

April - 27

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced the establishment of a new university in Kumbakonam in honour of former chief minister M Karunanidhi.
- ❖ The Tamil Nadu State government will establish a residential training centre to accommodate 500 aspirants preparing for the civil services examination, at Shenoy Nagar in Chennai.
- ❖ “Tamilar Nidhi Nirvakam: Thonmaiyum Thodarchiyum (Tamils’ Fiscal Administration: Antiquity and Continuity)” was a publication brought out recently by the Finance Department of the Tamil Nadu government.
- ❖ Garia Puja, a religious festival which honours the deity Garia, is celebrated in Tripura.
- ❖ India’s Sourav Kothari clinched the 2025 IBSF World Billiards title after a victory over Pankaj Advani in the final in Carlow, Ireland.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### TN Startup Summit 2025

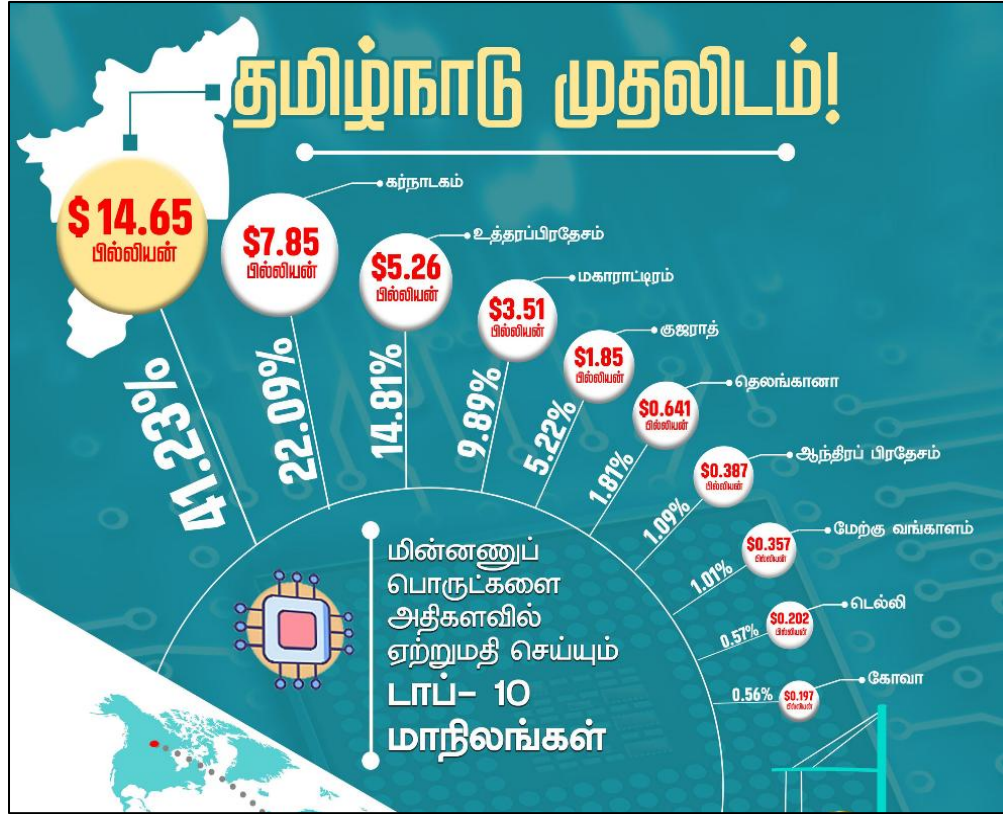


- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Startup Summit-25 was held recently.
- ❖ Until March 2021, only 2,032 start-ups were registered in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ Now, this number has increased to over 10,800.
- ❖ Around 50% of these are founded by women.
- ❖ Regional innovation centre had been planned in Thoothukudi in this fiscal year.

- ❖ In the last four years, regional innovation centres have been established in Erode, Tirunelveli, Hosur, Salem, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, and Coimbatore.

### Electronics exports in FY 2024-25

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has hit a historic high of \$14.65 billion in electronics exports in FY24-25.
- ❖ The State accounted for 41.23% of India's total electronics exports.
- ❖ It was \$9.56 billion last year and recorded a staggering 53% growth.



