



SIVARAJAVEL IAS ACADEMY

SANGAMAM

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NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY DAY





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Vellore Naganadi

News- Prime Minister Modi, speaking through the Mann ki Bharat, praised the freezing well project set up across Naganadi in Vellore district to raise the ground water level.

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- Naganadi originates in Jawadhu hill in Tiruvannamalai district and flows through Arani to Seyyar at Vazhapandal. This river is also the source of drinking water for the people of Vellore district.
- Freezing wells have been set up at 354 places in the Kaniyambadi union area to prevent evaporation of water coming from Naganadi streams during the rainy season and inject it directly into the ground.
- As a result, the groundwater level has risen in the villages in this area, and crops such as rice and bananas, which require water, are being cultivated in the area even in summer.
- The women working under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and the Art of Living organization have jointly completed the project of constructing these freezing wells.

FICCI – Deloitte Knowledge Paper on ‘Accelerating Tamil Nadu’s Progress to becoming a One Trillion Dollar Economy by 2030-31’.

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Saturday inaugurated the national executive meeting of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and also released a FICCI – Deloitte Knowledge Paper on ‘Accelerating Tamil Nadu’s Progress to becoming a One Trillion Dollar Economy by 2030-31’.

Key highlights of the report

- Tamil Nadu is the second-largest State economy after Maharashtra and is the third-largest goods exporter in India (by value) after Gujarat and Maharashtra, the report said.
- Assuming Tamil Nadu can sustain its current average of 10% growth, it is expected to reach a USD 1 trillion economy benchmark by FY2034. However, to achieve this milestone by FY2031, the State will need to grow at an average of 16.5% annually.

- Achieving this growth rate will require the introduction of pathbreaking policies and economic planning to attract investments, enhance production, and expand exports.
- The primary sector is required to grow at 16%, while the manufacturing and professional services sectors are required to grow at 18%.
- To achieve the required sectoral growth rates, the State will need to bring in strategic investments over the next seven years.
- The report also highlighted the amount of strategic investments needed in various sectors.
- The State can utilise the strong higher education ecosystem and the availability of skilled talent to become a leading global research and development (R&D) hub. Key sectors of scope for the State include R&D (including biotechnology), Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning, renewable energy, defence, agri-tech, and electronics, the report pointed out.
- The report also highlighted three strategic focus areas. One is the focus on the theme of ‘Made in Tamil Nadu’ and moving up in the value chain in manufacturing in sectors like electric vehicles, agri-allied food processing, technical textiles, chemicals, non-metallic minerals and electronic and semi-conductor industries.
- The second area it pointed out was to focus on building ‘Brand Tamil Nadu’ as an integral part of the global economy, trade, and culture. This includes aspects from exports to tourism.
- The third area the report pointed to was that the State should aspire to lead India in emerging technologies and innovation. This would enable the State to attract investments from growing sectors and provide it with a head-start over other economies.

Medical Tourism Conference

News- Chief Minister M. K. Stalin inaugurated the first medical tourism conference in Tamil Nadu.

About

- For the first time, “Tamil Nadu Medical Tourism Conference” was held in Chennai Kind to promote medical and health tourism under the auspices of the Department of

Tourism, Medical and Public Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu.

- In the tourism department grant request for the year 2023-24, “Multipurpose and specialized multipurpose hospitals in Tamil Nadu are conducive to the growth of medical tourism in TamilNadu.
- Therefore, an International Medical Tourism Conference will be held in Chennai in collaboration with medical industry entrepreneurs,” it was announced. Accordingly, this 2-day medical tourism conference is held.
- More than 75 delegates from 21 countries including Bangladesh, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Maldives, Vietnam and African countries participated in this.



Tamil Nadu is the highest borrowing state in the country

News- According to the information released by the Reserve Bank of India, it has been revealed that Tamil Nadu has been on top for the third year in a row among the states that borrow the most. In the first 11 months of the last financial year, Tamil Nadu is the first state to borrow 68,000 crore rupees.



- The list of states that have borrowed the most in the last financial year 2022-23 has been released.
- First place - Tamil Nadu
- Second place - Andhra Pradesh
- Third place- Maharashtra

Adhichanallur

News- Iron anchor discovered in Adichanallur excavations

About

- Work is underway to set up a world-class museum at Adichanallur in Thoothukudi

district under the auspices of the Central Department of Archaeology.



- Excavation work was done last year in Adichanallur Parambu area as the first phase.
- During documentation work a 2 feet high iron anchor was found on the side of an old man’s hut.

Keezhadi

News- More than 1000 palm shells found in the basement at keezhadi



- In the 9th phase of excavation recently conducted at Keezhadi, more than thousand “pot shells” have been found in a single pit. Thus it is considered that there is a possibility of a pottery production hall here.
- It has been reported that all the places where the pits were dug are potsherds and there are only potsherds without any writings or pictures.

Middle Stones of Vijayanagara period

News- Excavations conducted in the Yelagiri hill region have found “Vijayanagara Period Stones”.



- Under the leadership of Professor K. Mohan Gandhi of Tirupattur Tamil department, they found two middle stones while carrying out field research in Yelagiri hill recently.
- A recent study has revealed that these two nadu stones are tombstones erected for two soldiers who died heroically during a war

during the Vijayanagara period. These rocks are Mesolithic dating back to about 500 years ago.

Elephant ivory dice discovered in excavations at Vembakottai.

News- Excavations at Vembakotta have so far yielded more than 800 artefacts including flint trade mark, flint smoker, stone weight, copper coin, glass beads and flint earring.

- In this case, 3.9 cm long, 1.4 cm wide, 191 mm. An elaborate conch bangle with “ivory dice and beautiful carvings” weighing gram has been found.

A later Pandyan inscription has been found in Tamil Nadu

News- Madurai archaeologists have discovered the inscription of the 43rd year of the reign of Kulasekhara Pandyan at a place called Adhyapatti near Tiruvadavoor, Madurai in Tamil Nadu.



- Carved in AD 1311, this inscription contains 5 lines stating that the later Pandyan Maravarman Kulasekhara Pandyan ruled in 1268 AD.

Illam thedi prasadam; Tamil Nadu Govt New Scheme

News- In Tamil Nadu, a scheme to send temple offerings to devotees’ homes through the “postal department” was launched.

- In the first phase of this scheme, the Tamil Nadu government has announced that offerings will be sent to homes in “48 first-class temples” through post.

Discovery of Nayakar Period Stone with Inscription.

News- A mid-stone with an inscription of the Nayak period has been found in the excavations at Chathangudi next to Tirumangalam.

- The study revealed that this middle stone is carved with a height of 3 feet and a width of 2 feet.

A museum displaying “Artefacts of Porunai Excavations” is set up.

News- Chief Minister Stalin on May 18 laid the foundation stone for a museum at Tirunelveli displaying “Artefacts of Porunai Excavations”.

- The museum will display “artefacts found during archaeological excavations” at Adichanallur, Korkai and Sivakalai, said the Department of Archeology

Gangaikonda Cholapuram Excavation found drainage system

- In the 3rd phase of excavation work in the ongoing excavation work in the village of Maligapuram near Gangaikondacholapuram, Ariyalur district, a channel like structure made of brick has been discovered.
- This canal-like structure is 315 cm long and 45 cm wide from east to west



6 MoUs have been signed between Singapore and Tamil Nadu Government.

- In the presence of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K.Stalin and Singapore’s Commerce Minister S.Easwaran, the Tamil Nadu government has signed six Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) to work with various organizations in Singapore.



- In this the MoU signed between Hi-B International Pvt Ltd is seen as very important. According to the guidelines of

this company, Tamil Nadu has signed an “agreement to set up a manufacturing plant for electronic spare parts”.

A cooperation agreement was signed between Tamil Nadu and Japan.

- Chief Minister Stalin has signed a cooperation agreement in Osaka, Japan for expansion of diesel auto airbag inflator facility in Chengalpattu district of Tamil Nadu.



- The deal comes amid Japan’s visit to Tamil Nadu to attract more investments from Osaka and to invite the leaders of several companies to the “Global Investors Conference” to be held in Chennai in January 2024.

Discovery of Merchant Group Inscription.

- An 800-year-old “merchant inscription” has been found in a field in Andar Kottaram area near Papakkudi, Madurai.
- The local people call this stone “Muniyan Stone”. The first 6 lines out of 47 lines in it “inscribed in Sanskrit the true glory of merchants”.



- It mentions ‘Samastha Bhuvana Charya Pancha Satavirasanam’. According to the researchers, this means the charter given by the business group called “Inuatuwa”.

The Tamil Nadu government has signed MoUs with six Japanese companies for investment worth Rs.818.90 crore.

- The Chief Minister was on an official visit to Japan to bring many new investments and technologies to Tamil Nadu and to invite Japanese leaders to the World Investors Conference to be held in Chennai in January 2024.
- This agreement has been entered into with 6 companies namely Kyokuto Satrock,

Mitsuba, Shimizu, Koi, Sato-Shoji Metal for development of various industries in TamilNadu.

2100 year old rock paintings discovered

- 2,100-year-old red rock paintings by Neolithic people have been discovered at Puli Hill in Pulipattdy near Melwar, Madurai district.



- There are more than 100 red paintings of human figures, animals and symbols on the Puli Hill rock.
- It is considered to belong to the Stone Age.
- It is noteworthy that such paintings have been found in six places in Madurai.



History of May Day

News- May Day is celebrated every year. A note on its history

- With the advent of machinery and the industrial revolution increasing production, workers in factories were forced to work up to 18-hour days.
- On July 14, 1889, in Paris, the capital of France, the International Labor Parliament meeting passed a resolution to require 8 hours of work, and the celebration of Labor Day began on May 1, 1890.
- The Russian Revolution of 1905 led by Lenin gave great hope to workers around the world.
- In 1908, VA Chidambaranar and Subramania Siva turned the heroic struggle of Tuticorin coral mill workers to victory.
- Leaders like Singharavelar, Thiruvika, later founder of the Justice Party, Sugarche Chettiar, Subramania Iyer, Krishnasamy Sharma, who were members of the Congress party but who were members of the Communist ideology, supported the workers' struggles.
- On April 27, 1918, the Madras Labor Union, launched in Chennai, became India's first integrated labor union.
- In this case, the strike of workers of Madras Aluminum Factory and Addison Printing Press took place under the leadership of Singaravelar.
- Next, at the Congress conference at Gaya, Singaravelar, Swami Deenanath, C.F. The Congress party formed a committee of workers called AITUC consisting of 6 members: Andrews, SN Halder, Dr. DD Sathya and J. M. Sen Gupta.
- On 1st May 1923, May Day was celebrated at the Marina beach near Madras High Court under the leadership of Singaravelar.
- They announced that the newly launched Labor Kisan Party would function as a branch organization of the Congress Party. Following this, MPS Velayutham and Subramania Siva, who were selected as Labor Kisan party's secretary, addressed the Thiruvanmiyur meeting. India's first May Day was celebrated.

