

Testwale Current Affairs PDF

Current Affairs search results for tag: summits

1. Narendra Modi to inaugurate first Global Buddhist Summit on 20th April (April 18, 2023)

Narendra Modi to inaugurate first Global Buddhist Summit on 20th April

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will inaugurate the **first Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi** on 20th April.

An overview of the news

- The two-day summit will be hosted by the **Ministry of Culture** in association with its grantee body **International Buddhist Confederation**.
- **Eminent scholars, Sangha leaders and Dharma practitioners** from all over the world will attend the Conference.
- The theme of the Global Buddhist Summit is '**Responses to Contemporary Challenges: Philosophy to Praxis**'.
- For the first time prominent Buddhist monks from different countries will come to India and participate in the summit.
- There will be discussions on how to deal with contemporary challenges with the help of **Buddhist philosophy and thought**.
- This global summit will mark the importance of India in Buddhism, as **Buddhism originated in India**.
- This global summit will also be a medium to enhance **cultural and diplomatic relations with other countries**.
- **Delegates from around 30 countries** will participate in the event and around 171 delegates from foreign countries and 150 delegates from Indian Buddhist organizations will participate.
- The main approach of the summit is to reflect on the teachings of **Shakyamuni Buddha**, which have been continuously enriched by the practice of Buddhism over the centuries.

Four Themes of Discussions

1. Buddha Dhamma and Peace
2. Buddha Dhamma: Environmental Crisis, Health and Sustainability
3. Preservation of Nalanda Buddhist Tradition
4. Buddha Dhamma Pilgrimage, Living heritage and Buddha Relics: a resilient foundation to India's centuries-old cultural links to countries in South, Southeast and East Asia.

Buddhism in India

- It is one of the important religions of **South and South-Eastern Asian countries**.
- Buddhism started in India about **2600 years ago**.
- **Gautam Buddha, the founder of Buddhism**, was born in **Lumbini around 563 BC**. He belonged to the **Shakya dynasty**.
- Buddha is considered to be the **eighth incarnation of the ten incarnations of Lord Vishnu**.
- The core teachings of Buddhism are contained in the **Four Noble Truths and the core concept of the Eightfold Path**.
- The essence of Buddhism lies in the attainment of **enlightenment or nirvana**, which can be achieved in this life.
- The branches of Buddhism are Mahayana (idolatry), Hinayana, Theravada, Vajrayana (Tantric Buddhism), Zen.

UNESCO heritage site related to Buddhism

- Archaeological site of Nalanda Mahavihara at Nalanda, Bihar
- Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh
- Mahabodhi Vihara Complex in Bodh Gaya, Bihar
- Ajanta Caves, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)

2. Sixth meeting of the Steering Committee on the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 (April 17, 2023)

The **sixth meeting of the Steering Committee** on matters relating to the **Indus Waters Treaty of 1960** was held in **New Delhi** on 17 April.

An Overview of the News

- **The purpose of the meeting** was to take stock of the ongoing amendment process of the **Indus Water Treaty**.
- The meeting was presided over by Secretary, Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Jal Shakti, **Pankaj Kumar**.

About Indus Water Treaty (IWT)

- The Indus Water Treaty (IWT) is a **water-distribution treaty** between **India and Pakistan**, arranged and negotiated by the **World Bank**, to utilise the water available in the **Indus River and its tributaries**.
- The treaty was **signed in Karachi on 19 September 1960** by the then Indian Prime Minister **Jawaharlal Nehru** and the then Pakistani President **Ayub Khan**.

