MAY

1

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY

Salute to all the workers who work tirelessly every day to bring peace and stability to society.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY

The 1st of May, or first Monday in May, is a national public holiday in many countries, in most cases known as "International Workers' Day" or a similar name. Some countries celebrate a Labour Day on other dates significant to them, such as the United States and Canada, which celebrate Labor Day on the first Monday of September. In 1955, the Catholic Church dedicated 1 May to "Saint Joseph the Worker". Saint Joseph is the patron saint of workers and craftsmen, among others.

INDEX

Banned 23 canine breeds in Tamil Nadu

- The Tamil Nadu Animal Husbandry Department recently banned 23 canine breeds deemed 'ferocious', including well-known varieties such as the Rottweiler, Pitbull Terrier, and Tosa Inu. This decision was heavily influenced by a traumatic occurrence in Chennai in which a Rottweiler badly harmed a youngster.

Incident Leading To The Ban

- An incident at a park in Chennai's Thousand Lights region, in which a five-year-old girl was assaulted by two Rottweiler dogs, prompted this regulatory move. The youngster, a security guard's daughter, was playing when the dogs attacked her, causing serious injuries.

- List of dog breeds that were banned by the Centre

- Pitbull Terrier, Tosa Inu, American Staffordshire Terrier, Fila Brasileiro, Dogo Argentino, American Bulldog, Boerboel Kangal, Central Asian Shepherd Dog and Caucasian Shepherd Dog are among the breeds sought to be banned from the Centre.

- Other breeds included South Russian Shepherd Dog, Tornjak, Sarplaninac, Japanese Tosa and Akita, Mastiffs, Terriers, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Wolf Dogs, Canario, Akbash Dog, Moscow Guard Dog, Cane Corso and Bandog.

- "... the above dog breeds, including crossbreeds, shall be prohibited for import, breedings, selling as pet dogs and other purposes," the government letter said, quoting the recommendations of the expert panel.

- The Centre has published the Prevention of Cruelty to the Animal (Dog Breeding and Marketing) rules, 2017 and the Prevent of Cruelty to Animal (pet shop) rules, 2018.

A new scheme in the name of Ambedkar

- The Tamil Nadu government announced this scheme last May and it is named as 'Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme'.

- It is a loan scheme exclusively for aspiring entrepreneurs belonging to Adi Dravidian and tribal communities.

- This is implemented by the Tamil Nadu Small, Micro and Medium Enterprises Department (MSME Department).

What are the benefits of this?

- Direct farming cannot be applied for under this scheme. Apart from that, any kind of new business related to manufacturing, trading and service can be started through this loan.

- A capital subsidy of 35% of the total valuation of the new industrial project will be provided. A maximum loan amount of Rs 1.5 crore can be availed.

- 65% of the total project will be arranged as bank loan. The remaining 35% will be the government's share as upfront subsidy. So far, the government will pay 6% of the interest rate of the loan taken from the bank to start the business.

- The Tamil Nadu government has earmarked Rs.100 crore for this project in the current financial year.

Bandham Sevai – Chennai Police

- To cater to the needs of senior citizens above 75 years of age, Chennai Metropolitan Police Department has launched "Bandham" service.

- Through this project

- *Available security assistance

- * Medical service available

- *You can get mental health counseling

- *Get legal advice

- And

- *Call our Bandham - 94999-57575 for urgent assistance.

Project Cheetah

- INDIA IS likely to host a delegation of Kenyan officials later this month to explore the possibility of sourcing cheetahs from the east African country for the next phase of Project Cheetah, sources aware of developments said.

- The Gandhi Sagar wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh was chosen as the second site for reintroduction of cheetahs last year.

- The authorities will host the Kenyan delegation to primarily discuss their willingness to translocate cheetahs to India, the terms of such a translocation, including the number of cheetahs they are willing to part with. As part of Project Cheetah, India plans to introduce eight to 14 cheetahs annually for five years, subject to availability.

BSNL will start rolling out 4G services

- State-owned BSNL will start rolling out 4G services across the country from August, using completely indigenous technology in line with the government's "Atmanirbhar" policy, according to official sources. BSNL officials claimed to have recorded peak speed of 40-45 megabit per second on the 4G network which has been rolled out in the premium spectrum band of 700 megahertz (Mhz) as well as in 2,100 Mhz band during the pilot phase.

- The company has rolled out 4G services in Punjab using indigenously developed technology by IT company TCS and state-run telecom research organisation C-DoT-led consortium and onboarded around 8 lakh subscribers.

Religion-based reservations

- Religion-based reservation in a secular country like India raises constitutional questions.

- Religion-based reservations refer to the policy of providing special benefits, quotas, or reservations in educational institutions and government jobs based on religious affiliation or identity.

- In the Indian context, these reservations aim to address historical socio-economic disparities faced by certain religious communities, particularly those identified as socially and educationally backward.

- The purpose of religion-based reservations is rooted in the principle of social justice and affirmative action to uplift marginalized sections of society.

- Historically, certain religious communities have faced discrimination and exclusion, leading to socio-economic backwardness. Reservation policies seek to remedy these inequalities by providing opportunities for education, employment, and representation in government services.

Pre-Independence Era

- During the 19th and early 20th centuries, India witnessed various social reform movements aimed at addressing caste-based discrimination and social inequities.

- Leaders like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Jyotirao Phule, and B.R. Ambedkar advocated for social reforms and upliftment of marginalized communities, including those based on religious identities.

Self-Healing Road Technology

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is exploring new technology to create pothole-free highways. This involves revolutionary creation of self-healing roads, which incorporate technology that allow roadways to repair themselves automatically under certain situations.

Understanding Self-Healing Road Technology

- Numerous technologies are in various phases of development to achieve self-repairing capabilities in roadways. This includes-

- Microencapsulation- It is the process of incorporating microcapsules containing therapeutic ingredients into asphalt. When fractures form, the capsules shatter and release the chemical that seals the cracks. The Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands conducted substantial study on this technology.

- Induction heating- It involves incorporating steel fibres into the asphalt mix. When fractures emerge, an induction machine heats the fibres, melting the asphalt around them and closing the cracks. This technique is currently undergoing testing in the Netherlands and China.

- Bacteria-Based Self-Healing- Calcium carbonate is produced by bacteria and can be used to seal cracks in concrete roads. This type of research is currently underway at Binghamton University in New York.

Oleander banned in kerala

- A week after a young woman died of accidental poisoning from oleander leaves, two Kerala government-run temple boards have banned the use of oleander flowers in food offered to the deity (naivedhya) and to the devotees (prasadam).

- The decision was taken by the Travancore Devaswom (temple) Board (TDB), which manages 1,200-odd temples, and the Malabar Devaswom Board (MDB), which has 1,300-odd temples under its control.

First woman DGP of Meghalaya

- IPS Idashisha Nongrang has become the first woman DGP of Meghalaya. She is the IPS officer of the 1992 batch belonging to the Assam-Meghalaya cadre (Meghalaya Wing). IPS Nongrang has been appointed the new DGP of the northeastern state for two years from May 20, 2024, to May 19, 2026. IPS Nongrang will replace LR Bishnoi who will retire on May 19. She currently holds the position of Special DG at Meghalaya Police.

World University Rankings (CWUR)

- As many as 65 Indian universities and institutes from India, led by the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, are among the top 2000 globally but the country is losing its competitiveness in higher education on the international stage, according to the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR).

- In the 2024 edition of the Global 2000 list by the CWUR, 32 Indian institutions moved up the ladder, while 33 saw a fall.

- IIM-A, the country's top institute stood at 410th rank globally, as compared to 419 last year. It was followed by the Indian Institute of Science (501) and the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (568).

UNESCO MOWCAP

- Three Indian literary works, Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahrdayaloka-Locana, were added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register.

- The Memory of the World Programme is an international programme aimed at safeguarding, preserving and facilitating access to and the use of documentary heritage.

- UNESCO launched the Program in 1992.

- The Programme includes the inscription of significant documentary heritage on national, regional and international registers.

Significance of the works

Ramcharitmanas:

- Ramcharitmanas is an epic poem in the Awadhi language, composed by the 16th-century Indian bhakti poet Tulsidas (c. 1511–1623).

- It has many inspirations, the primary being the Ramayana of Valmiki.

- This work is also called, in popular parlance, Tulsi Ramayana, Tulsikrit Ramayana, Tulsidas Ramayana or simply Manas.

- The word Ramcharitmanas literally means "Lake of the deeds of Rama".

- Tulsidas began writing the Ramcharitmanas in Ayodhya in Vikram Samvat 1631 (1574 CE).

- Another version was written in Arabic in the 18th century, highlighting the appeal of the

text for West Asia and other parts of the world as well, according to Gaur.

- The Ramayana and Ramcharitmanas are read in not only India but also in other Southeast Asian countries such as Cambodia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia.

Panchatantra:

- The Panchatantra is an ancient Indian collection of interrelated animal fables in Sanskrit verse and prose, arranged within a frame story.

- The surviving work is dated to about 200 BCE, but the fables are likely much more ancient.

- Vishnu Sharma was an Indian scholar and author who wrote the Panchatantra, a collection of fables

- It is likely a Hindu text, and based on older oral traditions with animal fables that are as old as we are able to imagine.

- The Panchatantra fables were zeroed in owing to their universal moral values.

Sahrdayaloka-Locana:

- The Sahrdayāloka-Locana by Acharya Anandvardhana is a critical work that explores aesthetics and literary theory, shaping Indian literary discourse.

- The 15th-century Sahrdayaloka-Locana, by Kashmiri scholars Acharya Anandvardhan and Abhinavagupta, was chosen because of its aesthetics.

Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2024

- Delhi has been placed 350 in the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2024, making it the highest ranked Indian city. The ranking compares the world's 1000 cities.

- Bengaluru, India's IT hub, stood at 411, higher than the country's financial capital Mumbai, which stood at 427.

- On the other hand, Sultanpur in Uttar Pradesh ranked last in the index, at 1000th place.

- Delhi Ranks 350 In Oxford Global Cities Index Report 2024

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About:

- Released the Global Cities Index Report is an annual report that ranks roughly 1,000 largest cities across the world, spanning 163 different countries in five crucial categories.

- The index is calculated based on scores across categories such as Economics, Human Capital, Quality of Life, Environment, and Governance. These scores are combined to generate an overall rank for each city. In 2023, cities in the report accounted for 60% of global GDP and 30% of the world's population.

- Once again, New York achieved the highest ranking in all five categories with a score of 100, followed by London and San Jose securing the 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively.

- Mumbai was ranked 915th in terms of quality of life, while Thrissur, a city in Kerala, achieved the 757th position in the Quality of Life category in India. On the other hand, Saharanpur, a city in Uttar Pradesh, ranked lowest at 966th place.

World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024

- India has climbed to the 39th position in the World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024, while US topped the list. India also ranks the highest in South Asia among the lower-middle-income economies. Earlier, India was ranked 54th in 2021 published index.

- On an overall index score of 7, where 1 is the worst, and 7 the best, India scored 4.25. India's significant leap in the rankings underscores its growing competitiveness in the global tourism landscape. The biennial index analyzed the travel and tourism sectors of 119 countries, evaluating them on a range of factors and policies that foster tourism development.

7000-year-old Prehistoric Settlement in Serbia

- According to reports, archaeologists have discovered a previously unknown prehistoric settlement of notable size in southeastern Europe. If reports are to go by, this pre-historic is believed to be dating back approximately 7,000 years to the late Neolithic period, where this settlement is situated near the Tamiš River in the Banat region of northeastern Serbia, a landlocked country in the Balkans.

- "This discovery holds exceptional significance, as few larger Late Neolithic settlements have been identified in the Serbian Banat region," as per the research leader Martin Furholt from the Institute of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Archaeology (IPPA) at Kiel University in Germany.

Covid-19 variants - USA

- FLiRT, a group of new Covid-19 variants from the Omicron JN.1 lineage, is rapidly spreading in the United States, causing concern about a summer infection wave. With new mutations, KP.2 and KP 1.1 variants are deemed to be more contagious than past Omicron variants, however, specialists say the side-effects stay pretty much similar.

- The KP.2 has taken over the JN.1 variant in the country, however, cases of hospitalisations have not surged, according to media reports. KP.1.1, one more FLiRT variant, has been observed in the US, but is not very prevalent compared to KP.2. The nickname 'FLiRT' depends on the technical names for their mutations, as per the Infectious Disease Society of America.

Sheet of gold

- For the first time, researchers have created a free-standing sheet of gold that is only one atom thick. This makes gold the first metal to be formulated into (freestanding) 2D sheets — opening up a host of exciting possibilities for the future.

Developing golden

- Creating 'goldene', as the one-atom thick material has been named, was not easy for the scientists behind the development, from Sweden's Linköping University . It is not that such 2D materials have not been created before.

- Since the 2004 development of graphene, the atom-thin material made of carbon, scientists have identified hundreds of 2D materials.

Battlefield nuclear weapons - Russia

- Russia said it plans to hold drills simulating the use of battlefield nuclear weapons amid rising tensions following comments by senior Western officials about the possibility of deeper involvement in the war in Ukraine. The announcement came on the eve of Russian Prez Vladimir Putin's inauguration to a fifth term in office.

- The drills are a response to "provocative statements and threats of certain Western officials regarding the Russian Federation," the defence ministry said in a statement.

India and Taiwan for another six months - visa exemption

- Thailand has extended its visa exemption program for tourists from India and Taiwan for another six months, allowing these travelers to enter the country without a visa until November 11, 2024. The move aims to attract more foreign visitors to boost Thailand's economy, which relies heavily on tourism.

- According to a Bloomberg report, Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin announced the extension following a cabinet meeting ,

indicating that travelers from India and Taiwan can stay for a maximum of 30 days without a visa.

- This extension comes after the success of the initial waiver implemented last November. Previously, tourists from India and Taiwan were allowed to stay in Thailand for only 15 days under a visa-on-arrival scheme. By extending the exemption, Thailand hopes to encourage longer stays and more frequent visits from these countries.

EU Adopts First Law Against Violence Towards Women

- European Union countries backed the bloc's first law devoted to combatting violence against women, although the text controversially failed to settle on a common definition of rape.

- The sweeping law aims to protect women in the 27-nation EU from gender-based violence, forced marriages, female genital mutilation and online harassment.

- The European Parliament already approved the rules in April and the countries' green light was the last step before it becomes law.

- "This law will guarantee EU-wide that its perpetrators will be strongly sanctioned and that its victims will receive all the support they need," said Belgium justice minister, Paul Van Tigchelt.

- The law criminalises cyber stalking, cyber harassment and cyber incitement to hatred or violence across the EU. It sets minimum sentences, ranging from one year to five years in prison, depending on the crime.

- Under the rules, if the victim is a child, spouse or ex-spouse, the punishment can be more severe.

World Migration Report 2024

- The International Organization for Migration (IOM) launched the World Migration Report 2024, which reveals significant shifts in global migration patterns, including a record number of displaced people and a major increase in international remittances.

- IOM Director General Amy Pope formally released the report in Bangladesh, which stands at the forefront of migration challenges, including emigration, immigration and displacement.

- "The World Migration Report 2024 helps demystify the complexity of human mobility through evidence-based data and analysis," IOM Director General Amy Pope said at the launch. "In a world grappling with uncertainty, understanding migration dynamics is essential for informed decision-making and effective policy responses, and the World Migration Report advances this understanding by shedding light on longstanding trends and emerging challenges."

- The report highlights that international migration remains a driver of human development and economic growth, highlighted by a more than 650 per cent increase in international remittances from 2000 to 2022, rising from USD 128 billion to USD 831 billion. The growth continued despite predictions from many analysts that remittances would decrease substantially because of COVID-19.

- Of that 831 billion in remittances, 647 billion were sent by migrants to low– and middle-income countries. These remittances can constitute a significant portion of those countries' GDPs, and globally, these remittances now surpass foreign direct investment in those countries.

- Highlighting key findings, the report reveals that while international migration continues to drive human development, challenges persist. With an estimated 281 million international migrants worldwide, the number of displaced individuals due to conflict, violence, disaster, and other reasons has surged to the highest levels in modern-day records, reaching 117 million, underscoring the urgency of addressing displacement crises.

Rights and privileges to Palestine

- The U.N. General Assembly voted by a wide margin to grant new "rights and privileges" to Palestine and called on the Security Council to reconsider Palestine's request to become the 194th member of the United Nations.

- The 193-member world body approved the Arab and Palestinian-sponsored resolution by a vote of 143-9 with 25 abstentions. The United States voted against the resolution, along with Israel, Argentina, Czechia, Hungary, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau and Papua New Guinea.

- The vote reflected the wide global support for full membership of Palestine in the United Nations, with many countries expressing outrage at the escalating death toll in Gaza and fears of a major Israeli offensive in Rafah, a southern city where about 1.3 million Palestinians have sought refuge.

- Under the U.N. Charter, prospective members of the United Nations must be "peace-loving" and the Security Council must recommend their admission to the General Assembly for final approval. Palestine became a U.N. non-member observer state in 2012.

- But unlike in the Security Council, there are no vetoes in the General Assembly. The resolution required a two-thirds majority of members voting and got significantly more than the 118 vote minimum.

Operation of Chabahar Port -India and Iran

- India and Iran signed a 10-year long-term bilateral contract for the operation of Chabahar Port, a vital cog in India's trade plans with central Asia and parts of Europe, the union ministry of ports, shipping, and waterways announced.

- Under the agreement – signed between India Port Global Limited (IPGL) and the Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO) of Iran – India will develop the strategic port for 10 years.

- "The Chabahar Port, located on Iran's southwestern coast, has easy access to India's west coast. It also forms a crucial link in the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC). The long-term contract will give a significant boost to economic activities and establish our growing role in developing global trade & commerce," Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal .

Discovered evidence of Sahul

- Archaeologists have discovered evidence of Sahul, a lost supercontinent that allowed humans to migrate from Asia to Australia some 70,000 years ago. This research suggests that there may be numerous unknown historic sites around the world.

About Sahul

- Sahul was a supercontinent exposed during the last ice age as a result of glaciation, which reduced global sea levels. This continent united modern-day Australia with Papua New Guinea to the north and Tasmania to the south.

Discovery Of Sahul

- Researchers used data analysis and reverse engineering of geological and climatic factors to recreate Sahul's landscape from 75,000 to 35,000 years ago. The simulation revealed two possible migratory routes and several archeological sites, showing that ancient humans moved over this region in search of resources.

Significance

- The discovery of Sahul sheds light on ancient human migration patterns and illustrates people' remarkable adaption to a variety of harsh conditions. This breakthrough could lead to the discovery of further historical mysteries.

Fatah-II guide rocket system

- The Pakistan Army successfully conducted the test-launch of Fatah-II guided rocket system that has a range of 400 kilometres. The rocket system will significantly upgrade the reach and lethality of the army's conventional arsenal.

- The guidance system makes this rocket a precision weapon enhancing its lethality and efficacy, while the trajectory mode and terminal guidance technology enables it to evade the enemy's anti-ballistic missile systems.

- Fatah-II is being inducted in the artillery divisions of the army for stand-off and precision engagement of deep target strikes and it would be used in conventional warfare by the Pakistan Army.