### Ban on Mayonnaise

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has banned the manufacture, storage, and sale of mayonnaise made with raw eggs for one year.
- ❖ This type of mayonnaise is considered a “high-risk food” that could cause food poisoning.
- ❖ Mayonnaise is described as a “semi-solid emulsion containing egg yolk, vegetable oil, vinegar, and other seasonings served with food items such as shawarma.

- ❖ Improper preparation and storage led to health issues due to contamination by salmonella typhimurium, salmonella enteritidis, escherichia coli and listeria monocytogenes.
- ❖ The order came into effect on April 8, and was put into motion under the Section 30(2)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.



## NATIONAL NEWS

### HEALD Initiative



- ❖ The Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences has launched the HEALD – the Healthy Liver Education and Alcohol-associated Liver Disease Prevention Initiative.
- ❖ It is a first-of-its-kind nationwide initiative aimed at tackling liver disease in India.
- ❖ The initiative helps to tackle the disease much through awareness, prevention, rehabilitation, and policy integration.





- ❖ It also aims to reduce the stigma surrounding alcohol dependence by integrating mental health support, community outreach, and policy reform into liver care.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Simla Agreement suspension

- ❖ Pakistan has announced the suspension of the Simla Agreement after India's suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty.
- ❖ The Indo-Pakistani War of 1971 was a significant conflict that led to the creation of Bangladesh.
- ❖ The Simla Agreement was signed between Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.
- ❖ It was formalised on July 2, 1972, in Shimla following the 1971 war.
- ❖ As per the treaty, the ceasefire line in Jammu and Kashmir was redefined as the Line of Control, with both sides committing not to alter it unilaterally.
- ❖ India handed back over 13,000 km<sup>2</sup> of territory captured during the war.
- ❖ However, it has retained several strategic areas in the Chhorbat Valley, including Turtuk and Tyakshi.

#### **What was the Shimla Agreement?**

**Signed in 1972. Meant to ensure peace.**

After the 1971 war and Bangladesh's birth, **Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto** signed the Shimla Agreement.

**It aimed to:**

**Resolve disputes** bilaterally (no third party)

**Maintain peace along the LoC**

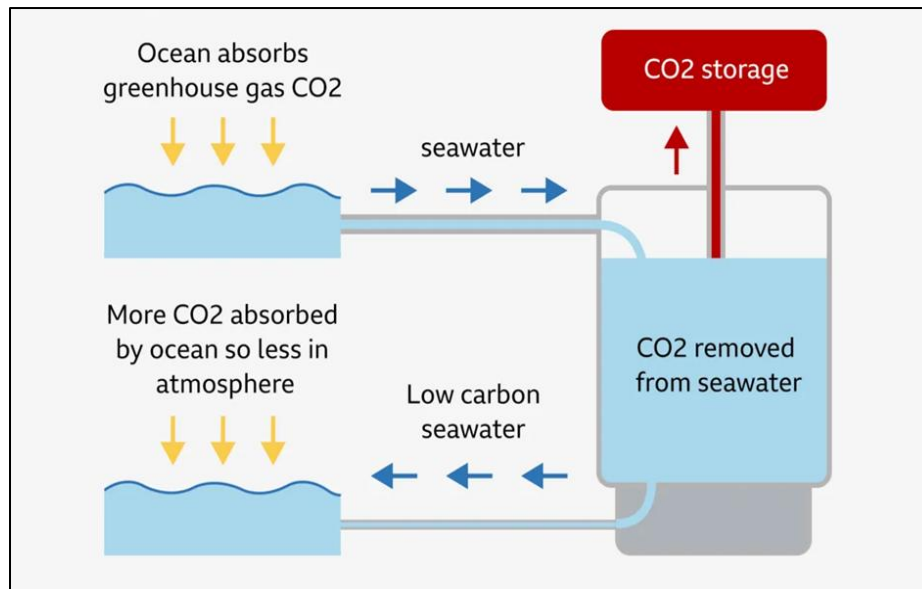
**Normalize ties:** diplomacy, trade, cultural exchange

