

# Daily Current Affairs

## 07 April 2025

### World Health Day 2025

- **World Health Day is being celebrated** across the globe to raise awareness about health and **good health practices**. The **World Health Organisation (WHO)** has declared **healthy beginnings, hopeful futures** as the theme this year to end preventable maternal and newborn deaths and to prioritize women's longer-term health and well-being.



- Central government is working hard to **provide quality healthcare facilities** to the people by strengthening health infrastructure in the country. The central government is taking **numerous steps to ensure people have** access to quality and affordable healthcare services and move towards building a healthier nation.
- In this regard, the **government is running various schemes**, including Ayushman Bharat, the National TB Elimination Programme, and Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, over 55 crore

beneficiaries are covered with health insurance of 5 lakh rupees per family annually.

- So far 40 crore Ayushman Cards have been issued under the scheme to the beneficiaries. Besides, to provide comprehensive primary health care to the people, 1 lakh 76 thousand Ayushman Arogya Mandirs are operating in the country. The country's advancements in public health, especially in maternal and child care, reflect a strong commitment to equitable and inclusive healthcare.

## Pamban Sea Bridge

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that in the past ten years, the government has made several efforts to **strengthen infrastructure to connect** all the four corners of the country. The Prime Minister inaugurated the **Pamban vertical lift sea bridge in Rameshwaram** and laid the foundation for **8300 crore rupees worth of rail and road projects** in Tamil Nadu.
- Addressing a public meeting in Rameshwaram, he said that the development of Tamil Nadu contributes to the development of the nation.



- Calling the vertical lift sea bridge a **20th-century wonder**, he congratulated and thanked the engineers who worked on the first vertical lift sea bridge where

ships and trains will make the best use of it. The Prime Minister said that it was a precious moment to **offer prayers at the ancient Rameswaram Temple** and hand over the project on this day.

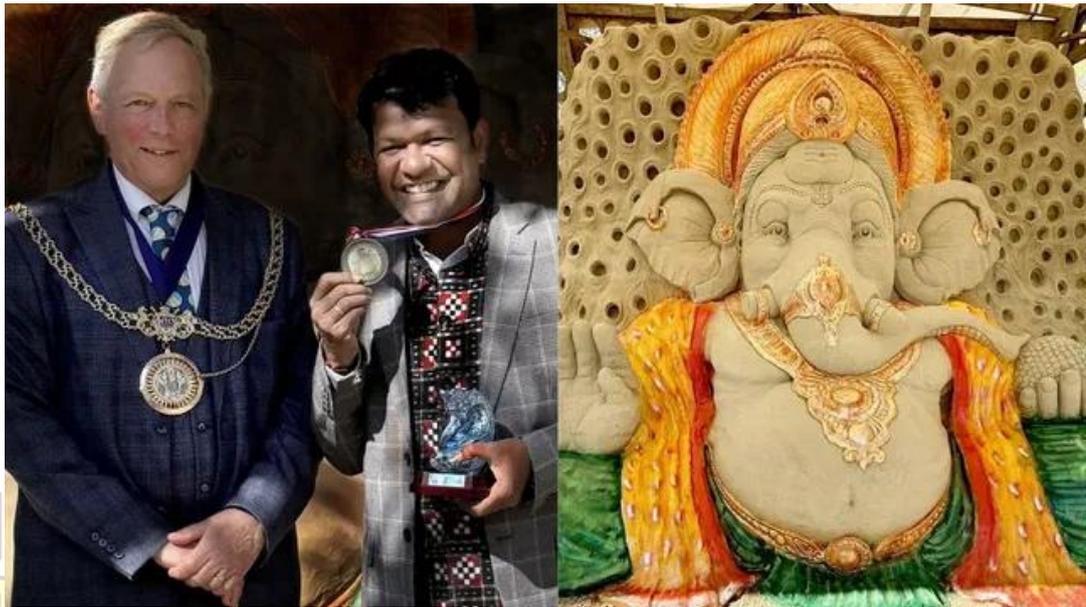
- Calling the projects a gift on Ram Navami, he recalled the mention of Lord Ram in **Sangam literature**. Underlining that infrastructure development in Tamil Nadu is a priority for his government, Mr Modi highlighted that over the past decade, Tamil Nadu's railway budget has increased more than sevenfold. He added that before **2014, rail projects in Tamil Nadu received only 900 crore rupees annually**, while this year, the railway budget for Tamil Nadu exceeds 6,000 crore rupees.



