

# Daily Current Affairs

## 03 April 2024

### Renaming Places In Arunachal Pradesh

- India has condemned China for its **repeated actions of renaming places** in the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh.
- External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that assigning invented names will not alter the reality that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India.

#### China announces 'renaming' of 11 places in Arunachal Pradesh, including one close to Itanagar

Beijing had previously released similar lists in 2017 and 2021, attempting to lay claim to Indian territory

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- The Indian response comes in the **wake of China's provocative** action of renaming places in Arunachal Pradesh.
- External Affairs Minister, Dr S. Jaishankar said that changing names does not have an effect. He said, Arunachal Pradesh was, is and will always be a state of India.



## SC Comes Down Heavily On Patanjali

- The Supreme Court came down **heavily on Patanjali Ayurved** on, its Managing Director **Acharya Balkrishna** and its co-founder Baba Ramdev in the misleading advertisements case.
- A Bench of **Justices Hima Kohli and Ahsanuddin Amanullah** was hearing a petition filed by the Indian Medical Association against Patanjali's advertisements attacking allopathy and making claims about curing certain diseases.



- The court was not content with the affidavit filed by Balkrishna and said it will not accept the explanation provided. The court also asked the **Ministry of**

**AYUSH** why it had not acted against Patanjali for the ads belittling contemporary medicine.

- The apex court, however, gave Ramdev and Balakrishna one last chance to file the affidavit in one week.

## Sanskrit Research and Education

- The **Indian and Nepalese governments**, along with scholars from both countries, have collaborated to advance **Sanskrit research and education**.
- This partnership aims to **strengthen bilateral relations** and preserve the cultural heritage shared by India and Nepal.



- Proposal for an annual conference to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among Sanskrit scholars from India and Nepal.
- Plan to establish a **study center to research and publish Sanskrit scriptures**, particularly focusing on Nepal's vast collection of unpublished manuscripts.



- **Collaboration between** Maharshi Sandipani Veda Vidya Pratisthan, Ujjain, and Niti Anusandhan Pratisthan of Nepal to aid in the development of traditional educational institutions (gurukuls) in Nepal.
- **Niti Anusandhan Pratisthan Nepal** identified as the headquarters for the proposed center to conduct joint research, study Sanskrit manuscripts, and facilitate publication endeavors. India to conduct specialized training programs for Sanskrit students in Nepal to enhance their proficiency and understanding of the language.

## WHO Launches CoViNet

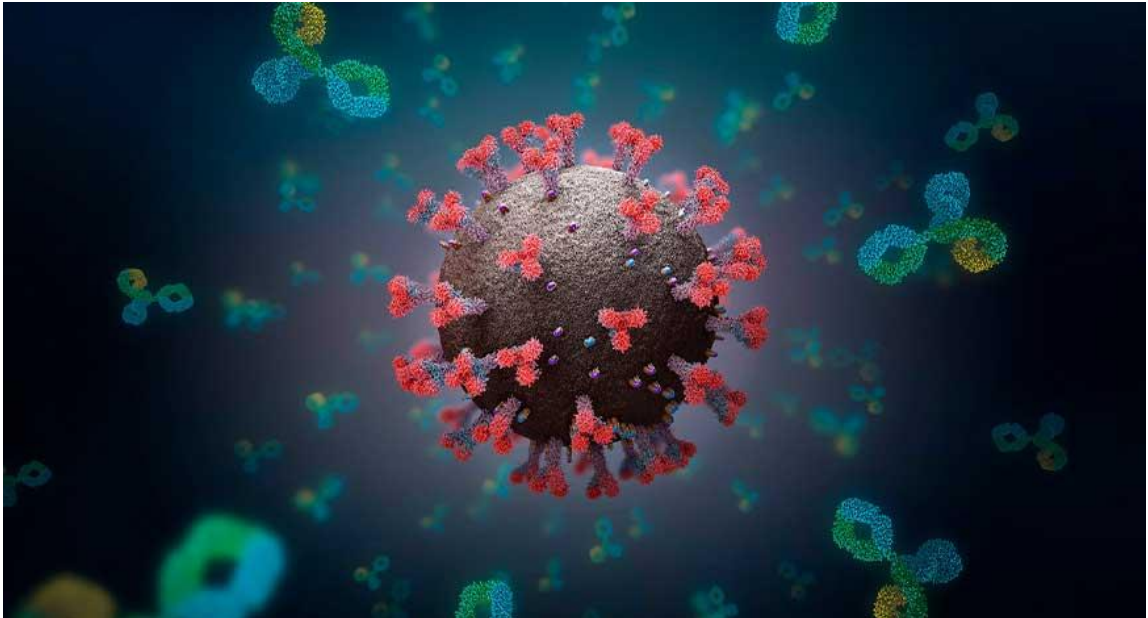
- The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has **introduced CoViNet**, a global initiative aimed at enhancing the detection, monitoring, and assessment of coronaviruses worldwide.
- CoViNet expands upon the existing **WHO COVID-19 reference** laboratory network to encompass a broader spectrum of coronaviruses, including **SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV**, and potential novel strains of public health concern.
- **CoViNet leverages** the expertise of 36 laboratories from 21 countries across all six WHO regions.



