

## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 22, 2022

### TAMIL NADU

- On April 21, Chief Minister M K Stalin - made various announcements in the Assembly for youth welfare and sports development, including establishing a mega sports city near Chennai.



- ✓ The CM said that a modern sports complex would be built in North Chennai with state-of-the-art facilities for volleyball, badminton, basketball, boxing, kabaddi and other indoor games, besides a modern gymnasium at ₹10 crore.
- ✓ Making a suo motu statement in the assembly under Rule 110, the chief minister said the state government had been extending incentives upto ₹3 crore to encourage sportsmen and women of Tamil Nadu win medals at international event
- ✓ The government will set up Olympic Academies in each of the four zones in the state to win medals at international events, said the CM
- ✓ Further, the CM announced 3% reservation in employment for silambam champions

- ✓ The chief minister said small stadiums would be built in all 234 assembly constituencies at a cost of ₹3 crore each to facilitate the youth from poor and middle-income groups in rural and urban areas get the benefits.
- ✓ Among other announcements, an ambitious 'Olympic Gold Quest' programme will be implemented at a cost of ₹25 crore to guide sportspersons from Tamil Nadu to win medals in international sports competitions like the Olympics.
- ✓ The state government would build a massive jallikattu arena in Alanganallur, Madurai, which has been drawing visitors from abroad annually
- ✓ The government will revive ATP Chennai Open tennis tournament (which last took place in 2017) and Beach Olympics in the state capital.
- ✓ Referring to the 44th Chess Olympiad to be held in Mahabalipuram in July-August this year, the CM said teams from about 180 countries are expected to participate in the event and a committee has been formed for holding that event successfully

## STATES

- **On April 20, the Uttar Pradesh government – has decided to provide birth certificate and caste certificate for every newborn child within 15 days of an application being made**
  - ✓ This was decided in a meeting chaired by CM Yogi Adityanath
  - ✓ The decision is seen as an extension of BJP's attempt to seamlessly implement welfare schemes for socially backward communities
  - ✓ To get the caste certificate, an applicant needs to submit request to the tahsildar concerned in the prescribed format along with a certificate from a ward member.
  - ✓ Two witnesses must certify the caste of the applicant at the time of submitting the request
  - ✓ The tahsildar will get an inquiry report from the revenue inspector, based on which the official will issue the caste certificate within a week.

## NATIONAL

- **On April 21, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - addressed the nation from the Red Fort to mark the 400th birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur.**



- ✓ PM Modi is the first prime minister to deliver a speech at the Mughal-era monument after sunset.
- ✓ The Prime Minister addressed the nation from the lawns of the Red Fort and not its ramparts.
- ✓ The Red fort was chosen as the venue for the event as it was from here that Mughal ruler Aurangzeb had given orders for the execution of Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru, in 1675
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi released a commemorative coin and postage stamp on the occasion
- ✓ A book of poetry and comic books for children in English, Hindi and Punjabi, which narrate the life and sacrifices of Guru Tegh Bahadur was also released
- ✓ The PM further released three animation films and 13 short films on the Sikh Guru's life.
- ✓ Earlier, for the first time, the Red Fort of Delhi was illuminated on the occasion of Prakash Parv.



- ✓ Chief Ministers from many states and various prominent personalities from across the country and abroad took part in the celebrations.
- ✓ A museum has also been built at the Red Fort so that people can get information about Guru Tegh Bahadur.
- ✓ The two-day mega event was organised by the Union Ministry of Culture at Red Fort, in collaboration with the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee
- ✓ The programme is focused on highlighting the teachings of Guru Tegh Bahadur, who sacrificed his life to protect religion and human values, ideals and principles in world history.
- ✓ The two-day festivities, celebrated as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, were kicked off by Union home minister Amit Shah a day earlier on April 20, 2022
- ✓ Guru Tegh Bahadur is the Sikh guru who stood up against forcible conversions by the Mughals.
- ✓ Tegh Bahadur was born in Amritsar on April 21, 1621 to Mata Nanki and Guru Hargobind, the sixth Sikh guru, who raised an army against the Mughals and introduced the concept of warrior saints.

- ✓ His death anniversary is commemorated as Shaheedi Divas every year on November 24
- **UK Prime Minister, Boris Johnson's two-day visit to India - began in Gujarat on April 21.**



- ✓ British Prime Minister Boris Johnson arrived in Ahmedabad, Gujarat to begin his long-pending trip to India that was delayed due to the pandemic.
- ✓ Boris Johnson was received by Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Governor Acharya Devvrat at the Ahmedabad airport.
- ✓ This will be the first time a UK Prime Minister will visit Gujarat, India's fifth-largest state and the ancestral home of around half of the British-Indian population in the UK.
- ✓ Johnson's visit to India is expected to focus on economic ties and the war in Ukraine
- ✓ On his first day of visit in Gujarat, the British PM met leading business group leaders and discussed the UK and India's thriving commercial, trade, and people's links.
- ✓ During the visit, UK and Indian businesses announced investments and export deals worth over £1 billion, in areas from software engineering to health
- ✓ The UK PM further announced that more than 11,000 UK jobs will be created through new India trade.
- ✓ Science and tech collaborations, including a digital health partnership and a joint investment fund for Indian deep-tech and AI start-ups, supported by both the governments, new AI scholarships for Indian students jointly funded by the UK government's Chevening programme and India's Adani Group and a £6 million investment by AI healthcare specialists Qure.ai to open a centre of excellence in the UK are among the initiatives announced during the visit
- ✓ Boris Johnson visited the Sabarmati Ashram before heading to the newly inaugurated manufacturing facility of JCB, a British construction equipment firm, near Halol in Panchmahal district



