

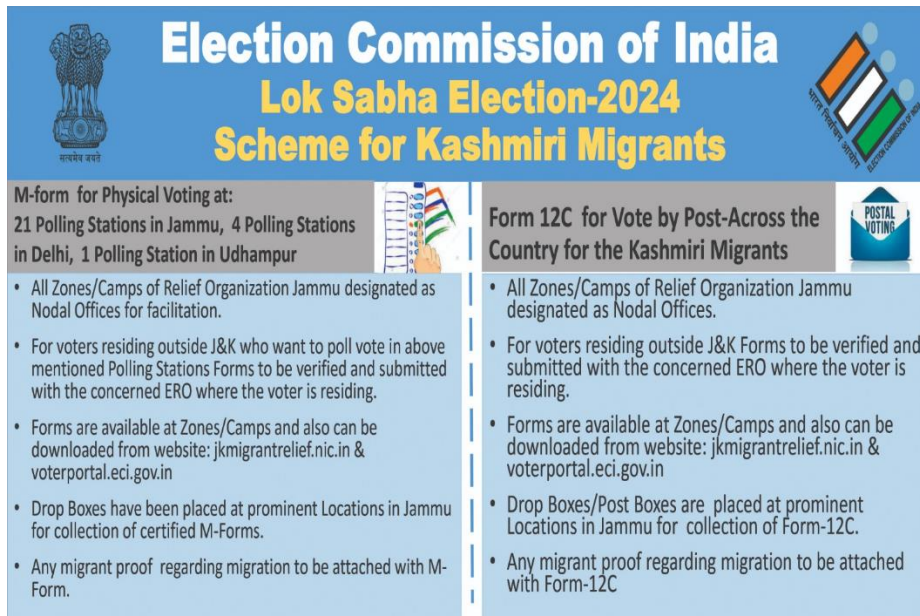
April - 18

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The 23rd session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues begin in New York, United States.
- ❖ The executive board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) renewed Kristalina Georgieva's position as managing director for a second five-year term.
- ❖ India and Mumbai Indians star batter Rohit Sharma has become the first Indian cricketer to smash 500 sixes in the T20 format.

NATIONAL

Special polling stations to migrants



The infographic is titled "Election Commission of India Lok Sabha Election-2024 Scheme for Kashmiri Migrants". It is divided into two main sections: "M-form for Physical Voting at:" and "Form 12C for Vote by Post-Across the Country for the Kashmiri Migrants".

M-form for Physical Voting at:
21 Polling Stations in Jammu, 4 Polling Stations in Delhi, 1 Polling Station in Udhampur

- All Zones/Camps of Relief Organization Jammu designated as Nodal Offices for facilitation.
- For voters residing outside J&K who want to poll vote in above mentioned Polling Stations Forms to be verified and submitted with the concerned ERO where the voter is residing.
- Forms are available at Zones/Camps and also can be downloaded from website: jkmigrantrelief.nic.in & voterportal.eci.gov.in
- Drop Boxes have been placed at prominent Locations in Jammu for collection of certified M-Forms.
- Any migrant proof regarding migration to be attached with M-Form.

