



CURRENT AFFAIRS

≡ 18 APRIL, 2022 ≡

NATIONAL

1. Retirement of Supreme Court judges.

Why in News - Retirement spree in SC may affect efforts to scale down pendency.

Key Points –

- The judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President.
- In the Third Judges case (1998), the Court opined that the consultation process to be adopted by the Chief Justice of India for appointment requires 'consultation of plurality judges'(i.e., the collegium of four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court).
- He holds office until he attains the age of 65 years.

2. Technology to capture CO₂

Why in News - IIT Guwahati has teamed up with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to design and construct a highly energy-efficient CO₂ collection system from power plants.

Key Points –

- This indigenous technology was developed by a research team led by Professor Bishnupada Mandal, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Guwahati.
- This technology works on flue gas using a newly activated amine solvent (IITGS) which consumes up to 11 percent less energy compared to commercial activated MDEA (Monoethanolamine) solvent.

3. National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)

Why in News - e-NAM marks the sixth

anniversary of the National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), a pan-India electronic trade network.

Key Points –

- It was launched on April 14th in 2016 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- It is completely funded by the Central Government.
- It connects the existing APMC mandis to form a unified national agricultural commodities market.
- A total of 1000 mandis from 18 states and three union territories have joined the e-Nam platform.
- Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) implements e-NAM.

4. Sakura Map

Why in News - India Becomes World's 28th Country to be included in Sakura map.

Key Points –

- The Cherry Blossom, commonly known as "Sakura," is the national flower of Japan.
- The "Cherry Blossom" is currently accessible in six of the eight northeastern states, excluding Assam and Tripura.
- Dr. Dinabandhu Sahoo planned and organized India's first "Cherry Blossom Festival" in Shillong in November 2016.

5. 40th 'HunarHaat'

Why in News - Union Minister Shri Anurag Thakur inaugurated the 40th edition of the 'HunarHaat' in Mumbai.

Key Points –

- Tejas - A skilling programme which has been launched by Govt. of India. Under this initiative, India will send skilled manpower to UAE.

About HunarHaat –

- HunarHaat is an exhibition of handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans from minority communities.
- It is organized by the Ministry of Minority Affairs under USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) scheme.
- Target - to provide employment opportunities to 7 lakh 50 thousand artisans, craftsmen through 75 "HunarHaat".

INTERNATIONAL

1. U.K. plan to fly asylum-seekers to Rwanda

Why in News - Britain announced a deal with Rwanda to send some asylum-seekers to Rwanda.

Key Points –

- It would stop people-smugglers sending desperate migrants on treacherous journeys across the English Channel.

About Rwanda-

- Rwanda is often referred to as the “land of a thousand hills”.
- The capital is Kigali, located on the Ruganwa river.
- The Kigali amendment to the Montreal protocol aims for the phase-down of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by cutting their production and consumption.

2. Clashes at AlAqsa mosque

Why in News - Israeli police enter holy site's compound sparking a face off leaving 17 Palestinians injured.

About Al-Aqsa mosque –

- It is known by Muslims as Haram al-Sharif or

the Noble Sanctuary, and by Jews as the Temple Mount.

- UNESCO has classified the Old City of Jerusalem and its walls as a World Heritage Site.
- “Al-Aqsa mosque” is Islam's 3rd holiest site after Mecca and Medina.

STATES/UTs

1. Odisha plans steps against snake bites

Why in News - Odisha has decided to come up with standard operating procedures (SOP) and institutional capacity building to deal with snake bites.

Key Points –

- Snake bites kill more people than natural disasters in Odisha.
- In 2015, Odisha was the first in the country to declare snakebite a State specific disaster.

FESTIVALS

1. Beach Festival 'I Sea PONDY-2022'

Why in News - Lieutenant Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan opened the Puducherry first-ever Beach Festival I Sea PONDY-2022.

Key Points –

- Gandhi Beach, Pondy Marina, and Sandunes of Paradise Beach in Puducherry will host the festival for four days.
- Pondicherry (or Puducherry) was a French colonial settlement in India until 1954.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. World Hemophilia Day

Why in News - World Hemophilia Day is observed globally on 17 April every year.

Key Points –

- Hemophilia is a rare disorder in which the blood of the patient does not clot properly due to a lack of blood-clotting proteins.
- The date was chosen in honour of the World

Federation of Hemophilia founder Frank Schnabel's birthday.

- Theme 2022 - 'Access for All: Partnership. Policy. Progress. Engaging your government, integrating inherited bleeding disorders into national policy.'