- These laboratories specialize in **human, animal, and environmental coronavirus** surveillance, fostering a comprehensive approach to understanding and managing coronaviruses.
- Representatives of **CoViNet laboratories** convened in Geneva on 26 – 27 March to finalize an action plan for 2024-2025.



- The plan focuses on **enhancing early detection**, risk assessment, and response capabilities to address emerging coronavirus-related health challenges.



- CoViNet emphasizes a **One Health approach**, bringing together experts from human, animal, and environmental health sectors.
- This collaborative effort aims to monitor and assess coronavirus evolution and transmission patterns comprehensively.
- Data generated by CoViNet will inform the work of **WHO's Technical Advisory Groups on Viral Evolution (TAG-VE)** and Vaccine Composition (TAG-CO-VAC), among others. By integrating the latest scientific insights, CoViNet supports the development of evidence-based global health policies and tools.

## GI Tag

- Three traditional products from Tripura have recently received the prestigious Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The products are Matabari pera prasad, Rignai pachara textiles and Risa. With this, Tripura now has 4 GI Protected products. The '**Matabari pera prasad**' is a sweet offering at the renowned Tripureswari temple in Tripura.
- Made from milk and sugar, this delicacy is famous for its distinctive taste and deep-rooted cultural traditions.
- '**Rignai pachara**' is a traditional hand-woven attire meticulously crafted by skilled artisans using indigenous materials and techniques.



- This garment holds symbolic value within Tripura's cultural tapestry and reflects the rich legacy of the region's textile heritage.
- The '**Rignai pachara**' has garnered significant interest among urban dwellers, particularly in metropolitan areas, for its traditional allure.
- **Risa, another traditional product** from Tripura, received the GI tag earlier this month.
- Risa carries great significance for the art of Tripuri. Tripuri tribal women make all the fabrics, including Risa, using loom looms.
- In addition to the recently recognised products, the **queen pineapple of Tripura** had already received a GI tag through the initiative of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation (NERAMAC).



- This nutrient-rich pineapple is one of the 13 fruits and vegetables from the Northeast that have been awarded the GI tag.
- **The GI tag ensures legal protection** against unauthorised imitation or misuse of the products produced in a particular geographical region, safeguarding their authenticity and preserving the cultural heritage associated with them. This

recognition also facilitates market access and promotion, both domestically and internationally, thereby fostering economic opportunities for local communities involved in their production.

## SKOCH ESG Award

- **REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise** under the Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has been bestowed with the SKOCH ESG Award 2024 in the '**Renewable Energy Financing**' category.
- The award underscores REC's dedication to sustainable financing, paving the way for a greener future and accelerating the transition to renewable energy.
- REC has emerged as a significant player in India's clean energy transition, actively contributing to the nation's sustainable future.



- Through various initiatives and achievements, REC has committed to numerous **sustainable projects** and signed various MOUs for green projects.
- Furthermore, REC has engaged in one-on-one discussions with various developers of **green projects, spanning sectors** such as solar, wind, Pumped Storage Projects, E-mobility, RE manufacturing, green ammonia and green hydrogen, and battery storage.
- Looking ahead, REC anticipates a significant expansion in its renewable energy portfolio, with projections indicating growth to 10 times its present value, reaching more than **Rs. 3 lakh crores by 2030**, representing approximately 30% of its Assets Under Management.
- The **SKOCH ESG Awards recognize organizations** that demonstrate outstanding performance in Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices.
- The SKOCH ESG Award and Assessment serve as an important benchmark for evaluating organizations' commitment to India 2047.



- It focuses on the interplay between sustainable investments and processes in shaping a sustainable and growing business future.
- REC finances the entire Power-Infrastructure sector comprising **Generation, Transmission, Distribution, Renewable Energy, and new technologies** like Electric Vehicles, Battery Storage, Pumped Storage Projects, Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia projects.
- Recently, REC has also diversified into the **Non-Power Infrastructure sector** comprising Roads & Expressways, Metro Rail, Airports, IT Communication, Social and Commercial Infrastructure, Ports, and Electro-Mechanical (E&M) works in respect of various other sectors like Steel and Refinery.

## Vedanta's BALCO

- Chhattisgarh-based **Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO)**, a unit of Vedanta Aluminium, has achieved the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) **Performance Standard V3 Certification**.
- This accolade positions BALCO as the inaugural Indian company to attain this certification, reflecting its commitment to sustainable practices in the aluminium value chain.
- BALCO secured the ASI Performance Standard V3 Certification for its facility in Korba, encompassing a range of primary aluminium production processes.
- The certification recognizes BALCO's adherence to **11 principles and 62 criteria** across three sustainability pillars: Environment, Social, and Governance.
- **BALCO's Korba facility comprises** a smelter with two potlines, three cast-houses, a rolled product plant, and a power generation plant.
- These facilities collectively contribute to an annual production capacity of 575,000 tonnes of aluminium.





