



April - 26

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister has released a book on the life and legacy of Justice Party leader and former Chief Minister of the erstwhile Madras Presidency P.T. Rajan titled 'Dravida Araneriyalar Thamizhavel P.T. Rajan Vaazhve Varalaru'.
- ❖ India has officially nominated M Revathi, Joint Wireless Advisor at the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), as the country's candidate for the post of Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- ❖ The Government of Andhra Pradesh made strides towards establishing India's first Quantum Computing Village in Amaravati.
- ❖ According to the IMF's report "Power Hungry: How AI Will Drive Energy Demand" the integration of AI into global systems is expected to raise global output by about 0.5 percent annually between 2025 and 2030.
- ❖ Telangana government and leading Japanese firms would work together to establish an Eco Town in Hyderabad.
- ❖ The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has achieved a very historic milestone in the financial year 2024-25, recording a turnover of Rs 1.70 lakh crore during the period.
- ❖ In recognition of the cultural and ecological value of yaks, the Nepal government has declared 20 April as National Yak Day.
- ❖ US Vice President JD Vance made first visit to India since assuming office.
- ❖ The Coimbatore-based Ganga Hospital designated as a Global Centre of Excellence (GCOE) in trauma, joint replacement, and arthroscopy surgeries for training orthopaedic surgeons in Asia Pacific region.
  - This is the first GCOE for trauma surgery in the world.
- ❖ India inaugurated the world's 17<sup>th</sup> Athlete Passport Management Unit at the National Dope Testing Laboratory in New Delhi.
  - It is a specialized unit dedicated to monitoring and managing athletes' biological passports, ensuring fair play and upholding the integrity of clean sport.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### **Draft Greenhouse Gases Emission Intensity Target Rules**

- ❖ Centre has issued a draft notification introducing the Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity Target Rules, 2025 under the carbon credit trading Scheme, 2023.

- ❖ The rules are issued under Energy Conservation Act, 2001 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- ❖ It proposes an emission intensity target for designated industrial sectors, to be implemented by the Bureau of energy efficiency (BEE).
- ❖ The Targets will be defined in terms of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions per tonne of equivalent production, applicable for the compliance period 2025-26 to 2026-27, based on 2023-24 baseline data.
- ❖ The rules cover high-emission sectors such as aluminium and cement.
- ❖ Companies like Vedanta, Hindalco, NALCO, and Ultratech Cement have assigned specific baseline and target values.
- ❖ For instance, Vedanta's Smelter II in Jharsuguda of Odisha which has produced 12,38,336 tonne of aluminium in 2023-24 will be required to reduce the GHG emission intensity to 13.2260 and 12.8259 in 2025-26 and 2026-27 respectively.

Draft Greenhouse Gases Emission Intensity Target  
Rules proposes GEI targets for Obligated Entities  
specified in the Schedule; Environmental  
Compensation to be levied in case of Non-compliance



### **SVEC Visa**

- ❖ Pakistani nationals will not be permitted to travel to India under the SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme (SVES) visas.
- ❖ SVEC is short for SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme.
- ❖ Under the programme, certain categories of dignitaries are issued a special travel document.
- ❖ This special instrument exempts them from the need for visas and other travel documents.

- ❖ Currently, the list includes 24 categories of people, including dignitaries, judges of higher courts, parliamentarians, senior officials, businesspersons, journalists and athletes.

Pakistani nationals will not be permitted to travel to India under the **SAARC Visa Exemption Scheme (SVES)** visas. Any SVES visas issued in the past to Pakistani nationals are deemed cancelled. Any Pakistani national currently in India under SVES visa has **48 hours** to leave India.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Green Crypto Initiative – Bhutan



- ❖ Bhutan is exploring ways to mine and leverage green cryptocurrencies using hydropower to boost its economy and create jobs to reduce brain drain.
- ❖ Green cryptocurrencies are digital currencies mined using clean energy resources such as wind, hydro or solar power instead of fossil fuel.

- ❖ The nation runs 100% on hydropower, and every digital coin we mine in Bhutan using hydropower offsets that coin which gets mined using fossil fuels.

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWS

### Bullseye Galaxy



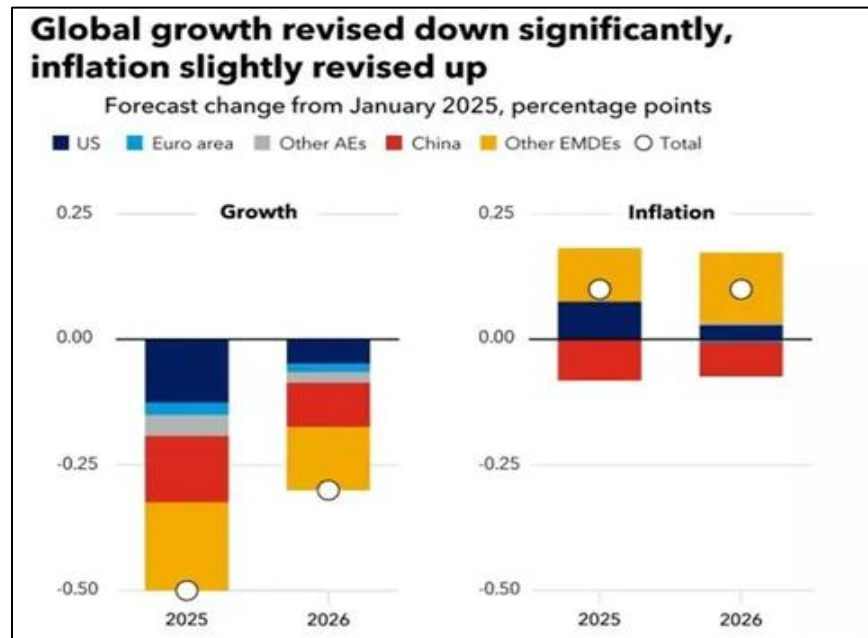
- ❖ A team of international researchers recently discovered a galaxy with nine rings using the Hubble space telescope.
- ❖ They called it a “serendipitous discovery” because previous ringed galaxies have only displayed two or three rings at best.
- ❖ This unusual galaxy has been named LEDA 1313424 but its common name is the Bullseye Galaxy.
- ❖ The team reported a thin trail of gas connecting the two galaxies even though they are separated by 130,000 lightyears (or 1.22 billion km).
- ❖ This Bullseye Galaxy is nearly 2.5-times larger than the Milky Way with a diameter of 250,000 light-years.
- ❖ The Bullseye Galaxy also contains signs that it could one day evolve into a giant low surface brightness (GLSB) galaxy.
- ❖ Giant low surface brightness (GLSB) galaxies are the largest of the low surface-brightness galaxies.

