



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

≡ 14 APRIL, 2022 ≡

## NATIONAL

### 1. Rise in Lemon Prices

**Why in news** - The price of lemon has touched unprecedented highs, with a single lemon retailing between Rs 10 and Rs 15 in most markets.

#### **Key Points-**

- Lemon is grown in orchards spanning a combined 3.17 lakh hectares across the country.
- Lemon trees flower and give fruit three times a year (April, October, March.).
- Andhra Pradesh is the largest lemon-growing state. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Odisha and Tamil Nadu are the other major lemon-growing states.
- In India, Lemon is neither exported nor imported.
- A warm, moderately dry and moist climate is the most suitable for the fruit.
- Nagpur-headquartered ICAR Central Citrus Research Institute (CCRI) and various state agricultural institutes maintain quality rootstocks.
- Lemon growers take three bahars (harvest) in a year — known as Ambe, Mrig and Hasta.
- Karnataka may soon get a GI tag for 'Kagzi lemon'. It would be second lemon to get GI tag after Manipur's 'Kachai lemon'.

### 2. Discovery of Megalithic Stone Jars in Assam

**Why in news** - In the Dima Hasao district of Assam, several megalithic stone jars have been discovered. This discovery has highlighted the

possible links between Southeast Asia and the Northeast region of India.

#### **Key Points-**

- In a site named Nuchubunglo, 546 jars were discovered making it the largest such site across the planet.
- Indonesia and Laos are the only two other sites from where such similar jars have been discovered.
- The jars that were discovered in Assam were first sighted in the year 1929 by John Henry Hutton and James Philip Mills.

### 3. 'Statue of Knowledge'

**Why in news** - On the eve of the 131st birth anniversary of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, a 72-foot tall statue dedicated to him and named 'Statue of Knowledge', was unveiled in Latur city of Maharashtra.

#### **Key Points-**

- The statue has been built in the premises of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Park.
- The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu MK Stalin announced that the 131st Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar will be declared as an 'Equality Day' from this year.
- A 125ft tall statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar will be installed in Telangana by December 2022.

## INTERNATIONAL

### 1. Indian Consulate in Shanghai.

**Why in news** - The Indian Consulate in Shanghai has announced the suspension of in-

person consular services due to mounting Covid-19 cases.

### Key Points-

- Shanghai continues to reel under the massive spread of the Omicron variant.
- Indian consul General in Sanghai-DNandakumar.
- India's ambassador to China - Pradeep Kumar Rawat.
- Chinese Ambassador to India - H.E. Sun Weidong

## ECONOMY

### 1. WhatsApp Pay

**Why in news** – The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on Wednesday approved an additional 60 million users on UPI for WhatsApp.

### Key Points-

- With this approval, WhatsApp will be able to expand the service to its 100 million users.
- The NPCI gave WhatsApp approval to launch the payments service in 2020.
- WhatsApp competes with Alphabet Inc's Google Pay, SoftBank- and Ant Group-backed Paytm and Walmart's PhonePe in India's crowded digital market.

### 2. India to Grow at 8% : World Bank

**Why in news** – India is projected to grow at 8% over the current fiscal year (April 1 March 31), and 7.1% over the next (2023-24) fiscal year.

### Key Points-

- World Bank said in its biannual South Asia Economic Focus Reshaping Norms: A New Way Forward.
- For the South Asia region, growth is expected to be 6.6% in 2022 and 6.3% next calendar year.

### 3. OBC Entrepreneurs in the MSME

### Sector:

**Why in news** – Entrepreneurs from Other Backward Classes (OBC) own nearly 30% of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the country.

### Key Points-

- The country has 80.16 lakh micro, small and medium enterprises.
- OBCs was 23.31 lakh units (nearly 30%) out of a total of about 80.16 lakh units in the country.
- Of the OBCowned units, around 41% are located in three States — Tamil Nadu (14.5%), Maharashtra (14.4%) and Rajasthan (12.4%).
- The fourth, fifth and sixth slots go to Uttar Pradesh (apx 2.38 lakh units); Bihar (1.71 lakhs); and Madhya Pradesh (1.56 lakhs) respectively.
- General Category accounts for the highest share of the MSME units with 61.8%. In absolute figures, there are 49.56 lakh units.
- MSMEs contribute around 6.11% of the manufacturing GDP and 24.63% of the GDP from service activities as well as 33.4% of India's manufacturing output.
- They have been able to provide employment to around 120 million persons and contribute around 45% of the overall exports from India.
- Definition of MSMEs –

Earlier and Revised Definition of MSMEs			
<b>Earlier MSME Classification</b>  			
Criteria: Investment in Plant & Machinery or Equipment			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Manufacturing Enterprises	Investment < ₹ 25 lac	Investment < ₹ 5 cr.	Investment < ₹ 10 cr.
Services Enterprise	Investment < ₹ 10 lac	Investment < ₹ 2 cr.	Investment < ₹ 5 cr.
<b>Revised MSME Classification</b>			
Composite Criteria: Investment and Annual Turnover			
Classification	Micro	Small	Medium
Manufacturing & Services	Investment < ₹ 1 cr. & Turnover < ₹ 5 cr	Investment < ₹ 10 cr. & Turnover < ₹ 50 cr.	Investment < ₹ 20 cr. & Turnover < ₹ 100 cr.

