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**CURRENT**  
**AFFAIRS**  
**CHRONICLE**

 Thursday, April 02, 2026

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Business News, financial news, economy  
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International News, Sports News, and  
many more topics...

**English**



## Top Stories of The Day

- *India Strengthens Chip Ecosystem with Launch of **Kaynes Semiconductor Plant in Gujarat***
- ***CSIR–NIScPR Partners with Andhra Pradesh Science City to Boost Science Policy & Communication***
- ***Government Announces Major Bureaucratic Reshuffle, Appoints New Secretaries Across Ministries***
- ***Defence Ministry Signs ₹1,950 Crore Deal with BEL for Indigenous Mountain Radars***
- ***Uchral Nyam-Osor Becomes Mongolia's New Prime Minister Amid Political Instability***
- ***YES BANK Tops Indian Banks in S&P Global Sustainability Rankings 2025***
- ***India Conducts 'Dweep Shakti' Tri-Service Exercise to Enhance Maritime Defence Readiness***
- ***Vir Vikram Yadav Appointed DGCA Chief Amid Rising Aviation Safety Challenges***
- ***ESA Launches First Celeste Satellites to Advance Low Earth Orbit Navigation System***
- ***Former Raymond Chairman Vijaypat Singhania Passes Away at 87***

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## Semiconductor Manufacturing Boost in India



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kaynes Semicon Plant at Sanand in Gujarat, marking a significant step in strengthening India's semiconductor ecosystem and advancing self-reliance in critical technologies.
- The facility enables India to become a reliable player in the global semiconductor supply chain and supports sectors like electric vehicles, AI, defence, and electronics.
- The initiative is part of the India Semiconductor Mission (2021), under which multiple projects worth over ₹1.6 lakh crore are being implemented across several states.

### Key Highlights

- Semiconductor plant inaugurated at Sanand (Gujarat)
- Strengthens Make in India, Make for the World initiative
- Focus on Intelligent Power Modules (used in EVs & industry)
- Part of India Semiconductor Mission (2021)
- India aims to become a global semiconductor hub
- Semiconductor market expected to grow from \$50 billion to \$100 billion by decade-end

### Additional Facts:

- India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) launched in 2021 to promote chip manufacturing and design ecosystem

**Semiconductors are essential for:**

- Electronics (mobiles, laptops)
- Defence systems
- Artificial Intelligence
- Electric vehicles

**India is working on Semiconductor Mission 2.0 to develop:**

- Semiconductor equipment manufacturing
- Raw material ecosystem
- Indigenous chip development: "Dhruv-64 microprocessor" for secure applications

## CSIR–NIScPR & Andhra Pradesh Science City Partnership



- The CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Science City of Andhra Pradesh to strengthen science communication and promote research in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy. The agreement aims to enhance evidence-based policymaking and build a strong scientific ecosystem in the state.

### Objectives of the MoU

- The primary objective of this collaboration is to bridge the gap between science, policy, and society by promoting scientific awareness and improving public understanding of science. It will facilitate data-driven governance by encouraging research-based policy formulation in key sectors like technology, sustainability, and innovation.

**Key Areas of Collaboration**

- Under the agreement, both institutions will undertake joint research projects, publish studies, and organise seminars, workshops, and conferences for researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders. The partnership also includes development of educational content, mentorship programmes, and promotion of scientific journals to strengthen outreach and knowledge dissemination.

### Capacity Building & Outreach

- The initiative focuses on capacity building through structured training programmes and academic support from school to university level. It also aims to foster scientific temper among citizens and encourage innovation by integrating researchers, educators, and the public into a unified ecosystem.

