

Weekly Current G.K.

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April 2018

3rd Week

Note: weekly GK is also available on Panacea app.

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=panaceabharti.com.panaceabhartiapp>



- **SBI:** 2000 Posts of P.O. in SBI. Apply by: 13.05.18
- **PPSC:-** 207 posts by 04.04.2018
- **NABARD:-** 92 Assistant Manager Posts by 02.04.2018
- **Pb&Hr HC:-** 13 clerk Post by 01.05.2018

application, foreigners can apply online and obtain the services through email or post without appearing in person at the FRO/FRRO office.

- **The Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project** is located in Sasan village in Singrauli district in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The power plant is operated by Sasan Power Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Reliance Power. Sasan UMPP along with the coal mine is the largest integrated coal-cum-power plant in the World. It is India's first domestic coal-based UMPP.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **April 5** :National Maritime Day
- **April 7** :World Health Day
- **April 18** :World Heritage Day
- **April 21** :Secretaries Day
- **April 22** : Earth Day

NATIONAL EVENTS

- **The Union home ministry** has recently launched the e-FRRO (e-Foreigners Regional Registration Office) scheme to expedite visa services for foreigners visiting India. The aim of the scheme is to build a centralized, transparent online platform for foreigners to avail visa related services and to provide faceless, cashless and paperless services to the foreigners with a user-friendly experience. Using the e-FRRO

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- **The 29th Arab League Summit 2018** has started in Dahrn, Saudi Arabia on April 15 to promote Arab joint action to address challenges facing the nation. In the annual gathering of Arab leaders, Saudi Arabia hopes to push for a unified stand against Iran. The fate of Jerusalem, as US plans to move its Embassy after declaring it the capital of Israel is also expected to dominate the

Summit. Although in a long diplomatic stand off for the past nearly 10 months, both Saudi Arabia and Qatar have voiced support for the US led air strike on Syria. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, the Vice President and Ruler of Dubai is leading the UAE's delegation to the 29th Arab League Summit.

- **The International Monetary Fund** in the latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) has projected India to grow at growth rate at 7.4% in 2018 and 7.8% in 2019, up from 6.7% in 2017. The report stated that India in 2018 and 2019 would re-emerge as one of the fastest growing major economies. The IMF explained this is due to the strong private consumption as well as fading transitory effects of the currency exchange initiative and implementation of the national goods and services tax. IMF said that the two major economic reforms, demonetisation and GST, resulted in a slightly lower growth rate of 6.7% in 2017. According to the IMF, India has made progress on structural reforms in the recent past, which will help reduce internal barriers to trade, increase efficiency, and improve tax compliance. The report, however, said, while the medium-term growth outlook for India is strong, an important challenge is to enhance inclusiveness.
- **The World Heritage Day (WHD)**, also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, has been celebrated every year on April 18 ever since 1982. The purpose of the day is to spread awareness of the importance of protecting and preserving various sites around the world that have achieved

world heritage status. As of 2018, India has 36 World Heritage Sites including Western Ghats, Sundarbans National Park, Historic City of Ahmadabad, Taj Mahal in Agra, Nalanda University, Mahabodhi Temple in Bihar and Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh. The 2018 theme "Heritage for Generations" emphasis on inter-generational transfer of knowledge.

PERSONS IN NEWS

- **Bhimsain (81)**, the veteran filmmaker and animation pioneer, has passed away in Mumbai on April 17, 2018. Born in 1936 in Multan (modern-day Pakistan), Bhimsain obtained his diploma in Fine Arts and Classical Music from Lucknow University. In 1970, he made his directorial debut with his first animation short "The Climb", which earned him the Silver Hugo Award in the Chicago Film Festival. 'Ek chidiya, anek chidiyaan' is one of the most popular songs from animation film 'Ek Anek Ekta', which he made with Vijaya Mulay in 1974. A versatile artiste who enriched the medium of both television and films with his contribution, Bhimsain was primarily known for his work in the world of animation during the golden period of Doordarshan. He also directed and produced several animation and ad films such as 'Na', 'Ek-Do', 'Fire', 'Munni', 'Freedom is a Thin Lie', 'Mehman', 'Kahani Har Zamane Ki' and 'Business is People'. He is best known for his film "Gharaonda" and animation short films like "Ek Anek Ekta".

PLACES IN NEWS

- **Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani** has launched the digital

platform 'Pocket Cop Project' in order to ensure that the police force of the state is equipped with modern day technology. Under the project, every officer in charge of the police station, Investigating Officer, PCR van and officials handling the passport verification process shall be equipped with a smartphone enabled with internet connectivity. The government has made a provision of 4900 such phones. These phones will have the information of as many as 69 lakh criminals and their crimes at fingertips. In Gandhinagar, the CM also handed over these smartphones to each and every police officer of various districts during the event.

- **The Tilaiya Dam** is a concrete gravity dam build across the Barakar River at Tilaiya in Koderma district of Jharkhand. It has a maximum height of 30.2 metres above the river bed. The dam has a catchment area of 984 square kilometres comprising mainly forests, pastures, cultivated lands and waste lands. The annual rainfall in the area is 127 cm. It was inaugurated on 21 February 1953. It has a power generation capacity of 2 x 2 MW.
- **Tim Bergling (28)**, who is one of the world's biggest dance music stars, has passed away in Muscat, Oman on April 21, 2018. He is popularly known as DJ Avicii. He was a Swedish musician, DJ, remixer and record producer. His club anthems include Wake Me Up, Levels, and recently, Lonely Together with Rita Ora.

