

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 27,2023

### TAMIL NADU

- Chief minister M K Stalin – to invite President Droupadi Murmu for attending the inauguration of ‘Kalaingar memorial multi super-specialty hospital’ on the premises of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research Centre in Chennai.



- ✓ The hospital is likely to be opened on June 3, the birth anniversary of late chief minister M Karunanidhi.
- ✓ The chief minister laid the foundation for the 1,000-bed hospital in March last year.
- ✓ The hospital is located in the Saidapet assembly constituency where Kalaingar Karunanidhi contested in 1967 and went on to become PWD minister and later the chief minister after the death of Dravidian stalwart, C N Annadurai
- ✓ CM Stalin announced the hospital during the birth anniversary of his father in 2021.
- ✓ The project was estimated to cost Rs 230 crore and administrative and financial sanctions were also provided by the government.
- ✓ The seven-floor hospital will have 19 departments in various specialties, including cardiology, neurology, orthopaedics and urology.
- ✓ It will be the second multi-specialty hospital in Chennai after Omandurar multi-specialty hospital.

- **Mayor R Priya - will launch her Makkalai Thedi Mayor initiative on May 3 at Royapuram.**



- ✓ She will meet residents of north Chennai at the Regional Deputy Commissioner's (RDC) office located at the compound of the Royapuram zone office at Basin Power House Bridge Road.
- ✓ The mayor, who will meet residents from 10 am to 1 pm, will conduct such meetings every 15 days at the RDC offices in the north, south, and central Chennai areas.
- ✓ The mayor urged people to use this opportunity to air their grievances and assured that the grievances would be fast-tracked and attended quickly.
- ✓ A regional deputy commissioner's office covers five zones in Chennai city.
- ✓ North Chennai covers Thiruvottiyur, Manali, Madhavaram, Tondiarpet and Royapuram zones.

## **NATIONAL**

- **On April 26, the Union cabinet - approved the setting up of 157 nursing colleges with 100 seats each**
- ✓ A decision in this regard was taken in the meeting of the cabinet committee of economic affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The move is aimed at filling up nursing vacancies and removing disparities in distribution of nursing colleges in the country
- ✓ The new nursing colleges will be established in co-location with the existing medical colleges established since 2014.
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh will have the maximum 27 such nursing colleges, followed by Rajasthan (23) and Madhya Pradesh (14).
- ✓ The colleges will come up over the next two years with the Centre allocating Rs 1,570 crore (Rs 10 crore for each college), while the respective states will be contributing the balance funding.
- ✓ There are currently 1.18 lakh BSc nursing seats in the country, said Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya while announcing the cabinet decision

- ✓ A committee headed by the Union Health Secretary at the Centre and the Principal Secretary of health or medical education in the state will monitor the progress in the construction of these nursing colleges
  - ✓ Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the creation of the new nursing colleges while announcing the current year's budget.
- **On April 26, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi - approved the National Medical Devices Policy with an aim of increasing domestic production and reducing imports of such equipment.**
- ✓ The National Medical Devices Policy is expected to facilitate an orderly growth of the medical device sector to meet the public health objectives of access, affordability, quality, and innovation
  - ✓ The policy is expected to help the sector grow from present \$11 billion to \$50 billion in the next five years
  - ✓ Under the policy, six strategies have been planned to tap the potential of the sector, with the implementation of the action plan.
  - ✓ As part of the policy, the government plans to create a single window clearance system' for licensing of medical devices and to enhance the role of Indian standards like BIS and design a uniform pricing regulation among others.
  - ✓ The policy aims to establish centres of excellence in academic and research institutions, innovation hubs, 'plug and play' infrastructure and support to start-ups.
  - ✓ The government has already initiated implementation of the PLI Scheme for medical devices and extended support for setting up of four medical device parks in Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
  - ✓ At present, nearly 75% of medical devices used in the country are imported.
- **On April 26, Union home and cooperation minister Amit Shah - launched the world's first liquid Nano Di-Ammonia Phosphate (DAP)**



