

# Testwale Current Affairs PDF

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## 1. G7 should adopt 'risk-based' AI regulation ( April 30, 2023 )

Digital ministers from the **Group of Seven advanced nations (G7)** agreed on 30 April that they should adopt "**risk-based**" **regulation on artificial intelligence**.

### An overview of the news

- **European lawmakers** hurry to introduce an AI Act to enforce rules on emerging tools such as ChatGPT.
- G7 ministers said in a joint statement issued at a two-day meeting in Japan that **such regulation should "preserve an open and enabling environment"** for the development of AI technologies and be based on democratic values.
- The ministers recognized that the policy tools to achieve the common vision and goal of trustworthy **AI among G7 members may differ**.
- The agreement sets a milestone for how major countries regulate AI amid **privacy concerns and security risks**.
- Governments in particular have taken note of the popularity of **generative AI tools such as ChatGPT**.
- A chatbot (ChatGPT) developed by **Microsoft Corp-backed OpenAI** has become the **fastest-growing app in history** since its launch in November.

### What is ChatGPT?

- It is a **natural language processing tool** powered by **Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology** that allows chatbots to do much more than just have human-like conversations.
- This language model can answer questions and assist with tasks such as **writing emails, essays and code**.
- ChatGPT was created by **OpenAI, an AI and research company**.
- **A chatbot (ChatGPT) developed by Microsoft Corp-backed OpenAI** has become the fastest-growing app in history since its launch in November.

### What is Artificial Intelligence?

- It is a **broad branch of computer science** that deals with building smart machines capable of performing tasks that would normally **require human intelligence**.

### About G7

- The **G7 is a group of seven major industrialized countries**, including **Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States**.

- The G7 holds **annual meetings to discuss various global issues**, but these meetings are usually held in different locations each year.
- The **48th G7 summit was hosted by Germany in 2022.**

## **2. Dubai's airline Emirates unveils world's first robotic check-in assistant ( April 29, 2023 )**

Dubai-based airline **Emirates** has unveiled the **world's first robotic check-in assistant** named '**Sara**'.

### **An overview of the news**

- The system is part of a **new City Check-in and Travel Store** that is **set to launch in Dubai's Financial District.**
- In addition to the new check-in facility, Emirates passengers with a valid boarding pass will also have access to **select lifestyle amenities** at ICD **Brookfield Place**, as well as exclusive discounts and special offers at a range of **restaurants, gyms and luxury stores.**
- Passengers can connect directly to the airport via taxi or **Emirates Chauffeur Service.**
- This latest innovation from Emirates aims **to enhance the customer experience and make the check-in process more seamless and efficient.**

### **What is the world's first robotic check-in assistant 'Sara'?**

- '**SARA**' will **match customers' faces with scanned passports**, check in passengers and guide them to the baggage drop area.
- This facility allows customers to **drop off their luggage at the airport up to 24 hours in advance** and up to 4 hours before their flight.
- Passengers can **check-in via self-check-in kiosks**, with Emirates agents at dedicated desks or with the help of Sara.
- The robot is equipped with **facial recognition technology** and can **print boarding passes** to make the check-in process more efficient. Sara is also portable and can move around to help those in need.
- Sources reveal that future iterations of the Sarah will also have weapons that can carry goods.

## **3. Germany and Britain intercepted three Russian military reconnaissance aircraft over the Baltic Sea ( April 29, 2023 )**

Baltic Sea

The **German Air Force** on 26th April announced that it **intercepted three Russian military aircraft flying over the Baltic Sea**.

### **An overview of the news**

- **Germany and UK Eurofighter** have been alerted to identify 3 military machines.
- The **two SU-27 flankers and one IL-20** from Russia flew again without a transponder signal in **international airspace over the Baltic Sea**.
- German and British forces were deployed to identify the two **Sukhoi Su-27 fighter aircraft and one Ilyushin Il-20 aircraft**.
- Germany handed over responsibility for **NATO's Baltic air policing mission to Britain earlier this month**.

### **About the Baltic Sea**

- The Baltic Sea is an **arm of the Atlantic Ocean located in northern Europe**.
- It is a **shelf sea and marginal sea of the Atlantic**, with limited water exchange between the two, making it an inland sea.
- The Baltic Sea is **one of the largest brackish inland seas by area**.
- It is bordered by **Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Sweden, and the North and Central European Plain**.
- The **maximum depth is 459 m (1,506 ft)**.
- The **Helsinki Convention** on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Region covers the Baltic Sea.