Form 12C for Vote by Post-Across the Country for the Kashmiri Migrants

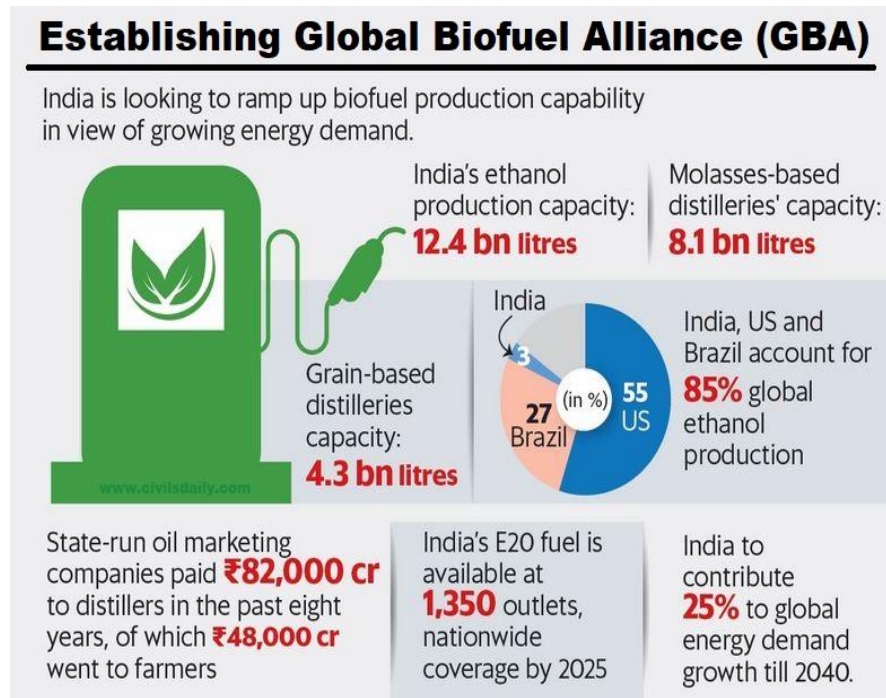
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- Drop Boxes/Post Boxes are placed at prominent Locations in Jammu for collection of Form-12C.
- Any migrant proof regarding migration to be attached with Form-12C

- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) has eased the paperwork for people who shifted from Kashmir to Jammu and Udhampur in the nineties to cast their votes.
- ❖ Migrant voters are essentially from the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community.
- ❖ They were previously required to fill the form to request the transfer of their vote from Kashmir to a polling station in Jammu, Udhampur or Delhi.
- ❖ The ECI also decided that self-attested certificates appended with Form-M will be acceptable from migrants living outside Jammu and Udhampur.
- ❖ It eliminated the need for attestation by a gazetted officer.

- ❖ The poll body has designated 22 special polling stations (21 in Jammu and 1 in Udhampur) for migrant voters in the two regions.

INTERNATIONAL

Global Biofuel Alliance

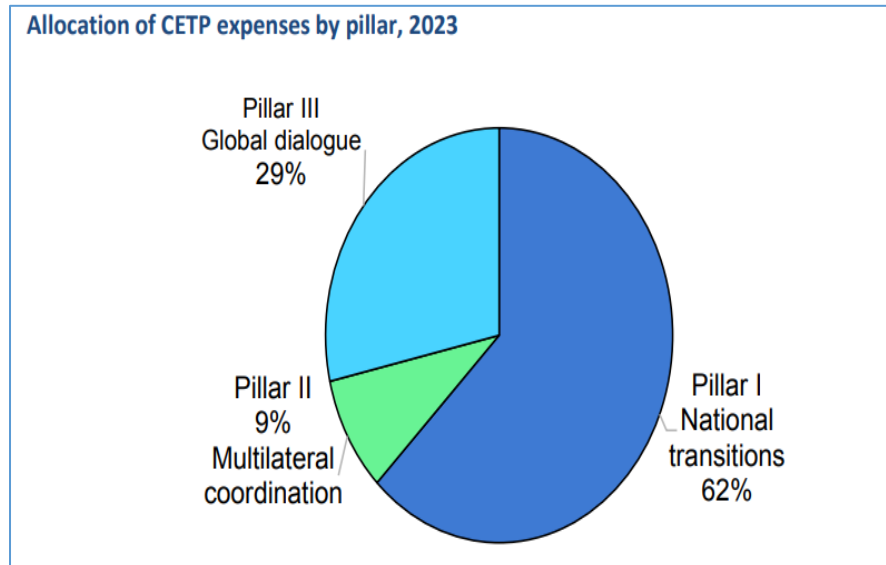


- ❖ It was launched by India along with the leaders of Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and UAE.
- ❖ It aims to serve as a catalytic platform, fostering global collaboration for the advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels.
- ❖ It also includes international organizations including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, World Economic Forum, International Energy Agency, etc.
- ❖ India is the 3rd largest consumer of crude oil and is heavily dependent on energy imports.
- ❖ Both Bioethanol and biodiesel are expected to grow at a CAGR of 5% in the Indian market.

