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8 April 2026

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CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

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TODAY'S TOP STORIES

1. Amaravati Notified as Sole Capital of Andhra Pradesh

The Ministry of Law and Justice formally notified **Amaravati as the single, exclusive capital of Andhra Pradesh** through the **AP Reorganisation (Amendment) Act, 2026**, amending Section 5 of the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014. The notification legally nullifies the previous YSR Congress government's **three-capital formula** (Amaravati as legislative, Visakhapatnam as executive, Kurnool as judicial capital). The amendment inserts an effective date of **June 2, 2024** — aligning it with the TDP-led NDA government's assumption of power.

2. GeM Crosses ₹18.4 Lakh Crore Cumulative GMV

The **Government e-Marketplace (GeM)** has surpassed a cumulative **Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of ₹18.4 lakh crore** since its 2016 launch. FY 2025–26 alone contributed **₹5 lakh crore+** — the highest single-year figure ever — with MSEs capturing 68% of orders by volume and women-led MSEs crossing **₹28,000 crore** in orders (28% YoY growth). State government procurement on GeM grew **38.3% YoY** in FY26.

3. India Records Highest-Ever Wind Power Addition — 6.05 GW in FY26

India added **6.05 GW of wind energy capacity in FY 2025–26**, surpassing the previous record of 5.5 GW set in FY17 and posting **46% growth** over FY25's 4.15 GW. Total installed wind capacity has crossed **56 GW**, with Gujarat, Karnataka, and Maharashtra leading. India's wind target is **140 GW by 2030** as part of the 500 GW non-fossil fuel goal.

4. Indian Army Releases UAS and Loitering Munitions Technology Roadmap

The Indian Army published a **50-page technology roadmap for Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and Loitering Munitions**, covering **30 UAS types across ~80 variants** in five operational categories: surveillance, loitering munitions, air-defence UAS, special-role UAS, and logistics UAS. Released by Lt Gen Rahul R Singh at Bharat Mandapam, the roadmap emphasises **indigenous development** under Aatmanirbhar Bharat and signals future procurement priorities.

5. ZSI Discovers Two New Marine Nematode Species off Tamil Nadu

Scientists from the **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)** discovered two new free-living marine nematode species — **Corononema dhriti** and **Epacanthion indica** — from the Tamil Nadu coastline. *Corononema dhriti* is only the **4th known species** of its genus globally; *Epacanthion indica* is named after India and functions as a microscopic benthic predator. The discovery adds to India's poorly documented marine biodiversity.

6. MoEFCC Releases Draft Rules for Coastal Tar Ball Management

The **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** released **draft rules for managing tar balls** — hydrocarbon residue lumps that wash ashore from oil spills and ship discharges. The rules propose identification protocols, cleanup responsibilities, and reporting mechanisms linked to India's obligations under **MARPOL** (International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships). India's **7,516 km coastline** is regularly affected, especially in Kerala, Goa, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra.

ALSO IN NEWS

- **Morgan Stanley** revised India's GDP forecast for FY27 down **30 basis points to 6.2%**, citing West Asia conflict spillover and a widening current account deficit (~2.5% of GDP). Q1 FY27 estimate: 5.9%.
- **RBI cancelled** the licence of **Shirpur Merchants' Co-operative Bank**, Maharashtra (effective April 6) due to capital inadequacy. Depositors covered up to **₹5 lakh under DICGC**.
- **NSO-MoSPI** launched India's first **Annual Survey of Incorporated Services Sector Enterprises (ASISSE)** covering ~1.21 lakh enterprises for FY 2024–25 reference period using the GSTN database.



- **World Health Day 2026** (April 7) theme: **“Together for Health. Stand with Science”** — marking WHO’s founding on April 7, 1948.

FACTS CORNER

ITEM	FACT
GeM cumulative GMV	₹18.4 lakh crore (since 2016)
GeM FY26 GMV	₹5 lakh crore+ (highest ever)
Wind power added FY26	6.05 GW (new all-time record)
Previous wind record	5.5 GW (FY2016–17)
India total wind capacity	56 GW+
Army UAS Roadmap	50 pages, 30 UAS types, 5 categories
New ZSI nematode species	2 (Corononema dhriti, Epacanthion indica)
Tar ball coastline affected	7,516 km
Morgan Stanley FY27 GDP	6.2% (down 30 bps)
DICGC deposit cover	₹5 lakh per depositor

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Amaravati Notified as Sole Capital of Andhra Pradesh — AP...



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CURATED & WRITTEN BY

Bharat Choudhary

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)[Read Full Article on Ujiyari](#) →<https://ujiyari.com/daily/2026/04/08/current-affairs-today/>

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