- The flight test was witnessed by the army chief, senior officers of the three services and scientists and engineers.

Venezuela's Glaciers

- Venezuela has reached a significant and grim milestone in the battle against climate change by losing its last glacier. The Humboldt glacier, also known as La Corona, has diminished to the extent that it no longer meets the criteria for glacier classification.

Venezuela's Glacier Coverage

- In 1910, Venezuela had six glaciers covering 1,000 square kilometers. By 2011, five of these glaciers had vanished, leaving only the Humboldt glacier. As of the latest reports, even this last glacier has shrunk drastically.

- The complete melting of Venezuela's glaciers highlights the severe impact of climate change. Glaciers are critical sources of freshwater and play a vital role in local ecosystems. Their disappearance has devastating implications for the environment and communities relying on these water sources.

World Health Assembly (WHA) 2024

The Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly convenes in Geneva, Switzerland, from May 27 to June 1, 2024, under the theme "All for Health, Health for All." Live webcasts of the proceedings will be accessible, featuring simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

Arrangement of Hypersonic Weapons

- Japan and the United States signed an arrangement to jointly develop a new type of missile defense system as the allies seek to defend against the growing threat of hypersonic weapons, which are possessed by China and Russia and being tested by North Korea.
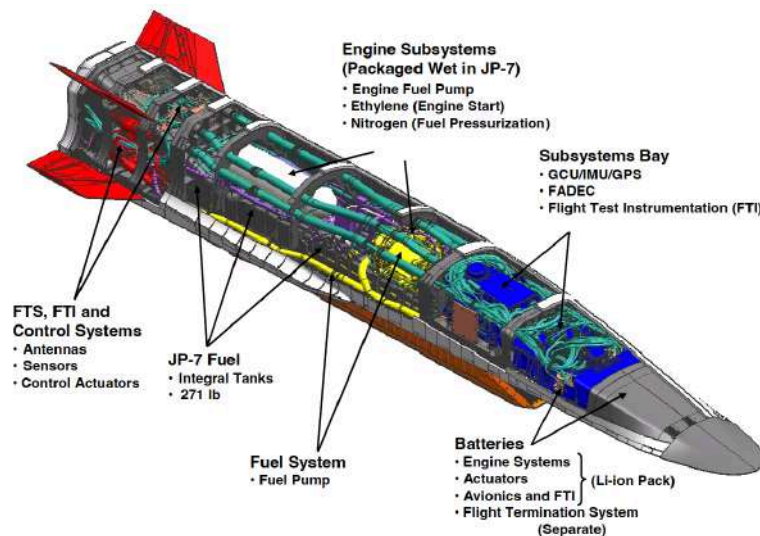
- The project was initially agreed between Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and US President Joe Biden at their summit in Washington last August. The Glide Sphere Interceptor is planned for deployment by the mid-2030s.

- Agreement determines the allocation of responsibility and decision-making process, a first major step in the project, Japanese defense ministry officials said. They hope to decide on Japanese contractors and start the development process by March 2025.

- Hypersonic weapons are designed to exceed Mach 5, or five times the speed of sound, posing a threat to regional missile-defense systems with their speed and maneuverability. Developing interceptors of them is a challenge.

Marine Heatwaves - Lakshadweep Sea
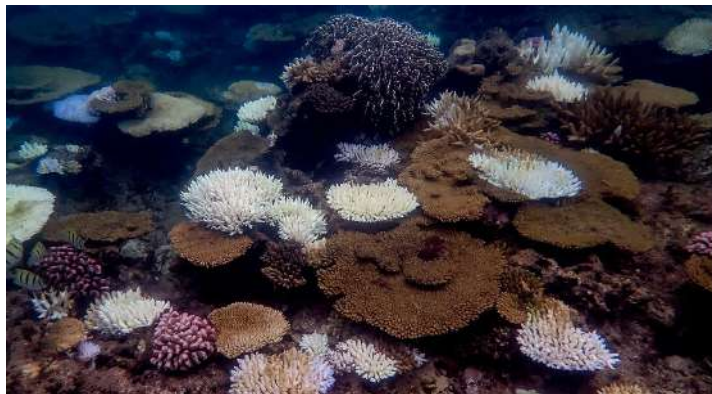
- Marine heatwaves since October 2023 have led to widespread coral bleaching in the pristine waters of the Lakshadweep Sea, as reported by the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).

- The extent of damage has been estimated at approximately 75% of the corals across the archipelago, marking a significant ecological crisis in the region. The severity of the situation is underscored by recent observations from the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, which recorded marine heatwave events of moderate to extreme categories over the Lakshadweep and South Tamil Nadu coasts. These events, coupled with bleaching incidents in the Gulf of Mannar, highlight the alarming escalation of ocean temperatures and their adverse effects on marine ecosystems. Marine heatwaves, characterised by prolonged periods of abnormally high ocean temperatures, have led to a surge in the Degree Heating Week (DHW) indicator in Lakshadweep, exceeding 4°C-weeks. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), such levels of DHW pose a substantial risk of coral bleaching, jeopardising the region's rich biodiversity.

World's biggest permafrost crater has a warning for Earth

- The Batagaika crater, the world's largest one kilometre-long permafrost crater, is expanding at a baffling rate due to the thawing of the permafrost. This has been exacerbated by global warming.

- Permafrost is any ground that remains completely frozen — 32°F (0°C) or colder — for at least two years straight. Permafrost is most common in regions with high mountains and in Earth's higher latitudes — near the North and South Poles.

- The crater is located in the Sakha Republic and reaches depths of up to 100 metres. In the 1960s, after deforestation led to the melting of the underground permafrost, it caused the land to sink. Over the years, the crater has only expanded and is locally called 'the cave-in' or 'mega-slump' by scientists.

- Russia is warming about 2.5 times faster than the rest of the world. As a consequence, the long-frozen tundra that covers 65 per cent of the country's landmass is melting.

- This is releasing greenhouse gasses like methane stored in the thawed soil which is 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide. The thawing permafrost causes very tangible, immediate infrastructural damage as well such as buckling roadways, splitting houses, and disrupting pipelines.

- When a wildfire breaks out, the thawing fastens.

- Scientists are unsure of the exact rate at which the Batagaika crater is expanding. However, they warn that the soil beneath the slump contains dangerous amounts of organic carbon that will be released into the atmosphere as the permafrost thaws, further fuelling the planet's warming.

World Bank Report on Agri-food System

- The World Bank, with its team of experts and researchers, released a report titled "Recipe for a Livable Planet: Achieving Net Zero Emissions in the Agrifood System" on May 8, 2024.

- This report emphasizes the significant potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the agrifood sector.

- It is part of a series of reports that provide a comprehensive overview of the challenges and opportunities in the agri-food system.

- The need for transformative changes to ensure food security, sustainability, and resilience in the face of climate change and other global challenges.

- The reports cover various aspects of the agri-food system, including food security, food systems transformation, digital transformation, climate-smart food systems, and food loss and waste.

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF):

- India participated in the 19th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), held at the UN Headquarters in New York from May 6th to 10th, 2024, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

- During the session, India highlighted the country's significant advancements in forest conservation and sustainable forest management, which led to a consistent increase in forest cover over the past fifteen years. Globally, India ranks third in the net gain, in average annual forest area, between 2010 and 2020.

- India shared the high priority the country provides towards biodiversity and wildlife conservation, having expanded the network of protected areas to over a thousand wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, tiger reserves, biosphere reserves, and other wildlife habitats.

- India also highlighted the creation of the International Big Cat Alliance, another important step aimed at protecting and conserving the seven big cat species around the world through collaborative international efforts.

- India also shared the introduction of the 'Green Credit Programme', designed to incentivize entities to take up tree plantations and restore degraded forest lands, which aims to further strengthen climate action initiatives.

UN World Wildlife Crime Report 2024

- Despite national and international efforts, wildlife trafficking persists worldwide, a new United Nations report has said.

- The third edition of the UN World Wildlife Crime Report 2024, released , noted that the intercepted illegal wildlife trade — as a proportion of all wildlife trade — saw an increase from 2017 onwards.

- According to the findings, the proportion of wildlife crimes peaked in 2020 and 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic. Wildlife seizures rose to 1.4-1.9 percent of the global wildlife trade between 2020 and 2021, against 0.5-1.1 percent seen between 2017 and 2019.

- Vienna, 14 May 2024 — The World Wildlife Crime Report 2024 was launched by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna, Austria. This is the third report in a series following the 2020 and 2016 publications.

Cyclone Remal

- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a warning for a potential severe cyclonic storm, named Cyclone Remal, that could impact the coasts of West Bengal and Bangladesh.

About Cyclone Remal

- Naming: The name 'Remal' in the list of tropical cyclones is given by Oman. It will be the first cyclone to hit the region this 2024 pre-monsoon season.

- 'Remal,' meaning 'sand' in Arabic.

- Origin: Bay of Bengal (BoB).

Factors Contributing to the Formation:

- A depression (an area of low pressure characterised by circulating winds and atmospheric instability) has formed over the central Bay of Bengal, serving as the genesis for Cyclone Remal.

- The Bay of Bengal, experiences water temperatures higher(2–3°C) warmer than average. This warm water provides the energy needed for cyclones to form and intensify.

- The Madden Julian Oscillation, a band of clouds moving eastward, along with the winds and warm ocean waters, is currently moving south of the Bay of Bengal. These winds play a role in initiating cyclones due to their rotational effect.

- Potential Impact: The cyclone may impact the Sundarbans region if the landfall happens on the Indian coast and coincides with high tide, potentially causing partial damage to the fragile ecosystem.

- The shallow bathymetry and the funnel-shaped geography of the northern Bay of Bengal can amplify the intensity of the cyclone as it approaches the coast, increasing the risk of storm surges and flooding.