Clean Energy Transitions Programme 2023

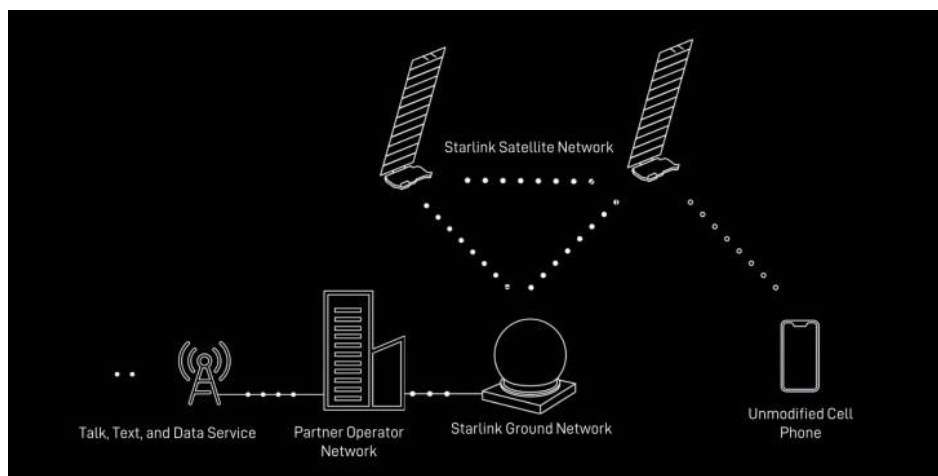
- ❖ The Clean Energy Transitions Program (CETP) is the IEA's flagship initiative for accelerating progress toward a global net zero energy system.

- ❖ Its goals are in line with the objectives of the 2015 Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations.
- ❖ Three pillars of the CETP:
 - Accelerating national transitions,
 - Multilateral co-ordination and
 - Enabling global energy dialogue



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

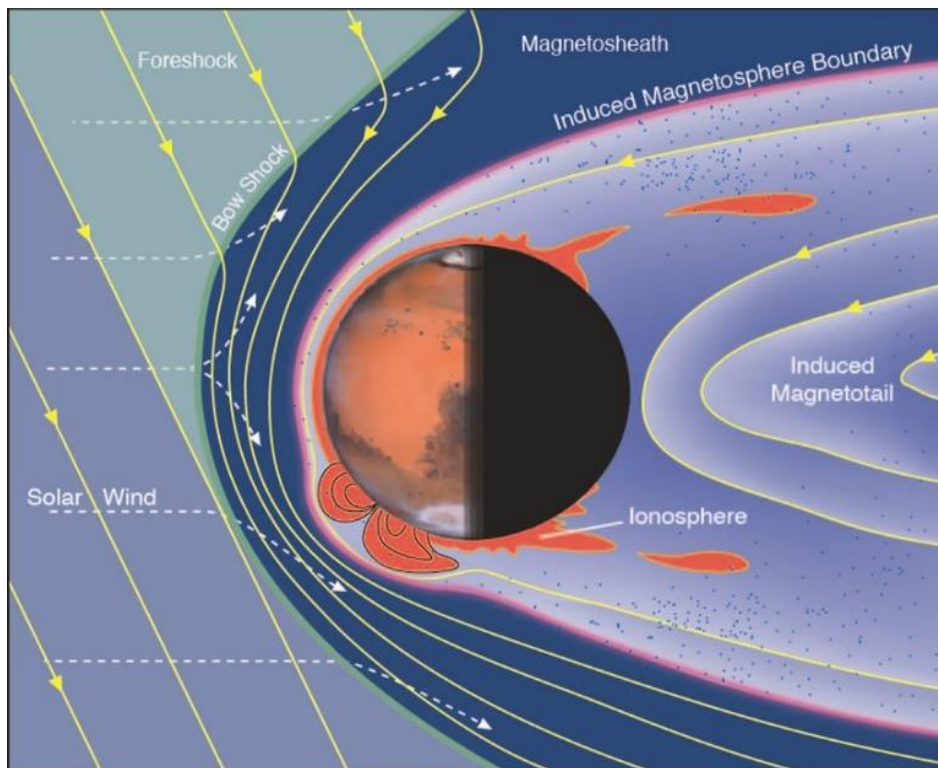
Direct-to-cell - Space X



- ❖ SpaceX successfully launched the Direct-To-Cell satellite of Starlink through a Falcon 9 mission.

