



# CURRENT AFFAIRS

≡ 21 APRIL, 2022 ≡

## NATIONAL

### 1. Guru Teg Bahadur

**Why in news** - To mark the 401st birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur Prime Minister Narendra Modi will give an address from the Red Fort.

**Key Points** –

- Tegh Bahadur was born in Amritsar on April 21, 1621, to Mata Nanki and Guru Hargobind, the sixth Sikh guru.
- He was given the name Tyaga Mal at birth.
- He became the ninth Guru (term - 1665 to 1675) after succeeding Guru Har Krishan.
- He is revered as the 'Protector of Humanity' (**Srisht-di-Chadar**).
- He founded the town of Chak-Nanki in Punjab.
- He founded Anandpur Sahib.
- In the year 1675, Guru Tegh Bahadur was executed in Delhi under the orders of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.
- In Delhi, the Gurudwaras Sis Ganj Sahib and Rakab Ganj Sahib commemorate the locations of his execution and cremation.

### 2. Tata Steel halts business with Russia

**Why in news** - Tata Steel said it would stop doing business with Russia amid the conflict with Ukraine.

**Key Points** –

- China is the world's largest crude steel producer followed by India, Japan and the USA.
- India is the largest producer of sponge iron in the world and the 3rd largest finished steel consumer in the world after China & USA.
- In India, the steel production industry requires

the import of cooking coal.

### 3. India's first pure green hydrogen plant commissioned in Assam

**Why in news** - India's first 99.999% pure Green Hydrogen pilot plant has been commissioned by the Oil India Limited (OIL) at its Jorhat Pump Station in Assam.

**Key Points** –

- The plant has an installed capacity of 10 kg per day.
- The plant produces Green Hydrogen from the electricity generated by a 500kW Solar plant using a 100 kW Anion Exchange Membrane (AEM) Electrolyser array.
- The use of AEM technology is being used for the first time in India.

### 4. Expert committee for the Delhi-Dehradun Corridor project

**Why in news** - The Supreme Court reconstituted the oversight committee for the Delhi-Dehradun expressway.

**Key Points** –

- The independent 12-member expert committee was formed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- It will be headed by Sukhbir Singh Sandhu Chief Secretary, Uttarakhand.
- The total length of the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway will be 175 km.
- It will be Asia's largest 12 km wildlife elevated corridor for uninterrupted movement of wildlife.

## INTERNATIONAL

### 1. Sarmat ballistic missile

**Why in news** - Russia said it had conducted a

first test launch of its Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missile.

#### **Key Points –**

- The training warheads reached a given area at the Kura test ground on the Kamchatka Peninsula.
- It is colloquially known as Satan.
- Sarmat is a three-stage, liquid-fueled missile with a range of 18,000 km and a launch weight of 208 metric tons,

## **2. World's 1st crypto-backed payment card “Nexo Card”**

**Why in news** - London-based Crypto currency lender, Nexo has joined hands with global payments company Master card to launch the world's first “crypto-backed” payment card.

#### **Key Points –**

- Electronic money firm DiPocket is Nexo's card issuer.

#### **Crypto currency**

- Bitcoin, Ethereum and Ripple are a few notable examples of crypto currencies.
- UNICEF is the first UN organization to accept crypto currency.
- World Bank launched World's first blockchain bond called “Bond-i” in Australian Dollars.
- Venezuela's President Nicholas Maduro launched “Petro”- a crypto currency whose price is linked with the market price of 1 oil barrel.
- Marshall Islands became the first country to launch a sovereign crypto currency named “Sovereign” [SOV].

## **3. Resilience and Sustainability Trust**

**Why in news** – IMF has decided to create a new facility named the Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST) to Help vulnerable countries.

#### **Key Points –**

- To help low-income and most middle-income countries deal with longer-term challenges such as climate change and pandemics.

