



UPSC & STATE PCS CURRENT AFFAIRS · UJIYARI.COM

DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Current Affairs Today — April 27, 2026

27 April 2026

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)**ALSO FROM THE CREATOR****BharatNotes**Free UPSC notes, MCQs, PYQ analysis. **100% Free.**bharatnotes.com →**ADVERTISE****Advertise with Ujiyari**

Reach thousands of UPSC aspirants daily.

epicbharat@gmail.com

Current Affairs Today — April 27, 2026

27 April 2026 · 5 min read ·

1 tag ▾

TODAY'S TOP STORIES

1. India-New Zealand FTA Signed — 100% Duty-Free Access, 5,000 Work Visas

India and New Zealand signed a landmark Free Trade Agreement on April 27, 2026, granting **100% duty-free access for all Indian exports** to New Zealand across all tariff lines. Key provisions: **5,000 temporary work visas annually** for Indian professionals (IT, engineering, healthcare, AYUSH practitioners, Indian chefs); **1,000 working holiday visas** for young Indians; **\$20 billion FDI commitment** from New Zealand; dedicated AYUSH annex (first in any New Zealand FTA). **Dairy sector excluded** to protect Indian farmers. Target: double bilateral trade from ~\$2.5 billion to \$5 billion in 5 years. The 20-chapter agreement covers goods, services, investment, customs, SPS, TBT, and dispute settlement. | *GS2/GS3*

2. PM Modi in Sikkim — ₹4,000 Crore Projects, 50th Statehood Anniversary

Prime Minister Narendra Modi began a two-day visit to Sikkim (April 27-28) to participate in the **50th Year of Statehood celebrations** at Paljor Stadium, Gangtok. Projects worth over **₹4,000 crore** inaugurated/laid: permanent campus of Sikkim University at Yangang; Helen Lepcha Medical College; Dentam Professional College; 100-bedded Ayurveda Hospital at Yangang; **Integrated Sowa Rigpa Hospital at NIT Deorali** (traditional Tibetan medicine); two hinged double-lane steel arch bridges over River Teesta; IT infrastructure in 160 schools; Orchidarium (world-class Orchid Experience Centre) at Gangtok. | *GS2/GS3*

3. Ladakh Gets 5 New Districts — Total Now 7

Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena approved the creation of **five new districts** in Ladakh UT on April 27, 2026 — **Nubra, Sham, Changthang, Zaskar, and Drass** — increasing the total from 2 (Leh, Kargil) to 7. The decision, originally approved by MHA in August 2024, aims to strengthen grassroots governance and decentralise administration in remote high-altitude areas. District headquarter complexes will be built at Diskit (Nubra), Khaltsi (Sham), Nyoma (Changthang), Padum (Zaskar), and Drass (Drass). | *GS2/Polity*

4. Rajnath Singh at SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting, Bishkek

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh attended the **SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan** (April 27-28). India's agenda: **zero tolerance for terrorism and extremism**; counter-terrorism strategies; joint military exercises; intelligence-sharing mechanisms. Rajnath held bilateral meetings with defence

ministers of SCO member states. The SCO includes India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, and Belarus (10 full members). | *GS2/IR*

5. US Imposes 123% Anti-Dumping Duty on Indian Solar Exports

The US Department of Commerce imposed a **preliminary anti-dumping duty of 123.04%** on solar cells and modules imported from India — pushing the combined tariff burden **beyond 200%** when added to existing 125%+ countervailing duties. Companies affected: Mundra Solar, Premier Energies. Complaint originally filed in July 2025 by US solar industry body. Final determination expected in 75 days. Impact: severe blow to India's solar export ambitions, particularly for the upcoming \$500 million US solar module market. | *GS3/IR*

