

April – 25

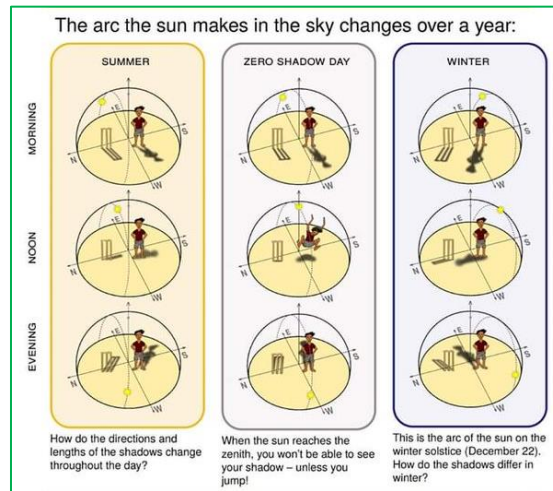
TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Indonesia has released a special commemorative stamp on the theme of Ramayana to mark the 70th anniversary of establishment of its diplomatic ties with India.
 - The stamp features a scene from Kakawin Ramayana in which Jatayu valiantly fought to save Sita.
- ❖ StartupBlink has ranked 100 countries for startup environment of countries globally.
 - India is ranked 17th out of 120 countries.
- ❖ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has said that in order to curb fake, sub-standard and expired drugs, drug names and expiry date during tendering will be in Hindi/regional language along with English.
- ❖ The Ministry of Finance has asked all the departments to undertake a review of government guarantees given by respective ministries to their Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) or entities.
- ❖ According to the Financing for Sustainable Development Report (FSDR) 2019, Mobilizing sufficient resources to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development continues to be a central challenge at a global level.
- ❖ Malayalam film "Bhayanakam" (Fear) directed by Jayaraj won the best cinematography award at the Beijing International Film Festival.

TAMIL NADU

Zero Shadow Day

- ❖ Chennai observed Zero Shadow Day on 25-04-19.
- ❖ On this day the sun will be exactly overhead.
- ❖ It will cast almost no shadow of objects on the ground.
- ❖ This happens two times a year.
- ❖ This is because the sun rays will hit the surface perpendicularly on the object.
- ❖ Therefore, the shadow of the object will be directly beneath it.



- ❖ It occurs at different times in different places around the world
- ❖ In India, it is usually observed in April and September.
- ❖ It occurs only at places located between Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn.
- ❖ Therefore, Indian places like Delhi, Allahabad, Srinagar, located away from the Tropic of Cancer have no zero-shadow day.

NATIONAL

Democracy Index 2018

- ❖ The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) has released a report named “Democracy Index 2018: Me too? Political participation, protest and Democracy.”
- ❖ This is the 11th edition of the Democracy Index, which began in 2006.
- ❖ The report has kept India in the category of Flawed Democracy.
- ❖ Countries are categorised as
 - Full democracy
 - Flawed democracy
 - Hybrid regime
 - Authoritarian regime



Dentists and General Physicians

- ❖ Niti Ayog has agreed to the proposal of the Dental Council of India to allow dentists to practice as general physicians after a bridge course.
- ❖ This plan is to address the shortage of doctors in the country, particularly in rural areas.
- ❖ A bridge course of 3 years post Bachelor of Dental Science (BDS) is recommended.
- ❖ The syllabus curriculum, scheme of examination, method of evaluation, degrees and registration all these criteria will be the same as recommended for MBBS.

INTERNATIONAL

State of the World: Population Report

- ❖ United Nations Population Fund's (UNFP) has released the State of World Population 2019 report.
- ❖ It states that India's population grew at an average of 1.2 % annually between 2010 and 2019.
- ❖ It was more than double the annual growth rate of China.
- ❖ The report includes, for the first time, data on women's (aged between 15-49) ability to make decisions over three key areas:
 - Sexual intercourse with their partner
 - Contraception use
 - Health care
- ❖ The absence of reproductive and sexual rights has major and negative repercussions on women's education, income and safety.

ECONOMY

Strong Action

- ❖ The Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Authority has ordered The Peerless General Finance and Investment Company to transfer deposits worth about Rs 1,514 crore to the IEPF.
- ❖ Money deposited by 1 Crore individual investors was pending with The Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited for the last 15 years.



- ❖ IEPF was set up under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs as a statutory body under Companies Act 2013.

Data Localisation

- ❖ U.S. technology industry groups are protesting against India's data localisation plans.
- ❖ They fear that it will increase scrutiny and costs.
- ❖ RBI issued a directive on data localisation in April 2018.
- ❖ It has mandated all payments companies, global and local, to set up data storage facilities within India by October 2018.
- ❖ Most of the major companies are yet to meet the norms.
- ❖ B.N. Srikrishna committee on data privacy recommended that all "critical personal data" should be processed only within the country.

ENVIRONMENT

Peatlands

- ❖ The recent United Nations Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya, has adopted its first ever resolution on peatlands.
- ❖ It aims to give an impetus to conservation and restoration efforts.
- ❖ Peatlands are a type of wetlands.
- ❖ It refers to the peat soil and the wetland habitat growing on its surface.

SPORTS

Jeremy Lalrinnunga

- ❖ Mizoram's 16-year-old Weight Lifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga has smashed the Youth World Record and Asian records in Asian Athletics 2019.
- ❖ The 16-year-old pulled off clean lifts in two of his three attempts (130kg, 134kg)
- ❖ Jeremy broke 15 records in total, combining national and international marks.



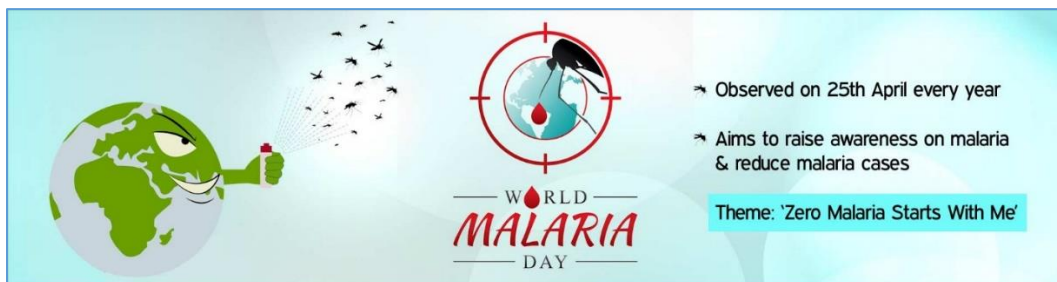
IMPORTANT DAYS

International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace – April 24

- ❖ On April 24 2019, the First official International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace was celebrated.
- ❖ It was officially approved on 12 December, 2018 by United Nations General Assembly through a resolution.
- ❖ The day aims to promote the advantages of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace through educational and public awareness-raising activities.

World Malaria Day – April 25

- ❖ World Malaria Day is an international observance commemorated every year on 25 April
- ❖ The day recognizes global efforts to control malaria.
- ❖ World Malaria Day (WMD) was established in May 2007 by the 60th session of the World Health Assembly - World Health Organisation's decision-making body.



- ❖ Prior to the establishment of WMD, Africa Malaria Day was held on April 25.
- ❖ The theme of 2019 WMD is “Zero malaria starts with me”.

International Girls in ICT Day – April 25

- ❖ International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated every year on the fourth Thursday of April.
- ❖ ICT - Information and Communications Technology
- ❖ This year it is celebrated on April 25.
- ❖ It aims to encourage and empower girls and young women to consider studies and careers in the growing field of ICTs.
- ❖ The day has been observed since 2012 by the member of International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

