



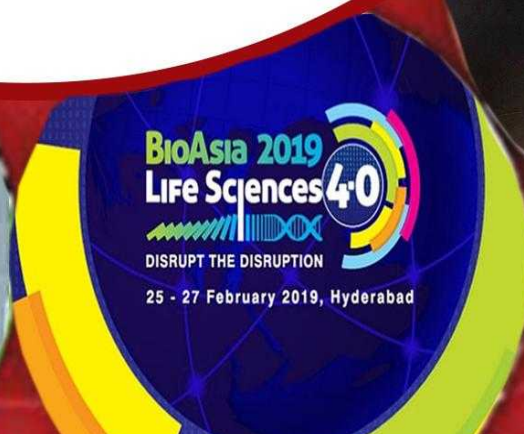
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APRIL - 2019

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We Shine Academy™
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Main Office @

Weshine Study Circle

Chromepet, Chennai

Phone: 8939144344, 8939244344

Branch Office @

Weshine Study Circle

Plot No: 47/60, "AK" Block,
7th Main Road, Anna Nagar
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 040.

3rd Floor, West Wing, Gokul Arcarde,
No.2, Sardar Patel Road, Adyar
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 020.

<https://weshineacademy.com>

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NATIONAL NEWS

- Recently, **Reporters Without Borders** released World Press Freedom Index 2019 in which Norway topped the index in third consecutive year and India drops down by two positions (138th rank in 2018) to be ranked **140th out of 180 countries** in 2019.
 - The reason for decrease in India's rank is because of at least six Indian journalists being killed in last one year.
- Saudi Arabia will host G20 summit in **November 2020** in **Riyadh**. This will be the first G20 meeting in the Arab world and the 15th meeting of the G20 (Group of Twenty).
 - The G20 summit 2018 was held in **Buenos Aires**, Argentina where Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince, Mohammad Bin Salman Al Saud represented his kingdom. The G20 summit of 2019 will be held in **Osaka**, Japan in June 28-29.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- **Nepal** has launched its first satellite "**NepaliSat-1**" into space. The satellite was launched in the early morning (2:31 am) of Baishak 5, 2076 on 18th April, 2019.
 - NepaliSat-1 satellite was launched by CygnusNG11 mission by NASA in Virginia, USA.
- On April 18, 2019 Sri Lanka launched its first satellite 'Raavana-1' weighing **1.05 kg** into space from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility on Virginia's East Shore. The satellite is expected to orbit **400 km** away from earth and will have the lifespan of an estimated **1.5 years**.

ECONOMY

- The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (**DIPAM**) stated guidelines for monetisation of non-core assets of Central Public Sector Enterprises (**CPSEs**) and immovable enemy properties.

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SPORTS

- The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has imposed a fine of 170,000 Euros on Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) for not honouring the Pro League commitments and has given PHF time-limit till 20th June, on failure of which PHF would have to pay double the penalty.
 - The PHF was fined because it did not send the national team for the Pro League matches in Argentina, Australia and New Zealand.

APPOINTMENTS

- The premier Industry body India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) committed to the development of a vibrant Indian Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) ecosystem, has appointed Jitendra Chaddah, Intel India senior director for operations and strategy, as Chairman.
 - He succeeds Anil Kumar Muniswamy.

IMPORTANT DAYS

- **World Heritage Day**, which is also known as International Day for Monuments and Sites is an annual event celebrated on 18th April every year.
 - This year, the theme of the World Heritage Day is “**Rural Landscapes**”.