### Additional Key Facts

- CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Science & Technology
- Established: 26 September 1942
- President: Prime Minister of India
- Director General: N. Kalaiselvi
- NIScPR focuses on:
  - Science communication
  - STI policy research
  - Publication of scientific journals

### Science City of Andhra Pradesh (SCAP) aims to develop a world-class science city with:

- Museums
- Innovation hubs
- Research centres

### STI Policy (Science, Technology & Innovation Policy) is crucial for:

- Promoting R&D
- Supporting startups and innovation
- Strengthening economic growth

- Such collaborations help in translating scientific research into policy actions, a key theme in modern governance

## Government Appoints New Secretaries in Key Ministries



- The Government of India approved a major bureaucratic reshuffle by appointing new Secretaries across various ministries and departments. The appointments were made by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) to enhance administrative efficiency and governance.

### Key Appointments:

- Chanchal Kumar appointed as Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
- Sanjay Jaju appointed as Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
- Bhuvnesh Kumar appointed as Secretary, Ministry of Tourism
- Srivatsa Krishna appointed as Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs
- Rohit Kansal appointed as Secretary, Department of Rural Development

### About the Reshuffle

- This reshuffle involves senior IAS officers being transferred and appointed at the Secretary level across important ministries. Such changes are part of routine administrative reforms aimed at improving coordination, policy implementation, and governance efficiency in the central government.

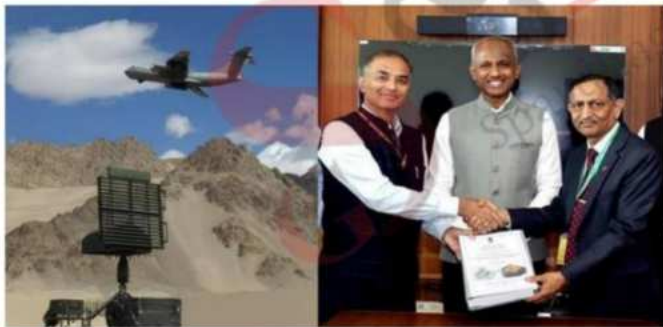
## Role of Secretary in Government

- A Secretary to the Government of India is the administrative head of a ministry or department and acts as the principal advisor to the concerned minister. They play a crucial role in policy formulation, implementation, and inter-ministerial coordination.

### Additional Facts:

- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) is headed by the Prime Minister
- Senior bureaucratic appointments at Secretary level are generally from the Indian Administrative Service (IAS)
- The Cabinet Secretariat ensures smooth coordination among ministries and departments
- Secretary-level officers are among the highest-ranking civil servants in India
- Such reshuffles are common to ensure efficient governance and better policy execution

## Defence Ministry–BEL ₹1,950 Crore Contract



- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a ₹1,950 crore contract with Bharat Electronics Limited for the procurement of two Mountain Radar systems for the Indian Air Force (IAF). The deal was signed in New Delhi under the 'Buy (Indian-IDDMM)' (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) category, promoting indigenous defence production.

### Objective of the Deal

- The contract aims to strengthen India's air defence and surveillance capabilities, especially

in mountainous regions. These radars will enhance early warning systems and improve monitoring of aerial threats in difficult terrains.

## Indigenous Technology & Manufacturing

- The Mountain Radars are indigenously designed and developed by DRDO and will be manufactured by BEL. This reflects India's growing capability in defence electronics and reduces dependence on foreign imports.

## Strategic Significance

- The deal aligns with key government initiatives such as Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India, aimed at boosting domestic defence manufacturing and achieving strategic autonomy. It will also support the domestic defence industry and generate employment.

### Additional Facts

- Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) is a Navratna Defence PSU under the Ministry of Defence
- Founded: 1954
- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka, India
- Chairman & Managing Director: Manoj Jain
- BEL specializes in:
  - Radars
  - Communication systems
  - Electronic warfare systems
- DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation) develops indigenous defence technologies
- Buy (Indian-IDDMM) is the highest priority category in defence procurement policy
- India is focusing on indigenisation of defence equipment to reduce import dependency
- Similar past deals include radar systems like "Ashwini" Low-Level Transportable Radar for the IAF

## Mongolia Elects New Prime Minister

- Uchral Nyam-Osor has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Mongolia by the Parliament

(State Great Khural). He assumed office after securing majority support, becoming the 33rd Prime Minister of the country.



