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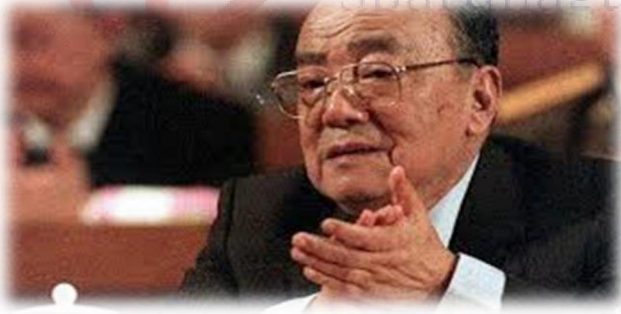
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Today in History on 08 APR

➤ 1988 - General Yang Shangkun elected President of China.

Yang Shangkun was a Chinese Communist military and political leader, President of the People's Republic of China from 1988 to 1993, and one of the Eight Elders who dominated the party after Mao Zedong's death. Born into a prosperous land-owning family, Yang studied politics at Shanghai University and Marxist philosophy and revolutionary strategy at Moscow Sun Yat-sen University. He held high office under both Mao Zedong and later Deng Xiaoping; from 1945 to 1965 he was Director of the General Office and from 1945 to 1956 Secretary-General of the Central Military Commission (CMC).



➤ 1857 - Mangal Pandey was hanged.

In 1857, on 8 April, Mangal Pandey was hanged for attacking British officers in Barrackpore, marking the beginning of the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857. A postage stamp was issued in his honour by the Government

of India in 1984 for his important role in India's freedom struggle. Mangal Pandey was born in a "Brahmin" family in a village called Nagwa in Ballia district of Uttar Pradesh in India.



➤ 1906 - Auguste Deter became the first patient to die from Alzheimer's disease.

On April 8, 1906, 51-year-old woman Auguste Deter died, and her case became the basis for Alois Alzheimer's research, which led to the identification of brain abnormalities that were later named Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's postmortem examination revealed that Auguste Deter's brain had thinning of the cerebral cortex, senile plaques and neurofibrillary tangles.



Alois Alzheimer



Auguste Deter





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➤ 1946 - The League of Nations, the predecessor of the United Nations, held its last meeting.

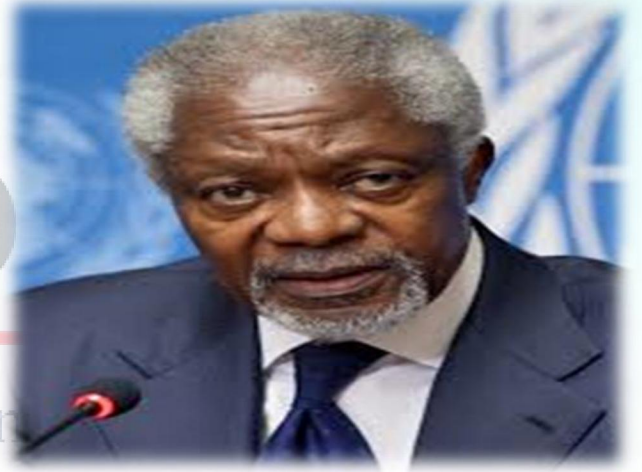
In 1946, the League of Nations, the predecessor of the United Nations, held its last meeting and was formally dissolved, with its assets and functions transferred to the newly established United Nations. Although the League failed to prevent World War II, its experience and some of its actions laid the groundwork for the United Nations and the modern international system.



➤ 1938 – Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan was born. Annan was the 7th Secretary-General of the United Nations.

On April 8, 1938, Kofi Annan, the 7th Secretary-General of the United Nations, was born in Kumasi, Ghana. Annan joined the United Nations in 1962,

where he worked at the Geneva office of the World Health Organization. He held several positions at UN Headquarters, including serving as Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping between March 1992 and December 1996. He was appointed Secretary-General by the Security Council on 13 December 1996 and later confirmed by the General Assembly, making him the first office-bearer to be elected from the UN staff.



Important NEWS on 08 APR

➤ PM Narendra Modi Conferred Sri Lanka's Highest Civilian Honour – Mithra Vibhushana

On April, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded Sri Lanka's highest civilian honour, the Mithra Vibhushana, in recognition of his efforts to strengthen the historic ties between India and Sri Lanka. The award, conferred by President Anura



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Kumara Dissanayake in Colombo, includes a citation and a silver medal adorned with Sri Lankan gems. The medal features symbols of shared cultural heritage, such as the Dharma Chakra, Navarathna, and the Pun Kalasa.



➤ Mohsin Naqvi Appointed as President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC)

Mohsin Naqvi has officially taken over as the new President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC), succeeding Shammi Silva, who served a brief tenure from December 2024. Naqvi, also the Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) since February 2024 and Pakistan's Interior Minister, expressed his commitment to strengthening Asian cricket's global influence. His appointment marks a significant leadership transition in the region's cricket diplomacy.



