

Weekly One Liners 11th to 17th of April 2022

PM Modi Inaugurates Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi

PM **Narendra Modi** has inaugurated the **Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi** on April 14. The Sangrahalaya, located at the iconic **Teen Murti complex**, was inaugurated as part of **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav** — a 75-week celebration launched to mark 75 years of Independence.

The museum will become a source of inspiration for the youth who will be able to witness the hardships each PM faced and how they overcame them to lay the foundations of a new India. The museum will reflect the shared heritage of each government. The Congress alleged that the new museum was an attempt to dilute the legacy of **India's first PM Jawaharlal Nehru**, a charge rejected by the Centre.

Key Features of Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya:

- The project to build the new museum faced stiff opposition when the government announced its plan in **2018**.
- The museum building integrates the Teen Murti Bhawan in New Delhi, designated as Block I, with the newly-constructed Block II. The total area of the two blocks is over **15,600 square metres**. There are **43 galleries** in the Sangrahalaya.
- The logo of the Sangrahalaya, meanwhile, shows hands holding the dharma chakra, symbolising the nation and democracy.

The Content Displayed at the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya:

- From the freedom struggle to the framing of the Constitution, the museum will have displays that showcase stories of how the respective Prime Ministers steered the nation.
- Personal items, gifts and memorabilia like medals, commemorative stamps, speeches of PMs and anecdotal representations of ideologies will be on display at the museum. The families of the former Prime Ministers were contacted for information about them.
- The Sangrahalaya will also include the Nehru Museum. Officials have said it has been upgraded with a technologically advanced display to showcase the life and contributions of the country's first PM, Jawaharlal Nehru. Several gifts received by him from all over the world are on display for the first time.

- The Sangrahalaya will use holograms, virtual reality, augmented reality, multi-touch, multimedia, interactive kiosks, computerised kinetic sculptures, smartphone applications, interactive screens, experiential installations etc, to make the exhibition content interactive.

Champion of Change Award 2021 in Madhya Pradesh announced

Madhya Pradesh Governor **Mangubhai Patel** and Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** have reached the program of **Champions of Change Madhya Pradesh 2021** organized by 'Interactive Forum on Indian Economy'(IFIE) at Kushabhau Thackeray auditorium in Bhopal. The organization recognizes them for the great work done by individuals and organizations towards promoting the values of courage, community service and inclusive social development.

Celebrities including the Chief Minister will be honoured in the program. **Here are the names of the awardees:**

- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**;
- Former Governor of UP and Mizoram **Dr Aziz Qureshi**;
- Music performer Padma Vibhushan **Teejan Bai**;
- Mayor of Indore **Malini Laxmansingh Gaur**;
- Rajya Sabha MP **Syed Zafar Islam**;
- Indian actress **Divyanka Tripathi**;
- Indian film actor and lyricist **Piyush Mishra**;
- BJP leader **Vikram Verma, Banwari Lal Chouksey, Dr Bhagirath Prasad, Kalapini Komakali, Sudhir Bhai Goyal, Girish Agarwal, Dilip Suryavanshi, Abhijeet Sukhdane, Aarya Chavda, Rohit Singh Tomar, Megha Parmar, Vikas Bhaduarua, Priyanka Dwivedi**.
- CEO of FidyPay **Manan Dixit, Mayur Sethi, Renu Sharma, Dr Prakash Jain and Rajneet Jain**.



About the Award:

Champions of Change is an Indian award, for promoting Gandhian values, (Swachata), community service and social development (in Aspirational district in India), selected by constitutional jury members headed by **K.G. Balakrishnan**, Former Chief Justice of India and Former Chairman NHRC along with Former Judge of Supreme Court of India. The champions of Change Telangana award is a state version of the Champions of change national award.

IFIE annually organizes the Champions of Change Award at the International, National and state-Level in India and it is usually presented by the President, Vice-President, Governor or a leading figure of India. **Mr Nandan Jha** is the founder and Chairman of the Champions of Change Award.

New Zealand Cricket Awards 2022 announced

New Zealand announced awards for Men and Women's cricketers. New Zealand speedster **Trent Boult** and White Ferns skipper **Sophie Devine** won the 'T20 International Player of the Year' in the recently announced **New Zealand Cricket Awards 2022**.

New Zealand pace bowler Tim Southee has been awarded the **Sir Richard Hadlee Medal at the New Zealand Cricket (NZC) Awards** on April 14, 2022. This is Southee's first Sir Richard Hadlee Medal in his 14-year-long career. He has been awarded for his consistency throughout the 2021-22 season. Sir Richard Hadlee's medal is the **highest cricketing honour of New Zealand (Black Cap)**.

Other category awards announced are given below:

- Women's Super Smash Player of the Year: Amelia Kerr (Wellington Blaze)
- Men's Super Smash Player of the Year: Michael Bracewell (Wellington Firebirds)
- Fan Moment of the Summer: Ross Taylor's final wicket in his last Test
- International Women's ODI Player of the Year: Amelia Kerr (Wellington Blaze).
- International Men's ODI Player of the Year: Will Young (Central Stags).
- Redpath Cup for first-class batting: Devon Conway (Wellington Firebirds).
- Ruth Martin Cup for women's domestic batting: Suzie Bates (Otago Sparks).
- Winsor Cup for first-class bowling: Tim Southee (Northern Districts).

