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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Important Current News for UPSC & UPPSC


6th April 2026

TOPICS:-

- 1. National Maritime Day**
- 2. ECINet Platform**
- 3. Rove Beetle**
- 4. BioNEST Initiative**
- 5. Photonics Breakthrough (Infrared Light Confinement)**
- 6. Other Important News of the day**
- 7. Uttar Pradesh in News**

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NATIONAL MARITIME DAY

TH | The Hindu

Merchant Navy Week celebrations conclude with National Maritime Day observance

Merchant Navy Week concludes with National Maritime Day, honoring seafarers' contributions to India's economy and maritime legacy.



Why in News

- The Prime Minister highlighted maritime heritage and sectoral contributions on **April 5, National Maritime Day.**

Historical and Symbolic Significance

- It commemorates the voyage of **S.S. Loyalty (1919)** from Mumbai to London.
- The event symbolised India's assertion against **the British maritime monopoly.**

Strategic Economic Importance

- Maritime sector drives **over 90% of India's trade by volume.**
- Initiatives like **Sagarmala Programme** aim at port-led development and logistics efficiency.



Policy Orientation and Sectoral Focus

- The theme **“Maritime India – Empowering Progress”** targets self-reliance and green shipping.
- Focus areas include **digital port infrastructure, reduced turnaround time, and decarbonisation.**
- Emphasis is placed on welfare and recognition of **seafarers.**

ECINET PLATFORM

News On AIR

Election Commission Says Voters Can Access Candidates Details Through ECINET Platform

The Election Commission has said that voters can access details about their Assembly constituency candidates educational qualifications and...



Why in News

- The **Election Commission of India (ECI)** promoted **the KYC module** on ECINet for informed voting.

Digital Governance and Institutional Framework

- ECINet is a unified digital platform developed by the ECI for electoral services.
- It complies with **Constitution of India, Representation of the People Acts (1950, 1951)**, and electoral rules.

Functional Integration and Services

- It integrates over **40 applications** including **Voter Helpline, cVIGIL, Suvidha 2.0, Saksham**.
- It enables services like **voter registration, electoral roll search, grievance redressal, and e-EPIC download**.
- It facilitates communication with **Booth Level Officers (BLOs)**.



Transparency and Electoral Integrity

- Tools like **cVIGIL** ensure real-time reporting of **Model Code of Conduct violations**.
- It strengthens participatory democracy by enhancing **accessibility for persons with disabilities**.

Governance Implications

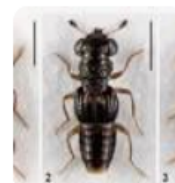
- It reflects digitalisation of elections under **free and fair elections (Article 324)** mandate.
- Promotes **inclusive, transparent, and technology-driven electoral governance**.

ROVE BEETLE

AT The Arunachal Times

New rove beetle species discovered from Arunachal

RONO HILLS, 2 Apr: A team of researchers from Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), in collaboration with the University of Tübingen, Germany,...



Why in News

- Three new species of rove beetles were discovered in **Arunachal Pradesh**.

Biological Classification and Features

- They belong to the family **Staphylinidae**, one of the largest beetle families.
- They have **shortened elytra** exposing abdominal segments and exhibit **scorpion-like posture**.

Habitat and Distribution

- They are found in moist environments globally including **leaf litter, dung, fungi, and decaying matter.**
- They thrive in **sub-tropical climates** and are cold tolerant.

Ecological Role and Adaptations

- They act as **biological control agents** by feeding on pest insects.
- Some species mimic **wasps or ants**, enhancing survival through **defensive mimicry.**
- They produce **chemical secretions** for defense against predators.

Environmental Significance

- Discovery highlights **Eastern Himalayan biodiversity richness.**
- Indicates need for conservation of **microhabitats and soil ecosystems.**

BIONEST INITIATIVE

DH Deccan Herald

CFTRI gets BioNEST incubator to nurture start-ups in food bioprocessing

Union Minister of State of Science and Technology and Vice President of CSIR Dr Jitendra Singh formally launched BIRAC-BioNEST incubator...



