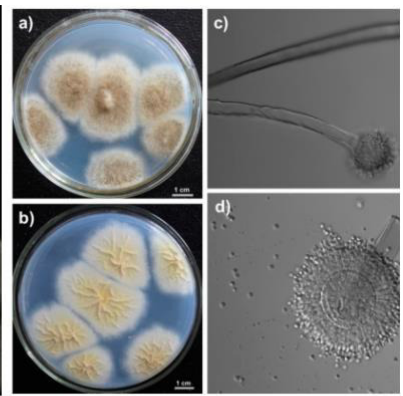
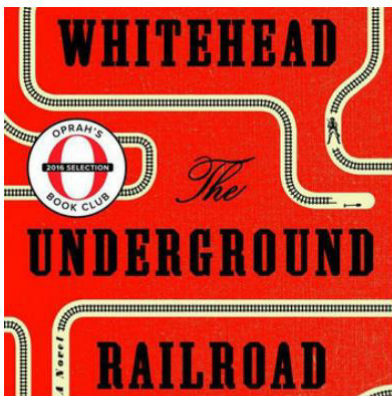


Current Affairs: April, 2017




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विद्युत मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

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1. **Urja Mitra App/Rural Feeder Monitoring Scheme**

Government has launched the scheme to monitor the quantity and Quality parameters of Power Supply in rural areas of country. Data will be hosted on national power Portal with December 2017 be the deadline to start Rural Feeder Monitoring 100%, and Geo-Tag them to check faults. URJA MITRA APP is a Pan India android and iOS app for enabling Citizens to report Outage Information.

2. **250th Anniversary of Survey of India**

Open Series Maps or Topographic maps were launched having natural and man-made features. Survey of India was launched in 1767 and national Map Policy 2005 has set new rules to it. A web Portal *Nakshe* to download maps in pdf is launched too. On 10 April, 1802, Great Trigonometric Survey Began by Colonel Lambton and Sir George Everest.

3. **Malala becomes UN Messenger of peace**

19years of, she is the youngest messenger of peace and youngest to win a Nobel in 2014. Leonardo DiCaprio and Charlize Theron and Michael Douglas are also current messengers.

4. **Colson Whitehead wins the Pulitzer 2017 for Fiction Category**

His Novel "The Underground railroad" has won the Prize. Pulitzer is awarded for achievements in Newspaper, magazine, Online Journalism, Literature, and musical composition in United States. It was established in 1917 and 21 categories exist and a certificate and 15000\$ cash is given while for public Service in Journalism, A Gold medal is given.

5. **Nomadic Elephant 2017**

India-Mongolia joint Military exercise took place in Variengte in Mizoram. There is an Indian Army's elite Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School. India and Maldives conducted the EKUVERIN exercise.

6. **Global Travel and Tourism Ranking**

World Economic Forum has listed India to 40th place in Travel and Tourism Competitiveness. Japan-4th place and China at 13th place. Spain tops the list.

7. **Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant Unit II becomes Operational**

2nd unit with a capacity of 1000 MW took Nuclear power up to 6780 MW in Total. KNPP is built by NPCIL and works under IAEA safeguards. It is

supervised by Russian Specialists and units 3 & 4 will begin by 2022 and 2023.

8. **PowerTex India**

Union textiles Ministry started the scheme to boost growth in Power Loom Sector. Under Pradhan Mantri Credit Scheme, a loan facility will be given to decentralized loom units and weavers. Under Solar Energy Scheme, Financial Assistance and Subsidy will be given to establish solar plants.

9. **Giga-Enabled City Hyderabad**

Hyderabad has become India's first Giga city with launch of 1 GBPS wired Broadband Speed connection. Big Cities of the world like Hong Kong and Singapore already had such facilities.

10. **Plastic eating Fungus Discovered**

Researchers from China Academy of Sciences found **Aspergillus Tubingensis**, a plastic eating fungus on a rubbish tip in Islamabad, Pakistan. It secretes enzymes and breaks the plastic molecules and also uses strength of mycelia, a network of root like filaments to break down polymers.