Source: Ministry of Finance

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### 1. Ambedkar Jayanti 2022

**Why in news** – Ambedkar Jayanti (also known as Bhim Jayanti) is celebrated on 14 April to commemorate the birth anniversary of Babasaheb Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar. In 2022, we are marking the 131st birth anniversary of Babasaheb.

#### **Key Points-**

- Babasaheb Ambedkar was born on April 14, 1891. His birthday is observed as Equality Day throughout the country.
- Bhim Jayanti was first observed in 1928 by Janardan Sadashiv Ranapisay.
- He led the committee that drafted India's constitution.
- He became the first Indian to receive a Ph.D. in Economics from a foreign university.
- He was also India's first Law Minister.
- Dr. Bhim has been bestowed with the country's highest civilian honour, Bharat Ratna in 1990 posthumously.
- In 1923, he set up the 'Bahishkrit Hitkarini Sabha (Outcastes Welfare Association)'.
- In 1936, Babasaheb Ambedkar founded the Independent Labour Party.
- On October 14, 1956, he embraced Buddhism. The same year he completed his last writing 'Buddha and His Dharma'.
- Few important works of Dr. Ambedkar: Mook Nayak (weekly) 1920; Janta (weekly) 1930; The Annihilation of Caste 1936; The Untouchables 1948; Buddha Or Karl Marx 1956, etc.

### 2. World Chagas Disease Day :14 April

**Why in news** – World Chagas Disease Day is observed on 14 April to raise public awareness and visibility among people about Chagas

Disease.

#### **Key Points-**

- Chagas disease, also known as "silent or silenced disease", affects mainly poor people without access to health care or people without a political voice.
- It is also called American trypanosomiasis.
- The World Chagas Disease Day was celebrated for the first time in 2020.
- The theme for 2022 is finding and reporting every case to defeat Chagas disease.
- The day has been named after Carlos Ribeiro Justiniano Chagas, the Brazilian doctor who diagnosed the first case on 14 April 1909.

## SPORTS

### 1. First Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery Tournament.

**Why in news** – The first Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery will be held in Tata Archery Academy, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.

#### **Key Points-**

- The Sports Authority of India has approved Rs 75 lakh to host the Khelo India National Ranking Women Archery Tournament over six phases at Tata Archery Academy.
- The Archery Association of India (AAI), in collaboration with the Jharkhand Archery Association and TATA Steel, is organizing the tournament.

## APPOINTMENTS

### 1. Harsh Vardhan Shringla

**Why in news** – Foreign Secy Harsh Vardhan Shringla to be G20 coordinator.

#### **Key Points-**

- Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla appointed as coordinator for the G20 summit which will be hosted by India in 2023.

- 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 G20 sherpa will remain to be Piyush Goyal, the Indian Commerce Minister.

## 2. BCCI secretary Jay Shah

**Why in news** – Jay Shah appointed as Member Board Representative of ICC Cricket Committee.

### Key Points-

- Mahela Jayawardene was reappointed as the Past Player representative.
- Among other decisions, the ICC Board confirmed that South Africa will host the inaugural ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup.

## 3. Ian Fry

**Why in news** – UN Human Rights Council Appoints Tuvalu Negotiator Ian Fry as Climate Change Expert for 1st Time.

### Key Points-

- Ian Fry is the world's 1st independent expert on human rights and climate change.
- He has been appointed for a period of three years.
- Ian Fry, who holds both Australian and Tuvaluan nationality, will be the first to hold the post.
- He has negotiated on behalf of least developed countries including at the 2015 Paris climate conference.
- The new Special Rapporteur position was formally created by the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Council (UN HRC) in October 2021.

## SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### 1. India's Space Debris

**Why in news** – According to Orbital Debris Quarterly News, published by NASA's Orbital Debris Program Office, there are 25,182 pieces of space debris, of sizes larger than 10 cm, in the lower earth orbits which are within 2,000 km of earth's surface.

### Key Points-

- The debris from Indian space assets is only 114, the lowest among major space-faring nations.
- India has 103 active and defunct spacecraft that are also in orbit.
- 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.
- On March 27, 2019, India performed Mission Shakti by destroying a defunct 740-kg Microsat-R Indian satellite orbiting at 300 kilometers.
- Since then India became only the fourth country in the world to possess such technology, after the United States, China, and Russia.
- Tuvalu is an island country in the Polynesian subregion of Oceania in the Pacific Ocean. Its islands are situated about midway between Hawaii and Australia.

## AWARDS

### 1. Malcolm Adiseshiah Award.

**Why in news** – Renowned Indian economist and political commentator Prabhat Patnaik has been named the recipient of the Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2022.

### Key Points-

- The award is annually given by the Malcolm and Elizabeth Adiseshiah Trust to an outstanding social scientist.
- Dr. Patnaik has taught at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning in the School of Social Sciences at Jawaharlal Nehru

University in New Delhi.

## 2. EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2021.

**Why in news** – Founder and CEO of Nykaa, Falguni Nayar has been named the EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021.