Why in News

- A **BIRAC-BioNEST incubation centre** was inaugurated at **CFTRI Mysuru.**

Institutional Framework and Objectives

- BioNEST is launched by **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).**
- It aims to promote **biotech entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem.**

Functional Support Mechanisms

- Provides **high-end infrastructure, mentorship, IP support, and regulatory guidance.**
- Facilitates collaboration between **industry and academia.**

Policy Integration and Funding

- Funded under **Bio-RIDE (Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development)** scheme.
- Aligns with **Startup India and Make in India** initiatives.

Strategic Relevance

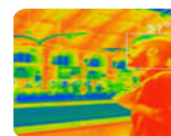
- Enhances India's capacity in **biotechnology, healthcare, agriculture, and bio-economy**.
- Supports **Atmanirbhar Bharat** through indigenous innovation.

PHOTONICS BREAKTHROUGH (INFRARED LIGHT CONFINEMENT)

 Republic World

Breakthrough In Nanophotonics: Infrared Light Trapped In A Layer 1000 Times Thinner Than Human Hair

Researchers have created a nanoscale structure that traps infrared light in a 40-nanometre layer, over 1000 times thinner than a human hair,...

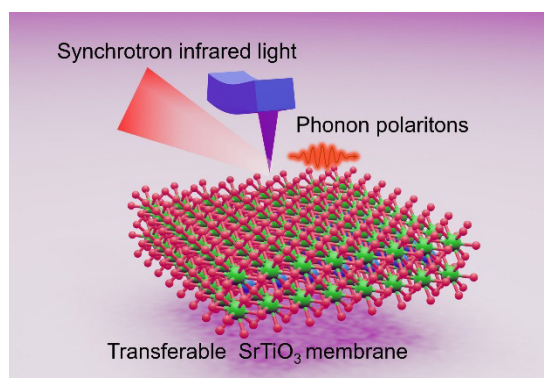


Why in News

- Scientists successfully confined **infrared light in a 40 nanometre structure**, a major photonics advancement.

What is the Discovery

- A **subwavelength grating structure** was used to trap light at nanoscale.
- The structure acts like a **mirror**, confining light within an extremely thin layer.
- It demonstrates control over light at scales smaller than its wavelength.



Material Used

- **Molybdenum Diselenide (MoSe₂)** was used due to its **high refractive index**.
- It slows down light more effectively than materials like **glass or silicon**.
- This allows efficient light confinement in ultra-thin structures.

Optical Process Involved

- The system uses **third harmonic generation** to convert infrared light into visible blue light.
- Three infrared photons combine to produce one higher-energy photon.
- Efficiency increased by over **1,500 times** due to confinement.

Applications and Significance

- Useful for **photonic integrated circuits (PICs)** and ultra-compact optical devices.
- Supports faster data transmission using **photonics instead of electronics**.
- Scalable production through **molecular beam epitaxy** enables real-world applications.

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE DAY

Places In
News

AFGHANISTAN

III The Hindu

India sends emergency relief supplies to flood and earthquake-hit Afghanistan

India on Sunday (April 5, 2026) said it dispatched a fresh consignment of relief materials to Afghanistan to support those affected by the...



Why in News

- India provided **Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)** to Afghanistan after disasters.

Geopolitical Location and Borders

- Afghanistan is a **landlocked country in South-Central Asia**.
- It borders **Pakistan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, China, and India**.

Physical Geography and Resources

- Dominated by **Hindu Kush and Pamir ranges** with harsh continental climate.
- Major rivers include **Amu Darya, Helmand, and Kabul River**.
- Rich in minerals like **lithium, copper, rare earth elements, uranium**.



Strategic and International Relevance

- Acts as a geopolitical bridge between **Central Asia and South Asia**.
- Instability impacts **regional security, terrorism, and refugee flows**.

