



## Lalpa tih hi finna bul a ni

## **Weekly Current Affairs**

(19th - 25th April, 2024)

- 1. 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 250 speeds exceeding kilometres per hour (km/h). This groundbreaking initiative is set to revolutionize high-speed rail travel in showcasing India, the nation's engineering prowess and commitment to cutting-edge technology.
- 2. 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.
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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 noncompliance 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.
- 5. **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 highlights the trend of report 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 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%.
- 7. 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.
- 8. 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.
- 9. GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) has been honored with the 'Best Airport Staff in India & South Asia 2024' award bν 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.
- 10. The United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) latest report, titled "Interwoven Lives, Threads of Hope: Ending Inequalities in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights," sheds light on India's population dynamics and the persistent disparities in sexual and reproductive health.
- 11. On April 19th, the global community comes together to observe World Liver Day, an initiative dedicated to shedding light on the importance of liver health and promoting preventive measures against liver diseases. This year's theme, "Keep your liver healthy and disease-

- **free,"** emphasizes the importance of preventive measures and regular health check-ups to detect and address liver-related disorders early on.
- 12. The cricketing world mourns the loss of a legendary figure as Raman Subba Row, the former England Test batsman, has passed away at the age of 92. The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) announced the sorrowful news, paying tribute to England's oldest living men's Test cricketer at the time of his demise.
- 13. The 13th edition of the prestigious European Girls' Mathematical Olympiad (EGMO) took place in the picturesque city of Tskaltubo, Georgia, from April 11 to 17, 2024. Amidst fierce competition, the Indian contingent emerged victorious, showcasing their remarkable mathematical prowess and securing a coveted haul of medals.
- 14. In a remarkable display of skill, flexibility, and unwavering determination, India's young skating sensation, **Takshvi Vaghani**, has etched her name in the record books by setting a new world record for the lowest limbo skating over 25 metres. On April 18, 2024, the 6-year-old prodigy from Ahmedabad, Gujarat, defied the boundaries of human agility, gliding across the 25-meter distance at a mere 16 cm (6.29 in) above the ground.



- **15.** The devastating conflict in **Sudan has plunged** the nation into a profound humanitarian crisis, prompting the international community to take swift action. On April 15, 2024, the French capital, Paris, hosted an International Humanitarian Conference for Sudan and Neighbouring Countries, organized in response to the United Nations' funding appeal on February 7, 2024.
- 16. In a groundbreaking event that blurs the lines between reality and artificial intelligence, the world is set to witness the first-ever beauty pageant exclusively for Al-generated models and influencers. Dubbed "Miss Al," this unique contest will pit these virtual creations against each other, judging them on their online presence, aesthetics, and the technical prowess behind their creation
- 17. In a move to simplify and streamline the process of students' transition from one school to another, the School Education Department in the state has made the use of Permanent Education Number (PEN) mandatory from the academic year 2024-25. PEN is a unique identification number assigned to every student by the Union Ministry of Education, through the UDISE+ (Unified District Information System for Education Plus) portal, which covers more than 14.89 lakh schools, 95 lakh teachers, and 26.5 crore children.
- 18. In a significant move, the appointments committee of the Cabinet has approved two key appointments in India's premier security agencies. Nalin Prabhat, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG), while Sapna Tewari, a 1992 batch IPS officer of the Odisha cadre, has been appointed as the Special Director in the Intelligence Bureau (IB).

- 19. In a strategic move to capitalize on the rapid economic growth in India and fortify its presence in the Asia-Pacific region, Intel Corporation has announced the appointment of new executives for its Sales, Marketing, and Communications Group (SMG). This reorganization is part of the company's ongoing transformation initiatives.
- 20. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) greenlights Ajith Kumar KK's appointment as Managing Director & CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank, marking a pivotal moment amidst the bank's preparations for a ₹300 crore rights issue. The leadership transition follows a series of senior management exits amid internal conflicts.
- 21. RuPay, in collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), introduces the 'Link it, Forget it' campaign during the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024. This initiative aims to showcase the seamless integration of RuPay credit cards with UPI, emphasizing the convenience of leaving physical wallets behind.
- 22. Bandhan Life Insurance, formerly known as Aegon Life Insurance, has rebranded itself with the tagline 'Bharat Ki Udaan, Bandhan Se', reflecting its commitment to empowering the aspirations of India. Under the ownership of Bandhan Financial Holdings, the company is embarking on an aggressive growth strategy, aiming to recruit 1,000 new employees and expand its customer base.
- 23. CRED, the Bengaluru-based fintech start-up, has recently obtained inprinciple approval for a payment aggregator license, as reported by the Economic Times. This significant development allows CRED to broaden its services beyond its focus on reward-