**Respect sovereignty and territorial integrity**

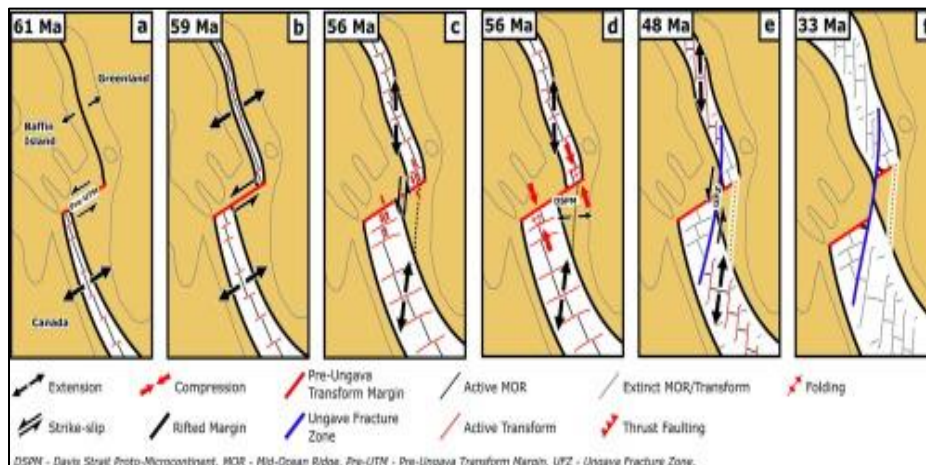
### Project SeaCURE

- ❖ A New project to suck carbon out of the sea has started operating on England's south coast.
- ❖ The small pilot scheme, known as SeaCURE, is funded by the UK government.

- ❖ This scheme is testing whether it might be more efficient to pull planet-warming carbon from the sea.
- ❖ Carbon present in greater concentrations in water than in the air.



### Davis Strait Proto – Microcontinent



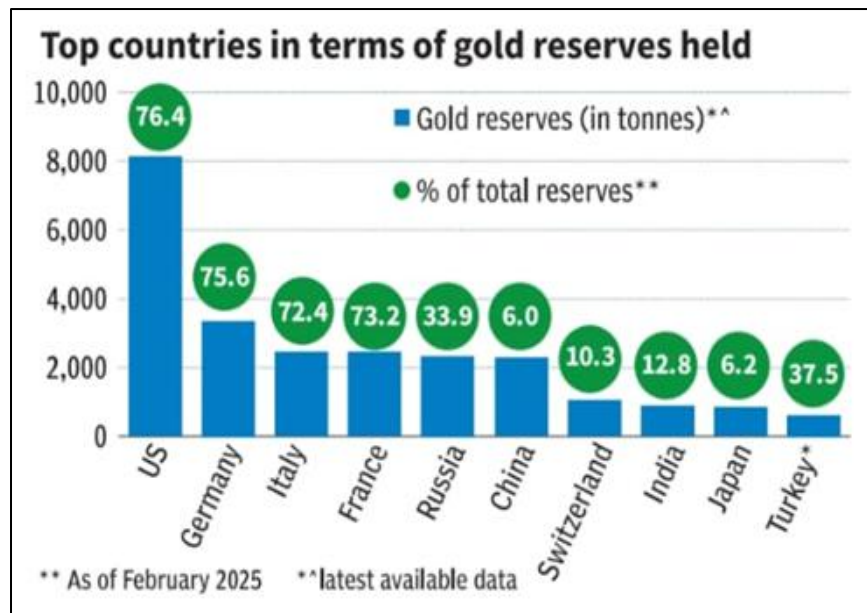
- ❖ New landmass has been unearthed under the frozen waters of the Davis Strait.
- ❖ This strait is the narrow ocean channel between Baffin Island in Canada and Greenland.
- ❖ The newly identified feature is now called the Davis Strait proto microcontinent.
- ❖ It is made up of abnormally thick continental crust and is about 12 to 15 miles (about 19 to 24 kilometres) wide.

- ❖ The Microcontinents are pieces of continental crust that have separated from extended landmasses but did not completely detach in major tectonic episodes.
- ❖ For this proto-microcontinent, it seems to have remained partially attached when Greenland and North America rifted.