2. World Heritage Day 2022

Why in News - World Heritage Day is celebrated every year around the world on 18 April. The day is also referred to as International Day for Monuments and Sites.

Key Points –

- A photo exhibition and a cultural festival will be organized by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Aurangabad circle, at the Ellora Caves.
- A cultural music festival, titled 'TRIKAAL', will be organized by ASI.
- The World Heritage Day has been observed worldwide since 1983.
- India has 40 UNESCO World Heritage Sites - 32 Cultural, 7 Natural and one Mixed UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- In August 2021, UNESCO has declared the Harappan city of Dholavira (the first site of Indus Valley Civilisation in India) situated in Gujarat as India's 40th world heritage site.

SPORTS

1. Men's Hockey World Cup 2023

Why in News - Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has unveiled the logo of the 2023 FIH Men's Hockey World Cup.

Key Points –

- The 15th edition of the showpiece will be staged in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela, where the country's largest hockey stadium is being constructed.
- Hockey India and its official partner Odisha will host the marquee event for the second consecutive time in the country after 2018.

- International Hockey Federation (FIH) president - Narinder Batra.

AWARDS

1. International Gandhi Award for Leprosy, 2021

Why in News - Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu has presented the International Gandhi Awards for Leprosy, 2021.

Key Points –

- The International Gandhi Award for Leprosy 2021 was conferred to Dr. Bhushan Kumar under the (individual) category and Sahyog Kushtha Yagna Trust, Gujarat, under the institutional category.
- India accounts for 51% of the new cases detected globally (2020–2021).
- Hansen's disease (also known as leprosy) is an infection caused by slow-growing bacteria called Mycobacterium leprae.
- Mode of Transmission - mainly by breathing airborne droplets from the affected individuals.
- In 2017, the SPARSH Leprosy Awareness Campaign was launched to promote awareness and address the issues of stigma and discrimination.

2. PM Award For Excellence In Public Administration

Why in News - UDAN Scheme Selected For PM Award For Excellence In Public Administration 2020 under the category "Innovation (General) – Central".

About UDAN

- UdeDesh Ka Aam Naagrik (UDAN) was launched as a Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation in 2016.
- The scheme is operational for 10 years.
- KRISHI UDAN was launched in August 2020 to assist farmers in transporting agricultural products.

- Under International UDAN, the plan is to connect India's smaller cities directly to some key foreign destinations in the neighbourhood.

BIHAR

1. 'Cyclopean wall'

Why in News - Bihar sends fresh proposal seeking UNESCO's heritage tag for 2,500-yr-old 'Cyclopean wall'.

Key Points –

- The Cyclopean Wall of Rajgir is a 40 km long wall of stone that encircled the ancient city of Rajgir to protect it from external enemies and invaders.
- It was built before the 3rd century BC.
- It has the status of national heritage.
- It is believed that the foundation of this great wall was laid by King Brihadratha of Brihadrathapuri (present Rajgir) in the pre-

Mahabharat period for the protection of the state. Later his son Emperor Jarasandha completed it.

- It is similar to “Frontiers of the Roman Empire” that runs through Germany, the UK and Northern Ireland, which was included on UNESCO's world heritage list in 1987.
- Bihar is the home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites - Nalanda Mahavihara(2002), and Mahabodhi temple of Bodhgaya.

2. Hunarbaaz Winner

Why in News – Akash Singh of Bhagalpur won the title of 'Hunarbaaz'.

Key Points –

- He used to practice dance on pillars of lights and pillars in parks.
- Akash has received a check of Rs 15 lakh as a reward. Neetu Singh and Nora Fatehi presented the trophy to Akash in the grand finale of Hunarbaaz.



CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS

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PERFECTION IAS

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- Who has become the first batsman to hit 1000 fours in T20 cricket for India – **Shikhar Dhawan.**
- Recently the Australian wicket-keeper batsman who has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket – **Peter Neville.**
- The fastest Indian player to hit 100 sixes in the history of IPL – **Hardik Pandya.**
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a loan agreement of USD 2 million with India to support development projects in which state – **Nagaland.**
- Who is the author of the book Birsa Munda-Janjatiya Nayak – **Alok Chakrawal.**
- Researchers of which country discovered the galaxy named 'HD 1', the most distant celestial body – **Japan.**
- Which country will host the T20 Men's World Cup 2024 – **West Indies and America.**
- Asia's largest teak and Sal's "Barbara" forest is in discussion in which state – **Odisha.**
- Who was selected as T20 International Player of the Year in New Zealand Cricket Awards 2022 – **Trent Boult.**

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