Millets Experience Centre

- India's Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar recently launched the Millets Experience Centre (MEC) at Dilli Haat in New Delhi.
- The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) established the MEC in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture to promote the adoption of millets among the general public



Article 142 & Divorce on mutual consent

News- Mandatory waiting period of 6 months not necessary: Divorce can be granted under Section 142

- Section 13B of the Hindu Marriage Act defines the procedures for obtaining a divorce in India.
- In this case, if the couple has been living separately for a year or more or both of them feel that there is no chance of living together anymore, they can file a petition for divorce in the Family Court under Section 13B(1).
- Similarly, a couple filing for divorce under Section 13B(2) has to wait for at least 6 to 18 months.
- A change of mind can be withdrawn during this interim period.
- After the mandatory waiting period, the Family Court will conduct the hearing and grant the divorce. At the same time, they should be married for at least one year.
- Supreme Court verdict on this –
- In cases of irretrievable breakdown the Supreme Court can grant divorce in exercise of the power conferred under Article 142 of the Constitution.

- And if both the couple mutually consent to the divorce then the mandatory waiting period of 6 months is not necessary.
- Reference to Article 142 of the Indian constitution
- The Supreme Court of India under Article 142 of the Constitution of India may, in exercise of its special jurisdiction, pass such decree or order as may be necessary to render complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it. Subject to the provisions of any law enacted by the Parliament, the Supreme Court of India has all powers to make any order for the purpose of protecting the existence of a person.
- Article 142 of the Act is a special power given to the Supreme Court of India by the Constitution of India

Yellow Fever

News- A total of 117 passengers of Indian Origin that have arrived from Sudan are currently quarantined because they were not vaccinated against Yellow Fever.



About

- Nomenclature: Yellow fever is often associated with jaundice, hence the name yellow.
- Endemic countries: to WHO, Yellow fever occurs in 47 endemic countries in Africa in Central and South America. Around 90% of cases reported every year occur in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Transmission:

- The yellow fever virus is transmitted by infected mosquitoes, most commonly from the Aedes species – the same mosquito that spreads the Zika, Chikungunya and Dengue virus. Haemogogus mosquitoes also spread it and are mostly found in the jungle.
- The disease cannot be spread by contact from one person to another.

Symptoms:

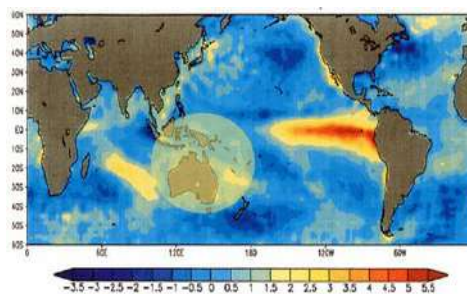
- Once contracted, the yellow fever virus incubates in the body for 3 to 6 days. Symptoms usually present themselves in 2 phases.
- The first, “acute”, phase usually causes fever, muscle pain or vomiting. Most patients improve and their symptoms disappear after 3 to 4 days.
- However, a small percentage of people enter a second, more toxic phase within 24 hours of the initial remission. They will experience high fever, JAUNDICE, and abdominal pain with vomiting and deteriorating kidney function.

Prevention and Treatment:

- Yellow fever can be prevented by a vaccine that is protective for life. As single dose of yellow fever vaccine, known as 17D, provides life-long immunity against the disease.
- There is no specific treatment for yellow fever but good supportive treatment of symptoms, such as dehydration, fever and infection, improves survival rates. Associated bacterial infections can be treated with antibiotics.

El Nino

News- As the ‘El Nino’ phenomenon will affect the monsoon rainfall, the Central Government has advised the state governments to be prepared to face the ‘worst case scenario’ and ensure adequate availability of seeds for the Kharif season.



What is El Nino?

- El Nino (El-nino) refers to the temperature change in the surface of the Pacific Ocean. That is, the temperature of the surface of the Pacific Ocean is higher than the average temperature once in a certain period. The temperature rise in the surface of the Pacific Ocean is called El Nino.
- El Nino” is an irregular climate change that occurs in the eastern and central Pacific Ocean due to global warming.
- Sea surface temperature is an event where the sea surface temperature exceeds the

mean temperature for a period of time [seven to 24 months] [increase by half a degree Celsius].

- The event is expected to occur on average every five years. [There is also an interval of 2 to 7 years] Then in 4 years it reaches other lands.

What is the meaning of the term El Nino?

- In Spanish, the word El Niño means a boy, referring to baby Jesus. In the coastal areas of South America, the temperature rises around the time of Christmas, the birthday of Jesus, so it is called El Niño.

What is La Nina?

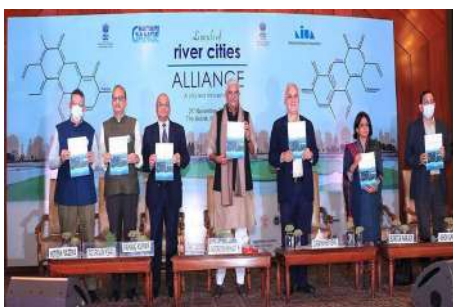
- The opposite of El Niño is La Niña. It is unusually cold in the eastern Pacific. During its impact, it will be very dry and cold along the coast of Peru and Ecuador. In the western Pacific, where it is warm and humid and has more rain, it follows El Niño, but not always. Negative for El Nino.

Impact

- It is El Nino that increases the sea temperature near the coast of Chile-Peru and decreases it with La Niño.
- Ocean currents are affected by these events. This has affected Indonesia, Australia, Southeast Africa, and the northern parts of South America.
- Also, dry winters in Canada and the United States
- It can also produce storms in the Atlantic Ocean, the opposite phenomenon known as La Niña.

River Cities Alliance

- News- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in association with the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) organized the 'River-Cities Alliance (RCA) Global Seminar: Partnership for Building International River-Sensitive Cities' recently in New Delhi.



About

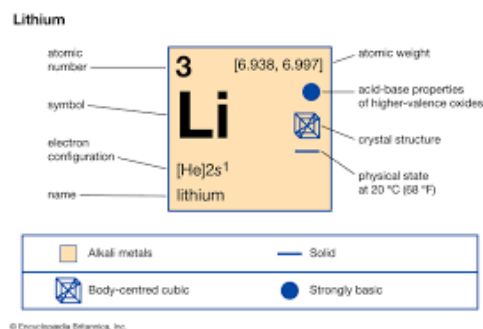
- The River Cities Alliance (RCA) has been

launched with the objective to provide the member cities with a platform to discuss and exchange information on aspects that are vital for sustainable management of urban rivers, sharing best practices and supporting innovation.

- The alliance has been launched initially with 30 cities namely Dehradun, Rishikesh, Haridwar, Srinagar, Varanasi, Kanpur, Prayagraj, Farrukhabad, Mirzapur, Mathura, Bijnor, Ayodhya, Patna, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Munger, Sahibganj, Rajmahal, Howrah, Jangipur, Hugli-Chinsurah, Behrampore, Maheshtala, Aurangabad, Chennai, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Pune, Udaipur and Vijaywada.
- The Alliance is open to all river cities of India. Any river city can join the Alliance at any time.
- State Governments are implementing Action Plans for restoration of water quality of the identified polluted river stretches.
- The implementation is being monitored regularly at State level by Chief Secretary of the respective State/UT and at Central level by the Central Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti.

Lithium Reserve in Rajasthan

- News- Discovery of Lithium Reserve in Rajasthan
- The lithium reserves discovered in Degana municipality in Nagaur district in Rajasthan are said to be more than the recently discovered 5.9 million tonnes in Jammu and Kashmir.
- The amount of lithium available in Rajasthan will meet 80 percent of the country's demand, officials said.
- Lithium reserves were discovered for the first time in Jammu and Kashmir's Riasi in February this year.
- It was India's first significant mineral discovery.



About Lithium

- Lithium is a soft metal with the symbol Li and a silvery appearance.
- It is the 3rd element in the periodic table.
- Its atomic number is 3.
- Its nucleus contains three electrons and four atoms.
- It is so soft that it can easily be cut with a knife.
- The lightest of all metals (metals) is lithium.
- The density of lithium is half that of water.
- Uses - Lithium, a non-ferrous metal, is used to make mobile phones, laptops, electric vehicles and other rechargeable appliances.

Project – SMART

News- The Ministry of Housing (MoHUA) and the Ministry of Railways have jointly signed an MoU with the Japan International Cooperation Agency

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and the Ministry of Railways have jointly signed an MoU with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for ‘Upgradation of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Railway Station Area’ (Project-SMART).
- The ministry further noted that out of 12 railway stations, MoUs were signed for four high-speed railway stations including Sabarmati, Surat in Gujarat and Virar and Thane in Maharashtra.

‘Yuva Pratibha - Identifying Talented Singers’ event

News- MyGov, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, has launched a program called ‘Yuva Pratibha - Identifying Singing Talents’.



- With an aim to promote Indian music from the grassroots level at the national level by identifying and recognizing new and young singing talents in various genres, MyGov in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture is launching “Yuva Pratibha – Recognition of Singing Talents”
- The initial submission for the competition

is stated to be open for a period of one and a half months.

Sittwe Harbour

News- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated Sittwe Port in Rakhine, Myanmar



India’s Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and Myanmar’s Deputy Prime Minister Admiral Dinh Aung San inaugurated the “Sittwe Port” in Rakhine.

- The Union Minister said that the operation of the Sittwe Port will enhance bilateral and regional trade and contribute to the local economy of Rakhine State. The port has been developed under the grant-in-aid of the Government of India as part of the “Calaton Multi-Modal Transit Transport” project.

About

- The Sittwe Port has been developed under the India-Myanmar Framework Agreement for the construction and operation of a multi-layer transport facility on the Kaladan River connecting the Sittwe Port in Myanmar with the Indian state of Mizoram.
- The port connects Paletwa in Myanmar by inland waterway and road from Paletwa to Sorinbui in Mizoram as part of the project.
- The port has opened up new opportunities for trade and transit to India from Myanmar and particularly from Rakhine State and will further enhance trade between the two countries.

News- On Maternal Deaths, Childbirth and Neonatal Mortality Rate. UN report

- “India “ tops the list of 10 countries with 51% stillbirths.
- According to a recently published UN report, “India” leads the list of 10 countries with 60 percent of global maternal deaths, stillbirths and neonatal deaths and 51 % of live births worldwide.
- Sub-Saharan Africa and Central and South Asia are regions with the highest number of deaths, according to the report.

SAKSHAM

News- Union Ministry of Health has launched “SAKSHAM” learning management information web system.

SAKSHAM India

- Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan launched “SAKSHAM Learning Management Information System” Union Ministry of Health to stimulate improved knowledge for sustainable health management. The platform has been developed by the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi.
- SAKSHAM is a platform to provide online training and medical education to all healthcare professionals and aspirants in our country. Health professionals can register for the courses offered in it through the website lmis.nihfw.ac.in and obtain the certificate after undergoing the required training and meeting sufficient evaluation criteria.

‘Poshan Bhi, Phadhai Bhi

News- Anganwadi scheme for early childhood care and education ‘Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi’ has been launched.

- A program for early childhood care and education called ‘Boshan Bhi, Phadai Bhi’ has been launched to transform Anganwadi centers not only into nutrition centers but also into centers of education.
- It has been announced that the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development has allocated Rs 600 crore for training Anganwadi workers to implement this scheme. National Corporation for Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) has been roped in under this scheme to train Anganwadi workers.

Bharat E-Mart Portal

News- India Postal Department has launched a website called “Bharat E-Mart Portal”.



- India Post has launched a web-based system called “Bharat E-Mart Portal” to provide logistics to small and medium traders
- This Bharat Emart portal is said to provide the facility to pick up goods from the traders’ premises and ensure delivery at the doorsteps of the consignees across the country. According to this, eight crore traders associated with CAIT are expected to benefit from this.