6. Raghu Rai Passes Away — India's Greatest Photojournalist, 83

Raghu Rai, India's legendary photographer and **first Indian member of Magnum Photos** (nominated by Henri Cartier-Bresson in 1977), died in Delhi on April 26, 2026, at age 83 after battling cancer. He documented the **Bangladesh Liberation War, Bhopal Gas Tragedy, and the Emergency** with iconic images. Author of 56 photography books; Raghu Rai Foundation archived 50,000+ images. He was trained as a civil engineer before discovering photography in the 1960s. | *GS1*

7. Supreme Court Sets Nationwide ICU Standards — States Get 3 Weeks

The Supreme Court (Bench: Justices Amanullah and Mahadevan) directed all states and UTs to implement **uniform minimum ICU standards** prepared by an expert committee (AIIMS doctor Nitish Naik, ASG Aishwarya Bhati). Three-tier classification (Level 1, 2, 3 ICUs) with defined staffing, equipment, and admission criteria. Each bed must have oxygen supply, suction, and power backup. **Nurse-to-patient ratio: 1:1 for ventilated patients.** Tele-ICU/e-ICU suggested for smaller centres. States given 3 weeks to submit action plan; matter listed for May 18. | *GS2/GS3*

QUICK BITES

- **Maharashtra Compressed Biogas (CBG) Policy 2026** — Maharashtra approved a policy for CBG production from organic waste, targeting blending in the city gas distribution network; ₹500 crore incentive package. | *GS3*
- **IMD heatwave alert** — Delhi-NCR temperatures at 43–45°C on April 27; IMD issued red alert for 5 states including Rajasthan, UP, Haryana. | *GS3/Disaster*
- **NEET-UG 2026 admit cards** — NTA issued NEET-UG 2026 admit cards on April 27; examination scheduled for May 4, 2026 across 571 cities. | *GS2*

- China iron battery breakthrough** — China developed an all-iron flow battery for large-scale energy storage, reducing cost per kWh by ~40% vs vanadium-based systems — potential competitor to lithium for grid storage. | GS3

FACTS CORNER

ITEM	FACT
India-NZ FTA signed	April 27, 2026
India-NZ FTA — India export access	100% tariff lines duty-free to NZ
India-NZ FTA — work visas	5,000 annually (IT, engineering, healthcare, AYUSH)
India-NZ FTA — working holiday visas	1,000 annually (young Indians, up to 1 year)
India-NZ FTA — FDI commitment	\$20 billion over 15 years
India-NZ FTA — dairy	Excluded (India protected dairy)
India-NZ FTA — trade target	\$5 billion in 5 years (from ~\$2.5 bn)
Sikkim statehood year	50th anniversary of statehood (1975–2026)
Modi Sikkim projects	₹4,000+ crore
Sowa Rigpa	Tibetan traditional medicine system
Ladakh new districts	5 new (Nubra, Sham, Changthang, Zaskar, Drass)
Ladakh total districts	7 (from 2)
SCO meeting	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
SCO — India's stated position	Zero tolerance for terrorism
US solar duty	123.04% anti-dumping + 125%+ CVD = >200% combined
Raghu Rai	Died April 26, 2026; age 83; first Indian in Magnum Photos (1977)
Supreme Court ICU	3-tier classification; 1:1 nurse ratio for ventilated; 3-week state action plan

[OLDER ARTICLE →](#)

India-New Zealand FTA 2026 — 100% Duty-Free Access, AYUSH...



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/2026/04/27/current-affairs-today/>

ALSO FROM THE CREATOR

BharatNotes

Free UPSC study platform — subject-wise notes across all 4 GS papers, Prelims MCQs, Mains answer frameworks, PYQ analysis & progress tracking. **100% Free • No Login Required.**

[Start Preparing](http://bharatnotes.com) → bharatnotes.com

📌 OPPORTUNITY

Advertise with Ujiyari

Reach **thousands of serious UPSC & State PCS aspirants** daily through our PDFs, website, and social channels.

Ideal for: Coaching institutes • EdTech platforms • Book publishers • Exam prep apps

[✉ epicbharat@gmail.com](mailto:epicbharat@gmail.com)

Write to us for rates & media kit

Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs · ujiyari.com · bharatnotes.com