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History of 3rd April

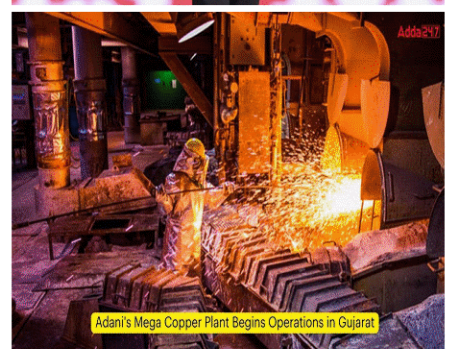
- ◆ **1984** : **Rakesh Sharma** became the first Indian astronaut to go to space in the **Russian space-craft Soyuz T-11**.
- ◆ **1999** : **India** launched the first **global logistics satellite INSAT 1E**.
- ◆ **1903** : **Freedom fighter** and social reformer **Kamla Devi Chattopadhyay** was born.
- ◆ **1680** : **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**, the founder of the **Maratha Empire in India**, died in Raigarh.

Current Affairs Related to 3rd April

- ◆ **In the financial year 2025**, the **GNPA ratio of scheduled commercial banks** will improve to 2.1.2.4%. GNPA ratio of SCB has been declining since March 2019. The gross non-performing assets ratio of scheduled commercial banks has fallen to 3.9% in FY 2023, which is the lowest level in a decade. The asset quality has improved due to higher write offs by recovery banks, much less slippage etc.
- ◆ **A database launched by India to record crimes against UN peacekeepers**. This new database is designed to record crimes against UN peacekeepers and monitor progress in holding perpetrators accountable. This database will act as an online repository, empowering the Secretariat missions. It will help Member States to monitor and resolve cases of malicious acts against peacekeepers.
- ◆ **An MoU was signed between India's leading space consortium SIA India and Brazil's leading satellite communications consortium ABR SAT**. The objective of this cooperation is to increase cooperation and progress in the space sector of both the countries. The MoU also aims to explore new market dynamics, infrastructure development and private investment, thereby providing a platform to industry leaders to capitalize on the emerging potential.
- ◆ **The Armed Forces Act 1958 was extended by the Central Government to eight districts** of Nagaland and 21 police stations in five districts. The Central Government declared them as disturbed areas for a period of six months, unless earlier withdrawn.
- ◆ **PR Sreejesh and Camilla Carrom have been appointed as co-chairs of the new FIH Athlete Committee** of the International Hockey Federation. The FIH Athletes Committee plays the role of an advisory body.
- ◆ **The lower house of France's parliament has passed a bill that would ban discrimination based on hair texture, length, color or style**. This bill will amend existing anti-discrimination measures in the Labor Code. This bill will support Black people who face discrimination in the workplace because of their hair. This bill has been approved by 44 MLAs, while two have voted against it. This will become law after the approval of the Senate.
- ◆ **LIC, GIC RE and New India Assurance Company will continue as domestic systemically important insurers**. LIC and New India are the largest life and general insurance companies in India. GIC Re is the only Indian reinsurer. The failure of these DSIs would disturb the domestic financial system.
- ◆ **India and Ukraine held talks focused on conflict resolution to strengthen bilateral relations**. The talks held at Hyderabad House focused on the ongoing conflict and its wider implications.
- ◆ **\$3.63 billion was invested in Indian equities by foreign institutional investors in March**. This was their biggest buying activity since December 2023. Overall, they made market investments of about Rs 52,467 crore, hitting a four-year high. Apart from India, FI chose to invest in Taiwan, Indonesia and South Korea.
- ◆ **President Draupadi Murmu presented Bharat Ratna awards to former Prime Ministers Chaudhary Charan Singh and PV Narasimha Rao**, former Bihar Chief Minister Karpuri Thakur, eminent scientist MS Swaminathan and Deputy Prime Minister LK Advani. Lal Krishna Advani will be honored with Bharat Ratna at his residence. PV Prabhakar Rao received the award from the President on behalf of his father PV Narasimha Rao.