Harith Sagar

News- Launch of “Harith Sagar” Green Port Guidelines 2023.



- Union Ports Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched the ‘Harith Sagar’ green port guidelines at a function in New Delhi on May 10, whose main aim is to achieve the “zero carbon emission target”.
- These guidelines are said to help in the storage and handling of fuels like green hydrogen, green ammonia, and green methanol or ethanol and improve port efficiencies.

Santiniketan- World Heritage Site

News- The Union Government has announced that “Santiniketan” has been proposed to be included in UNESCO’s list of heritage sites.

- Union Minister for Culture and Tourism G Kishan Reddy has said that “Santiniketan” has been recommended by an international advisory body to be included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- “Santiniketan” is a town in Birbhum district of West Bengal where Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore spent most of his life.



World Heritage Site

- A World Heritage Site is a domain included in the list of the International World Heritage Program managed by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee.
- It can be anything like forest, mountain, lake, desert, monument, building, city. UNESCO's World Heritage Committee is elected by the General Assembly of States and consists of 21 representatives.
- OBJECTIVE - The objective of the project is to list and protect domains of natural and cultural importance essential to the common heritage of mankind.
- With a view to protecting such domains, the program was created in a charter adopted by the General Assembly of UNESCO on 16 November 1972. As of a September 2012 report, 190 countries have so far signed and adopted the plan.
- Italy has the highest number of designated World Heritage Sites
- India has a total of 40 World Heritage Sites
- World Heritage Sites in TamilNadu
- Airavateswarar temple
- Gangaikonda cholapuram
- Nilgiris Hill Railway
- Brihadeeswarar temple

Millet festival

News- A "millet festival" has been started in Uttarakhand's Dehradun to create awareness about millets.



- In Uttarakhand, a four-day "millet festival" is being celebrated in Dehradun, Uttarakhand from May 13 to 16 to create public awareness about the health benefits of the grain and the potential of the state to grow this type of crop.
- It is announced that the festival will attract more people to double millet production by 2025 and the government aims to strengthen the economy of farmers by producing more millet grains.

Second Cultural Task Force

News - The Cultural Working Group (CWG) under India's G20 Presidency is holding a

meeting to highlight that 'Culture unites all' on the basis of "promoting peaceful coexistence among diverse cultures and communities".



- The gathering aims to foster the ability of culture, in all its manifestations, to transcend borders, foster connections and promote genuine dialogue and understanding among individuals, communities and nations.

Sanchar saathi Portal

News- The Central Government is going to launch a new website called "Sanchar Saathi Portal" to help people track and trace their telecom mobile phones.



- The website was officially announced by Union Telecom Minister Ashwini.

Fourth is the list of positive indigenization

- The Ministry of Defense has approved the fourth positive indigenization list of 928 defense strategy acquired subsystems and components.
- The approval is expected to reduce imports by defense PSUs and boost domestic production. Details of this list with import substitution value of Rs 715 crore can be found on "SRIJAN" website.

Inauguration of "Integrated Biological Control Laboratory" at Hyderabad.

- News- Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated an "Integrated Biological Control Laboratory" in Hyderabad
- The minister said that the laboratory will

help reduce the use of bio-pesticides and bio-fertilizers, reduce the use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers and improve soil and plant health.

All India Pension Adalat

News- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the 8th All India Pension Adalat in New Delhi. Pension Adalats are connected through video conferencing at various locations where complex cases from various Ministries or Departments across the country are selected and resolved.



- 24 thousand 218 cases have been selected in the 7 All India Pension Adalats held so far and 17 thousand 235 cases have been resolved.

Annual Science Festival

News- Indian Science Forum (ISF) has planned to organize a Science Festival at “Al Hail” Campus, National University of Science and Technology, Muscat on 19th and 20th May to promote science in Oman.

- The event is said to provide a great platform for students to showcase their passion and talent for science. Renowned Indian scientist Mylaswamy Annadurai, known as India’s “Moon Man”, will attend the event.

“Flood Relief Exercise – Jal Rahat”- The Gajraj

News- Division of the Indian Army conducted a “Joint Flood Relief Exercise” called ‘Jal Rahat’ on 16th May to consolidate preparedness through flood relief strategies at Hagrama Bridge on the “Manas” river in Assam.

- The Indian Army said the event involved “coordination and rehearsal on how to rescue people from flooded areas” by joint efforts of special teams of the Army, NDRF and SDRF.

International Museum Exhibition-2023

News- The festival is celebrated to create awareness about the importance of museums in preserving our cultural heritage. In celebration of this year’s 47th International Museum Day (IMD), Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi to inaugurate.



- The theme for this year is ‘Museums, Sustainability and Well Being’.

Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023

News- India’s “Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturers Association (CPMA) will host the 41st edition of the “Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023” (APIC 2023) in New Delhi on May 18-19.

- It aims to bring together global leaders from the petrochemical industry to discuss key issues related to growth, trade, investment and sustainability.

National Ayush Mission Conference 2023

News- Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the “National AYUSH Mission Conference 2023” in New Delhi.

- Union AYUSH Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated the two-day conference of National AYUSH Mission (NAM), a flagship program of the Ministry of AYUSH.
- The conference will “pave way for better coordination among stakeholders and strengthen the functioning of AYUSH health and wellness centers,” the Union minister said.



Ayush Mission

- The National AYUSH Mission (NAM) was launched on 29 September 2014 by the Department of

AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India as a Central Government sponsored program during the 12th Five Year Plan.

- It aims to provide cost-effective and equitable AYUSH healthcare across the country by improving access to services.
- AYUSH stands for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy.
- This work consists of four components:
- AYUSH Services: Providing Universal Access.
- AYUSH Educational Institutions: Strengthening Them.
- Quality control of AYUSH medicines: setting norms and regulating them.

Oran

News- The Union Ministry of Communications has launched a test bed project called ORAN.

- The Minister of State for Communications, Devsin Chauhan has launched the “Open Radio Access Network (ORAN)” Test Bed Program in New Delhi on 17th May to improve compliance, certification and interoperability of solutions.
- It aims to facilitate the testing of ORAN elements and facilitate the development of a fully domestic 5G radio network in India.

The new Parliament building is scheduled to be inaugurated on May 28.

News- Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the “newly constructed Parliament building” in New Delhi on May 28, 2023.



- Considering the future needs, the newly constructed Parliament building has been designed to seat 888 members of the Lok Sabha and 300 members of the Rajya Sabha, while the existing Parliament building has a seating capacity of 543 members in the Lok Sabha and 250 members in the Rajya Sabha.

- The advantage of this building is that it can seat up to 1280 MPs in case the joint session of both the Houses is held only in the “Lok Sabha Chamber”.

News- The pharmaceutical industry has organized an international conference on ‘Indian Medicines and Indian Medical Devices’.

About

- Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya is scheduled to inaugurate the 8th edition of the International Conference on ‘Indian Pharmaceuticals and Indian Medical Devices 2023’ in New Delhi on May 26.
- The Central Government informed that a new scheme called “Assistance to Medical Devices Committees for Public Facilities” (AMD-CF) will be announced at the conference.
- The objective of the scheme is to strengthen common infrastructural facilities in medical device groups and to improve testing facilities for medical devices.

National Capital Civil Works Commission

News- The Central Government has issued an Ordinance to constitute a “National Capital Civil Services Commission” to recommend transfers and postings of Group ‘A’ and DANICS officers.

- It has been announced that the Commission will be located in “New Delhi”.

Women Workers Conference

News- Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani inaugurated the “Women Workers Conference” organized by BMS Kerala Chapter in Thiruvananthapuram.

- Irani said that 13 percent of supervisor posts in the 33,000 Anganwadis across the state would be filled up and the Anganwadis in Kerala should be further modernized with the help of technology.

India is scheduled to host the 44th edition of ISO COPOLCO

News- India will host the 44th edition of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Committee on Consumer Policy (COPOLCO) from May 23 to 26.



- The theme of this edition is consumer protection and legal frameworks, challenges for consumer engagement and empowering consumers for a sustainable future.

IIM Kozhikode is ranked 72nd among the top-75 institutions globally.

News- In the Financial Times (FT) rankings published on May 22, IIM Kozhikode has achieved a record 72nd position among the top 75 admissions management skills providers globally.

- The list is notable for featuring three IIMs and four Indian B-schools. It is meant to exemplify the quality of Indian education to the world.

India-US project to promote educational growth and capacity building.

News- The Ministry of Education and the US State Department jointly launched the India-US Working Group on Education Development and Capacity Building on May 22 virtually.

- Through this cooperation, it aims to enhance cooperation between the two countries in the field of education development and skill development.

Agreements were made between India and Australia to develop green hydrogen and various other sectors.

- India and Australia signed MoUs on 24 May to work together to promote migration, mobility partnerships and green hydrogen.
- The Prime Minister of India said that this agreement will be the basis for further development of mutual trust and cooperation in the relationship between India and Australia.

Moody's Global Investors Group report

- India's GDP is projected to cross \$3.5 trillion by 2022 and will grow rapidly over the next few years, Moody's Global

Investors said in its report.

- Demand in the manufacturing and infrastructure sectors is expected to grow by 3-12 percent annually, while "India's capacity will be second only to China by 2030," the company said in its announcement.

Urban Climate Film Festival-2023

- The Urban Climate Film Festival 2023, the first to use the medium of film to sensitize audiences on the environmental and economic impacts of climate change on urban settlements, will be held from 3rd to 5th June at New Town Kolkata.



- It is planned with 16 filmmakers from 12 countries to stimulate conversations about building climate-resilient cities and encourage citizens to adopt 'environmentally responsible behaviour' in line with the U20 priority.

India's 'AIRAWAT' ranks 75th in Top 500 Supercomputing list

- 'AIRAWAT', an AI supercomputer installed at C-DAC, Pune, has been ranked 75th globally. It was announced in the 61st edition of the Top 500 Global Supercomputing List at the International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023) in Germany. This puts India at the top of AI supercomputing countries globally.
- India is working on applied AI with a focus on developing solutions for natural language processing, image recognition, pattern recognition, agriculture, medical imaging, education, healthcare, audio assistance, robotics and strategic sectors.

Sengol

- A historical sceptre from Tamil Nadu 'Sengol' will be installed at the new Parliament building to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 28.

About

Origin:



- It was used on August 14, 1947, by then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru when the transfer of power took place from the British. It was kept in a museum in Allahabad.
- The word Sengol is derived from the Tamil word 'Semmai', meaning 'righteousness'. It is a civilisational practice from the Chola kingdom, which was among the leading kingdoms in the Indian sub-continent for centuries.

Symbolic:

- According to Tamil tradition, a high priest presents a sceptre to a newly crowned king as a symbolic gesture of power transition.
- The one accorded the 'sengol' is expected to impart a just and impartial rule. C Rajagopalachari, the last Governor General of India, suggested that this tradition, observed by the Chola dynasty, could serve as a significant symbol of India's freedom from British rule.

Features:

- The 'Sengol' was crafted by a renowned jeweller in Madras Vummidi Bangaru Chetty. This impressive sceptre measures five feet in length and features a 'nandi' bull at the top, representing the concept of justice.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched version 5.1 of "RCS-UDAN" to improve connectivity to remote areas of India.



