

EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS-APRIL 19,2022

TAMIL NADU

- **The Chennai port - has set a record by importing 1,23,300 tonnes of crude oil on a single day.**
- ✓ The consignment was handled by the importer M/s. Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL) and the steamer Agent M/s. Atlantic Global Shipping Pvt. Ltd.,
- ✓ The record import was done by M.T. Marathi at Marathi Dock 3 on April 14
- ✓ The port's last highest handling of crude oil import was about 1,15,000 tonnes by M.T.Crimson on August, 9, 2020.

NATIONAL

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - will address the nation from the Red Fort on the 400th Parkash Purab (birth anniversary) of Sikh guru Tegh Bahadur on April 21, 2022**



Image: News18 Punjabi

- ✓ The PM will also release a commemorative coin and postage stamp on the occasion
- ✓ 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

- ✓ To relive the life, struggles and valour of Guru Tegh Bahadur, a 15-minute light and sound multimedia show will be held to mark the start of the two-day programme on April 20-21.
 - ✓ Union home minister Amit Shah will open the programme at the Red Fort on April 20 and PM Modi will address the nation on April 21
 - ✓ This will make PM Modi as the first prime minister to deliver a speech at the Mughal-era Red Fort after sunset.
 - ✓ The programme will be attended by 11 Chief Ministers and prominent Sikh leaders from across the country and abroad
 - ✓ The families of 400 Sikh Jathedars have also been invited, including those from the Golden Temple in Amritsar
 - ✓ The programme, under the banner of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, is being jointly organised by the culture ministry along with the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee.
 - ✓ It will host 400 'ragis' (Sikh musicians) who will perform the 'Shabad Kirtan'.
 - ✓ Other than Independence Day, this is the second time that PM Modi will be making a speech from the Red Fort.
 - ✓ In 2018, he had hoisted the national flag at the monument and commemorated the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Azad Hind Government by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
 - ✓ During the event, PM Modi will be addressing the nation from the lawns of the Red Fort and not its ramparts.
 - ✓ The Prime Ministers' addresses the nation on every Independence Day from the ramparts of the Red Fort.
 - ✓ In neighbouring Haryana, the BJP has planned a series of events to mark the occasion, including a grand event in Panipat on April 24.
- **On April 29, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - will inaugurate India's first Semicon 2022 Conference in Bengaluru**



- ✓ This was announced by Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar on April 18.

- ✓ The 3-day Semicon conference is being organised to take forward PM's vision for making India a leader in electronics manufacturing, semiconductor design and innovation.
 - ✓ The conference will be organised by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology from April 29 till May 1 at ITC Gardenia, Bengaluru
 - ✓ The theme of the conference - Design and Manufacture in India, for the World: Making India a "Semiconductor Nation".
 - ✓ Micron CEO Sanjay Mehrotra, Cadence CEO Anirudh Devgan, Indo-US venture partners Founder Vinod Dham, SEMI President Ajit Manocha, Emeritus Stanford Professor Arogyaswami Paulraj are among the dignitaries expected to participate in the conference
 - ✓ In order to give greater visibility, strength and success to the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM), Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeesh Chandrasekhar unveiled its logo during the event in presence of steering committee members who have joined virtually.
 - ✓ The logo has been created by Prashant Mishra from Varanasi who participated in a crowdsourcing competition organised by MyGov.
 - ✓ The logo signifies a handshake - signifying a collaborative approach and forms the shape of an 'S' which stands for semiconductor – and is placed on a wafer sheet.
 - ✓ The Semiconductor Mission of the Centre was announced in December last year.
- **The Common University Entrance Test (CUET-UG) for admission to undergraduate programmes - will be conducted twice a year from 2023.**
- ✓ Both the tests are likely to be conducted after the Class XII board exams with a gap of around 45 days.
 - ✓ Moreover, question patterns will also keep changing each year, though the contents for the test will be drawn from the Class XII syllabus.
 - ✓ As on April 18, over two lakh candidates had registered for the test with nearly 25% coming from Uttar Pradesh, followed by 32,000 from Delhi, and 16,000 from Bihar.
 - ✓ Other states with high numbers of registration are Assam (3,400), Chhattisgarh (4,200), Jharkhand (4,600), Kerala (5,600), Madhya Pradesh (6,400) and Tamil Nadu (3,300).
 - ✓ NTA is expecting nearly 10 lakh applications for the first edition of CUET-UG to be conducted in July, 2022.
 - ✓ As per the plans, the first CUET could be conducted anytime between the last week of May and first week of June to be followed by the first or second week of July.
 - ✓ The second exam will give an additional opportunity to the aspirants to improve their scores

- **The Enforcement Directorate - has accused Amway India Enterprises of running a multilevel marketing scam**



- ✓ Further, the ED had attached its assets worth ₹757 crore, including its factory in Tamil Nadu's Dindigul district and bank balances of ₹346 crore.
- ✓ Based on the money trail against Amway, it was revealed that the company had collected ₹27,562 crore from its business operations from 2002-2003 to 2021-22.
- ✓ Out of this, Amway paid a commission of ₹7,588 crore to its distributors and members in India and the United States of America.
- ✓ According to the ED, the prices of most of the products offered by Amway are exorbitant as compared to the alternative popular products of reputed manufacturers available in the open market
- ✓ The ED has attached immovable and movable properties worth ₹412 crore and bank balances of ₹346 crore in 36 different accounts belonging to Amway.
- ✓ Amway brought ₹21.39 crore as share capital to India in 1996-97 and its outward remittance crossed ₹2,859 crore till 2020-21 by way of dividend, royalty and other payments to their investors and parent entities

DEFENCE

- **Lt General Manoj Pande - will take over as the next Army chief from General M M Naravane**



- ✓ With the appointment, Pande will become the first ever officer commissioned in the Corps of Engineers to head the 12-lakh strong force.