- Previous Cyclones: The cyclone scare comes close to the anniversaries of previous devastating cyclones, such as Yaas (2021), Amphan (2020), Cyclone Fani(2019), and Aila (2009) which caused massive damage in the Sundarbans and other parts of West Bengal.

All-in-one vaccine

- Scientists develop all-in-one vaccine against broad range of coronaviruses

- Approach called "proactive vaccinology" builds vaccine before pathogen emerges

- Aims to protect against future coronavirus pandemics

- A team of scientists from the world's leading universities have developed a new all-in-one vaccine that they hope can protect humans against a broad range of coronaviruses, including ones that are yet to emerge.

- The research published in 'Nature Nanotechnology' is based on a new approach to vaccine development called "proactive vaccinology", where scientists build a vaccine before the disease-causing pathogen even emerges, which has shown promising results in mice.

Lunar Railway System- Envisions

DESCRIPTION

- NASA's Innovative Advanced Concepts (NIAC) program is pushing the boundaries of space exploration with concepts that many consider science fiction. These efforts seek to alter how we interact with space by developing cutting-edge technology such as lunar rail networks and interplanetary travel.

- Among the mentioned endeavors, NASA is investigating three main projects-

- The Lunar Railway System- Envisions a network of rails on the Moon to assist the transit of materials and possibly humans, thereby easing the construction and exploration operations on the lunar surface.

- Fluid-Based Telescope (FLUTE)- This project aims to create space observatories with enormous, unsegmented liquid primary mirrors that can form in space using fluidic shaping in microgravity. This has the potential to significantly improve our space observation capabilities while also overcoming present telescope size and cost limits.

- Pulsed Plasma Rocket- Aims to revolutionize space propulsion by utilizing electric spacecraft propulsion to efficiently and quickly transport personnel and cargo across huge distances.

Geomagnetic storm

- The most powerful solar storm in more than 20 years has struck Earth's atmosphere, triggering warnings over the potential disruption to power grids and satellite communications while also producing spectacular celestial light shows in some parts of the world.

- The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which issued a rare solar storm warning, said the solar outburst reached Earth at about 16:00 GMT, hours sooner than anticipated.

- The first of several coronal mass ejections (CMEs), described as the expulsions of plasma and magnetic fields from the sun, was later upgraded by the NOAA to an "extreme" geomagnetic storm.

- It was the first solar storm occurrence since the Halloween storms of October 2003, which caused blackouts in Sweden and damaged power infrastructure in South Africa.

- More solar expulsions are expected in the coming days, and possibly into next week, according to the NOAA.

- The United States agency alerted operators of power plants and spacecraft in orbit to take precautions.

- Fluctuating magnetic fields associated with geomagnetic storms induce currents in long wires, including power lines, which can potentially cause blackouts. Long pipelines can also become electrified, leading to engineering problems.

- Spacecraft are at risk from high doses of radiation, although the atmosphere prevents this from reaching Earth.

Glyptothorax punyabratai:

- The species was discovered from Tung Stream, a tributary of the Tissa River, in the Brahmaputra River basin. It is a new catfish species.

Key Facts about Catfish:

- Catfish represent one of the largest groups of freshwater fishes, with more than 2000 species.

- Most catfish are found in freshwater but a few are marine. Most species of catfish are nocturnal. Catfish are primarily benthic or bottom-dwellers.

Features:

- Most catfish have a cylindrical body with a flattened ventral to allow for benthic feeding.

- Catfish are so-named because of the long barbels, or feelers, which are present about the mouth of the fish and resemble cat whiskers.

- Most catfish possess leading spines in their dorsal and pectoral fins.

- Catfish are scaleless, a characteristic of catfishes distinguishing them from others.

Semiconductor Research Centre (ISRC)

- The Centre is mulling to build a dedicated research and development unit under the proposed India Semiconductor Research Centre (ISRC).

- This facility will focus on semiconductor research that can "quickly go into industrial production", ET reported.

- "There is a recognised need for both private and public sectors, particularly in the semiconductor domain, to employ dedicated R&D professionals full-time. The goal is to foster an ecosystem driven by intellectual property rights (IPR) in manufacturing. We are considering structures where R&D efforts can be co-funded or conducted in public-private partnership (PPP) mode," the report said, citing government officials.

- The proposed R&D wing will operate separately from other research activities that have long project timelines. Its focus will be on developing the next generation of semiconductors, alongside advancements in packaging, systems technologies, processes and materials.

PS4 3D printed rocket engine

- Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), India's primary national space agency, has successfully completed a long-duration test of its PS4 3D printed rocket engine. The engine used is the PS4 engine from the PSLV

(Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle) upper stage. The redesigned engine, which is now a single component, saves 97% of raw materials while reducing manufacture time by 60%.

- On May 9, ISRO accomplished a key milestone by successfully hot testing a liquid rocket engine produced using AM technology for 665 seconds.

ISRO tests PS4 3D Printed Rocket Engine

- The PS4 engine, which was constructed using the traditional machining and welding process, is used in the fourth stage of PSLV and has a thrust of 7.33 kN in vacuum conditions. The same engine powers the Reaction Control System (RCS) of PSLV's first stage (PS1).

- In pressure-fed mode, the engine uses the earth-storable bipropellant combinations of Nitrogen Tetroxide as an oxidizer and Mono Methyl Hydrazine as fuel. It was created by ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC). LPSC rebuilt the engine to accommodate the Design for Additive Manufacturing (DfAM) principle, resulting in significant gains.

- The Laser Powder Bed Fusion technique used reduced the number of parts from 14 to a single piece and eliminated 19 weld joints, resulting in a significant reduction in raw material usage per engine (13.7 kg of metal powder compared to 565 kg of forgings and sheets for conventional manufacturing) and a 60% reduction in overall production time.

NASA invented New black hole

- Astronomers have discovered the most distant black hole yet seen in X-rays, using NASA telescopes. The black hole is at an early stage of growth that had never been witnessed before, where its mass is similar to that of its host galaxy.

- This result may explain how some of the first supermassive black holes in the universe formed.

- By combining data from NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, a team of researchers was able to find the telltale signature of a growing black hole just 470 million years after the big bang.

- "We needed Webb to find this remarkably distant galaxy and Chandra to find its supermassive black hole," said Akos Bogdan of the Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian (CfA) who leads a new paper in the journal Nature Astronomy describing these results. "We also took advantage of a cosmic magnifying glass that boosted the amount of light we detected." This magnifying effect is known as gravitational lensing.

- Bogdan and his team found the black hole in a galaxy named UHZ1 in the direction of the galaxy cluster Abell 2744, located 3.5 billion light-years from Earth. Webb data, however, has revealed the galaxy is much more distant than the cluster, at 13.2 billion light-years from Earth, when the universe was only 3% of its current age.

Surface Modification Technique of Membrane

- Surface modification of membranes can be a promising approach to overcome challenges of frequent membrane replacement and cost-effectiveness of filtration processes, say researchers

- Indian Institute of Petroleum & Energy (IIPE), Visakhapatnam, in association with other research institutions, have found an effective eco-friendly solution 'Surface Modification Technique of Membrane' to resolve the problems associated with water treatment at various levels, particularly for muddy river water.

- Researchers of Assam Science and Technology University in Guwahati, Gauhati University, Pragjyotish College, and Institute of Advanced Study in Science and Technology have joined the IIPE team in the research. The findings have been published in the "Nature Scientific Reports" journal titled "Role of Plasma Process Gas on Permeate Flux Augmentation of Cellulose Nitrate Membrane for Mud Water Treatment." The IIPE has funded the research through an Institute Research Grant.

- Water pollution has emerged as a major issue in rural and urban areas as its quality gets affected due to contamination with sludge, riverbed sediments, waste residues and other pollutants.

XoRehab

- The IIIT Bangalore recently introduced "XoRehab," a novel IoT-enabled wheelchair technology made possible by the Centre for the Internet of Ethical Things and supported by many government and international organizations. This program, designed specifically to assist stroke patients in recovering from surgery, tries to tackle the practical issues that patients frequently face while attempting to exercise regularly.

Technical Specifications And Functionalities

- XoRehab is a cutting-edge rehabilitation gadget that uses Surface Electromyography (EMG) to monitor muscle activity and recuperation, which is critical for ensuring that recovery strategies are personalized to each patient. It features a nine-degree-of-freedom (DoF) suit that allows both the upper and lower limbs to move in different directions without the need to swap devices. The gadget can also be converted from a wheelchair to a stretcher, making it ideal for back and limb rehabilitation.

Indian Army contracted Igla-S

- The Indian Army is on the brink of enhancing its air defence capabilities with the imminent arrival of Russian Igla-S very short-range air defence systems (VSHORAD).

- In the latest tranche of Emergency Procurements (EP), the Indian Army contracted 48 Igla-S launchers, 100 missiles, 48 night sights, and a missile testing station, all under a ₹260 crore deal.

- The systems are being assembled by Adani Defence Systems and Technologies Limited (ADSTL) in India, utilizing technology transferred from Rosoboronexport, Russia.

- While the missiles will be imported, components such as sights, launchers, and batteries are being assembled or manufactured locally by Adani Defence.

- This local assembly is part of the broader initiative to enhance India's self-reliance in defence production.

Resolution of Payment Issues

- The disruption affected crucial acquisitions, including the S-400 air defence systems.

- The payment issue has been resolved through the use of national currencies, specifically Rupee-Ruble trade.

- This arrangement allows Russia to utilize accumulated Indian Rupees, thereby streamlining the payment process for ongoing and future defence deals.

- SpaceX- Mega-Rocket Starship's

- Starship, the world's most powerful rocket, is set for its next test flight on June 5, SpaceX announced .

