

Daily Current Affairs

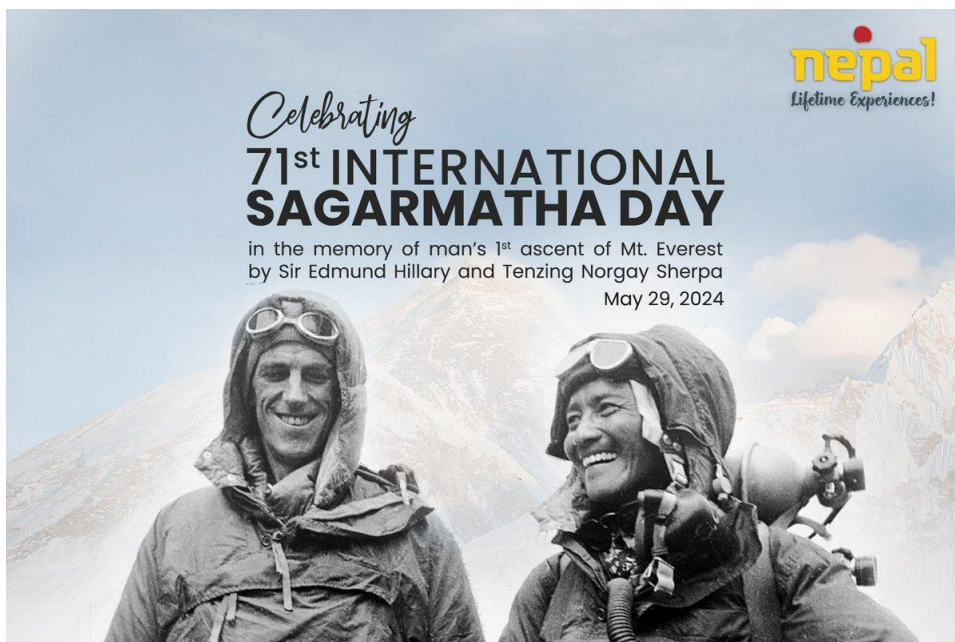
30 May 2024

71st International Sagarmatha

- Nepal Celebrates **71st International Sagarmatha (Everest) Day 2024**, commemorating man's first ascent of Mt. Everest by **Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa** in May 29, 1953.
- The **Nepal Mountaineering Association** organised the programs in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and the other organizations associated with tourism.



- A morning rally was **organized in Kathmandu** at the initiation of the Nepal Mountaineering Association at Thamel.
- Participants displayed banners and placards carrying slogans including the major one for this year- '**World's Highest Peak-Sagarmath, Identity and Pride of Nepal**'. Lhakpa Sonam Sherpa, a climber and tourism entrepreneur, has been awarded the Sagarmatha International Award 2024.
- **Khimlal Gautam** was honored with the Baburam Acharya Sagarmatha Award 2024 for contributing to the accurate measurement of Mt Everest. In Tenzing-Jillary Everest Marathon, winners in male and female categories were awarded.
- On the occasion, Prime Minister of Nepal Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' has urged one and all to make more efforts to keep mountains free from pollution and support the government's '**Save Mountain, Save Humanity**' campaign.



- He also said the government is working on related plans, policies, and programmes to ensure the safety of mountain climbers and promote their dignity as its prime concern. According to the statistics of the Tourism Department of Nepal, about **8,000 people have climbed Mt Everest** so far.
- **Among the 14 highest mountains** in the world, eight of them are in Nepal, including Everest, the highest peak in the world. In year 2021, the new height of Everest was measured as 8,848.86 meters.

RBI Launches PRAVAAH

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** Governor Shaktikanta Das has unveiled three major initiatives: the Pravaah portal, the Retail Direct Mobile App, and a FinTech Repository.