### Political Background

- Uchral Nyam-Osor replaced Gombojavyn Zandanshatar, who resigned amid political instability and internal conflicts within the ruling party. His appointment comes at a time when Mongolia has witnessed frequent leadership changes, making him the third Prime Minister in less than a year.

### About the Appointment Process

- The Prime Minister of Mongolia is appointed by the Parliament (State Great Khural) based on a nomination, and serves as the head of government responsible for policy implementation and administration.

### Challenges Ahead

- The new Prime Minister faces several key challenges, including:
  - Political instability and internal party divisions
  - Rising fuel prices and inflation
  - Economic dependence on mining exports (coal and copper)
  - Concerns over corruption and policy inconsistency
- These issues have also affected foreign investment and economic growth in Mongolia.

### Additional Key Facts:

- Uchral Nyam-Osor belongs to the Mongolian People's Party (MPP)

- He previously served as:
  - Speaker of Parliament
  - Minister of Digital Development
- Mongolia is a landlocked country located between Russia and China
- Capital of Mongolia: Ulaanbaatar
- Economy is largely dependent on:
  - Mining sector (coal, copper, gold)
- Mongolia transitioned to a democratic system in 1990

## YES BANK Tops S&P Global CSA Rankings Amongst Indian Banks



- YES BANK emerged as India's highest-rated bank in S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) 2025. Achieved a score of 79/100, with a 7-point improvement from the previous year. Included in S&P Global Sustainability Yearbook 2026 for the 4th consecutive year.
- Ranked among the top 15% global banking leaders in sustainability.
- Only 848 companies selected out of 9,200+ assessed globally.

### About S&P Global CSA:

- Conducted by S&P Global.
- Evaluates companies on ESG parameters:
  - Climate Strategy
  - Corporate Governance
  - Risk Management
  - Financial Inclusion
  - Human Capital Development
  - Human Rights
- Covers ~1,000 data points across industries.

### About YES BANK:

- Headquart: Mumbai.
- Offers services: Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, MSME, Treasury.

### Key Consideration:

- Topic: S&P Global CSA Rankings – YES BANK
- Aims: Evaluate corporate ESG performance & sustainability leadership
- Based on: S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA)
- Key data: YES BANK scored 79/100; top Indian bank; top 15% globally
- Global status: 848 companies selected out of 9,200+ assessed
- Key mechanism: ESG-based evaluation (climate, governance, social factors)
- Timeline: CSA 2025; Sustainability Yearbook 2026
- Focus on: Sustainable banking & ESG excellence

## India Conducts 'Dweep Shakti' Tri-Service Exercise To Boost Maritime And Amphibious Capabilities



### Why in news?

- India's Army, Navy, and Air Force teamed up for Dweep Shakti, a major joint exercise. It tested quick responses for coastal and island defense using combined skills.

### What Was the Exercise About?

- Main Goal: Check how well the three forces work together for fast action in sea and island areas.
- Focus Areas: Build skills for amphibious attacks, sea control, and beach landings.
- Key Skills Tested: Precision, teamwork, and readiness for real threats.

### Activities and Drills:

- Joint Operations: Army, Navy, and Air Force did synced assaults on beaches and seas.
- Advanced Tech Used: Drones and modern gear for landing drills.
- Training Focus: Improve tactics, methods, and standard rules for multi-force ops.

### Why It Matters:

- Modernization Push: Added new tech to boost multi-domain power.
- Teamwork Boost: Better communication between branches for today's security needs.
- Defense Strength: Protects India's sea borders and islands from threats.

### Big Takeaways

- Readiness Shown: Proves forces are pro, united, and ready for challenges.
- Future Prep: Helps handle changing regional risks with quick, smart responses.
- Ongoing Need: More such drills keep defense strong and flexible.

