

Current Affairs

22nd April, 2024



Today's Important News

CRPF ADG Nalin Prabhat becomes the new
Chief of National Security Guard

1. CRPF ADG Nalin Prabhat becomes the new Chief of National Security Guard

- In a significant move, the appointments committee of the Cabinet has approved two key appointments in India's premier security agencies. Nalin Prabhat, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG), while Sapna Tewari, a 1992 batch IPS officer of the Odisha cadre, has been appointed as the Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB).
- Nalin Prabhat, who is currently serving as the Additional Director-General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Jammu and Kashmir, has been appointed as the Director-General of the NSG, which is the country's premier counter-terrorism and counter-hijack force.



2. InterGlobe to bring air taxis in 2026

- InterGlobe Enterprises, which owns India's largest airline IndiGo, will launch an all-electric air taxi service in India from Delhi's Connaught Place to Haryana's Gurugram by 2026. The tax service will cover the distance in less than 7 minutes and will charge Rs 2,000-3,000 per passenger.



- InterGlobe Enterprises and Archer Aviation entered into a deal with the goal of partnering to launch and operate an all-electric air taxi service in India. The partnership planned to finance the purchase of up to 200 of Archer's Midnight aircraft for the India operations.

Foot Note:

About InterGlobe:

Headquarters: Haryana

Founder: Rahul Bhatia

Founded: 1989

3. International Mother Earth day observed on 22nd April

- The annual event of World Earth Day falls on April 22. The theme for World Earth Day 2024 is Planet vs Plastics. The origin of Earth Day can be traced back to 1970. The idea behind the event originated from Gaylord Nelson, a US senator, and Denis Hayes, a Harvard student.
- They were both deeply disturbed by the deteriorating environment in the United States and the massive January 1969 oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Deeply disturbed by the environmental impacts, he wanted to infuse the energy of student protests into an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution.



4. RBI approves Ajith Kumar K.K. as MD of Dhanlaxmi Bank

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) greenlights Ajith Kumar KK's appointment as Managing Director & CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank, marking a pivotal moment amidst the bank's preparations for a ₹300 crore rights issue. The leadership transition follows a series of senior management exits amid internal conflicts.
- Ajith Kumar KK succeeds J.K. Shivan, with the RBI granting an extension until a successor was named. The board's approval and shareholder permission are pending regulatory protocol.



Foot Note:

About Dhanlaxmi Bank:

Founded: 14 November 1927

Headquarters: Thrissur

Capital ratio: 12.32%

5. Direct Tax Collection increase by 18% to Rs 19.58 lakh crore.

- The country's direct tax collection has increased, In the previous financial year, this amount was Rs 16.64 lakh crore. Income tax and corporate tax collections during the FY 2023-24 have been Rs 1.35 lakh crore (7.40 percent) more than the budget estimates.
- The gross direct tax collections (provisional) increased by 18.48 percent to Rs 23.37 lakh crore in FY 2023-24. At gross level, which is before adjusting for refunds, direct taxes collections for FY 2023-24 stood at Rs 23.37 lakh crore, a growth of 18.48 per cent over the gross collection of Rs 19.72 lakh crore in previous financial year.



6. Pragya Misra, appointed as OpenAI's first employee in India

- OpenAI hired its first employee in India, appointing Pragya Misra as the head of government relations. Misra, previously served as the Director of Public Affairs at Truecaller since July 2021. Misra, aged 39, assumes the role of government relations head, stepping into the position during the ongoing 2024 Lok Sabha Elections in India.
- Misra's educational background includes an MBA from the International Management Institute, a Bachelor's degree from Delhi University, and a Diploma in Bargaining and Negotiation from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



7. Indian Navy Conducted Exercise 'Poorvi Lehar' On East Coast

- Indian Navy conducted Exercise Poorvi Lehar on East Coast under the operational control of the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command. The successful conclusion of XPOL 2024, reaffirms Indian Navy's resolve to meet growing security challenges in the maritime domain.
- The exercise aimed at validation of procedures towards assessment of Indian Navy's preparedness to meet maritime security challenges in the region. Ships, submarines, aircrafts and special forces participated.



Foot Note:

About Indian Navy:

Headquarters: New Dehli

Foundation : 5th September 1612

Chief: Dinesh Kumar Tripathi

8. Bengaluru Badshahs lifted the 5th "Deaf Indian Premier League" title.

- The Closing Ceremony of the 5th Deaf Indian Premier League, organized by the Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA) at Maulana Azad Stadium, Jammu. Sachin Kumar was the chief guest on the occasion.
- Sudershan of Deaf Hyderabad Eagles was declared as the player of the final match and the best bowler, while Virender Singh of Bengaluru Badshahs and Umar Ashraf Beigh of Hyderabad Eagles were adjudged as the best Wicketkeeper and best Fielder of the League. Suhail Ahmed of Hyderabad Eagles, Deepak Kumar of Punjab Warriors and Sai Naresh of Chennai Blasters were awarded for Super Sixes, most wickets in one match and fastest Fifty respectively.



9. Reuters' Mohammed Salem wins 2024 World Press Photo of the year award

- He won for his image of a Palestinian woman cradling the body of her five-year-old niece in the Gaza Strip. The winning image portrays Inas Abu Maamar, 36, sobbing while holding Saly's sheet-clad body in the hospital morgue.
- The picture was taken on Oct. 17, 2023, in Khan Younis in Gaza, where families were searching for relatives killed during the Israeli bombing of the Palestinian enclave.



10. India's Gukesh D Makes History, Becomes Youngest to win Candidates Chess Tournament


- D Gukesh, India's chess sensation, has etched his name in history by becoming the youngest player ever to win the FIDE Candidates tournament, earning the right to challenge chess world champion Ding Liren. At just 17 years old, Gukesh's triumph surpasses a record set by Garry Kasparov four decades ago.
- Scoring an impressive 9/14 points, Gukesh secured first place in the tournament, joining Viswanathan Anand as the only Indian players to achieve this feat. The chess community, including Anand, has lauded Gukesh's triumph, with congratulatory messages pouring in from all corners.



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