

Daily Current Affairs

15 April 2025

Panchteerth

- Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar said that the Panchteerth, associated with the life of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, is a source of inspiration for the young generation. The **Panchteerth** refers to **five important** places related to Dr. Ambedkar's life, including his birthplace and the place of his education.



- The Minister said this while addressing an event organized by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes on the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in New Delhi.
- Mr. Kumar emphasized that the young generation must visit these places to learn about the ideals and life of Dr. Ambedkar. Minister of State for Law and

Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal said that Dr. Ambedkar has given three pillars to the country in the form of **equality, liberty, and fraternity** in the Constitution. He said this is the time to take these three pillars to society to mark the journey of the Constitution.



SC Categorisation Act

- Telangana state government has officially implemented the **Scheduled Caste (SC) Categorisation of Reservations Act 2025**, coinciding with the birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar today. A government order (GO) has been issued, marking a significant policy decision aimed at addressing long-standing demands from marginalized communities.



- As per the government order, **the 56 Scheduled Caste communities** in Telangana have now been divided into three groups to ensure equitable distribution of **benefits among the SC sub-groups**. The GO has been issued today following consent from the State governor for the Bill which was passed by the State Legislature last month.
- This classification is expected to guide future policies on reservations in **education, employment, and political representation**.
- The implementation of SC categorisation is seen as a major milestone in Telangana State's efforts to achieve social justice, especially for communities that have historically been left behind despite belonging to the larger SC category.

Automotive Sector's Global Competitiveness

- **NITI Aayog released a comprehensive report analyzing India's automotive sector, aiming to position India as a global player in the automotive value chain.** The report was launched by **Vice Chairman Suman Bery and CEO BVR Subrahmanyam**.



- The report classifies auto **components into four categories** based on complexity and manufacturing maturity: Emerging & Complex, Conventional & Complex, Conventional & Simple, and Emerging & Simple, suggesting targeted fiscal and non-fiscal interventions.

- In 2023, **global automobile production hit 94 million units**, with the auto components market valued at USD 2 trillion and the export share reaching approximately USD 700 billion.
- **India's share stood at USD 70 billion**, and it emerged as the 4th-largest vehicle producer globally after China, the USA, and Japan. The report highlights India's strong presence in small cars and utility vehicles, driven by Make in India and a cost-competitive workforce, reinforcing its role as a manufacturing and export hub in the global automotive sector.

International Solar Alliance

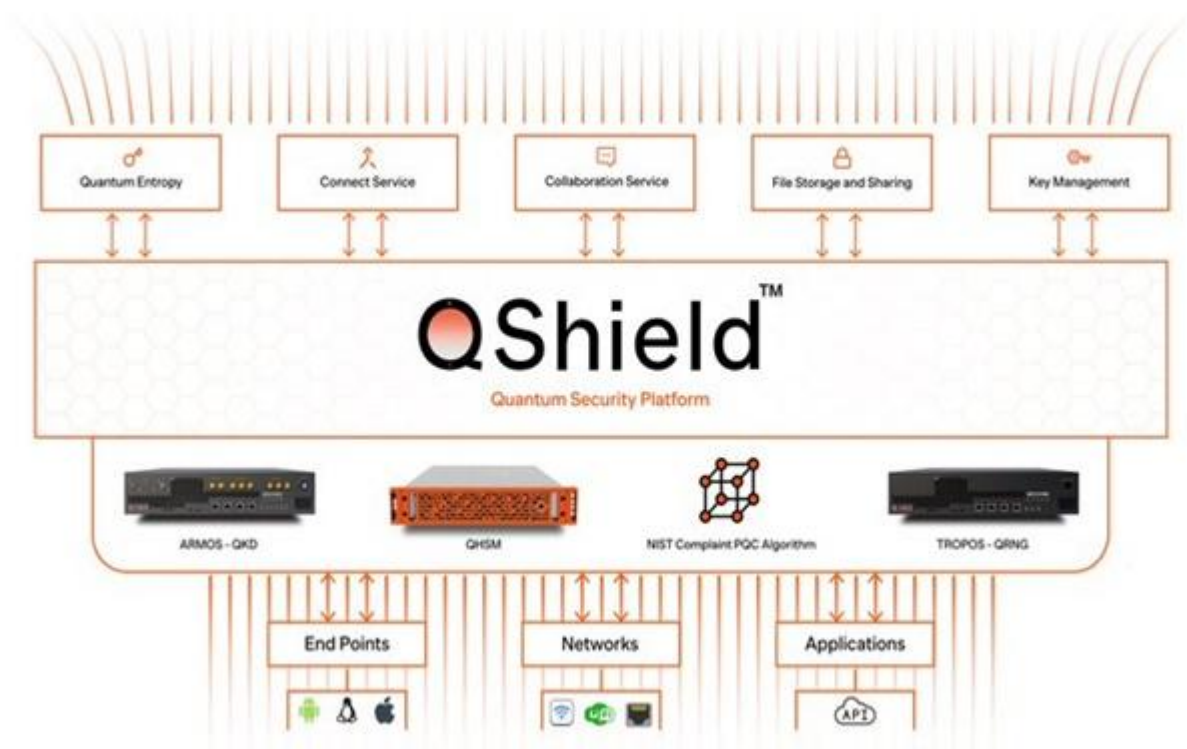
- **Mauritius has become the first African country** to sign a Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**. It is also the fourth country globally, after Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Cuba, to sign the CPF. This partnership aims to provide a structured approach for collaboration between ISA and Mauritius on solar energy initiatives, aligning with the country's national priorities.



