

Daily Current Affairs

10 May 2024

Maharana Pratap

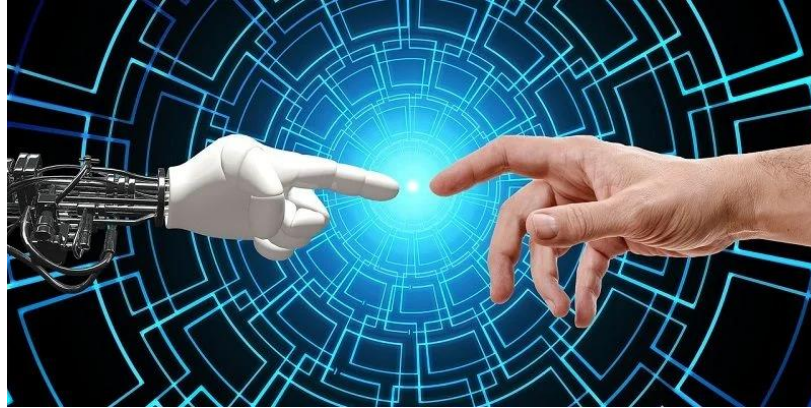
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to **Maharana Pratap** on his birth anniversary. Maharana Pratap, born on May 9, 1540, was the valiant ruler of Mewar, Rajasthan.
- Renowned for his courage and resistance against the Mughal Empire, particularly exemplified in the **Battle of Haldighati**, he symbolizes Rajput valor and independence. His unwavering commitment to his kingdom and people earned him a revered place in Indian history, inspiring generations with his defiance and dedication to sovereignty.



Setu Unveils Sesame

- **Setu**, a leading Indian fintech company and part of the Pine Labs Group, has unveiled **Sesame**, India's first Large Language Model (LLM) specifically designed for the banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI) sector.
- Developed in collaboration with indigenous AI research firm **Sarvam AI**, this groundbreaking initiative marks a significant milestone in the adoption of advanced AI technologies in the financial services industry.
- The unveiling of Sesame took place at **Adbhut India**, an event organized by the non-profit People+ai, in the presence of prominent figures from the fintech, AI, and digital public infrastructure domains, including Nandan Nilekani, Shankar Maruwada, and Tanuj Bhojwani. Setu and Sarvam AI have hailed this

development as a “ChatGPT moment” for the BFSI sector, underscoring its potential to revolutionize financial services.



- Sesame leverages the rich data ecosystem enabled by India’s digital infrastructure to power various features, including improved credit underwriting, fraud detection, loan monitoring, upsell or cross-sell, and personal finance advisory.
- By combining a domain-specific **LLM with delivery models**, Setu and Sarvam AI have created a solution that is both domain- and region-specific, tailored to the unique requirements of India’s BFSI sector.
- One of the key strengths of Sesame is its ability to harness vast amounts of financial data available both internally and externally in a compliant manner.
- This approach enables enterprise customers to make smarter and faster credit decisions, while also providing hyper-personalized financial services to their customers across their entire lifecycle.

sarvam.ai

- **Sarvam was founded in July 2023** by Vivek Raghavan and Pratyush Kumar, who previously worked at Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani-backed AI4Bharat.
- **Sarvam develops a full-stack** offering for Generative AI, ranging from research-led innovations in training custom AI models to an enterprise-grade platform for authoring and deployment. The company received around \$41 million in funding from Lightspeed.