RBI LAUNCHES PRAVAAH PORTAL

RETAIL DIRECT APP
& FINTECH REPOSITORY
TO STREAMLINE
FINANCIAL PROCESSES



- These initiatives, previously announced in the RBI's Bi-monthly Statement on Development and Regulatory Policies in April 2023, April 2024, and December 2023, aim to enhance regulatory processes, provide easier access to government securities for retail investors, and improve the understanding of the FinTech sector.
- **The Pravaah portal** is designed to streamline the application process for various regulatory approvals. It allows individuals and entities to apply online, enhancing the efficiency of the processes related to granting approvals and clearances by the Reserve Bank.
- The **Retail Direct Mobile App** aims to provide retail investors with seamless access to the retail direct platform. It simplifies the process of transacting in government securities (G-Secs), making it more convenient for individual investors.

India's First Multimodal Logistics Park

- **Reliance Industries** is set to begin construction on India's first Multimodal Logistics Park at Mappedu near Chennai in June, a project conceptualized 12 years ago.
- Despite initial setbacks, the **project, valued at Rs 1,424 crore** and spanning 184.27 acres in Tiruvallur district, is now ready to proceed, with potential to revolutionize the southern region's logistics landscape.



- **Reliance Industries** secured the bid for the Multimodal Logistics Park in 2022, surpassing the Adani Group. The park aims to deliver efficient, cost-effective logistics services including cargo aggregation, distribution, intermodal transfer, sorting, and repacking.

- Initial delays were due to connectivity issues and poor private sector response. The park is strategically located 52 km from Chennai Port, 80 km from Ennore Port, and 87 km from Kattupalli Port, poised to become a central logistics hub in southern India.



- It is estimated to handle **approximately 7.17 million tonnes** of cargo over 45 years, serving secondary market clusters in Ranipet, Ambur, Tirupur, and Bengaluru.
- Key to the project's success is ensuring rail connectivity from Mappedu to the ports. It is also **situated near the Sriperumbudur-Oragadam** industrial belt and the Chennai Peripheral Ring Road, close to significant automobile and electronics manufacturing clusters.
- A **Memorandum of Understanding** was signed in October 2021 among Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation, National Highways Logistics Management Limited, and Chennai Port Trust. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone on May 26, 2022, highlighting the project's national significance.

Satyadeep Gupta

- **Indian mountaineer Satyadeep Gupta** has etched his name in history by becoming the first person to scale **Mt. Everest and Mt. Lhotse** twice in a single season.
- Additionally, he is the **first Indian to traverse** the two peaks in an astonishing 11 hours and 15 minutes.
- Gupta successfully summited the **8,516-metre-high Mt. Lhotse** at noon and then went on to conquer the **8,849-metre-high Mt. Everest** at 12:45 am, midnight, according to Pioneer Adventure Expedition, which organized the expedition.
- This extraordinary achievement marks the first Double Dual Ascent of the world's highest and fourth highest peaks in a single season, as confirmed by the adventure company.



- Not only did **Gupta accomplish the Double Dual Ascent**, but he also set another record by becoming the first Indian to traverse from Mt. Everest to Mt. Lhotse in an incredible 11 hours and 15 minutes.
- Gupta was accompanied by climbing guides Pastemba Sherpa and Nima Ungdi Sherpa during his historic ascents. He had previously summited Mt. Everest on May 21 and Mt. Lhotse on May 22, showcasing his exceptional skills and determination.
- According to a staff member of Pioneer, **Gupta is the first person** in the world to accomplish this double dual ascent, highlighting the remarkable nature of his

achievement. His success not only serves as an inspiration for fellow mountaineers but also showcases the incredible strength and resilience of the human spirit.