- based credit card payments. With the new license, CRED can now facilitate merchant payments directly, enhancing its role in the digital payments ecosystem.
- 24. Airtel Payments Bank has introduced NCMC-aligned debit and prepaid cards in collaboration with NPCI, powered by RuPay. These cards are designed to support India's One Nation, One Card initiative. Savings account holders can avail NCMC-enabled debit cards, while wallet users can opt for prepaid cards. Crafted from eco-friendly material, these cards offer versatility in payment options, including offline transit transactions, online shopping, enhanced security with EMV Chip protection.
- 25. In a significant move reflecting the deepening military cooperation between India and the Philippines amid rising tensions in the South China Sea, India has successfully delivered the first batch of BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to the Philippines. This delivery marks the fruition of a \$375 million deal signed in January 2022, making the Philippines the first export customer for this joint venture missile between India and Russia.
- 26. According to a recent report by S&P Global, three Indian banks—State Bank of India (SBI), HDFC Bank, and ICICI Bank—have secured positions among the top 50 banks in the Asia-Pacific region based on their assets.
- 27. Deepika Soreng, the promising forward of the India Women's Hockey Team, has been honoured with the prestigious Hockey India Asunta Lakra Award for Upcoming Player of the Year during the Hockey India 6th Annual Awards 2023. The award recognizes her outstanding

- performance and immense potential as a rising star in the sport.
- 28. Kaushik Rajashekara, a distinguished professor at the University of Houston's Cullen College of Engineering, has been elected as an International Fellow of the prestigious Engineering Academy of Japan. This honour recognizes his outstanding contributions to the field of power conversion and the electrification of transportation.
- 29. European astronomers have made a groundbreaking discovery the largest stellar black hole in our Milky Way galaxy. Named 'BH-3', this celestial behemoth has a staggering mass 33 times greater than our Sun and is located a mere 2,000 light-years away from Earth.
- 30. Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg has announced the launch of the company's advanced Al assistant, Meta Al, powered by the state-of-the-art language model Llama 3. The new Al offering is designed to enhance the user experience across Meta's popular apps, including WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook, and Messenger, while also being available on a dedicated website, meta.ai.
- 31. At the 42nd Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) annual meet, ISRO Chairman S. Somanath announced India's pledge to achieve debris-free space missions by 2030. This commitment aligns with global efforts to ensure the sustainability of space exploration.
- 32. In the landmark Supriyo Chakraborty vs.
  Union Of India Case 2023, the Special
  Marriage Act of 1954 was challenged for
  its exclusion of same-sex marriages,
  citing a violation of Article 14 of the
  fundamental rights. Despite the Act
  allowing marriages between individuals
  of different religions, it did not extend

- this provision to same-sex couples. The Supreme Court upheld this exclusion, prompting the government to establish a committee to address the concerns of the LGBTQ+ community without legally recognizing their relationships as marriages.
- 33. Rohit Sharma, the former captain of the Mumbai Indians, etched his name in the annals of Indian Premier League (IPL) history by becoming only the second player to feature in 250 IPL matches. This remarkable milestone was achieved during a match against the Punjab Kings in Mullanpur, Chandigarh, further solidifying Rohit's status as an IPL legend.
- 34. National Civil Service Day is celebrated annually on April 21st in India. This year, the theme for National Civil Service Day 2024 is yet to be announced, but it is likely to focus on a current challenge or opportunity facing the Indian civil service. The first ever National Civil Services Day in India was celebrated on April 21, 2006. It was recognized to commemorate the first Home Minister of India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- **35.** On the auspicious occasion of **Mahaveer** Jayanti, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 2550th Bhagwan Mahaveer Nirvan Mahotsav at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. The event paid tribute to the 24th Tirthankar, Bhagwan Mahaveer, whose teachings of Ahimsa (Non-Violence), Satya (Truthfulness), Asteya (Non-Stealing), Brahmacharya (Chastity), and Aparigraha (Nonattachment) have illuminated the path of peaceful coexistence and universal brotherhood.
- **36. Archaeologists in Telangana** have unearthed three remarkable sites, each offering distinct insights into the region's ancient history. Among these discoveries are over 200 megalithic monuments