- The treaty gives control over the waters of **three "eastern rivers" - the Beas, the Ravi and the Sutlej** with an average annual flow of **41 billion m3 (33 million acre feet)** - while controlling the waters of all three. The "**Western Rivers**" - **the Indus, the Chenab and the Jhelum**, with an average annual flow of **99 billion cubic metres** - flow to Pakistan.
- India has about **20% of the total water** carried by the Indus system while **Pakistan has 80%**.
- The treaty allows India to use the waters of the western river for limited irrigation use and unlimited non-consumptive use for applications such as **power generation, navigation, floating of assets, fisheries, etc.**

3. Union Minister of Steel Jyotiraditya Scindia to inaugurate India Steel 2023 in Mumbai (April 17, 2023)

Union Minister of Steel **Jyotiraditya Scindia** will inaugurate **India Steel 2023** on 19th April at the **Mumbai Exhibition Centre in Goregaon, Mumbai.**

An overview of the news

- The Union Ministry of Steel, in association with the **Department of Commerce, Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and FICCI** is organising India Steel 2023.
- The **conference and International Exhibition on the steel industry** will be held from April 19-21.
- The **main objective** of the event is to bring together industry leaders, policy makers and experts to discuss the latest developments, challenges and opportunities in the steel industry.
- The India Steel 2023 exhibition will showcase advanced **technologies, products and solutions** from the Indian steel industry.
- This biennial event will provide a unique platform for attendees to engage with industry leaders, gain insight into future growth prospects and explore collaboration opportunities in the Indian steel industry.

Topics of sessions

- Augmentation of Enabling Logistics Infrastructure.
- Demand Dynamics for Indian Steel Industry.
- Sustainability Goals via Green Steel: Challenges and Way Forward.
- Conducive Policy Framework & Key Enablers for Indian Steel.
- Technology Solutions for Enhancing Productivity & Efficiency.

Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

- It is a **business lobby group** of top business houses in India which was **founded by Ghanshyam Das Birla**.
- It was **set up in 1927**
- It articulates the views and concerns of industry and tries to influence the government to make policy which is in favour of the industry and business.
- Headquarters: **New Delhi**
- President: **Subhrakant Panda**

4. G20 Second Digital Economy Working Group meeting begins in Hyderabad (April 17, 2023)

G20 Second Digital Economy Working Group meeting begins in Hyderabad

The **G20 Second Digital Economy Working Group meeting** began on April 17 in **Hyderabad**, India, with **140 representatives** from member and invited countries and international organisations.

An Overview of the News

- The three-day meet focused on **digital public infrastructure, cyber security and skills**.
- Highlighted the government's objective of bridging the **digital divide and providing broadband facilities to all villages** in the country by 2025.
- The meeting stressed the importance of multi-stakeholder participation in creating an inclusive and robust digital economy and the use of digital technologies and the empowerment of **vulnerable sections in the digital economy**.
- Indian Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology - **Dev Singh Chauhan**
- Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment - **A Narayanaswamy**

About Telangana

- It is a state **located in south-central India on the high Deccan Plateau**.
- It is the **eleventh largest state of India by area**.
- Telangana was carved out of the northwestern part of Andhra Pradesh on **2 June 2014** and became the newly formed state of Telangana with **Hyderabad as the capital**.
- Telangana is bordered by **Maharashtra to the north, Chhattisgarh to the northeast, Karnataka to the west, and Andhra Pradesh to the east and south**.

Formed (by split) - **2 June 2014**

Capital - **Hyderabad**

District - **33**

Governor - **Tamilisai Soundararajan**

Chief Minister - **K Chandrasekhar Rao (BRS)**

State Legislature - **Bicameral**

Rajya Sabha - **7 seats**

Lok Sabha - **17 seats**

High Court - **Telangana High Court**

5. Second Health Working Group meeting begins in Goa (April 17, 2023)

The **second Health Working Group meeting** under the chairmanship of the Indian G20 began in **Goa** on 17 April and will conclude on 19 April.