- Phyl Blackler Cup for women's domestic bowling: Eden Carson (Otago Sparks).
- New Zealand Umpire of the Year: Chris Gaffaney.

NITI Aayog's State Energy and Climate Index

NITI Aayog has launched the **State Energy & Climate Index (SECI) Round I**. The State Energy & Climate Index (SECI) 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.

These parameters are further divided into 27 indicators. Based on the composite score of SECI Round I, the states and UTs have been ranked as larger states, smaller states, and UTs, based on size and geographical differences. States and UTs are categorized into three groups: Front Runners, Achievers, and Aspirants.

Top Three States among Larger States Category

- Gujarat
- Kerala
- Punjab

Top Three States among Smaller States Category

- Goa
- Tripura
- Manipur

Top Three UTs

- Chandigarh
- Delhi
- Daman & Diu/Dadra & Nagar Haveli

ICC Players of the Month for March 2022

The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** announced that Pakistan skipper **Babar Azam** and Australia's run-machine **Rachael Haynes** were named the **ICC Men's and Women's Players of the Month for March 2022**. Fans can continue to vote every month for their favourite male and female cricketers across all formats of international cricket as part of the ICC Player of the Month initiative.

In the men's category:

Azam had several thrilling batting displays in Pakistan's multi-format series against Australia recently. He amassed 390 runs in the three-Test series, which the hosts lost 0-1. Azam received the award ahead of West Indies' **Kraigg Brathwaite** and Australia Test skipper **Pat Cummins**, and in doing so, became the first player to win the ICC Men's 'Player of the Month' award on two occasions, after being crowned back in April 2021.

Among the women category:

Rachael Haynes had a formidable set of displays on the road to Australia's seventh ICC Women's Cricket World Cup trophy. She scored 429 runs in eight games at an average of 61.28, her feats at the top of the order proving crucial to her side's unbeaten run to the final, where they thrashed England to lift the trophy at Christchurch in New Zealand. She overcame fellow nominees **Sophie Ecclestone** (England) and **Laura Wolvaardt** (South Africa) for the award.

About the award: The International Cricket Council (ICC) presents the ICC Player of the Month to recognise male and female cricketers who have best performed across all forms of international cricket in a particular month.

National Affairs

- The **Broadcast Seva Portal** was developed by the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** to improve the convenience of doing business in the **broadcast industry**. This will be an online portal option for **broadcasters** to quickly file and process applications for various types of **licences, permissions, registrations, and other things**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** stated that the **Umiya Mata Temple**, a religious site in **Gujarat's Junagadh**, has now become a central focus for **social consciousness**. He explained that the temple helps the **underprivileged members** of the community by providing free **health treatment** as well as **religious and social activities**.
- The **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)** and Arbor Day Foundation have jointly recognised **Mumbai and Hyderabad** as the **'2021 Tree City of the World**. The two Indian cities have won the recognition for their "commitment to growing and maintaining urban trees and greenery in building healthy, resilient and happy cities".
- As per the data by the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry**, the number of domestic patent filings at the Indian patent office exceeded that of international filings for the first time in the **last 11 years**. The number of patent filings increased from 42,763 in 2014-15 to **66,440 in 2021-22, more than a 50% increase in a span of 7 years**.
- **Shri Amit Shah, Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation**, launched the **Amrit Samagam**, a summit of the country's tourism and cultural ministers, in **New Delhi**. The **Ministry of Culture** is hosting a two-day conference, as part of the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** has dedicated to the nation, a 200-bed **KK Patel Super Speciality Hospital in Bhuj in the Kutch district of Gujarat**, via video-conferencing. This hospital has been built by Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Samaj, Bhuj and is the first charitable super speciality hospital in the Kutch region.

States in the News

- **Himachal Pradesh's Kangra Tea** will soon get a **European Commission Geographical Indication Tag (GI Tag)**; this tag helps Kangra tea to get an opportunity to enter the European market. Kangra tea received the Indian GI tag in 2005. Since 1999, the cultivation and development of tea have improved constantly in the Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh.
- **Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama** has launched an anti-corruption mobile app named **1064 Anti-Corruption Mobile App**. This mobile application has been developed by the vigilance department, Uttarakhand. It helps the citizens to lodge corruption-related complaints directly with the authorities.
- **M.K. Stalin, the Deputy Chief Minister**, launched a **Periyar memorial samathuvapuram** at **Pilipakuttai in Namagiripettai panchayat union**. Allottees were given the keys at the function. 100 dwelling units with all basic amenities were built at the cost of 2 crores 88 lakh rupees.
- **Himachal Day** is observed on the **15th of April in Himachal Pradesh**. The state became a full-fledged state on this day. Four districts of Mandi, Chamba, Mahasu and Sirmour were integrated with over two dozen princely states, leading to the formation of Himachal Pradesh as a **Union Territory in 1948**. Decades later, in 1971, Himachal Pradesh became the **18th state** in India with Shimla as its capital.
- **Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu**, one of the **biggest festivals of Assam**, falls in the second week of April every year, marking the beginning of the harvest period. This year Bohag Bihu is being observed from **April 14 to April 16**. Rongali means joy in Assamese and the festival indeed is the time to rejoice and make merry with family and community.
- The **Government of Uttarakhand** is set to implement the **'Him Prahari' Scheme** which is meant for ex-servicemen and youngsters. The Uttarakhand Govt is seeking the cooperation of the Union Government to implement the scheme in areas bordering the Uttarakhand. The scheme will also prioritise settling ex-servicemen in areas bordering the state.