➤ India Post & Nippon India Mutual Fund Join Hands to Offer Door-to-Door KYC Services

India Post has partnered with Nippon India Mutual Fund through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to offer door-to-door KYC verification services for mutual fund investors, enhancing financial inclusion. This initiative aims to make mutual fund investments more accessible, particularly for rural populations, elderly citizens, and individuals with mobility issues.



➤ Indian Railways and DMRC Sign MoU for Automatic Wheel Profile Measurement Systems



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On April, 2025, Indian Railways signed an agreement with Delhi Metro Rail Cooperation (DMRC) to implement Automatic Wheel Profile Measurement Systems (AWPMS) for efficient and safe railway maintenance. AWPMS uses laser scanners and high-speed cameras to automatically check the shape and condition of train wheels in real time, detecting wear and potential damage. The system provides instant alerts for quick repairs, enhancing train safety and speed.



➤ Indian Army's MRSAM Missile Tests Prove War-Readiness

The Medium-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (MRSAM), developed by DRDO and Israel Aerospace Industries, has successfully passed critical trials, proving its operational readiness for the Indian Army. Designed to target and destroy a wide range of aerial threats, the missile system underwent four successful flight tests at Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, targeting long-range, short-range, high-altitude, and low-altitude threats.



➤ Tamil Nadu Sets a New High with 9.69% Growth

Tamil Nadu recorded the highest real economic growth rate in India for 2024-25 at 9.69%, the state's best in 10 years, reflecting strong and steady economic progress. Real growth excludes inflation, while the nominal growth rate stood at 14.02%, also the highest among Indian states. The GSDP at constant prices rose from Rs.15.71 lakh crore (2023-24) to Rs.17.23 lakh crore (2024-25). Despite challenges like COVID-19 (0.07% growth in 2020-21), Tamil Nadu's economy has shown resilience and rapid recovery.



➤ HIL Ltd Rebrands as BirlaNu Limited

HIL Ltd has rebranded itself as BirlaNu Limited, aligning its identity with its core values of innovation, quality, and sustainability in the building materials industry. With a strong presence in India and Europe, the company aims to better serve homeowners, builders, and designers. Having been operational for over eight decades, BirlaNu is deeply rooted in Hyderabad, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh.



Current affairs MCQS on 08 APR

Q.1. Kannadipappa, a traditional tribal handicraft, from which Indian state was recently awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag?

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Maharashtra

Answer: (c) Kerala

Kannadipappa, a traditional tribal handicraft from Kerala, has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, which protects its unique identity and origin. The name "Kannadipappa" means 'mirror mat', because of its shiny, reflective design. It is made from soft inner layers of reed bamboo, giving it excellent thermal properties – warm in winters and cool in summers. This craft is mainly practiced by

tribal communities like Oorali, Mannan, Muthuva, Malayan, Kadar, Ulladan, Malayarayan and Hill Pulaya in Idukki, Thrissur, Ernakulam and Palakkad districts.

Q.2. Where did the ISSF (International Shooting Sports Federation) World Cup 2025 start recently?

- (a) Rio de Janeiro
- (b) Sydney
- (c) Buenos Aires
- (d) Paris

Answer: (c) Buenos Aires

Two-time Olympic bronze medallist Manu Bhaker will lead a 43-member Indian shooting team at the ISSF World Cup 2025 starting in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The Buenos Aires meet features rifle, pistol and shotgun events.

Q.3. Who has recently taken charge as the Managing Director of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL)?

- (a) S Krishnan
- (b) R Madhavan
- (c) H Shankar
- (d) V Suresh

Answer: (c) H Shankar

H Shankar assumed charge as Managing Director of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL). An MBA-degreed Mechanical Engineer, Mr Shankar has played a key role in strengthening CPCL's position in the power sector. He was inducted on the Board of CPCL as Director (Technical) in October 2020, and was holding additional charge as Managing Director from July 16, 2024.

Q.4. What rank did India achieve in the recently released Network Readiness Index?

- (a) 32
- (b) 34
- (c) 36
- (d) 38

Answer: (c) 36



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India has made significant progress in its ability to adopt and integrate leading technologies, leading to a significant improvement in its ranking on the global Network Readiness Index. According to UNCTAD's 2025 Technology and Innovation Report, India is ranked 36th out of 170 countries, representing a significant improvement from its previous ranking of 48th in 2022. This progress is the result of several factors, including improvements in ICT deployment, research and development (R&D) activity, industrial capacity and finance, with a particular emphasis on AI and nanotechnology.

Q.5. Who has been appointed as the new President of Asian Cricket Council (ACC) recently?