An Overview of the News

The meeting was attended by over **180 delegates from 19 G20 member states, 10 invited states and 22 international organisations.**

- **Prevention, preparedness and response to health emergencies**, including strengthening cooperation in the **pharmaceutical sector**, were discussed at the second G20 health working group meeting.
- Which will focus on access to **safe, effective, quality and affordable medical interventions** and **digital health innovations** and solutions to aid universal health coverage and improve healthcare delivery.
- Cultural programs infused with flavours of Goan culture were planned to showcase the rich diversity and culture of India based on the Indian philosophy of '**Atithi Devo Bhava**'.
- Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare - **Mr. Lav Agarwal**

About the G20

- It is an international forum of the **world's leading economies established in 1999.**
- Its primary objective is to promote **international financial stability and sustainable economic growth.**
- The G20 serves as a forum to discuss and coordinate policies related to a wide range of economic and financial issues such as **trade, investment, employment, energy and climate change.**

About Goa

- It is a state **located on the west coast of India**, bordering the **Arabian Sea**.
- It is the **smallest state of India** by area.

Formation (as a state) - **30 May 1987**

Capital - **Panaji (Executive Branch)**

State Legislature - **Unicameral**

Accession to the Union - **19 December 1961**

Official Animal - **Gaur**

Official Bird - **Yellow Throated Bulbul**

Official Sport - **Football**

Official Tree - **Terminalia elliptica**

Rajya Sabha - **1 seat**

Lok Sabha - **2 seats**

High Court - **Bombay High Court**

Governor - **PS Sreedharan Pillai**

Chief Minister - **Pramod Sawant**

6. CII and Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare organises Digital Health Summit 2023 (April 17, 2023)

CII and Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare organises Digital Health Summit 2023

The **Digital Health Summit 2023** was organized jointly by the **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** on 16 April in **Goa**.

An overview of the news

- The theme of the event was '**Building One Health together - Improving Health equity**'.
- The aim of the summit was to bring together policy makers, industry leaders and global health experts and thought leaders to **deliberate on the key issues faced by the digital health sector**.
- The event aligns with the agenda of India's G20 health working group on **digital health innovations**.
- It aims to assist in universal health coverage and improve healthcare delivery for **One Earth, One Family, One Future**.

- Digital innovations including **3D printing, point-of-care diagnostics, robotics, bioinformatics, genomics** are proving to be game changers in exponential medicine.
- The goal of a "**citizen-centric**" digital health system must remain the same with equal access to high-quality treatments.

About Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

- CII is a non-profit and **non-governmental organisation**.
- The objective of CII is to achieve a conducive environment for the development of industry and civil society in India.
- It was **established in 1895**.
- It has over **8,000 members** from both the public and private sectors.
- Headquarter : **New Delhi**
- President : **Sanjiv Bajaj**

7. Army Commanders' Conference to be organized in Hybrid format (April 16, 2023)

The first **Army Commanders' Conference (ACC)** for the year 2023 will be held on the **17th of April in Hybrid format**.

An overview of the news

- The conference is scheduled from **17 to 21 April 2023**.
- For the first time, the ACC is being held in a hybrid format using available technology for secure communication, with the **Army Commander and other senior officers** meeting virtually on the first day.
- On the first day of the conference, the agenda points sponsored by **various Command Headquarters** will be discussed.
- The Forum will also review the progress on the **Agneepath plan, digitization and automation initiatives, Combat Engineers tasks and budget management** as well as activities drawn up as part of the '**Year of Transformation-2023**'.
- The top leadership will also brainstorm on the current and **emerging security scenarios** and review the operational preparedness of the Indian Army.
- Defense Minister **Rajnath Singh** will address the conference on 19 April.
- He will also review the performance of equipment focused on **niche technology, innovation, solutions for surveillance, artificial intelligence, training, robotics and operational logistics**.

About Army Commanders' Conference (ACC)

- It is an **apex-level biannual program** which is an institutional platform for conceptual level discussions.
- In this, important **policy decisions** are taken for the Indian Army.

8. Global Conference on Compressed Biogas (CBG) (April 15, 2023)

According to the **Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas** a two-day **Global Conference on Compressed Biogas** will be held in **New Delhi** from 17 April.

