

# IACE

## DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2024

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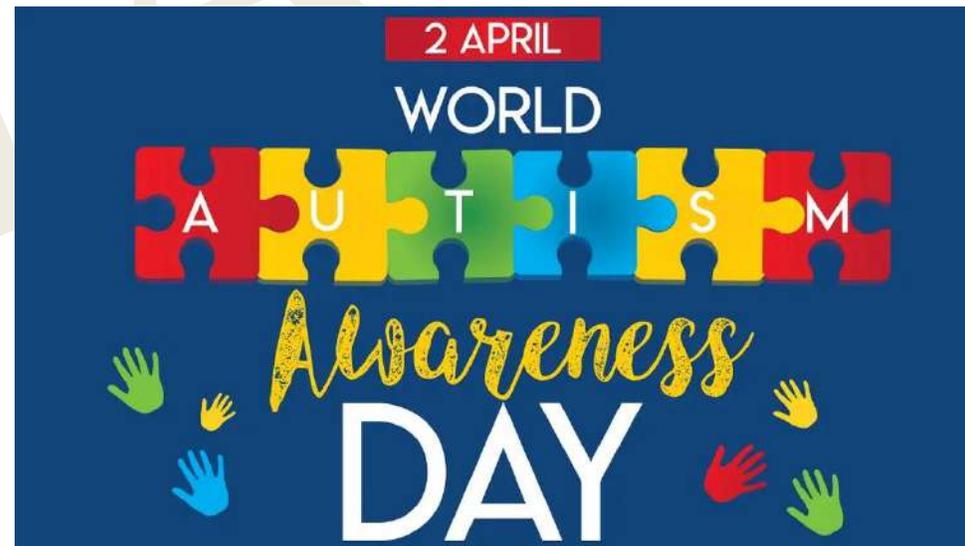
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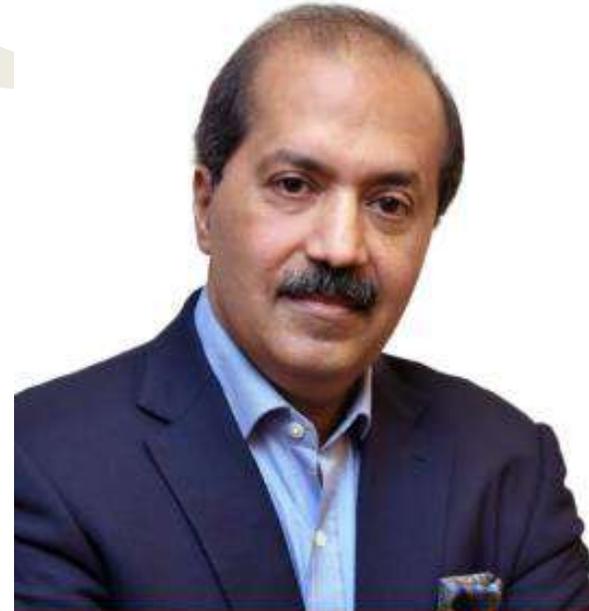
## **WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY: APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- World Autism Awareness Day is observed on 2nd April every year around the world. This Day underscores the need to help improve the quality of life of persons afflicted with autism.
- **Theme:** Empowering Autistic Voices.
- The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution on 18 December 2007 to observe 2 April 2008 every year as World Autism Day to raise public awareness about Autism.
- In **2008**, the first World Autism Awareness Day was observed worldwide.
- Autism or Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a **neurological disorder** that affects the functioning of the brain and is a lifelong condition. It mostly affects children and is manifested during the first three years of life



## **SANJAY NAYAR APPOINTED AS THE ASSOCHAM PRESIDENT**

- Sorin Investment Fund Chairman Sanjay Nayar has taken over as Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) president for 2024-25.
- He succeeds SpiceJet Chairman and Managing Director **Ajay Singh**, who completed his tenure as the chamber's president.
- Nayar brings experience of four decades in global financial and capital markets.
- **About ASSOCHAM**
- **Founded:** 1920
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi



## **SEBI UNVEILS SCORES 2.0 TO STRENGTHEN INVESTOR REDRESSAL**

- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched the new version of its complaint redress system.
- The new version of SCORES 2.0 (**Sebi Complaint Redress System**) strengthens the investor complaint redress mechanism in the securities market by making the process more efficient through auto-routing, auto-escalation, monitoring by the designated bodies and reduction of timelines.
- The revised version with additional features has been made more user friendly.