- It will come into effect on May 01, 2022.
- It aims to establish a trust with at least USD 45 billion in resources to balance the demands of potential contributors and borrowers.

## **AWARDS**

### **1. Cyrus S. Poonawalla**

**Why in news** - Cyrus S. Poonawalla tops Hurun Global Healthcare Rich List 2022.

#### **Key Points –**

- He is the Chairman and Managing Director of Serum Institute of India(SII).
- He has become the richest billionaire in the healthcare sector in 2022. He has topped the list with a new value of USD 26 billion.
- Poonawalla is the fourth richest Indian.
- He is followed by Thomas Frist Jr & Family, Li Xiting and Xu Hang.
- China (34) has the most healthcare industry billionaires, followed by the United States of America (16), Switzerland (15), Germany (11), and India (9).

### **2. 'Celent Model Bank' Award**

**Why in news** - IndusInd Bank has been awarded the global 'Celent Model Bank' award under the category of 'Payments System Transformation' for building a best-in-class Enterprise Payments Hub (EPH).

#### **Key Points –**

- The 'Celent Model Bank' is awarded for best practices of technology usage in different areas that are critical to success in banking.
- Enterprise Payments Hub initiative will cut down on transaction costs, minimize system outages, and improve operation as well as customer experience.

## **ECONOMY**

### **1. SBI raises \$500 mn via IFSC Gift City branch**

**Why in news** - SBI said that it has raised 3-year funds of \$500 million (over Rs 3,800

crore) through its IFSC Gift City branch.

### **Key Points –**

- This is the first offshore USD Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) linked syndicated loan raised by SBI through its Gift City branch.
- The Gujarat International Finance Tec City (GIFT City) is India's first and only International Financial Services Centre (IFSC).
- It is located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- The GIFT City project was conceptualised in 2007.

## **2. IMF cuts India's GDP growth forecast for FY23 to 8.2%**

**Why in news -** IMF has slashed the GDP growth forecast for India in FY23 to 8.2 percent in its latest World Economic Outlook report.

### **Key Points –**

- IMF has also cut India's FY24 GDP growth forecast to 6.9 percent.
- In the case of the global economy, IMF has cut the growth forecast for the calendar year 2022 to 3.6 percent from 4.4 percent.
- IMF estimates India's current account deficit to widen to 3.1% in FY23.
- India is projected to remain the world's fastest-growing major economy, with China's GDP growth estimated to slow to 4.4% in 2022 from 8.1% in 2021.

## **SPORTS**

### **1. Indian GMD Gukesh**

**Why in news -** Indian Grandmaster Dommaraju Gukesh has clinched the 48th La Roda International Open chess tournament title in Castile-La Mancha, Spain.

### **Key Points –**

- He defeated Israel's Victor Mikhalevski in the final round.
- GM Haik M. Martirosyan from Armenia placed second with 7.5 points.
- Indian GM Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa

finished third followed by Raunak Sadhwani (India).

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **1. National Civil Services Day 2022**

**Why in news -** India observes National Civil Services Day on April 21 every year to acknowledge the works of officers engaged in several public service departments in the country.

### **Key Points –**

- The date of 21 April marks the anniversary of the historic address given by the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel to the newly appointed administrative services officers at Delhi's Metcalf House in 1947.
- The country's first National Civil Service Day event was conducted on 21 April 2006 in New Delhi's Vigyan Bhawan.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

### **1. Space bricks**

**Why in news -** Buildings can be constructed on Mars with 'Space bricks'.

### **Key Points –**

- Researchers from ISRO and IISc have developed a way to make bricks from Martian soil with the help of bacteria and urea.
- The team first made the slurry by mixing Martian soil with guar gum, a bacterium called *Sporosarcinapasteurii*, urea and nickel chloride (NiCl<sub>2</sub>).

## **APPOINTMENT**

### **1. A.K. Sood**

**Why in news -** Ajay Kumar Sood has been appointed Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) to the Union government. He succeeds K. Vijay Raghavan.

