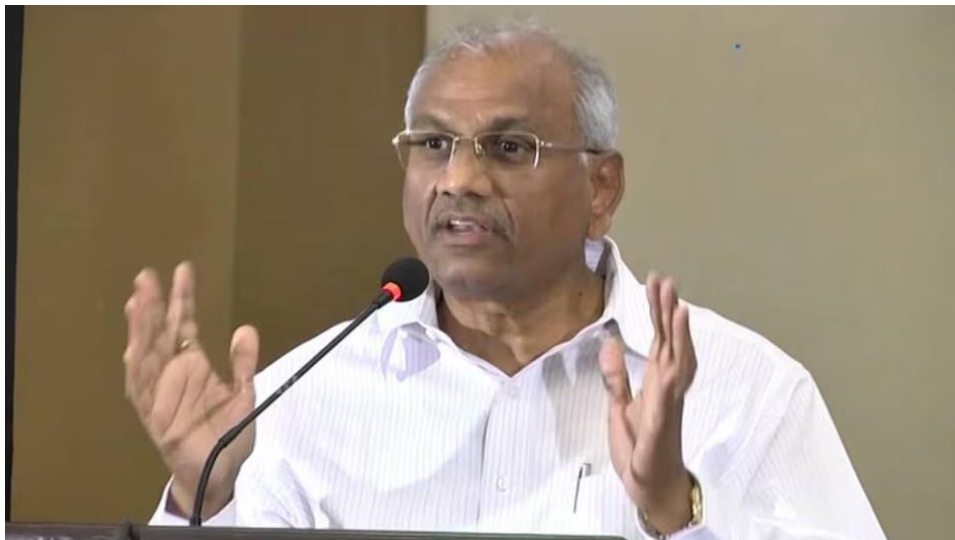


# Daily Current Affairs

## 23 April 2024

### Aryabhata Award

- **Pavuluri Subba Rao**, the Founder, CEO, and Chairman of Ananth Technologies, has been conferred with the prestigious **'Aryabhata Award'** by the **Aeronautical Society of India (ASI)**.
- This honour recognizes Rao's **"tremendous lifetime contribution** to the promotion of astronautics in India."
- In addition to the Aryabhata Award, Rao was also bestowed with the title of **'Distinguished Fellow'** by the **ASI**, further acknowledging his significant contributions to the field of aerospace and aviation.



- Rao's journey began as a **scientist at ISRO**, where he gained invaluable experience and expertise in space technology. In 1992, he took the entrepreneurial leap and incorporated **Ananth Technologies Limited**, with the aim of indigenously designing and developing sophisticated avionics for ISRO and the Defense sector.
- The company has supplied key components and technologies to an impressive **98 satellites and 78 launch vehicles**, cementing its position as a reliable partner in the country's space endeavors.
- With **over 1,600 employees across** three Centers of Excellence in Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Thiruvananthapuram, Ananth Technologies has become a

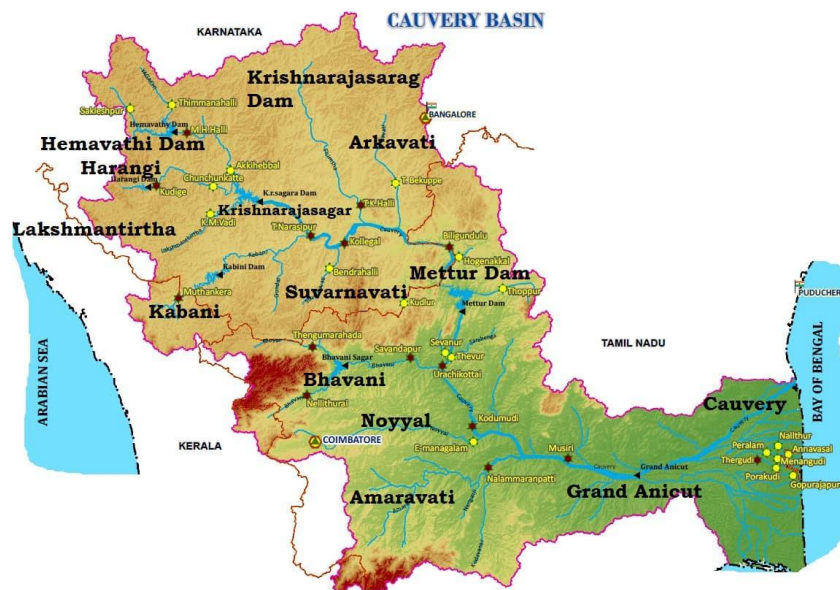
driving force behind indigenous innovation in the aerospace and defense sectors.