## **4. India-UK NET Zero Innovation virtual centre ( April 28, 2023 )**

**India and the United Kingdom** have agreed to create an **India-UK Net Zero Innovation Virtual Centre**.

### **An overview of the news**

- The center will provide a platform for stakeholders from both countries to work together in areas such as **manufacturing processes, transportation systems and decarbonization of green hydrogen as a renewable source**.
- This was announced by Science and Technology Minister **Dr Jitendra Singh** at a meeting of the **India-UK Science and Innovation Council meeting** in the presence of **United Kingdom Minister George Freeman**.
- India is fast marching towards becoming an economic powerhouse driven by its extraordinary technology and innovation.
- India is committed to achieve its **climate change and environment goals within the stipulated time period**.

- **Energy efficiency and renewable energy are the central pillars**, where India has already taken the lead through various initiatives like **Solar Alliance and Clean Energy Mission**.
- Dr Jitendra Singh is leading a **high-level official Indian delegation** from the **Ministry of Science and Technology** on a six-day visit to the United Kingdom.

### **United Kingdom**

- The inclusion of **Northern Ireland in Great Britain is called the United Kingdom**.
- That is, the United Kingdom is a kingdom consisting of **England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland**.
- The **Queen of England** is the **head of both the United Kingdom/Britain**.
- The **capital of the United Kingdom/Great Britain is London**.

## **5. Pennsylvania Recognizes Diwali as an Official State Holiday ( April 27, 2023 )**

The **United States state of Pennsylvania** officially recognized the Hindu festival of **Diwali as a state holiday**.

### **An Overview of the News**

- State **Senators Greg Rothman and Nikil Saval** introduced legislation to make **Diwali a state holiday in February this year**.
- The **bill was passed unanimously by the Senate**. According to My Twin Tears, there are approximately 200,000 South Asian residents in Pennsylvania, many of whom celebrate Diwali as a time to gather and reflect.

### **Pennsylvania:**

- It is a state **located in the northeastern region of the United States of America**.
- It is one of the **original 13 colonies** that **declared independence from Great Britain** and **became a kingdom on December 12, 1787**.
- The state's capital is **Harrisburg**, and its largest city is **Philadelphia**, which is known as the **birthplace of the United States of America**.
- Pennsylvania is **bordered by six other states, including New York to the north, New Jersey to the east, Maryland to the south, West Virginia to the southwest, Ohio to the west, and Lake Erie to the northwest**.
- The state has a diverse geography, including the **Appalachian Mountains in the central and eastern parts of the state**, the Allegheny Plateau in the western part of the state, and a coastal plain in the southeastern part of the state.

**6. WHO issues alert over India-made cough syrup Guaifenesin ( April 27, 2023 )**

The **WHO** has issued a red alert due to "**unacceptable amounts of diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol**" in the tested samples of **Guaifenesin TG syrup** manufactured by **Punjab-based QP Pharmachem Ltd.**

**An overview of the news**

- The World Health Organization has said that a **consignment of this contaminated cough syrup** made in India has been found in the **Marshall Islands and Micronesia.**
- Guaifenesin is used to **relieve the symptoms of cough and tightness in the chest.**
- Samples of Guaifenesin Syrup TG Syrup from the Marshall Islands were analyzed and it was found that the product contained **unacceptable amounts of Diethylene Glycol and Ethylene Glycol as contaminants.**
- Ingestion of diethylene glycol and ethylene glycol are **toxic to humans, and can prove fatal.**
- The latest alert comes months after the **WHO linked another cough syrup made in India to child deaths in Gambia and Uzbekistan.**
- **India is the world's largest exporter of generic drugs**, which meet most of the medical needs of developing countries.
- But in recent months, several Indian companies have come under scrutiny for the quality of their drugs, with experts **raising concerns about the manufacturing practices used to make these drugs.**

**7. Australia to host third in-person Quad summit ( April 26, 2023 )**

**Australia** will host the **third in-person Quad summit in Sydney on 24 May.**

**An Overview of the News**

- The Quad Summit will be attended by the leaders of the four member countries – **US President Joe Biden, Japanese PM Fumio Kishida, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese.**
- The Quad summit is a meeting between the leaders of four countries: **the United States, Japan, India, and Australia.**
- The Quad was **first established as a strategic dialogue in 2007**, but remained **dormant for several years until it was revived in 2017.**
- The Quad Summit, to be held in **Washington DC in September 2021**, was the **first in-person meeting of the Quad leaders.**

- The agenda of the Quad summit focused on four key areas: **COVID-19 vaccine delivery, climate change, critical and emerging technologies and regional security.**
- The Quad leaders announced a new initiative **to boost COVID-19 vaccine production in India** with a target of distributing **one billion doses to the Asia-Pacific region by the end of 2022.**
  - On the subject of climate change, the Quad leaders pledged to work together **to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.**

### **About Australia**

It is a **sovereign country located in the Southern Hemisphere** and is **geographically isolated** from the rest of the world.

