

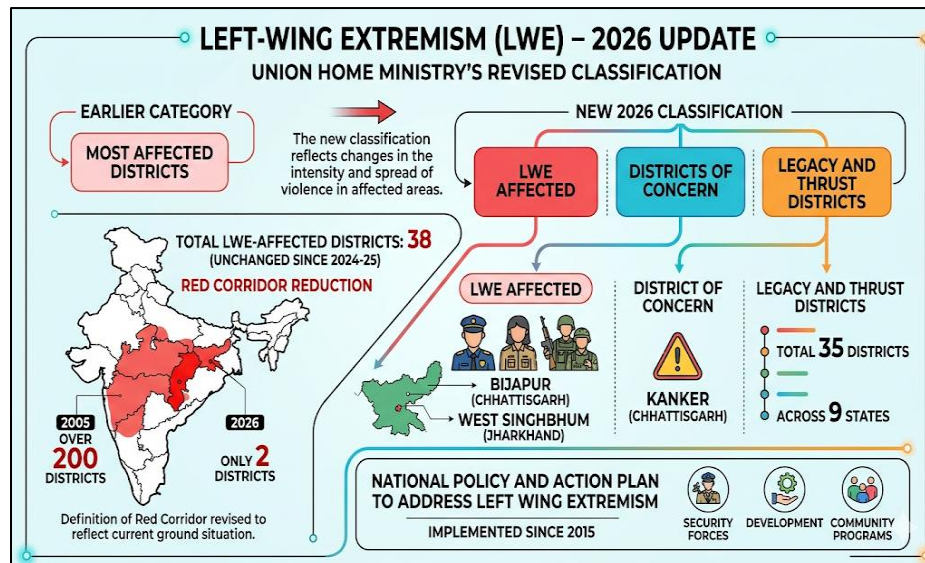
April - 07

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Union Minister for Science and Technology has inaugurated the BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council)-BioNEST Incubation Centre at the Central Food Technological Research Institute to support food and biotech startups.
- ❖ The Defence Acquisition Council approved the procurement of stealth Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicles (UCAVs) for the Indian Air Force under the Ghatak programme.
 - Ghatak UCAV is an indigenous stealth combat drone developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation, earlier called AURA (Autonomous Unmanned Research Aircraft).

NATIONAL NEWS

Left Wing Extremism – 2026 Update



- ❖ Union Home Ministry revised the classification of LWE-affected districts in 2026.
- ❖ The earlier category of “most affected districts” has been replaced with “LWE affected,” “districts of concern,” and “legacy and thrust districts.”
- ❖ The total number of LWE-affected districts remains unchanged at 38 compared to 2024–25.
- ❖ The new classification reflects changes in the intensity and spread of violence in affected areas.



- ❖ The “Red Corridor” has sharply reduced from over 200 districts in 2005 to only 2 districts in 2026.
- ❖ The definition of the Red Corridor has also been revised to reflect the current ground situation.
- ❖ Only Bijapur (Chhattisgarh) and West Singhbhum (Jharkhand) are now classified as “LWE-affected” districts.
- ❖ Kanker (Chhattisgarh) has been categorized as a “district of concern.”
- ❖ A total of 35 districts across 9 States fall under “legacy and thrust districts.”
- ❖ The National Policy and Action Plan to Address Left Wing Extremism has been in implementation since 2015.

Jiyo Parsi Scheme

The financial assistance disbursed under the Jiyo Parsi Scheme during the last three years

KEY POINTS:

- **Rs 8.56 crore** has been disbursed to beneficiaries directly through DBT in the last 3 years
- **Rs 37.12 crore** is the total expenditure under the scheme since its inception

- ❖ The Jiyo Parsi Scheme gained attention after a Universal Parsi Registration Drive by the Ministry of Minority Affairs added around 300 new registrations.
- ❖ The scheme is a Central Sector Scheme launched in 2013–14 to stop the decline of the Parsi population in India.
- ❖ It aims to increase the population through scientific support like fertility treatment, pregnancy care, and family support services.
- ❖ The scheme provides financial help through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to eligible Parsi couples.
- ❖ It is implemented by State Governments with support from Parsi institutions and includes verification through biometric authentication.