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- The ASI Performance Standard V3 targets key sustainability areas within the aluminium value chain, including biodiversity conservation, indigenous peoples' rights, circularity, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
- BALCO's certification underscores its dedication to environmentally and socially responsible practices throughout its operations.
- The certification process involved an independent, third-party audit conducted by **CETIZION Verifica, ensuring credibility** and impartiality.
- John Slaven, CEO of Vedanta Aluminium, commended BALCO's pioneering efforts in sustainable aluminium production, positioning it as a benchmark within the global industry.
- Fiona Solomon, CEO of the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative, emphasized BALCO's significance as a leading player in the Indian aluminium sector and praised its milestone achievement.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

### 1. Rignai Pachara Textiles Recently Got GI Tag Belongs From

- A. Manipur
- B. Tripura
- C. Gujarat
- D. Kerala

**ANSWER: B**

### 2. Which Company Awarded SKOCH ESG Award 2024 In 'Renewable Energy Financing' Category

- A. REC
- B. Adani Green Energy
- C. Tata Green Energy
- D. JSW Energy

**ANSWER: A**

**3. Which Country Collaborated With India For Sanskrit Research And Education**

- A. Nepal
- B. Bhutan
- C. Myanmar
- D. Thailand

**ANSWER: A**

**4. Cnemaspis Vangoghi Belongs To Which Species**

- A. Lizard
- B. Spider
- C. Fish
- D. Frog

**ANSWER: A**

**5. Mataberi Pera & Pachra Got A GI Tag, Belongs To Which State**

- A. Tripura
- B. Assam
- C. Mizoram
- D. Nagaland

**ANSWER: A**

**6. Barsana Biogas Project Is Situated In Which State**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Tamil Nadu

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Utkal Diwas 2024 Is Related With Which State**

- A. Odisha
- B. Bihar
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Telangana

**ANSWER: A**

**8. How Many Sites Have Been Added To Global Geoparks Network**

- A. 16
- B. 17
- C. 18
- D. 19

**ANSWER: C**

**9. Which Two Countries Have Partially Joined The Schengen Are Id-Check- Free Travel Zone In Europe**

- A. Poland and Spain
- B. Romania and Bulgaria
- C. Sweden and Portugal
- D. Denmark and Ireland

**ANSWER: B**

**10. Where Was Nepal India International Sanskrit Conclave Held**

- A. Pokhara, Nepal
- B. New Delhi, India
- C. Kathmandu, Nepal
- D. Varanasi, India

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Clean Energy Transitions Programme Annual Report 2023, Recently Released By**

- A. International Energy Agency (IEA)
- B. Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)
- C. Ministry of Power
- D. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

**ANSWER: A**

**12. Who Were Named Women's And Men's Player Of The Year, Respectively, At The Sixth Annual Hockey India Awards**

- A. Gurjit Kaur and Manpreet Singh
- B. Rani Rampal and Vivek Prasad
- C. Salima Tete and Hardik Singh
- D. Savita Punia and Krishan Pathak

**ANSWER: C**

**13. Which State Emerged As Largest Exporter Of Electronic Goods**

- A. Telangana
- B. Karnataka
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Maharashtra

**ANSWER: C**

**14. Vaigai, Mettur, And Papanasam Dams, Are Located In Which State**

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Kerala
- C. Madhya Pradesh
- D. Andhra Pradesh

**ANSWER: A**

**15. What Is AI Hume**

- A. Use Of AI To Find And Predict Financial Frauds
- B. World's First Conversational AI With Emotional Intelligence
- C. It Provides Real Time Update On Election Results
- D. Humanoid Robot

**ANSWER: B**

**16. What Is 'Senna Spectabilis'**

- A. Highly invasive tree
- B. Asteroid
- C. Exoplanet
- D. Black hole

**ANSWER: A**

**17. Chamayavilakku Festival Is Associated With Which State**

- A. Kerala
- B. Tamil Nadu
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Telangana

**ANSWER: A**



**18. Which State Of India Recently Witnessed 'Swell Waves'**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Kerala
- C. Gujarat
- D. Andhra Pradesh

**ANSWER: B**

**19. What Is Rank Of India's 'GeM Portal' As An E-commerce Platform In The World**

- A. First
- B. Second
- C. Third
- D. Fifth

**ANSWER: C**

**20. Which Of The Following Cities Is Known As The 'Manchester Of India'**

- A. Mumbai
- B. Kanpur
- C. Coimbatore
- D. Ahmedabad

**ANSWER: D**