Capital - **Canberra**

Government - **federal parliamentary constitutional monarchy**

Emperor - **Charles III**

Governor-General - **David Hurley**

Prime Minister - **Anthony Albanese**

### **8. 11th High Level Meeting between Indian Coast Guard and Korean Coast Guard ( April 26, 2023 )**

The **11th high level meeting between the Indian Coast Guard and the Korean Coast Guard** was held in **New Delhi** on 25 April.

#### **An overview of the news**

- A **seven-member delegation of the Korean Coast Guard** held a meeting with the **Indian Coast Guard.**
- Both sides discussed ways to strengthen the existing relationship in accordance with the provisions of the **MoU to share best practices, conduct joint exercises and enhance training cooperation.**
- The high-level meeting between the two Coast Guards was held **under the provisions of the MoU signed in 2006.**
- The high level meeting focused on enhancing operational level interactions and capacity building in the areas of **maritime search and rescue, marine pollution response and maritime law enforcement.**

### **About South Korea**

- South Korea is a country located in **East Asia that is known as the 'Land of Quiet Mornings'.**

- The Korean peninsula was divided into **communist Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and Republic of Korea (South Korea)** after the **Korean War in 1953**.
- The nation's capital, **Seoul**, is the **world's second largest metropolitan area and a major global city**.
- **Martial arts Taekwondo** originated in Korea.
- President- **Yoon Suk-yol**
- Currency- **South Korean won**

## **9. 4th India-Mozambique Joint Defence Working Group meeting ( April 26, 2023 )**

The **fourth meeting of the India-Mozambique Joint Defense Working Group** was held in **New Delhi** on 25 April.

### **An overview of the news**

- The meeting was co-chaired by **Amitabh Prasad**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Defense and **Casimiro Augusto Muio**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of National Defense of Mozambique.
- Both sides discussed a wide range of issues including **military training, exercises, medicine and capacity building with a view to deepening defense ties**.
- The Indian side highlighted the country's **growing capabilities in the field of defense production** and discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral military ties.
- The Mozambican side held separate talks with representatives of the defense industry.
- The Indian side assured Mozambique of India's continued support and commitment to a strong bilateral defense relationship.

### **About Mozambique**

- Mozambique is a **central African nation**.
- India has sent food and defence equipment to under **Mission Sagar**.
- It was delivered at Port Maputo of Mozambique.
- Capital: **Maputo**
- President: **Philippe Nyusi**
- Prime Minister: **Carlos Agostinho do Rosário**
- Currency: **Mozambican metical (MZN)**

- Joint Maritime Exercise among the Indian, Mozambique and Tanzanian navies - **India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise (IMT TRILAT)**.

## **10. "Locked Shields" cyber-defense exercise 2023 to be held by NATO in Tallinn ( April 24, 2023 )**

The 2023 edition of the **annual exercise "Locked Shields"** was **hosted by the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence in Tallinn (Estonia)**.

### **An Overview of the News**

- **"Locked Shields"** is an **annual cyber defence exercise** hosted by the **NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence** in **Tallinn**. The exercise started on 18 April 2023.
- More than **3000 participants from 38 countries** including **NATO allies** and partners took part in the exercise.
- The exercise simulates **real-time attacks and tests strategic decision making** in critical situations.
- The exercise highlights the importance of **international collaboration and cooperation in the field of cyber defence**.
- The **NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence** helps participating countries and organisations improve their cyber defence capabilities.

### **About Locked Shields**

- It is an **annual cyber defence exercise that simulates a large-scale cyber incident**.
- Rapid Reaction Teams from different countries work together to assist a fictional nation in managing a **massive cyber attack**.
- Blue Teams made up of **CCDCOE member nations protect** the mock state's information systems and critical infrastructure from thousands of attacks.
- **The aim of the exercise is to improve the skills and capabilities** of the participating teams and enhance international cooperation and communication in cyber defence.
- The exercise includes both **defensive and offensive operations**, with **Red Teams simulating attacks and Blue Teams defending**.

### **About the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**

Established - **4 April 1949**

Founders - **United States, United Kingdom, France, Canada, Italy**

Headquarters - **Brussels, Belgium**



Secretary General - **Jens Stoltenberg**