

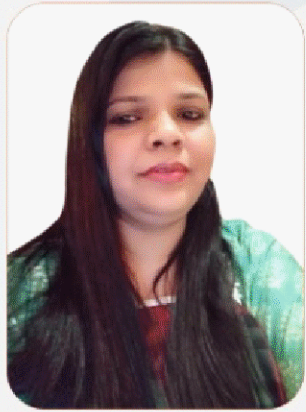


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# EXCELLENT MIND GAME COACHING CLASSES (EMGC)

## मंजिल आपकी पहुँचाएँगे हम



**Shama Qureshi**  
**Director**

# DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS GK BOOSTER

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Medium**

**18  
April  
2025**

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# EXCELLENT MIND GAME COACHING CLASSES (EMGC)

## Current Affairs Related to 18th April

- ◆ **Ladakh, an apricot producing region of both Leh and Kargil areas, is celebrating a series of events in connection with the Apricot Blossom Festival, 2025 to promote tourism in the Union Territory.** Inspired by the Cherry Blossom Festival of Meghalaya in the Northeast, the Apricot Blossom Festival was launched by Ladakh two years ago to promote eco-tourism in one of India's most favourite tourist destinations. The celebrations in Kargil began on the 11th at Sanjak village and May 4 will be the last day of the festival at Tar village in Ladakh.
- ◆ **Kannada novel Heart Lamp has become the first book in the language to be shortlisted for the International Booker Prize 2025.** Karnataka writer, activist and lawyer Banu Mushtaq's short story collection Heart Lamp has been selected for the International Booker Prize 2025. Deepa Bhashti has translated the work from Kannada to English. This is the first time a Kannada book has made it this far in the race for the prestigious literary award. The 12 stories originally published between 1990 and 2023 will now compete with writers from across the world.
- ◆ **PLFS 2024 report sees marginal decline in rural unemployment, urban labour participation rises.** The latest annual report of the Periodic Labour Force Survey from January to December 2024 was released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. According to the latest data from the PLFS, India's unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above saw a marginal decline from 5.0% in 2023 to 4.9% in 2024.
- ◆ **India and Russia have finalised six strategic initiatives. These are aimed at deepening the investment partnership between the two countries.** This decision was taken during the eighth meeting of the India-Russia Working Group on Priority Investment Projects. The meeting was held in New Delhi. It focused on increasing economic cooperation. The session promoted joint ventures in areas of common interests. The India Russia Investment Forum was also held along with the meeting.
- ◆ **In a historic initiative towards appraising and promoting local governance, the Ministry of State for Finance has released the Baseline Report of Panchayat Advancement Forum for the first time for the financial year 2022-2023.**
- ◆ **The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a new sub scheme Command Area Development and Modernization of Water Management under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sina Yojana.** This scheme has a total budget of Rs 1600 crore for 2025-2026. It aims to strengthen infrastructure, train water use laboratories, and increase the income of farmers and entrepreneurs through integration of modern technology in the agricultural sector. This sub scheme will serve as a precursor to a comprehensive national scheme to be launched during the 16th Finance Commission period in April 2026.
- ◆ **The Cabinet Committee on Security, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved a deal worth about Rs 63,000 crore to buy 26 Rafale M fighter jets from France for the Indian Navy.** The deal includes 22 single-seater jets that can operate from aircraft carriers and four twin-seater training jets that cannot operate from aircraft carriers. CCS approval is the final step for the government-to-government deal, and the agreement now awaits formal conclusion. The deal is expected to be signed during the French Defence Minister's visit to India later this month.
- ◆ **Dallas-based biotech company Colossal Biosciences has for the first time successfully recreated a stud, a dire wolf that lived about 12,500 years ago.** Using modern DNA technology and gene editing techniques like CRISPR, the company has produced three dire wolf pups. The achievement is a historic milestone in the field of de-extinction.
- ◆ **The 9th edition of the Global Technology Summit was jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and Carnegie India in New Delhi.** The summit brings together global leaders from various sectors, including government, industry, hobbyists and civil society, with the aim of shaping global technology policy. With the theme Prospects, GTS 2025 discussed the role of emerging technologies and how they can drive societal development, improve digital access.

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## National & International Current Affairs

**1. When is World Heritage Day celebrated every year?**

- (A) 16 April (B) 17 April  
(C) 18 April (D) 19 April

**(C)** World Heritage Day is celebrated every year on 18 April to recognize the efforts of all concerned organizations in this field and to preserve human heritage. This day was declared by the International Council on Monuments and Sites in 1982 and approved by the General Assembly of UNESCO in 1983.



