

Daily Current Affairs

22 April 2025

World Earth Day

- **World Earth Day on 22 April is a global affair** focused on creating awareness about the environment and inspiring people to take action regarding its protection.
- The title of World Earth Day in 2025 is **“Our Power, Our Planet,”** which makes it clear that renewable power is urgently needed to address climate change and abuse of our environment. **It started in the United States first in 1970** and became a global movement involving more than 190 countries.



- The occasion serves as a **strong call to action for conservation of natural** resources, combating climate change, and halting biodiversity crisis. Earth Day has been celebrated with an annual theme that draws attention to major environmental concerns like plastic pollution, renewable resources, global warming, and sustainable living.



- **Tree planting, clean-up drives, educational campaigns,** and advocacy are among the activities performed by governments, organizations, schools, and communities globally. The purpose of Earth Day is to get people to make more environmentally sound decisions and stand behind policies that are earth-friendly.
- It really **stresses that whatever your age or wherever you live,** you can contribute toward making the Earth healthier and more sustainable.

Pope Francis Dies At 88

- In a solemn moment for the **Roman Catholic Church and the global community, Pope Francis, the first Latin American** and Jesuit pope in history, passed away at the age of 88, the Vatican announced.



- His death follows a **prolonged illness, with reports indicating** he had recently battled a serious case of double pneumonia. **Pope Francis leaves behind** a legacy that was marked by reform, compassion, controversy, and an unwavering commitment to social justice.



- Born **Jorge Mario Bergoglio on December 17, 1936**, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, he was the son of Italian immigrants. Known for his humble lifestyle and deep empathy for the **poor, Bergoglio's ascension to the papacy** on March 13, 2013, was a historic moment. At the age of 76, he was elected following the unprecedented **resignation of Pope Benedict XVI**—a decision that surprised the world and set a modern precedent.
- Francis's election was groundbreaking in many ways:
- He was the **first pope from the Americas**, The first Jesuit pope, And the first non-European pope in over 1,200 years. His appointment symbolized the Church's attempt to renew itself and respond to growing global diversity.

PM Modi Holds Talks With US Vice President

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with the **US Vice President J D Vance in New Delhi, where both leaders** reviewed the progress in various areas of bilateral cooperation. They welcomed the significant progress in the negotiations for a **mutually beneficial India-U.S. Bilateral Trade Agreement** focused on the welfare of the people of the two countries.



- They also noted continued efforts towards enhancing cooperation in energy, defence, **strategic technologies and other areas**. The two leaders also exchanged views on various regional and global issues of mutual interest and called for dialogue and diplomacy as the way forward.

PM Modi On 2 Day Official Visit To Saudi Arabia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to **embark on a two-day official visit to Saudi Arabia** starting today, at the invitation of **Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman**. During his visit, the Prime Minister will tour a factory and interact with Indian workers stationed there.



- The high-profile visit comes amid growing economic ties between the two nations. **Indian investment in Saudi Arabia** has increased significantly in recent years, **reaching approximately USD 3 billion as of August 2023**. These investments span diverse sectors including management and consultancy services, construction projects, telecommunications, information technology, financial services, software development, and pharmaceuticals.