- ✓ Nano DAP — a novel nano fertiliser containing nitrogen and phosphorus — is manufactured by the cooperative major IFFCO, the country's largest fertilizer cooperative.
  - ✓ It is a locally developed liquid form of the fertilizer widely used by the farm sector to increase crop productivity and save subsidies.
  - ✓ Recently, the Centre had notified the Nano DAP in the Fertilizer Control Order, which regulates the sale, pricing, and distribution of fertilizers in the country.
  - ✓ The government provides subsidies on conventional DAP, but it will not give any subsidy on nano DAP
  - ✓ Nano (liquid) DAP will start replacing conventional DAP
  - ✓ One bottle of nano DAP fertilizer will replace a 50kg bag of conventional DAP and will be available for commercial sale at Rs.600 per 500 ml bottle, less than half of the current price of conventional DAP.
  - ✓ The first mass manufacturing plant of nano DAP will be set up by IFFCO in Kalol of Gujarat and later in Paradeep, Odisha
  - ✓ DAP is the second most consumed fertiliser in the country after urea.
  - ✓ India has already shifted to nano urea, based on a similar technology, which allows fertilisers to be changed from powdery stuff to liquid form, improving efficiency and reducing weight.
  - ✓ In May 2021, the IFFCO launched Nano Urea.
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - launched nine campaigns under the theme of Inclusive Development on April 24 during the National Panchayati Raj Day in Reqa, Madhya Pradesh.**

Ministry of Rural Development  
Government of India

G20  
INDIA 2023

INTERNATIONAL YEAR  
MILLETS  
2023

LiFE  
Lifestyle for  
Environment

75  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav  
• Inclusive Development

'Samaveshi Vikaas'  
under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
will have a "whole of society approach"  
to ensure 100% outreach to the  
beneficiaries of all the 9 campaigns.

The 'Inclusive Development' campaign  
led by Ministry of Rural Development

Will be launched by  
Hon'ble Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi

On 24th April, 2023 at Rewa,  
Madhya Pradesh



- ✓ These campaigns are intended to have high-impact value and a high potential for Jan-Bhagidari, or public participation.
- ✓ Out of the nine campaigns under this theme, five are of the Ministry of Rural Development.
  - ✓ These include Samagra Awaas under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), Financial Literacy at District Level, Promoting Digital Transaction at Gram Panchayat Level, Social Mobilisation of Eligible Rural Women into Self Help Group (SHG) Network, and Pashudhan Jagriti Abhiyan Intensive Awareness Campaign in Aspirational Districts.
- ✓ A campaign for Plantation Drive on River Banks under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was also launched
  - ✓ Other Campaigns being led by the partnering ministries include Swastha Mahila- Samriddha Samaj (SMSS), Pashudhan Jagriti Abhiyan Intensive Awareness Campaign in Aspirational Districts, Svamita Meri Sampatti, Mera Haq and Natural Farming with SHG Women campaign.
- ✓ In order to monitor the progress of these campaigns, a website -- <https://akam-samveshivikaas.nic.in> -- has been designed and it was also launched by the Prime Minister during the event.
- ✓ The website will provide updates on various activities under the Samaveshi Vikaas campaigns, key performance indicators, a calendar of events, event-related photos and videos, newspaper clippings, and public opinions in real-time.
- ✓ In order to ensure the documentation of Jan Bhagidari and public participation, a simple and user-friendly Mobile App named "Samaveshi Vikas" has been designed.
  - ✓ This app is user-friendly and enables the public to share their experiences and provide feedback on the impact and benefits of these campaigns through the upload of photos.

## **SUPREME COURT VERDICT**

- **On April 26, the Supreme Court - lifted the complete ban on development within eco-sensitive zones (ESZs) of a minimum of one km around protected forests, national parks, and wildlife sanctuaries**
- ✓ In June 2022, the top court mandated a 1-km buffer zone to act as a "shock absorber" for protected areas.
- ✓ In response, the Centre and some states, like Kerala, requested a change to the June 2022 ruling as it impacted many villages on the edge of forests
  - ✓ The court's June 2022 ruling led to protests in many areas of Kerala's Idukki, Wayanad and Pathanamthitta districts.
- ✓ A bench of Justices B R Gavai, Vikram Nath and Sanjay Karol agreed that declaring ESZs should not hamper the day-to-day activities of the citizens but meant to protect forests from any negative impact.