- He further highlighted that the Government of India is modernising 77 railway stations in the state, **including the Rameswaram station**. Mr Modi described the importance of the **ancient Tamil culture and language**.
- Mr Modi appealed to the state **government to allow medical students** to study in their mother tongue. He also criticised the politicians who didn't even put their signatures in Tamil when writing letters to him. Mr Modi, mentioning various achievements in the past ten years, said that the country had seen a **sixfold increase in allocation for the road, airport, port, energy and infrastructure**. He added that the Eastern and Western freight corridors and the Vande **Bharat, Amrit Bharat and Namo Bharat rail services** provide sound freight logistics and infrastructure. Mr Modi said that due to the efforts of the Centre in the past ten years, 3700 fishermen were freed from Sri Lankan prisons, and more than 600 fishermen were freed from Sri Lankan prisons this year alone.

## Sudarsan Pattnaik

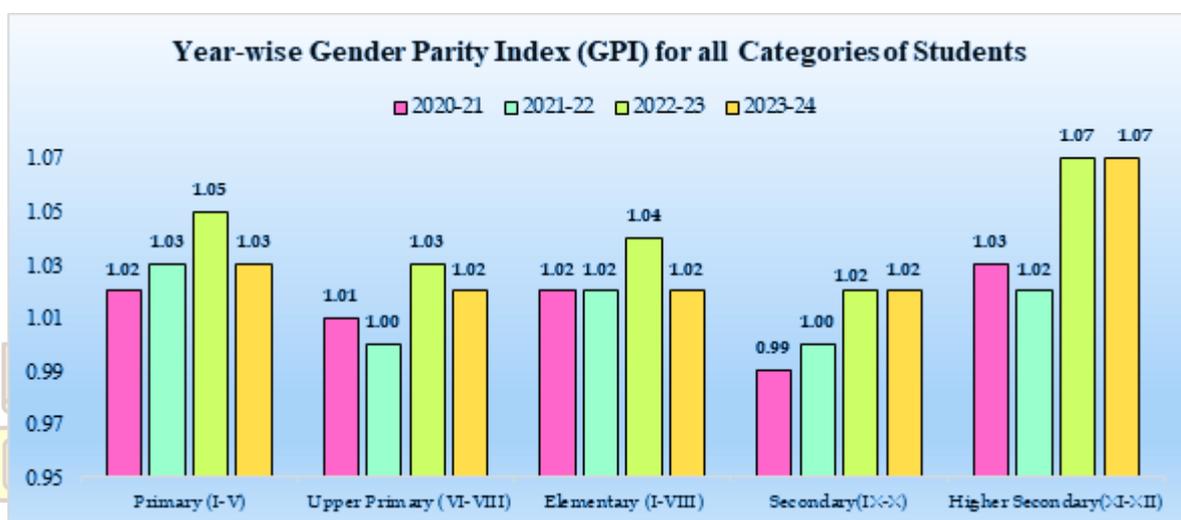
- Renowned **Indian sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik** has become the first Indian to receive the prestigious **Fred Darrington Sand Master Award** for his outstanding contributions to sand art. The award was presented during the Sandworld 2025 International Sand Art Festival in Dorset, England.



- To mark the occasion, Pattnaik created a **10-foot-high sculpture of Lord Ganesha carrying the message of “World Peace”**. The award holds special significance this year as it commemorates **the 100th birth anniversary of legendary British sculptor Fred Darrington**.
- Sudarshan Pattnaik, a Padma Shri awardee from Odisha, has participated in over 65 international sand art festivals and championships. His work, often blending spiritual themes with social messages, has earned him widespread recognition – but the Weymouth award marks a new high.
- Sandworld exhibition at Lodmoor Park, known for its massive, detailed sand sculptures** created using just sand and water, features works from artists across the world. But this year, it’s a message from India – carved in sand and rooted in peace – that’s leaving the deepest impression.

## MoSPI Releases 26<sup>th</sup> Edition Of Women & Men In India

- Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the 26<sup>th</sup> edition of its publication **Women and Men in India 2024: Selected Indicators and Data**.
- The publication offers a **comprehensive overview of the gender landscape** in India, presenting selected indicators and data across key areas like population, education, health, economic participation, and decision-making, all sourced from various Ministries, Departments and Organizations.