## ECONOMY NEWS

### Gold' Share in Forex Reserve 2025

- ❖ India's forex reserves rose by \$1.5 billion to \$677.84 billion as of the week ending April 11, 2025
- ❖ Foreign currency assets, a key component of India's reserves, rose by \$0.8 billion to \$574.98 billion.
- ❖ Meanwhile, Gold reserves surged by \$638 million to \$79.9 billion.
- ❖ Further, Special Drawing Rights (SDR) were down \$6 million to \$18.35 billion.
- ❖ India's reserve position with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) rose by \$43 million to \$4.5 billion.
- ❖ India's gold share in foreign exchange reserves has nearly doubled from 6.7% in 2019 to 12% by February 2025.



### RBI's New LCR Guidelines

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released the final guidelines under the Basel III Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) framework.

- ❖ The new rules will come into effect from April 1, 2026.
- ❖ It will apply to all commercial banks, except the Payments Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), and Local Area Banks.
- ❖ LCR is a regulatory standard developed by the Basel Committee on the Banking Supervision.

## Big Relief

Internet and mobile  
banking enabled  
retail deposits – **2.5%**



Funding from trusts,  
partnerships, LLPs – **40%**

**6% points** – Improvement in  
net impact of final norms on  
banking system-level LCR

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### Former ISRO chief K Kasturirangan

- ❖ Kasturirangan, who served in ISRO for more than three and a half decades, has passed away.
- ❖ He headed the organisation between 1994 and 2003.
- ❖ He was the project director of India's first two experimental earth observation satellites BHASKARA-I & II.
- ❖ He steered the first operational Indian Remote Sensing satellite IRS-1A.
- ❖ He is a recipient of Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Vibhushan.
- ❖ Dr. Kasturirangan, served as a member of the Rajya Sabha, and was a member of the Planning Commission during the UPA government.
- ❖ More recently, he has chaired the drafting committee for the National Education Policy 2020.



- ❖ He was the head of the Kasturirangan Committee on Western Ghats ecological conservation.



### **36<sup>th</sup> Goldman environmental Prize 2025**



- ❖ These Prizes are awarded to the environmental activists from six geographical regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Islands and Island Nations, North America and the South and Central America.



- ❖ The African winner was Semia Gharbi from Tunisia.
- ❖ The Asia winner was Batmunkh Luvsandash from Mongolia.
- ❖ The European winners were Besjana Guri and Olsi Nika from Albania.
- ❖ The Islands and Island Nations winner was Carlos Mallo Molina from the Canary Islands.
- ❖ The South and Central American winner was Mari Luz Canaquiri Murayari from Peru.
- ❖ The North American winner was Laurene Allen from the US.

## SPORTS NEWS

### Asian U18 athletics championship 2025

GROUP STAGE				TOTAL
1.  CHINA	19	12	5	36
2.  JAPAN	3	3	1	7
3.  SAUDI ARABIA	3	1	2	6
4.  UZBEKISTAN	2	5	4	11
5.  QATAR	2	3	1	6
6.  HONG KONG	2	0	1	3
7.  UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	2	0	0	2
8.  INDIA	1	5	5	11
9.  SRI LANKA	1	3	4	8
10.  SINGAPORE	1	2	2	5

- ❖ Indian athletes won 11 medals - one gold, five silver and five bronze - at the Asian U18 Athletics Championships 2025 in Dammam, Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ Himanshu Jakhar made history by winning the country's first-ever Asian U18 Athletics Championships gold in the men's javelin throw.

- ❖ China has finished on top of the standings with 19 gold, 12 silver and 5 bronze medals.
- ❖ It is followed by Japan (7) and Saudi Arabia (6).

### **ISSF world cup 2025 - Lima**

- ❖ Indian shooters finished third at the ISSF World Cup in Lima, Peru.
- ❖ India's tally stands seven, including two gold, four silver and a bronze.
- ❖ USA also ended with seven medals, they edged ahead of India to take second place, with a higher gold medals count.
- ❖ China finished on top of the standings with four gold, three silver and six bronze medals.