- nestled within dense forests, an exceptional Iron Age megalithic site displaying unique architectural styles, and two rock art sites revealing ancient artistic expressions. These findings not only illuminate Telangana's past but also emphasize the necessity for continued exploration and preservation endeavors.
- 37. The Lakshmana Tirtha River, renowned for its scenic beauty in the Kodagu District of Karnataka, has succumbed to severe drought and intense heat. Originating from the forests in Kutta, it extends about 180 km before merging into the Cauvery River. However, this year, the river has dried up entirely, exacerbating the water crisis in the region.
- 38. In a recent announcement on April 20, 2024, North Korea revealed the testing of a new anti-aircraft Pyoljji-1-2 missile and a super large strategic cruise missile Hwasal-1 Ra-3 warhead in the West Sea of Korea. These tests, conducted on April 19, 2024, mark a significant escalation in tensions between North Korea, South Korea, and the United States.
- 39. In a strategic move to enhance its brand presence and awareness in the Indian market, French carmaker Citroen has engaged cricketing legend Mahendra Singh Dhoni as its brand ambassador. The Stellantis Group company, which is a relatively new entrant in the competitive Indian passenger vehicle market, aims to find a firm footing and strengthen its brand identity through this association.
- 40. In a significant move, banker Deepak S Parekh has resigned from his positions as chairman and non-executive director of HDFC Life Insurance, effective April 18, 2024. Following this, Keki Mistry, who has been associated with the company since December 2000, has been unanimously appointed as the new

- Chairman of HDFC Life Insurance. Mistry's extensive experience and leadership within the organization make him a natural choice for this pivotal role.
- 41. In a significant development, provisional figures released by the Ministry of Finance reveal that net direct tax collections for the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 have surpassed Union Budget Estimates by a substantial margin of Rs. 1.35 lakh crore, marking a remarkable increase of 7.40%. The provisional direct tax collections stand at Rs. 19.58 lakh crore, showcasing a robust growth of 17.70% compared to the preceding FY 2022-23.
- **42.** In a display of sheer dominance, **Max Verstappen** of Red Bull Racing claimed a resounding victory at the long-awaited Chinese Grand Prix, extending his lead in the 2024 World Championship. The Dutchman's triumph marked the first Formula One race in China in five years, and he left no room for doubt, leading from start to finish.
- 43. In a remarkable achievement, Indian chess prodigy Dommaraju Gukesh, aged just 17, has made history by winning the FIDE Candidates tournament, becoming the youngest-ever challenger in the history of the World Chess Championship. Not only that, but Gukesh is also the first teenager to win the prestigious tournament.
- 44. Pavuluri Subba Rao, the Founder, CEO, and Chairman of Ananth Technologies, has been conferred with the prestigious 'Aryabhatta Award' by the Aeronautical Society of India (ASI). This honour recognizes Rao's "tremendous lifetime contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India."
- **45.** The Indian Navy conducted a mega exercise, **'Poorvi Leher,'** along the East Coast to validate its procedures and

- assess its preparedness to meet maritime security challenges in the region. The extensive drill witnessed the participation of ships, submarines, aircraft, and special naval forces.
- 46. In a remarkable discovery, scientists have identified a new species of wild cat thriving in the dense rainforests of Brazil. Dubbed the clouded tiger cat (Leopardus pardinoides), this feline marvel has captivated the hearts of animal enthusiasts and conservationists alike, sparking renewed efforts to safeguard the region's rich biodiversity.
- 47. On April 22nd, the world will unite to commemorate the 54th International Mother Earth Day. This annual event serves as a poignant reminder of the critical need to address the mounting environmental challenges threatening our planet, including rapidly rising pollution levels, deforestation, and global warming. This year's theme, "Planet vs. Plastics," aims to shed light on the detrimental effects of plastic pollution on human and environmental health.



