

CURRENT AFFAIRS 4 MAY 2016

INTERNATIONAL

1. Wipro inaugurates Saudi's 1st all-women IT park

IT services company Wipro has inaugurated Saudi Arabia's first all women business and technology park (WBP) at the Princess Nourah Bint Abdulrahman University in Riyadh.

- ❖ The WBP is a joint venture between Wipro and the university, with oil firm Saudi Aramco acting as the strategic adviser.
- ❖ The initiative is expected to create nearly 21,000 jobs by 2025.

SAUDI ARABIA

Capital: Riyadh

Currency: Riyal

NATIONAL

2. PM Modi launches country's 1st solar-powered e-boats in Varanasi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the country's first solar powered e-boats at the Assi Ghat in the river Ganga, Varanasi.

- ❖ The initiative is aimed at reducing pollution and keeping the Ganga river clean.
- ❖ With the help of this e-boats, the boatmen will be able to save Rs.500 a day without spending on diesel.

3. Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam & Oida now classical languages of India

All four Southern languages – Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia are now the classical languages of India.

- ❖ Earlier, Sanskrit alone had this status. Demands have come to grant the classical status to Marathi as well.
- ❖ Culture Minister Mahesh Sharma gave this information in the Lok sabha.
- ❖ He elaborated that any language to have a classical status must have high antiquity going back to 1500 to 2000 years.

APPOINTMENTS

4. Ajay Mittal takes charge as I&B Secretary

1982 batch IAS officer of Himachal Pradesh Cadre Ajay Mittal took charge as the Information and Broadcasting Secretary.

- ❖ Mr Mittal succeeded Sunil Aroral who retired on April 30.
- ❖ Prior to his appointment, Mr Mittal was serving as Additional Chief Secretary for Transport, Social Justice and Empowerment Department in Himachal Pradesh.

5. Rohit Sharma signs as Brand Ambassador for Hublot watches

Star Indian opener Rohit Sharma became the 'Brand Ambassador' of world famous watch brand Hublot becoming second renowned cricketer after former Australian captain Michal Clarke to be associated with the brand.

- ❖ Hublot is a Swiss luxury watchmaker founded in 1980 by Italian Carlo Crocco. The headquarter is located in Nyon, Switzerland.

SPORTS

6. Nico Rosberg has won Russian Grand Prix

The Formula-one championship leader Nico Rosberg has won the Russian Grand Prix in Sochi.

- ❖ It's his fourth-straight win of this season.
- ❖ His Mercedes teammate, Lewis Hamilton and Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen has finished at 2nd and 3rd respectively in the race.

IACE – INDIAN ACADEMY OF COMPETITIVE EXAMS

7. Vijender Singh records 5th consecutive victory in Professional Boxing

- ❖ Star Indian pugilist Vijender Singh recorded his 5th consecutive victory in Professional Boxing last night.

DEATHS

8. Veteran RSS leader Balraj Madhok passes away

Veteran RSS leader and founder of Bharatiya Jan Sangh, Balraj Madhok passed away. He was 96.

- ❖ Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid his last respects to the departed leader this afternoon. He said, Madhok was selflessly devoted to the nation and society with a strong ideological commitment.

BOOKS

9. No Time to Pause- book by Pavithra Ramesh

Pavithra Ramesh released her debut novel named No Time to Pause, which is the story about a girl who, for want of privacy and independence goes to college in a different city.

- ❖ The book chronicles the life of a typical college student who chooses to reside miles away from her family to get value education.

OTHER INFORMATION

10. EPFO launches One Employee-One EPF Account drive

- Sh. Bandaru Dattatreya, the Union Minister for Labour & Employment (Independent Charge) launched a special Mission consolidation drive “One Employee-One EPF Account” for members of the EPFO.

11. Japan announces \$7 billion plan to develop Mekong region

- Japan has pledged 750 billion yen (\$7 billion) initiative to promote development in the Mekong region, which encompasses parts of Vietnam, Laos and Thailand through which the river flows.

12. Indian-American journalist receives Edgar A Poe Award

- An Indian-American journalist, Neela Banerjee, was felicitated with a prestigious with Edgar A. Poe award on 1 May 2016.

13. India, New Zealand ink deal for direct flights

- India and New Zealand today signed a deal that opens the door for direct flights between the two countries that could boost tourism and trade sectors.
- New Zealand Prime Minister John Key.

14. Forex reserves at record high of USD 361.601 bn

- India's foreign exchange reserves increased by 1.350 billion US Dollars to touch a record high of 361.601 billion dollars in the week to 22nd April.

15. Telangana to set up Spices Park in Nizamabad

- The Telangana government is setting up a Spices Park in Nizamabad. The park will come up in Padigal in Nizamabad district with an outlay of 31 crore.

16. Kaleshwaram irrigation project launched in Telangana

- Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekharao today performed the Bhoomi Puja for the Kaleshwaram project aimed at harnessing the Godavari river water through a series of barrages, reservoirs and lift irrigation schemes.

*** ALL THE BEST ***