

Current Affairs: 09.04.2021

Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal launches “NanoSniffer”, World’s First Microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector



The Union Education Minister, **Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank’** launched the world’s first Microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD) called “NanoSniffer” on April 09, 2021. The ETD has been developed by NanoSniff Technologies, an IIT Bombay incubated startup.

Key features of NanoSniffer

- It is a 100% Made in India product in terms of research, development & manufacturing.
- The affordable device will reduce the dependency of the country on imported explosive trace detector devices.
- The device can detect explosives in less than 10 seconds.
- It also identifies and categorizes explosives into different classes.
- NanoSniffer can detect all classes of military, conventional and homemade explosives.
- It gives visible & audible alerts with sunlight-readable color display.
- The device will encourage other institutions, startups and medium-scale industries to research & develop products indigenously and thereby move a step towards Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s vision of a self-reliant India.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman attends 103rd Development Committee Meeting of World Bank-IMF Virtually



Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs **Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman** participated in the **103rd Meeting of the Development Committee** Plenary on April 09, 2021, via video conferencing.

The main agenda of the conference was:

- World Bank Group (WBG) and International Monetary Fund Support for Debt Relief Under the Common Framework and Beyond;
- COVID-19 pandemic: World Bank Group Support for Fair and Affordable Access to Vaccines by Developing Countries;
- From COVID-19 Crisis Response to Resilient Recovery – Saving Lives and Livelihoods while Supporting Green, Resilient and Inclusive Development (GRID).

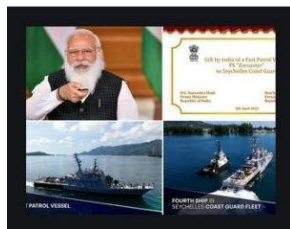
As a part of the meeting, Sitharaman also informed that the Government of India has announced Aatma Nirbhar Packages of **Rs 27.1 trillion**, which

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amounts to more than 13% of the GDP. These packages would provide social protection to poor and vulnerable as well as push forward the economic reforms.

India gifts Rs 100 crore patrol vessel “PS Zoroaster” to Seychelles



India formally handed over **Rs 100 crore** patrol vessel “**PS Zoroaster**” to Seychelles on April 08, 2021 during the virtual summit between Indian **PM Narendra Modi** and Seychelles **President Wavel Ramkalawan**. The PS Zoroaster is the **fourth made-in-India patrol boat** developed for Seychelles since 2005. The other vessels gifted by India include PS Topaz (2005), PS Constant (2014), Patrol Boat Hermes (2016). The 48.9-metre patrol boat has been built by **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineering** at an estimated cost of **Rs 100 crore**. The vessel has a top speed of 35 knots and an endurance of 1,500 nautical miles. It will be used for multi-purpose operations, such as patrolling, anti-smuggling and anti-poaching operations, and search and rescue.

Other projects launched

- Both the leaders inaugurated the new magistrates’ court building in Mahe, constructed with a \$3.5-million grant from India.
- India also handed over 1 MW solar power plant at Romainville Island of Seychelles built at a cost of \$3.4 million by the Government of India
- 10 High Impact Community Development Projects were also inaugurated.

PM Modi releases Hindi version of the book ‘Odisha Itihaas’

On April 09, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the **Hindi translation of the book ‘Odisha Itihaas’ (Odisha History)**, written by **Dr Harekrushna Mahtab, the former freedom fighter and first Chief Minister of Odisha**. The book was till now available in Odia and English. It has been translated into Hindi by **Shankarlal Purohit**. Mahtab was popularly known by the name “Utkal Keshari”. He served as Chief Minister of Odisha from 1946 to 1950 and from 1956 to 1961.

Dutee Chand selected for inaugural Chhattisgarh Veerni Award

Indian sprinter Dutee Chand, has been chosen for the **inaugural edition of the Chhattisgarh Veerni Award**, by the Chhattisgarh state government

The award, which recognises contribution of Indian women in different fields, including sports, will be given virtually on April 14, 2021. The Odisha sprinter became the first Indian woman to win a gold medal at the World University Games held in Italy in 2019. She is silver-medalist in 100 and 200 metres at the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games.



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- Apart from this, Dutee, holds the national record of 11.22 secs in 100m.



World Homeopathy Day: 10 April

World Homeopathy Day is celebrated every year on April 10 to spread awareness about homoeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine.

The day marks the birth anniversary of **German physician Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann**, who is considered as the founder of system of alternative medicine called Homeopathy. The year 2021 marks the **266th birthday of Hanhemann**.

International Convention on World Homoeopathy Day

- The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), Ministry of AYUSH, organised a two day **scientific conference** on the occasion of **#WorldHomoeopathyDay** from April 10 & 11, 2021 in New Delhi.
- The theme of the conference is “**Homoeopathy – Roadmap for Integrative Medicine**”
- **Objective** : exchange of experience by policy makers and experts to identify strategic actions towards an effective and efficient inclusion of Homoeopathy in integrative care.