

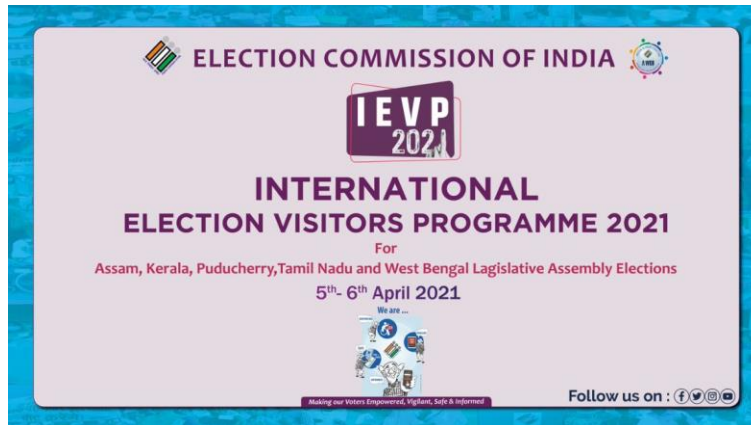
April - 10

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The senior-most Supreme Court judge Justice Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana has been appointed as the next Chief Justice of India (CJI).
 - Justice Ramana would succeed incumbent CJI Sharad Arvind Bobde to take over as the 48th CJI on April 24th.
- ❖ Former Union Environment Minister and an MLA from Wankaner in Gujarat, Digvijaysingh Zala has passed away.
 - The veteran Congress leader became the first Environment Minister of India under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi from 1982 to 1984.

NATIONAL

International Virtual Election Visitors Programme 2021



- ❖ The Election Commission of India hosted the 'International Virtual Election Visitors Program' 2021.
- ❖ This is during the assembly elections held in Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.
- ❖ Under this, the facility of virtual viewing of polling stations was made available to the delegates to provide information related to familiarization with the electoral process, polling station arrangements, facilitation of Persons with Disabilities and senior citizens etc.
- ❖ Its objective is to conduct free, fair, transparent, better and safer elections in the time of pandemics.



- ❖ Over 106 delegates from over 26 countries across the world including Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan and 3 international organizations were included in this program.

Integrated Health Information Platform

- ❖ The Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan recently launched the Integrated Health Information Platform.
- ❖ According to the health ministry, India is the first country to adopt such an advanced surveillance system.
- ❖ The Integrated Health Information Platform is to operate under the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme.
- ❖ The Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme operates under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- ❖ The platform aims to strengthen the disease surveillance in the country.
- ❖ This is to be achieved by establishing a decentralised state-based surveillance system for epidemic prone diseases.
- ❖ The key features of the platform are real time data reporting through use of mobile applications, geo-tagging of health facilities, etc.
- ❖ The platform aims to provide better care and maintain confidential health data.
- ❖ The platform will hold information about prevalence of disease in different districts of the country.
- ❖ The information is to be collected through ASHA workers and ANMs.
- ❖ The Integrated Health Information Platform was launched in 2004.
- ❖ The programme is assisted by the World Bank.
- ❖ The main objective of the programme is to detect and respond to disease outbreaks quickly.

New record in ethanol blend with petrol

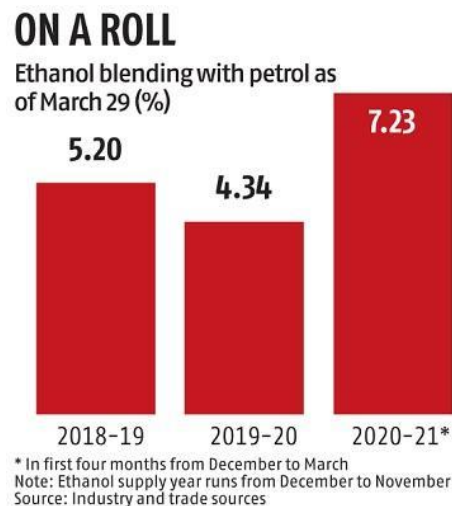
- ❖ In the first four months of ethanol supply year 2020-21, India has reached more than 7.2%.
- ❖ This is the first time India has reached this level.
- ❖ This puts the country right on its course of achieving the target of 10% blending by 2022.

