1. **World Trade Organization (WTO):** Recently, the WTO revised its global merchandise trade volume growth forecast for 2025 to a decline of 0.2%, amid fears over the U.S. tariff developments.
   - **About World Trade Organization:** It is an intergovernmental organization that regulates and facilitates international trade between nations.
     - **Establishment:** It came into operation in 1995, following the 1994 Marrakesh Agreement.
     - **Predecessor:** WTO replaced the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), established in 1948.
     - **Trade Areas:** It facilitates trade in goods, services and intellectual property by providing a framework for negotiating trade agreements.
     - **Agreements:** Aim to reduce or eliminate tariffs, quotas, and other restrictions, signed and ratified by member governments.
     - **Membership:** WTO has 164 member states, representing over 96% of global trade and global GDP.
     - **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
     - **Decision-making:** By consensus, with all 164 members enjoying veto powers.
   - **About WTO's Global Trade Outlook and Statistics Report:** As per the report, the World merchandise trade volume projected to grow 2.6% in 2024 and 3.3% in 2025, after a decline of -1.2% in 2023.
     - **GDP Trends:** World real GDP growth slowed from 3.1% in 2022 to 2.7% in 2023, and is expected to stay at 2.6% (2024) and 2.7% (2025).
     - **Inflation Outlook:** Inflation is expected to gradually abate in 2024–25, boosting real incomes and consumption in advanced economies.
2. **Ranthambore National Park:** Recently, Tiger Attack killed a seven-year-old boy near the Trinetra Ganesh temple in the Ranthambore National Park, located in Rajasthan's Sawai Madhopur district.
   - **About Ranthambhore National Park:** It is located at the junction (Great Boundary Fault) of the Aravalis and Vindhyan ranges in the state of Rajasthan.
   - **History:** It was once a royal hunting ground for the Maharajas of Jaipur.
   - **Size and Importance:** It is one of the largest tiger reserves in northern India and one of the best places in the country to monitor the tiger due to climatic and vegetational features.

- **Rivers:** The Rivers Chambal in the South and the **Banas River** in the North bound the tiger reserve.
- **Cultural Heritage:** Other structures like Ranthambore Fort, a World Heritage Site, is located within RTR.
- **Vegetation:** Includes Northern Tropical Dry Deciduous forests and Dry deciduous scrub.
- **Flora:** Pure stands of Dhok tree (Anogeissus pendula) interspersed with grasslands at the plateaus, and other species like Acacia, Capparis, Zizyphus and Prosopis species etc. are found here.
- **Fauna:** It consists of leopard, caracal, jungle cat, sambar, chital, chinkara, and wild boar.

3. **Leptobrachium Aryatium:** New Frog Species, named Leptobrachium aryatium, has been officially identified in Assam after a 21-year-long study.



- **About Leptobrachium aryatium:** The frog was first studied in 2004 but was originally misidentified as Leptobrachium smithi.
- **Location**: This species was found in the Garbhanga Reserve Forest, located on the southwestern edge of Guwahati, Assam, bordering Meghalaya.
- **Ecological Importance:** It lies adjacent to Deepor Beel, a Ramsar site, and forms a crucial part of the Garbhanga-Rani-Deepar Beel elephant corridor, highlighting its importance in regional wildlife movement.
- **Naming Origin:** The frog has been named after Arya Vidyapeeth College, a prominent educational institution in Guwahati, in recognition of its role in transforming the local area from a liquor brewing hub to an educationally respected zone.
- **Family:** Leptobrachium aryatium is a newly discovered species of frog belonging to the family Megophryidae, known for their distinctive broad heads and camouflaged appearance.
- **Genus Characteristics:** Leptobrachium aryatium belongs to the Leptobrachium genus, which includes stocky frogs with broad heads, short hind limbs, and distinctively coloured eyes.
- **Distinct Features:** This new species is notable for its fiery orange-and-black eyes, a reticulated throat pattern, and a rhythmic dusk-time call.
- **Scientific Confirmation:** Confirmation of its status as a new species was done through morphological examination, DNA analysis, and bioacoustic studies (study of call patterns).