- ✓ Lt Gen Pande, who turns 60 on May 6, will take over as the 29th Army chief on April 30
- ✓ The government has gone by the seniority principle in announcing the next Army chief, with Lt Gen Pande being the senior most Lt-Gen in the force.
- ✓ Gen Naravane is considered to be frontrunner for the next Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), which is lying vacant after Gen Bipin Rawat's untimely death in a helicopter crash
- ✓ A CDS can serve till the age of 65, while the Army, Navy and IAF chiefs serve till 62 or for three years, whichever is earlier.
- ✓ Lt Gen Pande is well-versed with China, having first served as the 4 'Gajraj' Corps commander in the north-east, which looks after both the Line of Actual Control as well as counter-insurgency operations
- ✓ From June 2020 to May 2021, he served as the Andaman and Nicobar Command's commander-in-chief.
- ✓ Later, Lt Gen Pande served as the general officer commanding-in- chief of the Eastern Command from June 2021 to January 2022 before becoming the Army vice-chief on February 1, 2022
- ✓ He is an alumnus of the Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun and the National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla.
- ✓ Commissioned in the Corps of Engineers (The Bombay Sappers) in December 1982, Lt Gen Pande opted for the 'general cadre', which includes the 'combat arms' of infantry, armoured corps and mechanized infantry, on his promotion to the rank of Brigadier from Colonel.
- ✓ Lt Gen Pande has been conferred with the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Param Vishisht Seva Medal, and Vishisht Seva Medal, two times with the GOC-in-C Commendation, and the Chief of Army Staff Commendation.
- ✓ Officers from 'combat-support arms' like artillery, air defence, engineers, aviation and signals can apply for the 'general cadre' at that rank.
- ✓ The Army has been commanded by officers only from the infantry, armoured corps and artillery till now
- ✓ As a 'general cadre' Brigadier, Lt Gen Pande went on to command an infantry brigade along the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan in J&K with Pakistan, and then a mountain division in the high-altitude area of western Ladakh as a Major General.

ECONOMY

- **The government - has amended the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) rules to facilitate up to 20% foreign direct investment in Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) through the automatic route.**
- ✓ The new rules are called the Foreign Exchange Management (Non-debt Instruments) (Amendment) Rules, 2022

- ✓ The government is planning to dilute its stake in LIC through the Initial Public Offering (IPO).
- ✓ Earlier, in February 2022, the LIC had filed the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) before the markets regulator Sebi for the IPO.
- ✓ On March 14, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) had amended the FDI policy to facilitate overseas investment in LIC ahead of the mega public offer, based on the approval of the Union Cabinet
- ✓ As per the earlier policy, the foreign inflows' ceiling for public sector banks is 20% under government approval route
- ✓ Meanwhile, Sebi has approved the draft prospectus for sale of a 5% stake by the government for an estimated Rs 63,000 crore.
- ✓ The LIC public issue is expected to be the biggest IPO in the history of the Indian stock market.
- ✓ So far, the amount mobilised from IPO of Paytm in 2021 was the largest ever at Rs 18,300 crore, followed by Coal India (2010) at nearly Rs 15,500 crore and Reliance Power (2008) at Rs 11,700 crore.
- ✓ LIC's embedded value, a measure of the consolidated shareholders' value in an insurance company, has been pegged at about Rs 5.4 lakh crore as of September 30, 2021 by international actuarial firm Milliman Advisors.

SPORTS

- **D Gukesh, the third youngest Grandmaster in the world - has won the 48th Open Ajedrez La Roda chess tournament at La Roda in Spain**



- ✓ Gukesh, 15, who went into the final round with seven points, defeated Israeli GM Victor Mikhalevski to finish with eight points from nine rounds to top a field comprising 193 players.
- ✓ Gukesh remained unbeaten in the nine rounds tournament, winning seven games and drawing two.
- ✓ Armenian GM Haik M. Martirosyan finished second with 7.5 points
- ✓ Indian GMs R Praggnanandhaa and Raunak Sadhwani finished joint third with three other players - all five ending their campaigns with 7 points.

- ✓ Pragnanandhaa finished third on tiebreak and Sadhwani was fourth.
- **The 16-year-old son of actor R Madhavan, Vedaant Madhavan – won a gold and a silver in 800m and 1500m freestyle events at the ongoing Danish Open in Copenhagen**



- ✓ In the 800m freestyle event on April 17, Vedaant bettered his personal best by 11.48 seconds
- ✓ India does not have classy long distance swimmers ever since Mandar Divase and Saurabh Sangvekar stopped competing at the international level.
- ✓ To further his sporting dreams, the teenager shifted base to Dubai to train under Dronacharya awardee Pradeep Kumar, who is currently the head coach at Aqua Nation Sports Academy in Dubai.
- ✓ Earlier, ace Indian swimmer Sajan Prakash, who is preparing for the Commonwealth Games and Asian Games, had won a gold in the 200m butterfly event
- ✓ India now has a haul of three medals in the ongoing meet including two golds and a silver.