- It will be the fourth test for the sleek mega rocket, which is vital to NASA's plans for landing astronauts on the Moon later this decade, and to SpaceX CEO Elon Musk's hopes of eventually colonizing Mars.

- Three previous attempts have ended in the Starship's destruction, all part of what the company says is an acceptable cost in its rapid trial-and-error approach to development.

- "The fourth flight test turns our focus from achieving orbit to demonstrating the ability to return and reuse Starship and Super Heavy," SpaceX said in a statement.

- Super Heavy is the booster, while Starship refers to both the upper stage and the two stages combined.

- But the clock is ticking for SpaceX to be ready for NASA's planned return of astronauts to the Moon in 2026, using a modified Starship as the lander vehicle.

Neeraj Chopra

- Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra aced the Federation Cup 2024 championship in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, as he clinched gold in his first javelin throw competition on Indian soil in three years. Neeraj Chopra, who recently finished second at the Doha Diamond League, started on a slow note in Bhubaneswar but took the lead in the fourth round with an 82.27-meter throw.

- DP Manu, who was representing Karnataka in the championship, came close second with an 82.06-meter effort, winning the silver medal, while Uttam Balasaheb Patil of Maharashtra clinched the bronze medal with a throw of 78.39 meters.

Sunil Chhetri announced Retirement

- India's football paragon Sunil Chhetri announced his decision to retire from international football. The national team captain will play his final match against Kuwait in the FIFA World Cup qualification on June 6.

- Chhetri, who has been the face of Indian football for nearly two decades, shared the news through a heartfelt video on his social media accounts.

- In March, Chhetri marked his 150th appearance for India with a goal against Afghanistan in Guwahati, although India narrowly lost that match 1-2.

- Chhetri, who made his debut in 2005 against Paksitan, has netted 94 goals for the country. He will leave the stage as India's all-time top scorer and most-capped player. He is also third in the list of goal scorers among active players behind Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi.

- Heading into Chhetri's final international match next month, India sits second in Group A of the FIFA World Cup qualifiers with four points, trailing leaders Qatar. Kuwait, with three points, is currently in fourth place.

- Throughout his illustrious two-decade career, the 39-year-old striker has garnered six AIFF Player of the Year awards. He has also been honored with the Padma Shri in 2019 and the Arjuna Award in 2011.

Praggnanandhaa Vs Magnus Carlsen

- India's R. Praggnanandhaa scored yet another victory over World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen of Norway to keep himself afloat even as Wei Yi of China stretched his lead to a massive 2.5 points in the Rapid and Blitz chess tournament, a part of the Grand Chess Tour.

- With nine rounds still to come in the blitz event, Wei Yi has amassed 20.5 points with seven wins on the first day of blitz. Ending the day with 7.5 out of a possible nine, Yi is poised to win the first leg of the Grand Chess Tour.

Para Olympics - Japan

Mariyappan Thangavelu

- Two-time Para Olympics medallist Mariyappan Thangavelu clinched his maiden gold medal at the World Para Athletics Championships by leaping 1.88m in the men's T63 high jump event in Kobe, Japan. The mark also helped him breach the championships record, which was held by Sharad Kumar at 1.83m.

- In the same event, compatriot Varun Singh Bhati finished fourth (1.78m) and narrowly missed finishing on the podium.

- Another Indian, Padhiyar RG (1.74m), finished seventh.

Sahitya Akademi Fellowship Award

- Eminent English author Ruskin Bond was awarded the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Fellowship at his Mussoorie home .

- Bond was named a recipient of Akademi's highest honour in September 2021.

- Born on 19 May 1934 in Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh, Bond has been actively writing for more than 50 years and has written in various genres of literature, including short stories, children's books, novels, autobiographical works and non-fiction.

- His notable works include "Vagrants in the Valley", "Once Upon a Monsoon Time", "Angry River", "Strangers in the Night", "All Roads Lead to Ganga", "Tales of Fosterganj", "Leopard on the Mountain" and "Too Much Trouble".

- Bond, who has written over 300 short stories, essays and novels and more than 30 books for children besides several other works, is the recipient of the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1992, Sahitya Akademi's Bal Sahitya Puraskar in 2012, Padma Shri in 1999 and Padma Bhushan in 2019 among other prestigious awards.

Memory of the World - UNESCO

- Sultana's Dream, the utopian novel of a world without men written by Bengali author Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain in 1905 British India, has been recognised by UNESCO as part of its 'Memory of the World' register, a recent statement by the UN body stated.

- Hossain's work, the Ramacharitmanas by Tulsidas, Panchatantra and Sahrdayaloka Lochana by Anandavardhana are among 20 items recognised during the 2024 cycle of the Memory of the World Regional Register.

- The 20 items were recognised at the 10th General Meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific convened from May 7-8 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Shaw Prize in Astronomy

- Shrinivas R Kulkarni, an Indian-origin professor of astronomy from the US will be bestowed the prestigious Shaw Prize in Astronomy for his ground-breaking discoveries about millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, and other variable or transient astronomical objects.

- Apart from Mr Kulkarni, who is the George Ellery Hale Professor of Astronomy and Planetary Science, Division of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy at the California Institute of Technology, the other Shaw Prize awardees are Swee Lay Thein and Stuart Orkin, both from the US, who received the Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine is awarded in equal shares, and Peter Sarnak, another US scientist who received the Shaw Prize in Mathematical Sciences.

- "The Shaw Prize in Astronomy is awarded to Shrinivas R Kulkarni, for his ground-breaking discoveries about millisecond pulsars, gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, and other variable or transient astronomical objects.

ATD BEST Awards 2024

- NTPC has achieved a remarkable milestone by securing the 3rd rank globally at the ATD BEST Awards 2024, making it the highest-ranking Indian company in this prestigious competition. Notably, NTPC is the only public sector undertaking (PSU) to have received this esteemed award seven times in the past eight years. The accolade was accepted by Ms. Rachana Singh Bhal, CGM (Strategic HR & Talent Management) at NTPC, during a ceremony held in New Orleans, USA, on May 21, 2024.

- The ATD BEST Awards, established by the Association for Talent Development (ATD), USA, are among the most prestigious international recognitions in the field of

Learning and Development (L&D). These awards honor organizations that leverage talent development as a strategic business tool and demonstrate enterprise-wide success through effective employee development practices. The rankings are determined through a rigorous evaluation and assessment process conducted by international experts known for their integrity and global eminence.

77th Cannes film Festival - Best Actress Award

Anasuya Sengupta Becomes First Indian To Win Best Actress At Cannes

- Actor Anasuya Sengupta created history by becoming the first Indian to win the Best Actress Award at the 77th Cannes film Festival in France. She bagged the esteemed award for her captivating performance in 'The Shameless', written and directed by the Bulgarian filmmaker Constantin Bojanov, in the Un Certain Regard section of the 77th edition of the festival.

- Earlier, "Sunflowers were the first ones to know" – a film by Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) student Chidanand S Naik and his team, has won 'La Cinef' Award at the Festival. The winner was officially announced at the festival. The film has been directed by Chidananda S Naik, shot by Suraj Thakur, edited by Manoj V and sound by Abhishek Kadam. The 77th Cannes Film Festival witnessed multiple entries from India in different categories. Many of the FTII's alumni such as Payal Kapadia, Maisam Ali, Santosh Sivan, Chidanand S Naik and his team received recognition at this years' Cannes.

Grand Prix award - 77th Cannes Film Festival

- The 77th Cannes Film Festival witnessed a remarkable achievement for Indian cinema as Payal Kapadia's film 'All We Imagine as Light' won the prestigious Grand Prix award, the second-highest honour at the festival. This triumph marks a historic moment, as Kapadia becomes the first Indian filmmaker to receive this prestigious accolade.

- 'All We Imagine as Light' – A Poignant Portrayal

- Kapadia's award-winning film, 'All We Imagine as Light,' centers around the lives of two nurses, offering a poignant exploration of their experiences. The film's nomination for the esteemed Palme d'Or, the highest award at Cannes, further underscores its artistic and cinematic excellence.

DATE	DAYS	THEME AND OBJECTIVES
May - 1	International Labour Day	• The 1 May date was chosen by the American Federation of Labor to commemorate a general strike in the United States, which had begun on 1 May 1886 and culminated in the Haymarket affair four days later. The demonstration subsequently became a yearly event. • Every year, there is an International Labour Day 2024 Theme to celebrate. it. Every year, the theme is announced by international labour organisations like the International Labour Organization (ILO). This year, the focus is on ensuring safety and health at work in a changing climate
May - 2	International Astronomy Day	• International Astronomy Day is a way for astronomy enthusiasts and professionals to share their knowledge and love of the world with the public. It's also a way for anyone who is interested in Science and Space to explore their passion and deepen their knowledge.
May - 4	World Asthma Day	• World Asthma Day is a global healthcare event commemorated every year on the first Tuesday in May to promote awareness of asthma worldwide. • World Asthma Day 2024 Theme: Asthma Education Empowers • The theme for this year, "Asthma Education Empowers", underscores the transformative power of knowledge and collaboration in tackling the multifaceted challenges posed by asthma.
May - 7	World Athletics Day	• The basic objective of World Athletics Day is to boost the participation of youths in athletics. World Athletics Day 2024: World Athletics Day is organized by the IAAF (International Amateur Athletic Federation) on May 7 every year. It was first celebrated in the year 1996. • The theme for World Athletics Day 2024 is "World Mile Challenge". This year's focus is on running, jogging, or walking a mile to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Roger Bannister's (the first man to run a sub-four-minute mile) on May 6, 1954