4. **Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme:** The Ministry of Ayush conducted a session of the Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme, aimed at enhancing the service orientation and professional skills of its employees.
   - **About Rashtriya Karmayogi Jan Seva Programme:** Organised in collaboration with the Capacity Building Commission under **the Mission Karmayogi framework**.
     - **Citizen-Centric Approach**: The event aimed to inspire and guide employees to adopt the Karmayogi Way, emphasizing a citizen-centric approach to governance.
   - **About Mission Karmayogi:** It is the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) aimed at preparing civil servants to be more creative, constructive, and innovative through transparency and technology.
     - **Programme Goal:** This unique programme aims to lay the foundation for civil servants in the country.
     - **Learning Approach:** There will be more focus on 'on-site learning' to complement "off-site learning".
     - **Approval Date:** On 2nd September 2020, Government approved the NPCSCB with six key pillars.
     - **Six Pillars:** These include Policy Framework, Institutional Framework, Competency Framework, Digital Learning Framework (iGOT-Karmayogi), electronic Human Resource Management System (e-HRMS) and the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.
     - **Coverage:** The Programme will cover all civil servants (including contractual employees) across various ministries, departments, organizations, and agencies of the Union Government.
   - **About My iGOT**: It delivers **targeted training courses** on the officer's home page based on their **Capacity-Building Plan**.
5. **Exercise DUSTLIK-VI:** Recently, the Exercise DUSTLIK-VI commenced at the Foreign Training Node, Aundh (Pune), Maharashtra, scheduled from 16 April to 28 April 2025.
   - **About Exercise DUSTLIK-VI:** Between India & Uzbekistan
     - **Indian Contingent**: 60 personnel from a Battalion of the JAT Regiment and the Indian Air Force (IAF).

- **Uzbekistan Contingent**: Represented by personnel from the Uzbekistan Army.
- **Annual Event**: Conducted alternatively in India and Uzbekistan.
- **Last Edition**: Held in Termez District, Uzbekistan, in April 2024.
- **Exercise Theme**: Joint Multi-Domain Sub-Conventional Operations in a Semi-Urban Scenario.
- **Operational Focus**: Response to terrorist action involving capture of defined territory.
- **Exercise Scope**: Includes drones, counter-UAS measures, and logistics support by the IAF.
- **Exercise Objective**: Sharing best practices in Tactics, Techniques and Procedures.
- **Defence Cooperation**: Further strengthened, enhancing bilateral ties between India and Uzbekistan.

6. **Meghayan 25: 3rd** edition of the Indian Navy's Meteorological and Oceanological Symposium - Meghayan 25 was held recently. The event commemorated the formation of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and celebrated WMO Day 2025.
   - **About Meghayan 25:**
     - **Participants:** Included distinguished experts, senior naval officers, outstation guests, and stakeholders from the meteorological and oceanographic spectrum.
     - **Participating Organisations:** Included IMD, IITM, INCOIS, NIOT, IAF, SAC–ISRO, NMF, and IIT Madras.
     - **Theme:** Aligned with WMO Day theme – 'Closing the Early Warning Gap Together'.
     - Focused on "Closing the Early Warning Gap Together: Enhancing Maritime Security and Coordination",
   - **About World Meteorological Organisation (WMO):** It is a specialised agency of the United Nations (UN).
     - **Origin:** Evolved from the International Meteorological Organization (IMO) founded in 1873.
     - **Established:** WMO was established in 1950.
     - **Main Goal:** Facilitates international cooperation in meteorology, climate, hydrology, and related environmental fields.
     - **Membership:** Comprises 193 Members – 187 Member States and 6 Territories.
     - **Headquarters:** Located in Geneva, Switzerland.

7. **Yimkhiung Tribe:** Recently, the Yimkhiung Tribal Council (YTC) led a protest in Pungro Town, Nagaland against the Indo-Myanmar border fencing and abolition of the Free Movement Regime (FMR).
   - **About:** Yimkhiung Tribe is one of the major Naga tribes, residing in eastern Nagaland's Kiphire district and adjoining areas in Myanmar.
     - Society is clan-based, with traditions of oral history, festivals, and communal land ownership.
     - Community divided by the international border, which is viewed as an "imaginary line" splitting families and ancestral lands.
     - Yimkhiungrü language belongs to the Sino-Tibetan family and is spoken by over 100,000 people across 100+ villages/towns.
     - Tsüngkamnyo is their most important post-harvest festival.
   - **Recent Controversy:** In February 2024, the Indian government ended the Free Movement Regime (FMR) and proposed fencing the 1,643 km Indo-Myanmar border, including 215 km in Nagaland.
     - FMR earlier allowed visa-free movement up to 16 km (later reduced to 10 km) across the border for social, cultural, and economic exchanges.
8. **India's Retail Inflation:** As per the recent PIB report, the India's Retail Inflation fell to 4.6% in FY 2024–25, the lowest since 2018–19, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
   - **About:** Retail inflation eased for the third consecutive year, from 6.7% in 2022–23, to 5.4% in 2023–24, and 4.6% in 2024–25. Key drivers included enhanced buffer stocks, subsidised retail sales of staples, and periodic market releases.
   - **About:** Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a major indicator to measure changes in retail price levels over time. It reflects the cost of a fixed basket of goods and services such as food, clothing, housing, and fuel.
     - CPI is compiled by the NSO under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, using base year 2012.
     - CPI tracks price changes by comparing the current cost of the fixed basket to its previous cost. When prices rise, CPI increases (inflation); when prices fall, CPI declines (deflation).