India's Engagement and Policy Approach

- India follows a policy of **developmental assistance and humanitarian support**.
- Engagement aligns with principles of **regional stability and connectivity (e.g., Chabahar Port)**

Environment

MUDUMALAI TIGER RESERVE

 The New Indian Express

Nilgiris Collector visits Thengumarahada village inside MTR to promote voter turnout

The collector, along with Superintendent of Police NS Nisha, reached the village after short coracle ride.

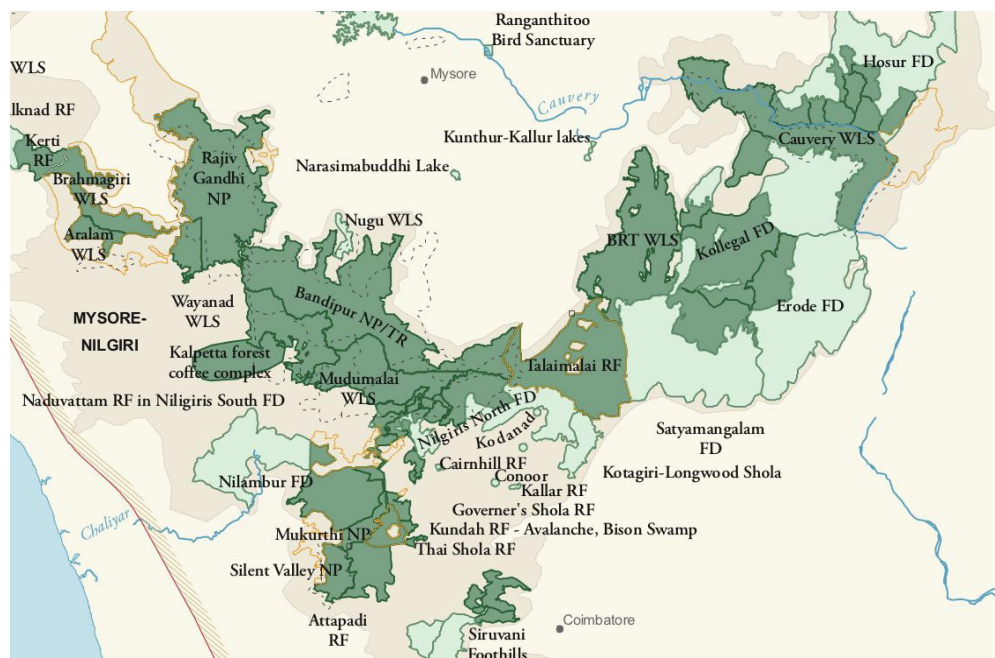


Why in News

- The **Nilgiris District** administration inspected a core-area village to ensure voter amenities inside the reserve.

Geographical Interface and Connectivity

- It is located in **Nilgiris District, Tamil Nadu**, at the tri-junction of **Tamil Nadu–Karnataka–Kerala**.
- It shares boundaries with **Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka)** and **Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala)**.
- It forms part of the **Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve**, India's first biosphere reserve.



Ecological Profile and Habitat Diversity

- The terrain is undulating with elevations ranging from **960 m to 1266 m**.
- Vegetation includes **tropical evergreen, moist deciduous, dry teak forests, grasslands, and swamps**.
- The **Moyar River** flows through the reserve, supporting riparian ecosystems.

Biodiversity Significance

- Flora includes **teak, rosewood, bamboo**, and wild relatives of crops like **rice, turmeric, and cinnamon**.
- Fauna includes **tiger, elephant, gaur, sambar, blackbuck, leopard, and wild dog**.
- The reserve supports ecological corridors critical for **Western Ghats biodiversity conservation**.

Conservation and Governance Dimensions

- It is governed **under Project Tiger** and integrated into landscape-level conservation planning.
- Ensuring human welfare within core areas reflects a balance **between conservation and electoral inclusion**.

INDIAN SOFTSHELL TURTLE

📰 The Indian Express

A routine check, moving jute bag: How 16 Indian Softshell turtles were rescued in Greater Noida

Police in Greater Noida rescued 16 Indian softshell turtles during a routine check and arrested a smuggler under the Wildlife Protection...