- **Chief Minister MK Stalin** announced in the Assembly that the birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar (April 14) will be commemorated as '**Samathuva Naal**' (**Equality Day**), and that a promise will be administered on that day, in accordance with Rule 110.

International Affairs

- **Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's** handling of the island nation's mounting economic crisis degenerated into violence, with hundreds of protestors clashing with police for several hours. Due to a significant lack of foreign money, **Rajapaksa's government** has been unable to pay for basic imports, like as **fuel, resulting in power outages lasting up to 13 hours**. After the country depreciated its currency last month ahead of talks with the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** for a loan programme, ordinary **Sri Lankans** are also suffering with shortages and rising inflation.
- **Pakistan's** opposition leader, **Shehbaz Sharif** has been elected unopposed as the 23rd Prime Minister of the country through voting in the National Assembly. The 70-year old **Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N)** Chief will succeed **Imran Khan**, who has been removed by a no-trust vote recently in the National Assembly. Shehbaz Sharif is the brother of former Pakistan Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif**.
- **Ecuador**, a South American Country, became the first country in the **world to give legal rights to wild animals**. The highest court in the country has ruled in favour of the case that focused on a woolly monkey named "**Estrellita**" who was taken from her home to a zoo, where she passed just a week later.
- The **World Trade Organisation (WTO)** has revised down its projection for global trade growth (in volume) for 2022 to **3 per cent**. Earlier in October 2021, this was estimated at **4.7 per cent**. The downward revision follows the Russia-Ukraine conflict that has impacted commodity prices, disrupted supplies and intensified geopolitical and economic uncertainty. For 2023, this merchandise trade volume growth is projected at **3.4%**.
- **Israel** successfully tested a new laser missile-defence system '**Iron Beam**' which can destroy any airborne object including drones. Iron Beam is the world's first energy-based weapons system that uses a laser beam to shoot down incoming **UAVs, rockets, mortars, long-range missiles, anti-tank missiles etc**. The Iron Beam which is developed by the Rafael Advanced Defense Systems is using a directed-energy weapon system and can go a long way in providing aerial defence.

Agreements/MoUs Signed

- **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)**, MeitY has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), ISRO, Hyderabad** for technical collaboration. NRSC will develop a Bhuvan-Aadhar portal for providing information and locations about the Aadhaar centres across India.
- **Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL)**, an Indian oil refinery, has teamed with Microsoft to improve its customer experience. It will also integrate cloud computing and artificial intelligence (AI) to help the oil and gas business adapt digitally. Microsoft will supply BPCL with infrastructure-as-a-service, platform-as-a-service, and cloud network and security services over the course of the seven-year partnership.
- **The UNDP and partners of the Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM)** have announced \$2.2 million in climate action funding for 22 local innovators from 19 countries, including India. **The Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA)** window's first round of funding will improve local climate action and speed the achievement of the Paris Agreement's and Sustainable Development Goals' ambitions.
- **The Indian Air Force (IAF) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras** have signed a memorandum of understanding for technology development and finding indigenous solutions for the sustenance of various weapon systems. The joint partnership between IAF and IIT Madras aims to accelerate IAF's indigenisation efforts for achieving 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.



Books and Authors

- Indian author **Prem Rawat** has launched his book '**Hear Yourself**' for the Indian subcontinent in Mumbai. This New York Times bestseller book is already available in 58 countries and five languages. This book is to help people understand their own potential. It will help them find peace in a noisy world. He also advised the audience that they have more wisdom in themselves than they perceive. This book is to help them develop better self-understanding.

Banking/Economy/Business News

- The **Reserve Bank of India** announced that current banks can open digital banking units to provide products and services **24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in both self-serve and assisted modes**. The government announced in the **Union Budget** that at least 75 such units will be established in 75 districts to commemorate the country's 75th anniversary of independence as the **Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**.
- '**Indus Merchant Solutions**', a mobile app for merchants of **IndusInd Bank**, got the Digital CX Awards 2022 for '**Outstanding Digital CX - SME Payments**'. The Digital CX Awards is organized by Digital Banker, a globally trusted financial news service provider. Indus Merchant Solutions being adjudged as a winner is a testament to its strength in offering customers a seamless banking experience, which aligns with the Bank's ethos of 'customer-centricity'.
- **P Gopi Krishna, Chairman**, during the launch of the '**Vikas Siri Sampat-1111**' plan in **Dharwad** announced that the **1,111-day deposit pays 5.70 percent interest** to the general public and **6.20 percent to senior citizens**. This scheme allows for a **minimum deposit of ten thousand rupees** and a **maximum deposit of two crore rupees**.
- **Bank of Maharashtra** announced that it will sell its entire **4% ownership in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company** for almost **Rs 4 crore**. According to a regulatory statement, the **Bank of Maharashtra (BoM)** has entered a share purchase agreement for the sale of the entire **equity position of 4%** in **India SME Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (ISARC)**.

- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and the **Government of India** signed an agreement to provide a \$2 million **project readiness financing (PRF)** loan to **Nagaland** for the design of **climate-resilient urban infrastructure**, strengthening institutional capacity, and improving **municipal resource mobilisation**.
- **Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMBL)** has launched **Kotak FYN**, a new enterprise platform designed specifically for **Business Banking and Corporate clients**. Customers of the bank can utilise the portal to conduct **all trade and service transactions**.
- According to the official data, the **import of gold in India** has been rose by **33.34%** to **Rs 46.14 billion** on account of higher demand in 2021-22. The import of gold in 2020-21 was about **Rs 34.62 billion**. The increase in gold imports has contributed to the widening of the trade deficit to \$192.41 billion, against \$102.62 billion in 2020-21.
- **India's retail inflation** surged to a 17-month high of **6.95%** in March from **6.07%** in the previous month due to a sharp increase in food prices, the **National Statistical Office (NSO)** data showed. Retail inflation as measured by the **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** has remained above the upper limit of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) tolerance band for the third consecutive month. The retail inflation stood at **6.01 per cent in January 2022**.
- **The World Bank** has slashed the GDP growth forecast for India in **FY2022/23 to 8 per cent** in its bi-annual "**South Asia Economic Focus**" report, due to the negative impact of the war in Ukraine on FY23 growth. Earlier in January 2022, the growth forecast for FY23 was estimated at **8.7 per cent**.
- According to the evaluation made at a **high-level review meeting**, the **central government** has exceeded its **asset monetization** target of **88,000 crore** for **FY22** and has concluded agreements worth **96,000 crore**. Roads, power, and coal and mineral mining are among the industries that have made significant contributions to **asset monetisation**. The **Centre** has set an **asset monetisation target of over 1.6 trillion dollars for FY23**, for which proposals from various ministries are in various stages of processing.
- Three public sector general insurance businesses – **National Insurance Company Limited, Oriental Insurance Company Limited, and United India Insurance Company** – have had their **authorised share capital** increased by the **government**. This will allow for a capital inflow of **Rs. 5,000 crore** into these businesses.

- **Punjab National Bank**, India's second-largest bank has celebrated its **128th Foundation Day** on **April 12, 2022**. On the occasion of foundation day, MD & CEO of PNB, **Atul Kumar Goel** has launched a cardless cash withdrawal service and a virtual debit card for its customers. Bank also launched various services on its mobile app named PNB One for safe banking transactions.
- **Fino Payments Bank** has approved a minority strategic investment in New Delhi based fintech company **Paysprint Pvt Ltd** of up to 12.19%. This is the first strategic investment for Fino Payment Bank after its public listing. The partnership will transform the digital banking space in coming days.
- **Union Bank of India (UBI)** is set to buy out 75% stake held jointly by **Bank of Baroda (BoB) - 40%** and **Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) - 35%**, in India International Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (IIBM). India International Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (IIBM) was a locally incorporated three-way joint venture between the Bank of Baroda (40%), the IOB (35%) and Andhra Bank (25%).
- **ICICI Bank** has signed an MoU with **GIFT SEZ (Special Economic Zone)**, India's first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC), located at **GIFT City in Gandhinagar, Gujarat**. The MoU aims to promote the GIFT SEZ to Indian and international businesses, particularly in the areas of information technology (IT), IT-enabled services (ITeS), and financial services. GIFT SEZ is being developed as a global financial services hub. ICICI Bank has been a prominent player in GIFT SEZ with its banking business since 2016.

Appointments/Resignations

- Currently a Member of the **Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)**, **Dr Manoj Soni** has been appointed the **chairman** of the country's premier government recruiting agency. He has been associated with the Swaminarayan sect's Anoopam Mission, at Mogri in Anand district, since a young age and received **diksha (initiation)** as a **nishkarma karmayogi (selfless worker)** on Jan 10, 2020.
- Foreign secretary **Harsh Vardhan Shringla** will take over next month as **G20 chief coordinator**, the government officially announced. The appointment is significant as India will assume the G20 presidency on December 1, 2022, from Indonesia, and will convene the G20 Leaders Summit for the first time in India in 2023.

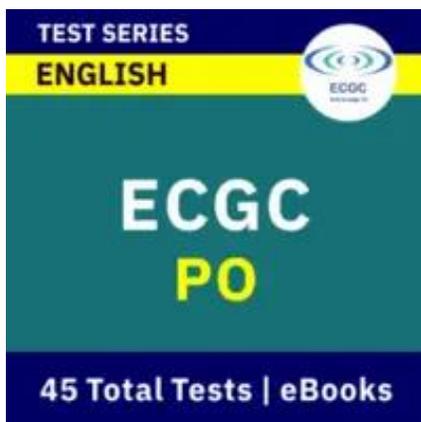
- The central government has re-appointed retired Punjab-cadre IPS officer **Iqbal Singh Lalpura** as the chairperson of the **National Commission for Minorities**. Lalpura, who was first appointed as chairman in September last year, had to resign from the post in December to contest as the BJP candidate from the Ropar assembly constituency, which he lost.