11. **Classical Vocalist Kishori Amonkar passed away**

She was renowned Hindustani Classical Vocalist of Jaipur Gharana. She sang Khayals in Ragas of Traditional Hindustani classical, thus her own fusion style. She won Padma Bhushan in 1987, Padma Vibhushan in 2002.

12. **Crab that Lives in tree found in Kerala**

It is named as 'Kani Maranjandu' after the Kani Tribe in Kerala. It has been seen as an arboreal crab. It is long legged and upper hard shell.

13. **World health day 2017**

On 7th April every year World health Day is celebrated throughout all the world as it is the anniversary of founding of WHO. Theme for this year is on 'Depression'.

14. **Iceland becomes World's first country to neutralize Gender pay gap**

Iceland parliament presented a bill that would require public and private companies to prove that they offer equal pay to equal employees.

Iceland ranks first on WEF's 2015 Global Gender Gap Index. (Then Norway, Sweden, Finland)

15. Wildlife DNA Banks to come up in Bareilly

Scientists at Indian Veterinary Research Institute in Bareilly are in the process of collecting DNA samples of all wild animals for the bank. Laboratory for Conservation of Endangered Species (LACONES) Hyd. Is the only such place till now? The Bank will have a known sample (+ve sample) so that we can later find out about any unknown sample by DNA Sequencing.

16. B Sai Praneeth wins the Singapore Open Final

He defeated world 29 Kidambi Srikanthin all Indian men's singles to lift the Singapore Open Super series Badminton.

It was first time that 2 Indians men were in the Super series Final, and only 4th country have played both players in a Super series Final other than China, Denmark, Indonesia.

17. Kempe Gowda Festival

President Pranab Mukherjee Inaugurated the Festival in memory of Just and Humane Ruler Kempe Gowda of Vijaynagara Empire. It is believed that he established the city of Bengaluru in 1537.

18. Computer Pioneer Robert Taylor Died

He was the designer and creator of Alto, which was first Computer designed to run on and OS based on GUI.

He also created BRAVO, a WYSIWYG program which became basis of Microsoft Word.

He developed Networking Technology Ethernet.

He formed Digital equipment systems lab in Palo Alto California, which made AltaVista search engine in 95 while google came out in 1997.

19. Sagarmatha Exercise

It a first ever joint military exercise to be held between Nepal and China. Sagarmatha is the Nepali name of Mount Everest.

20. Mother of All Bombs

USA Army Dropped MOAB (GBU-43, Massive Ordnance Air Blast Bomb) which is 20000 pounds and it even has a bigger one called Massive Ordnance Penetrator of 30000 pounds. MOAB is 30 feet and costs 15.7

million \$.

21. Plastic Eating capacity of a Common Wax worm Discovered

Galleria Mellonella is a common insect but it is able to biodegrade one of the toughest, most resilient and most used plastics like polyethylene.

22. Tropical Cyclone Maarutha

A deep depression has been identified in the Bay of Bengal, and is named as 1st Cyclone of the year 2017.

Hurricane are storm that occur in Atlantic or NE Pacific and those originating in NW pacific are called Typhoon. Cyclone are those in South Pacific or Indian Ocean.

23. Earth Day celebrated on April 22

It started in 1970 at UNESCO when Activist John McConnell suggested a day to honor the earth. It became an International day in 1990.

24. Hindu New Year and Fesitvals

Baisakhi - Punjab

Vishu - Malyalis

Puthandu - Tamil

Rongali Bihu - Assam

25. India's First book Village has opened in Bhilar

Bhilar is in Satara, Maharashtra. It is also called as *Strawberry Country* of Maharashtra.

26. Dada Saheb Phalke Award

It has been given to **Kasinathuni Vishwanath** for 2016 for outstanding contribution to film industry.