Awards

The Indian writer who has been awarded the Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2019 for his literary novel Solo – Rana Dasgupta

The journalist of Pakistan’s Dawn newspaper who has been awarded the 71st World Press Freedom Hero Award by the International Press Institute, Vienna (Austria) – Cyril Almeida

The Reuters reporters at present imprisoned in Myanmar, who have been awarded the UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize 2019 – Kyaw Soe Oo and Wa Lone

The Telugu poet who has been awarded the Saraswati Samman 2018 for his collection of poetry Pakkaki Ottigilite by the KK Birla Foundation – K Siva Reddy

The highest civilian award of Russia which has been awarded to the Indian PM Shri Narendra Modi – Order of the St Andrew, the Apostle

The Switzerland based NRI who has been awarded the Pravasiya Bharatiya Samman Award by the President of India – Dr. Rajendra Joshi

The country which has conferred its highest civilian honour named Zayed Medal upon the Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi – UAE

The integrated skill development programme launched by the Government of West Bengal with an annual target of 600,000 persons which has been awarded the World Summit on the Information Society Prize 2019 – Utkarsh Bangla

Sports

The Australian female umpire who has become the first woman to be an umpire in men’s one-day international – Claire Polosak

The team which has won the 2nd Marshal of the Indian Air Force Arjan Singh Memorial International Hockey Tournament held in Chandigarh defeating South Central Railway in the finals – Integral Coach Factory, Chennai

The Malayalam film which has won the Best Cinematography Award at the 2019 Beijing International Film Festival – Bhayanakam

The team which has won the 73rd edition of Santosh Trophy football tournament defeating Punjab in the finals – Services
The Indian women's cricketer who has been named Wisden's Leading Women's Cricketer in the World for 2018 – Smriti Mandhana

The Indian cricketer who has been named Wisden's Leading Cricketer in the World for 2018 – Virat Kohli

The former Australian hockey player who has been appointed as the coach of Indian national men's hockey team – Graham Reid

The All India Football Federation president who has become the first Indian to be elected as the member of FIFA Executive Council for a period of 4 years – Praful Patel

The team which has won the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey tournament defeating India in the finals at Ipoh, Malaysia – South Korea

The Thai badminton player who has won the Women's Singles title at the India Open badminton tournament in New Delhi defeating He Bingjiao of China in the finals – Ratchanok Intanon

The Denmark badminton player who has won the Men's Singles title at the India Open badminton tournament in New Delhi defeating India’s Kidambi Srikanth in the finals – Viktor Axelson

**Places**

The city in which the first ever summit of North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un and Russian President Vladimir Putin was held recently – Vladivostok

The African country in which the world’s first malaria vaccine RTS, S was launched for children upto 2 years – Malawi

The country which has released a commemorative stamp on the theme of Ramayana to mark 70 years of its diplomatic ties with India – Indonesia

The village in West Imphal district of Manipur which has been tagged as India’s first carbon positive settlement – Phayeng

**Persons**

The former of CEO of Network 18 Digital who has been named the new MD of Twitter in India – Manish Maheshwari

The former television serial comedian who has been elected the new President of Ukraine – Volodymyr Zelensky

The renowned Hindi poet and humorist who passed away on 12 April 2019 – Pradeep Chaubey

The well-known film actress who has been appointed as the industry head of Google India – Mayuri Kango
**Defence**

The guided missile destroyer launched by the Indian Navy at Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai is named – **INS Imphal**

The place in China at which International Fleet Review was held from 21 April with participation of INS Kolkata and INS Shakti of the Indian Navy – **Qingdao**

The 12th edition of joint military exercise between India and Singapore conducted at Babina Military Station in MP from 08 to 11 April 2019 – **Bold Kurukshetra 2019**

The Air Force officer who has been appointed the new Chief of Strategic Force Command to replace Air Marshal Jasbir Walia – **Air Marshal NS Dhillon**

The biennial bilateral maritime exercise conducted by the Navies of India and Australia off the coast of Visakhapatnam from 02 April 2019 – **AUSINDEX 2019**

**Miscellaneous**

The rank of India in the Index of Cancer Preparedness 2019 released by Economist Intelligence Unit for 28 countries – **19**

