

Short News -

- ❖ Uttar Pradesh has received GI registration for 14 new products, including 9 products from Varanasi region, i.e. Purvanchal.
- ❖ Thandai, red peda of the religious and tourist city of Banaras, along with red stuffed chillies, Karonda of Chiraiyaon, Shehnai and Tabla of Banaras, mural painting and Munj craft along with Imarti of Jaunpur have received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. With this, Purvanchal including Varanasi has become a hub of GI with 32 products, while Uttar Pradesh has reached the first position in the country, leaving behind Tamil Nadu with 69 GI tags.
- ❖ Apart from the Varanasi region, Sanjhi craft of Mathura, flute of Pilibhit, bone craft of Sambhal, patch work of Rampur, wooden craft and toys of Chitrakoot have also received the GI tag.



- ❖ President Draupadi Murmu posthumously awarded the country's highest civilian honour Bharat Ratna to 4 personalities. These include former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh, former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, former Bihar Chief Minister Karpuri Thakur and agricultural scientist Dr MS Swaminathan.
 - The Centre had announced to give Bharat Ratna award to 5 personalities this year.
 - With the addition of the 5 celebrities of 2024, the number of recipients of this honor so far has reached 53.
 - Earlier this honor was given only while alive, but in 1955 Bharat Ratna started being given posthumously also.
 - Senior BJP leader Lal Krishna Advani was also awarded the country's highest civilian honour, Bharat Ratna. President Draupadi Murmu went to his house and honoured him with Bharat Ratna.



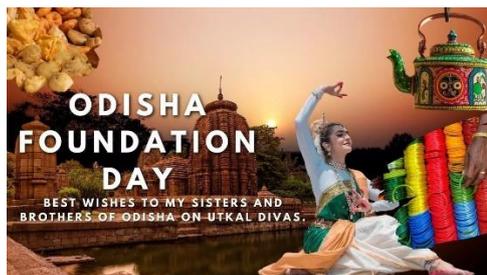
❖ The Union Home Ministry has extended the AFSPA (Armed Forces Special Powers Act) for 6 months in four districts of Assam Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Charaideo and Sivasagar . It will be in force from April 1 to

September 30, 2024. The Act was last extended on October 1, 2023, this time expired on March 31.

- AFSPA is implemented only in disturbed areas.
- At these places, security forces can arrest anyone without a warrant.
- In many cases, force may be used. This law was passed on 11 September 1958 for the convenience of security forces in the Northeast.

Important Dates/Days

Date	Day	Main Point
1st April	Odisha Foundation Day	<p>On 1 April 1936, 'Odisha' (Orissa at that time) was separated from Bihar and made a new state</p> <p>The newly formed Odisha (formerly Orissa) included six districts. Their names are as follows - Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, Sambalpur, Koraput and Ganjam, after which their number increased</p> <p>Odisha is bordered by Jharkhand to the north, West Bengal to the north-east, Andhra Pradesh to the south and Chhattisgarh to the west.</p>



Famous Personalities- Appointments

Arnab Banerjee

- ❖ Arnab Banerjee, Managing Director (MD) and CEO of CEAT Limited, has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association (ATMA). He has replaced Anshuman Singhania, MD of JK Tyre and Industries.



Sreejesh

- ❖ The International Hockey Federation (FIH) appointed three-time Olympian and Indian hockey team goalkeeper PR Sreejesh as the co-president of the FIH Athletes Committee. Sreejesh was first elected as a member of the FIH Athletes Committee in 2017.
 - Sreejesh was awarded the Arjuna Award in 2015 and the Padma Shri Award in 2017.



Famous Personalities - Death

Superstar Louis Gossett

- ❖ Hollywood actor Louis Gossett Jr. died on March 28 in Santa Monica, California.
 - He was awarded the Oscar for the film 'An Officer and a Gentleman'.
 - Louis Gossett Jr. is the first black actor to win an Oscar.



Important Book

Code Dependent: Living in the Shadow of AI

- ❖ Indian-British journalist and commentator Madhumita Murgia's book, which explores the impact of AI on human society, has been shortlisted for the inaugural 2024 Women's Prize for Non-Fiction.

Important Current Affairs from other states

- ❖ Six traditional crafts of Assam have received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag with the support of NABARD, Regional Office, Guwahati.

- The newly added names in the list of GI tags are Jaapi, Bihu Dhol, Sarthebari Metal Craft, Asharikandi Terracotta Craft, Pani Mateka Craft and Missing Handloom Products.

