

April - 17

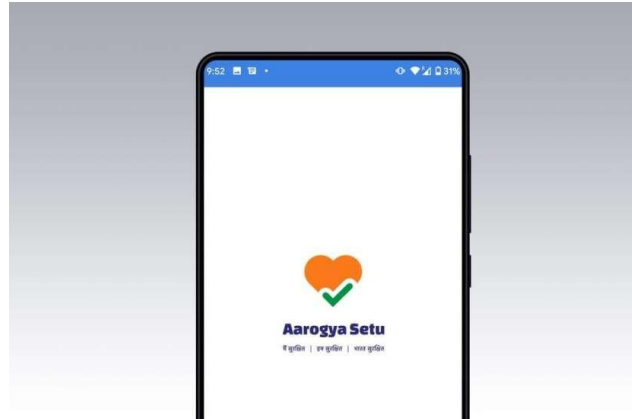
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has clarified that the contributions to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund or the State relief fund will not qualify as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) expenditure, while any donation to the PM CARES Fund will qualify.
- ❖ The Khadi and Village Industries Commission has developed double layered Khadi masks.
 - The masks are made only from cotton and wool that are procured from Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.
- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs has directed the states and union territories to take welfare measures for migrants in the country.
 - The Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979 aims to safeguard migrants in the country.

NATIONAL

Fastest App

- ❖ NITI Aayog announced that Arogya Setu became the first mobile application in the world to reach more than 50 million downloads in short span of time (Just 19 days).
- ❖ With this, the mobile app has overtaken the record set by Nintendo's popular "Pokemon GO" application on Google Play.
- ❖ The application was used for contact tracing.
- ❖ It is a COVID-19 tracking mobile application developed by the National Informatics Centre that comes under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India.
- ❖ Singapore Government had launched similar application called "Trace Together".



“Dekho Apna Desh”.

- ❖ The Ministry of Tourism launched “Dekho Apna Desh”.
- ❖ It is a webinar that caters in-depth information about tourist destinations in the country.
- ❖ It also provides details about culture and heritage of India.
- ❖ The first webinar series is to explain long history of Delhi.
- ❖ It has been titled as “City of cities-Delhi’s Personal Diary”.
- ❖ The second series has been named “Calcutta-A Confluences of Culture”.

Ministry of Tourism presents the
Dekho Apna Desh
Webinar Series

INTERNATIONAL

WHO Funding

- ❖ The United States stopped its funding towards World Health Organization (WHO).
- ❖ The United States provides 400-500 million USD to the organization annually.



- ❖ There are four major kinds of contributions that make up the funds of WHO.
- ❖ It includes assessed contribution, voluntary contribution, core voluntary contributions and PIP contributions.
- ❖ The Assessed contributions are the amounts that are expected to be paid by member states.
- ❖ The Voluntary contributions are funds provided by countries through private organizations.
- ❖ The core voluntary contributions are those funds that require immediate financing.
- ❖ The PIP contributions are Pandemic Influenza Preparedness that were begun in 2011 to strengthen access of vaccines by developing countries.
- ❖ Among all the contributions, voluntary contributions make up most of the funding.

Missile Sales to India

- ❖ The United States approved missiles sales to India.
- ❖ They are the Torpedoes lightweight missiles and Harpoon air-launched missiles.
- ❖ The lightweight Torpedoes will be used to in anti-submarine warfare missions.
- ❖ The Harpoon is an anti-ship missile used to attack an enemy boat or ship.
- ❖ The torpedoes is an underwater missile that can be launched below or above the water.

Training for SARRC countries

- ❖ The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) announced a training programme for the health care professionals from SAARC countries.
- ❖ The programme is to be conducted by the Ministry of External Affairs.
- ❖ Earlier India also proposed creation of SAARC COVID-19 Emergency funds.
- ❖ India contributed 10 million USD towards the funds.
- ❖ The ITEC programme was established in 1964.
- ❖ The ITEC is both bilateral and multilateral in nature.
- ❖ The programme is completely funded by the Government of India.
- ❖ It offers training and also allows foreign students to continue their higher studies.

ECONOMY

E-NAM

- ❖ On April 14, 2020, the Electronic-National Agricultural Market completed four years of implementation.
- ❖ It was developed under the concept of “One Nation One Market”.
- ❖ E-NAM is managed by the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC).
- ❖ It provides single service for all APMC (Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee) related activities.



First Ship of Crude Oil

- ❖ The first crude oil of 1 million barrels from UAE have reached India.
- ❖ India has an emergency storage of 5.33 million tonnes.
- ❖ This would suffice the oil demands of the country for 9.5 days
- ❖ The oil reserves are stored in Mangalore, Padur and Vishkhapatnam.
- ❖ The Padur oil storage is the biggest of all the three storages.
- ❖ India imports 83% of its oil.
- ❖ Iraq is India’s largest crude oil supplier meeting one-fourth of the country’s needs.
- ❖ Following Iraq, Saudi Arabia is the second largest oil supplier of India.
- ❖ USA is the sixth largest oil supplier of India.

Palm Oil Imports

- ❖ India tightened its curbs on imports of palm oil.
- ❖ India is the world’s largest importer of vegetable oil and buys around 15 million tonnes annually.



- ❖ India primarily imports palm oil from Indonesia and Malaysia.

Exit from Lock Down

- ❖ The Confederation of Indian Industries recently published its report “Exit from Lock Down”.
- ❖ Under the report, the confederation suggests slow and staggered approach of reopening of industrial sectors.
- ❖ The Report suggests classification of geographies as red, amber and green.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Remdesvir Drug

- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research announced that the antiviral drug Remdesvir is highly effective in stopping the replication of COVID-19.
- ❖ The research on the efficacy of Remdesvir is a part of WHO’s “Solidarity Trial”.
- ❖ The drug was used against Ebola virus.

IMPORTANT DAYS

Himachal Day – April 15

- ❖ After independence, the Chief Commissioner's Province of Himachal Pradesh was organised on 15 April 1948.
- ❖ It was a result of the integration of 28 petty princely states (including feudal princes and zaildars) in the promontories of the western Himalayas.
- ❖ Himachal became the 18th state of the Indian Union.
- ❖ On 14 April 1971 Himachal Pradesh got Statehood.

World Art Day – April 15

- ❖ It is an international celebration of the fine arts by the UNESCO.
- ❖ It was declared by the International Association of Art (IAA), a partner of UNESCO, in order to promote awareness of creative activity worldwide.
- ❖ It has also been supported online, especially by the Google Art Project.
- ❖ The first World Art Day was on April 15, 2012.
- ❖ The date was decided in honour of the birthday of Leonardo da Vinci.

- ❖ He was a renowned primarily as a painter from Italy.
- ❖ He has been variously called the father of palaeontology, ichnology, and architecture.
- ❖ He is also known as a symbol of world peace, freedom of expression, tolerance and brotherhood.

His works

- ❖ The Mona Lisa is the most famous of his works and the most popular portrait ever made.
- ❖ The Last Supper is the most reproduced religious painting of all time.
- ❖ His Vitruvian Man drawing is regarded as a cultural icon as well.
- ❖ Salvator Mundi is the highest price ever paid for a work of art.
- ❖ It was sold for a world record of \$450.3 million at a Christie's auction in New York in 2017.

