

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 15, 2023

TAMIL NADU

- On April 14, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) - launched the National Common Mobility Card or Singara Chennai Card as part of the multimodal and ticket integration plan.

QUICK FACTS

➤ Launched by the CMRL with the State Bank of India, the card can be used in the Mumbai, Bengaluru, Delhi, Kanpur metros and transport buses in Goa and in retail outlets

➤ Soon, commuters may be able to use it in MTC buses and suburban trains

➤ It can also be used for toll, parking, Ola and Uber services

➤ Presently, the card can be pre-loaded with a minimum of



₹100 and a maximum of ₹2,000

➤ In three months, the card can be linked to an SBI bank account and can be used as a debit card

- ✓ State Bank of India has collaborated with CMRL for the launching of card.
- ✓ The card, which can be used on metro trains now and on MTC buses and suburban trains later, can also be used in other metros.
- ✓ The card can be had for free on production of a government identity proof.
- ✓ It is available at metro stations at Koyambedu, Central, Airport, High Court, Alandur, Thirumangalam and Guindy, besides SBI branches.
- ✓ At present, it can be preloaded with cash from Rs.100 to Rs.2,000, with a 1.8% commission charged by SBI.
- ✓ It can be topped up at metro stations or on SBI's exclusive online portal.
- ✓ While the card can be linked to an SBI account, commuters can also purchase and use Rupay NCMC enabled cards from other banks.
- ✓ Since, the card forms a part of NCMC, it can be used across all metro systems in the country.

- ✓ SBI has a stock of 38,000 cards across seven metros.
- ✓ In 2019, the NCM card was first in Noida and Nagpur.
- ✓ This year, so far, the card has been launched in Mumbai, Kanpur and Chennai.

STATES

- **On April 14, Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao - unveiled the 125-ft tall bronze statue of BR Ambedkar in Hyderabad, to mark the 132nd birth anniversary of the architect of the Indian Constitution.**



- ✓ The statue in Hyderabad is India's tallest statue of Ambedkar.
- ✓ The statue was built using 360 tonnes of stainless steel and 114 tonnes of bronze, at a cost of Rs 146.50 crore.
- ✓ It is located on the banks of Hyderabad's famed Hussain Sagar lake, near to the State Secretariat and the Telangana Martyrs memorial.
- ✓ The ceremony was organized on a large scale, with over 35,000 people from all 119 constituencies in Telangana attended.
- ✓ Ambedkar's grandson Prakash Ambedkar was invited as the chief guest at the event.
- ✓ During the event, Chief Minister KCR had praised the Padma Bhushan-awardee sculptor, 98-year-old Ram Vanji Sutar, for making a big effort on the statue.
- ✓ The new Telangana State Secretariat building is named after 'Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat' as part of the continuation of the aspiration of the great leader, he added.
- ✓ On April 14, Ambedkar Jayanti or Bhim Jayanti is celebrated to honour the memory of Indian politician and social reformer B. R. Ambedkar
- ✓ Under Rule 110 of the Assembly, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin said in the year 2022 that the state of Tamil Nadu would observe April 14 as "Samathuva Naal," or "Equality Day," in honour of BR Ambedkar
- ✓ This choice was made to honour Babasaheb's efforts to put an end to caste- and religion-based discrimination.

- ✓ Meanwhile, Canada's British Columbia Province has proclaimed April 14, the birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar, 'Dr BR Ambedkar Equality Day'
- ✓ Notably, April is also observed as Dalit History Month in British Columbia.
- ✓ Dr BR Ambedkar was born April 14, 1891 and was a politician, economist and social reformer, known as the 'Father of the Indian Constitution' who advocated for the rights of Dalit communities and led the movement against systemic discrimination based on caste.

NATIONAL

- **Minister for fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying Parshottam Rupala - launched two animal health initiatives on April 14**
- ✓ The two animal health initiatives are the Animal Pandemic Preparedness Initiative (APPI) and the World Bank-funded Animal Health System Support for One Health (AHSSOH)



- ✓ They were launched in order to control zoonotic diseases transmitted from animals to humans.
- ✓ These initiatives were aimed at improving preparedness and response to potential animal pandemics, in line with the One Health approach.
- ✓ The AHSSOH project covers 151 districts in five participating states — Assam, Odisha, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
- ✓ Under the initiative, the activities undertaken include upgradation of 75 district/regional laboratories, strengthening of 300 veterinary hospitals/dispensaries and training of 9,000 para-veterinarians/diagnostic professionals and 5,500 veterinary professionals.
- ✓ The collaborative project will be implemented over a five-year period as a central sector scheme with a financial provision of over Rs. 1228 crore.
- ✓ The APPI, on the other hand, aims to track animal diseases through large-scale digital surveillance, create disease modelling algorithms and early warning

systems, bring synergies in advancement in vaccines for human beings among others.