Project Chetak



- ❖ Border Roads Organisation celebrated the 47th Raising Day of Project Chetak in Bikaner, Rajasthan.
- ❖ Project Chetak was established in 1980 to develop and maintain strategic roads in the western border areas of India.
- ❖ It operates in states like Rajasthan, Punjab, and Gujarat, improving connectivity near the India–Pakistan border.
- ❖ The project has built over 4,000 km of roads and 214 km of ditch-cum-bund (protective structures) for defence support.
- ❖ It helps in the quick movement of troops and equipment, strengthening national security and regional development.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Citizenship Rights Battle 2026

- ❖ On April 1, 2026, Donald Trump became the first sitting U.S. President to attend oral arguments at the Supreme Court of the United States.
- ❖ The visit was linked to the Court hearing Trump’s appeal against a lower court ruling that struck down his executive order on birthright citizenship.
- ❖ Birthright citizenship in the United States is guaranteed under the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- ❖ The amendment (1868) states that all persons born or naturalised in the U.S. and subject to its jurisdiction are citizens of the United States and the state they reside in.

- ❖ This principle means that anyone born on U.S. soil automatically receives citizenship, regardless of their parents' immigration or citizenship status.
- ❖ An exception exists for children born to foreign diplomatic officers, as they have diplomatic immunity and are not subject to U.S. jurisdiction.
- ❖ Trump's executive order, signed on the first day of his second term, aimed to restrict birthright citizenship.



- ❖ The order declared that children born in the U.S. to parents who are in the country illegally or temporarily would not be granted U.S. citizenship.
- ❖ It directed federal agencies to deny recognition of citizenship unless at least one parent is a U.S. citizen or a lawful permanent resident.
- ❖ Opponents also state that it conflicts with established administrative and immigration law principles.
- ❖ The executive order has been blocked nationwide by three U.S. district courts for being unconstitutional.
- ❖ The Supreme Court is now examining whether the executive order can override constitutional guarantees of birthright citizenship.
- ❖ If the Court upholds birthright citizenship, it can only be changed through a constitutional amendment process.
- ❖ Amending the Constitution requires approval by two-thirds of both houses of the U.S. Congress and ratification by three-fourths of state legislatures.
- ❖ Such a constitutional amendment process is lengthy and could take several years to complete.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Gourami Fish Fossils Discovery

- ❖ Freshwater fish fossils, including gourami, were discovered for the first time in the Shivalik foothills near Dehradun.
- ❖ The fossils were found near Mohand by scientists from the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology and other institutions.
- ❖ The discovery includes otoliths (ear bones) of fish like snakehead (Channa), goby, and gourami.
- ❖ The gourami fossil is the first record in India and only the second in the world after Sumatra.
- ❖ The fossils are about 4.5 million years old and belong to the Pliocene epoch (about 5.3 to 2.6 million years ago).