- The Publication highlights that **primary and higher Secondary levels have consistently high Gender Parity Index**, indicating strong female enrolment. Upper primary and elementary levels saw fluctuations but remained close to parity. The publication indicated that the labour force participation rate in usual status for individuals aged 15 and older has increased from 49.8 percent in 2017-18 to 60.1 percent in 2023-24.

## Brazil Proposes Global Climate Council Ahead of COP30

- Brazil has proposed the **creation of a new international body** to accelerate global climate action. The plan is shared ahead of this year's **UN climate conference (Conference of the Parties – COP30)** in Belem, a city in northern Brazil, in November 2025.



- The plan suggests forming a **“Climate Change Council”** under the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**. The council would aim to fast-track decisions made at COP meetings, better coordinate international efforts, and make climate action more effective.



- Brazil says the current process is too slow and complex. While the idea has sparked interest, **key developed countries** – including Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden – have responded with caution.
- They support the need for reform but warn that any changes must not weaken the core **UNFCCC process that guides international climate negotiations**. The

proposal remains informal for now, but it is expected to be a major talking point at COP30 later this year.

## ISSF World Cup

- **Former world champion Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil** won the gold medal in the men's 10m air rifle shooting event at the **ISSF World Cup 2025 Buenos Aires** yesterday. Local hero Marcelo Julian Gutierrez took bronze with 230.1. This was Rudranksh Patil's second individual gold medal at an ISSF World Cup. He also clinched the 10-meter air rifle title at the 2023 Cairo edition.

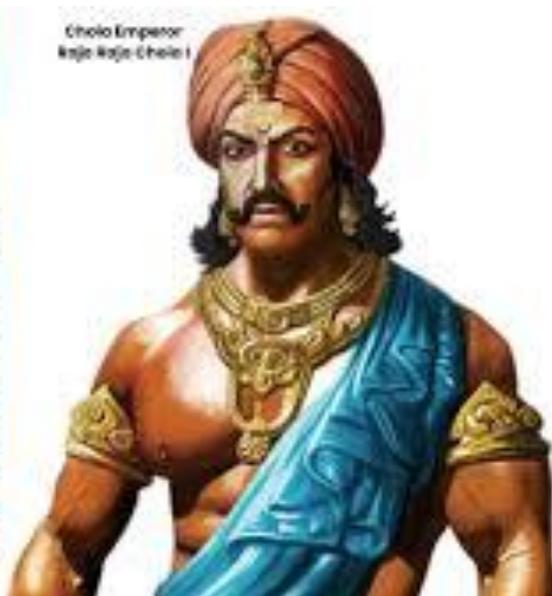


- **Indian shooter Esha Singh** won a **silver medal** in the women's 25m pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2025 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Esha, going neck and neck with Sun Yujie of China, registered two hits to finish the contest at 35, while Sun had 38 shots on target.



## Rajaraja Chola Inscription

- Recent discovery of an inscription related to **Rajaraja Chola I** atop the **Somagiri hills in Melavalavu, Madurai**, has captivated historians. This inscription, believed to date back to around **1000 CE**, marks **Rajaraja Chola's** influence in the Pandya region.



- It mentions a **military commander, Viranarana Pallavarayan**, and details the construction of a **temple by Malaiyappa Sambu**. This find is for understanding the **Chola dynasty's history** and its impact on Southern India. **Rajaraja Chola I** ruled from **985 to 1014 CE**.
- He was the **son of Parantaka Chola II**. His reign is noted for military conquests and administrative reforms. **Rajaraja Chola I was recognised** for his extraordinary leadership potential, which led to his succession as king. **Rajaraja Chola I's** military prowess is evident in several key battles.
- **In 988 CE, he defeated the Cheras at the Battle of Kandalur Salai**. He conquered the Pandya capital of **Madurai** and **renamed the region "Rajaraja Mandalam."**



- **His victory in Sri Lanka in 993 CE established** a provincial capital. He also defeated **the Chalukyas in Karnataka**, expanding his empire . **Rajaraja Chola I** reformed the administrative structure of the Chola Empire.
- He replaced hereditary lords with appointed officials to ensure loyalty. The empire was divided into nine provinces, each governed with a system that allowed for local self-governance. This system promoted efficiency and accountability in administration.
- **Rajaraja Chola I was a patron of art and architecture**. He constructed the **Brihadeshwara Temple in Thanjavur, a UNESCO World Heritage site**.

