

Daily Current Affairs

13 April 2024

Moon Mission in 2040

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** chief S Somanath has revealed that the upcoming phase of the Chandrayaan project is in progress, aiming to advance India's lunar exploration efforts. He indicated that **Chandrayaan-4 marks the initial stride** towards India's aspiration of landing an astronaut on the moon by 2040.



- Somanath further stated that ISRO is working on a wide range of projects, including rocket and satellite projects, application projects, and technology development projects. He mentioned that **ISRO has major projects**, with around 5-10 rocket projects, 30-40 satellite projects, hundreds of application projects, and thousands of R&D projects.



- India has made significant strides in space exploration, with the successful landing of the **Chandrayaan-3 lander module** on the moon's South Pole on August 23, 2023, marking a historic achievement as the first country to accomplish this feat.
- Earlier in January 2023, India launched its inaugural dedicated solar mission, the **Aditya-L1 spacecraft**, positioning it into the Halo orbit around the sun.
- Additionally, the Gaganyaan project stands as another pivotal endeavor for India, aiming to demonstrate human spaceflight capability by sending a crew of three members into a **400 km orbit for a 3-day mission** and safely returning them to Earth by landing in Indian waters.
- The forthcoming **Chandrayaan-4 mission**, as outlined by ISRO chief Somanath, is part of India's broader vision to expand its lunar exploration capabilities and potentially achieve the ambitious goal of landing an astronaut on the moon by 2040. This strategic roadmap reflects India's growing ambitions and technological prowess in the realm of space exploration.

Japanese Astronaut To Moon

- **President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida** revealed that Japanese astronauts will **join future NASA lunar missions** as part of the Artemis program.
- This move is seen as a strategic effort to strengthen economic and defense ties between the United States and Japan. Biden stated that “**two Japanese astronauts will join future NASA lunar missions**, and one will become the first non-American ever to land on the moon.”



- The **Artemis program**, led by NASA, aims to return astronauts to the moon as early as 2026, more than half a century after the last Apollo mission. The Biden administration has been actively using the space program to engage with friendly nations and compete with China's growing space ambitions.
- The inclusion of Japanese astronauts in the Artemis program is part of the Biden administration's broader space diplomacy strategy.



- Earlier, the US announced that NASA would work with India's space agency on a joint mission to the International Space Station, and India also agreed to sign the Artemis Accords, a US-backed initiative to establish guidelines for activity on the moon and in space.



- The move to include Japan in the Artemis program is also seen as a way to counter China's efforts to establish a research base on the moon. While China has not signed the **Artemis Accords**, it has managed to garner support from countries like Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Pakistan, and South Africa for its own lunar plans.
- By involving key allies like Japan in the Artemis program, the United States is strengthening its position in the global space race and demonstrating its commitment to international cooperation in the exploration of the moon and beyond.

First MNC To Export EVs From India

- **French automaker Citroën** has become the first multinational car manufacturer to export electric vehicles (EVs) produced in India to the **international market**.
- The company announced the commencement of exports of its locally manufactured **ë-C3**, **sending an initial shipment** of 500 units to Indonesia from the Kamarajar Port.



SSB Crack
EXAMS



CITROËN

- Aligning with its global ambitions of democratizing electric mobility and promoting sustainable transportation, Citroën's export of the Made-in-India ë-C3 showcases the country's manufacturing and engineering capabilities on a global scale.
- This move not only **highlights Citroën's commitment to India** but also contributes significantly to the nation's goal of establishing a sustainable and competitive EV manufacturing ecosystem. The export of the ë-C3 symbolizes the strength of Indo-French industrial cooperation and mutual commitment to cleaner mobility.



- With support from both governments, this initiative underscores the importance of collaboration in delivering affordable and environmentally friendly mobility solutions, in line with the Indo-French roadmap for the Indo-Pacific.

UK's First Woman High Commissioner To India

- **Lindy Cameron, a distinguished Oxford University alumna** and former CEO of the UK's National Cyber Security Centre, has been appointed as the **first woman high commissioner to India**.
- Her appointment marks a significant milestone in UK-India relations, coming 70 years after India appointed its **first high commissioner to London**.
- Cameron's career spans diverse roles, including service in conflict zones like Iraq and Afghanistan. With a background in international development, she has held senior positions in the UK government, notably as director general for country programmes.