Ethanol Blended Programme

- ❖ It was launched in 2003.



- ❖ The Oil Marketing Companies are advised to acquire ethanol on the following priority order under the programme,
 - Sugarcane
 - B-Heavy molasses
 - C-Heavy molasses
 - Damaged food grains.



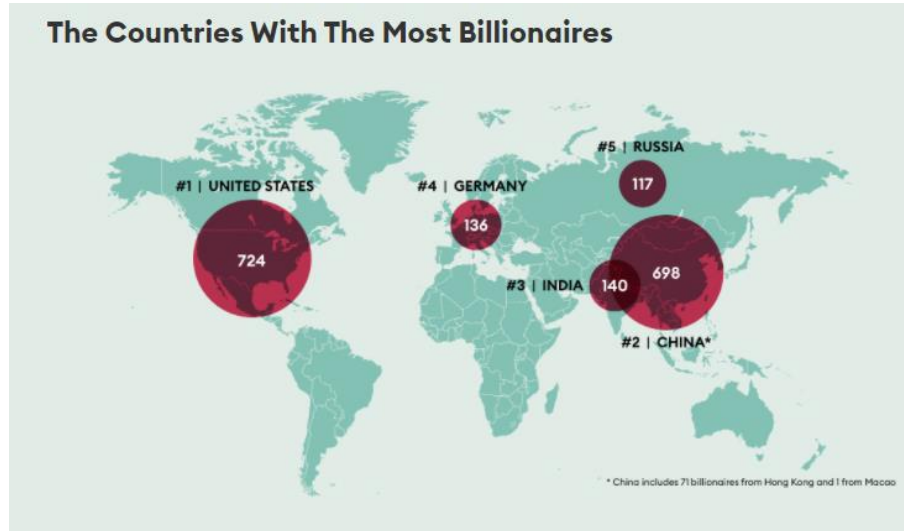
INTERNATIONAL

E9 initiative

- ❖ The Minister for Education (India) addressed the consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries.
- ❖ The meeting was on E9 initiative: Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4 – Quality Education.
- ❖ Spearheaded by the United Nations (UN), the E9 Partnership was first established in 1993.
- ❖ E9 Countries include Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, and Pakistan.
- ❖ The initiative aims to advance the Sustainable Development Goal 4 agenda.
- ❖ It is done by driving rapid change in education systems in three of the 2020 Global Education Meeting priorities, namely,
 - Support to teachers;
 - Investment in skills; and
 - Narrowing of the digital divide.

ECONOMY

Forbes' Annual Billionaire list



RANK ▲	NAME	NET WORTH	AGE	COUNTRY / TERRITORY
1.	Jeff Bezos	\$177 B ▲	57	United States
2.	Elon Musk	\$151 B ▲	49	United States
3.	Bernard Arnault & family	\$150 B ▲	72	France
4.	Bill Gates	\$124 B ▲	65	United States
5.	Mark Zuckerberg	\$97 B ▲	36	United States
6.	Warren Buffett	\$96 B ▲	90	United States
7.	Larry Ellison	\$93 B ▲	76	United States
8.	Larry Page	\$91.5 B ▲	48	United States
9.	Sergey Brin	\$89 B ▲	47	United States
10.	Mukesh Ambani	\$84.5 B ▲	63	India

