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**ENGLISH
APRIL - 2019**

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Centres : Chennai - Annanagar & Adyar | Salem | Madurai | Trichy | Coimbatore | Namakkal.

APRIL – 2019

TAMIL NADU

- 1) The Chennai Central railway station was renamed on 5th April 2019 as **Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station**. It is the longest railway station name in India having **57 letters**
- 2) Judge P Devadass - appointed as the **Anti-corruption Ombudsman in Tamilnadu Lokayukta**
- 3) **Bharati script: IIT Madras** has developed a unified script for nine Indian languages named as Bharati script.
- 4) **Pyrolysis Plant:** Greater Chennai Corporation planned to set up a pyrolysis plant to manage plastic waste and to produce fuel from it.
- 5) **Ma. Aranganathan Literary Awards 2019:** *Veli Rangarajan and Yuma Vasuki*.
- 6) **Project Kannamma:**
 - An initiative of the Rotary Club of Madras North to provide sanitary napkins to the government girl students.
 - The sanitary napkins are provided by the Irula Tribal Women's Welfare Society, using Arunachalam Muruganantham machines.

NATIONAL

1) **Roadmap of 2019 General Elections:**

GENERAL ELECTIONS 2019		
Phase	Poll Date	Total Constituencies under Polling
1	11 April, 2019	91
2	18 April, 2019	97
3	23 April, 2019	115
4	29 April, 2019	71
5	06 May, 2019	51
6	12 May, 2019	59
7	19 May, 2019	59
Result Date - 23 May, 2019		Total 543

- 2) **Meghalaya** is the only state to get **Braille - enabled ballot papers at all polling booths**
- 3) **Pink polling booth** for the Lok sabha elections was inaugurated at Jamui parliamentary constituency in Bihar
- 4) Election Commission of India has decided to use the **M3 EVMs** in the Lok Sabha Polls in the **Nizamabad parliamentary constituency of the Telangana state**
- 5) **Enajori Initiative:** Special initiative by **Assam** for persons with disability voters. **Aim: "No Voter to be Left behind"**
- 6) Rajasthan government has passed the **Rajasthan Backward Classes Amendment Bill, 2019**. The bill seeks to provide **5% reservation to Gujjars, Banjaras, Gadia Lohars, Raikas and Gadaria**.
- 7) **Carbon Zero:** India's 1st Carbon positive settlement Phayeng, Manipur. Phayeng Village of Manipur is the 1st carbon-positive tag in India
- 8) **MERA:** The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has launched the **Malaria Elimination Research Alliance (MERA) India** to eliminate Malaria from India by 2030.
- 9) **1st Lokpal, the anti-corruption ombudsman**, having an office in five-star luxury hotel, "The Ashok" in Chanakyapuri, Delhi

- 10) **Guwahati Railway Station:** 1st ever railway station in the Indian Railways to get an ISO 4001: 2015 certification from the National Green Tribunal (NGT)

INTERNATIONAL

- 1) South Korea launched the **world's first full - fledged 5G mobile networks.**
- 2) **Bolivia** signed an agreement with India to **join the International Solar Alliance.**
- 3) **Reiwa:** Japan reveals name of new imperial era will be “Reiwa”
- 4) Indonesia has conducted the **World's biggest single day election** on 17th April 2019
- 5) India will stop importing crude oil from **Iran.**
- 6) **Reaction force:** Iran and Pakistan to create a joint reaction force on the border between the two countries
- 7) **Sri Lanka** has banned the use of drones and unmanned aircraft.
- 8) **Ghana** has launched medical drone service in the country.
- 9) **London** has become the 1st city in the world to **launch 24x7 “pollution charge zone”**
- 10) **Reaction Force:** Iran and Pakistan to create a joint **“reaction force”** on the border between the two countries.
- 11) **Indonesia** has released a special commemorative stamp on theme of Ramayana on April 23, 2019
- 12) **Etihad Airways** has become the 1st major airline in the Gulf region to operate a flight without any single-use plastics on board.
- 13) **G - 20 Summit:**

Saudi Arabia	2020
Italy	2021
India	2022

- 14) **Capital of Lebanon - Beirut** has made a Guinness World Record for the number of national flags raised in a city for 24 hours.

DEFENCE & SPACE

- 1) **Matiri Bridge:** The Indian Army has successfully built the **longest suspension bridge Matiri Bridge** over the Indus River in the Leh-Ladakh region.
- 2) **24 MH 60 Romeo Seahawk helicopters:** The multi-mission helicopters can detect, track and attack submarines and surface ships.
- 3) **Priyadarshini:** Indian Coast Guard K.R. Nautiyal commissioned Coast Guard vessel 'Priyadarshini' in Kakinada
- 4) **Veera:** Indian Coast Guard Ship Veera has been commissioned at Vishakhapatnam.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- 1) **Powehi:** 1st ever blackhole to be pictured was named as "Powehi" by a Hawaiian professor Larry Kimura,
- 2) **Connect2Earth Campaign: Earth Hour 2019** was organized on 30th March 2019 from 8:30 pm, with its campaign 'Connect2Earth' aiming to build mass awareness on why nature is important and creates a movement for nature.
- 3) **Mosquirix: Malawi** has become the 1st country to immunise children against Malaria through the vaccine **"RTS,S" (Mosquirix)**
- 4) **Marsquake:** NASA's Mars Lander **InSight** has recorded the 1st Marsquake of **2 or 2.5 magnitude**
- 5) Israel Scientists unveiled **World's 1st 3-D printed heart with human tissues and vessels intact**
- 6) Union Health Ministry replaced the words **chemist and druggist with pharmacy**

