

04<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## Forbes world's billionaires 2024

Forbes released its annual list of the world's billionaires which showed 141 more billionaires in the world than last year, with 2,781 in total.

There are also 26 new billionaires on the list and their combined net worth up by \$1.1 trillion.



### Key point

Which country has the most billionaires?

- ❖ US has a record 813 billionaires — the most of any country while China has 473 billionaires and India has 200.

Who's most rich as per Forbes list?

- ❖ Bernard Arnault and his family are at number one with a net worth of \$233 billion. Bernard Arnault is head of LVMH and is followed by Elon Musk with a net worth of \$195 billion. Coming in at No. 3 is Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, who has a net worth of \$195 billion followed by Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, who is worth \$177 billion.



Who is the wealthiest woman on the list?

- ❖ Françoise Bettencourt Meyers, the granddaughter of the founder of L'Oreal is the richest woman in the world and is worth \$99.5 billion.

## India and Nepal agree to promote Sanskrit research and education



### Key point

- ❖ Nepalese and Indian Sanskrit scholars have proposed to organise an International Sanskrit Conference every year and set up a study centre to conduct research and arrange publication of Sanskrit scriptures, especially the manuscripts found in the Himalayan nation
- ❖ The prime objective of the international conference was to

strengthen the Nepal-Indian relations and promote Sanskrit education in Nepal and India.

- ❖ The three-day conclave organised by the Niti Anusandhan Pratisthan in collaboration with the Central Sanskrit University, Delhi, and India Foundation, Delhi, saw the participation of over 120 Sanskrit scholars, professors and government officials from both the neighbouring countries.

**Defence exports touch record Rs 21,083 crore in FY 2023-24**



#### Key point

- ❖ Defence exports have touched a record Rs 21,083 crore (approx. US\$ 2.63 Billion) in the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24, a growth of 32.5% over the last fiscal when the figure was Rs 15,920 crore.
- ❖ The recent figures indicate that the defence exports have grown by 31 times in the last 10 years as compared to FY 2013-14.

**UPI transactions worth ₹199 lakh crore processed**



#### Key point

- ❖ The Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is going from strength to strength. The transactions on UPI ended FY24 on a strong high both, in terms of value and volume.
- ❖ In FY24, the UPI platform processed 13,115 crore transactions, aggregating to ₹199.29 lakh crore, compared to 8,376 crore transactions worth ₹139 lakh crore in FY23, a rise of almost 57% in volume and 43% in value, respectively.

**GST collection rises 11.5% to ₹1.78 lakh crore in March**



#### Key point

- ❖ India's Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue for March 2024 reached ₹1.78 lakh crore (1,78,484 crore), the second-highest collection ever, according to the data released by the Ministry of Finance.
- ❖ This surge was driven by a significant rise in GST collection from domestic transactions at 17.6%.
- ❖ GST revenue net of refunds for March 2024 is ₹1.65 lakh crore which is growth of 18.4% over same period last year.

**Taiwan's strongest earthquake in 25 years kills 9 people**



Key point -

- ❖ Taiwan's biggest earthquake in at least 25 years killed nine people on Wednesday and injured more than 900, while 50 workers travelling in minibuses to a hotel in a national park were missing.
- ❖ Some buildings tilted at precarious angles in the mountainous, sparsely populated county of Hualien, near the epicentre of the 7.2 magnitude quake, which struck just offshore at about 8 a. m. (0000 GMT) and triggered massive landslides.