May - 8	World Red Cross & Red Crescent Day	• It is a day when we honour the legacy of Henry Dunant, the pioneering volunteer who founded the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement more than 160 years ago. • The theme for World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day 2024 is "I give with joy, and the joy I give is a reward."
May - 8	World Thalassaemia Day	• In the year 1994, World Thalassaemia Day was first established by Founder of Thalassemia International Federation (TIF) Panos Englezos in the memory of his son George, who died of Thalassaemia. The day was created to make efforts to fight the disease, remember those who lost their lives to it, and find a cure for it. • The theme of the 2024 World Thalassemia Day is "Empowering Lives, Embracing Progress: Equitable and Accessible Thalassaemia Treatment for All."
May - 9	World Migratory Bird Day	• World Migratory Bird Day is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. • This year's World Migratory Bird Day theme, "Protect Insects, Protect Birds" is an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of insects, to educate, and to learn.
May - 10	World Mother's Day	• Origin, Significance, and Global Celebrations Worldwide. Mother's Day is coming on the 12 May. Almost every country in the world dedicates one day of the year to celebrating mothers. It is a day to express gratitude and respect to mothers and dedicate a day to them for their hard work. • On Mother's Day 2024, we celebrate the timeless and unwavering love that mothers bring into our lives. A mother's love is a foundation that shapes our world, guiding us through life's challenges with patience and care.
May - 11	National Technology Day	• Every year, on May 11, India celebrates National Technology Day. The day honours the successful nuclear test conducted at Pokhran on May 11 and May 13, 1998. • National Technology Day 2024: The occasion is celebrated on May 11 to honor scientists and engineers. The theme for 2024 is 'School to Startups-Igniting Young Minds to Innovate', aiming to inspire innovation and startup culture.

May - 12	International Nurses Day	• The economic power of care. International Nurses Day is observed on May 12 every year. This day marks the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale who laid the foundation of modern nursing. International Nurses Day aims to highlight the importance of nurses in the healthcare sector. • The theme for International Nurses Day 2024 is Our Nurses. Our Future. The economic power of care.
May - 16	National Dengue Day	• Every year, National Dengue Day is observed on May 16 to spread awareness about dengue, which is a viral disease caused by mosquitoes. • The theme for this year's event is - Dengue Prevention: Our Responsibility for a Safer Tomorrow.
May - 17	World Telecommunication & Information Society Day	• "World Telecommunication & Information Society Day is celebrated every year to mark the incredible contribution of telecom in building digital networks and economy, however, as the digital landscape is growingly becoming all-pervasive, now the telecom industry needs to validate its sustainability efforts. • This year's theme, "Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development," focuses on the importance of leveraging new technical advancements that help build a brighter future while safeguarding the needs of future generations.
May - 18	International Museum Day	• International Museum Day is an international day held annually on or around 18 May, coordinated by the International Council of Museums. The event highlights a specific theme which changes every year reflecting a relevant theme or issue facing museums internationally. • This year's theme, "Museums for Education and Research," highlights the important role of cultural institutions in providing a holistic educational experience. This day pushes for a more sustainable, conscious, and inclusive world.
May - 20	World Metrology Day	• World Metrology Day commemorates the signing, on 20 May 1875, of the Metre Convention, an international treaty designed to ensure that everyone around the world used the same metric system to measure weight and length, in order to ensure fair trade. • The theme for World Metrology Day 2024 is 'Sustainability', which encourages us to explore how metrology contributes to improving our lives every day. World Metrology Day is celebrated annually on May 20 globally to understand the meaning of the science of measurement and the reasons behind our heavy reliance on it.

May - 20	World Bee Day	• To raise awareness of the importance of pollinators, the threats they face and their contribution to sustainable development, the UN designated 20 May as World Bee Day. • The theme for World Bee Day 2024 is "Bee Engaged with Youth." The theme highlights that the youth can play in protecting bees and other pollinators.
May - 21	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	• On 20 December 2002, the United Nations General Assembly declared May 21 to be the "World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development", in the resolution A/RES/57/249. In December 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the resolution on Culture and Sustainable Development (A/C).
May - 21	National Anti-Terrorism Day	• In India, the National Anti-Terrorism Day is observed on May 21 each year to commemorate the date when the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the sixth Prime Minister of India, was killed by a suicide bomber from the LTTE .
May - 22	International Day for Biological Diversity	• The United Nations has proclaimed May 22 The International Day for Biological Diversity to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. • The theme for International Day for Biological Day Diversity 2024 is "Be part of the plan".
May - 23	World Turtle Day	• It began in 2000 and is sponsored by American Tortoise Rescue. The day was created as a yearly observance to help people celebrate and protect turtles and tortoises and their disappearing habitats, as well as to encourage human action to help them survive and thrive.
May - 24	Commonwealth Day	• The second Monday of March is Commonwealth Day, a day to celebrate the Commonwealth of Nations and its 56 member states. Originally, this day was known as 'Empire Day' and was celebrated on the birthday of Queen Victoria on 24 May. • 'One Resilient Common Future' the theme for Commonwealth Day 2024. The 56 members of the Commonwealth of Nations celebrated Commonwealth Day on 11 March. The theme for Commonwealth Day 2024 is 'One Resilient Common Future: Transforming our Common Wealth.

May - 28	International Women's Health Day	• International Women's Health Day, also known as International Day of Action for Women's Health, is a day dedicated to women and aims to spread awareness about their right to health. Each year on 28th May, women and health organisations around the world commemorate this unique day. • The theme for International Women's Day 2024 is "Invest in women: Accelerate progress," emphasizing the importance of investing in women's leadership, education, economic empowerment, and healthcare to advance gender parity.
May - 29	International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers	• The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, May 29, is "an international day to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication, and courage and to honor the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace. • This year, the United Nations commemorates the International Day of Peacekeepers under the theme, "Fit for the Future: Building Better Together."
May - 29	International Mount Everest Day	• International Mount Everest Day is observed every year on May 29 to commemorate the first successful ascent of Mount Everest. In 1953, Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tenzing Norgay, a Sherpa of Nepal, reached the summit of Mount Everest for the first time in history. • While "Mountain solutions for a sustainable future – innovation, adaptation, youth and beyond" is the suggested theme for 2024, countries, communities and organizations are welcome to celebrate IMD through a theme that is more relevant to them.
May - 31	World No Tobacco Day	• World No Tobacco Day is an annual awareness day taking place on 31 May. It is organised to raise awareness about the health risks associated with tobacco use and advocate for effective policies to reduce tobacco consumption worldwide. • The theme of World No Tobacco Day 2024 is "Protecting children from tobacco industry interference." This theme emphasises the need to safeguard future generations from the harmful effects of tobacco by addressing targeted marketing towards youth.

Five individual choices - BSF

- Five individual choices for posting, on-request posting, and booking of air tickets for all the personnel while proceeding on leave – these are some of the key decisions made by the BSF in a bid to improve 'satisfaction level' of its personnel.

- According to the data, provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs, more than 46,000 personnel from six Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) took early retirement during the last five years (2019-2023). "The maximum — more than 21,000 men and women — who took early retirement were from the Border Security Force (BSF), which guards the Pakistan and Bangladesh borders," an official said.

- A order issued last month by IG (personnel) said: "The DG (BSF) has approved the guidelines/instructions to be complied regarding posting/transfer and grievance redressal of non-gazetted officers with a view to improve satisfaction to the force personnel based on the recommendations of the board. Five choices for posting will be obtained from the individual at the time of Annual Turnover in Personnel and training (P&T). All static posting of any particular location will be considered as one choice. Similarly, all headquarters at Delhi, 25 as well as 95 battalions of BSF will be considered as one choice," the order said.

Border Roads Organisation

- The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) marked its 65th Raising Day on May 7.

- The BRO will soon commence the construction on 4.10-km long Shinkun La Tunnel. Once completed, this tunnel will become the world's highest tunnel at 15,800 ft bypassing Mila Tunnel in China at 15,590 ft.

Border Roads Organisation (BRO)

- • Raised with just two projects in 1960 — Project Tusker (now Vartak) in the east and Project Beacon in the north, the BRO has today become a vibrant organisation with 18 projects operating in 11 states and three Union Territories.

- • It is now a leading road construction agency under the ministry of defence with a primary role of providing road connectivity to high-altitude and difficult snow-bound areas.

- • The BRO executes road construction and maintenance works at altitude ranging from 9,000 ft up to 19,000 ft along the northern and western frontiers, primarily to meet the strategic requirements of the armed forces.

Gagan Strike-II exercise

- Indian Army's Kharga Corps, under the aegis of Army's Western Command, successfully conducted a three-day joint exercise with the IAF at multiple locations in Punjab. The exercise was conducted to refine processes and validate employment of attack helicopters in support of mechanised operations in developed terrain, an official statement issued said.

- The Gagan Strike-II exercise, which incorporated Apache and ALH-WSI helicopters, Unarmed Aerial Vehicles and special forces of Indian Army, was aimed at validating various force multipliers in support of ground offensive by strike corps along with live firing by helicopters as demanded by mechanised forces during offensive maneuvers, the statement said.

- The recent exercise showcased high levels of synergy and jointmanship among the two

services, it said. The focus was to practise centralised and decentralised attack helicopter missions duly supported by other force multipliers in a dense air defence environment and engagement of planned and impromptu targets in the battlefield, it said.

India withdrawing military personnel from Maldives

- India has begun withdrawing military personnel operating surveillance aircraft in the Maldives after the new pro-China president ordered them to leave, local media reported.

- The reported that 25 Indian troops deployed in the southernmost atoll of Addu had left the archipelago ahead of March 10, the official start of the withdrawal agreed by both sides.

- President Mohamed Muizzu came to power in September on a pledge to kick out Indian security personnel deployed in the Maldives to patrol its vast maritime border.