### **2. Satya Easwaran**

**Why in news -** IT major Wipro has announced the appointment of Satya Easwaran as the Country Head for India. Before joining Wipro, Easwaran was the head of business consulting and telecom, Media & technology sector leader at KPMG India.

## STATES

### 1. Rajasthan becomes first state to install an L-Route server

**Why in news** - Rajasthan has become the first state in the country to install an L-Route server for uninterrupted internet services.

**Key Points** –

- This server has been installed at Bhamashah State Data Center.
- It has been installed in association with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

## BIHAR

### 1. Bihar BJP to mark Kunwar Singh Jayanti

**Why in news** - BJP has planned to organize the birth anniversary of Veer Kunwar Singh on April 23 at Jagdishpur in Bhojpur as part of the Centre's Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav program.

**Key Points** –

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah is scheduled to attend the event.
- In April 1966, a commemorative stamp was issued to honour him.
- A university was established in 1992 in Bhojpur in his name.
- The event is said to be going to make a world record by waving more than 75,000 national flags on that day.

### 2. Nafed to launch pulse procurement in Bihar

**Why in news** - The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) has decided to procure around 43,000 (MTs) metric tonnes of pulses from farmers in Bihar.

**Key Points** –

- NAFED has signed an agreement with the Bihar State Food and Civil Supplies Corporation (BSFCSC).
- Nafed has set a target of buying around 30,000 MTs of masoor dal and 13,000 of gram dal at the minimum support price (MSP).
- Pulse cultivation coverage has significantly gone up to around 6 lakh hectares in 2021-22 as compared to 4.39 lakh hectares in 2019-20.

### 3. Lohar (Black Smith) excluded from the ST list

**Why in news** – In the context of an order of the Supreme Court (Sunil Kumar Rai & others VS State government & others), the General Administration has issued an order.

**Key Points** –

- Members of the Lohar community will continue to be included in the list of EBC (Annexure I) as before.
- The state government had included Lohar in the list of STs on August 8, 2016.

### 4. 44 thousand cases of SC-ST Act pending in Bihar

**Why in news** – There are 44791 total pending cases in Bihar. These figures have come out in the review meeting of all the special public prosecutors of the state under SC-ST.

**Key Points** –

- So far only 378 cases have been executed.
- Settlement of 160 cases by conciliation.
- Punishment given in 22 cases to 56 accused.
- Release granted in 196 cases. 651 accused were released.
- Except for Ara, Chapra, Gopalganj, Sheikhpura, Aurangabad, Bettiah, Darbhanga, Gaya, Munger and Sitamarhi, the number of punishments was found to be zero in all the remaining 28 districts.



## CURRENT AFFAIRS ONE LINERS

21 APRIL, 2022



# PERFECTION IAS

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- What was the name given to the mission run to settle a particular community in the Nepalese region adjoining India from Uttarakhand to Sikkim - **Mission Abad.**
- Where did the country's cultural and tourism ministers' summit "Amrit Samagam" 2022 begin - **New Delhi.**
- Who became the fastest Indian player to hit 100 sixes in IPL history - **Hardik Pandya.**
- Where was the Global AYUSH Investment and Innovation Summit 2022 held - **Gandhi Nagar.**
- Which state celebrated its foundation day on 15th April - **Himachal Pradesh.**
- Which state government has announced to provide 300 units of electricity free of cost to domestic consumers from July 1, 2022 - **Punjab.**
- By which organisation the world's tallest tunnel connecting Himachal Pradesh to Ladakh will be constructed - **BRO.**
- Which bank has signed a USD 150 million Partial Guarantee Facility Agreement (PGFA) with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to support supply chain financing for impact sectors - **Axis Bank.**
- The government of India has signed a USD 2 mn Project Readiness Financing Loan with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for which state of India - **Nagaland.**

**NEW BATCHES FOR BPSC IS SCHEDULED ON 11<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022.**

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