- The temple is a prime example of **Dravidian architecture and features** intricate mural paintings.
- **Rajaraja Chola I also introduced new coinage**, showcasing his image alongside a seated goddess. The Chola Empire thrived on trade. Internal trade flourished through mercantile corporations and guilds.
- The **Cholas established maritime trade routes with regions like West Asia** and Southeast Asia, exporting spices, textiles, and precious stones. This economic network contributed to the empire's wealth and influence.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

### 1. World Health Day Is Celebrated On

- A. 6 April
- B. 7 April
- C. 8 April
- D. 9 April

**ANSWER: B**

### 2. Pamban Sea Bridge Is Inaugurated In

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

**ANSWER: C**

### 3. First Indian To Receive Prestigious Fred Darrington Sand Master Award

- A. Sudarshan Pattnaik
- B. Rahul Arya
- C. Nitish Bharti
- D. Charlene Lanzel

**ANSWER: A**

**4. Esha Singh Seen In News Related To Which Sport**

- A. Tennis
- B. Shooting
- C. Badminton
- D. Cricket

**ANSWER: B**

**5. Heard and McDonald Islands, Is Located In Which Ocean**

- A. Pacific Ocean
- B. Atlantic Ocean
- C. Arctic Ocean
- D. Indian Ocean

**ANSWER: D**

**6. International Criminal Court Established By Which International Agreement**

- A. Geneva Convention
- B. Rome Statute
- C. Hague Protocol
- D. Vienna Treaty

**ANSWER: B**

**7. Kannadippaya, A Traditional Tribal Handicraft, From Which Indian State Was Recently Awarded The Geographical Indication (GI) Tag**

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

**ANSWER: C**

**8. Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary Lies On Which Mountain Range**

- A. Aravalli
- B. Satpura
- C. Vindhya
- D. Western Ghats

**ANSWER: A**

**9. Koch- Rajbongshi Community Is Primarily Found In Which Region Of India**

- A. Chotanagpur plateau
- B. Western Ghats
- C. Southern
- D. Northeastern

**ANSWER: D**

**10. Which Institution Is Responsible For Implementing Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana**

- A. NITI Aayog
- B. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- C. National Health Authority (NHA)
- D. Ministry of Women and Child Development

**ANSWER: C**

**11. Which State Has Recorded The Highest Real Economic Growth Rate In India For 2024–25**

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

**ANSWER: B**

**12. Amalsad Chikoo, Which Has Received GI Tag, Belongs To Which State**

- A. Gujarat
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Odisha
- D. Kerala

**ANSWER: A**

**13. Name Of Initiative Launched In West Bengal To Eliminate Mother-to-child Transmission Of HIV, Syphilis, And Hepatitis B**

- A. Triple Elimination Initiative
- B. MotherCare 2026
- C. Healthy Start Mission
- D. Disease Free State

**ANSWER: A**

**14. Dhansiri River, Is Tributary Of Which River**

- A. Ganga
- B. Brahmaputra
- C. Godavari
- D. Narmada

**ANSWER: B**

**15. Name Of Mobile Based Application Used To Track Anganwadi Centres Across India**

- A. NUTRI App
- B. POSHAN Tracker
- C. Mid Day Meal
- D. Nutrition Watch

**ANSWER: B**

**16. Baku To Belém Roadmap Was Adopted During Which International Climate Conference**

- A. COP27
- B. COP28
- C. COP29
- D. COP30

**ANSWER: C**

**17. What Is India's Rank In The 2025 UNCTAD 'Readiness For Frontier Technologies' Index**

- A. 25th
- B. 27th
- C. 36th
- D. 37th

**ANSWER: C**

**18. Which Country Is Set To Host The 2035 FIFA Women's World Cup**

- A. Australia
- B. United Kingdom
- C. Canada
- D. Germany

**ANSWER: B**

**19. Which Country Deployed Its Military To Control An Outbreak Of Foot-and-mouth Disease Affecting Cattle**

- A. Slovakia
- B. Hungary
- C. Austria
- D. Poland

**ANSWER: B**

**20. The First Factory By The Dutch Was Established At Which Among The Following Places**

- A. Surat
- B. Machilipatnam
- C. Negapatnam
- D. Pulicat

**ANSWER: B**