AWARDS

- **Veteran Bollywood actor Dharmendra** will be conferred with the prestigious Raj Kapoor Lifetime Achievement and filmmaker Rajkumar Hirani with Raj Kapoor Special Contribution awards of the Maharashtra Government. Dharmendra has acted in more than 250 films in over six decades and has over 100 box office hits including Bandini, Mamta, Anupama, Satyakam, Seeta Aur Geeta, Sholay, Chupke Chupke, Yaadon Ki Baarat, etc. His roles in action films earned him nicknames such as "Action King" and "He-Man". Beside him, Mr Hirani is regarded as one of the most celebrated filmmakers of Hindi cinema, having made critically-acclaimed and commercially-successful films such as "Munna Bhai MBBS", "3 Idiots" and "PK". The lifetime achievement award carry a citation and cash reward of Rs 5 lakh while the special contribution award carry a citation and Rs 3 lakh cash prize. The state government-instituted awards will be given away at the 55th Maharashtra State Marathi Film Festival.

SPORTS

- **Yuki Bhambri from India** has won the 2018 Santaizi ATP Challenger tennis tournament by defeating his compatriot Ramkumar Ramanathan in the final of the event by 6-3 6-4 in Taipei, Taiwan on April 15, 2018. It is his first singles Challenger title of the 2018 season. Yuki earned 125 ranking points and a

prize purse of \$21,600 while Ramkumar got 75 points and \$12,720 for his effort. With this, Yuki has now beaten Ramkumar four times in five meetings. This victory enabled him re-entered top 100 rankings.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

- **Researchers develop potent molecule to treat chikungunya** Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee have identified two small potent molecules Pep-I and Pep-II, for their inhibitory activity to treat Chikungunya disease. The antiviral activity of these molecules was so high that their small amount was able to achieve almost 99% reduction in virus. Currently, there are no drugs to treat chikungunya or any vaccine to prevent it.

Key Facts

- **The antiviral activity** was tested by adding molecules directly into virus culture. Using structure-based studies of chikungunya virus-specific nsP2 protease, researchers had identified two small molecules Pep-I and Pep-II for their inhibitory activity against vector borne disease.
- **Protease inhibitors** have already been used successfully against HIV and hepatitis C virus. Pep-I, one of two molecules has superior antiviral activity against chikungunya virus. It was found to effectively bind to protein of virus (nsP2 protease) and prevent virus from replicating. It is hypothesised that any molecule that inhibits nsP2 protease is having antiviral activity. During studies it

was confirmed that both molecules have significant ability to kill virus. Pep-I molecule was very efficient in killing the virus, 99% reduction in virus at 5 microMolar and Pep-II molecule showed reduced antiviral activity of only 50% even at a higher concentration of about 200 microMolar. The two molecules also reduced viral RNA thus confirming the antiviral activity.

- **TESS: NASA launches its newest planet-hunting spacecraft on SpaceX rocket** The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) launched Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS), a new planet-hunting spacecraft onboard of SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral, Florida, US. TESS mission is designed to carry out first spaceborne all-sky transiting exoplanet survey. Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) The TESS mission is led by Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Kavli Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research. It is designed to find potential planets orbiting stars close to Earth. It will identify such planets by spotting decreased brightness of stars after planet passes in front of it.
- The **primary mission objective of TESS** is to survey brightest stars near Earth for transiting exoplanets over two-year period. It will use array of wide-field cameras to perform all-sky survey. It will create catalog of thousands of exoplanet candidates using transit photometry method.
- **TESS observatory weighs** just 362 kilograms. It has four wide-view

cameras surrounded by sun shade to monitor any dips in brightness from target stars. Repeated dips will indicate a planet passing in front of its star. TESS has no instruments capable of detecting life. Its main job is to find and characterize planets that will become main targets of future telescopes.

- **With help of TESS**, it will be possible to study mass, size, density and orbit of large cohort of small planets, including sample of rocky worlds in habitable zones (goldilocks zone) of their host stars. This will reveal whether planets are rocky (like Earth), gas or jovian giants (like Jupiter) or something even more unusual.

CURRENT AFFAIRS QUIZ

1. The Sasan Ultra Mega Power Project is located in which state?
[A] Uttar Pradesh
[B] Maharashtra
[C] Tamil Nadu
[D] Madhya Pradesh
2. Who will be conferred with the prestigious Raj Kapoor Lifetime Achievement at the 55th Maharashtra State Marathi Film Festival?
[A] Sri Devi
[B] Amitabh Bachchan
[C] Dharmendra
[D] Rajkumar Hirani
3. The Tilaiya Dam is located in which state?
[A] Punjab
[B] Jammu & Kashmir
[C] Jharkhand
[D] Himachal Pradesh

4. Bhimsain, who passed away recently, was the veteran personality from which field?
[A] Law [B] Film Industry
[C] Sports [D] Journalism
5. Which state government has launched the digital platform “Pocket Cop Project” for police force?
[A] Kerala [B] Gujarat
[C] Manipur [D] Sikkim
6. What is the theme of the 2018 World Heritage Day (WHD)?
[A] Heritage for Generations
[B] Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism
[C] Environment as Legacy: Protecting our Green Heritage
[D] The Heritage of Sport
7. What is the India’s growth rate for 2019, as per IMF’s latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) report?
[A] 7.4% [B] 7.8%
[C] 7.5% [D] 7.3%

Answers: DCCBB / AB