## Vir Vikram Yadav Appointed DGCA Head as India Faces Aviation Safety Challenges

### Why in news?

- Senior IAS officer Vir Vikram Yadav was appointed Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), replacing Faiz Ahmed Kidwai. This

move came amid a major bureaucratic reshuffle affecting 25 senior officials across ministries.

- **Background:** 1996-batch Odisha cadre IAS officer; previously Additional Secretary in Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- **Predecessor:** Faiz Ahmed Kidwai (1996-batch Madhya Pradesh cadre) shifted to Additional Secretary, DoPT; he led DGCA since January 2025.
- **Other Changes:** Puneet Kansal as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation; Vishal Gagan as CIC Secretary.



### Context: Aviation Sector Challenges:

- India's aviation faces rapid growth with rising passenger traffic, safety audits, and regulatory pressures. DGCA must now focus on tighter oversight of airline operations, safety compliance, and service standards amid fleet expansion and cost issues.

### Why It Matters?

- Yadav steps in during a critical phase of scaling aviation while addressing operational and safety gaps. This reshuffle strengthens leadership in a booming yet scrutinized sector.

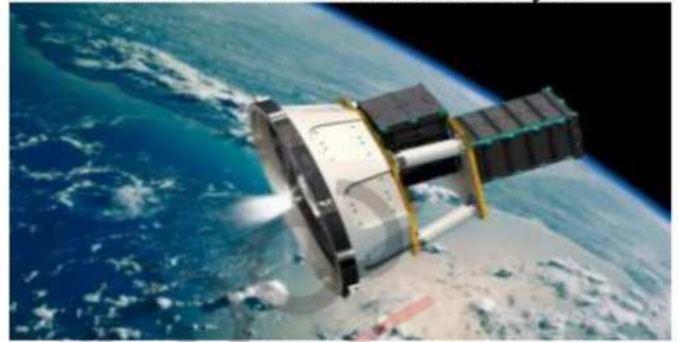
## ESA Launches 1st Celeste Satellites From New Zealand To Test Low Earth Orbit Navigation

### Why in News?

- The European Space Agency (ESA) launched its first two Celeste satellites from New Zealand.

This mission tests Low Earth Orbit (LEO) navigation to boost Europe's Galileo system with stronger signals and new capabilities.

- **Launch:** Rocket Lab's Electron rocket from Māhia Launch Complex; satellites separated successfully after ~1 hour.
- **Design:** GMV & Alén Space (Spain) for IOD-1; Thales Alenia Space (France) for IOD-2.
- **Future Plan:** Total 11 satellites, with more launches in 2027 to form full LEO layer.



### Key Objectives

- Celeste demonstrates LEO navigation advantages over medium Earth orbit systems like Galileo:
- Stronger signals (L- and S-bands) for urban/polar areas, autonomous vehicles, aviation, maritime.
- Improved resilience, indoor navigation, disaster response.
- New frequencies and autonomous orbit tech without ground support.

### Strategic Importance:

- Flying at ~510 km altitude, Celeste satellites enable robust PNT (Positioning, Navigation, Timing) in challenging environments. This "New Space" approach speeds up Europe's satnav evolution amid global competition.

### About ESA:

- **Headquarters:** Paris, France
- **Founders:** Germany, United Kingdom, France, Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark
- **CEO:** Josef Aschbacher (1 Mar 2021–)
- **Founded:** 30 May 1975, Europe

- Abbreviation: ESA; ASE; EW

## Former Raymond Chairman Vijaypat Singhania Passes Away At 87



- Vijaypat Singhania, former Raymond chairman and Padma Bhushan awardee, passed away peacefully in Mumbai at age 87.

### Career:

- Raymond Role: Chairman & MD from 1980-2000.
- Key Growth: Turned Raymond into India's top textile brand; expanded into denim, steel, cement.