- The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN(Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) version 5.1 to improve connectivity to remote areas of India and reach the country's last mile connectivity through helicopters.
- The UDAN 5.1 project has been announced to usher in a new mechanism not only for civil aviation but also for remote and underserved areas of India.

Union AYUSH Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated PCIM&H 'e-office' and website.

- "PCI M&H" and "Website" of "Pharmacopoeia System of Indian Medicine and Homeopathy" (PCIM&H), Ghaziabad Division has been inaugurated by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of AYUSH and Ports, Shipping & Waterways.
- The central government said the website was "for selling web vulnerabilities of pharmaceutical monographs".

A startup from Kerala has been featured in Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia" list.

- The owners of Genrobotics, a Kerala-based startup, have showcased India's potential to the world by featuring in the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia list under the "Industry, Manufacturing and Energy category".
- The owners of the company are 29-year-old Nikhil NB, 28-year-old Vimal Govind MK, 28-year-old Rashid Karimpanakkal and two others. This startup is trying to create a robot called "Bandicoot" to replace human labor in cleaning clogged drains.

An Institute for Transformation of Arunachal (ITA) is planned to be set up on the model of Niti Aayog.

- Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Kandu has announced that the Arunachal Pradesh government will set up the Institute for Transforming Arunachal Pradesh (ITA) in collaboration with NITI Aayog to take the state's development to the next level.
- It is also said that this system will create an ecosystem for knowledge base of learning which will be a crutch for the development

of the state of Arunachal Pradesh.

President Draupadi Murmu inaugurated India's largest High Court in Jharkhand.

- President Draupadi Murmu on May 24 inaugurated the new “Jharkhand High Court Building” in Ranchi, Jharkhand at a cost of around Rs 550 crore. It has the status of being the largest court in the country.



- The new High Court's 165-acre campus has the status of being the largest court in the country by area.

Announcement that “Rs 75” commemorative coin will be released at the inauguration of the new Parliament building.

- The Ministry of Finance has announced that the “75 Rupees” coin will be released to commemorate 75 years of Independence Day at the inauguration of the new Parliament building by Prime Minister Modi on May 28. According to the announcement, the 35 gram coin will have a circular shape with a diameter of 44 mm.



- On the right side of the coin is the word “India” in English, on the obverse is the lion capital of the Ashoka Pillar with Satyamev Jayate below it, on the left is ‘Bharat’ in Devanagiri script, and on the reverse is a pictorial composition of the new Parliament Complex.

Shri Giriraj Singh launched a campaign called SAMARTH to promote digital transactions.

- Union Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Shri Giriraj Singh launched a SAMARTH campaign on May 25 to promote digital transactions in 50,000 gram panchayats under Amrita Mahotsav in Lucknow.
- The campaign aims to “promote digital transaction shares among senior citizens and women.

Opening of US Embassy in Hyderabad.

- US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti inaugurated the US Embassy in Hyderabad on May 26 during the celebration of the 247th anniversary of US Independence.
- The US ambassador said that the US values the city of Hyderabad and that Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha are one of the most important chapters of the US-India strategic partnership so we are opening this \$340 million embassy.

NITI Aayog

- The 8th Governing Council meeting of Niti Aayog to make India a developed country in various fields was held in Delhi on May 27 under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Modi.



- With the aim of making India a developed and advanced country by 2047, the central government has announced that the meeting will discuss various issues such as skill development, health, women empowerment and infrastructure development.

IIFA 2023 Winners List Released

- The winners were announced under various categories at the IIFA Awards 2023 held in Abu Dhabi on May 27, 2023.
- Following is the list of IIFA winners for 2023,
- Best Movie – Drishyam 2
- Best Director - R Madhavan Rocketry: Nambi Effect
- Best Actor (Female) - Alia Bhatt Gangubhai Kathiyavadi
- Best Actor(Male)- Hrithik Roshan Vikram

Veda

- Greatest Achievement in Indian Cinema - Kamal Haasan

The government of Nepal has approved the second hydropower project to be developed by India.

- India's Sutlej Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) Limited in Nepal decided to allow its second hydroelectric project in Nepal.
- The Prime Minister of Nepal has said that cooperation between India and Nepal will improve through this project.
- It is noteworthy that SJVN has already developed and successfully operated the 900-MW Arun-III hydropower project.

Youth – SPIC MACAY Conference begins in Nagpur.

- The 8th International Conference of the Organization for Promotion of Indian Classical Music among Youth - "SPIC MACAY" was launched on 29th May at "Visvesvaraya National Vocational Training College", Nagpur.
- Incredible India Organization and the Union Ministry of Culture are planning to hold this cultural conference till June 4.
- The main objective of the conference is to create awareness about Indian culture and traditions among the new generation and to create a "Kurukula Ashram" style environment for music learners.
- BPCL has introduced "Ethanol-Diesel" blend to reduce smoke emission.

Bharat Petroleum has introduced and started production of a "Diesel-Ethanol" blend to achieve net zero sustainability and reduce smog emissions.

- BPCL said the move will achieve its primary "net zero goal" by 2040.

India extends USD 1 billion credit facility to Sri Lanka for 1 year.

- An amendment agreement to extend the term of the USD 1 billion credit facility was signed in Sri Lanka on May 30.
- The credit facility is "finance provided by India to the Government of Sri Lanka for procurement of essential commodities.



International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)

News- India recently announced that it will start participating in the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA) and the Long-Term Aspirational Goals (LTAG) from 2027.



About

- ICAO is an intergovernmental specialized agency associated with the United Nations (UN).
- It was established in 1947 by the Convention on International Civil Aviation (1944) known as Chicago Convention.
- Headquarters: Montreal, Canada

Functions:

- ICAO is dedicated to developing safe and efficient international air transport for peaceful purposes and ensuring a reasonable opportunity for every state to operate international airlines.
- It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security and facilitation, efficiency, and economic development of air transport as well as to improve the environmental performance of aviation.
- It also serves as a clearinghouse for cooperation and discussion on civil aviation issues among its 193 member states.
- It also promotes regional and international agreements aimed at liberalizing aviation markets.
- It helps to establish legal standards to ensure that the growth of aviation does not compromise safety, and encourages the development of other aspects of international aviation law.

Group of Seven (G7)

News- Group of Seven advanced nations should adopt “risk-based” regulation on artificial intelligence, their digital ministers agreed recently, as European lawmakers hurry to introduce an AI Act to enforce rules on emerging tools such as ChatGPT.



About:

- The G-7 or ‘Group of Seven’ are Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- The G-7 nations meet at annual summits that are presided over by leaders of member countries on a rotational basis. The summit is an informal gathering that lasts two days, in which leaders of member countries discuss a wide range of global issues.
- The G-7 does not have a formal constitution or a fixed headquarters.
- The decisions taken by leaders during annual summits are non-binding.
- Timeline:
- It is an intergovernmental organisation that was formed in 1975 by the top economies of the time as an informal forum to discuss pressing world issues.
- Canada joined the group in 1976, and the European Union began attending in 1977.
- The G-7 was known as the ‘G-8’ for several years after the original seven were joined by Russia in 1997. The Group returned to being called G-7 after Russia was expelled as a member in 2014 following the latter’s annexation of the Crimea region of Ukraine.

QUAD

News- Indian Australian Diaspora Foundation (IADF) is set to host a grand community reception in honour of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ahead of the QUAD Leaders’

Summit slated to take place in Sydney in May 2023.

About

- The grouping of four democracies –India, Australia, US and Japan– is known as the quadrilateral security dialogue or quad.



- The aim of this grouping is to ensure a free and open international order based on the rule of law in the Indo- Pacific.

What are the objectives of the Quad?

- The group’s primary objectives include
- maritime security,
- combating the Covid-19 crisis, especially vis-à-vis vaccine diplomacy,
- addressing the risks of climate change,
- creating an ecosystem for investment in the region and
- boosting technological innovation.

Evolution of Quad:

- Following the Indian Ocean tsunami, India, Japan, Australia, and the US created an informal alliance to collaborate on disaster relief efforts.
- Quad as a formal group was first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007.
- However, due to Chinese resistance and reluctance shown by India, it could not move ahead.
- Later, during the 2017 ASEAN Summits, all four former members re-joined negotiations to revive the quadrilateral alliance.
- The Quad was upgraded to the ministerial level in September 2019.
- In March 2021, the first-ever summit of QUAD leaders took place virtually.
- It was participated by the PMs/Presidents of all the member countries. The summit was hosted by US.
- Later, in September 2021, the first in-person meeting of Quad leaders was hosted by the US.

Washington Declaration

News- The President of South Korea and the US President recently signed the Washington Declaration on the anniversary of 70 years of their bilateral relationship.



About

- It was signed between the US and South Korea on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of U.S.-South Korea bilateral relations.
- The declaration outlines the cooperation towards nuclear deterrence.
- Purpose: Protect the Korean Peninsula from a nuclear attack.
- According to the declaration,
- A US nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarine (SSBN) would be deployed in the Korean peninsula;
- A joint Nuclear Consultative Group would be formed to formulate principles of joint response tactics;
- South Korea would receive intel from the US regarding nuclear advancements;
- The US will strengthen South Korea’s nuclear deterrence capabilities through joint military training programs and an annual intergovernmental simulation.
- The declaration reaffirmed the non-proliferation Treaty implying that South Korea would not venture into the creation of its own independent nuclear capabilities and would instead focus on deterrence measures through an alliance-based approach.
- It also mandates the US President as the only ‘sole authority’ to use the nuclear arsenal of the US in the event of a nuclear confrontation.

OPEC

News- India has reduced its crude oil imports from OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) to an all-time low.



About

- OPEC (OPEC - Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) is an

acronym for the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries.

- OBJECTIVE - The primary objective of the association is to find out the best ways for these countries to maintain their welfare individually and as a group and find ways to stabilize petroleum prices in the global arena.

ASEAN Summit

News- 42nd ASEAN Summit begins in Indonesia with focus on becoming a global growth center.

- The summit aims to demonstrate the bloc's hopes and efforts to become the center and driving force behind global development.



About

- ASEAN stands for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, a regional intergovernmental organization established on August 8, 1967, in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration.
- Members: ASEAN currently has 10 member countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

NASA

News – US-based startup Rocket Lab has launched two NASA satellites to track the development of “tropical storms”.

- The rocket lab launched two “toaster”-sized satellites for NASA and includes four “cubesats” designed to provide hourly updates on hurricane and tornado development and improve forecasts.
- This is expected to provide new insights into how tropical storms form and intensify.

Program to train civil servants from Bangladesh and Maldives

News- NCGG has started a program to train government employees from Bangladesh and Maldives.

- A “two-week capacity building program” for government employees of Maldives and Bangladesh has started at the National Center for Good Governance (NCGG), Mussoorie. The Hindu noted that 50 government employees from Maldives and

45 government employees from Bangladesh are part of this project.

- NCGG Director Bharat Lal said the project was designed in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's principles of ‘Vasudeva kutumbakam’ and ‘neighboring countries first’.

India-Canada Partnership

News- India and Canada sign MoU to explore enhanced cooperation in future.



- India and Canada have agreed to explore through a Memorandum of Understanding “to work towards enhanced cooperation in the future” through coordinated investment promotion, information exchange and mutual support activities.
- Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Canadian Minister Mary Ng jointly signed the agreement at the Sixth India-Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment in Ottawa on May 8.

