

April - 23

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Arthur Law, Co-founder of Storefriendly Asia, was named a Young Global Leader 2026 by the World Economic Forum.
- ❖ Apple Inc. appointed John Ternus as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to replace Tim Cook, who is stepping down after 15 years.
- ❖ Dr. Cherukumalli Srinivasa Rao, Director of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (Indian Agricultural Research Institute - IARI), received the 9th Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Award in Hyderabad for his work in climate-resilient agriculture.
- ❖ UN English Language Day is observed on 23 April every year by the United Nations to promote the English language and its global importance.
- ❖ UN Spanish Language Day is observed on 23 April every year by the United Nations to promote the Spanish language and cultural diversity.

NATIONAL NEWS

NSS Health Survey 2025

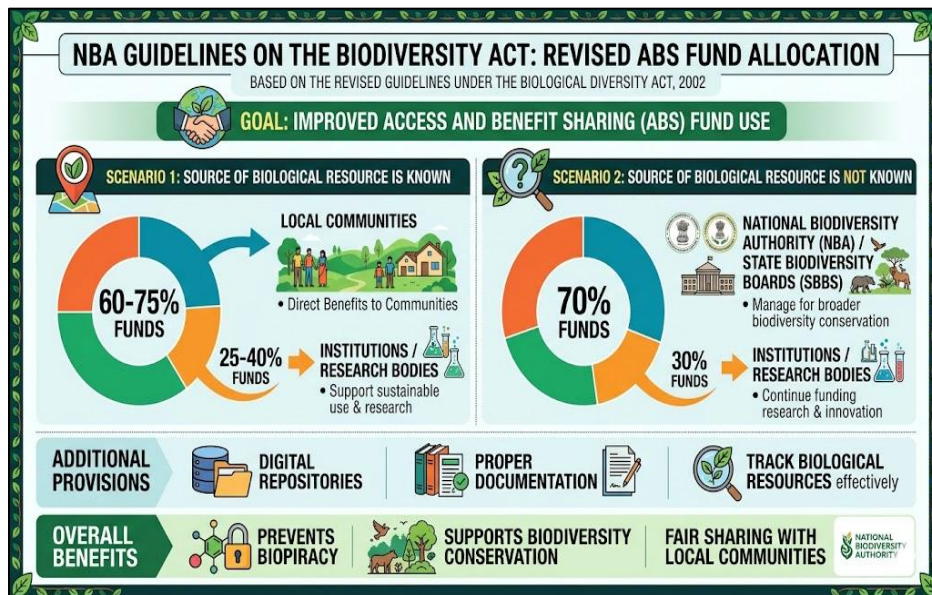


- ❖ The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has released the 'Household Social Consumption: Health' survey under the 80th round of the National Sample Survey (NSS).

- ❖ About 13.1% people reported illness, higher than 7.5% in 2017–18; highest among the elderly aged 60 and above.
- ❖ Hospitalization rate was about 2.9%, the highest among the elderly and young children.
- ❖ Institutional deliveries reached about 96%, showing strong maternal healthcare coverage.
- ❖ Health insurance coverage increased to around 44–47%, mainly through government schemes.
- ❖ Infectious diseases declined, while non-communicable diseases like diabetes and hypertension increased after age 30.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

NBA Guidelines on the Biodiversity Act



- ❖ The National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) approved revised guidelines under the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, to improve the use of ABS (Access and Benefit Sharing) funds.
- ❖ Guidelines aim to ensure fair sharing of benefits from biological resources with local communities.
- ❖ When the source is known, 60–75% funds go to local communities and 25–40% to institutions.
- ❖ When the source is not known, 70% funds go to the NBA/State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) and 30% to institutions.

- ❖ Digital repositories and proper documentation are promoted to track biological resources.
- ❖ The rules help prevent biopiracy and support biodiversity conservation.

STATE NEWS

Marine Spatial Plan in Odisha

- ❖ Odisha became the first state to launch a Marine Spatial Plan (MSP).
- ❖ MSP is a tool to map and manage marine areas for activities like fishing, tourism, and conservation.
- ❖ The plan aims to balance economic growth and environmental protection.
- ❖ The state signed an MoU with the National Centre for Coastal Research under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- ❖ It is part of India–Norway cooperation on sustainable ocean management.



