



News Articles – April 29, 2018

April 29, 2019 Shiksha IAS Academy

International Relations:

Modi, Xi detail measures to resolve border issue(The Hindu)

India and China have decided to reboot efforts to resolve their border row so that they can focus on Asia's rise in a post-western world.

Economy:

Draft mission to kick-start renewable energy storage(The Hindu)

The draft National Energy Storage Mission expects to kick-start grid-connected energy storage in India, set up a regulatory framework, and encourage indigenous manufacture of batteries, according to a member of the expert committee set up by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) last month.

U.S. again places India on 'watch list'(The Hindu)

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has once again placed India on 'Priority Watch List' in its annual Special 301 Report on the state of intellectual property protection.

The lowdown on rising fuel prices(The Hindu)

There is no strict rule that lower international crude oil prices must lead to lower domestic fuel prices. This is because, under a free pricing regime, petrol and diesel are priced according to what consumers are willing to pay rather than based on input costs. At the same time, there are other ways in which input costs can indirectly influence the retail price.

Science and Technology:

A blow to 'last hope' drug(The Hindu Opinion)

The emergence of resistance is a natural process. However, it accelerates and spreads through antibiotic misuse and overuse. Indiscriminate antibiotic use exerts greater evolutionary-selection pressure on bacteria, which causes susceptible populations to die and resistant ones to survive.

Closing in on rabies(The Hindu Opinion)



Rabies is caused by a dangerous virus. A bite or even a scratch from an infected animal — 99% of the time, it is a dog — and the victim will, after an incubation period of anywhere between a week and a year, develop the disease's tell-tale symptoms: fever, headache, nausea and death.

[Novel technique to detect paraffin oil contamination in coconut oil](#)(The Hindu)

Using a novel approach, researchers at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras have for the first time been able to use mass spectrometry to analyse various saturated and unsaturated hydrocarbons directly from solutions. Ionising the constituent molecules of a hydrocarbon sample for detection using mass spectrometry has not been easy till date as hydrocarbons do not tend to lose or gain electrons to form ions.

[Researchers mechanically divide liposomes in the lab](#)(The Hindu)

All living cells are enclosed in a lipid envelope. Thus, a liposome, which is a lipid bubble filled with water, is the simplest mimic of a living cell. Generating pure liposomes in a controlled fashion in the lab is not simple.

Government Policies:

[Strengthening the shield](#)(The Hindu Opinion)

India launched the Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) in 1985. Given that it had only 65% full immunisation coverage, the government launched Mission Indradhanush with an intensified approach to achieving full immunisation.

Environment:

[New plants from Western Ghats](#)(The Hindu)

Kozhikkode is also home to a new balsam species, *Impatiens saulierei*, which the researchers discovered from wet, rocky surfaces in Kakkayam's evergreen forests.

[How Oman's rocks could help save the planet](#)(The Hindu)

Carbon mineralisation could remove some of the heat-trapping carbon dioxide that humans have pumped into the air.