- 48. The 34th Seng Khihlang festival, a revered event for adherents of the Khasi Indigenous Faith, recently concluded in Wahiajer, Meghalaya. Spanning from April 19, 2024, the festival celebrated the unity and traditions of the indigenous community. At the heart of this annual gathering lies the symbolic exchange of the Monolith, a cherished ritual that represents the enduring spirit of unity among believers. This year, the esteemed Monolith was received in Wahiajer from Seng Khasi Shaid Shaid, located in the West Khasi Hills.
- 49. The southern Indian state of Kerala is renowned for its rich cultural tapestry, encompassing a diverse array of religions, landscapes, rituals, and histories. Amidst this vibrant melting pot, one festival stands out as a true embodiment of Kerala's profound cultural heritage the Thrissur Pooram.
- 50. The Indian Embassy in Kuwait announced the launch of the first-ever Hindi radio broadcast in Kuwait, a significant step to deepen ties between the two nations. Initiated by Kuwait's Ministry of Information, the program will air every Sunday on FM 93.3 and AM 96.3, highlighting the bond between India and Kuwait.
- 51. Mayako Pahichan Nepal, in collaboration with the Nepal Tourism Board, orchestrated the groundbreaking first International Rainbow Tourism Conference. This one-day event marks a significant leap forward in fostering diversity and inclusivity within Nepal's tourism industry, positioning the country as a welcoming destination for the sexual minority community in South Asia.
- 52. In a bid to empower tribal and underprivileged youth across India, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) and the

- National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) have joined forces. The partnership aims to provide vocational training to marginalized communities, initially focusing on Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh.
- 53. Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) in Gandhinagar, India, and Starburst Aerospace of France have signed a significant memorandum of understanding (MoU) aimed at advancing innovation in aerospace, defence, and homeland security. This collaboration, aligned with the India-France Strategic Partnership, includes the creation of a 100 million euros venture capital fund and export promotion support for Indian startups.
- Indian soldiers who fought valiantly in the First and Second World Wars, the Brighton and Hove City Council in England has taken a commendable step. They have decided to hold an annual multi-faith event at the town's India Gate memorial this October, recognizing the pivotal role played by these warriors from the undivided Indian subcontinent.
- 55. Mohammed Salem is a Palestinian photographer who works for the news agency Reuters. In 2024, he won a very important award called the World Press Photo of the Year award. The World Press Photo award is a prestigious international competition for photojournalists (photographers who capture news events).
- 56. Renowned industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata, Chairman Emeritus of the Tata Group, was honored with the esteemed KISS Humanitarian Award 2021 at a ceremony held at his Mumbai residence. The award, initiated in 2008 by Achyuta Samanta, recognizes

- individuals and organizations epitomizing humanitarian efforts globally.
- 57. In a move to strengthen its international presence, 'Nandini', the dairy brand of the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF), has announced its decision to sponsor the cricket teams of Scotland and Ireland for the upcoming 2024 T20 World Cup. According to KMF's managing director, MK Jagadish, the teams will prominently display the 'Nandini' brand during the matches.
- 58. In a remarkable achievement, World No. 6 Casper Ruud of Norway defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece, clinching the ATP Barcelona Open 500 singles title. The final scoreline of 7-5, 6-3 marked a significant milestone for Ruud, as he secured the biggest trophy of his professional career.
- 59. India, led by Earth Sciences Secretary M. advocated Ravichandran, for establishment of a region-specific ocean observation center during the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference held in Barcelona, Spain. The conference, organized by the Spanish government UNESCO's and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, aimed to assess progress toward the goals of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and foster collaboration among stakeholders.
- 60. Microsoft Research Asia's AI team has introduced VASA-1, an innovative AI application showcased in a recent paper on arXiv. VASA-1 converts still images into animated representations with synchronized speech or song, exhibiting realistic facial expressions.
- **61.** India has emerged as the fourth largest military spender globally in 2023, allocating **\$83.6** billion for defense,

- following the United States, China, and Russia. This significant investment underscores India's commitment to enhancing its defense capabilities, particularly along the China border post the Ladakh standoff in 2020.
- 62. World Book and Copyright Day is a special day celebrated every year on April 23rd. The main purpose of this day is to promote reading, books, and copyright. On this day, events and activities happening all around the world to honour books and the people who create them authors. It is a way to encourage everyone to read books and understand why it is important to protect the rights of writers and publishers.
- 63. On a momentous occasion, members of the Shompen tribe, one of India's Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), exercised their democratic right for the first time by casting votes in the Andaman and Nicobar Lok Sabha constituency elections. This significant event marks a milestone for the indigenous community residing in the dense tropical rainforests of the Great Nicobar island.
- 64. The Himalayan Mountains, known as the "Third Pole" for their vast glaciers, are experiencing significant changes due to global climate shifts. Glacial retreat leads to the formation and enlargement of lakes, posing risks like Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs). Monitoring these changes is challenging but essential for understanding environmental impacts and managing risks.
- of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) recently unveiled India's largest Climate Clock at its headquarters in New Delhi. This initiative underscores CSIR's commitment to raising awareness about climate change and its adverse impacts.

