

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



DAILY DOSE

CURRENT AFFAIRS – 20/04/2026

1. Tribute to Jagadguru Basaveshwara on Basava Jayanthi:

Recent - PM Modi paid tribute to Jagadguru Basaveshwara on Basava Jayanti.

Jagadguru Basaveshwara, also called Basavanna, was a 12th-century Kannada poet, philosopher, statesman, and social reformer.

Born into a Brahmin family in Karnataka, he served as the Prime Minister in the court of the Kalachuri king Bijjala II.

He founded the Lingayat movement, rooted in devotion to Lord Shiva and social equality.

He introduced wearing the Ishtalinga—a small lingam in a necklace—to symbolise a direct link with Lord Shiva, bypassing priestly mediation.

His philosophy emphasised ‘Kayaka’ and ‘Dasoha’ , urging sincere work and equitable sharing of surplus wealth with the underprivileged.

2. National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust:

Recent - Parliamentary Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel presented its 23rd report on the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust.

Establishment: NMEDT was set up in 2015 under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

Autonomous Status: Made a non-profit autonomous body after the 2021 amendment to the MMDR Act, 1957.

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY

Institutional Structure: Two-tier system—Governing Body (chaired by Mines Minister) and Executive Committee (chaired by Mines Secretary).

3. Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary:

Recent - Gauhati High Court questioned Assam government over unauthorized tree felling in Amchang Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS) for the Guwahati Ring Road Project.

It lies on the eastern fringe of Guwahati, Assam, bounded to the north by the Brahmaputra and to the east by the Digaru.

Topographically, it is an extension of Meghalaya's Khasi and Jaintia Hills, declared a WLS in 2004.

Significance: It is recognised as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) hosting threatened species like slender-billed and white-backed vultures.

4. Kulsi River:

Recent – A proposed hydropower project on the Kulsi River is facing opposition from local residents.

It is a south-bank tributary of the Brahmaputra River.

It is composed of three rivers, namely Khri, Krishniya, and Umsiri, all of which originate from the West Khasi hill ranges of Meghalaya from an elevation of over 1800 metres and flow north.

The river is known as Khri in the upper catchments, and after being joined by two other tributaries, namely Krishniya and Umsiri, within the Khasi hills in Meghalaya, it flows northwest and enters Assam at Ukium.

After that it flows north up to Kulsi village through the plains of the Kamrup District of Assam.

Finally, it outflows into the Brahmaputra near Nagarbera.

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY

It is considered one of the last refuges of the endangered Gangetic dolphin (*Platanista gangetica gangetica*) in Assam.

5. Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool:

Recent – the union government took a decisive step to shield its seaborne trade from global disruptions with the creation of the Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool (BMI Pool).

It is a new domestic maritime insurance scheme designed to safeguard the country's shipping and trade interests during periods of global instability.

It is a Centre-backed mechanism designed to ensure uninterrupted and affordable maritime insurance coverage.

It is backed by a sovereign guarantee of Rs 12,980 crore.

The BMI Pool will provide insurance support to Indian-flagged vessels, Indian-controlled ships, and vessels carrying cargo to or from India, including those passing through volatile maritime routes.