

Current Affairs - April 26

Daily Current Affairs – April 26, 2019

Important Days:

April 26 - World Intellectual Property Day

- World Intellectual Property Day is observed annually on 26 April. The event was established by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in 2000 to "raise awareness of how patents, copyright, trademarks and designs impact on daily life". 2019 Theme Reach for Gold: IP and Sports.
- 26 April was chosen as the date for World Intellectual Property Day because it coincides with the date on which the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization entered into force in 1970.

National Affairs:

Khasi 'kingdoms' to revisit 1947 agreements

- A federation of 25 Himas or Khasi kingdoms that have a cosmetic existence today, plan to revisit the 1948 agreements that made present-day Meghalaya a part of India. Pynshngaiñ N Syiem, chairman of the Advisory Legal Committee and also the chairman of the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council.
- The 25 Khasi states had signed the Instrument of Accession and Annexed Agreement with the Dominion of India between December 15, 1947, and March 19, 1948. The conditional treaty with these states was signed by Governor General Chakravarty Rajagopalachari on August 17, 1948.



Andhra Pradesh:

VPT achieves a green turnaround

• Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) as one of the most environmentally-friendly ports in the country has achieved an enviable turnaround in enhancing its brand image. The port was adjudged the second cleanest by the Quality Council of India and won a greenery award from AP Greenery and Beautification Corporation.

Economic Affairs:

Microsoft tops trillion-dollar mark for first time

• Microsoft hit the trillion-dollar value mark on April 25 for the first time, becoming the third technology giant to reach the symbolic milestone. At its current levels, Microsoft is the world's most valuable company, ahead of Apple and Amazon, which in 2018 topped \$1 trillion before slipping back.

Maruti to pull the plug on diesel cars in April 2020

• Maruti Suzuki, which is the largest car maker in the country, announced plans to discontinue selling all diesel cars in the country from April 1, 2020 by significant rise in prices likely with new BS VI emission norms depressing demand.

International Affairs:

India Pavilion inaugurated at Abu Dhabi International Book Fair 2019

 The India Pavilion at the 29th Abu Dhabi International Book Fair was inaugurated by Deputy Prime Minister of United Arab Emirates, Shri Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahayan. India has been designated as the Guest of Honour for the Book Fair, which is being held from 24th – 30th April, 2019.



Sri Lanka's Defence Secretary resigns following suicide bomb attacks

• Hemasiri Fernando, Defence Secretary Sri Lanka, resigned by taking responsibility for what the government earlier termed "a major lapse" in intelligence on the Easter attacks that claimed over 250 lives.

One million species risk extinction due to humans: draft U.N. report

• Up to one million species face extinction due to human influence, according to a draft U.N. report obtained by AFP. Delegates from 130 nations meeting in Paris from April 29 will vet the executive summary line-by-line.

Law was passed to strengthening Ukrainian language use

• Ukraine's Parliament passed a law enforcing the use of the Ukrainian language in official settings, a move likely to rile Russian-speaking areas of the country and Moscow.Lawmakers approved the measure, which also increases the quota for Ukrainian-language television and radio programming, just days after Russian-speaking Volodymyr Zelensky was elected President.

Dubai's Burj Khalifa lights up with Sri Lanka flag

• Dubai's iconic skyscraper Burj Khalifa lit up to the colours of Sri Lanka's flag to show solidarity with the victims of the suicide bombings on Easter Sunday 2019.

Sports Affairs:

Swimmer Likith achieves 'B' standard for Worlds

• Indian swimmer S.P. Likith achieved the 'B' qualifying standard for the 2019 FINA World Championships in the men's 100m breaststroke at the 62nd Malaysia Open swimming championships. Likith turned in a career-best performance to claim gold. • With no other active Indian swimmer holding a 'B' mark in the same event, Likith, will represent India at the World Championships in South Korea in July.

Arjan Singh Memorial International Hockey Tournament 2019

 2nd Marshal of the Indian Air Force Arjan Singh Memorial International Hockey Tournament was held at Chandigarh from 15th April to 25th April 2019. Air Marshal RKS Shera AVSM VSM, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Maintenance Command was the Chief Guest for the Ceremony. ICF, Chennai won the match defeating SCR, Hyderabad in the Penalty Shootout round.

ISSF shooting World Cup:

- Indian shooters strike the gold medals in both the mixed air rifle and mixed air pistol competitions in the shooting World Cup in Beijing.
- It was Bhaker and Chaudhary's second World Cup gold in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event. Anjum Moudgil and Divyansh Singh Panwar beat the Chinese to win the mixed air rifle gold.

Asian Athletics championship:

• Gomathi's gold was certainly the biggest surprise for India, which finished fourth with 17 medals — three gold and seven silvers.