- 66. On Earth Day 2024, Bhutan is spearheading the Sustainable Finance for Tiger Landscapes Conference. With a goal of mobilizing \$1 billion over a decade, the conference aims to preserve tiger habitats critical for biodiversity and supporting millions of people.
- 67. The United Nations Secretary-General,
  António Guterres, has appointed Gita
  Sabharwal of India as the new UN
  Resident Coordinator in Indonesia.
  Sabharwal assumed her post on Monday,
  bringing with her nearly three decades of
  experience in development, supporting
  climate transition, sustainable peace,
  governance, and social policy, while
  leveraging digital technology and data to
  accelerate the Sustainable Development
  Goals (SDGs).
- 68. In a historic move, President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Professor Naima Khatoon as the first woman Vice-Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), breaking a century-old glass ceiling. The appointment, seen as part of the BJP government's outreach to Muslim women, comes days ahead of the second phase of the Lok Sabha election.
- 69. In a groundbreaking collaboration, Razorpay and Airtel Payments Bank have unveiled the UPI Switch, a cuttingedge cloud-based infrastructure designed to revolutionize the landscape of digital payments. This innovative product promises to enhance success rates by 4-5% and handle an impressive 10,000 transactions per second (TPS), offering businesses unprecedented efficiency and scalability.
- 70. In a significant move, BharatPe has unveiled BharatPe One, an innovative all-in-one payment device set to redefine digital transactions. This cutting-edge product integrates POS, QR, and speaker

- functionalities into a single device, promising unparalleled convenience for merchants and customers alike.
- 71. In a significant development, PayU, the digital financial services provider, has obtained the coveted in-principle authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to function as a Payments Aggregator (PA) under the Payment Settlements Act, 2007. This approval, after a year-long process, marks a pivotal moment for PayU's operations in India.
- 72. In its recent report titled "Interwoven Lives, Threads of Hope," the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) sheds light on India's demographic landscape. With a current estimated population of 1.44 billion, India maintains its status as the most populous country globally. Notably, 24% of this vast populace falls within the age bracket of 0-14 years, indicating a significant youth demographic.
- 73. In the fiscal year 2023-24, India experienced a significant decline in its gems and jewellery exports by 14.94%, amounting to US\$32.02 billion compared to US\$37.6 billion in the previous year. The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) released provisional data highlighting this downturn.
- 74. The Indian Premier League (IPL) has been a stage for numerous bowling exploits, and several bowlers have etched their names in the record books with their outstanding performances. As the 2024 edition of the IPL unfolds, let's take a look at the top 10 highest wickettakers in the history of the tournament. Yuzvendra Chahal, the wily leg-spinner from Rajasthan Royals, stands tall as the highest wicket-taker in IPL history.
- **75.** Indian squash Player, **Saurav Ghosal**, the nation's premier player, has announced

- his retirement from professional squash. The 37-year-old's decision marks the end of an illustrious career that spanned over two decades, during which he achieved numerous milestones and brought glory to the country.
- 76. The prestigious 2024 Laureus Sports
  Awards ceremony, held in Madrid, was a grand celebration of the world's best athletes and their remarkable achievements. The event honoured several sporting icons who have left an indelible mark on their respective disciplines. Novak Djokovic, the world's top-ranked tennis player, etched his name in the annals of Laureus history by becoming the Laureus World Sportsman of the Year for the fifth time.
- 77. In a remarkable literary odyssey, P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, the Governor of Goa, has embarked on a mission to unveil the state's rich natural heritage through a series of captivating books. His latest offering, "Heavenly Islands of Goa," is a testament to his dedication to preserving and promoting the state's lesser-known facets.
- 78. National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated annually on April 24th to commemorate the establishment of the Panchayati Raj system in India. This decentralized form of governance, introduced by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1993, aimed to empower local self-governing bodies, known as Gram Panchayats, at the village level.
- 79. Every year on April 24th, the world observes the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace. This significant occasion seeks to reaffirm the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, particularly the commitment to resolving disputes among nations through peaceful means.