Defence News

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation** and **Indian Army** successfully flight-tested a new version of the **Pinaka rocket system at the Pokhran firing ranges**. These included **Pinaka Mk-I (Enhanced) Rocket System (EPRS)** and **Pinaka Area Denial Munition (ADM)** rocket systems. With these trials, the initial phase of technology absorption of EPRS by the industry has successfully been completed and the industry partners are ready for user trials/series production of the rocket system.
- A team of scientists from the **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)**, **Indian Army** and **Indian Air Force (IAF)** jointly conducted the successful flight test of the indigenously developed helicopter launched Anti-Tank Guided Missile '**HELINA**' at high-altitude ranges. The flight trials were conducted from an **Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH)**, and the missile was fired successfully, engaging a simulated tank target in the **Pokhran desert ranges, Rajasthan**.
- Two **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited's (HAL) Dhruv Advanced Light Helicopters Mark-III** were inducted into the **Indian Coast Guard (ICG)**. The choppers will be based out of **Kochi's Coast Guard Aviation Squadron**. These choppers were the ninth and tenth in a series of **16 ALH**.
- Union Home and Cooperative Minister, **Amit Shah** has inaugurated the **Seema Darshan Project at Nadabet** on the **Indo-Pak border in Banaskantha District of Gujarat**. The project was launched with the aim to provide an opportunity for the citizen to observe the life and work of the BSF personnel on our border. The tourist can see missiles, tanks, aircraft etc which are used by the Indian Army and BSF at Nadabet.

Awards and Recognitions

- The Vice President, **M. Venkaiah Naidu** has presented the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship and Sangeet Natak Awards** for the year 2018 to 43 eminent artists (4 Fellows and 40 awardees). Naidu also presented Fellowships and National Awards of **Lalit Kala Akademi for the year 2021** to 23 people (3 Fellows and 20 National Awards).
- Veteran Bengali author **Amar Mitra** was awarded this year's **O.Henry prize** for a short story he wrote 45 years back. He bagged the award for his short story titled '**Gaonburo**'- a Bengali short fiction, which was translated into **English (The Old Man Of Kusumpur)** earlier. The translated work was published in an American magazine in 2020. Mitra was awarded the **Sahitya Academy award in 2006**.
- Assam Chief Minister, **Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma** presented the country's highest literary award, the **56th Jnanpith for the year 2021** to one of the most celebrated poets of Assam, **Nilamani Phookan**. Nilmani Phookan is the third person to win the Jnanpith Award from Assam after Mamoni Roisom Goswami and Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya. The Award carried a Citation, a shawl, and Rs. 11 lakh.
- **Novelist Damodar Mauzo** was chosen for the **57th Jnanpith Award 2022** for his contribution to Indian literature. The 77-year-old writer was conferred with the country's highest literary award for his "outstanding contribution to literature".
- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will be honoured with the inaugural **Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award** which is instituted in the memory of the veteran singer of Lata Mangeskar. PM Modi will receive the award for selfless service to the nation and society. The award ceremony will be held on **April 24** which marks the **80th death anniversary of Master Deenanath Mangeshkar (singing legend's father)**. Among the other awardees will be singer **Rahul Despande**, who will receive the Master Deenanath Award besides three other special awardees including veteran actress **Asha Parekh**, actor **Jackie Shroff** and the Mumbai Dabbawalas, represented by **Nutan Tiffin Suppliers**.



- **Falguni Nayar** has been named as the **EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021**, at the **23rd edition** of the **EY Entrepreneur of The Year India awards**. She is the founder and chief executive officer (CEO) of beauty supply company Nykaa (FSN E-commerce). She will now represent India at the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award (WEOY) on June 9, 2022, at Monaco. The Lifetime Achievement was given to **A. M. Naik**, Group Chairman of Larsen & Toubro.
- Vice President of India **M. Venkaiah Naidu** has presented the **International Gandhi Awards for Leprosy, 2021** to **Dr Bhushan Kumar** of Chandigarh under the Indian nomination (individual) category and **Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust, Gujarat** under the institutional category. The award was given during a function in New Delhi on April 13, 2022.
- Well-known Indian economist and political commentator, **Prabhat Patnaik** has been selected for the **Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2022**. The award is annually given by the Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust to an outstanding social scientist selected from nominations received by a specially constituted national jury. The award includes a citation and prize money of Rs 2 lakh.

Summit and Conference

- The Union Minister of AYUSH, **Sarbananda Sonowal** has inaugurated a two-day scientific convention on the theme '**Homoeopathy: People's Choice for Wellness**' in New Delhi. The convention has been organised jointly by the three apex bodies under the Ministry of Ayush namely, the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, the National Commission for Homoeopathy and the National Institute of Homoeopathy to mark the occasion of the World Homoeopathy Day.
- The **20th NTCA in Arunachal Pradesh** is chaired by Bhupender Yadav. The 20th Meeting of the **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** was held in Pakke tiger reserve in **Arunachal Pradesh** and was led by Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change **Bhupender Yadav**.
- Secretary of **State Antony J. Blinken** and **Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III** welcomed **Ministers of Defense Rajnath Singh** and **External Affairs Dr S. Jaishankar** to Washington, D.C. for the **fourth US-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue**. A virtual conference between **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** and **President Joseph Biden** preceded the Dialogue. With a shared commitment to **democracy and pluralism**, a

multifaceted bilateral agenda, and growing convergence of strategic interests, the **United States** and independent **India** are celebrating **75 years of diplomatic relations**. Both countries seek to maintain a resilient, rules-based international order that **protects sovereignty and territorial integrity, upholds democratic values, and promotes peace and prosperity for all**.