- The **CPF is a strategic initiative developed by ISA** to facilitate long- and medium-term cooperation with its member countries. The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is a **treaty-based intergovernmental organization**, launched in 2015 by India and France, aimed at promoting solar energy as a sustainable solution for energy access and climate change, with the goal of **mobilizing USD 1 trillion in solar investments by 2030**. Director General of ISA – Ashish Khanna

Q- Shield

- **QNu Labs, one of the startups** selected by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) under the **National Quantum Mission**, has launched the world's first and unique platform, Q-Shield. It empowers enterprises to protect their critical infrastructure.



- It also enables seamless **cryptography management across** any environment, including cloud, on-premises, or hybrid, on the occasion of World Quantum Day. Ministry of Science and Technology said in a statement that Q-Shield enables various services like **Qosmos for key generation, QConnect for secured connectivity and QVerse for secured collaboration**.
- The launch of this platform adds one more step to India's journey towards global leadership in quantum technology. The Ministry added that incubated at **IIT Madras Research Park in 2016, QNu Labs** is revolutionizing cybersecurity with quantum-safe solutions, positioning India as a global leader in quantum cryptography.

Projects Worth ₹10,000 Cr In Haryana

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stones and dedicated development **projects of around 10 thousand crore rupees** to the people of Haryana.



- On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar, Mr Modi laid the foundation stone for the third unit of 800 MegaWatt at **Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant in Yamunanagar**.
- This project is an expansion of the existing plant that **currently operates 2×300 MegaWatt units**. The project is targeted to be completed within 52 months, and commercial operations are expected to begin within 48 months, by March 2029. With this new unit, Haryana's in-house power generation capacity will increase **to three thousand 382 megawatts**.

Banu Mushtaq's 'Heart Lamp'

- Banu Mushtaq's collection of **Kannada stories in translation, Heart Lamp, was shortlisted** for the International Booker Prize. The book, among the six featured in this year's shortlist, made history as the **first Kannada-language book** to be shortlisted.



- **Heart Lamp**, translated by Deepa Bhasthi, is a collection of 12 short stories written by **Banu Mushtaq** between **1990 and 2023**. Earlier, an English translation of a collection of her short stories, *Haseena and Other Stories*, won the English PEN translation award for the year 2024. That was also translated by Deepa Bhasthi. **Mushtaq**, a lawyer and activist from **Karnataka**, began writing within the progressive protest literary circles in southwestern India.

Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025'

- Telangana government launched the '**Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025**' to promote economic self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship among youth from SC, ST, BC, Minority, and EBC/EWS communities.



- The scheme is implemented through respective **community welfare corporations, aiming to boost financial independence** through targeted support. Eligible beneficiaries can avail concessional subsidized loans of up to ₹4 lakh to start their own businesses and pursue entrepreneurial ventures.

Archery World Cup

- In Archery, **India's Dhiraj Bommadevara** clinched a bronze medal at the Archery World Cup 2025 in Florida, USA. **Dhiraj defeated Andres Temino Mediel** in the Men's Individual Recurve event with a scoreline of 6-4.



- This also marked **Dhiraj's second medal** of the tournament. With this win, India concluded its **Archery World Cup campaign** with a total of four medals, one gold, one silver, and two bronze.
- The **Indian team finished fourth** in the overall medal tally. India clinched a silver medal in the men's recurve team event at the Archery World Cup Stage 1 after the trio of **Dhiraj Bommadevara, Tarundeep Rai, and Atanu Das** went down 1-5 to China in the final at Auburndale in USA.
- This was **India's third medal of the season-opening event**, with a fourth one still in sight as Dhiraj remained in contention in the men's recurve individual event slated later in the day. **Earlier, India had secured a gold** in the compound mixed team event and a bronze in compound men's team.



