

22/04/2026 Daily Current News

1. *India's Seafood Exports:*

Context: India's Seafood Exports Hit All-Time High of ₹72,000 Crore.

Major details:

- ❖ India's seafood exports rose to a record ₹72,325.82 crore (US\$ 8.28 billion) in FY 2025–26, with volumes reaching 19.32 lakh metric tonnes, according to provisional data released by MPEDA.
- ❖ Frozen shrimp remained the primary growth driver, contributing ₹47,973.13 crore (US\$ 5.51 billion), accounting for over two-thirds of total export earnings.
- ❖ Shipments of shrimp grew 4.6% in volume and 6.35% in value, reinforcing its dominance in India's marine products export basket.
- ❖ The United States retained its position as the largest export destination, with imports totalling US\$2.32 billion. However, shipments to the US declined by 19.8% in volume and 14.5% in value, reflecting primarily the impact of reciprocal tariffs.
- ❖ This decline was offset by robust growth in alternative markets such as China, EU and Southeast Asian countries.
- ❖ Exports to China, the second-largest destination, rose 22.7% in value and 20.1% in volume.
- ❖ In terms of logistics, the top five ports—Vizag, JNPT, Kochi, Kolkata and Chennai—accounted for nearly 64% of total export value, highlighting their continued importance in India's seafood export supply chain.

2. *World Earth Day 2026:*

Context: National Science Centre, Delhi, cordially invites students and science enthusiasts to celebrate World Earth Day 2026 on Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

About World Earth Day 2026:

- ❖ This year's celebration centers on the global theme, "Our Power, Our Planet," highlighting the collective responsibility to protect and preserve our environment.
- ❖ The first Earth Day was observed in 1970 after Senator Gaylord Nelson witnessed the catastrophic effects of an oil spill in California.
- ❖ Nelson initiated a movement that brought over 20 million Americans together to rally for environmental reforms.
- ❖ This pivotal day led to the passing of significant environmental legislation in the US, including the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- ❖ In 1990, Earth Day became a global event with 200 million people and 141 countries participating.

3. *Marine Spatial Planning:*

Context: Odisha becomes first state to launch MSP. It signed an MoU with National Centre for Coastal Research, Ministry of Earth Sciences MSP was earlier taken up in two UTs- Puducherry and Lakshadweep as part of Indo-Norway Integrated Ocean Initiative (2019).

About Marine Spatial Planning:

- ❖ **Marine Spatial Planning (MSP):** Public process to organize spatial and temporal use of marine areas for ecological, economic, and social goals.
- ❖ **Significance – Blue Economy:** Promotes sustainable use of marine resources and boosts the blue economy.
- ❖ **Policy Role:** Helps allocate ocean space (e.g., offshore wind, deep-sea mining) while minimizing environmental conflicts.
- ❖ **Climate Aspect:** Enhances climate resilience through integrated ocean management.
- ❖ **Global Support:** Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO provides guidelines and supports MSP implementation worldwide.

4. Goldman Environmental Prize:

Context: For the first time in its history, the Goldman Environmental Prize has recognised an all-women group of winners, marking a major moment in global environmental leadership.

More details:

- ❖ The 2026 edition honours six female grassroots activists from different continents for their work in climate justice, biodiversity protection, Indigenous rights and anti-mining movements.
- ❖ Among them is Sasha Finch from the United Kingdom, known for her campaigns against fossil fuel expansion and opposition to new oil drilling projects.
- ❖ Other winners have led efforts in forest conservation, river and water protection, anti-mining protests and defending Indigenous communities from land exploitation.

About Goldman Environmental Prize:

- ❖ Established in 1989 by the Goldman Environmental Foundation, the Goldman Environmental Prize is often called the “Green Nobel Prize.”
- ❖ It honours grassroots environmental activists from six continental regions annually.
- ❖ The prize celebrates individuals who take significant risks to protect the environment and challenge ecological destruction through local action and public advocacy.

5. Prajna system:

Context: DRDO Gives Prajna System to MHA, Navy Tests ADC-150

More details:

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs has received the AI-enabled satellite imaging system Prajna, while the Indian Navy has successfully completed trials of the Air Droppable Container ADC-150.
- ❖ These systems are designed to improve surveillance, emergency response and operational efficiency across land and sea.

- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs received the satellite imaging system Prajna from DRDO to improve real-time decision-making for security agencies.
- ❖ DRDO and the Indian Navy also completed four successful in-flight release trials of the indigenous Air Droppable Container ADC-150 from the P8I aircraft off the coast of Goa.
- ❖ The system is designed to deliver a payload of 150 kg and can quickly provide critical stores, medical supplies and equipment to naval ships operating far from the coast during emergencies.

6. *India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) 2026:*

Context: Development initiatives, education, capacity building, expansion of diplomatic footprint, and defence cooperation are expected to be on the agenda when New Delhi hosts the Fourth India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) 2026 in May-end.

About India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) 2026:

- ❖ The India–Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) is the official platform for the African-Indian relations.
- ❖ IAFS is supposed to be held once every three years, however the rule has not been strictly followed.
- ❖ It was first held from April 4 to April 8, 2008 in New Delhi, India.
- ❖ It was the first such meeting between the heads of state and government of India and 14 countries of Africa chosen by the African Union.
- ❖ The second summit was held at the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, with India and 15 African Countries participating.
- ❖ The third summit in a rotation basis is held in New Delhi, India from 26 to 30 October 2015.

Quick Bites:

- ☐ The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu inaugurated Planetarium and Science Centre, and Nirmal Munda Parivesh Path at a public function held at Rourkela, Odisha.
- ☐ During the ongoing visit of the delegation led by H.E. Lee Jae Myung, President of the Republic of Korea, to India, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of SMEs and Startups on April 20, 2026, to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the MSME sector.
- ☐ The Breakthrough Prize Foundation has announced the 2026 laureates of the Breakthrough Prize, often called the “Oscars of Science,” which honors leading scientists in Life Sciences, Fundamental Physics, and Mathematics with \$3 million prizes, along with early-career awards like New Horizons and the Maryam Mirzakhani New Frontiers Prize; winners are selected by committees of past laureates, and the 2026 awards recognize breakthroughs such as treatments for Sickle Cell Disease and Beta Thalassemia, the development of Casgevy—the first CRISPR-based medicine—and advances in understanding the evolution of waves over time.
- ☐ A new species of snake, named Calamaria garoensis, has been discovered in the Garo Hills region of Meghalaya.
- ☐ Tennis players Carlos Alcaraz and Aryna Sabalenka were named sportsman and sportswoman of the year at the Laureus awards while Paris Saint-Germain was the team of the year.

- ☐ Ukraine has repaired the damaged Druzhba pipeline that carries Russian oil to Europe and is ready to resume supplies.

-----THE END-----