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 Friday, April 03, 2026

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**English**



## Top Stories of The Day

- **Jan Vishwas Bill 2026 Passed:** Govt pushes decriminalisation to boost ease of doing business
- **IBC Amendment Bill 2026 Approved:** Faster insolvency resolution and reduced delays targeted
- **CAPF Administration Bill 2026 Passed:** New law streamlines leadership and service rules in forces
- **Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth Appointed VCOAS:** Major Indian Army leadership reshuffle announced
- **IndiGo Names William Walsh as CEO:** Airline eyes global expansion with new leadership
- **FCRA Amendment Bill 2026 Introduced:** Govt tightens control over foreign funding of NGOs
- **Artemis II Mission Launched:** Humans return to deep space after 50 years
- **US Uses Bunker Buster in Isfahan Strike:** Deep-penetration bombs target underground facilities
- **Telangana Passes Gig Workers Bill 2026:** Social security framework for platform workers introduced
- **Meghalaya Signs Starlink Deal:** Satellite internet to boost connectivity in remote areas

## Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026 Passed



- Why in News?
- The Lok Sabha has passed the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026, which aims to further strengthen trust-based governance and improve the ease of doing business in India.

### Key Provisions

- The Bill focuses on decriminalising minor offences across various laws by replacing imprisonment with monetary penalties or administrative actions. It seeks to reduce unnecessary legal complications for businesses and individuals while ensuring that serious offences continue to attract stricter penalties. The legislation promotes a shift from punitive enforcement to a more facilitative and compliance-based approach.

### Objectives of the Bill

- The main objective is to create a trust-based regulatory environment by reducing compliance burden and simplifying legal processes. It aims to promote Ease of Doing Business (EoDB), enhance the Ease of Living, and encourage voluntary compliance by minimizing fear of criminal prosecution for minor violations.

### Background

- This Bill is part of the broader Jan Vishwas 2.0 reforms. Earlier, the Jan Vishwas Act, 2023 decriminalised 183 provisions across 42 Central

Acts. The current amendment expands the scope of such reforms by targeting additional provisions and laws to streamline governance and improve regulatory efficiency.

### Significance

- The Bill is significant as it will reduce the burden on the judiciary by lowering the number of minor criminal cases. It will benefit MSMEs and startups by easing regulatory pressure and promoting a business-friendly environment. Overall, it aligns with the government's vision of "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance".

### Additional Key Facts

- The reform is linked to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It also complements ongoing efforts toward digital compliance systems and simplified adjudication mechanisms, making governance more transparent and efficient.

## Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2026 Passed



### Why in News?

- Parliament has passed the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2026, with the Rajya Sabha approving it by voice vote after its earlier passage in the Lok Sabha.

### Key Provisions of the Bill

- The Bill introduces amendments to the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), 2016 to reduce procedural delays, improve admission of insolvency cases, and strengthen the resolution framework. It focuses on minimizing delays at the initial stage by limiting adjudication to verification of default and increasing reliance on information utilities.
- Additionally, the amendments aim to speed up resolution of stressed assets, reduce case backlog, and enhance overall efficiency of the insolvency process.

### Objective of the Amendment

- The primary objective is to ensure that the IBC functions as a resolution mechanism rather than merely a debt recovery tool. The government emphasized that the Code is designed to revive viable businesses, preserve enterprise value, and resolve financial stress efficiently.

### Key Changes Highlighted

- Expansion of the look-back period for avoidance transactions to 2 years prior to insolvency filing
- Incorporation of Select Committee recommendations (11 accepted + 1 government addition)
- Measures to reduce delays in admission of cases and improve process clarity
- Strengthening of creditor confidence and recovery mechanisms

### Background of IBC

- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 provides a time-bound framework for insolvency resolution of companies, individuals, and partnership firms. It replaced multiple fragmented laws and established institutions like the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) to regulate the process.

### Performance and Data:

- Around 1,376 companies resolved under IBC

- Creditors recovered about ₹4.11 lakh crore
- Recovery rate: over 64% of claims
- Significant contribution in reducing Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in the banking sector

### Significance

- The amendments are significant as they aim to reduce delays, maximize value for stakeholders, and strengthen India's financial system. They also enhance ease of doing business, improve investor confidence, and support faster resolution of distressed companies.

## Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill, 2026 Passed

### Controversy Over Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill, 2026

#### Why in News?

- The Rajya Sabha has passed the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill, 2026 by a voice vote, after its introduction in the Upper House by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

#### Key Provisions of the Bill

- The Bill provides a statutory framework for administration of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), including recruitment, deputation, promotion, and service conditions of officers. It seeks to codify the deputation of Indian Police Service (IPS) officers into senior leadership roles within CAPFs, which were earlier governed mainly by executive orders.