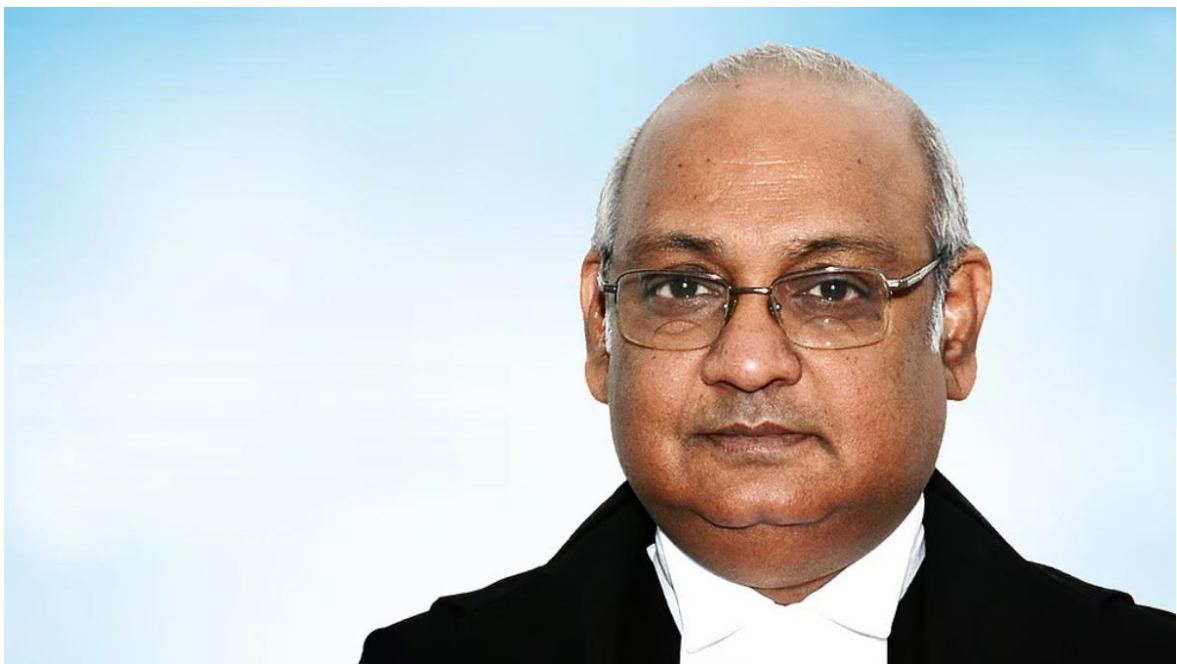


- This **marks his third visit to the country**. This visit underscores the deepening strategic partnership between India and Saudi Arabia, marked by robust cooperation in trade, energy, defence, and people-to-people ties.
- Prime Minister' trip comes at a **Crucial moment as Saudi Arabia accelerates its ambitious Vision 2030 agenda**, a comprehensive national strategy launched in

2016 to diversify the Kingdom's economy, empower its citizens, and position **Saudi Arabia as a global leader in innovation**, sustainability, and inclusive growth **The visit is expected to strengthen bilateral relations** further and facilitate new avenues of collaboration aligned with the transformative goals of Vision 2030, with India's global advocacy on gender equality.

Justice Dinesh Maheshwari

- **Justice (Retd.) Dinesh Maheshwari**, a former **Supreme Court judge**, has been appointed as the **Chairperson of the 23rd Law Commission of India** in April 2025. The announcement marks a crucial step in the government's ongoing efforts to review and recommend reforms in various aspects of Indian law, particularly the long-debated Uniform Civil Code (UCC).



- The 23rd Law Commission was **formally constituted on September 1, 2024**, with its term extending until August 31, 2027. It comprises a total of seven members, including:
- One Chairperson: Justice (Retd.) Dinesh Maheshwari
- Four full-time members: Including Hitesh Jain (a lawyer) and P. Verma (an academician who was also part of the 22nd Law Commission)
- **Two ex-officio members**: From the Department of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department

- In addition, the government may appoint up to five part-time members, and serving judges, if included, will function as full-time members until their retirement or end of the Commission's term.
- **A major agenda for the 23rd Commission will** be to examine the feasibility of implementing a Uniform Civil Code (UCC)—a politically and socially sensitive subject in India. **The UCC aims to replace personal laws** based on religion or community with a common set of civil laws applicable to all citizens. The 22nd Law Commission, formed earlier, initiated nationwide consultations on the UCC in 2023, collecting public input from over 70 consultations.