PRAGATI-2024

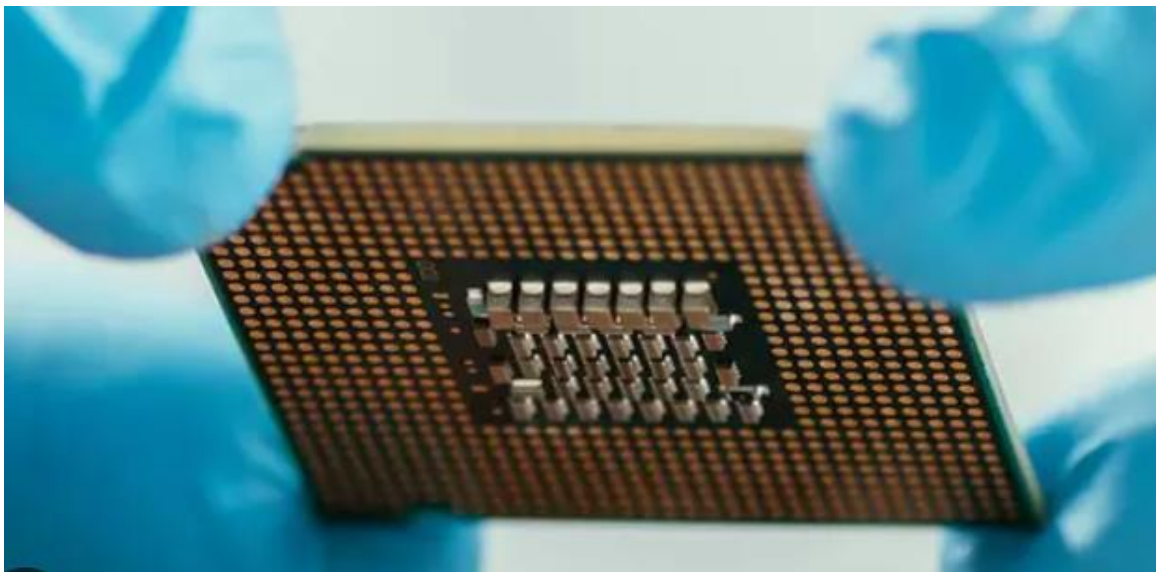
- **Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS)** has launched the Pharma Research in AyurGyan And Techno Innovation (PRAGATI-2024) initiative to promote research and innovation in the field of ayurveda.
- This initiative aims to provide an opportunity for collaborative research between CCRAS and the ayurveda drug industry.
- **PRAGATI-2024 is designed** to foster collaborative research efforts between CCRAS and the ayurveda drug industry. This partnership is expected to drive innovation and growth in the ayurveda sector.



- The **launch event was attended by prominent figures** including Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush; Rabinarayan Acharya, DG, CCRAS; and Koustubha Upadhyaya, Advisor (Ayu.), Ministry of Ayush.
- In his address, **Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha** highlighted the increasing importance of the ayurveda industry both in India and globally. He emphasized the necessity of research and innovation to propel the industry's growth, expressing confidence in the potential of new practitioners and startups to present substantial growth opportunities.

Quantum Diamond Microchip Imager

- **IIT Bombay and TCS**, India's biggest IT services company, are working together to make the country's **first quantum diamond computer imager**.
- This technology was just announced and it looks like it will completely change how **semiconductor chips** are inspected.
- A quantum diamond computer imager works in a way that is similar to how **MRIs work in hospitals**.



- It makes image magnetic fields possible so that semiconductor chips can be mapped without damaging or removing them. As semiconductor technology gets smaller, this ability is becoming more and more important as traditional sensing methods fight to keep up.
- This **Indian-made imager** uses quantum diamond microscopy along with software that is better at AI and machine learning. This puts India at the centre of the quantum revolution.
- It is expected that the **microchip imager** will make it easier to inspect semiconductor chips more accurately, lower the number of failed chips, and make electronic gadgets use less energy.
- **Semiconductor chips** are used in many fields, such as clean energy, communications, computing, healthcare, defence systems, and transportation. Over the next two years, TCS and IIT Bombay will work together to make these gadgets safer, more reliable, and better at using energy.

‘One Person, One File’ Surveillance Escalation

- “**One Person, One File**” (OPOF) is a program suggested by the government of Shanghai that would make digital surveillance and censorship much stricter in China.
- According to experts, the **plan includes installing more facial recognition** cameras and making detailed personal profiles for every resident. This is an example of the Chinese Communist Party’s (CCP) unprecedented attempt to control and watch the people. China has stepped up its monitoring measures since Xi Jinping took office.



