



23 April 2024

National and International News

<p>Padma awards 2024</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padma awards were conferred by the President of India. <p>About Padma awards 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Padma Vibhushan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vyjayantimala Bali (Art, Tamil Nadu) ○ Konidela Chiranjeevi (Art, Andhra Pradesh) ○ M Venkaiah Naidu (Public Affairs, Andhra Pradesh) ○ Bindeshwar Pathak (Posthumous, Social Work, Bihar) ○ Padma Subrahmanyam (Art, Tamil Nadu) • Padma Bhushan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ M Fathima Beevi (Posthumous, Public Affairs, Kerala) ○ Hormusji N Cama (Literature & Education - Journalism, Maharashtra) ○ Mithun Chakraborty (Art, West Bengal) ○ Sitaram Jindal (Trade & Industry, Karnataka) ○ Young Liu (Trade & Industry, Taiwan) ○ Ashwin Balachand Mehta (Medicine, Maharashtra) ○ Satyabrata Mookherjee (Posthumous, Public Affairs, West Bengal) ○ Ram Naik (Public Affairs, Maharashtra) ○ Tejas Madhusudan Patel (Medicine, Gujarat) ○ Olanchery Rajagopal (Public Affairs, Kerala) ○ Dattatray Ambadas Mayaloo alias Rajdutt (Art, Maharashtra) ○ Togdan Rinpoche (Posthumous, Others - Spiritualism, Ladakh) ○ Pyarelal Sharma (Art, Maharashtra) ○ Chandreshwar Prasad Thakur (Medicine, Bihar) ○ Usha Uthup (Art, West Bengal) ○ Vijaykanth (Posthumous, Art, Tamil Nadu) ○ Kundan Vyas (Literature & Education -
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	<p>Journalism, Maharashtra)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This category features a diverse range of recipients including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parbati Baruah for social work in animal welfare (Assam), Rohan Machanda Bopanna for sports (Karnataka), and Joe D Cruz for literature and education (Tamil Nadu), among many others. <p>Think:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know about the Bharatratna.
<p>C-CAMP joins BFI Biome Virtual Network Program</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) has joined the Blockchain for Impact (BFI) Biome Virtual Network Program. The BFI-Biome Virtual Network aims to nurture cutting-edge biomedical science and innovation and accelerate the impact of transformative scientific advances in India. C-CAMP has a robust pipeline of biomedical innovations in several critical areas such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infectious disease diagnostics, Antimicrobial resistance, Cell therapy, Immuno-oncology, Regenerative tissues, and Digital health tech.
<p>2 women Navy officers return after historic transoceanic expedition</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indian Naval Sailing Vessel INSV Tarini returned to her base port at Goa on April 21 after a historic transoceanic expedition of nearly two months. The expedition was undertaken by two women officers of the Indian Navy, Lieutenant Commander Dilna K. and Lieutenant Commander Roopa A. They are the first from India to accomplish such a feat. The two officers are now preparing for their next monumental voyage, a circumnavigation of the globe, the Sagar Parikrama-IV expedition, on INSV Tarini, scheduled to commence in September this year.



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Places in news: Black sea



Why in news?

- The **Ukrainian army** announced that it **hit and damaged the Russian ship ‘Kommunua’** in the city of **Sevastopol** by the **Black Sea**.

About Black sea:

- The Black Sea is a large **inland sea** located at the **southeastern extremity of Europe**.
- It has **various countries** bordering it:
 - Ukraine,
 - Russia,
 - Georgia,
 - Turkey,
 - Bulgaria and
 - Romania.

Exercise Poorvi Lehar or XPOL

Why in news?

- The **Indian Navy** conducted a **maritime exercise Poorvi Lehar** along the **East Coast of India**.
- The exercise aimed at **validating procedures to assess the Indian Navy’s preparedness to meet Maritime Security challenges in the region**.
- It was conducted in multiple phases, including a **Tactical Phase** and a **Weapon Phase**.

Kerala Regional News

Right to privacy

Why in news?

- The **Kerala High Court** has ruled that **DNA testing of children born to rape victims and given up for adoption** may cause emotional imbalance and **infringe on their right to privacy**.
- This order was issued while disposing of a suo motu case registered based on a report from the **Project Co-ordinator, Victims Rights Centre**, and the **Kerala State Legal Services Authority**.