Gold Backed Digital Currency - Zimbabwe

News – Zimbabwe Introduces “Gold Backed Digital Currency” to Replace US Dollar

- The government of Zimbabwe has launched a “gold-backed digital currency” to reduce reliance and dependence on the US dollar.
- The government of Zimbabwe has stated that these gold-backed digital tokens are being issued with the aim of expanding the tools for storing value available in the economy. The minimum spend for people to acquire digital tokens is set at \$10 per capita.

California became the first state to enact a law prohibiting caste discrimination.

News – California Senate Passes Bill to “Prohibit Racial Discrimination”. It also became the first state to enact such a law.

- The state Senate passed a bill to update California's civil rights law to include protections against discrimination based on a person's caste.

Indian Navy Plans to Enhance Cooperation with Cambodia

News- The Indian fleet consisting of INS Delhi and INS Satpura, Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet departed “Sihanoukville”, Cambodia on May 14 (3 day port call) to enhance the fast growing cooperation between India and Cambodia.



- Training sessions on “Wartime Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)” and fire fighting have been announced

UN offers ‘roadmap’ to “reduce plastic pollution by 80%” by 2040

News- On May 16, UN Environment released a “report examining the economic and business models” needed to reduce plastic pollution by 80 percent by 2040.



- Through this report, the UN urges the world to follow the three market principles of re-use, recycling and diversification of reclamation. Na emphasized

Operation Karuna

News- India has launched a program called “Operation Karuna” to provide humanitarian aid to the people affected by Cyclone Mocha in Myanmar.

- Accordingly, three ships of the Indian Navy carrying relief supplies arrived in Yangon, Myanmar on 18 May, and the 4th ship will reach Myanmar on 19 May, the Indian government said.

England has imposed economic sanctions on Russia.

News- Ahead of the G7 meeting in Japan, the United Kingdom (UK) has announced a ban on Russian military-industrial establishments and imports of metals and diamonds.



- The UK government said the sanctions would include those involved in efforts to weaken the impact of these sanctions and those who actively aid Russia. G7 countries are expected to impose similar sanctions on Russia.

Mahatma Gandhi statue unveiled in Hiroshima

News- Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi as a “symbol of friendship and goodwill” between India and Japan on the occasion of his recent visit to Hiroshima for the G7 summit.



- This 42-inch tall bronze bust is located along the Motoyasu River.
- It is sculpted by Padma Bhushan awardee “Ram Vanji Sudhar”.

QUAD

News- The Prime Minister of India recently participated in the third in-person Quad Leaders’ Summit in Hiroshima, Japan.

Note

- The Quad leaders unequivocally condemned terrorism and violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations including cross-border terrorism.
- They also released the ORAN Security Report to support industry investment in open, interoperable and secure telecom platforms. Quad Investors’ Network has been launched as a private sector-

led platform to facilitate investments in strategic technologies.

What is Quad?

- Known as the ‘Quadrilateral Security Dialogue’ (QSD), the Quad is an informal strategic forum comprising four nations, namely -- United States of America (USA), India, Australia and Japan. One of the primary objectives of the Quad is to work for a free, open, prosperous and inclusive Indo-Pacific region.
- The group met for the first time in 2007 on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean). It is considered an alliance of maritime democracies, and the forum is maintained by meetings, semi-regular summits, information exchanges and military drills of all the member countries.

Formation of QUAD

- Since its establishment in 2007, the representatives for the four-member nations have met periodically. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe was the first to pitch the idea for the formation of Quad in 2007.
- In fact, its origins can be traced back to the evolution of Exercise Malabar and the 2004 Tsunami when India conducted relief and rescue operations for itself and neighbouring countries and was later joined by the US, Japan and Australia. Therefore, China issued formal diplomatic protests to the members of the Quad.

Principles of Quad

- The motive behind the Quad is to keep the strategic sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any military or political influence.
- It is basically seen as a strategic grouping to reduce Chinese domination. The core objective of the Quad is to secure a rules-based global order, freedom of navigation and a liberal trading system. The coalition also aims to offer alternative debt financing for nations in the Indo-Pacific region

Rayana Barnawi has become the first woman from Saudi Arabia to go into space.

News- Saudi Arabia’s First Lady Rayana Barnawi has boarded the International Space Station (ISS) with Saudi Ali Alkarni, US Commander Peggy Whitson and pilot John Shofner aboard the Dragon spacecraft.

- The Falcon 9 rocket carrying the spacecraft has lifted off from NASA’s Launch Complex 39A. Stem cell researcher Rayana Barnawi

has gone into space with funding from the Saudi Arabian government.



Prime Minister Modi has released ‘Thirukuralai’ translated into Tok Pisin language.

News- To bring Indian thought and culture closer to the people of the South West Pacific, Prime Minister Modi along with Papua New Guinea Prime Minister James Marabu released the classic Tamil work ‘Thirukuralai’ in the language of “Tok Pisin” on May 22.

- The book was co-authored by Suba Saseendran and Governor Saseendran Muthuvel of New Britain Province.

Gujarat-born “Yaquab Patel” sworn in as Mayor of Preston, England.

News- A person named “Yakub Patel” born in Gujarat has been elected as the Mayor of Preston in Lancashire County, England.



- Born in Baruch, Gujarat, he moved to the UK after graduating from the University of Baroda in 1976 and was elected as a councillor. He also holds the status of “First Muslim Councillor” in the history of Preston City Council.

Bodo Jatra festival begins in Nepal.

- The festival of “Bodo Jatra” is celebrated as a public holiday in the Kathmandu valley of Nepal. It is part of the month-long chariot procession of the “Rato Machindranath Jatra”.
- Here the chariot made entirely of wood without the use of iron nails starts the procession at Pulchowk and ends at Jawalakhel.

Nato Plus

- A US Congressional Committee recently recommended strengthening Nato Plus

by including India in the five-member grouping.



About.

- It is a grouping of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and five countries, including Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Israel, and South Korea.
- The group works toward boosting global defence cooperation.
- Advantages for India by becoming a member of NATO Plus:
- India would gain access to seamless intelligence sharing between these countries.
- India would get access to the latest military technology without much of a time lag.
- It would further strengthen India's defence partnership with the United States.



Iran Army Introduces “New Generation Missile”.

- On May 25, Iran introduced the Khyber, a new generation ballistic missile with a range of 2,000 kilometers and a warhead of 1,500 kilograms.
- Called Khyber, Iran says the missile is an upgraded version of the “Koramshar ballistic missile”. Security experts have said that this is a vulnerability for Israel.

India's Gravita has set up a commercial rubber recycling plant in East Africa.

- Leading recycling company Gravita India Limited has started “Commercial production and recycling of waste rubber” at Gravita Tanzania Limited, a subsidiary located in Tanzania, East Africa.
- The new recycling plant aims to reduce the company's production costs, reduce carbon footprints and provide low-cost facilities.

Achieving “zero emission public transport” by 2050 – Dubai target.

- Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has set a new target of achieving “zero emission public transport” by 2050.
- Public transportation, building amenities and waste management are also being developed to “reduce carbon footprints and mitigate climate change”.

Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC)

News- Finance Minister recently chaired the 27th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC).

About :

- It is an apex-level forum constituted by the Government of India in December 2010.
- **Status:** FSDC is not a statutory body. No funds are separately allocated to the council for undertaking its activities.
- **Objective:** Strengthening and institutionalizing the mechanism for maintaining financial stability, enhancing inter-regulatory coordination and promoting financial sector development.
- **Composition:** It is chaired by the Union Finance Minister of India.
- Its members include the heads of financial sector Regulators (RBI, SEBI, PFRDA, IRDA & FMC) Finance Secretary and/ or Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, and Chief Economic Adviser.
- The Council can invite experts to its meeting if required.

Functions:

- It monitors macroprudential supervision of the economy, including the functioning of large financial conglomerates.
- It addresses inter-regulatory coordination and financial sector development issues.
- It also focuses on financial literacy and financial inclusion.



India - Netherlands

- News- The Netherlands has emerged as India's third largest export country by 2022-23 after the US and UAE, Commerce Ministry data shows.
- One of the notable ones is that India's trade

with the Netherlands has increased from USD 8 billion in 2021-22 to USD 13 billion in 2022-23.

UN Report on Indian Economic Development

- News- India's economy will grow by 6.7% in 2024, according to a UN report.
- India's economy is expected to grow from 5.8% in 2023 to 6.7% in 2024, according to the World Economic Status and Prospects Report 2023 released by the UN recently.
- This growth will be "boosted by strong domestic demand," the report said.

RBI Withdrawal of Rs 2000 notes

- News- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has made a significant decision to withdraw the ₹2000 denomination banknotes from circulation. Although these banknotes will no longer be issued, they will retain their status as legal tender. The move comes as the objective of introducing the ₹2000 banknotes has been fulfilled, and other denominations now adequately meet the currency requirements of the economy.
- The withdrawal of ₹2000 banknotes aligns with the RBI's "Clean Note Policy." This policy aims to maintain the quality of currency in circulation and promote efficiency in the banking system. The RBI had previously undertaken a similar withdrawal of notes from circulation in 2013-2014.

Rs 2000 demonetisation – RBI notification.

- News- Under the "Clean Note" policy, RBI has issued an order to withdraw Rs 2000 notes from circulation.
- RBI has announced that people can exchange their 2000 rupee notes in the bank till September 30 and after that banks will not accept 2000 rupee notes.



PROGRAMS AND YOJANAS

Swachhata Pakhwada

News- The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs celebrated Swachhata Pakhwada from 16th to 30th April 2023. This annual event is a part of the Swachh Bharat Mission, which is a flagship programme initiated by the Central Government to fulfill Mahatma Gandhi's dream of a clean and hygienic India.



- During the Swachhata Pakhwada, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs carried out various activities to promote cleanliness and hygiene
- Some of these activities included a cleanliness drive, reviewing and weeding out of old physical files, identifying old obsolete items for auction, cleaning of electrical switchboards/fans/AC, and whitewashing in all rooms of the Ministry.

Mission Karmayogi

- Mission Karmayogi, launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, had institutionalised the process of capacity building, particularly for the benefit of civil servants, with the aim to shape the Century India of 2047.

About

- Mission Karmayogi or National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB).
- Mission Karmayogi aims to prepare Civil Servants for the future by making them more creative, constructive & innovative through transparency and technology.
- This unique programme will help to lay the foundation for civil servants in the country.
- There will be more focus on 'on-site learning' in complementing "off-site learning".

Objectives:

- The stated aim of Mission Karmayogi is to provide a mechanism to continuously build capacity, update the talent pool, and provide equal opportunities for personal and professional growth and esteem of government officials at all levels.

Jan Suraksha Yojana

News- Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti yojana (PMJJBY) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Atal Pension Scheme (APY) completed 8 year

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti yojana (PMJJBY)

- Scheme: Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti yojana (PMJJBY) is an annual life insurance scheme. It is renewable annually. Provides post-mortem compensation irrespective of the cause of death.
- Eligibility: Individuals between the age group of 18-50 years having an individual bank or post office account can register under the scheme. Individuals who join the plan before turning 50 can continue their life insurance up to the age of 55 if they pay the regular premium.
- Benefits: For those who pay a premium of Rs 436/- per annum, life insurance cover in case of death due to any cause of Rs. 2 lakh will be given.

2. Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana

- Scheme: The Prime Minister's Accident Insurance Scheme is a one-year accident insurance scheme. The policy can be renewed once a year to cover accidental death or bodily injury.
- Eligibility: Individual bank account or post office account holders between 18 to 70 years of age are eligible for this scheme.
- Benefits: Annually Rs. 20 as insurance premium and in case of accidental death or bodily disability Rs. 2 lakh (Rs. 1 lakh for slight disability).

3. Atal Pension Yojana

- Background: The Atal Pension Scheme was introduced to create a nationwide social security system for all Indians especially the poor, vulnerable and unorganized workers.

- This is an initiative taken by the government to provide financial security to the people in the informal sector and meet their future needs.
- The Atal Pension Scheme is administered by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority under the overall governance and organizational structure of the National Pension System.
- Eligibility: All bank account holders between 18 to 40 years of age who do not pay income tax are eligible to join Atal Pension Scheme. Contributions vary based on the pension amount chosen.
- Benefits: After joining the scheme above 60 years of age, a minimum monthly contribution of Rs.1000/- or Rs.2000/- or Rs. 3000/- or Rs. 4000/- or Rs. 5000/- as guaranteed pension will be given to them.
- It is carved out of Samagra Shiksha, with a focus on those elements of the scheme that will most directly support school education enhancement.
- The overall focus and components of the STARS project are aligned with the objectives of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 of Quality Based Learning Outcomes.

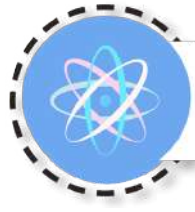
STARS Program

News- Recently, Ministry of Education and World Bank organised a one of its kind workshop on School-to-Work Transition under the STARS Program in Mumbai.



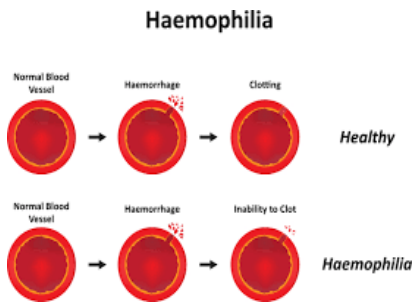
Note

- The School-to-Work Transition workshop under the STARS Program was co-chaired by Secretaries of School Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
- STARS Program:
- Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project was approved by the Cabinet in October 2020 and to be implemented as a centrally sponsored scheme.
- It became effective in 2021 for a period of five years, up to FY: 2024-25.
- STARS project would be implemented under the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education with the financial support of the World Bank.
- It is being implemented in six identified States: Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala. These states will be supported for various interventions for improving the quality of education.



Haemophilia

News- Doctors have said that one in 30,000 children in India is affected by a blood clotting disease called hemophilia.



About

- Haemophilia is a type of disease caused by a mutation in a gene. In order for the blood to clot properly in the human body, it is necessary to have the right amount of coagulants in it. A total of 13 types of coagulants react one after the other to temporarily stop the flow of blood when the body is injured.
- Haemophilia occurs when certain changes and defects occur in the gene.
- As far as India is concerned, one in 30,000 children suffer from this disease.
- Plasma therapy and DNA recombination therapy can help to treat this disease

IIT Madras researchers develop machine learning tool to detect tumour in brain, spinal cord

- Researchers at the IIT Madras have developed a machine learning-based computational tool called GBMDriver to improve the detection of cancer-causing tumours in the brain and spinal cord.
- The tool is freely accessible and was primarily developed to identify driver mutations and passenger mutations in glioblastoma, a rapidly proliferating tumour.

Heat index

News- India to launch its own heat index next year to quantify heat hazard, generate impact-based heatwave alerts for specific locations.



About

- Heat index is a measure of how hot it feels when humidity is factored in along with the air temperature, and the figures were calculated using data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD).
- It is also known as the apparent temperature.
- When the body gets too hot, it begins to perspire or sweat to cool itself off.
- If the perspiration is not able to evaporate, the body cannot regulate its temperature.
- Evaporation is a cooling process. When perspiration is evaporated off the body, it effectively reduces the body's temperature. When the atmospheric moisture content (i.e. relative humidity) is high, the rate of evaporation from the body decreases.
- In other words, the human body feels warmer in humid conditions. The opposite is true when the relative humidity decreases because the rate of perspiration increases.
- The body actually feels cooler in arid conditions.
- There is direct relationship between the air temperature and relative humidity and the heat index, meaning as the air temperature and relative humidity increase (decrease), the heat index increases (decreases).

Covid-19 no longer a global health emergency: WHO

News- Covid-19, which claimed millions of lives around the world over the past three years, is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC), WHO.

- WHO designated Covid-19 as PHEIC - the highest level of alarm under international law - on January 30, 2020, weeks after the outbreak of SARS-CoV2 was reported from central China's Wuhan city before it spiralled into a pandemic
- Public health emergency of international concern
- A public health emergency of international concern is a formal declaration by the World Health Organization (WHO) of "an extraordinary event which is determined to constitute a public health risk to other States through the international spread of disease and to potentially require a coordinated international response", formulated when a situation arises that is "serious, sudden, unusual, or unexpected", which "carries implications for public health beyond the affected state's national border" and "may require immediate international action".
- Under the 2005 International Health Regulations (IHR), states have a legal duty to respond promptly to a PHEIC. The declaration is publicized by an IHR Emergency Committee (EC) of international experts, which was developed following the 2002–2004 SARS outbreak.

National Manufacturing Innovation Survey

News- A survey on the degree of innovation among manufacturing firms found that Karnataka, overall, is the most "innovative" State, followed by Telangana, and Tamil Nadu

- The National Manufacturing Innovation Survey (NMIS) 2021-22, released earlier this month, also found that innovation in manufacturing is the lowest in the Northeastern states (excluding Assam), followed by Bihar
- DST ranked Karnataka, followed by Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra,

and Haryana as high innovation states. Uttarakhand has the highest score among the hill states, while Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu has the highest score among the UTs.

- Apart from Northeastern states, low-performing states include Jharkhand, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh.
- Telangana, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu had the highest share of innovative firms at 46.18 per cent, 39.10 per cent and 31.90 per cent, respectively, among the total manufacturing firms surveyed from the respective states, according to the report.
- Odisha, Bihar, and Jharkhand reported the least share of innovative firms at 12.78 per cent, 13.47 per cent and 13.71 per cent, respectively.

Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)

News- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has recently launched an initiative to provide an overview of different aspects of Space Science and Technology to students.

- The program, named Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START), is an introductory-level training program aimed at postgraduate and final-year undergraduate students of Physical Sciences and Technology.

CSIR Genetic Awareness Exhibition

News- CSIR organizes a unique mobile exhibition on "Genetic Awareness".



- CSIR-CCMP in collaboration with NCSM-Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technology Museum (VITM), Bangalore has organized a mobile science exhibition

called 'Gene-Health Connect' as part of the "CSIR-JIGYASA" programme.

- For school and college students, World Thalassaemia Day is marked as an effort to create awareness about genes and their role in the human body and how they are manipulated.

CSIR

- Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is an autonomous government body. It is a model organization in the research and industrial development of the country with the contribution of the Ministry of Science and Industry of India.
- It was registered under the Social Act of 1860 as per a resolution passed by the Central Legislative Assembly in 1942. It has 39 laboratories and 50 field stations across the country.
- Its areas of research and development are aerospace engineering, structural engineering, marine science, molecular biology, meteorology, chemistry, mining, food, petroleum, leather and environment.

Yellow fever

News - Yellow Fever Vaccination

Mandatory for Travelers to South America - Announcement by Director of Public Health

- Yellow fever is a viral disease transmitted by the Aedes aegypti mosquito. This virus is an RNA virus belonging to the genus Flavivirus.
- Yellow fever occurs in countries south of the Sahara desert in Africa, South America and parts of the Caribbean.

Robotics Framework

News- Telangana State Government Launches India's First "Robotics Framework".

- It is announced that it will work with the aim of creating a sustainable and growth-promoting robotics ecosystem and to bring the state to the fore in the field of robotics.

Testing of 'Semi Cryogenic Engine'

News- Test of 'Semi Cryogenic Engine' was successfully conducted at Kavalkinaru, Mahendragiri ISRO Centre.



- Various phases of testing of the cryogenic engine used in the rocket are underway at ISRO's Mahendragiri Centre, Kavalkinaru, Tirunelveli district.
- The intermediate structure, designated 'Power Head Test', covered all engine systems except the propulsion chamber. The first of a series of tests was planned to verify the design of the propellant feed system, including the low-pressure and high-pressure turbo-pumps, gas generator and control components.
- The 15-hour successful test, which is intended to spur work on future launch vehicles and liquid oxygen-kerosene propellant mixture, is a major milestone for ISRO.

BrahMos supersonic missile

News- Indian Navy's INS Mormugao (Launch Ship) has successfully test-fired BrahMos supersonic missile and demonstrated its maritime dominance.

- According to the Indian Navy, the missile hit the target at a speed of Mach 2.8, or nearly three times the speed of sound.

Chandrayaan-3 is scheduled to be launched on July 12.

News- ISRO officials have said that the launch of Chandrayaan-3, ISRO's third lunar mission, will take place on July 12.

- Chandrayaan 3 spacecraft will reach the South Pole of the Moon on August 23

A new synthetic light-harvesting system using organic nanotubes

- Researchers have developed a new method for harvesting artificial light using organic nanotubes that can be used in solar cells, photovoltaics, optical sensors and tunable multi-color light-emitting materials.
- Dr. from IISER, Kolkata. Subratim Banerjee, along with Dr. Suman Chakraborty from the S. N. Bose National Center for Basic Sciences conducted experimental and computational investigations of artificial light harvesting in these organic nanotubes.

Discovery of ultrasound waves that induce instant “convulsions and sleep”.

- Scientists from the University of Washington in the US have announced that they have developed a new technology that uses ultrasound waves to target a mammal’s head and induce instant “sleep”.
- These ultrasound waves are reported to induce immediate convulsions and sleep. It has also been reported to suppress the metabolism of mammals, lower body temperature and induce convulsions and drowsiness.



Achanakmar Tiger Reserve

- A tigress that had been captured after it killed two persons and injured another in Chhattisgarh's Surajpur district was recently released into Achanakmar Tiger Reserve.

About

- Location: It is located in the Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh.
- It was declared a tiger reserve in 2009.
- It is a part of the huge Achanakmar-Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve.
- Maniyari River flows right from the centre of this reserve, which is the forest's lifeline.
- It has a corridor connecting to Kanha and Bandhavgarh Tiger reserves and plays a critical role in the dispersal of tigers among these reserves.

Wetlands in India

- India's wetlands have now increased from 26 to 75.
- India has the largest number of wetlands in Asia. These lands are of great importance for biodiversity, climate change, fresh water storage and human well-being.

Great Indian hornbill

News- Mother Great hornbill takes up full-time job of feeding chick after pair's death

About

- The great hornbill (*Buceros bicornis*) also known as the great Indian hornbill or great pied hornbill, is one of the larger members of the hornbill family.
- The great hornbill is long-lived, living for nearly 50 years in captivity.
- It is predominantly fruit-eating, but is an opportunist and preys on small mammals, reptiles and birds.
- Its impressive size and colour have made it important in many tribal cultures and rituals.
- A large majority of their population is found

in India with a significant proportion in the Western Ghats and the Nilgiris.