- ✓ Therefore, the court stated that last year's direction will not be applicable where the national parks and sanctuaries are located on inter-state borders and share common boundaries.
- ✓ Further, it will not be applicable to ESZs in respect to which draft and final notifications have been issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, and where proposals for such notifications have been received by the ministry.
- ✓ It had permitted forest dwellers to legitimately continue with their traditional activities, farming, construction of houses and schools within the eco-sensitive zones (ESZs) of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.
- ✓ The bench, however, reiterated the earlier order saying that mining will not be allowed within national parks and sanctuaries or in a 1-kilometre radius around them.

## INTERNATIONAL

- **On April 26, the Vatican - announced that the pope would for the first time allow women to vote at an upcoming meeting of bishops, the Synod of Bishops**
- ✓ The majority of the participants will remain bishops, but, according to the new norms approved by Pope Francis, an additional 70 “non-bishop members have been added”.
- ✓ Of those, it is requested that 50% of them be women and that the presence of young people also be emphasised
- ✓ Also, five nuns will join five clerics to represent religious orders, and they, too, will have the right to vote.
- ✓ Women had participated as auditors in past synods.
- ✓ Further, Pope Francis' also increased the number of laypeople who will participate at the meeting scheduled in next October
- ✓ The Synod of Bishops periodically meets at the Vatican to discuss important issues such as how to deal with divorced couples
- ✓ In 2021, Francis amended the church's laws so that women could be Bible readers at Mass, serve at the altar and distribute communion — practices already common in many countries.
- ✓ But women are still barred from becoming deacons.

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **Australia - will host the Quad Leaders' Summit for the first time in Sydney on May 24**
- ✓ The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue comprises of India, the US, Japan and Australia.

- ✓ The Summit will be attended by US President Joe Biden, Japanese PM Fumio Kishida, Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



- ✓ The leaders will discuss ways to deepen their cooperation on issues involving the Indo-Pacific, including critical and emerging technologies, high-quality infrastructure, global health, climate change, maritime domain awareness and other pressing issues.
- ✓ This will be the fourth Quad leaders' summit and third to be held in-person mode.
- ✓ US President Joe Biden is set to arrive in Australia after attending the G7 Leaders' Summit in Hiroshima, Japan, from May 19 to May 21
- ✓ The Summit will also mark Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first visit to Australia after 2014.
  - ✓ Ahead of the Australia trip, PM Modi will be in Japan on May 20-21 as an invitee for the G-7 Summit in Hiroshima
  - ✓ After Japan, he will travel to Papua New Guinea for the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation summit (India Pacific summit) on May 22 to give momentum to India's Indo-Pacific agenda.
  - ✓ The forum comprises 14 Pacific Islands—Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu--with India at the head of state/ government level.
- ✓ Ahead of PM Modi's trip and the Quad Summit, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar will inaugurate the maiden ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise during his visit to Singapore next week.
  - ✓ India will become the fourth ASEAN dialogue partner, after China, US and Russia, to hold this ASEAN+1 maritime exercise.
  - ✓ ASEAN India Maritime Exercise is scheduled for May 2-8.
- ✓ Japan hosted last year's Quad Leaders' Summit in Tokyo in May 2022, while the first two meetings were held in the US and Japan
- ✓ The Quad was set up in 2017 by the US, Australia, India and Japan to develop a new strategy to keep critical sea routes in the Indo-Pacific region free of any influence

- **Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar - inaugurated the National Conclave on Mann Ki Baat@100 in the presence of Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on April 26**



- ✓ The Conclave has been organised to mark the continued success of Prime Minister's monthly radio broadcast Mann Ki Baat, that has reached over 100 crore people across India.
- ✓ During the event, the Vice President released a book titled 'Collective Spirit, Concrete Action' authored by former CEO of Prasar Bharati SS Vempati.
  - ✓ The book was brought out by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting which presents glimpses of over 100 inspiring stories that found mention in Prime Minister's iconic radio programme.
- ✓ The conclave has four sessions highlighting the wide-ranging themes of Prime Minister's interactions during Mann Ki Baat
- ✓ Over 100 esteemed citizens from various parts of the country whose name has been mentioned by the Prime Minister in the previous episodes of Mann Ki Baat are attending the event.
- ✓ The valedictory session of the event was graced by Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah, Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Information and Broadcasting and Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur and Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary.
- ✓ A commemorative postage stamp and coin on 100 episodes of Mann Ki Baat were unveiled to mark this event in the valedictory session.
- ✓ The one-day conclave took place ahead of the 100th episode of the Prime Minister's monthly radio programme to be broadcast on April 30 over 1000 radio stations, including private FM stations, community radios and various TV channels.