- 7) **Scissors Enzyme:** Scientists at the Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology - discovered a new enzyme called “scissors enzyme”
- 8) **JPL Mars Helicopter Scout (MHS):** Robotic helicopter that will test the technology to targets for study on Mars, and plan the best driving route for future Mars rovers.
- 9) **Akademik Lomonosov: Russia** has successfully tested the world’s first floating nuclear power plant.
- 10) **Marine Lizard: China** has successfully tested the world’s first armed amphibious drone boat.
- 11) **Jerzego Sunil Limaye:** A new species of “*jumping spider*” was discovered in Mumbai.
- 12) **Coral reef of "Lord Howe Island":** The world’s southernmost coral reef (a tiny Australian island in the Tasman Sea) has been hit by bleaching due to rising sea temperatures, indicating that climate change is affecting even the most isolated ecosystems.
- 13) One of the world's rarest turtles, a **Yangtze giant soft shell turtle**, died in China. only three known survivors of the species are there.
- 14) **Roc:** World’s largest airplane called ‘Roc’ was tested on 13th April 13 2019 at Mojave Desert, California
- 15) **Homo luzonensis:** Scientists have discovered a new human species “Homo luzonensis” in Philippines

ECONOMICS

- 1) **Green Car Loan:** State of India has launched Green Car Loan to encourage customers to buy electric vehicles in the country.
- 2) **Cyber Defence Insurance:** State of India has launched cyber defence insurance to protect businesses from financial and reputational losses due to cyber attacks.
- 3) Bank of Baroda became the **3rd largest Bank** after merged Vijaya Bank & Dena Bank with bank of Baroda on 1st April 2019.
- 4) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued **Rs. 20 denomination banknotes** in the Mahatma Gandhi Series.

Signature	Shaktikanta Das, Governor of RBI
motif	Ellora Caves in Reverse Side
Colour	Greenish Yellow
Dimension	63 mm x 129 mm

SPORTS

1) **ATP Miami Open 2019:**

Men's Singles	Roger Federer (Switzerland) (won) Vs. John Isner (USA)
Women's Singles	Ashleigh Barty (Australia) (won) Vs. Karolína Plíšková (Czech)

2) **Bajrang Punia** has won the Gold medal in 65kg men's freestyle at Asian Wrestling Championship 2019

3) **2019 Asian Athletics Championships: Doha, Qatar (21st to 24th April)**

India finishes off with 4th Place total of 17 Medals:

Gold: 3	Gomathi Marimuthu - 800m P.U. Chitra - 1500m Tajinder Pal Singh- Shotput
Silver: 7	
Bronze: 7	

SUMMITS & CONFERENCES

SUMMITS / CONFERENCES	PURPOSE / THEME / OUTCOME	PLACE	DATE
5th Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Media Summit	THEME: "Media Solutions for Sustainable Future: Saving Lives, Building Resilient Communities"	Kathmandu, Nepal	22 nd – 26 th April 2019
4th Resilient Cities Asia-Pacific Congress 2019		New Delhi	15 th – 17 th April 2019
World's foremost Artificial Intelligence	THEME: "AI Everything"	Dubai, UAE	30 th April 2019 - 1 st May 2019

INDICES

INDEX	PURPOSE / RELEASED BY	INDIA'S RANKING	TOP RANKING
Global Talent Competitive Index	INSEAD business school in partnership with Tata Communications and Adecco Group	80	Switzerland
World Press Freedom Index	Reporters Without Borders (RSF)	140	Norway
Index of Cancer Preparedness		19	Australia

COMMITTEES

Suresh Mathur committee	The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has set up the committee to review the regulatory framework on micro insurance and recommend measures to increase the demand for such products.
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WOMEN IN NEWS

Zuzana Caputova	Slovakia's First Female President
Australia's Claire Polosak	1 st female umpire to stand in a men's one-day international (ODI)
Mithali Raj	Goodwill ambassador of 'Team India' at the Street Child Cricket World Cup

CYCLONES

CYCLONES	AFFECTED AREA	DATE
Cyclone Fani	Odisha	Formed on 26 th April 2019

MILITARY EXERCISES IN APRIL 2019

EXERCISE NAME	HELD BETWEEN	TYPE OF EXERCISE	PLACE	DATE
AUSINDEX 19	India and Australia	Naval Exercise	Visakhapatnam	2 nd April – 14 th April 2019
Cyberex	Indian Armed Force	Cyber Exercise		