- **It had drafted a 749-page preliminary report**, but the process was incomplete after its then-chairperson, **Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi**, was appointed as Lokpal.
- The 21st Law Commission, in its 2018 report, had opined that UCC was “neither necessary nor desirable at this stage”, creating a divergence in policy direction.
- **The 23rd Commission is now expected to revisit** and finalize recommendations on this contentious issue, taking into account the changing socio-legal environment in the country.

New York Declares April 14 As Dr B.R. Ambedkar Day

- **New York City Mayor Eric Adams** declared April 14, 2025, as Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Day, honouring the 135th birth anniversary of the Indian Constitution's architect.



- **Born in 1891, Dr. Ambedkar, known as Babasaheb**, led the drafting of India's Constitution, served as Minister of Law and Justice, advocated for Dalit rights, and earned a PhD from Columbia University in 1927, followed by an honorary degree in 1952.

World's First Fully Renewable- Powered City

- **Amaravati, the planned capital of Andhra Pradesh**, is on track to become the world's first city powered entirely by renewable energy. Envisioned by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, this **ambitious project aligns with India's** commitment to clean energy and climate-conscious urbanization.
- Located between Vijayawada and Guntur, Amaravati is being designed as a modern, **eco-friendly "people's capital"**, setting a global benchmark in sustainable city planning.



- The foundation of this monumental initiative is expected to be laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, symbolizing national support for green development. **The new capital city will cover 217 square kilometres** along the banks of the Krishna River, forming part of the larger Andhra Pradesh Capital Region, which spans 8,352 sq km.
- **With a project cost estimated at ₹65,000 crore**, Amaravati is being developed as an eco-conscious urban center focused on clean energy, efficient infrastructure, and smart planning.



- One of the most striking features of Amaravati's development is its commitment **to generating 2,700 megawatts (MW) of electricity from solar, wind, and hydropower sources**. This figure not only matches the city's projected energy demand by 2050 but also ensures complete reliance on renewable energy—making the use of fossil fuels obsolete in the city's ecosystem.
- Currently, the **planners aim to have at least 30% of this electricity sourced** from solar and wind energy alone.

Asian U-15 & U-17 Championships

- India kicked off its campaign at the **Asian U-15 & U-17 Boxing Championships** in Amman, Jordan with two dominant wins on the opening day. **Hardik Dahiya (43kg) and Rudraksh Singh (46kg)** secured commanding victories in the preliminary round, marking a strong start for the Indian team.
- This tournament is the first to be organized by Asian Boxing, under the endorsement of both the **Olympic Council of Asia and the newly formed World Boxing**.



- India has fielded a robust **56-member youth boxing squad**, consisting of 30 Under-15 and 26 Under-17 boxers, for the prestigious continental event. The U-15 lineup includes promising talents like Ravi Sihag, a bronze medalist from the 2024 Asian School Boys Championship, and Trushna Mohite, the 2024 sub-junior national girls boxing champion (64-67 kg).

- **In the U-17 boys' category**, Sahil Duhan and Devansh, silver and bronze medalists at the 2024 Asian Junior Championship, lead the charge, alongside Tikam Singh, the 2024 SGFI gold medallist.



- **Among the U-17 girls**, Samiksha Singh, Anshika, and Khushi Chand have already proven their mettle with medals at the 2024 Asian School Boys & Girls Boxing Championships in Al Ain, UAE. Indian boxers continued their strong run at the **Asian U-15 & U-17 Boxing Championships in Amman, Jordan**, with three commanding wins on Day 2.
- **Tikam Singh (52kg) dominated Ali Almesmari of UAE**, sealing the bout with a Referee Stopped Contest (RSC) in the third round. **Udham Singh (54kg) outboxed Iran's Mohammadparsa Motevalianastanehsari** to register a clean 5-0 victory. In the 57kg category, Rahul Gariya overwhelmed Chinese Taipei's Li Shou-Xun, securing an RSC win in the opening round.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. World Earth Day Celebrated On

- A. April 13
- B. April 14
- C. April 21
- D. April 22

ANSWER: D

2. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Day Officially Declared By Mayor Of Which City