- Under the new version of SCORES, the regulator has introduced auto-routing of complaints to the concerned regulated entity to eliminate time lapses in the flow of complaints.
- Other features include uniform timelines for redressal of investor complaints across the securities market **21 calendar days** from date of receipt of complaint and monitoring timely redressal of the investors' complaints by the designated bodies.
- Also, the new version provides two levels of review-- **first review** by the '**Designated Body**', if the investor is dissatisfied with the resolution provided by the concerned regulated entity, and **second review** by **SEBI** if the investor is still dissatisfied after the first review.
- The regulator has introduced auto-escalation of complaint to the next level in case of non-adherence to the prescribed timelines by the regulated entity or the designated body
- Furthermore, there would be integration with KYC registration agency database for easy registration of the investor on to SCORES.
- **About SEBI**
- **Founded:** 12<sup>th</sup> April 1988
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman:** Madhabi Puri Buch

## **BHARAT BIO TECH AND SERUM INSTITUTE OF INDIA JOIN HANDS FOR GLOBAL POLIO ERADICATION**

- **Bharat Biotech** has collaborated with the **Netherlands-based Bilthoven Biologicals B.V**, a wholly-owned arm of **Serum Institute of India**, to strengthen production and supply security of **oral polio vaccines** and the nation's mission to eradicate polio.
- An agreement has been signed between the two partners under which Bharat Biotech will procure drug substances for the production of oral polio vaccines (OPVs) to be supplied within India and globally.
- Bharat Biotech and Bilthoven Biologicals (BBio) will jointly obtain regulatory approvals and licences required to commercially manufacture OPVs in India for global supplies from drug substances manufactured in the Netherlands at BBio.
- Oral polio vaccines have been an integral part of India's Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) for several decades, with Bharat Biotech being one of the largest suppliers to immunisation programmes across the world.
- **About Bharat Bio Tech**
- **Founded:** 1996
- **Headquarters:** Hyderabad, Telangana
- **Founders:** Krishna Ella, Suchitra Ella



# **JUDITH SUMINWA BECOMES THE FIRST FEMALE PRIME MINISTER OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

- President **Felix Tshisekedi** of the African country of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) appointed **Judith Suminwa Tuluka** as the nation's first female prime minister.
- She takes over as prime minister from **Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde**
- Democratic Republic of Congo is a Central African country. It is the **second-largest country** in **Africa** after Algeria.
- Congo gained its independence from Belgium in 1960.
- **About Democratic Republic of Congo**
- **Capital:** Kinshasa
- **Currency:** Congo franc
- **President:** Felix Tshisekedi



## **PARADIP PORT EMERGES AS LARGEST INDIAN MAJOR PORT IN CARGO IN FY24**

- Paradip Port in **Odisha** has emerged as India's largest major port in terms of cargo volumes by clocking **145.38 million tonne cargo** throughput in FY24, surpassing **Deendayal Port Authority in Gujarat**.
- For the first time in the 56-year history of operation, Paradip Port has surpassed previous records set by Deendayal Port.
- During FY24, the port achieved the highest-ever coastal shipping traffic of 59.19 million metric tonnes, with a growth of 0.76 million metric tonnes 1.30 per cent over the previous year.
- The port handled 2,710 ships, registering an increase of 13.82 per cent in FY23.



- Paradip Port has been able to improve its berth productivity to 33,014 MT from 31,050 MT in the previous financial year, registering a 6.33 per cent growth.
- The operating revenue has crossed Rs 2,300 crore in FY24 against Rs 2,074 crore in comparison to the previous fiscal, resulting in an increase of 14.30 per cent.
- Paradip Port, with 289 million tonnes capacity, is poised to cross the 300 million tonnes capacity mark in another 3 years
- **About Paradip Port**
- **Founded:** 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1962
- **Headquarters:** Jagatsinghpur, Odisha
- **Chairman:** Haranadh