#### A major feature includes reserving:

- 50% of Inspector General (IG) posts

Friday, April 03, 2026

- At least 67% of Additional Director General (ADG) posts
- All Director General (DG) and Special DG posts for IPS officers on deputation.

- BSF (Border Security Force)
- CISF (Central Industrial Security Force)
- ITBP (Indo-Tibetan Border Police)
- SSB (Sashastra Seema Bal)

### Objective of the Bill

- The Bill aims to ensure uniformity, clarity, and efficiency in administration of CAPFs by introducing a single umbrella legislation. It seeks to enhance coordination between Centre and States, strengthen leadership structure, and reduce litigation arising from ambiguity in service rules.

### Additional Key Facts

- CAPFs were earlier referred to as paramilitary forces (term discontinued in 2011)
- The Bill aligns with efforts to modernize internal security architecture
- Ministry involved: Ministry of Home Affairs
- Focus: Administrative reforms + leadership restructuring

### Background

- Previously, CAPFs were governed by multiple Acts and executive instructions, leading to inconsistencies in service conditions. The need for a comprehensive law arose after the Supreme Court judgment (2025) granting Organised Group 'A' Service (OGAS) status to CAPF officers and directing reforms in cadre management.

### Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth Appointed Vice Chief of Army Staff



### Significance

- The Bill is significant as it:
- Creates a unified administrative framework for CAPFs
- Strengthens internal security management
- Improves operational coordination among forces
- Enhances clarity in career progression and leadership roles
- However, it has also sparked debate regarding career opportunities of CAPF cadre officers and IPS deputation dominance.

### Why in News?

- Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth has taken charge as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff (VCOAS) amid a major leadership reshuffle in the Indian Army involving top command positions.

### About CAPFs

- Central Armed Police Forces function under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and are responsible for internal security, border guarding, and counter-insurgency operations. Major CAPFs include:
- CRPF (Central Reserve Police Force)

### Key Highlights

- Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth succeeded Lt Gen Pushendra Pal Singh as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff. The appointment is part of a top-level restructuring of the Army's leadership, which also included new appointments to the Western, Eastern, and Southern Commands.

### Simultaneously:

- Lt Gen Pushendra Pal Singh took over Western Command

- Lt Gen V.M.B. Krishnan assumed charge of Eastern Command
- Lt Gen Sandeep Jain became Southern Command chief

### About Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth

- Lt Gen Seth is an Armoured Corps officer commissioned in 1986 and has held several key command and staff appointments. Prior to this role, he served as the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief (GOC-in-C) of Southern Command.
- He has commanded important formations such as:
  - XXI Strike Corps
  - Armoured brigades and regiments
  - Counter-insurgency forces in Jammu & Kashmir
- He has also been associated with major military operations and exercises, including Operation Sindoor and joint tri-services exercises.

### Significance of the Appointment

- The Vice Chief of Army Staff is the second-highest-ranking officer in the Indian Army and plays a crucial role in:
  - Operational preparedness
  - Military planning and modernization
  - Coordination at Army Headquarters
- Lt Gen Seth's appointment comes at a time of heightened strategic focus on both western (Pakistan) and eastern (China) borders, making leadership continuity and experience critical.

### Background: Army Reshuffle

- The reshuffle was triggered by retirements of senior commanders, leading to new appointments in key operational commands. These commands are vital for India's defence:
  - Western Command → Pakistan border
  - Eastern Command → China border
  - Southern Command → Peninsular India & maritime coordination

## IndiGo Appoints William Walsh as CEO



- India's largest airline, IndiGo, has appointed global aviation veteran William Walsh as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He is expected to assume charge by August 2026, after completing his tenure at the International Air Transport Association.

### Key Highlights

- The appointment follows the resignation of former CEO Pieter Elbers amid operational challenges faced by the airline.
- William Walsh is a highly experienced aviation leader who has previously served as CEO of:

### British Airways

- International Airlines Group
- He is currently serving as Director General of IATA and will transition to IndiGo after July 2026.

### Objective of the Appointment

- The leadership change aims to strengthen operational efficiency, restore stability, and accelerate global expansion of IndiGo. The move reflects the airline's strategy to position itself as a major global aviation player, especially in long-haul international markets.

### Background

- IndiGo witnessed a major operational crisis in December 2025, leading to cancellation of

thousands of flights due to scheduling issues and regulatory constraints.

- Following this, the CEO stepped down, and interim management was handled by the company leadership until the new appointment.