- ✓ 'The Spirit's Pilgrimage', the autobiography of Madeleine Slade or Mirabehn, the daughter of a British admiral who became the Mahatma Gandhi's disciple was gifted to UK PM Boris Johnson by Sabarmati Ashram
- ✓ 'Guide to London', one of the first few books written by Mahatma Gandhi which never got published was also gifted to UK PM Boris Johnson by Sabarmati ashram
- ✓ British PM Boris Johnson met industrialist Gautam Adani later on the first day of his visit
- ✓ On April 22, Johnson will attend a ceremonial reception at Rashtrapati Bhawan and later a wreath-laying at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi.
- ✓ The UK Prime Minister will then travel to New Delhi to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- ✓ During the meeting, the leaders will hold in-depth talks on the UK and India's strategic defence, diplomatic and economic partnership, aimed at bolstering close partnership and stepping up security cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.
- ✓ The UK Prime Minister will also hold talks with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.
- ✓ During the visit, Johnson will focus in the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations launched earlier this year
- ✓ The deal is expected to boost UK's total trade by up to 28 billion pounds annually by 2035 and increase incomes across the UK by up to 3 billion pounds.
- ✓ Last year, Johnson and PM Modi agreed on a UK-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
- ✓ Under the partnership, more than 530 million pounds of investment into the UK was announced along with a commitment to a deeper bilateral relationship across trade, health, climate, defence and security.
- ✓ India was also identified as a priority relationship for the UK in the 2021 Integrated Review and was invited by the UK as a guest to last year's G7 in Carbis Bay
- ✓ The third round of negotiations on the proposed Free Trade Agreement will begin next week

- **The drug regulator's expert panel on Covid vaccines - has recommended granting emergency use authorisation to Biological E's Corbevax for use in children in the 5-11 years age group.**
- ✓ The final approval to Corbevax by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) is expected by next week.
- ✓ The move may allow government to further expand vaccination coverage by lowering the eligible age for receiving Covid vaccine shots
- ✓ Meanwhile, Bharat Biotech has also sought emergency authorisation for use of Covaxin in children between two and 11 years old
- ✓ However, the regulatory subject expert committee on Covid jabs asked the company to submit additional data from trials to review the application.
- ✓ At present, both Corbevax and Covaxin can be used in children 12 years and above.
- ✓ India began inoculating children aged 12-14 on March 16, 2022.
  
- **On April 21, ministry of skill development, and entrepreneurship – launched a national apprenticeship mela across over 700 locations in the country**



- ✓ More than 4,000 organisations participated in the Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela.
- ✓ The objective of this mela is to encourage the hiring of approximately one lakh apprentices and to assist employers in identifying and developing their potential through training and practical skill sets.
- ✓ The stipends would be paid online and academic credit will be awarded to apprentices which can be used for future pathways.
- ✓ Dharmendra Pradhan, Union education and skill development minister inaugurated the mela
- ✓ The ministry is planning to conduct the mela every month and expects to engage 10 lakh youngsters over the next one year
- ✓ Individuals having a Class V to XII pass certificate, a skill training certificate, an ITI diploma, or a graduate degree were eligible to participate in the mela.

- ✓ Organisations from more than 30 industries participated in the event.
- **Government think tank, Niti Aayog - unveiled the draft battery swapping policy on April 21.**
  - ✓ It stipulates the minimum technical and operational requirements that battery swapping ecosystems would need to fulfil
  - ✓ The policy aims to enable effective, efficient, reliable, safe, and customer-friendly implementation of battery-swapping infrastructure.
  - ✓ It seeks to create a framework for greater inter-operability, while safeguarding the innovation potential for the EV battery ecosystem.
  - ✓ The policy has proposed that the GST Council may consider reducing the differential across the tax rates for Lithium-ion batteries and Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE), which are at 18% and 5%
  - ✓ It backs fiscal incentives and said demand side incentives offered under existing or new schemes for EV purchase can be made available to EVs with swappable batteries eligible under this policy.
  - ✓ The size of the incentive could be determined based on the kilowatt-hour rating of the battery and compatible EV.
  - ✓ It is also proposed that a seamless mechanism for the disbursement of subsidies shall be worked out by the concerned ministry or department
- **On April 22, the central government - will launch a pan India scheme which will involve setting-up Dr Ambedkar Centres for Excellence (DACE) in 31 central universities across the country.**
  - ✓ The centres of excellence are being set up to provide high quality free coaching facilities to the Scheduled Caste students for the Civil Services exams, conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
  - ✓ Minister for social justice and empowerment Virendra Kumar will launch the programme at Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi.

## SPORTS

- **India's Sarita Mor - became the first woman wrestler from the country to win a record fourth Asian Championships medal**



- ✓ On April 21, Sarita, hailing from Haryana's Sonapat district, clinched a bronze with a win over Kazakhstan's Diana Kayumova in the Ulaanbaatar continental meet in Mongolia
- ✓ Sarita had entered the competition as twice defending champion in the 59kg category, having won the title in 2020 (New Delhi) and 2021 (Almaty).
- ✓ Sarita's teammate Sushma Shokeen also secured bronze medal in the 55kg category.

## INTERNATIONAL DAY

### ➤ World Creativity and Innovation Day – April 21



- ✓ The Day is observed every year to raise awareness about the important roles that innovation and creativity play in human development.
- ✓ World Creativity and Innovation Day was founded by a Canadian woman named Marci Segal on May 25, 2001 in Toronto, Canada
- ✓ The resolution to observe the Day was passed on April 27, 2017 by UN General Assembly and the first World Creativity and Innovation Day was celebrated in 2018

