



Sanskriti IAS



**DAILY
CURRENT AFFAIRS**

Important Current News for UPSC & UPPSC

10th April 2026

TOPICS:-

- 1. Makhana (Fox Nut)**
- 2. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**
- 3. Arogya Van Initiative**
- 4. National Quantum Mission (NQM)**
- 5. Lead (Pb)**
- 6. Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS)**
- 7. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**
- 8. Other Important News of the day**
- 9. Uttar Pradesh in News**

DELHI CENTRE:
636, Mukherjee Nagar
New Delhi-110009

PRAYAGRAJ CENTRE:
1/1/8A, Stanley Rd,
Maharana Pratap Chauraha,
Civil Lines, Prayagraj, UP - 211002

☎ 9555-124-124
🌐 sanskritiias.com

MAKHANA (FOX NUT)

TNIE The New Indian Express

More than Rs 500 crore loss in one month, makhana worst hit: Bihar traders

Export operations at the Princeton Magadh Inland Dry Port in Bihta, on the outskirts of Patna, have been severely hit due to the ongoing...



Why in News

- Exports of **makhana** declined due to reduced demand amid the **West Asia conflict**.

Agro-Ecological Characteristics

- Makhana is derived from **Euryale ferox**, a **hydrophytic plant** growing in stagnant water bodies.
- It thrives in **tropical and subtropical climates** with **20–35°C temperature** and **100–250 cm rainfall**.
- It requires **smooth loamy soil** and is cultivated in ponds, oxbow lakes, and swamps.

Economic and Geographical Importance

- **Bihar** is the leading producer and processor in India.
- It is covered under the **One District One Product (ODOP) scheme**.
- It is cultivated across states like **West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan**.

Nutritional and Medicinal Value

- It is rich in **carbohydrates and antioxidants** with medicinal applications.
- It is used in **traditional medicine and health foods**, enhancing its export potential.

FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (FSSAI)

Why in News

- **FSSAI** conducted nearly **4 lakh inspections** across food establishments in 2025–26.

DD News

FSSAI Tightens Food Safety Net; States Drive Enforcement Push in FY 2025-26

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), in close coordination with State Food Safety Authorities, significantly ramped up...



Institutional Framework

- It is a **statutory body** under the **Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006**.
- It functions under the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**.

Core Functions

- It formulates **food safety standards** and regulates food production and distribution.
- It ensures **licensing and registration** of food businesses for compliance.
- It conducts **surveillance, inspections, and audits** to enforce standards.
- It promotes **consumer awareness on hygiene and nutrition**.

Governance and Public Health Dimensions

- It plays a key role in ensuring **food safety as part of Article 21 (Right to Life)**.
- It supports **public health outcomes** by reducing food-borne diseases.

fssai (Please Mention Your License no.) ■ Restaurant
License No. _____

With Us You Will Get Safe Food
We Follow These 12 Golden Rules

Hygiene Rule Codes		Hygiene Rule Codes	
1	Keep premise clean and have regular pest control	7	Wear clean clothes/ uniform
2	Use potable water for food preparation	8	Wash hands before & after handling food and after using toilets, coughing, sneezing, etc.
3	Cook food thoroughly. Keep hot food above 60°C and cold food below 5°C	9	Use water proof bandage to cover cuts or burn wounds
4	Store veg & non veg food, raw & cooked food in separate containers	10	Do not handle food when unwell
5	Store cold food below 5°C and frozen products at -18°C or below	11	Use clean and separate dusters to clean surfaces and wipe utensils
6	Use separate chopping boards, knives, etc. for raw cooked & veg/non veg food	12	Keep separate & covered dustbins for food waste

If any concern Give your Feedback to Company Name

Call toll free 1800 112 100
SMS or Whatsapp 9868686868
Always quote FSSAI Number for quick action

Download FSSAI APP
or Login to <http://foodlicensing.fssai.gov.in/track>

Connect with us:
1) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
2) Karnataka

AROGYA VAN INITIATIVE

DD News

NHAI to develop 'Arogya Van' along highways to boost biodiversity and promote medicinal plants

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has announced a new initiative to develop 'Arogya Van' – thematic plantations of medicinal...



Why in News

- **NHAI (National Highway Authority of India)** launched the **Arogya Van Initiative** to develop medicinal plantations along highways.

Environmental Significance

- It promotes **biodiversity conservation** by planting medicinal species.
- It enhances **ecosystem resilience** by supporting pollinators, birds, and microfauna.