- ❖ All GLSB galaxies are truly colossal.
- ❖ Their most famous member, called Malin 1, is roughly 6.5-times wider than the Milky Way and one of the largest spiral galaxies known.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### World Economic Outlook 2025 - IMF

- ❖ The growth forecast for the world economy has been cut to 2.8% down half a percentage point from the earlier estimates.
- ❖ For China, 2025 GDP growth is revised downward to 4.0 percent from 4.6 percent in the January 2025 WEO Update.
- ❖ India's economy is expected to grow by 6.2 per cent in 2025 and 6.3 per cent in 2026.
- ❖ The GDP growth projection for the US economy has been cut sharply to 1.8%, down almost a full percentage point from the January 2025 projection.



## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### Wisden 2025 Honors

- ❖ India's Jasprit Bumrah was named as Leading Men's Cricketer in the World.
- ❖ Smriti Mandhana has grabbed the honour in the women's category in the 2025 edition of Wisden Cricketers' Almanack.



- ❖ Mandhana became the first Indian woman since the inception of the award to earn the title twice.
- ❖ She had already earned the coveted honour in 2018 also.
- ❖ West Indian Nicholas Pooran was named as the Leading T20 Player in the World.



## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

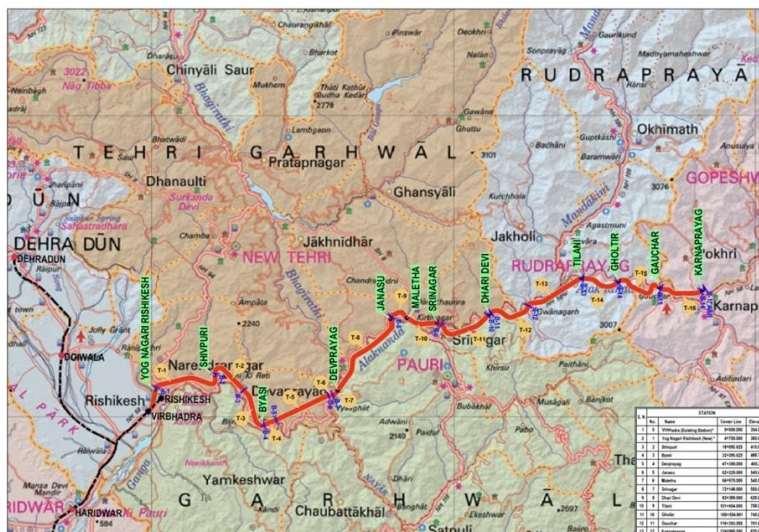
### **Pahalgam Terror Attack**



- ❖ 26 people, mostly tourists, dead after the terrorists opened fire in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam.

- ❖ The Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba, has claimed responsibility for the attack.
- ❖ In response to this incident, India suspends the decades-old Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan indefinitely.
- ❖ With this, the water supply from the Indus River and its distributaries - the Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, and Satluj will be stopped.
- ❖ The Indus Waters Treaty was signed on September 19, 1960.
- ❖ The pact was signed between India and Pakistan, with the World Bank brokering the agreement.
- ❖ That treaty withstood three wars between India and Pakistan - in 1965, 1971, and 1999, but is now suspended indefinitely.
- ❖ The Integrated Check Post Attari-Wagah border will be closed with the immediate effect.
- ❖ The defence or military officials - Naval and air advisers in the Pakistani High Commission in New Delhi are declared Persona Non Grata.
- ❖ India also has withdrawn its own defence - navy, air advisers from the Indian High Commission in Islamabad.
- ❖ The overall strength of the High Commissions will be brought down to 30 from the present 55 through further reductions, to be effects by 01 May 2025.

### India's Longest Rail Tunnel - Uttarakhand



- ❖ This longest transport tunnel in India Spanning a length of 14.58 km and known as tunnel no. 8, or the Janasu tunnel.



- ❖ This falls on the Devprayag to Janasu stretch of the Rishikesh-Karnaprayag line (Uttarakhand).
- ❖ The Rishikesh-Karnaprayag rail link project is 125.20 km long.
- ❖ Of this, 104 km or 83 per cent of it is in the form of tunnels.
- ❖ At present, the longest rail tunnel in India is 12.75 km long, between Khari and Sumer Stations on the Katra-Banihal Section of the Kashmir line.
- ❖ The longest road tunnel is the Atal tunnel on the Manali-Leh highway, which is 9.02 km long.

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