Why in News

- Authorities rescued 16 Indian Softshell turtles in **Greater Noida**, highlighting illegal trade concerns.

Species Profile and Distribution

- Scientific name: ***Nilssonina gangetica***; commonly called **Ganges Softshell Turtle**.
- Found across **India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan** in major river basins like **Ganga, Yamuna, Brahmaputra**.

Morphology and Behaviour

- It has a **flat, leathery carapace** and long snout for breathing underwater.
- It prefers **muddy riverbeds** and remains buried for camouflage.

Threats and Conservation Status

- Threatened by **poaching, habitat destruction, agricultural expansion, and illegal trade.**
- Listed as **Endangered (IUCN Red List)** and under **Schedule I of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.**

Cultural and Ecological Role

- Maintained in **temple ponds in Odisha**, indicating socio-cultural relevance.
- Plays a role in **aquatic ecosystem balance** as an omnivore.

Sports

KHELO INDIA TRIBAL GAMES

 News On AIR

Khelo India Tribal Games conclude; Karnataka emerge overall champion with 23 gold medals

The Khelo India Tribal Games concluded today in Chhattisgarh. The closing ceremony, held this evening, was attended by the Chief Minister of...



Why in News

- The **Khelo India Tribal Games** concluded in **Chhattisgarh** with participation from tribal athletes across India.

Purpose and Government Initiative

- The Games promote sports among **tribal communities** and ensure inclusive development in the sports sector.
- It is part of the **Khelo India Programme (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)** for grassroots talent identification.



Key Results and Medal Tally

- **West Bengal** won gold in men’s football by defeating **Chhattisgarh (1–0)** in Raipur.
- **Karnataka** secured first position with **23 gold, 8 silver, and 7 bronze medals**.
- **Odisha** ranked second, while **Jharkhand** finished third in overall standings.
- Host **Chhattisgarh** secured ninth position with **3 gold medals**.

Sports and Participation Details

- About **3,800 athletes from 30 States/UTs** participated in the Games.
- Events included **Archery, Athletics, Football, Hockey, Swimming, Weightlifting, and Wrestling**.
- Traditional sports like **Mallakhamb and Kabaddi** were included as demonstration events.

Performance in Archery

- **Komalika Bari (Jharkhand)** won gold in women’s recurve individual category.
- **Nagaland** secured gold in women’s recurve team event.
- **Arjun Khara (Odisha)** won gold in men’s recurve individual category.
- **Jharkhand** dominated the men’s team event, showing strong regional expertise.

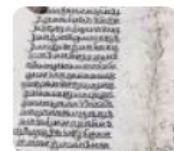
UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS

RAMAYANA MANUSCRIPT DISCOVERY IN AYODHYA

R. Republic World

Uttar Pradesh: About 200-year-old Devanagari Manuscript Found in Ayodhya

A manuscript written in Devanagari script, estimated to be 150–200 years old, has been discovered in Ayodhya and will be preserved at the...



Why in News

- A rare **200-year-old Ramcharitmanas manuscript** will be preserved at the **Antarrashtriya Ram Katha Sangrahalaya, Ayodhya**.

About the Manuscript

- The manuscript is written in **Nagari script**, which later evolved into **Devanagari script**.
- It represents a historic version of the **Ramcharitmanas composed by Tulsidas**.
- Such manuscripts are important sources for understanding **textual variations and transmission of epics**.

Preservation Efforts

- The museum has initiated a drive to collect **Ramayana manuscripts in Sanskrit and regional languages**.
- It aims to build a **national repository of Ramayana traditions**, including commentaries and illustrated texts.
- Manuscripts on **palm leaves and paper** will be preserved using scientific conservation techniques.
- Approval has been granted to establish a **dedicated conservation centre** at the museum.

About the Museum

- The **Antarrashtriya Ram Katha Sangrahalaya** was established in **1988**.
- It is dedicated to showcasing the **life, values, and cultural legacy of Lord Rama**.
- The museum acts as a centre for **research, preservation, and dissemination of Ramayana traditions**.