- 80. Indonesia's electoral commission has officially declared Prabowo Subianto as the president-elect after the country's highest court rejected challenges to his landslide victory lodged by two losing presidential candidates. Subianto, currently serving as the defense minister, secured 58.6% of the votes, amounting to more than 96 million ballots, which is more than twice the number received by either of his rivals.
- 81. The Financial Services Institutions
  Bureau (FSIB) has recommended
  candidates for the positions of Managing
  Director (MD) at State Bank of India (SBI)
  and Indian Bank. Rana Ashutosh Kumar
  Singh has been proposed for SBI MD,
  while Asheesh Pandey has been
  recommended for Indian Bank MD.
- 82. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a comprehensive master direction for asset reconstruction companies (ARCs), which will come into effect from April 24, 2024. These guidelines aim to enhance the regulatory framework for ARCs and ensure their financial stability and effectiveness in resolving distressed assets.
- 83. Kotak Mahindra Bank's shares plummeted by 10% following punitive measures imposed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which restrict the bank from on boarding new customers online and issuing fresh credit cards due to IT system deficiencies in 2022 and 2023.
- 84. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has unveiled regulations under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) to facilitate the direct listing of Indian companies on international stock exchanges. These regulations aim to streamline foreign exchange transactions and reporting procedures, offering companies greater flexibility in utilizing funds raised through overseas listings.

- 85. Reliance Jio, the telecom leader in India, has outpaced China Mobile to become the world's largest mobile operator by data traffic consumption. With a subscriber base of 481.8 million, including 108 million on its True5G Standalone network, Jio's dominance underscores its position in the global telecom market.
- 86. Legendary sprinter Usain Bolt has been named the official ambassador for the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup, cohosted by the West Indies and the United States from June 1 to 29. The Jamaican icon, known as the fastest man alive, brings his passion for cricket and global appeal to ignite the tournament and propel the sport into new territories.
- 87. A recent study conducted by Australian firm Compare the Market AU has revealed intriguing insights into global passport affordability and accessibility. According to the study, the Indian passport ranks as the second cheapest worldwide, with the UAE passport claiming the top spot for affordability. While the Indian passport offers a costeffective option in terms of both acquisition cost and yearly expenses, its visa-free access is relatively limited compared to higher-priced passports.
- 88. A recent report by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) and Ember evaluates the progress of India's clean electricity transition at the state level. While Karnataka and Gujarat maintain strong performances, states like Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh lag behind, necessitating increased efforts for renewable energy integration and decarbonization.
- **89. NASA** recently launched a ground breaking space mission from New Zealand, deploying the **Advanced**

- Composite Solar Sail System spacecraft aboard Rocket Lab's Electron rocket. This innovative spacecraft utilizes solar energy for propulsion, marking a significant leap in space exploration technology.
- 90. Two Indian student teams have brought laurels to the country by winning prestigious awards at the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge (HERC). The KIET Group of Institutions from Delhi-NCR bagged the "Crash and Burn" award, while the Kanakia International School from Mumbai received the "Rookie of the Year" award.
- 91. In Manipur, Khongjom Day is observed on April 23 to pay homage to the brave souls who fought against the British in the Khongjom Battle during the Anglo-Manipuri War of 1891. This day holds great significance in the history of Manipur, as it commemorates the valor and sacrifice of those who laid down their lives to protect their homeland.
- 92. Every year, from April 24 to 30, the world celebrates World Immunization Week. This global campaign aims to raise awareness about the importance of vaccination and its role in protecting individuals, communities, populations against preventable diseases. Vaccination campaigns have been instrumental in eradicating smallpox and nearly defeating polio, showcasing humanity's remarkable achievements the field in immunization.
- 93. Every year on April 25, World Malaria Day is observed to raise awareness about the prevention, treatment, and control of malaria, a life-threatening disease caused by mosquito bites. Malaria is prevalent in tropical and subtropical regions, but it is preventable with proper precautions and measures. This annual

- observance serves as a reminder of the global efforts needed to eradicate this disease and ensure a healthier world.
- 94. Every year on the fourth Thursday of April, the world celebrates International Girls in ICT Day. This important occasion aims to highlight the significance of girls and young women in the field of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and encourage them to pursue education and careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). This year, International Girls in ICT Day falls on April 25.
- 95. Every year on April 25, the world celebrates International Delegate's Day, recognizing the crucial role of delegates who represent their countries at the United Nations (UN). Without these dedicated individuals, the UN would not exist. This day honours the delegates' commitment to the spirit of multilateralism and their efforts to work together under the UN to solve global problems.