India Surpasses Japan

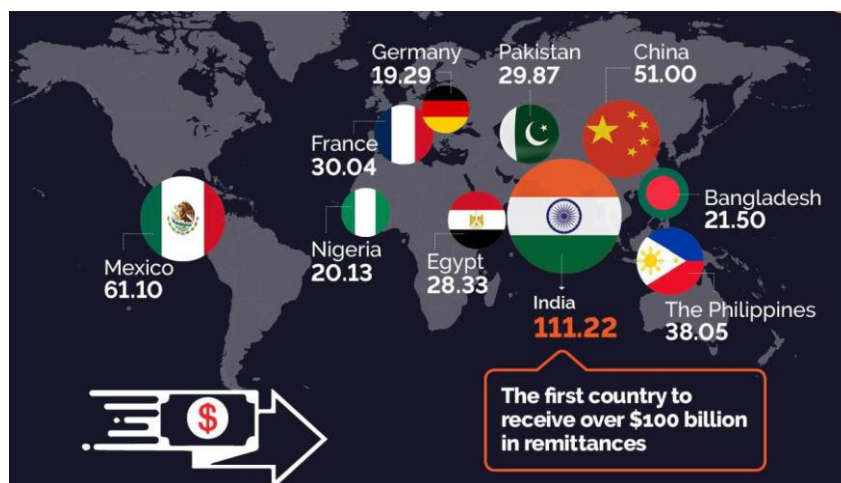
- India's remarkable **surge in solar energy deployment** propelled it past Japan, securing its position as the world's third-largest solar power generator in 2023.
- Solar energy continued its unprecedented growth streak, outpacing coal in global electricity generation for the 19th consecutive year.



- In 2015, India ranked ninth in solar energy deployment, but by 2023, it produced 5.8% of its electricity from solar, up from 0.5% in 2015. This significant increase underscores India's commitment to clean energy and its pivotal role in mitigating climate change.
- Ember's report highlights that solar energy witnessed a remarkable increase globally, with 2023's solar generation exceeding six times that of 2015.
- The top four solar growth countries, including India, **accounted for 75% of this growth**, emphasizing the widespread adoption of solar power worldwide.
- India's ambitious national plan to combat climate change **aims to achieve 50% cumulative electric power** installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030. However, meeting this target requires substantial acceleration in annual capacity additions, as analyzed by Ember.

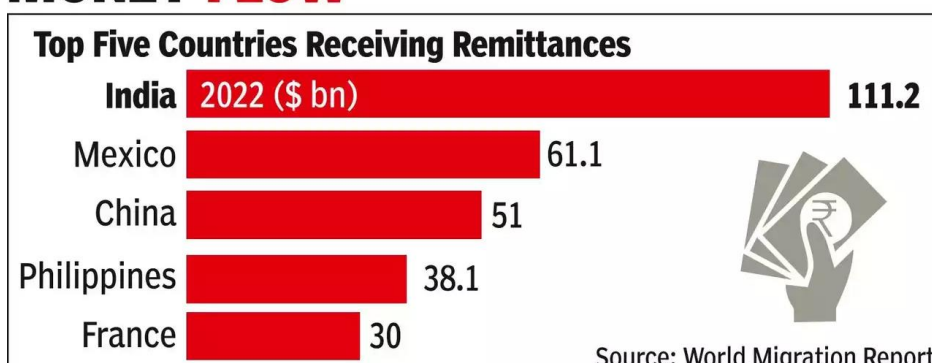
India Leads Global Remittances

- India has become the first country to receive over **\$100 billion in remittances** in 2022, according to the United Nations migration agency. **International Organisation for Migration (IOM)** revealed in its **World Migration Report 2024** that India's remittances surged to \$111 billion last year, surpassing all other nations.
- "India was well above the rest, receiving more than **USD 111 billion**, the first country to reach and even surpass the USD 100 billion mark.



- Mexico was the second-largest remittance recipient in 2022, a position it also held in 2021 after overtaking China, which historically had been the second-biggest recipient after India,” said the report.
- The report highlighted that **India, Mexico, China, the Philippines,** and France were the top five recipients of remittances in 2022.
- India’s dominance in remittances has been steadily growing over the years. The report’s data showed that India led in remittance receipts in 2010 (\$53.48 billion), 2015 (\$68.91 billion), and 2020 (\$83.15 billion), with \$111.22 billion in 2022.

MONEY FLOW



- **Southern Asia, benefiting from a substantial migrant worker population,** continues to attract some of the highest remittance inflows globally.
- Apart from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh also rank among the top ten recipients of international remittances, underscoring the significance of labour migration from this subregion.



- The **report shed light on the challenges** faced by migrant workers from Southern Asia, including financial exploitation, high migration costs leading to excessive debt, xenophobia, and workplace abuses.
- The Gulf States remain pivotal destinations for migrant workers, particularly from India, Egypt, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Kenya, employed in sectors like construction, hospitality, security, domestic work, and retail.