National & International Current Affairs

1. Recently, when will the Space Science and Technology Awareness Training-2024 program be launched by ISRO?
(A) April-May (B) May-June
(C) July-August (D) November-December
(A) Space Science and Technology Awareness Training 2024 to be launched by ISRO. ISRO has invited expressions of interest for START 2024 program from educational institutions/universities/colleges in India. START-2024 program will be organized during April-May 2024. START is an entry level online training in Space Science and Technology for UG and PG students.
2. Recently, when and how long will the Indian Air Force Gagan Shakti 2024 exercise be conducted?
(A) From 1st to 7th April (B) From 1st to 8th April
(C) From 1st to 9th April (D) From 1st to 10th April.
(D) The Indian Air Force will conduct Exercise Gagan Shakti-2024 from 1 to 7 April. The exercise will cover all Air Force bases and assets across the country. The exercise was last conducted in 2018. In this, an attempt was made to test the preparedness of the Indian Air Force for a war on two fronts with China and Pakistan.
3. Who recently hosted the 6th Shastra Rapid FIDE Rated Chess Tournament?
(A) IIT Mumbai (B) IIT Delhi
(C) IIT Madras (D) IIT Bengaluru
(C) Indian Institute of Technology Madras hosted the 6th Shastra Rapid FIDE Rated Chess Tournament. More than 35 players from IIT Madras participated in this event. It also highlighted the presence of six Grandmasters, sixteen International Masters, three Female Grandmasters and one Female International Master.
4. Who has recently become the first Bangladeshi Empire to join the ICC Elite Panel?
(A) Imran Parvez (B) Sharfuddola Ibne
(C) Masoodur Rahman (D) None of these
(B) Sharfuddola has created history by becoming the first Bangladeshi umpire to be appointed to the ICC Elite Panel of Umpires. Their proposal was confirmed following the International Cricket Council's annual review and selection process. Sharfuddaula made his international debut as an international member and umpire since 2006 in an ODI match between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka at Mirpur in January 2010.
5. Who has recently become the biggest attractor of foreign funds in Asia?
(A) India (B) Sri Lanka
(C) Russia (D) China
(A) Foreign Electronic Commerce made a huge investment of \$3.63 billion in Indian retail, which was their biggest purchase in December 2023. India ranked top for foreign investors in Asian stocks. Domestic investors maintained product momentum as they invested Rs 52,467 crore in the Indian market, the highest level in four years.



6. Recently LCA Tejas MK-1A Where has it completed its first flight?

- (A) Bengaluru (B) Jaipur
(C) Kolkata (D) Madras

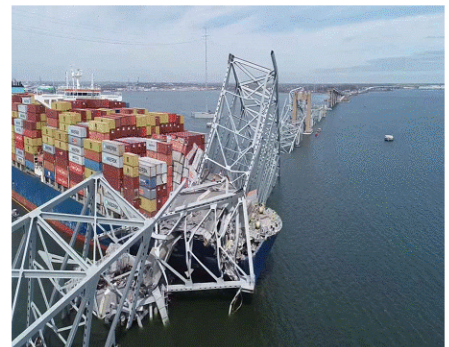
(A) LCA Tejas Mark 1A The first successful flight was completed at the HAL facility in Bengaluru. This fighter aircraft remained in the air for 18 minutes during its flight. Tejas Mark 1A. It is a modern and 4+ generation fighter aircraft. The fuse can be filled with air, which further increases its capacity.



7. In which country is the Baltimore Bridge, which was in the news recently?

- (A) Brazil (B) France
(C) China (D) USA

(D) A major accident occurred in Baltimore city of Maryland, America. Here a big ship from Singapore collided with a pillar of the bridge, due to which a part of the Francis Scott Bridge fell into the river. Singapore's cargo ship named Dali was going from Baltimore Port to Colombo, Sri Lanka.



8. Where has Adani's mega copper plant started operations recently?

- (A) Gujarat (B) Haryana
(C) Maharashtra (D) Telangana

(A) The first phase of the world's largest single-site copper manufacturing plant begins operations. Gautam Adani-led conglomerate launched the first phase of the world's largest single-site copper manufacturing plant in Mudra, Gujarat. Kutch Copper, a subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited, commissioned the first phase of its \$1.2 billion greenfield copper refinery.



9. Who has been recently appointed as the MD&CEO of Bank of Maharashtra?

- (A) RK Singh (B) Kamal Kishore
(C) Nidhi Saxena (D) None of these

(C) Bank of Maharashtra jumped 5.68% to Rs 62.55 after the Central Government approved the appointment of Nidhi Saxena as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the bank for a period of three years. Nidhi Saxena has studied B.Com, MBA and CAIIB.



10. Who has recently won the prestigious Times Power Icon 2024 Award?

- (A) Prateek Joshi (B) Vijay Jain
(C) Samarth Mital (D) None of these

(B) Recently, at a glittering event to honor top industry leaders, Vijay Jain, Managing Director, Star Estate, was honored with the prestigious Times Power Icon 2024 Award. The awards ceremony held recently in Noida was organized by The Times Group.