- ❖ They launched of 21 new Starlink satellites including six Direct-To-Cell satellites.
- ❖ This is the first ever Direct-To-Cell satellite to be launched.
- ❖ Direct-To-Cell satellite is aimed at providing coverage to text, internet and mobile networks "wherever you see the sky".
- ❖ Direct To Cell technology will work with LTE phones, acting like a cell phone tower in space.
- ❖ It aims to provide users with high-speed connectivity in remote and rural areas, were other networks face problems.

High-Frequency Plasma Waves – Mars



- ❖ Scientists from the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism had studied high-frequency plasma waves in Mars' upper atmosphere using data from NASA's MAVEN space craft.
- ❖ These waves may include electron oscillations known as Langmuir waves or upper-hybrid type waves.
- ❖ They propagating either parallel or perpendicular to the background magnetic field in the Martian magneto sheath region.

- ❖ These waves play a significant role in various plasma phenomena, influencing energy transfer, particle acceleration, and the behavior of charged particles within plasmas found in space.
- ❖ Plasma waves are common around Earth and other planets, influencing particle dynamics.
- ❖ Mars lacks its own magnetic field but has a weak induced magnetosphere exposed to solar wind.

30 Doradus B: A Supernova

- ❖ Nasa's Chandra X-ray Observatory has captured a stunning image of 30 Doradus B.
- ❖ It is a supernova remnant that is part of a vibrant region of space where stars have been forming for millions of years.
- ❖ This celestial spectacle is located in the Large Magellanic Cloud some 160,000 light-years from Earth.



STATES

Bohag Bihu

- ❖ Bohag Bihu, also known as Rongali Bihu, is a significant festival celebrated in the northeastern Indian state of Assam.
- ❖ It is celebrated to mark the beginning of the Assamese New Year.

- ❖ "Goru Bihu", the first day of Bohag Bihu, is devoted to cattle, especially cows.
- ❖ Spring officially begins on this day.



UP Board of Madrasa Education Act, 2004

- ❖ The Supreme Court stayed an Allahabad High Court order, which had declared the Uttar Pradesh Board of Madrasa Education Act, 2004, as “unconstitutional”.
- ❖ The High Court order would impinge on the future course of education of nearly 17 lakh students who are pursuing education in these (madrasas) institutions.
- ❖ The High Court held the Act unconstitutional on the ground that it violated “the principle of secularism” and fundamental rights provided under Article 14 of the Constitution.
- ❖ The court went through the madrasa syllabi and said the law is “violative of Section 22 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956”.
- ❖ There is a total of 16,513 recognised and 8,449 unrecognised madrasas in the state, catering to approximately 27 lakh students.



- ❖ Out of the 16,513 recognised madrasas, 558 are fully funded by the state government — these madrasas employ around 9,000 teachers.
- ❖ The rest of the recognised madrasas are government-aided, privately-run madrasas.
- ❖ The Uttar Pradesh Board of Madrasa Education Act was enacted in 2004 and the board was formed in 2007.

State Can't Provide Separate Education Systems For Separate Religions, It Violates Principles Of Secularism: Allahabad HC Strikes Down 'UP Madrasa Act'

