

## April 20 Current Affairs: Smriti Mandhana Record and Rajya Sabha Election Updates and More

April 20, 2026: Start your day with a comprehensive roundup of the most significant news from India and across the globe. Staying current with daily events is a cornerstone for success in competitive exams like WBCS, SSC, and Banking. We have compiled the essential facts and integrated them with static GK to boost your preparation.

### National & State News

#### 01 Harivansh Narayan Singh Secures Third Term as RS Deputy Chairman

In a rare political milestone, Harivansh Narayan Singh has been unanimously re-elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. His name was formally proposed by JP Nadda, the Leader of the House. Notably, he is the first non-Congress leader to hold this prestigious office for three consecutive terms. According to Article 89 of the Constitution, the Deputy Chairman steps in to preside over the proceedings in the absence of the Chairman.

#### ☑ Related Static GK

- The Vice-President of India holds the position of ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.
- Article 80 details the composition and strength of the Upper House.
- Rajya Sabha members are elected for six years, with a third of the members retiring every two years.

#### 02 Meghalaya Elevates Khasi and Garo to Official Status

The Meghalaya cabinet has taken a significant step toward cultural preservation by approving the "Meghalaya Official Languages Ordinance 2026." This move grants administrative status to Khasi and Garo, meaning these indigenous languages will now be used alongside English for government notifications and competitive exams. The state cabinet invoked its powers under Article 345 to implement this historical change.

#### ☑ Related Static GK

- Shillong is the capital of Meghalaya and is often called the "Scotland of the East."
- Conrad Sangma currently serves as the Chief Minister.

- The state's geography is defined by the Garo, Khasi, and Jaintia Hills.

## Sports Updates

### 03 Smriti Mandhana Shatters T20I Scoring Record

Indian cricket star Smriti Mandhana has etched her name in history by becoming the highest run-scorer for India in T20 Internationals. During a high-octane clash against South Africa in Durban, she overtook Rohit Sharma's long-standing record of 4,231 runs. Mandhana's tally now stands at 4,244 runs, cementing her status as a titan of the game's shortest format.

#### Related Static GK

- Smriti Mandhana was the recipient of the ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year award in 2018.
- She is the captain of the Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the Women's Premier League (WPL).

### 04 Shubhankar Sharma Wins Bounders Classic 2026

Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma displayed exceptional skill to win the inaugural Bounders Classic 2026 title. Held at the Bounders Hills Golf and Country Club in Hyderabad, the tournament was a key fixture on the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI) circuit.

#### Related Static GK

- Shubhankar Sharma was honored with the Arjuna Award in 2018.
- He holds the record for being the youngest Indian to clinch the Asian Tour Order of Merit.

## Awards & Recognition

### 05 WWF National Award for Anish Yusuf

Botanist Anish Yusuf from Kerala has been conferred with the WWF National Award 2026. The honor was presented during the National Eco Youth Innovation Summit in Hyderabad for his groundbreaking AI-powered mobile app, "Neophyte ID." This application helps identify over 100 invasive plant species that threaten local biodiversity. WWF has also extended a grant of 1.5 lakh rupees to support this project.

#### Related Static GK

- The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is based in Gland, Switzerland.
- WWF India began its operations in 1969 to promote nature conservation.

### 06 Sayani Gupta Named Harvard South Asian Person of the Year

Bollywood actress Sayani Gupta has been recognized as the "Person of the Year 2026" by the Harvard South Asian Association. She was honored for her contribution to cinema and her dedication to representing South Asian identity on the global stage.

#### Related Static GK

- Sayani Gupta is acclaimed for her performances in movies like 'Article 15' and 'Margarita with a Straw.'
- Harvard University is a premier Ivy League institution located in Massachusetts, USA.

## International & Health

### 07 World Bank's Vision for Water Security

World Bank President Ajay Banga has launched the "Water Forward" initiative, aiming to provide water security for 1 billion people by 2030. With 4 billion people currently facing water scarcity, the program focuses on three main pillars: water for people, water for food, and water for the planet.

#### Related Static GK

- The World Bank's headquarters is located in Washington D.C., USA.
- The institution was established in 1944 following the Bretton Woods Conference.

## 08 World Liver Day 2026

World Liver Day was observed on April 19 to raise awareness about liver health. The theme for 2026 is "Solid Habits, Strong Liver." Since 2010, the European Association for the Study of the Liver has been spearheading this global observance.

### Related Static GK

- The liver is the largest internal organ and is unique for its ability to regenerate naturally.
- It is responsible for the secretion of bile, which is essential for digestion.

## Legal & Obituary

## 09 Supreme Court Ruling on Dowry Prohibition

The Supreme Court has delivered a landmark judgment concerning the Dowry Prohibition Act 1961. The court ruled that if a woman files a case of dowry harassment, the husband's side cannot file a counter-case alleging that the woman "gave dowry." This decision, rooted in Section 7(3) of the Act, is designed to protect victims from retaliatory legal action.

### Related Static GK

- The Dowry Prohibition Act was passed in India on May 20, 1961.
- Both giving and receiving dowry are criminal offenses under Indian law.

## 10 Remembering N. Ramachandran

The Indian sporting community mourns the passing of N. Ramachandran at the age of 77. A former President of the Indian Olympic Association (2014-2017), he also served as the head of the World Squash Federation, making him a key figure in international sports administration.

### Related Static GK

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) was founded in 1927.

- Sir Dorabji Tata was the first person to lead the IOA as its President.

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