- In the **80th SKOCH Summit and SKOCH Awards**, held recently in New Delhi, India's largest iron ore producer, **National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)**, under the Ministry of Steel, received one gold and one silver medal. The SKOCH Summit's subject was **'State of BFSI & PSUs.'** The project **'Promotion of Technical Education and Skill Development in Dantewada District through NMDC ITI Bhansi'** got the **Gold Award** in the category social responsibility, and the project **'Project Kalpataru'** for ERP implementation earned the Silver Award in the category digital inclusion. Shri Amitava Mukherjee, Director (Finance), accepted the **honours on behalf of Chairman and Managing Director, Shri Sumit Deb**, via video conference.
- The 20th edition of the **India-France Joint Staff** talks focused on new initiatives within the framework of the existing **bilateral defence cooperation mechanism**, as well as improving current defence engagements. The two-day talks took place in a nice, warm, and courteous setting in **Paris**. The **Joint Staff Consultations** between **India and France** are a forum intended to improve defence cooperation between the two countries through frequent talks at the **operational and strategic levels**.

Schemes and Committees News

- In the presence of senior officials from **States/UTs** and several **Central Ministries**, **Shri Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**, launched the **'SVANidhi se Samridhhi'** programme in an additional **126 cities across 14 States/UTs**. **PMSVANidhi's** extra initiative, **'SVANidhi se Samridhhi'**, was launched in **125 cities in Phase 1** in 2021, covering around 35 lakh **street vendors** and their families. They have been given 22.5 lakh scheme sanctions, which include 16 lakh insurance benefits under the **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana**, **Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana**, and 2.7 lakh pension benefits under the **Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana**, among other things.

- **National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)**, a pan-India online trading portal, has completed **six years on April 14, 2022**. This flagship programme was launched by PM Modi in 2016 with an aim to join the physical wholesale markets and mandis of States/UTs to facilitate the electronic trading of agricultural goods. e-NAM is completely funded by the Central Government and is being implemented by the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium.

Ranks and Reports

- The **Airports Council International (ACI)** released the list of the top 10 busiest airports worldwide for 2021. **Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL)** has topped the list with 75.7 million passengers. **Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW)** (62.5 million passengers) is second, followed by **Denver International Airport (DEN)** (58.8 million passengers) at the third spot. Among the top 10 airports for passenger traffic, 8 are in the United States with the two remaining in China. The airports are ranked based on the preliminary compilation of 2021 global data from airports around the world including passenger traffic, cargo volumes, and aircraft movements.

Science and Technology News

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras**, have unveiled India's first **Polycentric Prosthetic Knee**, which seeks to improve the conditions for thousands above the amputees. **'Kadam,'** a **polycentric knee** for above Knee Prosthesis created in collaboration with **Society for Biomedical Technology (SBMT)** and Mobility India, and is also a **'Made in India'** product.
- According to the most recent report of **NASA's Orbital Debris Program Office's Orbital Debris Quarterly News**, there are 25,182 pieces of **space debris** larger than 10 cm in lower earth orbits near **2,000 kilometres** of the planet's surface. India is responsible for only **114 space debris items**, whereas the **United States has 5,126 space debris objects in Earth's orbit** and **China has 3,854 space debris objects in Earth's orbit**, including spent rocket bodies.

- A study led by experts from the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru**, discovered that microplastics and other contaminants may be causing growth abnormalities and skeletal deformities in fish in the **Cauvery river**. In the states of **Tamil Nadu** and **Karnataka**, the **Cauvery** provides a source of drinking water for humans and animals, as well as agriculture. Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety is the publication where the research was published.
- **IIT Guwahati, Assam** has partnered with **NTPC Limited** to design and develop a highly energy-efficient plant to capture carbon dioxide (CO₂) from power plants. This technology works on flue gas (a mixture of gases produced by the burning of fuel or other) using a newly-activated amine solvent (IITGS), consumes up to 11% less energy compared to commercial activated MDEA (Methyl diethanolamine) solvent and up to 31% energy compared to the MEA (monoethanolamine) solvent.