- (a) Jay Shah
- (b) Roger Binny
- (c) Mohsin Naqvi
- (d) Sourav Ganguly

Answer:(c) Mohsin Naqvi

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Mohsin Naqvi has officially taken over as the new president of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC). He will replace Sri Lanka's Shammi Silva. Naqvi's appointment marks a significant leadership change in Asian cricket and reflects the region's dynamic cricket diplomacy.

Q.6. Manoj Kumar, who died recently, was associated with which profession?

- (a) Director
- (b) Actor
- (c) Singer
- (d) Producer

Answer:(b) Actor

Actor Manoj Kumar died in Mumbai's Kokilaben Hospital. He was 87 years old. He was especially known for his patriotic films. He was also known as Bharat Kumar. Upkaar, Purva-Paschim, Kranti, Roti-Kapda and Makaan were his very successful films.

Q.7. Which product of Warangal in Telangana has recently got GI tag?

- (a) Pochampalli Saree
- (b) Hyderabad Pearls
- (c) Telangana Cotton
- (d) Chapata Chilli

Answer:(d) Chapata Chilli

In a significant achievement for Telangana farmers, Chapata chilli, also known as tomato chilli, has received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. The achievement is expected to benefit around 20,000 farmers in the Warangal region as it will boost their income and also increase the market demand for this unique chilli variety.

Q.8. Where was the 6th BIMSTEC Summit held recently?

- (a) India
- (b) Thailand
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Bangladesh

Answer:(b) Thailand

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 6th BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand, where he proposed several initiatives to strengthen the organisation. The summit was attended by the leaders of the seven member countries of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) - India, Thailand, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan.

Q.9. Where did the 15th Hockey India Senior Men's National Championship start recently?

- (a) Bhopal
- (b) Lucknow
- (c) Jhansi
- (d) Patna

Answer:(c) Jhansi

The 15th Hockey India Senior Men's National Championship is set to begin at the Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Stadium in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. The tournament, which will run till April 15, will be held in the new group-based format, just like the Senior Women's Championship held in March. It will see the participation of 30 teams, divided into three groups





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- Group A, B and C. Group A consists of the top 12 teams, who will compete for the championship title. Group B will have 10 teams competing to come out on top, while Group C has eight teams, who will play for a place in Group B next season.

Q.10. Recently which country will host the FIFA Women's World Cup 2035?

- (a) Germany
- (b) United Kingdom
- (c) France
- (d) Brazil

Answer:(b) United Kingdom

The United Kingdom appears set to host the 2035 Women's World Cup after FIFA president Gianni Infantino described its interest as "the only legitimate bid" for the tournament. England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales announced last month they would submit a joint bid to host the finals.

Q.11. Where did the Bureau of Indian Standards recently hold its annual conference on sustainability and environmental standards?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Goa
- (d) Kerala

Answer:(c) Goa

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) held its annual conference for Deans and Heads of Departments (HODs) of partner institutions focused on environment and ecology in Goa. During the two-day conference; 45 delegates from 32 partner institutions had in-depth discussions on the theme "Sustainability through Standards" with senior BIS officials.

Q.12. Recently which state topped the Fiscal Health Index of NITI Aayog?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Telangana

(d) Karnataka

Answer:(b) Odisha

Odisha leads the fiscal health index with the highest score of 67.8, excelling in debt index (99.0) and debt sustainability (64.0). It maintains a low fiscal deficit, strong debt profile and high capital outlay/GSDP ratio. Chhattisgarh (55.2) and Goa (53.6) excel in debt index and revenue mobilisation, respectively.

Q.13. Recently who was awarded the National Youth Award?

- (a) Nikhil Singhal
- (b) Akash Shroff
- (c) Sanghamitra Tai Gaikwad
- (d) Jayashree Venkatesan

Answer:(b) Akash Shroff

Akarsh Shroff, Founder of YuvaSpark was awarded the National Youth Award for his pioneering efforts in enhancing early childhood education in India, especially through Anganwadi digitisation and innovation in rural education infrastructure.

Q.14. Recently which European country has become the first country to withdraw from the International Criminal Court?

- (a) Poland
- (b) Italy
- (c) Hungary
- (d) Spain

Answer:(c) Hungary

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban announced that his country is withdrawing from the International Criminal Court (ICC). Hungary is the first European country to withdraw from the International Criminal Court, which was established in 2002. According to the Hungarian Prime Minister, his country decided to withdraw from the ICC because it has become a political tool.

Q.15. Where did the Rongali Bihu festival start recently?

- (a) Tripura
- (b) Assam





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(c) Meghalaya

(d) Nagaland

Answer:(b) Assam

Rongali Bihu, also known as Bohag Bihu, will be celebrated across Assam in mid-April 2025, marking the Assamese New Year and the beginning of the agricultural season. This vibrant festival is not only a celebration of spring and harvest, but also an affirmation of Assamese identity, culture and community spirit.