AROGYA VAN

67,462 MEDICINAL TREES WILL BE PLANTED IN FIRST PHASE OF DEVELOPING 'AROGYA VAN'

COVERING STATES LIKE MADHYA PRADESH, GUJARAT, KARNATAKA, MAHARASHTRA & MORE

36 TREE MEDICINAL TREE SPECIES LIKE NEEM, AMLA, JAMUN, LEMON, GULAR, MAULSARI WILL BE PLANTED

Driving sustainability, biodiversity & healthier ecosystems

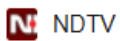
Implementation Framework

- The initiative covers **17 land parcels** across multiple states including **Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu**.
- It prioritises sites near **toll plazas, interchanges, and wayside amenities**.
- Plantation is aligned with **agro-climatic suitability** of regions.

Governance Dimensions

- It is implemented under the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**.
- It integrates **infrastructure development with ecological sustainability**.

NATIONAL QUANTUM MISSION (NQM)



India Successfully Demonstrates 1,000-Kilometre Quantum Communication Network Using Homegrown Technology

India demonstrates a 1000 km quantum communication network using indigenous technology, under the National Quantum Mission (NQM).



Why in News

- India demonstrated a **1,000 km quantum communication network**, marking a major breakthrough.

Institutional and Financial Framework

- It was launched in **2023** with an outlay of **₹6003 crore**.
- It is implemented by the **Department of Science and Technology (DST)**.
- It is part of **PMSTIAC initiatives**.

Technological Focus Areas

- **Quantum Computing** led by **IISc Bengaluru**.
- **Quantum Communication** led by **IIT Madras with C-DOT**.
- **Quantum Sensing and Metrology** led by **IIT Bombay**.
- **Quantum Materials and Devices** led by **IIT Delhi**.

Strategic Importance

- It enhances **secure communication infrastructure** and cybersecurity.
- It positions India in the **global quantum technology race**.



LEAD (PB)

Why in News

- High levels of **lead contamination** were found near recycling units in **Delhi-NCR**.

Chemical and Physical Properties

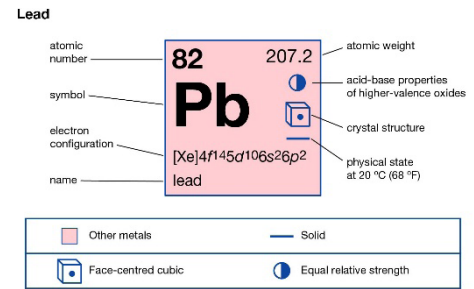
- Lead is a **Group 14 element** with symbol **Pb** and is highly malleable and dense.
- Major ores include **galena (PbS)**, **cerussite (PbCO₃)**, and **anglesite (PbSO₄)**.

Industrial Uses

- It is widely used in **lead-acid batteries**, glass, plastics, and radiation shielding.

Health and Environmental Impact

- It is a **toxic heavy metal** affecting the **brain, liver, kidneys, and bones**.
- It disproportionately affects **children and women**, causing long-term damage.



TRADE RECEIVABLES DISCOUNTING SYSTEM (TREDS)

The Hindu

RBI simplifies TReDS onboarding for MSMEs

In simplifying the onboarding of MSMEs in Trade Receivables Discounting System (TReDS) and to promote ease of doing business for this...



Why in News

- **RBI** proposed easing due diligence norms for MSMEs on **TReDS platforms**.

Institutional Mechanism

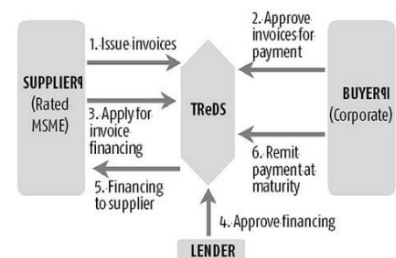
- It is an electronic platform for **discounting trade receivables of MSMEs**.
- It allows invoices from **corporates, PSUs, and government departments** to be financed.

Participants Structure

- **MSMEs act as sellers**, while corporates and PSUs act as buyers.
- **Banks and NBFCs** function as financiers.

Economic Significance

- It improves **liquidity and working capital access** for MSMEs.
- It enhances **ease of doing business** and reduces payment delays.



INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH (ICAR)

News On AIR

ICAR reviews the prevailing wheat crop scenario during a field interaction



Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Director General of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research,...

Why in News

- **ICAR** constituted a **Special Task Force (STF)** for agricultural sector strategies.

Institutional Profile

- It is an autonomous body under **DARE, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**.
- Established in **1929** under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860**.

