

April – 23

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Ministry of AYUSH has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to boost scientific research and education on the traditional methods of treatment.
- ❖ Asia's first balloon satellite was launched by a team of girl students of Periyar Maniammai Institute of Technology, Thanjavur.
 - The satellite was named as SKI NSLV 9 (Near Space Launch Vehicle) Maniammai.
- ❖ Antares rocket built by Northrop Grumman recently lifted off from NASA's Wallops Flight Facility, Virginia carrying the "Cygnus Cargo Spacecraft" to the International Space Station.
 - The 20 mice aboard Cygnus will be used for scientific study, which aims to test the effectiveness of an anti-tetanus vaccine.
- ❖ Madras high court held that the term 'bride' as per the Hindu Marriage Act would also mean a transsexual and not just refer to someone born as a woman.

TAMIL NADU

Period. End of Sentence

- ❖ Social entrepreneur from Coimbatore Arunachalam Muruganantham figures in the list of World's 50 Greatest Leaders 2019 by Fortune Magazine.
- ❖ He is ranked 45th in the list released recently.
- ❖ "Period. End of Sentence" a documentary that reflects his work, had won an Oscar in the Best Short Documentary category this year.
- ❖ He is the inventor of a low-cost sanitary pad-making machine.
- ❖ He is credited for innovating grassroots mechanisms for generating awareness about traditional unhygienic practices around menstruation in rural India.

Circular Service

- ❖ Southern Railway has introduced the first circular suburban train service in Chennai division.
- ❖ It is the country's longest circular route covering 235.5km.

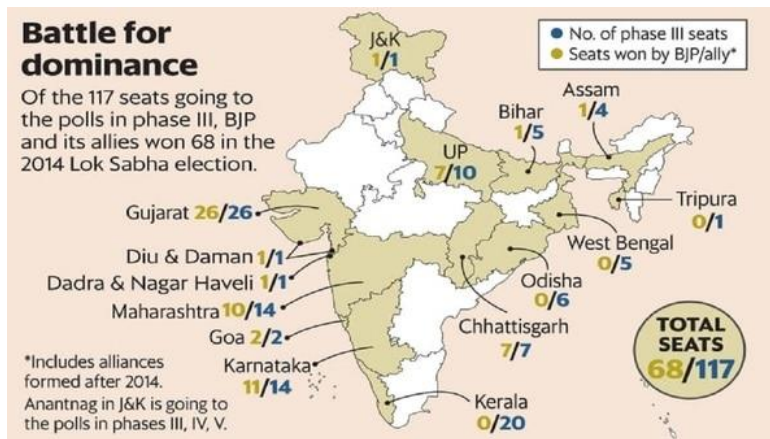
- ❖ Currently Kolkata suburban railway has 35 km circular route which was the longest in the country.



NATIONAL

Largest Poll Phase

- ❖ The third and the largest phase of Lok Sabha election in 116 seats is held on April 23.
- ❖ All constituencies in Gujarat and Kerala go for polls.



- ❖ Rahul Gandhi contests from Kerala's Wayanad constituency.
- ❖ Anantnag constituency in Jammu & Kashmir would be going to polls in 3 parts in Phase III, Phase IV and Phase V.
- ❖ It is the only such parliamentary constituency in the country.

INTERNATIONAL

Amartya Sen

- ❖ The London School of Economics (LSE) has announced the establishment of the Amartya Sen Chair in “Inequality Studies”.
- ❖ The decision was taken to honour the Nobel laureate who has also served as the Professor of Economics at LSE.
- ❖ Amartya Sen was awarded Noble Prize in the year 1998 for his works in Welfare Economics.
- ❖ Welfare economics is a branch of economics that seeks to evaluate economic policies in terms of their effects on the well-being of the community.

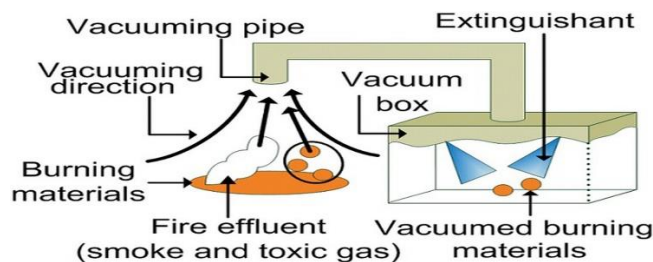
Ukraine President

- ❖ Ukrainians have chosen their new president, the 41-year-old television comedian and actor Volodymyr Zelensky.
- ❖ He became popular by playing the role of a fictional president in the popular local comedy “Servant of the People.”
- ❖ Ukraine is the only country in the world, other than Israel, with both a Jewish prime minister (Volodymyr Groysman) and a Jewish president.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Unique Fire Extinguisher

- ❖ Scientists have developed a novel fire extinguisher that sucks in the flame as well as the combustion products.