Blackbuck Revival in Chhattisgarh

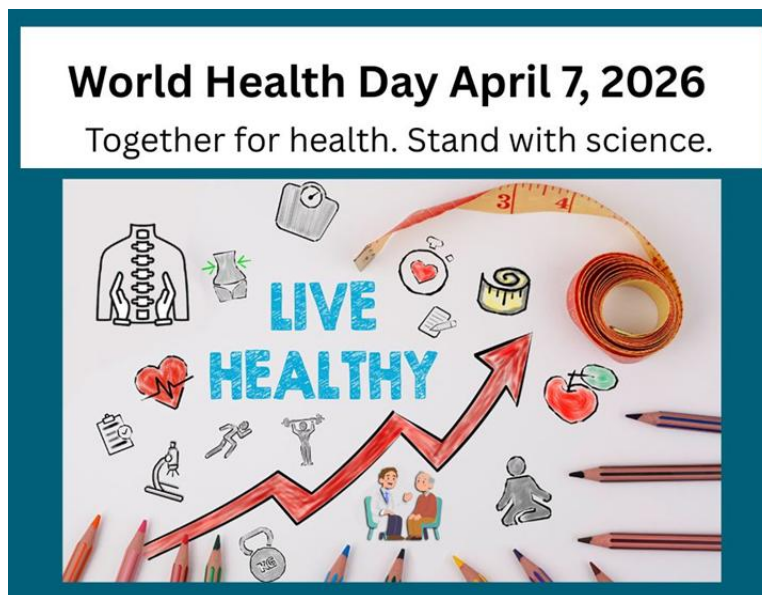
- ❖ The Blackbuck has returned to Chhattisgarh after nearly a century, with around 130 animals now in the wild.
- ❖ The species had disappeared due to habitat loss and hunting, with the last sighting recorded in 1927.
- ❖ Reintroduction began in 2018 at Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary with 77 blackbucks brought from Delhi and Kanan Pendari Zoo.
- ❖ The conservation programme is implemented under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972 using scientific methods like acclimatization, monitoring, and protection.

- ❖ About 60 blackbucks are still in enclosures, and more are planned to be released, with expansion to Gomardha Wildlife Sanctuary, Raigarh district of Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ The Blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*) is listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List.



IMPORTANT DAYS

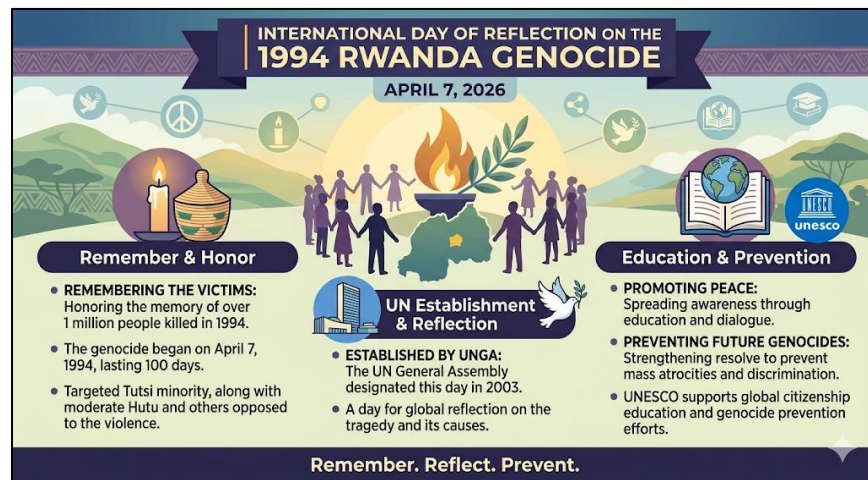
World Health Day 2026 - April 07



- ❖ The day aims to promote trust in science, encourage the use of evidence-based health decisions, and support science-led solutions for a healthier future.

- ❖ The day is organised by the WHO and launched a year-long global campaign promoting scientific collaboration for health.
- ❖ The campaign focuses on the “One Health approach,” which connects the health of humans, animals, plants, and the environment.
- ❖ Two major events support the campaign: the International One Health Summit (hosted by France under G7 Presidency) and the Global Forum of WHO Collaborating Centres (7–9 April 2026).
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is “Together for health. Stand with science.”

International Day of Reflection on the 1994 Rwanda Genocide 2026 - April 07



- ❖ The day aims to remember victims, promote peace through education and dialogue, and prevent future genocides.
- ❖ The day was established by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2003 to remember the victims of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.
- ❖ The genocide began on 7 April 1994, when the Tutsi minority were targeted by a Hutu -led government.
- ❖ In about 100 days, more than 1 million Tutsi were killed, along with moderate Hutu and others who opposed the violence.
- ❖ UNESCO promotes education about genocide to spread awareness and prevent discrimination and violence.