## **DEFENCE**

- **Indian Air Force's first woman pilot to fly the Rafale fighter jets, Flight Lieutenant Shivangi Singh – is part of the IAF contingent taking part in the multi-national exercise 'Orion' in France**





- ✓ Commissioned in the IAF's second batch of women fighter pilots in 2017, Shivangi Singh flew MiG-21 Bison aircraft before flying the Rafale.
- ✓ She hails from Varanasi and is part of the IAF's Golden Arrows squadron based in Ambala, Punjab.
- ✓ This is the first time that India has sent its Rafale fighters for an overseas exercise
- ✓ The IAF has inducted 36 Rafale jets under the Rs.59,000 crore deal in September 2016
- ✓ In all, the IAF has sent four Rafale fighters, two C-17 Globemaster-III strategic airlifters, two IL-78 mid-air refuellers and 165 personnel, including 17 pilots, to take part in the Orion exercise.
- ✓ The Orion exercise is one of the largest-ever wargames hosted by France, and involves land and sea drills with thousands of NATO troops
- ✓ Earlier this year in January, Squadron Leader Avni Chaturvedi became the first woman fighter pilot to fly a Sukhoi-30MKI fighter in an international exercise when she went to Japan for the Dharma Guardian bilateral exercise held at the Hyakuri airbase

## AWARDS

- **Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama - was presented the 1959 Ramon Magsaysay Award at his residence at McLeodganj near Dharamshala on April 26**



- ✓ The award was presented by members of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation after 64 years.
- ✓ This was the first international award given to the Dalai Lama by the foundation in the Philippines in August 1959
- ✓ The award for Community Leadership was given in recognition of leadership of the Tibetan community's gallant struggle in defence of the sacred religion that is the inspiration of their life and culture.
- ✓ Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation president Susanna B Afan and Foundation Trustee Emily A Abrera met the Nobel Peace laureate to personally present the award.
- ✓ According to the Tibetan spiritual leader's office, his elder brother Gyalo Thonden had received the Magsaysay Award on his behalf in Manila, the Philippines in August 1959.
- ✓ The Dalai Lama fled Tibet in 1959 and has lived in India in exile since then
- ✓ The Ramon Magsaysay Award is often called the "Nobel Prize of Asia"
- ✓ It is an annual award established to highlight former Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay's example of integrity in governance, courageous service to the people, and pragmatic idealism within a democratic society
- ✓ The prize was established in April 1957 by the trustees of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund based in New York City with the concurrence of the Philippine government

## INTERNATIONAL DAY

### ➤ Zero Shadow Day – April 25



- ✓ Bengaluru experienced a rare celestial phenomenon known as "Zero Shadow Day" at 12.17 pm on April 25
- ✓ During the day, none of the city's vertical objects would cast a shadow for a short period of time.
- ✓ In 2021, Odisha's Bhubaneswar witnessed a Zero Shadow Day.
- ✓ A unique celestial phenomenon known as a 'Zero Shadow Day' occurs twice a year - once during Uttarayan and once during Dakshinayan - at locations between +23.5 and -23.5 degrees latitude

- ✓ Uttarayan is the movement of the Sun from south to north from winter solstice to summer solstice, while Dakshinayan is the back movement of the Sun from north to south.
- ✓ The northernmost and southernmost points of the Sun's location are the two solstices, and the crossing of the Sun across the equator are the two equinoxes.
- ✓ On April 25, the latitude that experienced Zero Shadow Day is 130°N.
- ✓ This rare phenomenon mostly occurs in regions near the equator, regions that fall between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn.
- ✓ When the Sun's declination matches the location's latitude, this phenomenon takes place
- ✓ According to the Astronomical Society of India (ASI), the Sun will not cast a shadow on an object - when it is exactly at the zenith position.
- ✓ The actual phenomenon only lasted for a second but its effects were seen for up to 1.5 minutes.
- ✓ The next Zero Shadow Day in Bengaluru will be on 18<sup>th</sup> August.



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