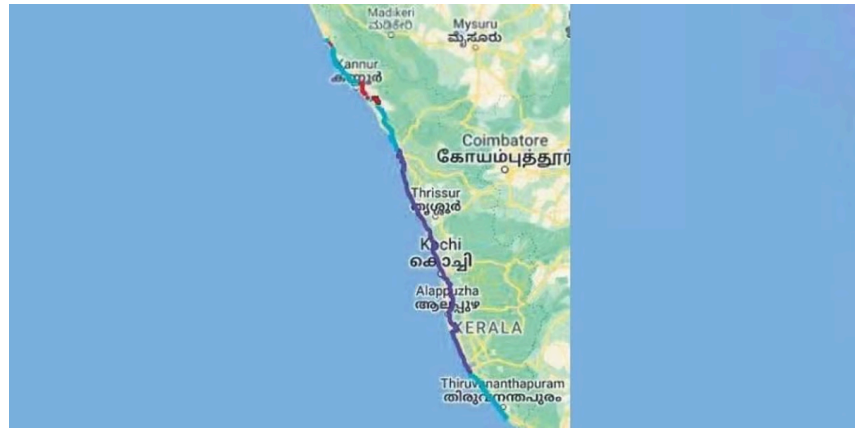
About Right to privacy:

- The **Right to Privacy in India** is a **fundamental right**,



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	<p>significantly shaped by the landmark Supreme Court case, Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) vs Union of India (2017).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supreme Court declared the Right to Privacy as a fundamental right under the Indian Constitution, protected under Article 21, which guarantees the protection of life and personal liberty. • The right to privacy is not absolute and is subject to reasonable restrictions for legitimate aims of the state. <p>Think:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know about Kerala State Legal Services Authority.
<p>Kovalam - Bekal National Waterways</p>	<p>Why in news?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families residing along the banks of the Parvathy Puthanar are protesting against the proposed development of the canal as part of the Kovalam - Bekal National Waterways. • The project will result in the displacement of around 900 families. <p>About Kovalam - Bekal National Waterways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kovalam-Bekal Waterway aimed at creating a 620-kilometer-long navigable waterway connecting Kovalam in the south to Bekal in the north of Kerala. • This canal will traverse through 11 districts. • The Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) has committed substantial financial support. • Kerala Waterways and Infrastructure Ltd (KWIL), a special purpose vehicle, has been established to oversee the development and rejuvenation of the inland waterways.



Mullaperiyar dam

Why in news?

- The **Supreme Court** has set July 10 for **finalising the legal issues** in the suit filed by **Tamil Nadu** against **Kerala** over a **mega parking project** near the **Mullaperiyar dam**.
- The Supreme Court had previously directed the **Survey of India** to **examine whether the parking project** entered the property covered by the **Periyar Lake Lease Agreement of October 1886**.
- **Tamil Nadu** argues that the **construction encroaches the water spread area** and **affects the spill zone capacity of the reservoir**.

About Mullaperiyar dam:

- **Location and Construction:** The **Mullaperiyar Dam** is **located on the Periyar River** in **Kerala** but is **operated by the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu**.
- The **dam was constructed between 1887 and 1895** by the British and originally **named after** the then ruler of Travancore, **Visakham Thirunal Rama Varma**.
- **Purpose:** The primary purpose of the dam is to **divert the waters of the west-flowing Periyar River eastwards to the arid regions of Tamil Nadu**, providing water for irrigation and generating hydroelectric power.

Kerala to train 80,000 secondary teachers in AI

Why in news?

- 80,000 secondary teachers in Kerala will be given **hands-on training in artificial intelligence (AI)**, conducted by **Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE)**.
- The training aims to **instill AI expertise in teachers**



handling classes 8 to 12 by August.

About Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE):

- KITE was **established by transforming** the erstwhile **IT@School Project**, initially formed in 2001-2002 to **promote ICT-enabled education in Kerala's schools**.
- It became a **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) company under the Education Department of Kerala** in August 2017.
- KITE aims to **modernize educational institutions in Kerala through infrastructure development, capacity building, content development, and the use of ICT**.
- **Major Initiatives:**
 - Hi-Tech Classroom Project
 - VICTERS Channel
 - Samagra Content Portal and Sampoorana School Management Software
 - Little KITEs IT Clubs
 - School Wiki

Chithrapournami festival

Why in news?

- Elaborate security arrangements have been made jointly by the Idukki and Theni district administrations for the smooth conduct of the **Chithrapournami festival** of the **Kannagi (Mangala Devi) temple**.
- The **temple is situated in the Western Ghats** on the **Tamil Nadu-Kerala border**.

Key points:

- **Chitra Pournami** is **observed** on the **full moon day** of the Chithirai month, which **typically falls in April or May**.
- In **2024**, it will be **celebrated on April 23**.
- This festival is **dedicated to Chitragupta**, the **divine accountant who records the good and bad deeds of individuals for Yama**, the **God of Death**.
- It is also **linked to Lord Murugan** and marks the beginning of his festival each year.
- **Kannagi (Mangala Devi) temple** is **located 1,337 m above sea level** in a **highly eco-sensitive region** falling under the **Periyar Tiger Reserve** and **Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary**.



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