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## **DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 20-04-2023**

### **NATIONAL NEWS**

#### **SATHI Portal and Mobile App**

- Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched the SATHI (Seed Traceability, Authentication and Holistic Inventory) Portal and Mobile App.
- It is to deal with the challenges of seed production, quality seed identification, and seed certification.
- It has been created by NIC in collaboration with the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on the theme of 'Best Seeds - Prosperous Farmer'.
- The Government of India is constantly trying to overcome the challenges and difficulties faced by agriculture through various schemes and programmes.
- There will be a QR code under this system, through which the seeds can be traced.
- All the states will be connected with the Seed Traceability System.

#### **India Approves National Quantum Mission**

- The government approved the National Quantum Mission to nurture and scale up scientific and industrial research and development in quantum technology.
- The mission will cost Rs 6,003.65 crore from 2023-24 to 2030-31.
- The Mission will accelerate quantum technology-led economic growth and nurture the ecosystem in the country.
- The Mission will be implemented by the Department of Science and Technology in partnership with other departments.
- India will be the sixth country to have a dedicated quantum mission after the US, Austria, Finland, France and China.
- The mission will help develop high-sensitivity magnetometers in nuclear systems and atomic clocks for precise timing, communication and navigation.

### **BANKING**

#### **HDFC Capital Advisors Limited Receives SEBI Approval**

- HDFC Ltd stated that the market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has cleared a proposal for change in control of HDFC Capital Advisors Limited (HCAL), a subsidiary of HDFC Limited and a co-investment portfolio manager subject to certain conditions.

- As per the proposed composite scheme of amalgamation, HDFC Investments Limited and HDFC Holdings Limited, wholly-owned subsidiaries of Housing Development Finance Corporation Limited (HDFC Limited) would be first merged into HDFC Limited and subsequently into HDFC Bank.
- Already, HDFC has received the required approvals from the SEBI, shareholders of HDFC and HDFC Bank, the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and the Competition Commission of India (CCI).
- The proposed entity will have a combined asset base of around Rs 18 lakh crore.
- Once the deal is effective, HDFC Bank will be 100% owned by public shareholders, and existing shareholders of HDFC will own 41% of the bank.
- Every HDFC shareholder will get 42 shares of HDFC Bank for every 25 shares owned.

## **SPORTS**

### **Wisden Cricketers 2022 List**

- Wisden Cricketers Almanack has released the list of top-5 cricketers of the year 2022.
- It also includes India's women's team captain Harmanpreet Kaur and Suryakumar Yadav of the men's team.
- Apart from Kaur, the list also includes the names of Tom Blundell (New Zealand), Ben Foakes (England), Daryl Mitchell (New Zealand) and Matthew Potts (England).
- Suryakumar Yadav has been selected as the T20 Cricketer of the Year.
- Harmanpreet Kaur created history by becoming the first Indian woman to be named in Wisden Cricketers of the Year.

## **RANKS, INDICES & REPORTS**

### **World's Most Populous Country**

- India has overtaken China as the world's most populous country, according to United Nations data.
- According to UN data India's population is 142.86 crore while China's population is 142.57 crores.
- According to a new report by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), 25 per cent of India's population is between the age group of 0-14 years.

- The population between the age group of 10-19 years is 18 percent
- The population in the age group of 10-24 years is 26 percent.
- The population in the age group of 15-64 years is 68 percent and the population above 65 years is 7 percent.
- According to experts, the demographics of India differ from state to state.
- Kerala and Punjab have a large elderly population, while Bihar and Uttar Pradesh have a large youth population.

## **AWARDS & PRIZES**

### **Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award**

- FedEx CEO Raj Subramaniam received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, India's highest civilian honour for persons of Indian origin and the diaspora.
- Due to travel restrictions, Subramaniam was presented the award by India's ambassador to the US, Taranjit Singh Sandhu, at a ceremony held at India House.
- Subramaniam is a prominent Indian-American business leader.
- It is an award given by the Government of India to persons of Indian origin and diaspora who have made significant contributions in their respective fields.
- The award was instituted on 9 January 2003 coinciding with the celebrations of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, also known as Pravasi Bharatiya Divas.
- Recipients of this award are selected on the basis of their achievements in various fields including science, business, arts and philanthropy.

## **SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

### **China Launched Fengyun-3 Satellite**

- China successfully launched the Fengyun-3 meteorological satellite using Chang Zheng-4B carrier rocket from Jiuquan Cosmodrome in Gansu Province.
- The primary objective of the Fengyun-3 satellite is to monitor and provide information on severe weather conditions, especially heavy rainfall, which can cause natural disasters such as floods and landslides.

- This was the 471st mission for the Chang Zheng rocket family.
- CASC is a state-owned organisation that serves as the primary contractor for China's space program.
- CASC has several subsidiaries that specialise in the design, development and manufacture of a variety of space-related technology, including spacecraft, launch vehicles, missile systems and ground equipment.

## First Operational Earth Observation Satellite 'Taifa-1'

- Kenya launched its first operational Earth observation satellite 'Taifa-1' on a rocket of Elon Musk's rocket company 'SpaceX' from Vandenberg Base in California.
- The launch rocket carried 50 payloads from various countries, including Turkey, under SpaceX's 'rideshare programme'.
- Taifa-1 was designed and developed by SayariLabs and EnduroSat and the satellite was built over two years at a cost of 50 million Kenyan shillings (\$372,000).
- The satellite's primary purpose is to collect agricultural and environmental data, including floods, droughts and wildfires, to help Kenya deal with disaster management and food insecurity.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Liver Day

- World Liver Day is observed every year on 19 April.
- It is celebrated to raise awareness about liver health and related diseases.
- World Liver Day aims to educate people about the importance of early detection, prevention and treatment of liver diseases.
- The theme of World Liver Day 2023 is 'Be alert, do regular liver check-ups, fatty liver can affect anyone'.
- The day is celebrated in partnership with various local and international organisations that focus on promoting liver health.



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