14th Counter-Terrorism Dialogue

- **European Union and India held their 14th Counter-Terrorism Dialogue** on the 7th of this month in New Delhi. The External Affairs Ministry said that the dialogue was an opportunity to continue and enhance cooperation on this important element of the EU-India Strategic Partnership.



- The **EU and India strongly condemned** terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and emphasised the need for strengthening international cooperation in dealing with **counter-terrorism challenges**. In this context, they agreed that cooperation in multilateral fora such as the United Nations and the Global Counter-terrorism Forum remained crucial.

- The meeting allowed for an in-depth discussion on **regional threat assessments**, key Counter-Terrorism policy developments, including State-sponsored and cross-border terrorism, countering terrorism financing, preventing online radicalisation and exchanging on the impact of new and disruptive technologies.



- The EU and India discussed ways to deepen relations between Indian and European law enforcement authorities. They welcomed the signing of the working arrangement between Europol and the Indian Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- They emphasised **the importance of strengthening counter-terrorism** cooperation through information exchange, capacity building, and strengthening law enforcement and judicial partnerships.
- The Dialogue was co-chaired by Director for **Security and Defence Policy** in the European External Action Service, Joanneke Balfoort and Joint Secretary for Counter-Terrorism in the Ministry of External Affairs, Ambassador KD Dewal.

EU Adopts First Law Against Violence Towards Women

- **European Union formally adopted** groundbreaking legislation designed to combat violence against women across its 27 member states. This legislation includes measures against forced marriages, female genital mutilation, and cyber violence, marking a significant step in enhancing women's rights and safety within the EU.
- The **newly enacted law aims broadly** to protect women from gender-related violence, encompassing a variety of offenses. Notably, it criminalises acts such as online stalking and harassment, the **non-consensual sharing** of intimate images, and incitement to violence or hatred.



- Offenses under this **law are punishable by imprisonment**, with terms ranging from one to five years, depending on the severity of the crime. Additionally, if the victim is a minor or has a close familial relationship with the perpetrator (such as a spouse or ex-spouse), the law allows for enhanced penalties.



- The legislation places a **strong emphasis on providing support** and improving protections for victims of domestic abuse, including children. Specific measures are mandated for cases where a child reports a crime committed by someone with parental responsibilities.
- Authorities are required to **ensure the safety of the child** before informing the alleged perpetrator, prioritizing the child's immediate security and well-being. EU member states are required to incorporate these new rules into their national laws within three years.

- The harmonisation of these laws across the EU is expected to bolster the legal response to gender-based violence, ensuring that perpetrators face significant penalties while providing comprehensive support for victims.

World Wrestling Olympic Qualifiers

- In Wrestling, India began their campaign with a win at the **World Wrestling Olympic Qualifiers** in Istanbul, Turkiye.
- In the Men's 67Kg **Greco Roman category**, India's Ashu advanced to the round of 16, defeating Haavard Joergensen of Norway, 5-4 in qualifiers. Additionally, Five other Indian grapplers are also set to compete this evening.



- Sumit in 60 kg category, Vikas in 77 kg, Sunil in 87 kg, Nitesh in 97 kg and Naveen in 130 kg category will be contesting to secure their place in the pre-quarterfinals. Fourteen Indian wrestlers, including Aman Sehrawat and Deepak Punia, will battle for Paris 2024 quotas.
- There will be **three Paris 2024 Olympic quotas** on offer in each weight class. The two finalists in each division will obtain Paris 2024 Olympic quotas for their respective countries.
- Meanwhile, the third spot will go to the **winner of the playoff bout** between the two bronze medallists in the weight class. So far, India have secured only four quotas in wrestling for the Paris 2024 Olympics and all of them have come in women's wrestling.

Yuzvendra Chahal

- **Yuzvendra Chahal**, the wily leg-spinner from Rajasthan Royals, continues to etch his name in the annals of T20 cricket history. In the ongoing edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL), Chahal achieved a remarkable feat by becoming the first Indian bowler to take 350 wickets in the shortest format of the game.