Sports News

- **Charles Leclerc (Ferrari- Monaco)** has won the **Formula One (F1) 2022 Australian Grand Prix**, held on 10 April 2022 in **Melbourne, Victoria**. It was the third round of the 2022 Formula One World Championship. **Sergio Pérez** (Red Bull Racing-RBPT – Mexico) came second while **George Russell** (Mercedes – Britain) came third.
- The second-seeded Indian duo **Dipika Pallikal Karthik and Saurav Ghosal** won the mixed double title at the **2022 WSF World Doubles Squash championship** at **Glasgow, Scotland**.
- The 15-member Indian boxing contingents ended their campaign at the **Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament 2022** in **Phuket** with 10 medals, including three golds, four silvers, and three bronze.
- **Rajasthan Royals** all-rounder, **Ravichandran Ashwin** became the first player in **IPL history** to get retired out during the high-octane clash against **Lucknow Super Giants**. Ashwin played a crucial knock of 28-run off 23 balls to revive Rajasthan's innings from a tricky stage when they were four down for 67.
- The **first Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery** will be held in **Tata Archery Academy, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand**. The **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** has approved Rs 75 Lakh to host the Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery Tournament over six phases.
- **Jay Shah, the BCCI secretary**, has been appointed to the **ICC Cricket Committee as a Member Board Representative**, while **Mahela Jayawardene** has been reappointed as the **Past Player Representative**. Other important decisions were also made at the **ICC Board Meeting in Dubai**.
- **The Netherlands** has lifted their fourth title of **FIH Junior Women's Hockey World Cup 2022** after beating Germany at Potchefstroom, South Africa. The Netherlands is the most successful team. England claimed the bronze medal in the third-place match after defeating India by 3-0 in the shoot-out.
- In a deviation from the conventional single host city approach, **the Commonwealth Games will be held in Victoria in 2026**, with the majority of events being organised by the state's regional centres. In March 2026, the Games will be held in numerous towns and regional centres around **Australia**, including **Melbourne, Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat, and Gippsland**, each with its own athletes' village.
- 16-year-old chess sensation **R Praggnanandhaa** has won the prestigious **Reykjavik Open chess tournament** in Reykjavik, Iceland. In the final played between two Indian players, it was R Praggnanandhaa who won the contest beating compatriot **GM D Gukesh** in the final round.
- **India** is ready to host the **Street Child Cricket World Cup in 2023**. This world is organized by **Street Child United and Save the Children India, the Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023** will welcome 22 teams from 16 countries to India next year. The Street Child Cricket World Cup 2023 will welcome 22 teams from 16 countries to India next year.
- Indian shuttler **Mithun Manjunath** has won silver in **Men's Singles at the Orléans Masters 2022**, a badminton tournament held from 29th March to 3rd April 2022 in **Orleans, France**.
- **Tamil Nadu** defeated defending champion **Punjab 87-69** in the final to win the men's title in the **71st Senior National Basketball Championship**. The formidable **Indian Railways team** won the women's title, beating **Telangana 131-82** in convincing fashion, riding on Poonam Chaturvedi's 26 points.
- Odisha Chief Minister **Naveen Patnaik** has unveiled the logo of the **2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup at the Kalinga stadium** in the capital **Bhubaneswar**. To be held in the twin cities of Bhubaneswar and Rourkela, the prestigious quadrennial tournament is scheduled from January 13 to 29.

Important Days

- **World Homeopathy Day** is observed every year on **April 10** to spread awareness about homoeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine. The day is also celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann**. Hahnemann, born in Paris in **1755**, founded this branch of medicine and is considered the father of Homeopathy. This year, the theme for World Homeopathy Day 2022 in India is **'People's Choice For Wellness.'**
- Every year, **April 11** is observed as **World Parkinson's Day** to raise awareness of Parkinson's disease, which is a progressive nervous system disorder. This year, the theme is integrated healthcare. The day marks the birthday of **Dr James Parkinson from London**, who was the first person to systematically described the six individuals with the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease. Additionally, the month of **April** is observed as **Parkinson's Awareness Month**.
- In India, the **National Safe Motherhood Day** is observed every year on **April 11** to raise awareness about adequate access to care for women during pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal services. National Safe Motherhood Day is an initiative of the **White Ribbon Alliance India (WRAI)**, to enforce that women must have availability and adequate access to care during pregnancy childbirth and postnatal services. The day also marks the birth anniversary of **Kasturba Gandhi**, the wife of the father of the Nation **Mohan Das Karam Chand Gandhi**.
- The **International Day of Human Space Flight** is celebrated annually on **April 12** to mark the anniversary of the first human space flight by **Yuri Gagarin on April 12, 1961**. The day was proclaimed at the **65th session of the United Nations General Assembly on April 7, 2011**, a few days before the **50th anniversary** of the flight. In the Soviet Union, the day is observed as the International Day of Aviation and Cosmonautics.'
- **International Turban Day** is celebrated every year on **April 13 since 2004** to bring awareness of the strict requirement on Sikhs to put the turban as a mandatory part of their religion. **The 2022 Turban Day marks the 553rd birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev** and the festival of Baisakhi. The turban, also known as "dastar" or "pagri" or "pag" refers to the garment worn by both men and some women to cover their heads.
- **Indian Army marks Siachen Day on April 13** every year. The day is observed to commemorate the courage of the Indian Army under "**Operation Meghdoot**". The Day also honours Siachen Warriors serving their motherland successfully from the enemy.
- **Ambedkar Jayanti** (also known as **Bhim Jayanti**) is celebrated on **14 April** to commemorate the birth anniversary of **Babasaheb Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar**. The Day has been observed as an official public holiday throughout India since 2015. In 2022, we are marking the **131st birth** anniversary of Babasaheb.
- **World Chagas Disease Day** is observed on **14 April** to raise public awareness and visibility among people about Chagas Disease (also called **American trypanosomiasis or silent or silenced disease**) and the resources needed for the prevention, control or elimination of the disease. The theme for 2022 is **finding and reporting every case to defeat chagas disease**.
- **The Jallianwala Bagh massacre**, also known as the **Amritsar massacre**, took place on **13 April 1919**. This year we commemorate the **103rd anniversary** of the terror that shook the entire country to a standstill. The Jallianwalabagh garden has been converted into a memorial. And thousands of people on this day come to pay their respects to the martyred men, and women, who were killed on that fateful day for the nation.
- **World Art Day** is observed every year on **15 April** globally. This day is being celebrated all over the world to emphasize the importance of art that nurtures creativity, innovation and cultural diversity for all peoples across the globe. The day was declared by the **International Association of Art (IAA)**, an NGO working in official partnership with UNESCO.
- **World Voice Day (WVD)** is celebrated globally on **April 16** every year. The day is observed to demonstrate the enormous importance of the voice in the daily lives of all people. This year, the theme of the World Voice Day campaign is **'Lift your voice'**.



