



CURRENT AFFAIRS 19th & 20th April 2024

National News

India's Indigenous Bullet Train: Vande Bharat Sets to Redefine High-Speed Rail Travel



In a significant stride towards advancing India's rail infrastructure, the country is gearing up to launch an indigenous bullet train capable of reaching speeds exceeding 250 kilometres per hour (km/h). This groundbreaking initiative is set to revolutionize high-speed rail travel in India, showcasing the nation's engineering prowess and commitment to cutting-edge technology.

International News

16th World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi: Driving Sustainable Energy Solutions

WORLD FUTURE ENERGY SUMMIT

The 16th World Future Energy Summit has commenced in Abu Dhabi, drawing together global leaders, policymakers, and experts in sustainable energy and climate initiatives. The summit aims to foster dialogue on key issues like global climate action, renewable energy, energy security, and sustainable development.

State News

Varanasi's Tiranga Barfi and Dhalua Murti Metal Casting Craft Receive GI Tag



Varanasi's Tiranga Barfi and Dhalua Murti Metal Casting Craft Receive GI Tag

In a significant development, two iconic products from the historic city of Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, have been granted the coveted Geographical Indication (GI) status. On April 16, 2024, the GI Registry Office based in Chennai announced that the Tiranga Barfi of Varanasi and the Dhalua Murti Metal Casting Craft have been included in the prestigious GI category.

Banking News

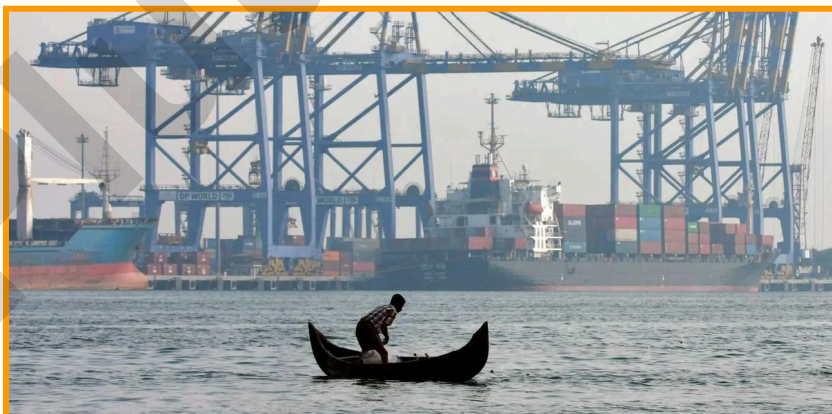
RBI Penalizes Five Co-operative Banks with Rs 60.3 Lakh Fine



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed penalties totaling Rs 60.3 lakh on five co-operative banks for contravening various regulatory norms. These penalties primarily stem from non-compliance with specific directives issued by the RBI, encompassing bans on loans and advances to directors and their relatives, restrictions on opening savings accounts for certain entities, and maintenance of deposit accounts.

Economy News

UNCTAD and IMF Forecasts for India's GDP Growth in 2024



UNCTAD forecasts India's GDP growth at 6.5% in 2024, a slight deceleration from the previous year's 6.7%. This projection aligns with the IMF's revised forecast, attributing growth to strong public investment and the services sector. The report highlights the trend of multinational corporations shifting manufacturing processes to India, which bolsters exports. Despite moderated commodity prices, restrained public consumption spending is offset by robust public investment, sustaining growth momentum.

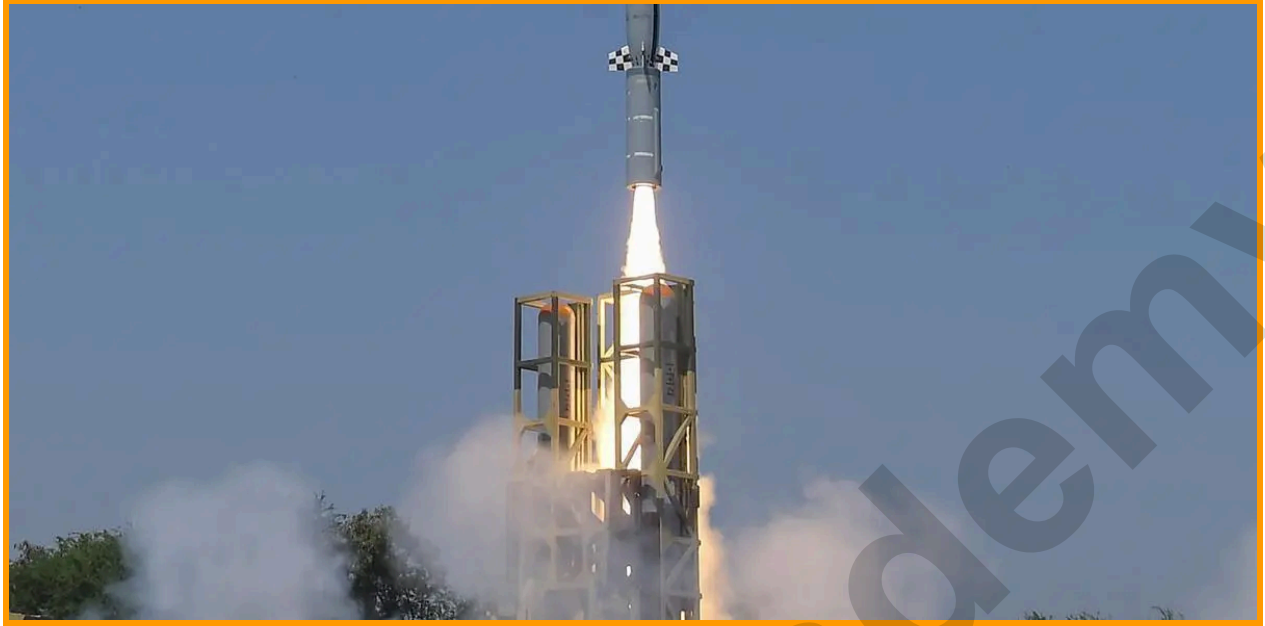
India's Electronics Exports Surge to \$29.12 Billion in FY24



India's electronics industry experienced a notable surge in exports, reaching \$29.12 billion in fiscal year 2023-24, a substantial 23.6% increase from the previous year. This growth is particularly significant amid an overall contraction of the country's total exports by 3%.

Defence News

DRDO Successfully Test Fires Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile



DRDO conducted a successful test flight of the Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha. The missile showcased excellent performance, closely monitored by various sensors and the Indian Air Force.

General Manoj Pande Inaugurates High-Tech IT Lab at Academy of Armed Forces in Uzbekistan



During his visit to Uzbekistan from April 15-18, 2024, Chief of the Army Staff, General Manoj Pande, marked a significant milestone in bilateral defense cooperation between

India and Uzbekistan by inaugurating a state-of-the-art IT Laboratory at the Uzbek Academy of Armed Forces. This initiative stems from a commitment made during the Defence Ministers' meeting in September 2018, highlighting the growing partnership between the two nations.

Awards News

GMR Hyderabad International Airport Receives Skytrax Award for 'Best Airport Staff'



GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) has been honored with the 'Best Airport Staff in India & South Asia 2024' award by Skytrax. The announcement took place during the Passenger Terminal EXPO 2024 in Frankfurt, Germany, on April 17. This accolade underscores the exceptional quality of service provided by the airport's staff across various fronts, as evaluated through meticulous audits and assessments....