### Significance

- The appointment is significant as it brings global expertise and leadership experience to India's aviation sector. It is expected to:
  - Improve operational resilience
  - Enhance international connectivity
  - Strengthen India's position in the global aviation market
- It also reflects the growing importance of India as one of the fastest-growing aviation markets globally.

### About IndiGo

- Founded: 2005
- Headquarters: Gurgaon, Haryana
- Parent Company: InterGlobe Enterprises

## FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026 – Explained



- The Government of India introduced the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2026 to strengthen regulation of foreign funding received by NGOs and organisations. The Bill aims to enhance transparency, accountability, and national security by tightening oversight of foreign contributions.

### Objective of the Bill

- The primary objective of the amendment is to prevent misuse of foreign funds and ensure that such funds are used only for legitimate and lawful purposes. It also seeks to safeguard national and public interest by regulating the inflow and utilisation of foreign contributions.

### Key Provisions of the Amendment

- Government Control over NGO Assets:
  - A statutory mechanism will allow the government to take over and manage assets of organisations whose FCRA licences are cancelled or lapse.
- Timelines for Fund Usage:
  - The Centre can prescribe specific timelines for receipt and utilisation of foreign funds to ensure proper monitoring.

### Regulatory Authority:

- A new framework/authority may be established to manage assets and ensure compliance of organisations losing registration.
- Safeguards in Legal Proceedings:
  - Criminal investigations under FCRA may require prior approval of the central government, adding procedural safeguards.
- Rationalisation of Penalties:
  - Some provisions aim to reduce penalties (e.g., imprisonment) for minor violations to make enforcement more balanced.

### Background of FCRA

- The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010 regulates foreign donations to NGOs
- Earlier amended in 2020 to tighten control over:
  - Transfer of foreign funds
  - Administrative expenses (capped)
  - Mandatory FCRA account in SBI, New Delhi
- It prohibits foreign funding for:
  - Political parties
  - Election candidates
  - Government servants
  - Media organisations (news-related)

## Artemis II lifts off: Four astronauts begin a journey marking a new era in space travel



### Key Points:

- Mission: Artemis II
- Agency: NASA
- Crew: 4 astronauts (including one from Canada)
- Duration: ~10 days
- Type: Crewed Moon flyby (no landing)
- Rocket: Space Launch System (SLS)
- Spacecraft: Orion

### What is happening?

- Four astronauts have begun a historic journey to travel around the Moon and return safely to Earth.
- This is the first human mission beyond low Earth orbit in over 50 years since the Apollo missions.

### Mission profile

- Launch from Earth using SLS rocket
- Orbit Earth and test onboard systems
- Travel towards the Moon (Trans-Lunar Injection)
- Fly around the Moon (no landing)
- Return to Earth using a free-return trajectory
- Splashdown in the Pacific Ocean

### Why is it important?

- Marks the revival of human deep-space exploration
- Tests:
  - Life-support systems
  - Navigation and communication
- Builds foundation for:
  - Artemis III (Moon landing)
  - Future human missions to Mars

### How is it different from Apollo?

- Apollo missions focused on short-term visits
- Artemis aims for:
  - Long-term human presence on the Moon
  - More advanced and sustainable exploration

### Final Takeaway

- Artemis II is a crucial test mission that restarts human journeys to deep space and prepares for future Moon landings and long-term space exploration.

## Explained: What is the US's 2,000 pound 'bunker buster' bomb, used to attack Iran's Isfahan



### Key Points:

- Weapon: Bunker buster bomb
  - Used by: United States
  - Target: Underground military/nuclear sites
  - Recent use: Strike in Isfahan, Iran
  - Purpose: Destroy deep, protected structures
- 
- What is a bunker buster bomb?
  - A special type of bomb designed to:

- Penetrate deep underground before exploding
- It can go through: Soil, Rock & Reinforced concrete
- Simple idea: Unlike normal bombs, it does not explode on the surface — it explodes inside the target.

### How does it work?

- Bomb is dropped from aircraft
- It pierces deep into the ground or bunker
- A delayed fuse triggers explosion inside the structure
- This increases destruction of:
  - Underground bunkers
  - Weapon storage sites

### Why was it used in Isfahan?

- The strike targeted: Underground ammunition or military facilities
- These sites are:
  - Strongly protected
  - Hidden below ground
  - Normal bombs cannot destroy such targets effectively

### Types of bunker busters

- Small (e.g., ~2,000-pound bombs used in Isfahan)
- Very large (like GBU-57):
- Can penetrate deep concrete (up to ~60 meters)

### Why are they important?

- Used in modern warfare to:
  - Destroy hidden military bases
  - Target nuclear facilities
  - Especially useful against countries with:
    - Underground tunnels and bunkers

### Final Takeaway

- A bunker buster bomb is a deep-penetrating weapon designed to destroy underground

targets, making it crucial in modern high-tech warfare.