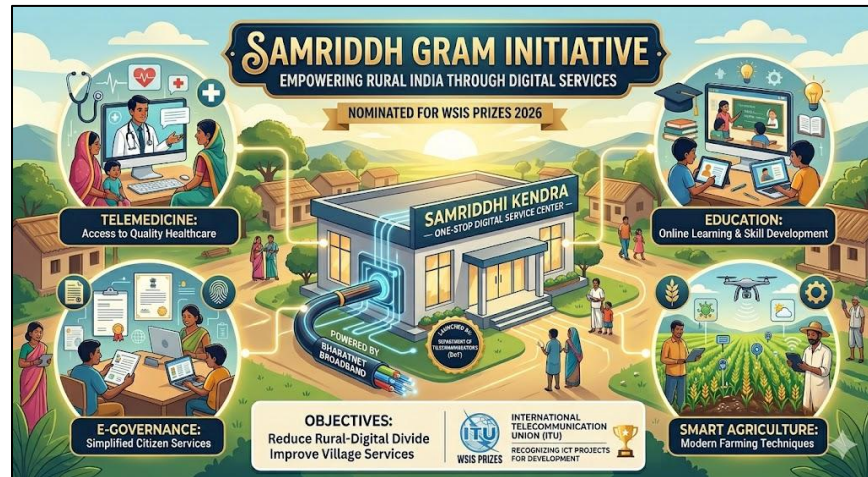
Odisha becomes
first state to launch Marine
Spatial Plan.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Samridhh Gram Initiative – WSIS Prizes

- ❖ Samridhh Gram Initiative has been nominated for the WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) Prizes 2026.
- ❖ It is launched by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) using BharatNet broadband.

- ❖ It provides one-stop digital services through Samridhhi Kendras in rural areas.
- ❖ Services include telemedicine, education, e-governance, and smart agriculture.
- ❖ It aims to reduce the rural-digital divide and improve village services.
- ❖ WSIS Prizes are given by the International Telecommunication Union for ICT (Information and Communication Technology) projects.



Breakthrough Prizes 2026



- ❖ The Breakthrough Prize Foundation announced the Breakthrough Prizes 2026, known as the “Oscars of Science”.
- ❖ The foundation was started by tech leaders like Sergey Brin and Mark Zuckerberg.
- ❖ Life sciences winners include Jean Bennett, Katherine A. High, Albert Maguire, Stuart Orkin and Swee Lay Thein; Rosa Rademakers and Bryan Traynor.
- ❖ The mathematics prize was given to Frank Merle; the physics prize to Muon g-2 teams at CERN, Brookhaven, and Fermilab.

- ❖ A special prize was given to David Gross; the event was held in Santa Monica, USA.

Goldman Environmental Prize 2026

- ❖ Goldman Environmental Foundation awarded the 2026 Goldman Environmental Prize to an all-women group for the first time.
- ❖ The prize was started in 1989 by the Goldman Environmental Foundation and is called the “Green Nobel Prize”.
- ❖ The award honours grassroots environmental activists from six regions of the world.
- ❖ Six women winners are Iroko Tanshi (Nigeria), Borim Kim (South Korea), Sarah Finch (United Kingdom), Theonila Roka Matbob (Papua New Guinea), Alannah Acaq Hurley (United States), and Yuvelis Morales Blanco (Colombia).
- ❖ It recognises work in climate change, biodiversity conservation, and the protection of Indigenous rights.



SPORTS NEWS

OmegaBall Introduction

- ❖ Indian Institute of Technology Madras introduced OmegaBall, a new three-team football format, in 2026.
- ❖ The institute plans to create a national-level OmegaBall club in India.
- ❖ OmegaBall is a football game where three teams play together on a circular field with three goals.
- ❖ Each team attacks two goals and defends one goal at the same time.

- ❖ The format increases speed, scoring chances, and continuous gameplay.
- ❖ OmegaBall is already played in countries like the United States, Brazil, and parts of Europe.



