

Current Affairs=23-04-2020

World Book Day: 23 April

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) organises the World Book Day every year on 23 April to promote reading, publishing, and copyright in the society.

The day is also known as World Book and Copyright Day or International Day of the Book. **The theme** of 2020 World Book Day is **SHARE A STORY**. In United Kingdom, the day is observed on first Thursday of March.

UN English Language Day & UN Spanish Language Day : 23 April

The UN English Language Day and UN Spanish Language Day is observed annually on 23 April. They are one of the six official languages used by the United Nations throughout the Organization.

Each language has been assigned a day of celebration by UN's Department of Public Information in 2010 to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity as well as to promote equal use of all six official languages throughout the Organization. **For English, 23 April has been chosen to mark both the birthday and date of death of William Shakespeare.**

P.V. Sindhu selected as ambassador for BWF's "I Am badminton" awareness campaign

Indian badminton champion, P.V. Sindhu has been selected as one of the ambassadors for Badminton World Federation (BWF)'s "I am badminton" awareness campaign. The campaign provides a platform for players to express their love and respect for badminton by advocating and committing to clean and honest play.

Adam Higginbotham Wins 2020 William E. Colby Award for 'Midnight in Chernobyl'

Adam Higginbotham has been awarded with the 2020 William E. Colby Military Writers' Award for his book "**Midnight in Chernobyl: The Untold Story of the World's Greatest Nuclear Disaster**". The \$5,000 prize is presented annually by the Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont for an outstanding book on military or intelligence history.



Karnataka govt launches Mobile app “Apthamitra” and helpline number to fight COVID-19

Karnataka Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa has inaugurated a helpline number and a mobile app named ‘Apthamitra’ to empower the people of the state in the fight against COVID-19.

The Apthamitra helpline is an exclusive toll free Number 14410 dedicated to deal with only Covid-19-related queries including telemedicine, counselling and facilitating testing and treatment for those in need. It will work from 8 AM to 8 PM.

IIIT-Delhi Develops Mobile App ‘WashKaro’ to warn about COVID-19 containment zones & filter fake news

Researchers at Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-Delhi) have developed an app named ‘WashKaro’ to warn people about a coronavirus containment zone nearby as well as help them to check whether a news item about the pandemic is genuine or fake.

The app has been developed by a team led by professor Ponnurangam Kumaraguru and Dr Tavpritesh Sethi along with five students.

India ranked 142nd in World Press Freedom Index 2020; Top- Norway

India has been ranked at 142nd position in the World Press Freedom Index 2020 out of 180 countries. **The Index has been topped by Norway.** The index is released every year by “**Reporters Without Border**”. India has dropped two places from last year’s ranking.

North Korea is ranked last in 180th position.

Facebook buys 9.9% stake in Reliance Jio for Rs 43,574 crore

Social Media giant Facebook on April 22, 2020 has bought 9.9% stake in Reliance Jio for \$5.7 billion (Rs 43,574 crore). With this investment, Facebook has become the largest minority shareholder of Reliance Jio , the telecom unit of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL). Following the Facebook’s investment, the Jio Platform has been valued at Rs 4.62 lakh crore (\$65.95 billion).

TCS to power Israel’s first fully digital bank

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) will launch Israel’s first fully digital bank. TCS is India’s largest software services firm.

TCS has been selected by Israel’s Ministry of Finance to transform its banking sector