- The nesting grounds of the birds in the Nilgiris North Eastern Range are also believed to support some of their highest densities.
- IUCN status: Vulnerable (uplisted from Near Threatened in 2018), CITES: Appendix I

Their ecological significance

- Referred to as 'forest engineers' or 'farmers of the forest' for playing a key role in dispersing seeds of tropical trees, hornbills indicate the prosperity and balance of the forest they build nests in.

Threats

- Hornbills used to be hunted for their casques — upper beak — and feathers for adorning headgear despite being cultural symbols of some ethnic communities in the northeast, specifically the Nyishi of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Illegal logging has led to fewer tall trees where the bird's nest.

Hornbill Festival

- The Hornbill Festival is a celebration held every year from 1 – 10 December, in Kohima, Nagaland.
- The festival was first held in the year 2000.
- It is named after the Indian hornbill, the large and colourful forest bird which is displayed in the folklore of most of the state's tribes.
- Festival highlights include the traditional

Naga Morungs exhibition and the sale of arts and crafts, food stalls, herbal medicine stalls, flower shows and sales, cultural medley – songs and dances, fashion shows etc.

Ozone pollution

News- According to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) bulletins, ozone was identified as a prominent pollutant on recent days

About

- Ozone (O₃) high in the Earth's atmosphere protects us from the sun's harmful radiation. But ozone at ground level (tropospheric ozone), is an air pollutant that harms people and plants.
- Ground-level ozone is a colorless and highly irritating gas that forms just above the earth's surface.

How ground level ozone is formed?

- It is called a "secondary" pollutant because it is produced when two primary pollutants react in sunlight and stagnant air.
- These two primary pollutants are nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).
- These precursor primary pollutants are each produced primarily by a variety of human activities, including burning of fossil fuels and various industrial processes. Certain types of volatile organic compounds can also be emitted from natural sources.

Impacts:

- Ground-level ozone is known to have significant effects on human health. Exposure to ozone has been linked to premature mortality and a range of morbidity health issues.
- It can significantly impact vegetation and decrease the productivity of some crops.
- It can also damage synthetic materials, cause cracks in rubber, accelerate fading of dyes, and speed deterioration of some paints and coatings.

Bandhavgarh National Park

News- Archaeologists have recently uncovered several archaeological treasures from the Bandhavgarh National Park in Madhya Pradesh.

About

Location:

- It is located in the Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh.
- It is spread over the Vindhya hills.
- It was declared a national park in 1968 and then became Tiger Reserve in 1993.
- It is known for the Royal Bengal Tigers. The density of the tiger population at Bandhavgarh is the highest known in India as well as in the world.
- The park derives its name from the most prominent hillock in the area, which was said to be given by Hindu Lord Rama to his brother Lakshmana to keep a watch on Lanka. Hence the name Bandhavgarh (Sanskrit: Brother's Fort).
- The national park was the former hunting preserve of the Maharaja of Rewa.
- Topography: Varies between steep ridges, undulating forests and open meadows.
- Vegetation: It is mostly of dry deciduous type.

World Environment Day celebrations

News-This year, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India envisages to celebrate the World Environment Day 2023 with a thrust on the Mission LiFE.

About:



- Objective of the day: World Environment Day is the United Nations day for encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment.
- Date of observance: Every year on 5th of June.
- Why June 5? To mark the first day of The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment which was held in Stockholm,

Sweden from June 5–16 in 1972.

- First year of observance of WED: In 1974 the first WED was held with the theme “Only One Earth”.
- The theme for World Environment Day on 5 June 2023 will focus on solutions to plastic pollution under the campaign #BeatPlasticPollution.

Hemidactylus quartziticolus

- A new species of gecko, *Hemidactylus quartziticolus*, has been discovered from the scrub habitats of Vallanadu and Kurumalai reserves forest areas in Tamil Nadu.



About

- The common name suggested by the authors for the new gecko is Quartzite brookish gecko or Thoothukudi brookish gecko.
- It is the 53rd species of *Hemidactylus* found in India and the seventh that is endemic to Tamil Nadu.
- It has been named *Hemidactylus quartziticolus* because it was found over the quartz rocks.

A “new species of flying gecko” has been discovered in Mizoram.

News- Researchers from Mizoram University and Germany’s Max Planck Institute for Biology have discovered a “new species of flying gecko in Mizoram”.

- The new species has been named “Gecko Mizoramensis” after the state of Mizoram. This organism is a new species about 20 cm long that can live in trees, my researchers said.



Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve

News- After a gap of six years, the Tamil Nadu Forest department recently commenced a three-day long elephant census at Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve.

About

- Location:- It is located at the junction of the Eastern and the Western Ghats in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, in the Erode District of Tamil Nadu.
- Its area is contiguous with the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve, Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka) and BR Tiger Reserve and Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka).
- Together, these reserves — forming the Nilgiris biosphere landscape — have the biggest tiger population in the world, at over 280 tigers.
- Terrain: It is hilly and undulated with altitude ranging between 750m and 1649m.
- Vegetation: It consists of southern tropical dry thorn forests, mixed deciduous forests, semi-evergreen forests, and Riparian forests.
- Flora: Common Species of trees and shrubs found are *Albizia amara*, *Chloroxylon swietenia*, *Gyrocarpus jacquini*, Neem, Tamarind, Sandalwood, *Randi dumetorum*, *Zizyphus* and associates.
- Fauna: The major species are Elephant, Tiger, Panther, Sloth bear, Gaur, Black Buck, Spotted deer, Wild boar, Black napped hare, Common langur Nilgiri langur, Striped neck mongoose and Bonnet macaque



A new species of tree has been discovered by researchers in Arunachal Pradesh.

- The discovery of a new tree species in Arunachal Pradesh has been published in the May 19 edition of the “Edinburgh Journal of Botany”.

- The new species of tree named “Meiogyne arunachalensis” has been discovered by researchers while studying the biodiversity of the “Primitive Hills of Arunachal Pradesh”. It is the third species of tree in India, the first of the Eastern Himalayas and the first of Northeast India, the report said.

New Species of Gecko

- A team of researchers have identified a new species of rock dwelling large-bodied gecko from the Pakkamalai hills.



Note

- The first ever sighting of this gecko and the new species has been named as Hemidactyluspakkamalaiensis, after the hill where it was recorded.
- It belongs to the genus Hemidactylus and it is having large-body size (101–109 mm).
- The new species is closely related to graniticulus from which it can be distinguished by its lower femoral pores count.

About Pakkamalai hills:

- It is located in Villupuram district of Tamilnadu near Gingee.
- It is a biodiversity-rich area and has large mammals including leopards and sloth bears.
- It is an ecologically important area in the Eastern Ghats.

NTCA has formed a “Steering Committee” under Project Cheetah.

- The Center has appointed a new steering committee comprising national and international experts to oversee and monitor India’s ambitious Project Cheetah.
- The Project Cheetah Steering Committee, set up by the National Tiger Conservation Commission (NTCA), will “review, monitor and advise on the Chivingi tiger” to the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department, the notification said.



REPORTS AND INDICES

World Press Freedom Index

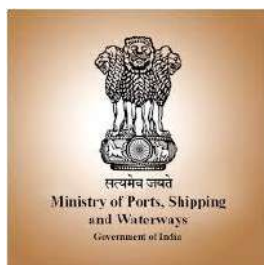
News- India has slipped 11 places to 161st in the World Press Freedom Index.

- International media watchdog Reporters Without Borders (RSF) publishes a World Press Freedom Index ranking of 180 countries every year. In that way, it released the ranking list for the year 2023.
- Accordingly, India, which was ranked 150th last year, has fallen 11 places to rank 161st.
- Turkey is 16 places behind at 165th, and Tajikistan is one place behind at 153rd.



Data Governance Quality Index

News- Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) has been ranked second most influential among 66 ministries by scoring 4.7 out of 5 in the Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI) assessment for Q3 2022-2023.



- This assessment is conducted by NITI Aayog to assess Central Sector Schemes including (CS).
- It is noteworthy that among the 66 ministries, the “Ministry of Food Research and Industry” of the Government of India occupies the first position.
- The assessment covers six key themes: data generation, data quality, use of technology, data analysis, dissemination of use, data

security, human resource capacity and case studies.

- Zimbabwe topped the list of most miserable countries.
- The recently released Hanke Annual Misery Index (HAMI) has ranked Zimbabwe as the ‘most miserable country’ in 2022. The announcement said that the country’s governance was poor and that it had plunged into a major economic downturn, with an inflation rate of 243.8 percent in the previous year.
- India is ranked 103rd in this list. The reason for this has been found to be unemployment. Switzerland emerged as the least miserable country, topping the list (157).
- Apple tops the list of the world’s most innovative companies in 2023.
- According to Boston Consulting Group’s (BCG) annual report, Apple has topped the list of the world’s most innovative companies in 2023.
- Apple is followed by Tesla, Amazon, Alphabet, Microsoft, Moderna, Samsung and Huawei. Tata Group, ranked 20th, is the only “Indian company” on the list.



Abhilash Tomy



- Indian sailor Commander Abhilash Tomy (retd.) will finally set foot on land, 236 days after setting sail in the Golden Globe Race (GGR), a solo non-stop yacht race around the world.

Khelo India University Games 2022

News- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the Logo, jersey, mascot, torch and anthem of the Khelo India University Games (KIUG) 2022 in Lucknow recently.



About:

- The 3rd edition of the Khelo India University Games will take place from May 23 to June 3.
- The opening ceremony is scheduled for May 25 at the Babu Banarasi Das University in Lucknow.
- The KIUG 2022 Games will be held in Varanasi, Noida and Gorakhpur, besides the state capital of Lucknow.
- The Shooting competition will be organized in New Delhi at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range.
- For the First time, water sports such as Rowing will be a part of the Khelo India University Games.
- Two indigenous Sports Disciplines namely Mallakhamb and Yogasana, were part of the last edition of the Khelo India University

Games held in Karnataka and will also be part of this edition.

Madrid Open Tennis Championship

News- Belarus' Sabalenka wins Madrid Open Tennis Championship

- The Madrid Open is an international tennis tournament held in Spain. Dil Sabalenka of Belarus won the women's singles final.

Asian Weightlifting Championship

News- India's Bindiharani Devi won the silver medal in the Asian Weightlifting Championship series held in South Korea.



Tamil Nadu player Praveen Chitravel's national record in triple jump

News- 21-year-old athlete Praveen Chitravel from Tamil Nadu has set a new national record in triple jump. He set this record by clearing a distance of 17.37 meters in the 'Proba de Confrontacion Athletics Meet' held in Havana, Cuba.



- With this he has won gold in this competition. However, it has to be formally approved by the Athletics Federation of India

Asian Weightlifting Championship 2023

- News- Asian Weightlifting Championship 2023 – Ajith Narayana Silver Medal
- Indian weightlifter Ajith Narayana won a silver medal at the 2023 Asia n Weightlifting Championships in Jinju, South Korea.
- Ajith Narayana, Echidna Shuli and

Bindiyarani Devi participated in their respective weight categories and won silver medals.