Laureus World Sports Awards 2026



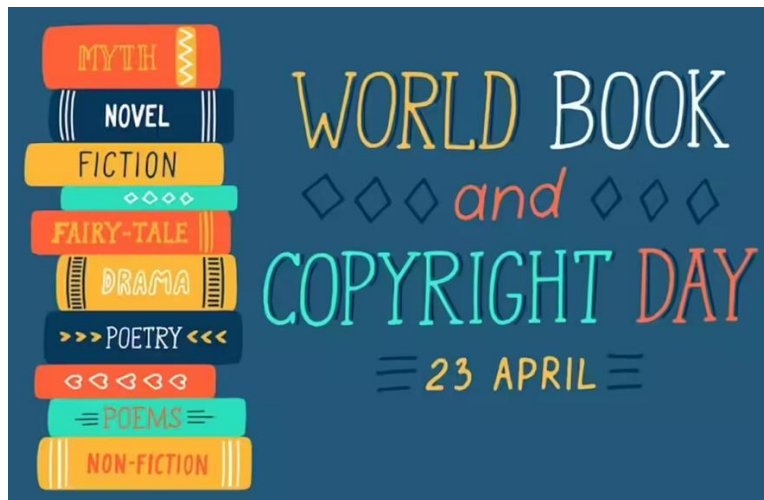
- ❖ The Laureus World Sports Awards 2026 were held in Madrid, Spain, to honour global sporting excellence for performances in 2025.
- ❖ Carlos Alcaraz (tennis) won Sportsman of the Year, Aryna Sabalenka (tennis) won Sportswoman of the Year, and Paris Saint-Germain (football club) won Team of the Year.
- ❖ Lando Norris (F1) won Breakthrough of the Year, and Rory McIlroy (golf) won Comeback of the Year.
- ❖ Lamine Yamal (football) won Young Sportsperson of the Year, and Chloe Kim (snowboarding) won Action Sportsperson of the Year.

- ❖ Gabriel Araújo won Sportsperson with Disability, Toni Kroos received the Sporting Inspiration Award, and Nadia Comăneci got the Lifetime Achievement Award.
- ❖ India Women's Cricket Team was nominated for Team of the Year but did not win.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Book and Copyright Day 2026 – April 23

- ❖ The day aims to promote reading, publishing, and copyright awareness worldwide.
- ❖ The day was established by UNESCO in 1995 to honour books and authors.
- ❖ Rabat is selected as the World Book Capital for 2026.
- ❖ The date 23 April is linked to famous writers like William Shakespeare and Miguel de Cervantes.
- ❖ The day highlights literacy through multilingual learning and access to books for all.



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

500 Years of the First Battle of Panipat

- ❖ April 21, 2026 marks 500 years of the First Battle of Panipat, a key event in Indian history.
- ❖ The First Battle of Panipat was fought on April 21, 1526 at Panipat in present-day Haryana, India.

- ❖ It was fought between Babur, founder of the Mughal Empire, and Ibrahim Lodi, the last Sultan of the Delhi Sultanate.
- ❖ Babur used advanced Tulughma tactics (flanking movement) and field artillery including cannons and matchlocks, which gave him a major advantage.
- ❖ Babur's disciplined army defeated the larger Lodi forces, and Ibrahim Lodi was killed in the battle.
- ❖ The victory led to the end of the Delhi Sultanate and the establishment of the Mughal Empire in India.

500 YEARS OF THE FIRST BATTLE OF PANIPAT
April 21, 1526 - April 21, 2026
A battle that changed the course of Indian history and began the era of the Mughal Empire.

BABUR
Founder of the Mughal Empire

IBRAHIM LODI
Last Sultan of the Delhi Sultanate

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The First Battle of Panipat was fought on April 21, 1526 at Panipat in present-day Haryana, India.

It was fought between Babur, founder of the Mughal Empire, and Ibrahim Lodi, the last Sultan of the Delhi Sultanate.

Babur had around 12,000 soldiers, while Ibrahim Lodi had nearly 100,000 soldiers along with a large number of war elephants.

Babur used advanced Tulughma tactics (flanking movement) and field artillery including cannons and matchlocks, which gave him a major advantage.

Babur's disciplined army defeated the larger Lodi forces, and Ibrahim Lodi was killed in the battle.

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TULUGHMA TACTICS
ENEMY
FLANKING MOVEMENT
BABUR'S ARMY
FLANKING MOVEMENT

The First Battle of Panipat (1526) was the beginning of a new era of unity, stability and cultural flourishing under the Mughal Empire.