Transfer  
Schengen

**BULGARIA & ROMANIA**

**PARTIALLY JOINS  
EUROPE'S  
SCHENGEN AREA**

## **ROMANIA AND BULGARIA PARTIALLY JOIN EUROPE'S SCHENGEN AREA**

- Romania and Bulgaria partially joined the Schengen Area, Europe's ID-check-free travel zone. This marks a significant step in the two countries' integration with the European Union (EU).
- A couple of Romania and Bulgaria's neighbors are already members, including Greece and Hungary.
- In addition to expanding its border-free area, the European Commission has postponed the start of a travel authorization fee until at least **2025**.
- The fee, which will cost €7 (\$7.51), will be required for travelers from visa-exempt countries, including the United States, to enter 30 different European countries. The fee will also apply to travelers visiting both Romania and Bulgaria.
- Romania and Bulgaria joined the **EU** in **2007**, while Croatia joined in 2013.
- The Schengen Area, established in **1985**, comprised **23** of the **27 EU member** countries, along with Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein before the partial admission of Romania and Bulgaria.
- **About European Union**
- **Founded:** 1<sup>st</sup> November 1993
- **Headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium

# MAHARASHTRA SECURE MEN AND WOMEN'S TITLES IN NATIONAL KHO KHO CHAMPIONSHIPS

- The Maharashtra team made a clean sweep at the 56th National Kho Kho Championship 2023-24.
- It won both the men's and women's titles, held at **Delhi's** Karnail Singh Stadium and the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.
- The Maharashtra men's team defeated the **Indian Railway team** and in the women's category, the Maharashtra team, led by Sampada Maurya, defeated the **Airport Authority of India**.
- The winning team collected a cash prize of Rs 3 lakh and a trophy. The runner-up got a cash prize of Rs 2 lakh and a Trophy
- The Kho-kho Federation of India organised the first National Championship at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, in 1959.
- June 30 is observed as National /International Kho Kho Day.
- **Kho Kho Federation of India**
- **Founded:** 1955
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **President:** Sudhanshu Mitta



## **RS.20.18 LAKH CRORE GROSS GST COLLECTIONS IN 2023-24, 11.7% GROWTH**

- For the first time, gross Goods and Service Tax (GST) collection crossed the Rs 20 lakh crore mark in a financial year.
- In 2023 -24, the total gross GST collection was Rs 20.18 lakh crore, an increase of 11.7% compared to the last financial year.
- The average monthly collection for the 2023-24 fiscal year was **Rs 1.68 lakh crore**, surpassing the previous year's average of **Rs 1.5 lakh crore**.
- GST revenue net of refunds as of March 2024 for the current fiscal year is Rs 18.01 lakh crore, which is a growth of 13.4 per cent over the same period last year.



- The gross GST collection in **March 2024** was **Rs 1.78 lakh crore**, a growth of 11.5% compared to March 2023. It was the **second-highest monthly** collection of GST since the GST was introduced in July 2017.
- The ever single-month gross GST collection of Rs 1.87 lakh crore was achieved in **April 2023**.
- **Maharashtra** was the major contributor to the GST collection in March 2024. Its contribution was Rs 27,688 crore.
- During the fiscal year 2023-24, the contribution of various taxes are as follows:
  - Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) was Rs 3,75,710 crore;
  - State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) was Rs 4,71,195 crore;
  - Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) was Rs 10,26,790 crore, including Rs 4,83,086 crore collected on imported goods;
  - Cess: Rs 1,44,554 crore, including Rs 11,915 crore, were collected on imported goods.

## **IN MARCH, INDIA'S MANUFACTURING PMI REACHED TO 16-YEAR HIGH AT 59.1**

- India's manufacturing industry expanded at a fast pace in the last 16 years due to accelerating demand.
- India's manufacturing **Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI)** jumped to 59.1 in March from 56.9 in February. In January, the PMI was 56.5.
- The production and sales expanded at their fastest rates since October 2020.
- The manufacturing PMI remained above 50-mark indicating growth rather than contraction.
- The notable improvement in operating conditions reflects the growth of new orders, output, job creation and input stocks.
- However, cost pressures reached their highest level in five months.
- The outlook of the Indian manufacturing sector appeared to be mixed.



## **IREDA SANCTIONS RECORD 37,354CR LOANS IN FY24**

- State-run Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has sanctioned a record ₹37,354-crore loans and disbursed loans worth ₹25,089 crore in FY24, its highest ever.
- The non-banking financial company (NBFC) for the **renewable energy** sector loan book now stands at **₹59,650 crore**, up by 26.71 per cent.
- The government has set IREDA a target of **₹4,350 crore** revenue from operations during **FY24** and **₹5,220 crore** for **FY25**.
- In FY23, the company achieved ₹3,482 crore revenue from operations, against a target of ₹3,361 crore.
- In 2023, IREDA completed its initial public offer (IPO) of around 67.19 crore equity shares of ₹10 face value each at ₹32 per equity share.
- The shares of the company were listed on both NSE and BSE on November 29, 2023, with a listing price at around 56 per cent hike in the pre-open trading debut and closed at an upper circuit of ₹60 per share.
- **About IRDEA**
- **Founded:** 1987
- **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman:** Pradip Kumar Das