- Cameron's appointment coincides with a period of **enhanced bilateral cooperation** between the UK and India.
- Despite historical ties, recent efforts have been directed towards bolstering trade and defence relations.
- Negotiations for a free-trade agreement are underway, signaling potential for expanded economic collaboration.
- Both nations are actively seeking to strengthen defence ties, evident from recent high-level visits and strategic initiatives.
- The deployment of the UK's carrier strike group and littoral response group to the Indian Ocean, along with the establishment of a dedicated office for India in London, underscores the commitment to enhancing security cooperation.

UPI in Nepal

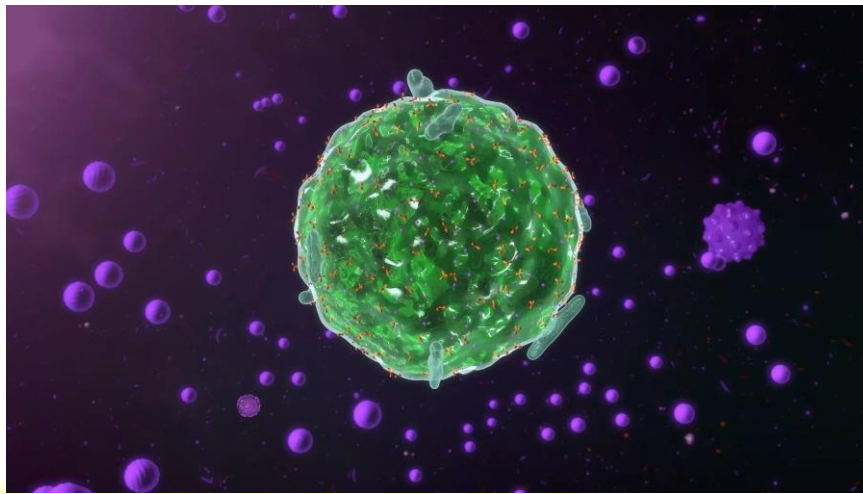
- **PhonePe, in collaboration with eSewa and the Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN) Pokhara, is set to promote UPI during the Fewa New Year Festival in Nepal.**



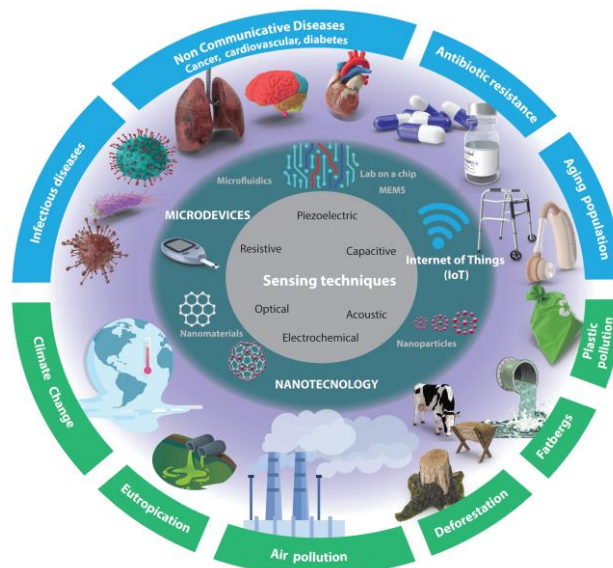
- Popularize UPI payments on the **Fonepay Network in Nepal**. Raise awareness about digital payments among local merchants and customers.
- Demonstrate the convenience of digital transactions during the festival. On-ground activations to educate merchants and customers about digital payments.
- Prominent branding and kiosks showcasing UPI usage. Interactive activities to highlight the **ease of UPI payments**. Engagement with over 3,000 merchants and an expected 100,000 visitors.

Nano Sensor For Disease Tracking

- Researchers at the **Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur** (IIT Jodhpur) have unveiled a groundbreaking nano-sensor designed to swiftly detect Cytokines, vital proteins regulating various cellular functions.
- This innovation aims to **combat the high mortality rates** resulting from delayed diagnoses and the absence of early warnings in disease progression.



- **Cytokines, pivotal biomarkers of inflammation**, are instrumental in diagnosing diseases and monitoring their advancement. They play critical roles in diverse medical domains including tissue repair, cancer progression, and immune system modulation, laying the foundation for precision medicine and targeted therapies.



- Unlike traditional methods such as **ELISA and PCR**, which are time-consuming and labor-intensive, this **nano-sensor delivers** results within just 30 minutes, promising significant cost-effectiveness and efficiency.
- **The nano-sensor is seamlessly** integrated with artificial intelligence (AI), facilitating swift and accurate data processing and analysis.
- By enabling faster and more robust diagnoses of autoimmune diseases and bacterial infections, this technology stands poised to revolutionize patient care, guiding tailored medical treatments promptly based on real-time disease progression tracking.