## Telangana Assembly passes Gig Workers Bill:



### Key Points:

- Bill Name: Telangana Platform-Based Gig Workers Bill, 2026
- State: Telangana
- Target Group: Gig & platform workers (delivery, cab drivers, etc.)
- Objective: Social security + legal protection
- Coverage: ~4 lakh workers

### What is the Bill about?

- A new law to protect gig workers (like delivery agents, ride-hailing drivers).
- These workers usually: Have no job security & Do not get benefits like insurance or pension

### Key Features

- Registration system
- All gig workers and platforms must be registered

### Welfare Board

- A special board will be created to:
  - Monitor workers' rights
  - Implement schemes

### Social Security Benefits

- Workers may get:

- Insurance
- Health benefits
- Pension support
- Welfare Fund: A fund will be created to finance these benefits
- Grievance Redressal System to handle worker complaints

### Why is this Bill important?

- Gig workers face:
- Uncertain income
- Long working hours
- No formal protection
- The bill aims to:
- Bring them into the formal economy
- Ensure basic labour rights

### Significance

- One of the first major state-level laws for gig workers in India
- May become a model for other states
- Strengthens regulation of the gig economy

### Final Takeaway

- The Telangana Gig Workers Bill, 2026 aims to provide social security, legal protection, and formal recognition to gig workers in the digital economy.

## Meghalaya Signs MoU With Starlink as Elon Musk Steps Up India Push



- The Meghalaya government signed an MoU with Starlink to expand internet access in remote areas, becoming the third Indian state to do so.

### Key Consideration:

- Authority: Meghalaya Government
- Partner: Starlink (SpaceX)
- Type: MoU for satellite internet
- Location: New Delhi
- Focus on: Rural connectivity & digital inclusion

### What is the Agreement About?

- The deal aims to provide internet using satellite technology.
- Focus is on areas where normal telecom networks are not available.

### Objectives:

- Connect remote schools, health centres, and villages.
- Improve access to education, healthcare, and digital services.

### Key Benefits:

- Better online education for students.
- Improved healthcare services in rural areas.
- Support for farmers and local communities.

### Other States with Starlink Deals:

- Maharashtra (2025) – First state to sign agreement.
- Gujarat (2026) – Focus on schools, ports, disaster systems.

### Background:

- India allowed satellite spectrum allocation administratively in 2024.
- Telecom giants Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel later partnered with Starlink.

### Significance:

- Boosts digital connectivity in remote regions.
- Supports development of Shillong as a tech hub in Northeast India.
- The Starlink–Meghalaya deal is a major step toward bridging the digital divide by bringing high-speed internet to remote and underserved areas.

**Final Takeaway:**

**Lets Revise**

- ❖ What replaces imprisonment under the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2026 for minor offences? **Monetary penalties / civil penalties**
- ❖ Which body adjudicates corporate insolvency cases under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2026? **NCLT (National Company Law Tribunal)**
- ❖ Which body handles insolvency cases of individuals under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2026? **DRT (Debt Recovery Tribunal)**
- ❖ What is the maximum time limit for insolvency resolution under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2026? **330 days**
- ❖ Which service's deputation is codified under the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill, 2026? **Indian Police Service (IPS)**
- ❖ Who has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of Army Staff in 2026? **Lt Gen Dhiraj Seth**
- ❖ Which airline appointed William Walsh as CEO in 2026? **IndiGo**
- ❖ Which Act is proposed to be amended by the FCRA Amendment Bill, 2026? **Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010**
- ❖ Will Artemis II land on the Moon? **No, it will only orbit/fly around the Moon.**
- ❖ How many astronauts are part of Artemis II? **Four.**
- ❖ Which country, besides the US, is part of the crew in Artemis II? **Canada.**
- ❖ What is the main purpose of bunker buster bombs? **To destroy deeply buried bunkers and fortified targets.**
- ❖ Which country used bunker buster bombs in the Isfahan strike? **United States.**
- ❖ What is the Telangana Gig Workers Bill, 2026? **A law to provide social security and protection to gig workers.**
- ❖ Which state introduced the Gig Workers Bill, 2026? **Telangana.**
- ❖ Who are gig workers? **Workers engaged in short-term, platform-based jobs like delivery and ride-hailing.**
- ❖ Which state signed an MoU with Starlink for satellite internet connectivity? **Meghalaya**

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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