- A. Chicago
- B. Toronto
- C. London
- D. New York City

ANSWER: D

3. From Where Was The Aryabhata Satellite Launched

- A. Sriharikota
- B. Baikonur
- C. Thumba
- D. Kapustin Yar

ANSWER: B

4. NISAR Is A Joint Earth Observation Satellite Mission Developed By Which Two Space Agencies

- A. NASA & ISRO
- B. ESA & JAXA
- C. ISRO & CNSA
- D. ESA & NASA

ANSWER: A

5. Koraput Kalajeera Rice Got GI Status, Is Cultivated In Which State

- A. Punjab
- B. Odisha
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Uttar Pradesh

ANSWER: B

6. What Material Has ISRO Indigenously Developed As An Alternative To Imported Columbium

- A. Titanium
- B. Inconel
- C. Stellite
- D. Graphene

ANSWER: C

7. Which Indian Company Involved In First Defence Mou Signed Between India And Slovakia

- A. Bharat Electronics Ltd.
- B. DRDO
- C. Larsen & Toubro
- D. Airbornics Defence & Space Pvt . Ltd.

ANSWER: D

8. Who Has Been Appointed As The New Director General Of The ICAR

- A. Dr Ramesh Chand
- B. Dr Himanshu Jain
- C. Dr Mangi Lal Jat
- D. Dr Trilochan Mohapatra

ANSWER: C

9. Which Indian State Approved A Draft Ordinance To Implement The Sub-Categorisation Of The Scheduled Castes In The State

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Telangana
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Karnataka

ANSWER: C

10. When Is Civil Services Day Observed In India

- A. 25th April
- B. 22nd April
- C. 21st April
- D. 26th April

ANSWER: C

11. Which Country Has Introduced The World's Highest Bridge, Called The Huajiang Grand Canyon Bridge

- A. Japan
- B. South Korea
- C. China
- D. Thailand

ANSWER: C

12. Mahadev Koli Tribe Is Primarily Found In Which State

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Odisha
- C. Jharkhand
- D. Bihar

ANSWER: A

13. Where Was The 6th Asian Under-18 (U18) Athletics Championship 2025 Held

- A. Indonesia
- B. Saudi Arabia
- C. India
- D. Thailand

ANSWER: B

14. Name Of The Initiative Recently Launched By BRICS Nations To Combat Land Degradation And Soil Fertility Loss

- A. BRICS Land Restoration Partnership
- B. BRICS Green Deal
- C. BRICS Sustainable Farming Alliance
- D. BRICS Soil Health Mission

ANSWER: A

15. On Which Date Is World Liver Day Observed Annually To Raise Awareness About Liver Diseases

- A. April 19
- B. April 20
- C. April 24
- D. April 29

ANSWER: A

16. In Which Country Are The Asian Under-15 And Under-17 Boxing Championships, Featuring A 56-member Indian Squad, Being Held

- A. Thailand
- B. Uzbekistan
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Jordan

ANSWER: D

17. Who Has Become The First-ever Brand Ambassador From India For The French Luxury Brand Chanel

- A. Ananya Panday
- B. Deepika Padukone
- C. Alia Bhatt
- D. Janhvi Kapoor

ANSWER: A

18. What Milestone Anniversary Did BSE Celebrate When BSE 150 Index Was Launched

- A. 100th
- B. 125th
- C. 150th
- D. 175th

ANSWER: C

19. Which Coal PSU Is Set To Become The First In India To Adopt Paste-fill Technology For Coal Mining

- A. Western Coalfields Limited
- B. South Eastern Coalfields Limited
- C. Central Coalfields Limited
- D. Northern Coalfields Limited

ANSWER: B

20. The Minister Of The Gahadvala King Govindachandra And Author Of Kalpadruma Was

- A. Apararka
- B. Chandesvara
- C. Lakshmidhara
- D. Vijnanesvara

ANSWER: C