### Aviation Achievements

- Flying Hours: Over 5,000 by 2003.
- 1988 Feat: Solo microlight flight London to Delhi (23 days, endurance record).
- 1994 Win: Gold medal in world air race (Cessna Conquest).
- 2005 Record: Hot air balloon to 69,000 feet (-93°C, landed near Nashik).

### Awards & Honors:

- Adventure Award: Tenzing Norgay National (2001).
- Padma Bhushan: 2006.
- Air Force Role: Honorary Air Commodore (1994).
- Sheriff of Mumbai: 2006.
- IIM Ahmedabad: Chairman of Governing Council (2007).

### Lets Revise

- ❖ Kaynes Semicon Plant was inaugurated in which state? **Gujarat**
- ❖ Recently, CSIR-NIScPR signed an MoU with which organisation to strengthen science communication and promote research in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy? **Science City of Andhra Pradesh (SCAP)**
- ❖ Recently, Chanchal Kumar has been appointed as Secretary of which ministry?  
**Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**
- ❖ Recently, Sanjay Jaju has been appointed as Secretary of which ministry? **Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region**

- ❖ Recently, Bhuvnesh Kumar has been appointed as Secretary of which ministry?  
**Ministry of Tourism**
- ❖ Recently, Srivatsa Krishna has been appointed as Secretary of which ministry?  
**Ministry of Minority Affairs**
- ❖ Recently, Rohit Kansal has been appointed as Secretary of which department?  
**Department of Rural Development**
- ❖ The Ministry of Defence signed a ₹1,950 crore contract with which company? **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)**
- ❖ Who has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Mongolia? **Uchral Nyam-Osor**
- ❖ Which Indian bank topped the S&P Global CSA Rankings 2025? **YES BANK**
- ❖ Why was Exercise 'Dweep Shakti' conducted? **It was conducted to test rapid response capabilities and improve joint operational readiness for coastal and island security threats.**
- ❖ Who was appointed new DGCA chief? **Vir Vikram Yadav.**
- ❖ Which organization launched the Celeste satellites? **European Space Agency (ESA).**
- ❖ Who was Vijaypat Singhania? **He was the former Chairman of Raymond Group and a renowned Indian industrialist and aviator.**

Current affairs form the dynamic backbone of preparation for competitive examinations such as UPSC, SSC, and banking services. They bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and real-world developments, transforming static knowledge into practical understanding. In an age marked by rapid geopolitical changes, economic reforms, and policy innovations, a significant portion of these exams—often 30–35%—draws directly or indirectly from recent events.

Mastery of current affairs not only enhances scores but also cultivates analytical thinking, clarity of perspective, and decision-making skills—qualities indispensable for future administrators and professionals.

#### Key Dimensions of Importance

- **Syllabus Integration:** Current events seamlessly connect with core subjects like polity, economy, history, and geography. For instance, understanding constitutional provisions becomes more meaningful when linked to recent judicial reforms or landmark judgments.
- **Scoring Edge:** Many questions in prelims and mains are derived from contemporary developments. A well-prepared aspirant can secure quick and confident marks through accurate knowledge of high-yield topics from reliable news sources.
- **Interview Excellence:** In personality tests and interviews, panels evaluate awareness of pressing national and global issues—ranging from climate diplomacy to economic policy—requiring thoughtful, balanced responses.

As many toppers emphasize, current affairs are not a separate subject but the soul of exam preparation. Consistent engagement with credible sources like The Hindu, PIB releases, and Yojana magazine strengthens critical thinking and nurtures a well-rounded outlook, moving beyond rote memorization.

In a competitive landscape where millions aspire for limited opportunities, current affairs serve as a decisive differentiator. Adopting structured habits—daily news analysis, monthly revisions, and regular mock tests—empowers candidates to adapt confidently to evolving exam patterns. Ignoring this essential component is like navigating uncertain waters without direction—while mastering it ensures clarity, confidence, and a competitive advantage.


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