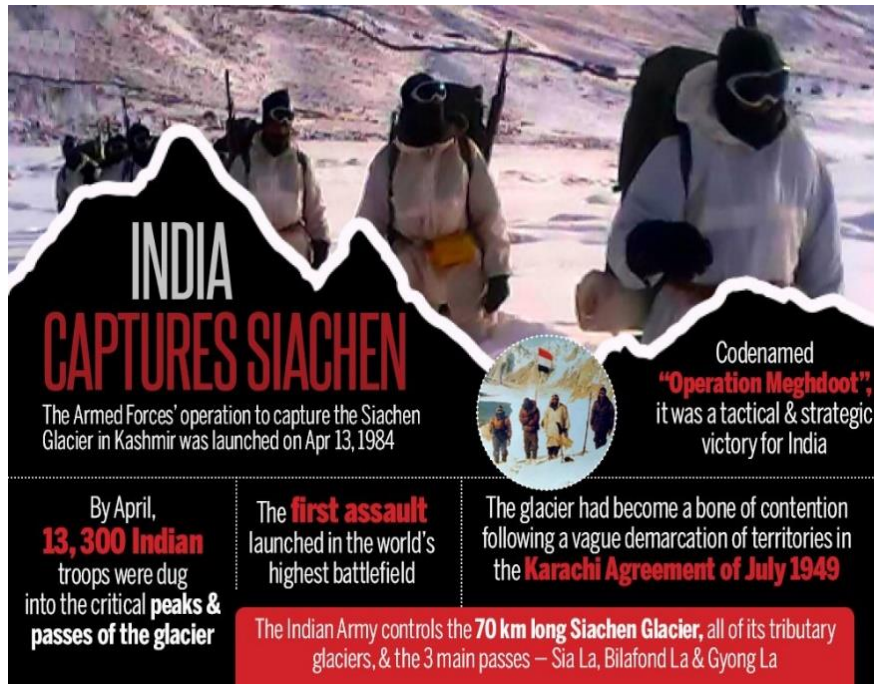


IMPORTANT DAYS

40th Siachen Day 2024 - April 13

- ❖ Siachen Day is observed to honour the bravery and sacrifice of the Indian Army soldiers, who serve on the highest battlefield in the world.
- ❖ The day commemorates the anniversary of 'Operation Meghdoot'.
- ❖ It was launched by the Indian Army on April 13, 1984.
- ❖ It is aimed at secure the strategic Siachen Glacier, located near the Indo-Pak Line of Control.

- ❖ The Siachen Glacier, situated in the Karakoram range, with an average elevation of 17,770 feet above sea level.



INDIA CAPTURES SIACHEN

The Armed Forces' operation to capture the Siachen Glacier in Kashmir was launched on Apr 13, 1984

Codenamed "**Operation Meghdoot**", it was a tactical & strategic victory for India

By April, **13,300 Indian** troops were dug into the critical **peaks & passes of the glacier**

The **first assault** launched in the world's highest battlefield

The glacier had become a bone of contention following a vague demarcation of territories in the **Karachi Agreement of July 1949**

The Indian Army controls the **70 km long Siachen Glacier**, all of its tributary glaciers, & the 3 main passes – Sia La, Bilafond La & Gyong La

World Chagas Disease Day 2024 - April 14



WORLD CHAGAS DISEASE DAY 14 APRIL

World Chagas Disease Day is a global healthcare event observed on the **14th of April** to recognise the prevalent and communicable Chagas disease, which is endemic among the poor populations of Latin America but is now increasingly being diagnosed across the globe.

- ❖ Chagas disease is caused by *Trypanosoma cruzi* discovered by Carlos Chagas in 1909.
- ❖ Also known as American trypanosomiasis, it is a potentially life-threatening illness caused by the protozoan parasite *Trypanosoma cruzi*.

- ❖ It is named after Carlos Chagas, a Brazilian physician and researcher who on 14 April 1909 diagnosed the disease in a person for the first time.
- ❖ This disease is primarily transmitted to humans through the bite of infected triatomine bugs, also known as "kissing bugs."

World Art Day 2024 - April 15

- ❖ It aims honour the contributions of artists and promote the importance of art in our lives.
- ❖ This day marks the birthday of the greatest artist, Leonardo da Vinci.
- ❖ This day was proposed by the International Association of Art (IAA) in 2011 at the 17th General Assembly, Mexico.
- ❖ The first World Art Day was celebrated on April 15, 2012.
- ❖ The IAA was founded in 1954 in UNESCO's headquarters in Paris, to promote art and artists worldwide.



MISCELLANEOUS

Egypt's mummified baboons

- ❖ During 1900s, Mummified monkeys were discovered in Gabbanat el-Qurud, (Valley of the Monkeys) in the banks of the river Nile.
- ❖ Scholars retrieve 17 skulls and a large quantity of bones that belonged – surprisingly – to baboons.
- ❖ *Papio anubis* and *Papio hamadryas* is the species whose mummies were found.

- ❖ They are actually indigenous to Sub-Saharan Africa and the southwestern Arabian Peninsula.
- ❖ By using mitochondrial DNA, they were able to trace the baboons to the ancient city of Adulis, in present-day coastal Eritrea.



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