Sourav Ganguly

- **Former India captain Sourav Ganguly** has been re-appointed as the chairperson of the ICC men's cricket committee and his longtime national **teammate VVS Laxman** too has been picked again as one the panel members. Ganguly, who led the Indian team with **distinction for five years from 2000 to 2005**, was first appointed as the committee's chair in 2021. Ganguly, 52, has replaced **compatriot Anil Kumble**, who stepped down after serving a maximum of three, three-year terms.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Was Born On 14th April In Which Year

- A. 1880
- B. 1891
- C. 1881
- D. 1875

ANSWER: B

2. What Is The Maximum Amount Of Concessional Subsidized Loan Offered Under The Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025

- A. ₹2 lakh
- B. ₹3 lakh
- C. ₹4 lakh
- D. ₹5 lakh

ANSWER: C

3. Mauritius Became 1st African Nation To Sign Partnership Framework With Which International Organization On Solar Energy

- A. Shreya Mittal
- B. Dinesh Kumar
- C. Soma Sankara
- D. Rajnish Kumar

ANSWER: D

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

- A. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- B. International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
- C. World Solar Council
- D. International Solar Alliance

ANSWER: D

5. Name Of Google's Newly Launched Seventh-generation AI Chip

- A. Redwood
- B. Firestone
- C. Ironwood
- D. ThunderCore

ANSWER: C

6. Who Has Been Re-appointed As The Chairperson Of The ICC Men's Cricket Committee

- A. Anil Kumble
- B. Rahul Dravid
- C. Sourav Ganguly
- D. Virender Sehwag

ANSWER: C

7. Traditional Harvest Festival Celebrated As The Tamil New Year Is Known As Which Of The Following

- A. Vaisakhi
- B. Pongal
- C. Vishu
- D. Puthandu

ANSWER: D

8. Padma Shri Awardee D. Ramaiah, Recently Passed Away, Popularly Known By What Name Contribution To Environmental Protection

- A. Green Warrior of Telangana, 2015
- B. Forest Guardian of South India, 2016
- C. Tree Man of Telangana, 2017
- D. Eco Saint of Telangana, 2018

ANSWER: C

9. Which Team Has Won The Indian Super League (ISL) 2024–25 Title

- A. Mumbai City FC
- B. East Bengal FC
- C. Hyderabad FC
- D. Mohun Bagan Super Giant

ANSWER: D

10. International Solar Alliance Was Formed In

- A. 2014
- B. 2015
- C. 2016
- D. 2017

ANSWER: B

11. First State To Apply SC Categorisation Act

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

ANSWER: A

12. Which Airport Was Named The World's Best Airport 2025 By Skytrax

- A. Singapore Changi Airport
- B. Tokyo Haneda Airport
- C. Doha Hamad International Airport
- D. Delhi International Airport

ANSWER: A

13. What Was Name Of The Spacecraft In Which Yuri Gagarin Orbited The Earth

- A. Soyuz 1
- B. Sputnik 1
- C. Vostok 1
- D. Luna 2

ANSWER: C

14. What Was India's Rank In Global Vehicle Production In 2023

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

ANSWER: D

15. From Which Aircraft Was The 'Gaurav' Glide Bomb Released During Its Trials

- A. Mirage 2000
- B. Tejas Mk-1
- C. Jaguar
- D. Su-30 MKI

ANSWER: D

16. What Is The Theme Of The 9th Global Technology Summit

- A. Viksit Bharat
- B. Digital Future
- C. Sambhavna
- D. Tech for All

ANSWER: C

17. How Many Total Medals Did India Win At ISSF World Cup Buenos Aires 2025

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

ANSWER: C

18. Which Book By Banu Mushtaq Was Shortlisted For The International Booker Prize

- A. Haseena and Other Stories
- B. Heart Lamp
- C. Light of Karnataka
- D. Protest Writings

ANSWER: B

19. Under What Brand Name Will BharatPe Expand Its Digital Payment Services

- A. BharatPe One
- B. BharatPay
- C. BharatPe X
- D. BharatNext

ANSWER: C

20. Thangjing Hill, Is Located In Which State

- A. Assam
- B. Sikkim
- C. Mizoram
- D. Manipur

ANSWER: C