The Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank based in Washington D.C., in partnership with The Wall Street Journal.















- The index uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative data to rank countries on a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 representing the highest level of economic freedom.

4) Sachin Kumar Jain

- On March 31, 2023, Sachin Kumar Jain, a research scholar at the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras, died by suicide, which has prompted the institute to form an inquiry committee to investigate the matter.
- The five-member inquiry committee, appointed on 25th April, will be headed by former Tamil Nadu Director General of Police (DGP) G. Thilakavathi.
- The committee will investigate the circumstances leading to Sachin Kumar Jain's suicide and will submit a report on its findings.



APPOINTMENTS AND RESGINATIONS

1) Shreekant M Bhandiwad

- Shreekant M Bhandiwad has become the new Chairman of Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), taking over the position from his predecessor.
- Prior to his appointment, Bhandiwad served as the head of the Patna circle of Canara Bank, and also gained experience working in the CMD's Secretariat at the bank's head office.

2) Anant Maheshwari

- Anant Maheshwari, the President of Microsoft India, has been appointed as the Chairperson of Nasscom for the period 2023-24, succeeding Krishnan Ramanujam, the President of Business and Technology Services at Tata Consultancy Services, who held the position for the year 2022-23.
- Additionally, Rajesh Nambiar, the Chairman and Managing Director of Cognizant India, has been named as the Vice Chairperson of Nasscom for 2023-24. Nasscom is the top association for the software and IT services industry.

SPORTS

1) 'Sachin Tendulkar Stand'

- In honor of Sachin Tendulkar's 50th birthday, the West Stand at the renowned Sharjah cricket stadium has been renamed as the 'Sachin Tendulkar Stand.'



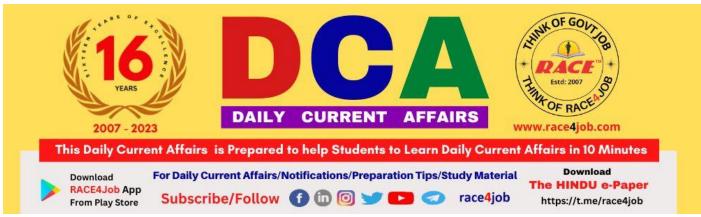












- A special ceremony was held on Monday to commemorate the occasion, which coincided not only with the batting icon's birthday but also with the 25th anniversary of his remarkable performance of scoring back-to-back centuries against Australia in 1998, known as the 'Desert Storm,' in front of a packed stadium.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1) World Intellectual Property Day

- World Intellectual Property Day is marked on April 26th with the objective of raising awareness about the impact that patents, copyrights, trademarks, and designs have on our daily lives.
- The 2023 World Intellectual Property Day theme is focused on Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity.

2) International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day

- International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day is observed on April 26, annually, in memory and honour of those who lost their lives. Below are some of the key facts about the disaster.
- It is a day that will eternally be associated with the tragic day that the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, formally known as the Vladimir Lenin Nuclear Power Plant, experienced a systems test malfunction.

OBITUARY

1) Parkash Singh Badal

- Parkash Singh Badal, a former Chief Minister of Punjab and leader of the Akali Dal, has passed away at the age of 95 in Mohali.
- He started his political career as a village sarpanch and went on to contest assembly elections for the first time in 1957 as a member of the Congress party.
- He became the youngest Chief Minister of Punjab at the age of 43. Badal was born in Abul Khurana, a village in Punjab near the Rajasthan border, and received his education at Lahore's Forman Christian College.















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