ROCKETS LAUNCHED IN APRIL 2019

SATELLITES	COUNTRY	LAUNCH VEHICLE	PURPOSE	LAUNCH DATE
EMISAT	India	PSLV-C45	Electromagnetic spectrum measurement	1 st April 2019
TIANLIAN II - 01	China			
Raavana-1	Sri Lanka		Launched by NASA	
NepaliSat-1	Nepal		Launched by NASA	

GEOGRAPHICAL INDEX (GI) TAG

PRODUCT	STATE
Kandhamal Haldi	Odisha

APPS

APPS	Launched By	USES
Sankalp	Assam Government	Encourage 1 st time voters
Veer Parivar	President	While paying tributes to the fallen troops at the National Police Memorial on the occasion of the CRPF's Valour Day (Shaurya Diwas), the President launched the Veer Parivar App for families of personel killed in the line of duty.
voter turnout	Election Commission of India	Real-time availability of voter turnout during the election season in the country

AWARDS

Major International Awards Conferred on Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Zayed Medal / Order of Zayed 2019	UAE
Order of St Andrew the Apostle	Russia
Great Collar of the state	Palestine
Champions of the Earth Award 2018	UN
Amir Abdullah Khan Award	Afghanistan
King Abdullaziz Sash Award	Saudi Arabia

AWARDS / PRIZES	PERSON / ORGANIZATION
Saraswati Samman - 2018	K Siva Reddy
Vijayawada Railway Station	Gold Rating by Indian Green Building Council
National Rifle Association of India	Best sports federation award
Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2019	Rana Dasgupta – SOLO novel
World Press Photo of The Year 2019 award	John Moore
Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Nobel Award	Sudhanshu Kumar
Maharshi Badrayan Vyas Samman	Conferred on persons in contribution in the field of Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic, Pali, Prakrit, Classical Oriya, Classical Kannada, Classical Telugu and Classical Malayalam.
Public Water Agency of the Year	National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG)
The Wisden Almanack's Leading Cricketer of the Year - 2018	Virat Kohli

APPOINTMENTS & PERSONS IN NEWS

PERSONS	POSITION / DESIGNATION
Assam filmmaker Rima Das	Ambassador of Toronto International Film Festival
David R. Malpass	13 th President of World Bank
Gargi Kaul	Secretary, Defence Finance
Former Army Chief Dalbir Singh Suhag	High Commissioner to Seychelles

COUNTRY	PRESIDENT / PRIME MINISTER
Palestine	Mohammad Shtayyeh
Haiti	Jean-Michel Lapin
Israeli	Benjamin Netanyahu

FESTIVALS

Garia festival	Tripuri tribal community
Rongali or Bohag Bihu festival	Assam

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

BOOKS	AUTHORS
Indian Fiscal Federalism	Y. V. Reddy and G.R. Reddy
The “Politics of Jugaad: The Coalition Handbook”	Saba Naqvi
“Farthest Field: An Indian story of Second World War”	Raghu Karnad
Khooni Vaisakhi: A Poem from the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, 1919	Nanak Singh and Navdeep Singh Suri

IMPORTANT DAYS

DAYS	EVENTS	THEMES/ SIGNIFICANCE
APRIL 1	RBI Founded on 1 st April 1935	
	Odisha Formation Day / Utkal Divas	
APRIL 2	World Autism Awareness Day	THEME: “Assistive Technologies. Active Participation”
	International Children’s Book Day	THEME: “Books Help Us Slow Down”
APRIL 4	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action	THEME: “United Nations Promotes SDGs – Safe Ground – Safe Home”
APRIL 5	National Maritime Day	THEME: “Indian Ocean-An Ocean of opportunity”

APRIL 10	World Homoeopathy Day	
APRIL 11	National Safe Motherhood Day	THEME: "Midwives for Mothers"
APRIL 12	International Day of Human Space Flight	
APRIL 17	World Haemophilia Day	THEME: "Reaching out - connect to your community"
APRIL 18	World Heritage Day	THEME: "Rural landscapes"
APRIL 22	Earth Day 2019	THEME: "Protect Our Species"
APRIL 23	World Book Day	
APRIL 24	International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace	
	Zero Shadow Day	
	National Panchayati Raj Diwas	
APRIL 25	World Malaria Day	THEME: "Zero malaria starts with me"
APRIL 26	World Intellectual Property Day	THEME: "Reach for Gold: IP and Sports"
APRIL 28	World Veterinary Day	THEME: "Value of Vaccination"
	World Day for Safety and Health at Work	

- ✓ **World Immunization Week 2019 is being observed from 24-30 April, 2019**
 - ✓ **THEME:** "Protected Together: Vaccines Work"
- ✓ **The Civil Services Day 2019 was not observed on 21st April 2019 due to General Election**
- ✓ **National Handloom week is being observed from April 7 to April 14**