

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 18,2022

NATIONAL

- **On April 17, Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman - left for the US to attend the spring meetings of the World Bank and the IMF as well as G20 finance ministers and central bank governors**



- ✓ During the official visit to the US, the Finance Minister will take part in bilateral meetings with several countries, including Indonesia, South Korea, Sri Lanka and South Africa.
- ✓ She will also hold one-on-one meetings with CEOs from the semiconductor, energy and other sectors of priority for the government
- ✓ In a high-level meeting, the finance minister will also meet David Malpass, president, World Bank.
- ✓ She will also participate in a high-level panel discussion on 'Money at a Crossroad' hosted by the IMF managing director.
- ✓ Apart from the official meetings with the World Bank, IMF, G20 and Financial Action Task Force, the finance minister will also attend an event at the Atlantic Council, a prominent think tank based in Washington DC, and will also interact with the faculty and students at Stanford University.

INTERNATIONAL

- **On April 17, a Sri Lankan government delegation - is headed to the US to engage with the IMF to secure a \$4 billion package**
- ✓ Sri Lanka is desperately trying to salvage the country's struggling economy facing a forex crisis.
- ✓ The delegation led by newly-appointed finance minister Ali Sabry will hold talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) between April 19 and April 24.



- ✓ According to Sabry, Sri Lanka is seeking a bail-out package of \$4 billion from IMF, having earlier resisted calls to seek a facility from the global lender
- ✓ The visit is taking place after the finance ministry said it is suspending repayments of foreign debt, including bonds and government-to-government borrowing, pending the completion of a loan restructuring programme with IMF.
- ✓ Sri Lanka had to meet \$7 billion of debt payments this year.
- ✓ This was the first debt default by Sri Lanka since 1948.
- ✓ The nation's 22 million people are facing 12-hour power cuts, and a scarcity of food, fuel and other essential items such as medicines.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **G. Asok Kumar, Director General, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) - participated in the Singapore International Water Week, Water Convention 2022 through video conferencing**



- ✓ During the event, he gave a presentation on 'Status of Wastewater Generation, Treatment and Management in India: Success Through NMCG Initiatives.'
- ✓ Also, an overview of the Namami Gange programme was also given by the Director-General in the event
- ✓ He also spoke in the Hot Issue Workshop hosted by NMCG on 17th April on 'Sustainable Wastewater Management in Developing Countries: An Innovative Indian Approach in River Rejuvenation' under theme 3 of the Water Convention.
- ✓ The Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) 2022 is being held from 17th April to 21st April 2022 at the Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore.
- ✓ It is one of Asia's leading international water events and brings together experts, leaders, and practitioners from governments, industries, and academia to develop and share innovative solutions regarding global urban water challenges.

OBITUARY

➤ **N Sankar, Chairman of the Sanmar Group (76 years)**



- ✓ Veteran industrialist and chairman of the Sanmar Group N Sankar died on April 17
- ✓ Sankar had been instrumental for the success of the Rs. 12,500 crore Chennai-headquartered Sanmar Group for nearly five decades.
- ✓ Sankar had joined Chemplast on May 4, 1967 as a trainee when his late father KS Narayanan had been promoter and director.
- ✓ Before being appointed chairman emeritus of Chemplast Sanmar this January, he was on the board of the Chemplast Sanmar Ltd, a flagship of the Sanmar Group, from 1975 to 2004
- ✓ He served as the chairman of the company from July 1998 to July 2004.
- ✓ Before that, he served as the Vice Chairman and Managing Director of the company
- ✓ From 2004 till August 2020 he was chairman of the Sanmar Group corporate board, an advisory board of the Sanmar Group.
- ✓ Sankar has held office in several public bodies representing trade and industry, including president of Assocham (1991-92), Chairman of Indo-US Joint Business Council (1998-99), Chairman of Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry

(1986-87) and President of Madras Management Association (1981-87) among others.

- ✓ Sankar was on the Board of NOCIL, Mumbai, and the India Advisory Board of FLSmidth, Denmark.
 - ✓ He was a member of the Management Boards of the Childs Trust and a member of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode.
 - ✓ Sankar had supported healthcare institutions such as Cancer Institute, Sankara Nethralaya, and Voluntary Health Services.
 - ✓ He had been involved in educational and charitable organisations like Sri Sankara Schools, Chennai, Chennai Heritage and served as the Chairman of the Chennai Willingdon Corporate Foundation
 - ✓ Sankar has been the Vice President of the All India Tennis Association and President of the Tamil Nadu Cricket and Tennis Associations and also of Madras Cricket Club.
 - ✓ The Sanmar family runs two cricket clubs -- Jolly Rovers and the Alwarpet Cricket Club.
 - ✓ A tennis champion at the university-level, Sankar had promoted the game by sponsoring it for the last 40 years.
 - ✓ Sankar has been the Honorary Consul General for Denmark in South India from 1989 to 2017 and has been awarded the 'Knight of the Order of the Dannebrog, First Class' by the Danish Government in recognition of his services.
 - ✓ Sanmar group was an early entrant in the business of life insurance through AMP of Australia.
 - ✓ It set up a JV with Dragoco of Germany to make fragrances and flavours.
 - ✓ The Sanmar Group has presence in India, United States of America, Mexico, and Egypt, operating in the core areas of chemicals, shipping, metals and engineering
 - ✓ A graduate in Chemical Engineering from the AC College of Technology, University of Madras, Sankar obtained his Masters degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago.
- **Vishwa Deenadayalan, 18-year-old Table Tennis player from Tamil Nadu - passed away in a road accident in Ri-Bhoi district, Meghalaya on April 17.**



- ✓ Vishwa was travelling from Guwahati airport to Shillong by road in a tourist taxi for the 83rd Senior National TT tournament when the accident happened.
- ✓ His teammates —Ramesh Santosh Kumar, Abinash Prasannaji Srinivasan and Kishore Kumar — suffered severe injuries but are currently stable.
- ✓ The teenagers had won several junior, sub-junior and cadet titles in the country and abroad.
- ✓ Conveying his grief to Vishwa's parents, Chief Minister M K Stalin announced a solatium of Rs.10 lakh out of Chief Minister's Relief Fund to the young players' family.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi also condoled the death of the player
- ✓ Vishwa had won the U-19 boys' singles crown at the National-ranking event in Dehradun in January.

SPORTS

- **Haryana - were crowned champions of the 12th Senior Men's National Hockey Championship in Bhopal on April 17.**



- ✓ Haryana defeated Tamil Nadu 3-1 in the shootout after the final ended 1-1 in regulation time.
- ✓ This is the first time since 2011 Haryana has emerged as champions in the National Championships
- ✓ Karnataka prevailed over Maharashtra in the third/fourth place classification match.
- **Ramesh Powar - will continue as the head coach of the India women's cricket team as he has a year left in his contract.**
- ✓ Powar, who took over last the head coach of the senior women's team for the 2nd time in May last year, was handed a two year contract.
- ✓ Under his tenure, India failed to qualify for the semi-finals of the 2022 ICC Women's ODI World Cup in New Zealand after managing to win just three of their seven matches while losing the remaining.
- ✓ The Mithali Raj-led side finished fifth in the eight-team event.



- ✓ Last year, Powar was appointed as the head coach replacing former India opener WV Raman.
- ✓ A three-member Cricket Advisory Committee comprising Sulakshana Naik, Madan Lal and RP Singh had conducted interviews before appointing Powar

