

International

UK appointed its first woman high commissioner, Lindy Cameron to India



- ❖ Lindy Cameron, the former CEO of the UK's National Cyber Security Centre, will take over as the country's first-ever woman high commissioner to India.
- ❖ Cameron's appointment comes 70 years after India appointed Vijaylakshmi Pandit as its high commissioner in London in 1954.
- ❖ Cameron has previously served in Iraq and Afghanistan
- ❖ India is the UK's 12th-largest trade partner.

PhonePe partners with eSewa, HAN Pokhara to promote UPI in Nepal



- ❖ Fintech firm PhonePe has partnered with Nepal's digital wallet service eSewa and the Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN) Pokhara to promote digital payments through UPI.

- ❖ The partnership is a part of the Fewa New Year Festival which started from April 11-14 in Nepal.
- ❖ PhonePe CEO: Sameer Nigam
- ❖ Parent organization: Walmart
- ❖ Headquarters: Maharashtra

National

Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024: India ranks third with 67 unicorns.



- ❖ According to the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024, India for the first time recorded a decline in unicorn creation since 2017.
- ❖ India in 2023 had 67 unicorns, which is 1 less than 68 such startups last year.
- ❖ 1st - USA - 703 unicorns
- ❖ 2nd - China - 340 unicorns.
- ❖ UK and EU ranked No 4 and No 5 in the list, respectively.
- ❖ The total value of the world's unicorns have reached US\$5 trillion

Statue of Valour, unveiled in Jorhat, Assam, is in news:



- ❖ The Statue of Valour is a monumental 125-foot structure dedicated to the memory of Lachit Borphukan, a revered Ahom general celebrated for his leadership in the Battle of Saraighat in 1671.
- ❖ This battle was pivotal in preventing the Mughal army from capturing Assam.
- ❖ He was chosen as 1 of 5 Borphukans of Ahom kingdom by king Charadhvaj Singha.
- ❖ He had administrative, judicial, military powers.

Maharashtra

Pune has the highest number of voters in the state



- ❖ About nine and a half crore voters in 48 constituencies of Maharashtra will exercise their right to vote for the Lok Sabha elections. In terms of number of voters, Pune district is leading in the state and has the highest number of voters compared to other districts. In four districts namely Nandurbar, Gondia, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, the number of female voters is higher than male voters.
- ❖ More than 82 lakh voters in Pune
- ❖ The total number of voters of Pune is 82 lakh 82 thousand 363. The total number of voters in Mumbai suburbs is 73 lakh 56 thousand 596. The total number of

voters in Thane is 65 lakh 79 thousand 588, the total number of voters in Nashik district is 48 lakh 08 thousand 499. The total number of voters in Nagpur is 42 lakh 72 thousand 366.

Economic

HDFC becomes first private bank to open branch in Lakshadweep.



- ❖ Private lender HDFC Bank opened a branch at Kavaratti Island in Lakshadweep.
- ❖ Lakshadweep Tourism Officer - Imthias Mohammed T B.
- ❖ The islands are also poised for a substantial Rs 3,600 crore boost in infrastructure, including new ports, roads, and beachfront amenities.
- ❖ HDFC Bank/Headquarters: Mumbai
- ❖ Founded: August 1994
- ❖ CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan

Sports News

Rashmi Kumari bagged national women's carrom title for the 12th time



- ❖ Rashmi Kumari secured her record 12th National Women's Singles title, defeating K Nagajothi in the 51st National Carrom Championship.
- ❖ K Srinivas claimed his fourth National Men's Singles title, including seven white slams.
- ❖ The championship, featuring 237 men & 174 women competitors from across India, highlighted national carrom excellence with participants from 12 institutions & 27 States.

Awards

Dr Gagandeep Kang won John Dirks Gairdner global health award



- ❖ Dr. Gagandeep Kang has been awarded the prestigious John Dirks Global Health Award.
- ❖ The Gairdner Foundation of Canada provides this award.
- ❖ She has been acknowledged for her impactful work on child health in India, emphasizing the global recognition of scientific endeavors.
- ❖ She is presently the Director of Global Health at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Obituaries News

Sarvodaya leader Murari Lal passed away



- ❖ Social worker and a leader of the Sarvodaya and Chipko movements, Murari Lal, died at the age of 91.
- ❖ He devoted his entire life to social work.
- ❖ He was the president of Dasholi Gram Swarajya Mandal, the mother organisation of the Chipko movement.
- ❖ Lal is known for making the barren land in his village green and creating innovative models for the conservation of natural resources.

Miscellaneous News

Navy Chief inaugurated new facilities at Karnataka's Karwar naval base



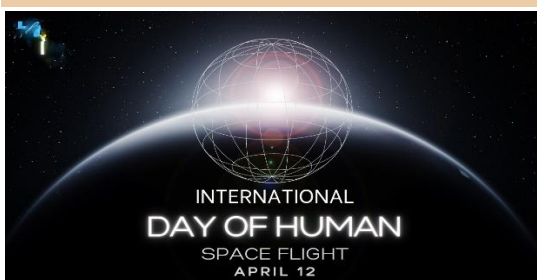
- ❖ Admiral R. Hari Kumar has inaugurated a 350m long pier at Naval Base Karwar.
- ❖ Project Seabird Phase IIA has been developed to accommodate 32 ships/subs, air station & logistics.

- ❖ The pier would provide various shore-based services, such as electrical power, potable water, chilled water for air conditioning, 30-tonne mobile cranes and other domestic services to the ships.

Important Days

International Day of Human Space

Flight: 12th April



- ❖ The UN General Assembly, in its resolution of 7 April 2011, declared 12 April as the International Day of Human Space Flight.
- ❖ On 4 October 1957 the 1st human-made Earth satellite Sputnik I was launched into outer space, thus opening the way for space exploration.
- ❖ On 12 April 1961, Yuri Gagarin became the 1st human to orbit the Earth, opening a new chapter of human endeavour in outer space.