The HDFC promoted finance company with which the merger of Bandhan Bank has been approved by Competition Commission of India – **GRUH Finance**

The name given by Hawaiian language professor Larry Kimura to the first ever black hole photographed by Event Horizon Telescope – **Powehi**

The cloud management tool launched by Google allowing its users to run applications from anywhere is named – **Google Anthos**

The railway station in North East Frontier Railway zone which has become the first in the country to be awarded ISO certification (ISO-14001) by the National Green Tribunal – **Guwahati**

The country which has voted anti-corruption activist Zuzana Caputova to be its first female President – **Slovakia**

**Launch of PSLV-C45**

Launch date: 01 April 2019

Launch station: SHAR, Sriharikota

Indian Satellite launched: EMISAT (weight - 436 kg) intended for electromagnetic spectrum measurement.
Foreign Satellites launched: Bluewalker1 and M6P (Lithuania); Aistechsat-3 (Spain); Astrocast-2 (Switzerland); Flock-4A (20 satellites) and Lemur (USA). Total 28

**Important Days of April**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Designated by</th>
<th>First Observed in</th>
<th>Theme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World Autism Awareness Day</td>
<td>02 April 2019</td>
<td>UN General Assembly</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Assistive Technologies, Active Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Day of Human Space Flight</td>
<td>12 April 2019</td>
<td>UN General Assembly</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Haemophilia Day</td>
<td>17 April 2019</td>
<td>World Federation of Haemophilia</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Reaching out - connect to your community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Day for Monuments and Sites (World Heritage Day)</td>
<td>18 April 2019</td>
<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Rural Landscapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Mother Earth Day</td>
<td>22 April 2019</td>
<td>UN General Assembly</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Protect our species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN English Language Day</td>
<td>23 April 2019</td>
<td>UN Dept of Public Information</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Birthday of William Shakespeare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Malaria Day</td>
<td>25 April 2019</td>
<td>World Health Organisation</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Zero malaria starts with me</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Earth Day was first observed in 1970 in the United States and it went global in 1990. The same day was adopted by the UN in 2009 as the International Mother Earth Day.
World Intellectual Property Day: 26 April 2019  
Designated by: World Intellectual Property Organisation  
First Observed in: 2000  
Theme: Reach for Gold: IP and Sports

World Day for Safety and Health at Work: 28 April 2019  
Designated by: International Labour Organisation  
First Observed in: 2003  
Theme: Safety and Health and the Future of Work

Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Awards 2019

Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Award for music and art - Smt. Sucheta Bhide-Chapekar (Classical dancer)

Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Lifetime award (Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar) - Salim Khan (Scriptwriter)

Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Special Award - Madhur Bhandarkar and Helen for their contribution to Indian Cinema

World Press Freedom Index 2019

Released by: Reporters without Borders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>India</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>China</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Launch of satellites by Nepal and Sri Lanka

Launched from: Virginia Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport

Launch vehicle: Cygnus spacecraft on Antares 230 Rocket

1st satellite of Nepal: Nepalisat 1

1st satellite of Sri Lanka: Raavana 1

Stratolaunch - World's largest airplane

Built by: Stratolaunch Systems Corp

Maiden flight: Mojave desert, California
Wingspan: 117 metres.

Number of engines: 6 Boeing 747 engines

Fuselage (body): 2

Designed: To drop rockets and other space vehicles at an altitude of 35,000 feet.

Note: Stratolaunch is a company setup by Microsoft co-founder Late Paul Allen

**NIRF India Rankings 2019**

The President of India released ‘NIRF India Rankings 2019’ for Higher Education Institutions.

List of top ranking institute in each category is as follows:

1. Overall: Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
2. Management: Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru
3. University: Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru
4. College: Miranda House, Delhi
5. Pharmacy: Jamia Hamdard, Delhi
6. Medical: All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
7. Architecture: Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
8. Law: National Law School of India University, Bengaluru

**Books in News**

The Overstory - Richard Powers (Awarded Pulitzer Prize for fiction)

Quichotte - Salman Rushdie

Mail your queries, complaints and suggestions to admin@leadthecompetition.in