Asian Wrestling Championship

- India's 19-year-old **Udit won the silver medal** in the men's 57kg category at the Asian Wrestling Championships 2024 in **Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**.



**Asian Wrestling
Championship**



- **Abhimanyou** (men's 70kg) and **Vicky (men's 97kg)** also won the bronze medals in their respective weight divisions to take India's tally to three medals after the opening day of the competition.
- A total of five Indian wrestlers, all in the men's freestyle division, were in action. Rohit (67kg) and Parvinder Singh (79kg) also competed but could not finish on the podium.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. First MNC To Export EVs From India

- A. Citroen
- B. Tata
- C. Mahindra
- D. Maruti Suzuki

ANSWER: A

2. Recently Asian Wrestling Championship Held In

- A. Tajikistan
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Kyrgyzstan
- D. Bangladesh

ANSWER: C

3. Lindy Cameron Seen In News Is Related To

- A. UK
- B. USA
- C. Japan
- D. Russia

ANSWER: A

4. Simon Harris, Became The New Prime Minister Of Which Country

- A. Iceland
- B. Poland
- C. Ireland
- D. Malaysia

ANSWER: C

5. Global Hepatitis Report 2024, Released By Which Organization

- A. WHO
- B. UNICEF
- C. UNDP
- D. WTO

ANSWER: A

6. Which Country Has Overtaken India As The Primary Importer Of Russian Crude Oil Through Sea Routes

- A. China
- B. Iran
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Pakistan

ANSWER: A

7. Which Space Organization Has Been Directed To Establish A Time Standard For The Moon Called Coordinated Lunar Time

- A. CNSA
- B. JAXA
- C. ISRO
- D. NASA

ANSWER: D

8. Who Has Been Selected To Be Part Of Britain's Research Team On Dementia

- A. Chaand Nagpaul
- B. Kailash Chand
- C. Ashvini Keshavan
- D. Kamlesh Khunti

ANSWER: C

9. Primary Objective Of 'CDP-SURAKSHA' Platform

- A. To disburse subsidies to horticulture farmers
- B. To create the largest 3D map in universe
- C. To facilitate voter registration processes
- D. To provide real time updates on election results

ANSWER: A

10. What Is The World Bank's Estimated GDP Growth For India In FY24

- A. 7.5%
- B. 6.6%
- C. 6.5%
- D. 7.0%

ANSWER: A

11. Who Is New No. 1 Chess Player From India According To Latest FIDE Rankings

- A. Arjun Erigaisi
- B. Viswanathan Anand
- C. Praggnanandhaa R
- D. Gukesh D

ANSWER: A

12. Which Digital Payments Platform Collaborated With Star Health Insurance To Offer Star Comprehensive Insurance Policy On Its App

- A. Paytm
- B. Google Pay
- C. PhonePe
- D. Amazon Pay

ANSWER: C

13. Which Country Introduced e- Visa For Indian Tourists

- A. UK
- B. Australia
- C. Japan
- D. France

ANSWER: C

14. Who Has Been Roped In By The Election Commission Of India (ECI) To Urge The Youth To Vote

- A. Saif Ali Khan
- B. Hrithik Roshan
- C. Ayushmann Khurrana
- D. Shah Rukh Khan

ANSWER: C

15. What Instrument Is Being Developed As Part Of The PRATUSH Project To Study The Universe

- A. Microscope
- B. Compass
- C. Barometer
- D. Telescope

ANSWER: D

16. In Which State Is DRDO Setting Up A New Test Centre For Weapon Systems

- A. Odisha
- B. West Bengal
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Maharashtra

ANSWER: B

17. Which Organization Is Hosting The World Future Energy Summit

- A. Masdar
- B. ADNOC
- C. DEWA
- D. ENEC

ANSWER: A

18. What Is The "Akashteer" System Designed To Automate Processes Related

- A. Enhance communication
- B. Improve ground operations
- C. Automate air defence control
- D. Enhance surveillance

ANSWER: C

19. In Which Year Was North Atlantic Treaty Organization Founded

- A. 1945
- B. 1946
- C. 1947
- D. 1949

ANSWER: D

20. The Deity In Most Of The Chola Temples Was__

- A. Vishnu
- B. Shiva
- C. Brahma
- D. Krishna

ANSWER: B