- This is part of a **larger trend of rising authoritarianism**. To stop any threats to its power and security, the government uses cutting edge technologies such as AI, data analytics, and large camera networks.
- This move toward **high-tech government**, along with old-fashioned authoritarian methods, has created a complex and all-encompassing monitoring state. OPOF wants to scan and organize every part of a person’s life, from their daily habits to their social connections and even their political views.
- Because this information is **kept in individual files**, it is easier for the government to keep an eye on, control, and get involved in the lives of people they think are a threat to the state. Because the system relies on AI, people can be flagged and punished for what are often false claims of disobeying or not following the rules.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. First Ascent Of Mt. Everest By Sir Edmund Hillary Is Completed In

- A. 1951
- B. 1952
- C. 1953
- D. 1954

ANSWER: C

2. Pravaah Portal Seen In News Is Launched By

- A. RBI
- B. SEBI
- C. IRDAI
- D. TERI

ANSWER: A

3. 'One Person, One File' Surveillance Escalation Is Project Of

- A. Japan
- B. China
- C. North korea
- D. South korea

ANSWER: B

4. Who Has Become The First Indian Gymnast To Win A Gold Medal At The 2024 Asian Gymnastics Championships

- A. Dipa Karmakar
- B. Pranati Nayak
- C. Rucha Divekar
- D. Kalpana Debnath

ANSWER: A

5. Nyishi Tribe Is The Largest Ethnic Group Of Which State

- A. Assam
- B. Bihar
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Mizoram

ANSWER: C

6. State-owned GAIL (India) Ltd Recently Launched Its First Green Hydrogen Plant In Which Region Of Madhya Pradesh

- A. Vijaipur
- B. Balaghat
- C. Dheerpur
- D. Betul

ANSWER: A

7. Mount Mungalo Due To Landslide, Is Located In Which Country

- A. Austria
- B. Papua New Guinea
- C. Philippines
- D. Italy

ANSWER: B

8. Which Ministry Launched 'Cool Summers Of India' Campaign In Dubai During The Arabian Travel Mart 2024

- A. Ministry of Tourism
- B. Ministry of External Affairs
- C. Ministry of Defence
- D. Ministry of Finance

ANSWER: A

9. Lakshya Aircraft Is Designed And Built By Which Organization

- A. DRDO
- B. ISRO
- C. CSIR
- D. BHEL

ANSWER: A

10. What is 'Sea anemones'

- A. Invertebrate aquatic animal
- B. Newly discovered species of spider
- C. Naval ship
- D. Submarine

ANSWER: A

11. Government Of India Has Announced Humanitarian Assistance Worth \$ 1 Million To Which Country

- A. Rwanda
- B. Somalia
- C. Kenya
- D. Uganda

ANSWER: C

12. Which Organization Has Appointed Davide Salvagnini As Its First Chief AI Officer

- A. WMO
- B. ISRO
- C. NASA
- D. FAO

ANSWER:C

13. What Is ' Ligdus Garvale'

- A. Aircraft carrier
- B. New species of jumping spider
- C. Invasive weed
- D. New variety of frog species

ANSWER: B

14. Bulava Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Is Developed By Which Country

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. Russia
- D. India

ANSWER: C

15. What Is The Name Of Operation Recently Launched By Uttarakhand Police For Smooth Conduct Of Kedarnath Yatra

- A. Operation Samriddhi
- B. Operation Vikas
- C. Operation Maryada
- D. Operation Shakti

ANSWER: C

16. Which Day Is Observed As 'World Hypertension Day' Every Year

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

ANSWER: B

17. General To Lam Was Elected As New President Of Which Country

- A. Mexico
- B. Singapore
- C. Vietnam
- D. Mauritius

ANSWER: C

18. GSAP SKILLS PLATFORM, Is An Initiative Of Which Organization

- A. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- B. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- C. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- D. World Bank

ANSWER: B

19. Which Institute's Scientists Developed A New Vaccine Candidate To Battle Malaria

- A. Jawaharlal Nehru University
- B. IIT, Kanpur
- C. Banaras Hindu University
- D. IIT, Roorkee

ANSWER: A

20. On The Bank Of Which River, Mahavira Attained Kaivalaya

- A. Niranjana
- B. Rijupalika
- C. Yamuna
- D. Jamuna

ANSWER: B