NO	PLAYER NAME	WICKETS
1	DJ Bravo	625
2	Rashid Khan	572
3	Sunil Narine	549
4	Imran Tahir	502
5	Shakib Al Hasan	482
6	Andre Russell	443
7	Wahab Riaz	413
8	Lasith Malinga	390
9	Sohail Tanvir	389
10	Chris Jordan	368
11	Yuzvendra Chahal	350

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When Did Maharana Pratap Ascend To The Throne Of Mewar

- A. 28 February 1572
- B. 9 May 1540
- C. 19 January 1597
- D. 11 June 1565

ANSWER: A

2. Where Was Maharana Pratap Born

- A. Udaipur
- B. Jaipur
- C. Kumbhalgarh
- D. Chittorgarh

ANSWER: C

3. Who Succeeded Maharana Pratap As The Ruler Of Mewar

- A. Amar Singh I
- B. Akbar
- C. Jai Singh
- D. Maharana Udai Singh II

ANSWER: A

4. Institution Launched 'Face Authentication System' At The Global Fintech Festival

- A. NPCI
- B. NITI Aayog
- C. NASSCOM
- D. UIDAI

ANSWER: D

5. What Is The Causative Agent Of West Nile Fever

- A. Bacteria
- B. Virus
- C. Protozoa
- D. Fungus

ANSWER: B

6. Which Day Is Observed As 'World Red Cross And Red Crescent Day

- A. 7 May
- B. 8 May
- C. 9 May
- D. 10 May

ANSWER: B

7. Pyrenees Mountains Forms A Natural Border Between Which Two Countries

- A. Germany & Switzerland
- B. Norway & Sweden
- C. Hungary & Romania
- D. Spain & France

ANSWER: D

8. What Is 'Leber Congenital Amaurosis'

- A. A Neurological Disorder
- B. A Rare Genetic Eye Disorder
- C. A Type Of Skin Condition
- D. A Cardiovascular Disease

ANSWER: B

9. Which Company Set To Launch World's First CNG-Powered Bike

- A. Hero MotoCorp
- B. TVS Motors
- C. Bajaj Auto
- D. Yamaha Motors

ANSWER: C

10. Glyptothorax Punyabratai Belongs To Which Species

- A. Spider
- B. Catfish
- C. Frog
- D. Snake

ANSWER: B

11. Department Of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry Of Chemicals & Fertilizers Launched 'MEDITECH STACKATHON 2024' At Which Place

- A. New Delhi
- B. Chennai
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Indore

ANSWER: A

12. What Is 'Spektr -RG (SRG)

- A. Nuclear Powered Submarine
- B. Newly Discovered Marine Species
- C. Synthetic Opioid Drug
- D. Space Observatory

ANSWER: D

13. Shinkun La Tunnel Is Located Between Which Two Regions Of India

- A. Kangra Valley & Spiti Valley
- B. Nubra Valley & Parvati Valley
- C. Lahaul valley & Zanskar valley
- D. Patratu Valley & Pangi Valley

ANSWER: C

14. World Migration Report 2024 Released By Which Organization

- A. International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- B. World Trade Organization (WTO)
- C. World Bank
- D. International Maritime Organization (IMO)

ANSWER: A

15. Which State Government Has Taken Steps To Denotify The Boundaries Of The Pulicat Bird Sanctuary

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

ANSWER: C

16. What Is 'Drip Pricing'

- A. A technique used in agriculture
- B. A pricing strategy in consumer affairs
- C. A method of transportation planning
- D. A concept in educational theory

ANSWER: B

17. Where Was Uttar Pradesh's First Traffic Park Recently Opened

- A. Prayagraj
- B. Ayodhya
- C. Saharanpur
- D. Varanasi

ANSWER: A

18. When Was Prohibition Of Child Marriage Act Enacted In India

- A. 1996
- B. 2016
- C. 2007
- D. 2021

ANSWER: C

19. Which State Of United States Is Known As "Yellowhammer State"

- A. Alabama
- B. Texas
- C. Florida
- D. California

ANSWER: A

20. Who Is The First Indian Scientist To Become The Fellow Of The Royal Society This Year

- A. Rajeev Varshney
- B. Ranjit Kher
- C. Rajendra Singh
- D. Ratna Sagar

ANSWER: A