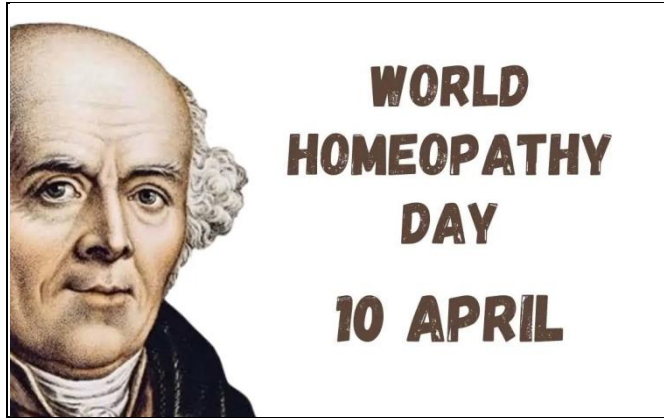
- ✓ In 2021-22, India's milk output was 221 million tonnes compared to 208 million tonnes in the previous year.

SPORTS

- **The All India Football Federation (AIFF) - has decided to revamp and restructure Women's Football in the country, in line with the Strategic Roadmap Vision 2047 as decided on January 7, 2023.**
- ✓ On April 14, the AIFF announced a minimum wage for women football players playing in the Indian Women's League (IWL)
- ✓ Going forward, It will be mandatory for the top eight participating teams in the IWL to have a minimum of 10 Indian players on an annual contract worth a minimum of Rs.3.2 lakhs
- ✓ The decision was taken at the federation's executive committee meeting earlier in the day
- ✓ The AIFF has also decided to bar foreign players from participating in the I-League Division 2 along with prominent state leagues such as Calcutta Football League (CFL), and Goa League
- ✓ The Merdeka Cup, an erstwhile regular feature in the men's calendar, will be back this year alongside Kings Cup in Bangkok.
- ✓ The executive committee has decided to create 'Project Diamond', a player development programme for elite footballers in line with FIFA's Talent Development Scheme (TDS).
 - ✓ The FIFA Talent Development Scheme (TDS), led by FIFA chief of global football development, Arsene Wenger, will play an active role in Project Diamond.
 - ✓ All development wings of Indian football, including those of ISL and I-League clubs, and elite academies, are expected to be a part of it
 - ✓ AIFF president Kalyan Chaubey confirmed that the Arsene Wenger-led TDS will be arriving in India on May 3.
- ✓ A comprehensive grassroots overhaul programme — Blue Cubs — was also launched with the aim of strengthening the senior men's team by bringing and scouting talent at the youngest ages
 - ✓ The programme will be conducted in collaboration with the government, NGOs, clubs and other entities
 - ✓ It is part of the Vision 2047 promise that states that 25 million children will be provided football education, as part of the FIFA project 'Football for Schools'.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

- **World Homeopathy Day - April 10**



- ✓ World Homeopathy Day is celebrated on April 10 to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of homeopathy, German physician Samuel Hahnemann.
- ✓ This day is observed to honour homeopathy and its contributions to the field of health.
- ✓ Samuel Hahnemann, a distinguished scholar and doctor from France, was born in Paris on April 10, 1755.
 - ✓ While practising, he found that in order to treat a patient's sickness, the ingredients that cause the disease's symptoms must be administered.
 - ✓ He developed the principle of 'similia similibus curentur', meaning 'let like cure like', in the late 18th century.
- ✓ In India, World Homeopathy Day is celebrated under the aegis of the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India
- ✓ The Central Council for Research in Homeopathy under the AYUSH ministry will hold an event on this day
- ✓ Homeopathy is considered one of India's most popular medical systems.
- ✓ Homoeopathy medicines are made from natural ingredients like minerals, plants, and animals.
- ✓ These medicines are safe to use as it is claimed that they rarely cause side effects.
- ✓ It has been used for centuries to treat diseases like allergies, asthma, depression or anxiety
- ✓ Theme 2023 - 'One Health, One Family'