## **MAHINDRA AEROSTRUCTURES SIGNS USD100 MN CONTRACT WITH AIRBUS ATLANTIC**

- Mahindra Aerostructures Private Limited (MASPL) has signed a multi-year contract worth around USD 100 million with Airbus Atlantic for the manufacturing and delivery of metallic components for the entire Airbus commercial aircraft family, including the **A320** family planes.
- The company will supply close to **2,300 varieties** of metallic components to Airbus Atlantic in **France** from its manufacturing base in India.
- The contract adds to existing MASPL programmes to deliver parts directly to Airbus at their facilities in France and Germany.
- Mahindra Aerostructures Private Limited has been a direct supplier to Airbus Group since 2015.



## **SHEYPHALI SHARAN TAKES CHARGE AS PRINCIPAL DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU**

- Senior IIS officer Ms Sheyphali B. Sharan assumed charge as the Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau upon superannuation of Shri **Manish Desai**.
- Ms. Sharan is an officer of the 1990 batch of Indian Information Service.
- In addition, she has worked on Central Staffing Scheme Deputations as Director in Ministry of Health (Department of Traditional Systems of Medicine/AYUSH (2002-2007)) and Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs 2013-2017).
- She also work in cadre post of OSD (Information Policy at Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, 2000-2002) as also as Director Administration and Finance at LSTV, Lok Sabha Secretariat in 2007-2008.
- She has also served as the spokesperson for Election Commission of India (ECI).
- **About Press Information Bureau (PIB)**
- **Founded:** June 1919
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi



## **PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) JOINS META'S THIRD-PARTY FACT-CHECKING PROGRAMME**

- Social media giant Meta collaborated with the Press Trust of India (PTI) under its third-party fact-checking programme in India.
- The partnership will enable PTI to identify, review, and rate content as misinformation across Meta platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp.
- Meta's fact-checking programme in India includes partnerships with independent fact-checking organisations that assist users in identifying, reviewing, verifying information, and helping to prevent the spread of misinformation on its platforms.
- “With this partnership with PTI, Meta now have 12 fact-checking partners in India and 100 partners around world to review and rate viral misinformation in more than 60 languages.



**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
India's Premier News Agency

- In India, the fact-checking partners under the programme can verify information in 16 languages, including Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Urdu, Punjabi, Assamese, Manipuri/Meitei, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil, Kashmiri, Bhojpuri, Oriya, and Nepali, as well as English.
- **About Press Trust of India (PTI)**
- **Founded:** 27<sup>th</sup> August 1947
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Chairman:** Aweek Sarkar.

## CHINA RENAMED 30 PLACES IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- The Chinese ministry of civil affairs revealed that it had renamed 30 more places along the border with India, Zangnan of China.
- The renaming covered **11 residential districts, 12 mountains, four rivers, one lake, one mountain pass,** and a **parcel of land**, all denoted in Chinese characters, Tibetan script, and pinyin, the Romanised form of Mandarin Chinese.
- **Zangnan** (the Chinese name for Arunachal Pradesh) in the eastern sector has always been China's territory.
- **About China**
- **Capital:** Beijing
- **PM:** Li Qiang
- **President:** Xi Jinping
- **Currency:** Chinese Yuan



# **BMW GROUP AND TATA TECHNOLOGIES PARTNER FOR AUTOMOTIVE SOFTWARE HUB IN INDIA**

- **German** luxury carmaker BMW Group and homegrown Tata Technologies have signed an agreement to form a joint venture (JV) to establish an automotive software and IT development hub in **Pune, Bengaluru and Chennai, Tamilnadu**.
- The main development and operations activities shall be established at Bengaluru and Pune. In Chennai, the focus shall be on business IT solutions.
- The JV will focus on strategic software development, including solutions for software-defined vehicles (SDV).
- In automotive software, the focus will be on automated driving, infotainment, and digital services.
- In business IT, the emphasis will be on digitalization and automation of product development, production and sales.
- **About Tata Technologies**
- **Founded:** 1989
- **Headquarters:** Pune
- **MD & CEO:** Warren Harris
- **Parent organizations:** Tata Motors, Tata Group

**BMW  
GROUP**

