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Daily Current Affairs Encyclopedia

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National Safe Motherhood Day



Context:

- **National Safe Motherhood Day** is observed annually on **April 11th** in India
- It raises awareness about the critical issue of **maternal health**.
- It **highlights the risks** millions of women face during pregnancy and childbirth.

Key Points:

- Established in **2003** by the **White Ribbon Alliance India (WRAI)**.
- Aims to **improve access to quality maternal healthcare services**.
- Promotes healthy pregnancy practices and reduces maternal mortality rates.
- This day also serves as a reminder of the importance of ensuring every mother has a safe and healthy experience throughout motherhood.

About:

- The **White Ribbon Alliance India (WRAI)** is a **grassroots movement** advocating for the **health and rights of women and newborns** in India.
- It functions as a broad coalition bringing together individuals, organizations, healthcare professionals, and even government officials.

Theme:

- The theme of 2024 is **“Remain at home amid coronavirus, protect mother and infant”**

Maa. Aranganathan Memorial Awards for two Tamil scholars

Context:

- **Maa. Aranganathan Memorial Awards** for **literary scholars** will be conferred on **Tamil scholars Thea. Gnanasundaram and K.V. Balasubramaniam** on April 16

Key Points:

- The foundation **launched in 2018** has been honoring Tamil scholars who have made lasting contributions to **literature, art, and heritage**.
- The award carries a **cash prize of ₹1 lakh and a citation**.
- The awards were instituted in the **memory of Maa. Aranganathan, an unsung writer, but well recognised in the circle of connoisseurs of contemporary Tamil literature**.
- **Maa. Aranganathan** ran the literary magazine **Mundril** and authored **90 short stories, two**



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IIT-Madras NPTEL to offer Python programming course in Tamil

novels, and a lot of articles on literature and language.

Context:

- IIT-Madras NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning) will offer its 'Programming, data structures and algorithms using Python' course in Tamil.
- As of now, 174 courses are available in Tamil.

Key Points:

- This initiative removes a language barrier for Tamil-speaking individuals who want to learn this in-demand skill.
- The technical terms will be in English, the explanations and concepts in Tamil.
- This Tamil-language Python course signifies a significant step towards:
 1. Bridging the digital divide
 2. Enhancing tech talent pool
 3. Promoting regional languages

Special public prosecutor appointed for NIA court



Context:

- N Balamourougan has been appointed as the special public prosecutor for the National Investigation Agency (NIA) special court in Puducherry for three years to handle cases filed by the agency in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

About:

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is India's premier counter-terrorism law enforcement agency.
- Established in 2008, it plays a vital role in investigating and prosecuting terror-related offenses with national and cross-border implications.

Key Responsibilities:

- Investigate terror attacks, bomb blasts, and other serious crimes with national ramifications.
- Combat terrorism financing and other activities supporting terrorist organizations.

Special Powers:

- NIA functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs and has the authority to investigate cases across states without needing specific permission from each state government.
- NIA officers are empowered to arrest suspects, conduct searches, and seize evidence related to terror investigations.



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World Parkinson's Day



Context:

- World Parkinson's Day is observed every year on April 11th
- **This day serves two key purposes:**
 1. **Raising Awareness:**
 - Parkinson's disease is a **chronic neurodegenerative disorder** impacting millions globally.
 - World Parkinson's Day brings attention to this condition, its symptoms, and the challenges faced by patients and their families.
 2. **Honoring Dr. James Parkinson:**
 - The day also **coincides with the birthday of Dr. James Parkinson, who first described the condition in 1817.**

About:

- In **1997**, the **European Association for Parkinson's Disease (now known as Parkinson's Europe)** announced that **April 11** will be observed as World Parkinson's Day every year.
- **The World Health Organization (WHO)** also **co-sponsored the initiative.**

Theme:

- The theme for World Parkinson's Day 2024 is **"Finding Your Light."**
- This theme emphasizes the importance of hope, resilience, and maintaining a positive outlook for people living with Parkinson's disease.