

April - 20

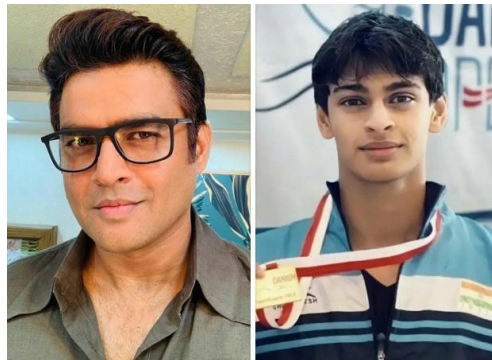
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Top Indian swimmer Sajan Prakash won the men's 200m butterfly gold at the Danish Open swimming meet in Copenhagen, Denmark.
- ❖ Indonesia has stopped imports of agricultural products from India.
 - It cited a failure by New Delhi officials to register laboratories that evaluate food safety and issue certificates of analysis.

TAMIL NADU

Vedaant Madhavan

- ❖ 16-year-old, Vedaant Madhavan bagged the silver medal in the men's 1500m freestyle event at Danish Open Swimming Meet
- ❖ It was held at Copenhagen, Denmark.
- ❖ He is the son of actor R Madhavan.
- ❖ He had won a bronze medal at the Latvia Open in March 2021.
- ❖ He had also impressed at the Junior National Aquatic Championships last year, bagging seven medals - four silver and three bronzes.



NATIONAL

UDAN scheme

- ❖ The Regional Connectivity Scheme UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNagrik) has been selected for Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2020 under the category "Innovation (General) – Central".
- ❖ It is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA).

- ❖ UDAN scheme emphasizes on Good Governance, Qualitative achievements, and last-mile connectivity rather than only on achievement of quantitative targets.

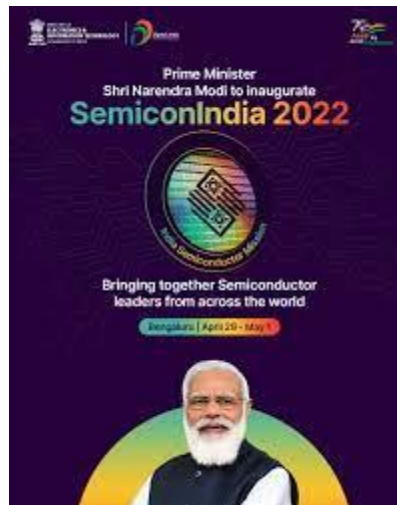
UDAN scheme reaches more locations across India

- 78 new routes were approved under the 4th round of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN)
- 3 successful rounds of bidding were conducted by the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation
- 766 routes have been sanctioned under the UDAN scheme so far
- 274 UDAN routes have been operationalized by the Ministry of Civil Aviation since its inception, connecting 45 airports and 3 heliports

UDAN 4

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Semicon India Conference 2022



- ❖ First-ever Semicon India-2022 Conference will be held in Bengaluru.
- ❖ The Conference will be organized by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- ❖ The theme is - Design and Manufacture in India, for the World: Making India a Semiconductor Nation.
- ❖ Semicon India - 2022 aims to make India a significant player in the Global Semiconductor value chain.

Mynvax

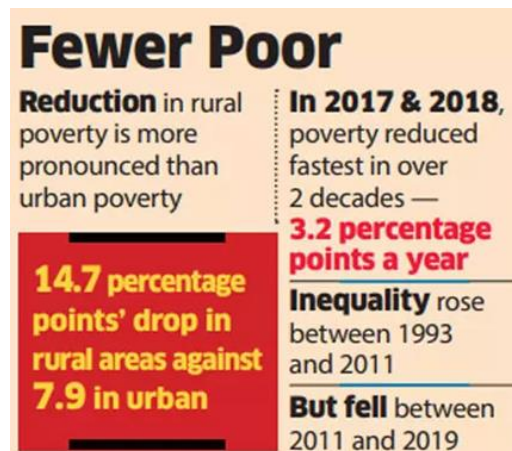
- ❖ In India, a prospective vaccine against COVID-19 or SarsCov2 is being developed

- ❖ That doesn't require refrigeration or stored in cold-chain storage.
- ❖ According to a study published in the peer-reviewed journal 'Viruses', the vaccine, in mouse trials has generated antibodies against various variants of the virus.
- ❖ This 'warm' vaccine is being developed by Mynvax laboratories, a Bengaluru-based company that was incubated at the Indian Institute of Science Bangalore.
- ❖ It is a unique vaccine that can be stored at 37 degrees Celsius for a period of four weeks and for up to 90 minutes at 100 degrees Celsius.

Ammonia in Yamuna

- ❖ Water supply was disrupted in parts of Delhi once again when ammonia levels in the Yamuna river remained high.
- ❖ The concentration of ammonia in the river was 7.4 ppm (parts per million).
- ❖ This is seven times the level of around 1 ppm that the Delhi Jal Board's water treatment plants can process.