## **TUALCHHUNG**

- 1. Mizorama tum 13 Lok Sabha inthlanpui awm tawh zinga tum 11-ah state-a ruling party candidate than tlin an ni a, tum nih chu state sorkara ruling party ni lo candidate than tlin an ni tawh thung. INCin tum ruk Lok Sabha-ah MP an nei tawha, MNF-in tum hnih an nei tawh. Tum thum chu independent candidate than tlin a lo ni tawh bawk. Tum khat chu candidate pakhat chauh awmin, candidate awm chun a lo tling tawh. Kum 1984 khan Congress party candidate Lalduhoma chu chuhtu awm loa than tlin a ni a; hemi tum hian inthlan chuh tum zinga mi pahnih chu an document a fel loh avangin hnâwl an ni.
- 2. 19 th April a Lok Sabha MP thlan turah voter **8,56,364** an awm a, mipa 4,14,805

- leh hmeichhia 4,41,559 an nia; Tuichawng bialah voter an tam ber. Mizorama assembly constituency 40 zinga voter tamna ber constituency Tuichawng (Lawngtlai district)-ah voter 36,511 an awm a, voter tlemna ber Thoráng (Lunglei district)-ah 15,153 an awm thung. Mizoram pumah voter mi 8,56,364 an awm bakah, service voter 4,963 an awm bawk.
- 3. Mizo Students' Union (MSU) hruaitute chuan, Mizoram State Commission for Women (MSCW) chairperson atana sorkarin a ruat C Lalchhandami chu chairperson ni thei chin kum a pêl tawh niin an sawi a; chairperson atana ruat a nihna sût turin sorkar an phût. MSU hruaitute sawi danin, Planning & Programme Implementation department-in RTI Act tlawhchhana zawhna April 15, 2024-a an chhannaa a lan danin, MSCW chairperson atana ruat C Lalchhandami, AMC corporator chu March 31, 2016-ah sorkar hna atangin superannuation pensionin a chhuak tawh.
- 4. Parliamentary constituency pakhatna, Mizoram Lok Sabha inthlanpui, April 19, 2024-a neiha vote tla zat a chiang ta a, Mizoram pumah vote 56.87% a tla. Vote tla hi kum 2019 inthlanpuia vote tla 63.13% aiin 6.26%-in a tlem zawk.
- 5. Sorkar kum liam ta, April 2023 March 2024 chhung khan Mizoramah thisen unit 37,419 pek a nia, chung zinga unit 34,252 chu pek bik nei loa a thlàwna pek (voluntary donation) a ni. Kum 2022-23 chhunga thisen pek hi kum hmasaa pek zat aiin unit 9,228-in a tam zawk a, a punna hi 32.73% a tling.
- 6. Mizoram Election department chhinchhiah danin, Assembly bial 40 zinga pathum Aizawl East-I, Aizawl North-I leh Lawngtlai East bialahte vote tla 50% a tling lo. Vote tlak chhiatna ber Aizawl

**East-I** bialah voter 28,972 zinga 13,971-in vote an thlak a, vote tla percentage chu 48.22% chauh a ni. Lawngtlai East bialah voter 26,154 zinga 12,907-in vote thlakin, 49.35% a ni a; Aizawl North-I bialah voter 26,998 zinga 13,470-in vote thlakin, 49.89% a ni bawk.

## 7. Lok Sabha Election:

January 21, 1972-a Mizoramin union territory dinhmun a neih atangin Mizoramah Lok Sabha inthlan (vote thlak lohte telin) vawi 13 neih a ni tawh a, chutah chuan Indian National Congress (INC) candidate vawi ruk tling tawhin, party mala tling ngun ber an ni. Mizoramin kum 1972-a UT a nih hnua Lok

Sabha inthlan hmasa ber chu a vawi ngana a ni a, Lok Sabha MP atan chuan Mizo Union party mi **Sangliana** thlan ni mah se, vote thlâk a ni lo. Sangliana hi Mizoram atanga MP hmasa ber a ni. Kum 1984-a Lok Sabha general election-ah INC candidate Lalduhoma chu chuhtu dang awm loh vangin tlingah puan a nia; hemi tum hian chuh tuma hming pe mi dang pahnih chu hnâwl an nih avangin Lalduhoma hi candidate awm chun a ni.

