

Daily Current Affairs – April 18 &19, 2019**Important Days:****April 18 - World Heritage Day**

- The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in 1982 announced, 18 April as the World Heritage Day. This was approved by General Assembly of UNESCO in 1983. 2019 Theme: Rural Landscapes

Appointments:**Shri V.P. Pathak and Shri N. Kashinath takes over as Member Railway Board**

- Shri V.P. Pathak, Indian Railway Stores Service Officer takes over as Member (Materials Management) Railway Board
- Shri N. Kashinath, Indian Railway Service of Signal Engineers Officer takes over as Member (Signal & Telecom) Railway Board

National Affairs:**Tamil Nadu:****Tamil Nadu Elections: 72% polling during the 2nd phase of Lok Sabha polls**

- Almost six crore voters exercised their franchise in Tamil Nadu when the State votes for 38 Parliamentary constituencies and bypolls to 18 Assembly constituencies on April 18, 2019. Election Commission announced 72% polling during the 2nd phase of Lok Sabha polls

International Affairs:**Chinese firm opens Mars base simulator in desert**

- Surrounded by barren hills in northwestern Gansu province, “Mars Base 1” opened with the aim of exposing teens — and soon tourists — to what life could be like on the planet.
- "Mars Base 1", a C-Space Project, in the Gobi desert, some 40 km from Jinchang in China's northwest Gansu province.

Amazon to shut down operations in China

- Amazon will shut its China online store by July 18, as the U.S. e-commerce giant focusses on the lucrative businesses of selling overseas goods and cloud services in the world’s most populous nation.

Economic Affairs:**Asian Tea Alliance launched in China**

- The Asian Tea Alliance (ATA), a union of five tea-growing and consuming countries, was launched on Friday in Guizhou in China. The members of the alliance are the Indian Tea Association, China Tea Marketing Association, Indonesian Tea Marketing Association, Sri Lanka Tea Board and Japan Tea Association.

Royal Enfield sets up first store in Seoul

- Royal Enfield announced its entry into South Korea by appointing Vintage Motors (Kiheung International) as its official distributor-partner in the country. The first flagship store in Seoul at Hannam-daero.

Defence Affairs:**IN Ships to participate in International Fleet Review at Qingdao, China**

- IN Ships Kolkata and Shakti are scheduled to arrive Qingdao, China on 21 Apr 19 to participate in the International Fleet Review as part of 70TH Anniversary celebrations of PLA (Navy).

HAL resumes tests of jet trainer

- Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) has resumed test-flying its intermediate jet trainer (IJT) in a modified version after a gap of almost three years.

Sports Affairs:**Asian wrestling championships 2019**

- World No. 1 wrestler Bajrang Punia will be participated in Asian wrestling championships 2019 which will be held in China from April 23.

Seven-year-old girl bagged two gold in Asian Youth Chess Championship

- The chess prodigy Kolagatla Alana Meenakshi recently bagged two gold medals for India in the Asian Youth Chess Championship 2019 held in Sri Lanka in the rapid format in the under-eight girls category.

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