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- **Save the Elephant Day** is celebrated on **April 16** every year to raise awareness about the dangers elephants face and the various difficulties they have to overcome to live. Save The Elephant Day aims to change this alarming trend by educating people about elephants and the plights they face, encouraging everyone to do their bit and helping save them from extinction.

Obituaries

- Actor-screenwriter **Shiv Kumar Subramaniam** has passed away, he was known for his roles in the serial **Mukti Bandhan and Meenakshi Sundareswarar**. He started his career by writing a screenplay for the 1989 film Parinda which was directed by Vidhu Vinod Chopra. He won the Filmfare Award for Best Story for Hazaron Khawaishein Aisis. He has worked in films like **2 States, Hichki, Nail Polish, Rocky Handsome and more**.

Miscellaneous News

- The **South-Central Railway** has introduced the “**One Station, One Product**” campaign at six main stations across its six divisions. **Arun Kumar Jain, SCR in-charge General Manager**, has opened stalls at **Secunderabad Station** as part of the new initiative. The Railway stations are ideal for promoting indigenous and local products, and the programme aims to turn them into a sales and promotional centre.
- The President of India, Shri **Ram Nath Kovind** inaugurated the five-day long **Madhavpur Ghed Fair**, at Madhavpur Ghed, Porbandar in Gujarat. The Madhavpur Ghed Fair is being organised by the Government of Gujarat in association with the Ministry of Culture since 2018 every year to celebrate the sacred union of **Lord Krishna and Rukmini**.

Static Takeaways

- Himachal Pradesh Capital: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter);
- Himachal Pradesh Governor: Rajendra Arlekar;
- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister: Jai Ram Thakur.
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami;
- Uttarakhand Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer);
- Uttarakhand Governor: Lt Gen Gurmit Singh.
- Assam Capital: Dispur;

- Assam Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma;
- Assam Governor: Jagadish Mukhi.
- Pakistan Capital: Islamabad;
- Pakistan President: Arif Alvi;
- Pakistan Population: 22.09 crores;
- Pakistan Currency: Pakistani rupee.
- Ecuador Capital: Quito;
- Ecuador Currency: United States Dollar;
- Ecuador President: Guillermo Lasso.
- World Trade Organization Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland;
- World Trade Organization Founded: 1 January 1995;
- Director-General of the World Trade Organization: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala.
- ISRO Founded: 15 August 1969;
- ISRO Headquarters: Bengaluru;
- ISRO Chairman: S Somanath.
- Microsoft Founders: Bill Gates, Paul Allen
- Microsoft CEO: Satya Nadella
- Microsoft Founded: 4 April 1975, Albuquerque, New Mexico, United States
- Microsoft Headquarters: Redmond, Washington, United States
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Headquarters: Mumbai
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Founded: 1952
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Chairman: Arun Kumar Singh
- IndusInd Bank Founded: 1994;
- IndusInd Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra;
- IndusInd Bank MD & CEO: Sumant Kathpalia;
- IndusInd Bank Tagline: We Make You Feel Richer.
- Chairman DRDO: Dr G Satheesh Reddy;
- DRDO Headquarters: New Delhi;
- DRDO Established: 1958.
- Border Security Force Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Border Security Force Founded: 1 December 1965;
- Border Security Force Director General: Pankaj Kumar Singh.
- India's External Affairs Minister: Dr. S Jaishankar;
- Chief of the Army Staff: General Manoj Mukund Naravane.
- Netherlands Capital: Amsterdam;
- Netherlands Currency: Euro;
- Netherlands Prime minister: Mark Rutte.
- ICC Chairman: Greg Barclay;
- ICC CEO: Geoff Allardice;

- ICC Headquarters: Dubai, United Arab Emirates;
- ICC Founded: 15 June 1909.
- White Ribbon Alliance India was launched in 1999.
- Headquarters of WHO: Geneva, Switzerland.
- Director general of WHO: Tedros Adhanom.
- WHO was founded: 7 April 1948.
- Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs: Hardeep Singh Puri
- Israel Capital: Jerusalem;
- Israel President: Isaac Herzog;
- Israel Prime minister: Naftali Bennett;
- Israel Currency: Israeli Shekel.
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) Founded: 1894;
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) Headquarters: New Delhi;
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) MD & CEO: Atul Kumar Goel;
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) Tagline: The Name You Can Bank Upon.
- Fino Payments Bank Founded: 4 April 2017
- Fino Payments Bank Headquarters: Juinagar, Navi Mumbai
- Fino Payments Bank MD & CEO: Rishi Gupta.