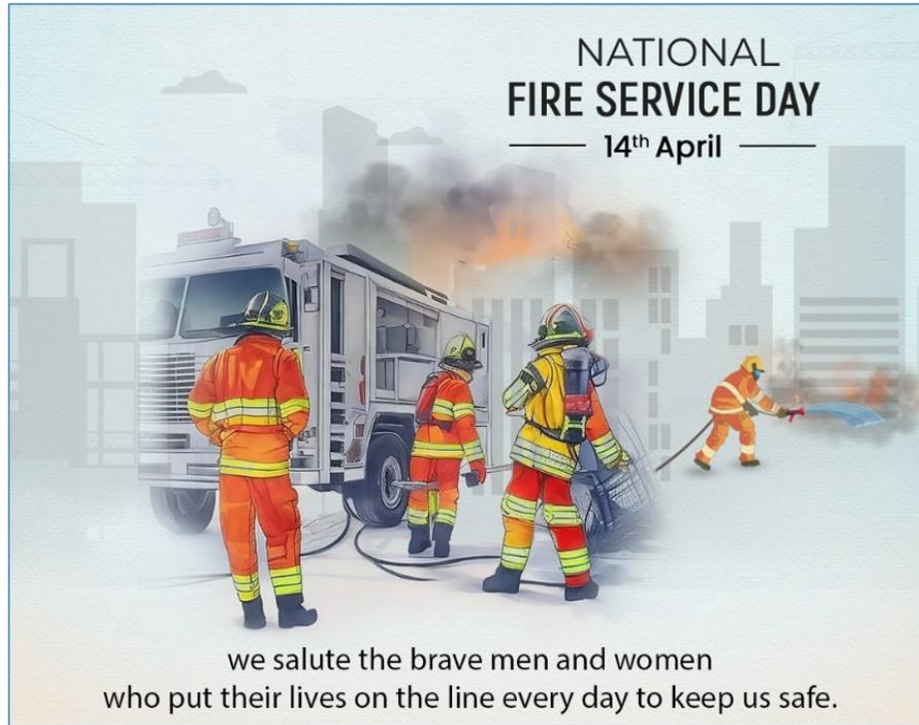
#POS	TEAM	GOLD	SILVER	BROZNE	TOTAL
1.	 CHINA	4	3	6	13
2.	 USA	4	2	1	7
3.	 INDIA	2	4	1	7
4.	 CZECHIA	2	0	1	3
5.	 NORWAY	1	2	0	3
6.	 ITALY	1	1	1	3
7.	 AUSTRALIA	1	0	0	1
8.	 GUATEMALA	0	1	1	--

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

### **National Fire services' Day 2025 - April 14**

- ❖ A fire on SS Fort Stikine in Bombay on April 14, 1944, caused a massive explosion and led to 66 firefighters' death.
- ❖ This day honors the courage, dedication, and sacrifices made by firefighters and fire service personnel.

- ❖ It aims to spread the awareness about fire safety and prevention and to remember the brave souls who lost their lives in the line of duty.



### **Fire service Week 2025 - April 14 to 20**

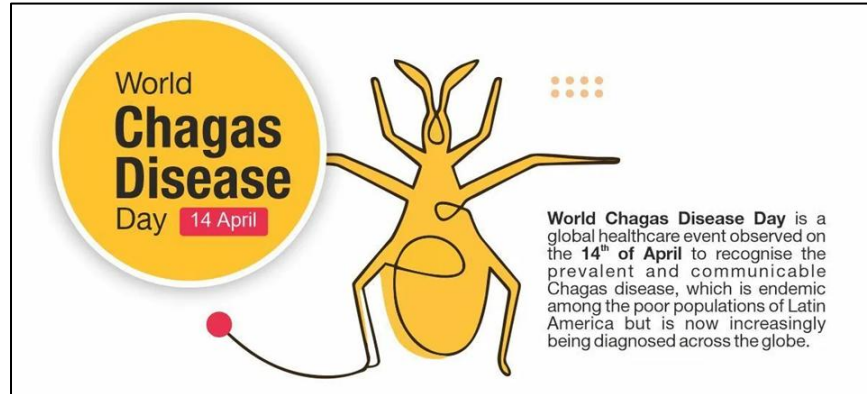


- ❖ It is organized under the guidance of the Fire Adviser, Ministry of Home Affairs.
- ❖ The National Safety Council has promoted this campaign since 1999.
- ❖ It aims to raise the fire safety awareness among employees, their families, and the public.



- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Unite to Ignite, a Fire-Safe India”.

### **World Chagas Disease Day 2025 - April 14**



- ❖ This day aims to raise the awareness about Chagas disease, a neglected tropical disease affecting millions globally.
- ❖ Chagas disease, also known as American trypanosomiasis, is a potentially life-threatening illness.
- ❖ It is caused by the protozoan parasite *Trypanosoma cruzi*.
- ❖ It's called a “silent and silenced disease” because most infected people show no or very mild symptoms.
- ❖ About 7 million people are infected globally, with around 10,000 deaths each year.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Prevent, Control, Care: Everyone’s role in Chagas disease.”

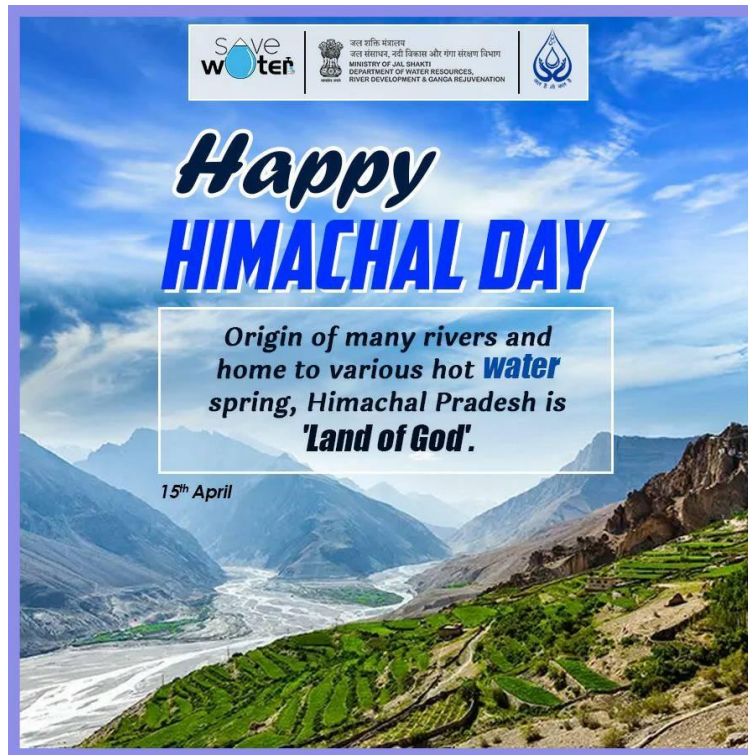
### **World Quantum Day 2025 - April 14**



- ❖ This day promotes global awareness of quantum science and technology.

- ❖ It is celebrated on April 14, inspired by 4.14 — the first digits of Planck's constant.
- ❖ The theme of the 2025 is "Every Day in 2025".

### **Himachal Day 2025 - April 15**



- ❖ 30 princely states in the area amalgamated, with the Chief Commissioner's province of Himachal Pradesh was established on April 15, 1948.
- ❖ It became a Union Territory on 01 November 1956.
- ❖ On 18 December 1970, the State of Himachal Pradesh Act was passed by the Parliament.
- ❖ Himachal Pradesh was designated as the 18<sup>th</sup> state on 25 January 1971 with Shimla as its capital.

### **World Art Day 2025 - April 15**

- ❖ This day is celebrated globally to honor art's power, cultural diversity, and artists' contributions.
- ❖ The date was chosen to mark Leonardo da Vinci's birth anniversary.
- ❖ It was first initiated in 2012 by the International Association of Art (IAA) at a conference in Guadalajara, Mexico.

- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Art for Unity and Healing”.



