

Daily Current Affairs: 23 April 2026 Important Current Affairs

Welcome to the daily current affairs update for 23 April 2026. This report covers the most significant events from the international, national, and state levels. For those diligently preparing for competitive exams, these insights are compiled to help you stay ahead and master these topics with ease.

Environment and Conservation

01 Shekha Lake Bird Sanctuary: India's 99th Ramsar Site

Located in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, the Shekha Lake Bird Sanctuary has officially been designated as India's 99th Ramsar site. This freshwater lake is a vital refuge for migratory birds, serving as a habitat for over 170 different species.

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- The Ramsar Convention was held in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971 to promote wetland conservation.
- Tamil Nadu currently holds the highest count of Ramsar sites in India, with 20.
- In 1981, Chilika Lake (Odisha) and Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan) became the first Indian sites to receive this recognition.

02 State of India's Bats Report 2024-25

For the first time, a comprehensive report on India's bat population has been released by the Nature Conservation Foundation and Bat Conservation International. The study confirms that India is home to 135 distinct bat species.

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- West Bengal records the highest diversity of bat species, with 68 documented types.
- The 'Collared Leaf-nosed Bat' in Karnataka is currently categorized as Critically Endangered.
- Bats play a pivotal role in the ecosystem, particularly in pollination and natural pest control.

National News

03 CBI's AI Chatbot 'Abhay'

To combat the rising threat of digital arrests and online scams, the CBI has launched an AI chatbot named 'Abhay'. Every official CBI notice will now carry a unique QR code, allowing citizens to verify the authenticity of the document via the chatbot instantly.

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- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is the premier investigative agency of the Government of India.
- Established in 1963, the agency is headquartered in New Delhi.
- Its operations are governed by the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

04 PM Internship Scheme 2026

Significant changes have been introduced to the internship scheme that began in 2024. The monthly stipend has been hiked from ₹5,000 to ₹9,000, and the eligibility age bracket has been expanded to 18–25 years.

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- The initiative aims to provide hands-on industry experience to youth in India's top 500 companies.
- The government plans to provide employment opportunities to 10 million young people through this scheme.
- It operates as a key component of the Skill India Mission.

Awards and Honors

05 Global Green Icon Award for J. Santosh Kumar

Renowned environmentalist and former MP J. Santosh Kumar has been conferred with the 'Global Green Icon Award' by the UK's House of Lords. He is widely recognized for initiating the 'Green India Challenge' in 2018.

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- J. Santosh Kumar is the author of the notable books 'Vriksha Vedam 2.0' and 'Wings of Passion'.
- The Green India Challenge is considered one of the world's largest citizen-led environmental efforts, according to the Guinness World Records.

General News

06 World Book and Copyright Day

Observed annually on 23 April, this day was first initiated by UNESCO in 1995. The day serves to encourage reading habits and promote awareness regarding copyright and intellectual property.

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- UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) is headquartered in Paris, France.
- This day highlights the importance of creativity and the protection of intellectual rights on a global scale.

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