- ❖ The Vacuum Extinguish Method (VEM) is designed by researchers at the Toyohashi University of Technology in Japan.

- ❖ It will be suitable for the special environments that are highly enclosed such as space vehicles and submarines.

ENVIRONMENT

Olive Ridley

- ❖ Approximately 1.25 Lakhs of baby Olive ridley turtles swam into the sea at Kalam Island off the Odisha coast.
- ❖ The olive ridley is classified as “Vulnerable” according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), and is listed in Appendix I of CITES.



- ❖ The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a multilateral treaty to protect endangered plants and animals.
- ❖ It is also known as the Washington Convention.
- ❖ CITES entered into force on 1 July 1975.
- ❖ The following are the major nesting grounds of Olive ridley turtle in India

Gahirmatha beach	Astaranga coast
Beach of Rushikulya River	Devi River mouth
Andhra Pradesh	Hope Island of Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary

Bali Volcano

- ❖ Mount Agung the active volcano of Bali, Indonesia has erupted again, spewing volcanic ash into the sky to a height of 2km.
- ❖ Mount Agung is also located along the Pacific Ring of Fire.
- ❖ The horseshoe-shaped Ring of Fire, which is 25,000 miles-long, is known for its chain of volcanoes.
- ❖ The Ring is also said to be the location for 90 per cent of the world's earthquakes.



SPORTS

Gomathi Marimuthu

- ❖ Trichy's Gomathi Marimuthu has won India's first gold medal of the Asian Athletics Championships 2019 held in Doha.
- ❖ She won the 800m finals with a personal best timing of 2:20.70s.
- ❖ It was the 30-year-old Tamil Nadu athlete's first major gold.



Santhosh Trophy

- ❖ The Services team has lifted the Santosh Trophy, beating Punjab 1-0 in the final at Ludhiana.
- ❖ The Santosh Trophy is a football knock-out competition contested by the regional state associations and government institutions.
- ❖ It is conducted by the All India Football Federation (AIFF), the governing body of football in India.
- ❖ Santhosh tournament started in 1941.
- ❖ It was named after the late Maharaja Sir Manmatha Nath Roy Chowdhary of Santosh (the place is now in Bangladesh).
- ❖ At that time, he was the President of the Indian Football Association and the donator of the trophy.
- ❖ The top three contestants in the tournament are awarded as

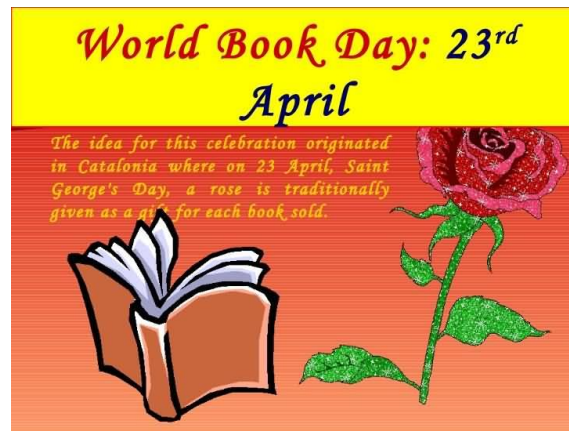
Position	Name of the Trophy	Donor
Winner	Santhosh Trophy	Maharaja of Santhosh
Runner-up	Kamla Gupta Trophy	Former head of Indian Football association head S.K.Gupta

Third Place	The Sampangi Cup	Karnataka State Football association
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IMPORTANT DAYS

World Book Day

- ❖ World Book Day, also known as World Book and Copyright Day or International Day of the Book is observed on April 23.
- ❖ The event is organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to promote reading, publishing, and copyright.



- ❖ The day was first observed on April 23, 1995.
 - ❖ It is the date on which several prominent authors, William Shakespeare, Miguel Cervantes and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega all died.
 - ❖ The 2019 Book day plans to celebrate literature and reading with special focus on “protecting Indigenous languages”.
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