- Rao's vision and dedication have been instrumental in fostering self-reliance and technological advancement in India. His contributions have paved the way for India's continued success in space exploration and technological prowess. As India continues to make strides in the realm of astronautics, the recognition of individuals like Pavuluri Subba Rao underscores the nation's commitment to fostering excellence and innovation in this vital field.

## Lakshmana Tirtha River

- **Lakshmana Tirtha River**, renowned for its scenic beauty in the Kodagu District of Karnataka, has succumbed to severe drought and intense heat. Originating from the forests in Kutta, it extends about **180 km** before merging into the **Cauvery River**.



- However, this year, the river has dried up entirely, **exacerbating the water crisis** in the region. The primary cause of the river's drying up is the significant deficit in rainfall, with **Kodagu experiencing a 40% shortfall last year**.
- This deficit has depleted groundwater levels across the district, resulting in the early drying up of smaller streams, which subsequently reduced inflow into the **Lakshmana Tirtha and Cauvery rivers**.
- The drying up of the Lakshmana Tirtha River has severely impacted farmers in South Kodagu, who rely on it for **irrigating their crops**, particularly **coffee plantations**.
- Additionally, residents and livestock are facing a **scarcity of drinking water**, exacerbating the already dire situation.
- **Cauvery River, originating from Talakaveri in the Coorg District**, flows through Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, and the Union Territory of Puducherry. Its tributaries include the Harangi, Hemavati, Shimsha, and others, with the Lakshmana Tirtha among those joining from the right. The river ultimately drains into the Bay of Bengal.

## Telangana's Ancient Heritage

- Archaeologists in Telangana have unearthed **three remarkable sites**, each offering distinct insights into the region's ancient history. Among these discoveries are over **200 megalithic monuments** nestled within dense forests, an exceptional **Iron Age megalithic site** displaying unique architectural styles, and two rock art sites revealing ancient artistic expressions.



- 200 megalithic monuments, predominantly '**Dolmenoid Cists**' dating back to around **1,000 BCE**. Characterized by their **squarish or rectangular shapes**, these monuments exhibit a distinctive construction style, with side slabs arranged to



mirror the cap-stone's contours, resulting in each structure possessing a unique shape.

- A groundbreaking discovery in the Mulugu district reveals an **Iron Age megalithic site** at Ooragutta near Bandala village.
- The structures' intricate construction suggests **advanced craftsmanship and meticulous planning**, shedding light on the technological and cultural advancements of the era.



- In the Gundala mandal of Bhadrachalam district, two new rock art sites have been uncovered at Damaratogu.
- Particularly noteworthy is the '**Devarlabanda Mula**', exclusively featuring depictions of animals, possibly indicating a cultural significance linked to hunting or animal worship.
- These paintings, **devoid of human figures and domestic animals**, offer glimpses into the mesolithic age, dating back thousands of years. These recent archaeological findings underscore the significance of Telangana's rich heritage and its integral role in shaping India's historical narrative.
- As these discoveries **unveil hidden chapters of the region's** past, they also emphasize the urgent need for continued exploration, documentation, and conservation efforts to safeguard these invaluable cultural treasures for future generations.

## Dommaraju Gukesh

- Indian chess prodigy **Dommaraju Gukesh**, aged **just 17**, has made history by winning the FIDE Candidates tournament, becoming the **youngest-ever challenger in the history of the World Chess Championship**.



- Gukesh is also the **first teenager to win** the prestigious tournament. Gukesh's stellar performance at the Candidates tournament saw him score an impressive 9/14, finishing in first place.
- With this victory, he becomes only the **second Indian after the legendary Viswanathan Anand** to win the coveted tournament, securing his place as the challenger for the World Chess Championship later this year.

## AFMS And IIT Delhi

- **Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaborative research and training with **Indian Institute of Technology, IIT Delhi**.



- The MoU was signed by Director General AFMS, Lt Gen Daljit Singh and Director IIT Delhi Prof Rangan Banerjee. The scope of this MoU includes undertaking **research and innovation to develop** novel medical devices and focus on solving health issues specific to serving soldiers in varied terrains.
- IIT Delhi has a **robust biomedical research ecosystem** which is ideal for providing the technical expertise required for research into the diverse medical challenges faced in the Armed Forces, including rehabilitation of amputees.
- Under the ambit of this MoU, faculty exchange program, **joint academic activities and development of joint PhD programmes** will also be planned..

## Indian Pickleball Players

- **Indian Pickleball players**, Stavya Bhasin, Dhiren Patel and Hemal Jain have clinched a gold each in their respective categories in a week long US Open Pickleball Championship at Florida in US.