World Bank Report on Extreme Poverty in India



- ❖ According to a working paper of the World Bank, extreme poverty in India has dropped from 22.5 percent in 2011 to 10.2 percent in the pre-Covid year of 2019.
- ❖ Also, the pace of poverty reduction in rural India has been more than in urban areas of the country.
- ❖ In the urban and rural areas, the poverty levels declined by 7.9 percent and 14.7 percent respectively during the period 2011 to 2019.
- ❖ In 2019, the poverty level stood at 11.6 percent in rural areas and 6.3 percent in urban areas.

- ❖ In 2016, the year of demonetization, urban poverty rose by 2 percentage points while rural poverty rose by 10 basis points in 2019.

Radio Aksh

- ❖ India's first-ever radio channel for the visually impaired, named 'Radio Aksh' has been launched in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- ❖ Nagpur's 96-year-old institution, The Blind Relief Association Nagpur (TBRAN), and Samdrushti Kshamata Vikas Avam Anusandhan Mandal (Saksham) are the organizations behind this idea.
- ❖ The channel will be available on various internet radio platforms for free.

INTERNATIONAL

77 million into poverty

- ❖ The pandemic pushed 77 million additional people into severe poverty last year even before the Ukraine war.
- ❖ Many developing nations are unable to recover due to the heavy cost of loan repayments.
- ❖ 812 million people lived in severe poverty on \$1.90 per day or less in 2019, and by 2021.
- ❖ These are according to the report released by United Nations.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Bernardinelli - Bernstein comet



- ❖ Recently, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Hubble Space Telescope has confirmed that the huge Bernardinelli-Bernstein comet is indeed the largest icy comet nucleus ever seen by astronomers.
- ❖ The nucleus is called the C/2014 UN271 which has an estimated diameter of almost 129 kilometers.
- ❖ The nucleus is around 50 times larger than that of most known comets, and its mass is estimated to be around 500 trillion tonnes.
- ❖ The comet was discovered by astronomers Pedro Bernardinelli and Gary Bernstein in archival images from the Dark Energy Survey at an astronomical observatory in Chile.
- ❖ It was discovered in November 2010 and has been intensively studied since.

STATES

Highest Indian national flag



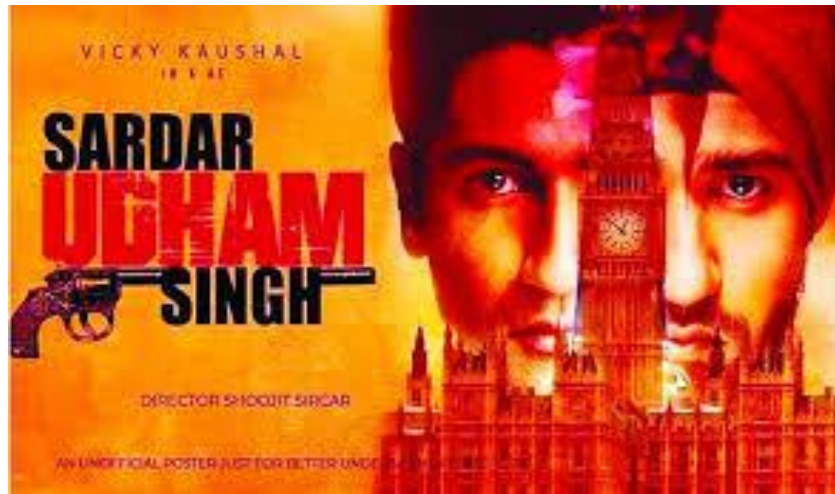
- ❖ Manipur chief minister, N Biren Singh announced that a 165-foot-high Indian national flag would be hoisted at the Indian National Army (INA) headquarters complex in Moirang in Manipur's Bishnupur district.
- ❖ It would be the tallest in the Northeast.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Director of the Year award

- ❖ Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Road Transport and Highways, presented the 2021 AIMA Managing India Awards (AIMA) in multiple categories in Delhi.
- ❖ In the films category, Shoojit Sircar was honored with the Director Of The Year award for Sardar Udham.

- ❖ This year, the 12th edition of the AIMA Managing India Awards is being organized physically, coinciding with the 7th National Leadership Conclave.



SPORTS

150 wickets in IPL



- ❖ Sunrisers Hyderabad star Indian pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar in a match against Punjab Kings achieved the milestone of dismissing 150 wickets in the Indian Premier League history.
- ❖ He became the first Indian pacer to ever do so.
- ❖ Bhuvneshwar scalped his 150th wicket at the Dr. DY Patil Stadium by dismissing Shikhar Dhawan, Liam Livingstone, and Shahrukh Khan.

- ❖ After the West Indian all-rounder Dwayne Bravo (174) and legendary Sri Lankan Lasith Malinga (170), SRH star is overall just the third pacer to bag 150 wickets in IPL.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Liver Day - April 19

- ❖ It is observed to spread awareness about the causes of liver disease and tips for its prevention so as to take holistic care of the liver.
- ❖ The liver is the second largest and the second most complex organ in the body, after the brain.
- ❖ It performs crucial body functions
- ❖ It is associated with a person's digestion, immunity, metabolism, and nutrition storage.
- ❖ The liver regulates blood sugar, removes toxic substances from the body, helps blood clot, and controls cholesterol levels.