- Following talks with New Delhi, the two sides had agreed to complete a withdrawal of 89 Indian troops and their support staff from the nation of 1,192 tiny coral islands by May 10.

- Last week, the Maldives signed a "military assistance" deal with China as the Indians prepared to leave.

- The Maldivian defence ministry said the deal was to foster "stronger bilateral ties" and that China would train its staff under the pact.

Drishti-10 drones

- The Indian Army is set to induct its first Hermes-900 drone in a major boost to its surveillance capabilities along the Pakistan border.

- The drones, also known as the Drishti-10 drones, will be inducted at Hyderabad on May 18 in the presence of senior Army officials. It would be handed over by the Adani Defence to it, senior defence officials said.

- The Indian Army has placed orders for two of these drones from the firm under emergency provisions that mandate that the systems supplied by vendors should be more than 60 per cent indigenous and should be under the 'Make in India' in Defence. The Indian Army has plans to deploy these drones at the Bathinda base in Punjab, from where it can keep an eye on a large area, including the desert sector as well as the areas north to the Punjab, military officials said.

- The Indian Army is already operating the Heron Mark 1 and Mark 2 drones and has also placed orders for the Drishti-10 or the Hermes-900 drones under the last tranche of the emergency procurements approved by the government for the forces.

Military Exercise - Shakti

- Joint military Exercise Shakti between the Indian and the French forces will be held at the Joint Training Node of the Indian Army in Umroi, Meghalaya, from 13 -26 May 2024. The opening ceremony of the 7th edition of Exercise Shakti will be attended by the French Ambassador to India, Thierry Mathou. Brigadier Mayur Shekatkar, Commander of the 24 Mountain Brigade, and other civilian and military dignitaries.

Shakti military exercise between India and France

- The military exercise between the Indian Army and the French Army is a biennial exercise which started in 2011 and is conducted alternately in India and France.

- The 6th edition of the military exercise Shakti was held in France from 15-26 November 2021. Thus, it was India's turn to host the next exercise.

- The 7th edition will be hosted by India at the Joint Training Node in Umroi, Meghalaya, from 13 -26 May 2024.

Aim of the 7th military Exercise - Shakti

- The main aim of the 7th edition of the Shakti exercise will be to develop the capacity of both forces for joint planning on developing strategies and tactics for a war-like situation.

- The exercise aims at enhancing cooperation, understanding, and interoperability between the two Armies.

- Emphasis will be on developing an

understanding of operations, and building shared knowledge, awareness, and familiarity with each other's operational procedures.

- The joint exercise will facilitate both armies to know each other better and share their wide experiences and combat experience in countering terrorist operations,

About Indian Government Spending on Border Roads:

- The government plans to allocate over ₹2 crore per kilometre for constructing roads along the China border in Uttarakhand and Sikkim under the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP).

- In the last five months, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has approved 113 roads in Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Sikkim to enhance connectivity along the border areas.

- The lack of road connectivity affects around 168 villages along the China .

About the Vibrant Village Programme:

- The Vibrant Village Programme was introduced in the Finance Minister's Budget Speech 2022.

- Centrally sponsored scheme announced in Union Budget 2022-23 for villages on the northern border.

- Aims to enhance quality of life in identified border villages in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Ladakh.

- It covers 2,967 villages in 46 blocks of 19 districts, focusing on Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Ladakh.

'Udbhav' Project

- The project 'Udbhav' aims to promote indigenous discourse in the Army by integrating India's ancient strategic acumen into contemporary military domain with a focus on making the force "future-ready".

- "The project has delved deep into ancient texts such as Vedas, Puranas, Upanishads and Arthashastra, which are rooted in inter-connectedness, righteousness and ethical values," the Army chief said.

- "Furthermore, it has explored the epic battles of the Mahabharata and the strategic brilliance during the reigns of Mauryas, Guptas and Marathas, which has shaped India's rich military heritage," he said.

- The defence ministry last year said project Udbhav is designed to weave a strategic vocabulary and conceptual framework that is deeply embedded in India's philosophical and cultural heritage.

Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024

- Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan attended the 'Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024' on May 22, 2024, emphasizing the critical importance of enhancing India's cyber defence capabilities. Conducted by the Defence Cyber Agency from May 20 to May 24, 2024, this comprehensive cyber defence exercise aims to bolster collaboration and integration among military and national agencies, advancing the nation's cyber defence readiness.

Strengthening Cyber Defence Capabilities

- Gen Chauhan highlighted the need for joint efforts among all stakeholders in the cyber domain, praising the exercise for fostering a collaborative environment to address emerging cyber threats. He commended the participants and organizers for their dedication and efforts in orchestrating this vital exercise.

Objectives of Exercise Cyber Suraksha – 2024

- The exercise aims to empower participants by enhancing their cyber defence skills, techniques, and capabilities. It provides a platform to share best practices, promoting a unified and robust cyber defence posture. By facilitating jointmanship and synergy in planning and preparing a comprehensive Cyber Defence Framework, the event underscores the Indian Armed Forces' commitment to national security in the cyber domain.

PM Gati Shakti Initiative

- In a significant move, the Ministry of Labour and Employment has joined the PM Gati Shakti initiative, focusing on bolstering health infrastructure and social security measures in industrial areas and Special Economic Zones (SEZs).

- Sumita Dawra, the ministry's secretary, highlighted the project's core objective of leveraging building data to enhance workers' social security within these burgeoning regions.

- Initial Steps and Geotagging Initiatives

- The ministry kick-started the process by geotagging approximately 1.3 million buildings affiliated with the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) and 1.5 million buildings under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), including 104 ESIC hospitals.

- Geotagging serves as a pivotal initial step in assessing service coverage gaps and identifying areas already served.

Retail inflation

- India's headline retail inflation stayed largely unchanged at 4.83 percent in April, according to data released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on May 13.

- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation in March was at a 10-month low of 4.85 percent.

- Even though inflation eased to an 11-month low in April, it will be the 55th month in a row that it would be above the RBI's medium-term target of four percent. The central bank is keen to bring it down to the target on a durable basis.

- The inflation print for April is however slightly above economists' expectations. A Moneycontrol survey pegged CPI at 4.80 percent.

2024 MAY MONTH QUESTIONS

1) **What is the main focus of the World Bank report titled "Recipe for a Livable Planet"?**
   a) Food Security in Developing Countries
   b) Digital Transformation in Agriculture
   c) Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Agrifood Systems
   d) Economic Growth through Food Production

2) **Recently, scientists have developed an all-in-one vaccine against _____ viruses.**
   a) Corona
   b) Smallpox
   c) HIV
   d) Viral hepatitis

3) **Which space research center aims to revolutionize space propulsion by using pulsed plasma rocket-electric shuttle propulsion to transport personnel and cargo over long distances efficiently and quickly?**
   a) ISRO
   b) NASA
   c) JAXA
   d) CNSA

4) **The recently discovered "Glyptothorax punyapratai" belongs to which species?**
   a) **the frog**
   b) Fungus
   c) Cat fish
   d) Virus

5) **Which country tested the PS4 3D printed rocket engine?**
   a) America
   b) China
   c) India
   d) Japan

6) **The galaxy Abel 2744 is _____ billion light-years from Earth.**
   a) 2.5
   b) 3.5
   c) 4.6
   d) 5.8

7) **In which year does SpaceX plan to send NASA astronauts to the moon using a Starship converted into a lander?**
   a) 2025
   b) 2026
   c) 2030
   d) 2028

8) **Where has a 7000 year old prehistoric settlement been found?**
   a) Serbia
   b) Montenegro
   c) Kosovo
   d) North Macedonia

9) **Graphene, an atom-thin material made of carbon, was discovered in _____?**
   a) 2005
   b) 2001
   c) 2004
   d) 2006

10) **Choose the incorrect statement from the following.**
    1. European Union countries have endorsed the group's first legislation dedicated to combating violence against women.
    2. The broad legislation aims to protect women in the 26-nation European Union from gender-based violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation and online harassment.
    3. The law criminalises cyber stalking, cyber harassment and cyber incitement to hatred or violence across the EU. It imposes minimum sentences ranging from one year to five years in prison depending on the offense.
    4. According to the rules, the punishment is more severe if the victim is a child, spouse or ex-wife.

    a) 1,2 are incorrect
    b) 2 Only incorrect
    c) 3,4 are incorrect
    d) All of the above are correct

11) The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has announced that India and _____ have signed a 10-year long-term bilateral agreement for the operation of Sabahar Port.
   a) Australia
   b) Iran
   c) Sri Lanka
   d) America

12) _____ Army successfully test-fired Fatha-II guided missile system with a range of 400 km.
   a) Iran
   b) Pakistan
   c) China
   d) India

13) According to the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) report, the extent of damage to coral reefs across the Lakshadweep Sea due to ocean heat waves is estimated to be about ____%.
   a) 90
   b) 80
   c) 75
   d) 55

14) What is the title of the World Bank Report on Agri-Food Systems 2024?
   a) Achieving net zero emissions
   b) Achieving self-sufficiency in agriculture
   c) Adopting organic farming
   d) None of the above

15) Choose the correct statement from the following.
   1. India participated in the 19th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
   2. Globally, India has the second largest net gain in average annual forest area between 2010 and 2020.
   3. India has highlighted the country's remarkable progress in forest conservation and sustainable forest management, which has led to a steady increase in forest cover over the past fifteen years.
   4. India shares the high priority the country gives to biodiversity and wildlife conservation.
   a) 1,3,4 correct
   b) Only 1 correct
   c) 2,4 correct
   d) 1,2,3 and 4 correct

16) The ____ edition of the UN World Wildlife Crime Report 2024 has been published.
   a) 5
   b) 8
   c) 3
   d) 6