### **World Voice Day 2025 - April 16**



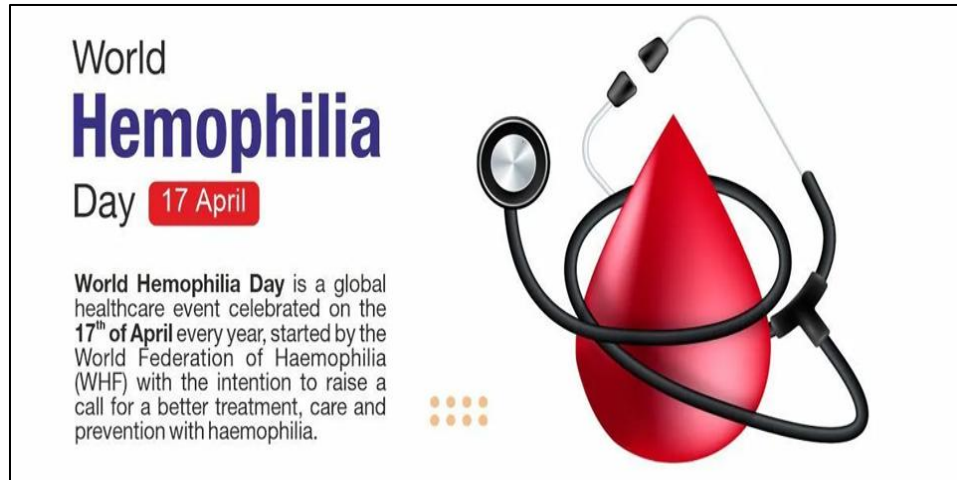
- ❖ This Day was first celebrated in Brazil in 1999 as Brazilian Voice Day.
- ❖ It was initiated by the ENT specialists, speech-language pathologists, and voice professionals to raise awareness about voice care.
- ❖ By 2002, the professionals from Europe and the U.S. joined this day, and it was officially declared World Voice Day.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Empower Your Voice”.

### **World Hemophilia Day 2025 - April 17**

- ❖ It aims to raise awareness about bleeding disorders.
- ❖ It was established by the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) in 1989.



- ❖ This date was chosen to honor the founder of WFH - Frank Schnabel.
- ❖ Hemophilia is a hereditary condition that impairs the body's ability to form blood clots, leading to prolonged bleeding.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Access for All – Women and Girls Bleed Too."



## World Heritage Day 2025 - April 18



- ❖ This Day is also called the International Day for Monuments and Sites.
- ❖ It honors and protects cultural and natural heritage.
- ❖ It appreciates the people and groups working to preserve these sites.
- ❖ The day was started in 1982 by ICOMOS.
- ❖ It was adopted by UNESCO in 1983.
- ❖ As of October 2024, there are 1,223 World Heritage Sites across 196 countries.
- ❖ India has 43 World Heritage Sites.

- ❖ The theme for this year is “Heritage under Threat from Disasters and Conflicts: Preparedness and Learning from 60 years of ICOMOS Actions.”

### **World Liver Day 2025 - April 19**

- ❖ This day raises the awareness about liver health, disease prevention, and the importance of a healthy lifestyle.
- ❖ It serves as a reminder that the liver is a vital organ responsible for metabolism, detoxification, immunity, and nutrient processing.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is “Food is Medicine”.



### **UN Chinese Language Day 2025 - April 20**



- ❖ UNESCO created Chinese Language Day in 2010 to celebrate Chinese as one of the UN's six official languages.
- ❖ The day also honors Cangjie, the legendary inventor of Chinese characters 5,000 years ago.

- ❖ The 2025 theme is “Chinese Language: A Gift Across Time and Space.”

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

### Akshvi Digital Wallet

- ❖ A one-of-its-kind e-digital wallet for disasters - Akshvi - has been launched in India.
- ❖ Akshvi is an acronym for Aapda Kshati Vivaran (Disaster Damages Description).
- ❖ It empowers the communities to self-report their losses, ensures their needs are prioritised, and tracks their progress transparently through digital e-wallets.
- ❖ It will bring all the affected communities across the country on a single digital platform.
- ❖ The ‘E- disaster wallets’ created for each household are now being linked to long-term social welfare schemes of the government, and index-based insurance programmes.