### Key Points-

- She will now represent India at the EY World Entrepreneur of the Year Award (WEOY) on June 9, 2022, in Monaco.
- In 2019, she was the recipient of the EY Entrepreneur of The Year Award in the Start-up category.
- Recently, Shewas also announced as the wealthiest new entrant in the Hurun Global Rich List 2022.
- The Lifetime Achievement was given to A. M. Naik, Group Chairman of Larsen & Toubro.
- It is the only global business award program in the world, celebrated across 60 countries.

## 3. 2021 Tree City of the World

**Why in news** – Mumbai and Hyderabad have been jointly recognized as '2021 Tree City of the World' by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN-FAO) and Arbor Day Foundation.

### Key Points-

- They have won the recognition for their “commitment to growing and maintaining urban trees and greenery in building healthy, resilient and happy cities”.
- While Mumbai has made the list for the first time, Hyderabad has featured on it for the second consecutive year.
- Hyderabad planted more than 3.5 crore trees in 500 volunteer hours and Mumbai planted 42,5000 trees in 25,000 volunteer hours.
- Apart from Hyderabad and Mumbai 136 other

cities from 21 countries have been recognized in the third edition of the Tree City of the World list.

- Food and Agriculture Organisation Headquarters : Rome, Italy
- Food and Agriculture Organisation Founded: 16 October 1945.

## BIHAR

### 1. Darbhanga Parcel Blast Case 2021.

**Why in news** – Chargesheet framed against four accused of Darbhanga parcel blast case.

### Key Points-

- Judge of special NIA court Girvinder Singh Malhotra has framed charges sheet against four accused.
- The court has framed charges U/S 2,3,4 and 5 of the Explosive Substances Act and sections 16 and 18 of UAPA.
- Seven parcels were unloaded from the parcel coach of Sikandara-Darbhanga express. While handling the parcels, one of them exploded.

### 2. Acute Encephalitis Syndrome(AES) or Chamaki Fever

**Why in news** – Health Minister Mangal Pandey said that the Health Department is on alert regarding the treatment and prevention of Chamki fever. No negligence will be tolerated on this.

### Key Points-

- 14 districts of the state have been particularly affected by this disease. Health department teams are visiting the affected districts.
- During the last 12 years, more than 20 thousand children have fallen prey to it in Bihar. In Muzaffarpur district, the epicenter of the disease, there have been about five hundred deaths during the last 12 years.
- In the year 2019, there was a stir in the whole

country due to the death of 111 children.

#### About AES –

- AES is a severe case of encephalitis transmitted by mosquitoes and is characterized by high fever and inflammation of the brain.
- Viruses are the main causative agents in AES cases, although other sources such as bacteria, fungi, parasites, spirochetes, chemicals, toxins, and noninfectious agents have also been reported over the past few decades.
- It is not vaccine-preventable.
- Symptoms: Confusion, disorientation, coma, or inability to talk, high fever, vomiting, nausea, and unconsciousness.
- Bihar, Assam, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Tripura are the worst affected.

### 3. Creation of wards in 79 municipal bodies of the state

**Why in news** – Regarding the civic elections to be held in Bihar, the State Election Commission has directed to complete the process of

formation of all the municipal wards of Bihar.

#### Key Points-

- All these processes will be completed by next June 2. After which the new map will be in front of the people in all the bodies.
- The process of formation of wards of 79 municipal bodies of the state will start on April 13 which will run till 27 April. The draft of the wards constituted on April 28 will be published.
- These include 06 Municipal Corporations, 34 Nagar Parishads and 39 Nagar Panchayats.
- Under this direction, action will be taken in the remaining districts except for Sheohar, Jehanabad, Arwal, Supaul, Lakhisarai, Munger and Jamui.
- After obtaining the approval of the concerned divisional commissioner, it will be published in the respective district gazette along with the map of the municipal body in the stipulated time.



## CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS

14 APRIL, 2022



# PERFECTION IAS

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- Security force that commissioned the advanced light helicopter Mk III Squadron - **Indian Coast Guard.**
- The two-day National Conference on Cooperation Policy began in **-New Delhi.**
- Agreement reached between Mongolian Financial Regulatory Commission and **-SEBI.**
- Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas's Petroleum Conservation Research Association launches annual people-centric mega campaign - **'Saksham'.**
- The Government of India extended the scheme to provide Rs 40cr relief to Dalai Lama's Central Tibetan Relief Committee (CTRC) from 2021-22 to – 2025 -26.
- Life insurance company that has recently partnered with Common Services Centers (CSC) to boost insurance penetration in rural India - **Tata AIA Life Insurance.**
- In April 2022, the Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) divested its entire stake of how much percent in India SME Asset Reconstruction Company (ISARC) for a cash consideration of Rs 3.92 crore – **4%.**
- In April 2022, who along with Saurav Ghosal, won India's first gold medal in the mixed doubles category at the World Doubles Squash Championships 2022 in Glasgow, UK- **Dipika Pallikal.**
- According to the El Dorado weather, which city from India was the third hottest city (as of April 22) in the world - **Chandrapur, Maharashtra.**

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