An overview of the news

- The theme of the conference is - **Towards Progressive Policy Framework for a Robust CBG Foundation and Growth.**
- The conference will be held on **17-18 April 2023 at Silver Oak, Indian Habitat Centre, New Delhi.**
- **IFGE- CBG Producers Forum** is organizing this global conference.
- **The objective of the conference** is to appraise the industry about the initiatives taken by the Central Government for the development of compressed biogas industry and identify areas where policy amendments are required.
- Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Housing and Urban Affairs **Hardeep Singh Puri** will inaugurate the conference.
- **The topics discussed in the conference are** - Feedstock Availability, CBG Uptake, Fermented Organic Manure, Carbon Credits, Incentives, Investment and Financing for CBG Industry and Biofuel Policies of Various States.

About Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE)

- It is an umbrella organization representing the **interests of the national renewable energy sector** in its totality including **bio-energy, solar, wind, mini hydro, tidal, geothermal etc.**
- It is a partnership of visionary and committed groups of stakeholders from diverse industries, trade and services to create a sustainable energy ecosystem and mitigate challenges and concerns.
- It focuses on **green energy with a mission to promote energy security** in a sustainable manner in every area of economic development.

About IFGE : CBG Producer Forum

- This is a dedicated platform for **CBG producers.**
- It aims at training and awareness programs for LOI holders, stakeholders, potential investors including policy support for industry members.

9. IMF/World Bank high-level meeting on Sri Lankan debt issue (April 14, 2023)

IMF/World Bank high-level meeting on Sri Lankan debt issue

The Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister **Nirmala Sitharaman** on 14 April 2023 in Washington D.C. Participated in a high-level meeting on the **Sri Lankan debt issue** during the **Spring Conferences of the International Monetary Fund (IMF)/World Bank.**

An Overview of the News:

- The meeting was attended by Japanese Finance Minister **Suzuki Shunichi**, French Treasury Department Director General **Emmanuel Molin** and Sri Lankan Minister of State for Finance **Shehan Semasingha.**
- Sri Lankan President and Finance Minister **Ranil Wickremesingha** participated in the meeting through virtual medium.
- **Objective of the meeting:** To bring multilateral cooperation regarding the debt restructuring process in respect of the debtor countries including Sri Lanka.
- In this meeting, the ministers announced the launch of Sri Lanka's debt restructuring negotiation process.
- Three countries **India, Japan and France** have been made co-chairs to lead the coordination of debt restructuring in Sri Lanka.

International Monetary Fund (IMF):

- Establishment: **1944** (Formally came into existence in December 1945)
- Members: **190** (India joined the IMF on December 27, 1945)
- Headquarters: **Washington DC**

World Bank:

- Establishment: 1944 (Founded as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) together with the IMF, later the IBRD became the World Bank).
- Headquarters: **Washington DC**
- Members: **189**

10. Two-day SCO Young Writers' Conference concludes in New Delhi (April 14, 2023)

A two-day (April 12-13) **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** Young Writers' Conference on the theme "**Civilizational Dialogue among SCO Member States**" with representatives of SCO member states concluded on April 13, 2023 at **The Leela Palace, New Delhi.**

An Overview of the News:

- **Rajkumar Ranjan Singh**, Minister of State for External Affairs and Education, presided as the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the SCO Young Writers' Conference on 13 April.

- It was organized by the Ministry of Education at The Leela Palace, New Delhi with National Book Trust as the implementing agency.

Theme:

- **"Civilizational Dialogue among SCO Member States".**

Main Session of SCO Youth Summit:

- The SCO Youth Conference was organized in **six sessions** focusing on history and philosophy, economy, religion, culture, literature and science and medicine respectively.

Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO):

- Establishment: **2001**
- Official languages: **Russian and Chinese.**
- Secretariat: **Beijing.**
- Executive Committee of the regional anti-terrorist structure in Tashkent.
- Chairmanship: **It is done after one year through rotation by the member countries.**
- Origin: **Prior to the formation of the SCO in 2001, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan were members of the Shanghai Five.**
- Members: **Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan.**