Functional Mandate

- It coordinates **agricultural research and education** nationwide.
- It covers domains like **crop science, fisheries, animal science, and extension services**.

Strategic Contributions

- It played a key role in the **Green Revolution** and agricultural modernization.
- It promotes **innovation and higher education in agriculture**.

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

Places in News

MOUNT SEMERU

NH National Herald

Indonesia's Mount Semeru erupts repeatedly, sending ash 1,100 metres into sky

Authorities impose exclusion zones as Indonesia's most active volcano shows heightened activity.



Why in News

- **Mount Semeru** in Indonesia erupted, emitting ash up to **1,100 metres**.

Geophysical Characteristics

- It is located in **East Java** and is the highest peak on Java at **3,676 m**.
- It lies in a **subduction zone** where the **Indo-Australian Plate** meets the **Eurasian Plate**.

Indonesia deadly volcano



Volcano erupted Dec 4 at 3:00pm local time (0800 GMT)
 More than a dozen people killed by ash and hot mud
 Indonesia's national disaster agency said dozens of people were still missing
 Fresh volcanic activity on Dec 6 has hampered search efforts

AFP

Volcanic Activity

- It is among the **most active volcanoes** with eruptions every **10–30 minutes**.
- It is part of the **Pacific Ring of Fire**, a zone of intense seismic activity.

Hazard Implications

- It poses risks of **pyroclastic flows, ash fall, and lava flows**.

Science and Technology

CORNSTARCH

TH The Hindu

Fast-moving cornstarch acts like a liquid before hardening

If you mix cornstarch and water, you will have a substance that defies common sense. If you punch it with your first, it will feel like you...



Why in News

- Researchers observed that cornstarch exhibits **non-Newtonian behaviour** at extreme speeds.

Scientific Characteristics

- It is derived from **Zea mays (corn)** through the **wet milling process**.
- It primarily contains **starch with low nutritional density**.

Industrial Applications

- It acts as a **thickener and anticaking agent** in food processing.
- It is used in **pharmaceuticals** for tablet disintegration.
- It finds application in **paper, adhesives, cosmetics, and surgical products**.

Scientific Relevance

- Its behaviour demonstrates **shear-thickening properties**, relevant in material science.

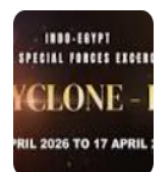
Defence

EXERCISE CYCLONE 2026

News On AIR

Indian Army contingent to participate in 4th edition of India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise, Cyclone-IV in Egypt

An Indian Army contingent has departed for Egypt to participate in the fourth edition of the India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise,...



Why in News

- An Indian Army contingent departed for Egypt to participate in **Exercise Cyclone–IV** at **Anshas, Egypt**.

Strategic Significance

- The exercise strengthens **India–Egypt defence cooperation** in special operations and counter-terrorism.
- It enhances **interoperability** between elite forces in complex operational environments.

Operational Features

- It is a **joint special forces exercise** conducted annually on an **alternating basis** between India and Egypt.
- The Indian contingent includes **25 personnel from Special Forces units** training with Egyptian counterparts.
- Training focuses on **desert and semi-desert warfare**, including tactical drills and mission planning.

Diplomatic and Security Dimensions

- It contributes to **India’s West Asia outreach strategy** and defence diplomacy.
- It promotes **mutual trust and professional exchange** in evolving security scenarios.

UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS

MOHSINA KIDWAI

TH The Hindu

Veteran Congress leader Mohsina Kidwai passes away; tributes pour in

The veteran Congress leader, Mohsina Kidwai, a former Union Minister who held several key portfolios under the late former Prime Ministers...



Why in News

- Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister **Mohsina Kidwai** passed away at **94 years**.

Political Role and Career

- She had a **six-decade association with the Indian National Congress** and was close to the **Nehru-Gandhi family**.
- She became an **MLC at age 28** and later served as **UPCC President**.

Post-Emergency Contribution

- She played a key role in Congress revival after **1977 Emergency defeat**.

- Her win in the **1978 Azamgarh by-election** marked Congress's comeback in North India.

Ministerial Contributions

- She served as **Union Minister (MoS Labour; Health & Family Welfare)** under **Indira Gandhi**.
- Under **Rajiv Gandhi**, she handled **Rural Development, Urban Development, Transport, Tourism, and Health**.

Legacy

- She represented **women and minority leadership** in Indian politics.
- Her career reflects **organisational resilience and grassroots politics**.