

# PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY



## DAILY DOSE

### CURRENT AFFAIRS – 29/04/2026

#### 1. Holocene-Period Marine Fossil Bed Discovered in Tamil Nadu:

**Recent** - A fossil bed was recently surveyed in the Panaiyur region of Tamil Nadu.

**Age:** The fossils were dated to the middle-to-late Holocene, roughly 8,000 to 12,000 years ago.

**Specimens:** 104 fossil specimens were identified, primarily marine invertebrates, including bivalves and gastropods (sea snails).

Holocene Epoch is the current geological period under the Cenozoic Era. It began about 11,700 years ago, following the Pleistocene Ice Age.

#### 2. Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Defence Ministers' Meeting:

**Recent** - Defence Minister Rajnath Singh called for a united front against terrorism at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Defence Ministers' meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

**Format:** The SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting is an annual gathering of defence agency heads from all member states.

**Mandate:** It aims to combat the "Three Evils" (terrorism, separatism, extremism), maintain regional stability, and strengthen mutual trust among members.

#### 3. Enhanced CAR-T Therapy for Solid Tumour Treatment:

**Recent** - Scientists recently introduced a breakthrough in CAR-T cell therapy to destroy hard-to-treat solid tumours.

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Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy genetically engineers a patient's T-cells to recognise and destroy specific disease-causing cells.

T-cells are white blood cells that identify and destroy infected cells, foreign invaders, and cancer cells.

Researchers created the HLA-independent T-cell (HIT) receptor that activates T-cells through their natural pathway instead of relying on a strong synthetic signal.

This receptor can detect and kill cancer cells even when they express low levels of the target protein.

## 4. WHO Clears Coartem Baby as First Malaria Drug for Newborns:

**Recent** - World Health Organization (WHO) prequalified Coartem Baby, the first malaria drug specifically designed for newborns and young infants.

**Formulation:** It is an artemether-lumefantrine formulation developed by Novartis and Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV), for infants weighing 2-5 kg.

**Administration:** Unlike adult versions, it dissolves in liquid, including breast milk, and comes in a sweet cherry flavour for easier infant administration.

## 5. Exercise Pragati:

**Recent** - Indian Army will host the inaugural edition of the multilateral exercise 'Pragati' at the Foreign Training Node in Umroi, Meghalaya.

Pragati stands for 'Partnership of Regional Armies for Growth and Transformation in the Indian Ocean Region', symbolising collective security commitments.

The exercise will take place with participation from 11 friendly foreign countries (FFCs).

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