**2. Recently, Los Angeles will make a historic comeback in the Olympic Games in which year?**

- (A) 2028 (B) 2030  
(C) 2032 (D) 2035

**(A)** Cricket is officially making a historic comeback in the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games, as confirmed by the International Olympic Committee. The sport includes six six-man and six-man T20 tournaments, with a total quota of 90 athletes for each gender. It details the return of cricket to the Olympics after 128 years, having only featured in the 1900 Paris Games before this.



**3. Recently, India has provided assistance of how many lakh US dollars to Sierra Leone through the United Nations?**

- (A) 420,000 (B) 635,000  
(C) 880,000 (D) 990,000

**(D)** India has announced a project aimed at providing financial assistance of 9.9 million US dollars to advertisers in Sierra Leone. Its first name is Enabling Economic Self-Reliance for Specially Disabled People in Sierra Leone, which is supported under the India United Nations Development Corporation Fund and is being implemented in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme.



**4. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated development assistance worth how many crore rupees?**

- (A) 1620 crore (B) 2350 crore  
(C) 3880 crore (D) 4280 crore

**(C)** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and inaugurated development projects worth more than Rs. 3880 crore in Varanasi. These projects are in the fields of archaeological evidence, energy, education, law and order, public welfare and cultural heritage. Its aim is to transform Varanasi into a modern city, while also preserving its rich cultural heritage.



**5. Recently which country has built a 3D printed railway station in six hours?**

- (A) Japan (B) Israel  
(C) Sri Lanka (D) America

**(A)** Under an engineering faculty, West Japan Railway Company built the world's first 3D telecommunication railway station, which was installed in Erida City of Wakayama Prefecture in just less than six hours. The name of this station is Hatsushima Station and it is an old wooden station serving since 1948.



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6. Which has recently become India's first unicorn company in 2025?

- (A) Zeta (B) MoneyTap  
(C) JUSPAY (D) None of these

(C) Recently, Bengaluru-based payments infrastructure company Shnechal has got the distinction of becoming India's first unicorn of 2025. The company has raised \$60 million in Series D funding. This investment round was led by Gyamkantan Ventures, in which existing investors Vpizthinda and OBMS also participated.



7. Which country has recently signed the Artemis Accords with NASA on non-military space exploration?

- (A) Nepal (B) Bangladesh  
(C) Canada (D) Bhutan

(B) Bangladesh revealed its scope in space at the international level by signing the Artemis Accords. This historic move made Bangladesh the 54th country to sign this agreement. The event was held in Dhaka, in which Defense Secretary Ashrafuddin represented Bangladesh. NASA advisor Janet Petro welcomed Bangladesh's decision and described it as the beginning of a new era of space cooperation.



8. Mount Kanlaon, which was in the news recently, is located in which country?

- (A) Philippines (B) Japan  
(C) Indonesia (D) Germany

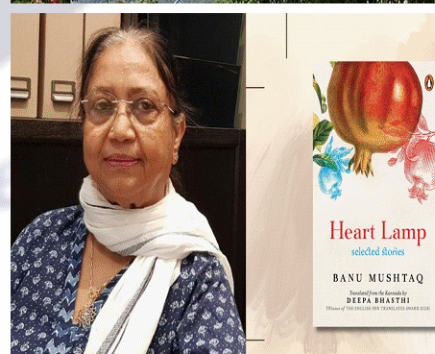
(A) Mount Kanlaon volcano in the Philippines erupted on Negros Island in the central part of the country. The eruption began shortly after dawn and lasted for more than an hour, sending a plume of ash and debris 4 kilometers into the sky. As a result, ash fell on at least four agricultural villages southwest of the volcano.



9. Whose short story collection Heart Lamp has recently been selected for the International Booker Prize 2025?

- (A) Satish Chavva (B) Gopal Vithal  
(C) Banu Mushtaq (D) None of these

(C) Recently, Karnataka-based writer, activist and lawyer Banu Mushtaq's short story collection Heart Lamp was included in the list of International Booker Prize 2025 in London. This story has been translated from Kannada to English by Deepa Bhasthi. For the first time, a Kannada book has been included in the list of potential books for the prestigious Booker Prize 2025.



10. Where was the 8th session of the India-Russia Working Group on Priority Investment Projects held recently?

- (A) Moscow (B) New Delhi  
(C) Mumbai (D) None of these

(B) Recently India and Russia have agreed on six new strategic projects to strengthen bilateral investment relations, which is an important step towards deepening the economic cooperation of the two countries. This agreement was reached during the 8th session of the India-Russia Working Group on Priority Investment Projects held in New Delhi.