- **India grabbed total 10 medals**, including three gold, three silver and four bronze medals in the tournament. Bhasin won the gold in men's junior singles, Patel finished first in the men's singles and Jain won the top prize in the men's singles category

## Mixed Relay Paris Olympics

- **Priyanka Goswami and Akshdeep Singh** have secured a Paris 2024 Olympic quota for India in the marathon race walk mixed relay event.
- The Indian duo got the berth after finishing **18th at the World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships 2024 in Antalya Turkiye**.



- Akashdeep Singh and Priyanka Goswami clocked 3:05:03 to make the cut. A new addition to race walk categories, the marathon mixed relay event will be making its Olympic debut at Paris 2024.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

### 1. Aryabhata Award Is Awarded To

- A. Pavuluri Subba Rao
- B. Priyanka Goswami
- C. Akshdeep Singh
- D. Ramesh Pangriya

**ANSWER: A**

### 2. Who Won World Chess Championship 2024

- A. D Gukesh
- B. Magnus Carlsen
- C. Fabiano Caruana
- D. GM Arjun Erigaisi

**ANSWER: A**

### 3. Who Has Been Appointed As Head Of Global Airport Operations At Air India

- A. Rajesh Sharma
- B. Jayaraj Shanmugam
- C. Karthik Reddy
- D. Prakash Kumar

**ANSWER: B**

**4. Which Bank Became First Private Bank To Open Branch In Lakshadweep**

- A. ICICI Bank
- B. Axis Bank
- C. State Bank of India
- D. HDFC Bank

**ANSWER: D**

**5. AT Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024, In Terms Of Unicorn Creation, Which Position Does India Hold Globally**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**6. Which Organization Has Joined Forces With CSIR-IMMT To Enhance India's Mineral Security Through Technical Collaboration**

- A. NALCO
- B. BHEL
- C. KABIL
- D. SAIL

**ANSWER: C**

**7. Which Indian State Hosted The Inaugural Swami Vivekananda U20 Men's National Football Championship**

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. Rajasthan

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Where Did The Asian Wrestling Championships 2024 Take Place**

- A. India
- B. Iran
- C. Japan
- D. Kyrgyzstan

**ANSWER: D**



**9. Who Has Been Appointed As Chairman Of US-India Tax Forum by USISPF**

- A. Tarun Bajaj
- B. Mukesh Aghi
- C. Arun Kumar
- D. Nithesh Sharma

**ANSWER: A**

**10. What Is Mamta G Sagar Known For Winning**

- A. Fiction writer
- B. Academic research
- C. Kannada poet
- D. Political activism

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Avinash Sable Seen In The News, Is Associated With Which Sports**

- A. Shooting
- B. Archery
- C. Steeplechase
- D. Tennis

**ANSWER: C**

**12. Which Company Was Awarded 2024 Google Cloud Sales Partner Of The Year For India**

- A. TechGiant
- B. CloudConnect
- C. DataInnovate
- D. Brio Technologies

**ANSWER: D**

**13. Which Organization Conducted The Pre-cyclone Exercise For The Season Of April- June 2024**

- A. Indian Meteorological Department
- B. National Disaster Response Force
- C. Ministry of Environment
- D. Central Water Commission

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Who Is Depicted On The First UK Banknotes With His Portrait**

- A. King Charles III
- B. Queen Elizabeth II
- C. King George V
- D. King Edward VIII

**ANSWER: A**

**15. To Which Country Did India Donate Ambulances And School Buses, Including Aid For Earthquake Affected Areas**

- A. Bhutan
- B. Nepal
- C. Sri Lanka
- D. Bangladesh

**ANSWER: B**

**16. Where Is The Sittwe Port Located**

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Myanmar
- C. Bhutan
- D. India

**ANSWER: B**

**17. In Which Year Was Transplantation Of Human Organs & Tissues Act Enacted**

- A. 1994
- B. 2000
- C. 1988
- D. 2010

**ANSWER: A**

**18. Where Is India's Second Ever Installation Of Artificial Reefs, Following Pondicherry, Located**

- A. Pondicherry
- B. Chennai
- C. Mumbai
- D. Goa

**ANSWER: C**

**19. In 2024, How Much Mismanaged Plastic Waste Is India Expected To Generate**

- A. 7.4 million tons
- B. 5.6 million tons
- C. 9.2 million tons
- D. 3.8 million tons

**ANSWER: A**

**20. Longte Festival Celebrated By The Nyishi Tribe Of Which State**

- A. Mizoram
- B. Nagaland
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Sikkim

**ANSWER: C**