17) When was the first edition of the UN World Wildlife Crime Report launched?
   a) 2015
   b) 2024
   c) 2012
   d) 2016

18) Which country gave the name 'Remel' in the list of tropical cyclones?
   a) Oman
   b) India
   c) Sudan
   d) Sri Lanka

19) When was the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Dog Breeding and Marketing) Rules brought in?
   a) 2017
   b) 2018
   c) 2020
   d) 2011

20) What is the name of the loan scheme launched in Tamil Nadu specifically for aspiring entrepreneurs belonging to Adi Dravidian and tribal communities?
   a) Chief Minister's Thayumanavar Scheme
   b) Self Sufficiency Scheme
   c) Annal Ambedkar Business Champions Scheme
   d) Socio - Economic Development Programme

21) Where is Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary located?
   a) Andhra Pradesh
   b) Madhya Pradesh
   c) Uttar Pradesh
   d) Arunachal Pradesh

22) State-owned BSNL will start rolling out 4G services across the country from ____, using purely indigenous technology in line with the government's "Aatmanirbar" policy.
   a) May
   b) September
   c) August
   d) July

23) **Which authority implements self-healing road technology?**
   a) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI)
   b) National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.
   c) National Road Safety Council
   d) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

24) **Who was the first woman DGP of Meghalaya?**
   a) Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattachary
   b) Shakuntala Vashishta
   c) Rajnish Seth
   d) Idashisha Nongrang

25) **Which Indian university will be ranked 410 globally in 2024, compared to last year's ranking of 419 in the World University Rankings (CWUR)?**
   a) IIM Ahmedabad
   b) Indian Institute of Science
   c) Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
   d) IIM Bangalore

26) **The Memory of the World Program is an international program aimed at preserving, preserving and facilitating access to documentary heritage in which year UNESCO launched?**
   a) 1998
   b) 1992
   c) 1990
   d) 2000

27) **Which of the following is a critical work that explores the aesthetic and literary theory that shapes Indian literary discourse?**
   a) Ramcharithmanas
   b) Panchatantra
   c) Sahrudayloka-logana
   d) None of the above

28) **In which state is the last ranked city of the Oxford Economics Global Cities Index 2024 located?**
   a) Delhi
   b) Kerala
   c) Karnataka
   d) Uttar Pradesh

29) **Which country will top the World Economic Forum's Travel and Tourism Growth Index 2024?**
   a) India
   b) America
   c) China
   d) Russia

30) **The World Economic Forum's Travel and Tourism Growth Index 2024 has seen India move up to the ___ position.**
   a) 40
   b) 39
   c) 10
   d) 50

31) **The Border Roads Organization (PRO) celebrated its 65th Anniversary on _____.**
   a) **May 7**
   b) May 15
   c) May 20
   d) May 26

32) **Indian Army's Hermes-900 is?**
   a) Submarine
   b) Unmanned aircraft
   c) drone
   d) warship

33) **Military exercise - "Shakti" 2024 is between which two countries?**
   a) India and America
   b) India and the Philippines
   c) India and France
   d) India and Australia

34) **How many roads has been approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim to improve connectivity in border areas?**
   a) 100
   b) 113
   c) 120
   d) 131

35) **When is World Migratory Bird Day celebrated?**
   a) May 8
   b) May 5
   c) May 9
   d) May 10

36) Which of the following day is celebrated on May - 18?
a) International Museum Day
b) National Dengue Day
c) International Nurses Day
d) World Metrology Day

37) In which year was World Turtle Day started?
a) 2001
b) 2000
c) 1996
d) 1999

38) Which day was called 'Empire Day'?
a) International Day of United Nations Peace-keepers
b) International Everest Day
c) Commonwealth Day
d) National Anti-Terrorism Day

39) World No Tobacco Day is observed as?
a) May 26
b) May 29
c) May 30
d) May 31

40) What is the theme of National Dengue Day 2024?
a) Dengue Prevention: Our Responsibility for a Safer Tomorrow.
b) Fight dengue, save lives
c) Stay safe against dangerous dengue fever.
d) To connect with the community to control dengue

41) Who has been awarded Sahitya Akademi Fellowship Award 2024?
a) Sri Tshering Tashi
b) Ruskin Bond
c) Kamal Ranga
d) Rashmi Choudhury

42) Professor Srinivas R Kulkarni was awarded Shaw Prize for which department?
a) Psychology
b) Astronomy
c) Biotechnology
d) Chemistry

43) Who made history as the first Indian to win the Best Actress award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival in France?
a) Madhuri Dixit
b) Anasuya Sengupta
c) Twinkle Khanna
d) Dia Mirza

44) Payal Kapadia's film ----- won the prestigious Grand Prix, the second highest award at the film festival.
a) All we imagine as light
b) Mandan
c) Sister Midnight
d) The Shameless

45) Who will win the Federation Cup 2024 Championship in Bhubaneswar, Odisha?
a) Manpreet Singh
b) Neeraj Chopra
c) Abhinav Bindra
d) Dayan Chand

46) Indian footballer Sunil Chhetri who has announced his retirement from international football matches, the number of goals scored as an individual?
a) 85
b) 96
c) 94
d) 52

47) Indian footballer Sunil Chhetri made his first football match in which year?
a) 2005
b) 2002
c) 2004
d) 2008

48) Indian football player Sunil Chhetri, the award received by the Indian government in 2019?
a) Arjuna
b) Padma Bhushan
c) Padma Shri
d) None of the above

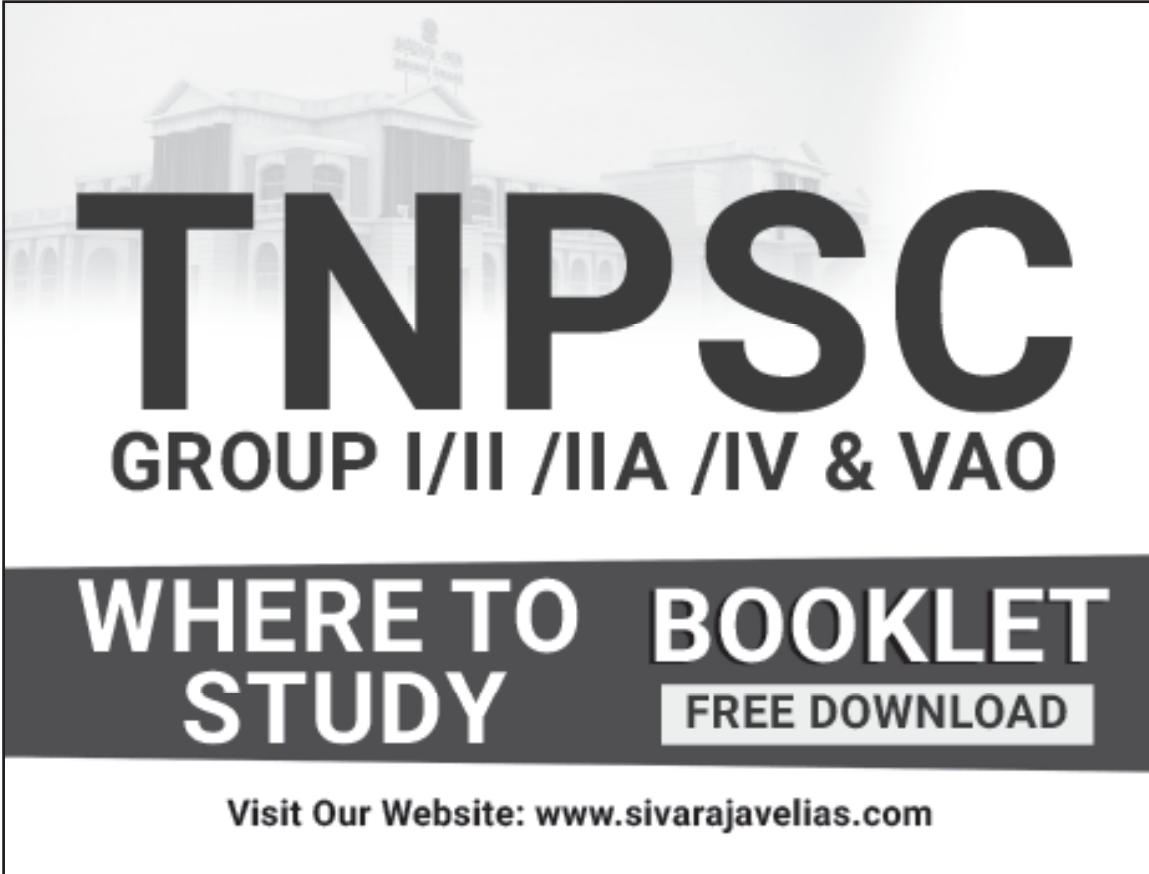**49) What is the theme for the World Health Assembly (WHA) 2024?**
   a) All for Health, Health for All
   b) Health for Peace, Peace for Health
   c) Saving lives, driving health for all
   d) Support Nurses and Midwives

50) Where was the World Health Assembly (WHA) 2024 held?
   a) Finland
   b) Scotland
   c) Switzerland
   d) England

Answers:

1.	C	11.	B	21.	B	31.	A	41.	B
2.	A	12.	B	22.	C	32.	B	42.	B
3.	B	13.	C	23.	A	33.	C	43.	B
4.	C	14.	A	24.	D	34.	B	44.	A
5.	C	15.	A	25.	A	35.	C	45.	B
6.	B	16.	C	26.	B	36.	A	46.	C
7.	B	17.	D	27.	C	37.	B	47.	A
8.	A	18.	A	28.	D	38.	C	48.	C
9.	C	19.	A	29.	B	39.	D	49.	A
10.	B	20.	C	30.	B	40.	A	50.	C

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