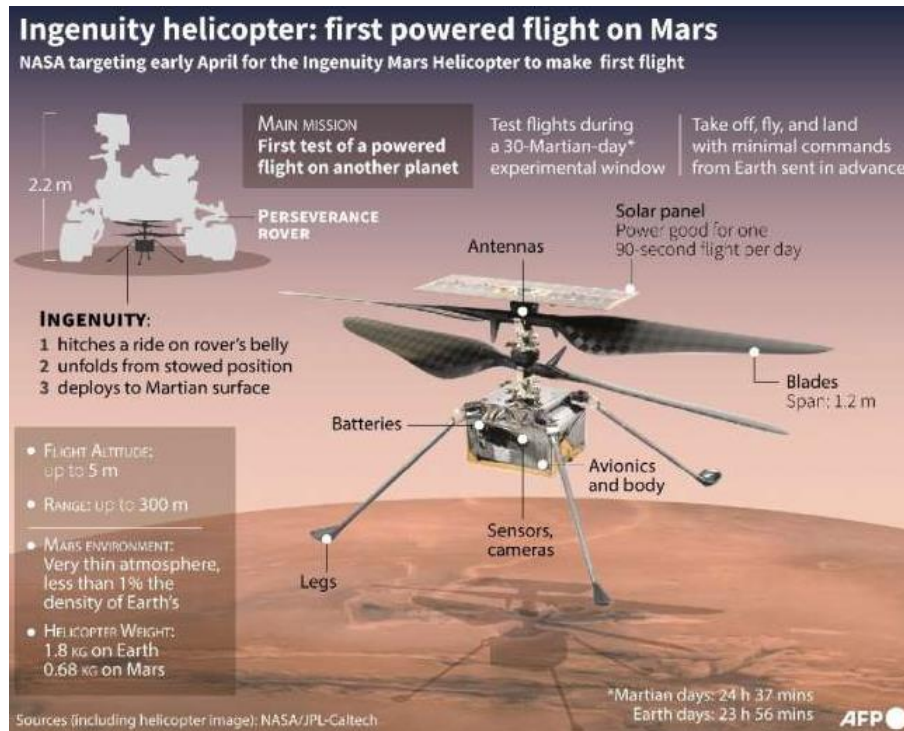
- ❖ The Amazon.com Inc founder, Jeff Bezos has topped Forbes' annual world's billionaires list for the fourth consecutive year.

- ❖ India's richest billionaire Mukesh Ambani ranked at 10th position with a total net worth of USD 84.5 billion.
- ❖ The 35th edition Forbes World's Billionaires list was released on April 06, 2021, comprising a record-breaking 2,755 billionaires.
- ❖ The list is prepared based on the wealth using stock prices and exchange rates from March 5, 2021.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ingenuity Helicopter

- ❖ NASA's Ingenuity mini-helicopter has been dropped on the surface of Mars.
- ❖ The ultra-light aircraft had been fixed to the Perseverance rover, which touched down on the Red Planet on February 18.
- ❖ Ingenuity will be attempting to fly in an atmosphere that is one percent the density of Earth's atmosphere.
- ❖ This will make it lift harder, but will be assisted by gravity that is one-third of our planet's.
- ❖ Ingenuity will be taking high-resolution photography as it flies.





Wolf-Rayet stars

- ❖ Indian astronomers have tracked a rare supernova explosion.
- ❖ They have traced it to one of the hottest sets of stars called Wolf-Rayet stars or WR stars.
- ❖ Supernovae are powerful and luminous stellar explosions in the Universe releasing a monstrous amount of energy.
- ❖ Long-term monitoring of these transients opens the door to understand the nature of the exploding star as well as the explosion properties.
- ❖ It can also help enumerate the number of massive stars.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

GD Birla Award for Scientific Research

- ❖ Professor Suman Chakraborty has been selected for the 30th GD Birla Award for Scientific Research.
- ❖ He is awarded for his outstanding contribution to engineering science and its applications in developing technologies for affordable healthcare.
- ❖ He is a faculty member at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur's department of mechanical engineering.
- ❖ GD Birla Award for Scientific Research recognises eminent Indian scientists below the age of 50 for their original and outstanding contributions to any branch of science or technology.

Turing Award 2020

- ❖ Alfred V. Aho has won the 2020 Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) A.M. Turing Award.
- ❖ Aho shares the award with his long-time collaborator Jeffrey David Ullman.
- ❖ The Turing Award carries a \$1 million prize, with financial support provided by Google, Inc.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Romani Day - April 08

- ❖ The International Romani Day is a day to celebrate Romani culture and raise awareness of the issues facing Romani people.



- ❖ It was celebrated in honour of the first major international meeting of Romani representatives, 7–12 April 1971 in Chelsfield near London.
- ❖ Since 1990 International Romani Day is celebrated by the International Romani Union.