Madrid Masters Tennis Tournament

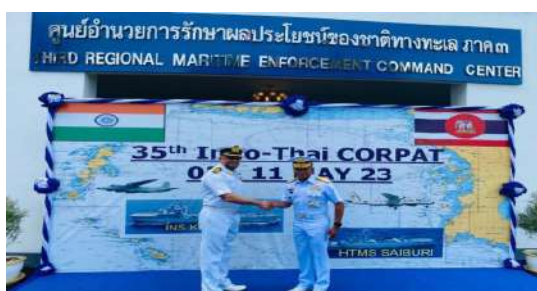
- Carlos Alcaraz won the “Madrid Masters Tennis Tournament”.
- In the final round of the “Madrid Masters Tennis Tournament” held in the Spanish capital, Alcaraz defeated Jan-Lennard Struff 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 to win the title.
- Carlos Alcaraz has returned to the top of the world rankings by winning his second Madrid Open title.



Laureus World Sportsperson Award

News- Lionel Messi has been awarded the “Laureus World Sportsman” award for the year 2023.

- Captain Lionel Messi, who led Argentina to the World Cup, has been awarded the “Laureus World Sportsman of the Year” 2023 at a ceremony held in Paris on May 08.
- Argentine superstar Messi has been given the accolade ahead of Kylian Mbappe, Max Verstappen and Rafael Nadal. It is noteworthy that this is Messi’s second Laureus award.



Telangana, Praneeth is the 82nd Grandmaster of India.

- News- Telangana’s V. Praneeth became India’s 82nd Grandmaster by defeating

USA’s GM Hans Niemann in the final round of Baku Open 2023.

- With this, he has become the sixth Grandmaster from Telangana and the 82nd Grandmaster of India.

Thailand Para Badminton 2023

News- Pramod Bhagat defeated England’s “Daniel Bethel” to secure gold in men’s singles at the Thailand Para Badminton International.

- Sukanth Kadam and Pramod Bhagat also set a record by winning gold in men’s doubles.



Indian female golfer Aditi Ashok entered the world rankings

News- Aditi Ashok became the first Indian woman golfer to break into the top 50 in the world rankings after finishing in the top 5 at the LPGA Founders Cup.

- Aditi moved up 15 places in the rankings with an average of 1.89 and is currently ranked 49th in the Women’s Golf World Rankings.



Federation Cup 2023 – “Jyoti Yarraji” wins Gold in Women’s 100m Hurdles.

News- Jyoti Yarraji won gold medal in Women’s 100m Hurdles at the “Federation Cup Athletics” ‘ held at Birsa Munda Stadium, Ranchi, Jharkhand.



- Jyoti clocked 12.89 seconds and was followed by Nithya Ramraj (13.44s) and Sapna Kumari (13.58s), second and third in the 100m hurdles.

Golden Grand Prix 2023

News- Indian athlete Shaili Singh has won bronze in women's long jump at the 2023 Golden Grand Prix in Yokohama, Japan.

- He jumped 6.65m in his third attempt to win this medal.



Daniil Medvedev has won his first Masters title at the Italian Open.

News- "Daniel Medvedev" has won his first clay court Masters title by defeating Holger Rune at the Italian Open 2023 in Rome.

- Daniil Medvedev defeated Holger Rune 7-5, 7-5 in the Italian Open final on May 21 to win the title.

Men's javelin throw – Neeraj Chopra tops.

News- Olympic gold medalist Neeraj Chopra has moved to the top of the world men's javelin rankings on May 22, 2023.



- Recently, Neeraj has become the new World No. 1 javelin thrower with a total of 1455 points, overtaking world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada who was second with 1433 points.

The Squash World Cup 2023 is scheduled to begin on June 13 in Chennai.

News- The Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT) and World Squash Federation (WSF) officially announced on May 22 that the Squash World Cup will be held from June 13 to 17 at the Indian "Academy of Squash & Triathlon" (ISTA).

- Egypt, South Africa, Australia, Colombia, Hong Kong, Japan and Malaysia are the 8 countries that are going to participate in this competition.

Kelo India University Games kicks off on May 23 in Uttar Pradesh.

News- The 3rd Kelo ndia University Games featuring the Kabaddi tournament was held in Uttar Pradesh's Gautam Budh Nagar district on the evening of May 23.



2 medals for India in ISSF World Cup Shooting Championships.

- Indian shooters Darshna Rathore and Kanemat Sekhon won bronze and silver medals in the women's individual event at the 2023 ISSF World Cup Shooting Championships on May 23.
- This is the first time in history that India has won two individual medals in the women's category at this ISSF World Cup.

Gold for India in International Long Jump held in Greece.

- Long Jumpers of India "Murali Sreesankar Gold and Jesswin Aldrin Silver" have won the International Long Jump Competition held at Kallithea, Greece.
- To successfully defend his title in the men's long jump event, Sreesankar registered an event best of 8.18m to win the gold.

HS Pranai wins first BWF World Tour title.

- India's HS Pranai has won gold under the men's singles category at the Masters 2023 in Malaysia.
- HS Pranai defeated Weng Hong Yang of China 21-19, 13-21, 21-18 to win his maiden BWF World Tour title.



India has won the CAVA Women's Challenge Cup 2023 title.

- India defeated Kazakhstan 3-0 in the final of the NSC-CAVA Women's Volleyball (Volleyball) Cup 2023 at the National Sports Council Hall in Kathmandu on May 28 to clinch the title.

Uttar Pradesh Hockey Team Wins 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men's National Championship 2023".

- Uttar Pradesh Hockey Team has won the 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men's National Championship 2023 by defeating Odisha's Hockey Team in the final match at Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium, Odisha on May 28.
- It is noteworthy that the Uttar Pradesh Hockey team defeated the Odisha Hockey team by 7-1 in this championship match.



AWARDS

Pulitzer Prize

News- Pulitzer Prize for Barbara Kingsolver and Hernan Diaz.



- Barbara Kingsolver and Hernan Diaz have been awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for Barbara Kingsolver's "The Modern Dickens Classic David Copperfield" and Hernan Diaz's "Trust, an innovative tale of wealth and deception set in 1920s New York."
- This is the first time in the 105-year history of the Pulitzer Prize that two fiction books have been awarded.
- Pulitzer Prize- note
- The Pulitzer Prize is an award given in the United States for journalism, online journalism, literature, and music.
- It is considered the highest award for these sectors.
- It is offered by Columbia University in New York City.

Writing with Fire

News- Oscar nominated Indian Documentary has won the award under "Peabody's Documentary Category".



- "Writing with Fire", created by Rindu Thomas and Sushmit Goshin, won the Peabody Award under the Documentary category.
- The documentary follows the story of how India's only women-led newspaper "Gabar Lahariya" is transforming into a

digital magazine. The Peabody Banquet is America's oldest major electronic media award.

"FWA Footballer of the Year Award"

- Holland received the "FWA Footballer of the Year" award
- Manchester City striker Erling Holland has been named the "Football Writers' Association" Footballer of the Year for the 2022-23 season, finishing second behind Arsenal's "Bugayo Saka" Holland.

The Indian was awarded France's highest civilian award.

News- Tata Sons Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekaran has been conferred with France's highest and prestigious "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour).



- Chandrasekaran has been conferred with this award for his significant contribution in promoting and developing trade relations between France and India.

Siddaramaiah takes over as Chief Minister of Karnataka.

- Senior Congress leader Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K.Sivakumar will be sworn in as the new Chief Minister after the Congress won the recently held elections in Karnataka on May 20.
- The Congress party has taken this decision with both these leaders agreeing to a "rotation system". That means Siddaramaiah will serve as Chief Minister for 2.5 years and Sivakumar as Chief Minister for 2.5 years, the Congress party has said.

Prime Minister Modi has been awarded Papua Guinea's highest award.

News- Prime Minister Modi has been awarded the Grand Companion of the Order of Lokohuwai, Papua Guinea's highest civilian award, for his leadership in Global South issues and his struggle for the unity of the Pacific Island nations.



- The award was presented to Prime Minister Modi by Sir Bob Thade, Governor General of Papua New Guinea. This includes the distinction of being the first Indian Prime Minister to visit the island nation.

The President of Palau presented the “Ebakl” award to Prime Minister Modi.

News- The President of the Republic of Palau presented the Ebakl Award to Prime Minister Modi on May 22.

- The award was presented to Prime Minister Modi by the President of Palau during the India-Pacific Islands Cooperation Summit.

Goa's renowned writer Damodar Mauzo has been conferred with the Jnanapeetha Award.



- Renowned Goa-based author Damodar Mauzo received the country's highest literary award, the Jnanpith Award, from

Governor PS Sreedharan Pillai on May 27.

- Mauzo won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1983 for his famous novel 'Karmelin'.
- It is noteworthy that 25 of Mauzo's books have appeared in Konkani and one in English.



ASEAN India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023)

News- Indian Naval Ships Satpura and Delhi with RAdm Gurcharan Singh, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet embarked onboard arrived at Singapore on 01 May 2023 to participate in the Inaugural ASEAN India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023) scheduled from 02 to 08 May 2023.

About

- AIME 2023 will provide an opportunity for Indian Navy and ASEAN navies to work together closely and conduct seamless operations in the maritime domain.
- INS Delhi, India's first indigenously-built guided missile destroyer and INS Satpura, an indigenously-built guided missile stealth frigate are a part of Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam and function under the operational command of the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command

ASEAN India Maritime Exercise, AIME-2023

- ASEAN India Maritime Exercise: Indian Naval Ships Satpura and Delhi arrived in Singapore to participate in the inaugural ASEAN India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023)
- It is held at south China sea
- This exercise aims to share the experience among the member nations

Buland Bharat Exercise

- Indian Army recently conducted the 'Buland Bharat' exercise in the longest high-altitude Artillery Ranges of the eastern theatre.

About

- It is an integrated surveillance and firepower training exercise conducted by the Indian Army.
- It was conducted in the recently operationalised longest High Altitude Artillery Ranges of Eastern Theatre located in Arunachal Pradesh.

- The exercise involved the synergised application of surveillance and firepower capabilities of the Artillery and the Infantry in close coordination with Special Forces, Aviation, and Central Armed Police Forces deployed in West Kameng and Tawan

Project Dantak

News- The Prime Minister recently praised the initiative by Border Roads Organisation Project Dantak to commemorate the 64th Raising Day.



About

- Project Dantak is an overseas project of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) under the Ministry of Defence of India.
- It was established on 24 April 1961 as a result of an agreement between Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, the third king of Bhutan and then Prime Minister of India Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- It is primarily focused on developing infrastructure and providing connectivity in remote areas of Bhutan.
- It was tasked to construct the pioneering motorable roads in Bhutan.
- It completed the road connecting Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang in 1968. In the same year, Thimphu was connected to Phuentsholing by Dantak.
- Some other notable projects executed by the project include the construction of Paro Airport, Yonphula Airfield, Thimphu – Trashigang Highway, Telecommunication & Hydro Power Infrastructure, Sherubtse College, Kanglung and India House Estate.

- The project recruits local workers from Bhutan as well as Indian workers from adjoining districts along the India-Bhutan border.

INS Magar

News- INS Magar, the lead ship of Magar-class amphibious warfare vessels of the Indian Navy, was recently decommissioned after 36 years of service.



About

- It is the oldest Landing Ship Tank (Large) of the Indian Navy.
- It is the lead ship of Magar-class amphibious warfare vessels of the Indian Navy.
- The ship was indigenously built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd, Kolkata.
- It had the unique distinction of being the first indigenous ship of the Indian Navy.

Indian Air Force Heritage Centre

News- First Indian Air Force Heritage Center inaugurated in Chandigarh

- Defense Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Indian Air Force Heritage Center in Chandigarh.
- The center was set up after the MoU was signed between the Union Territory of Chandigarh and the Indian Air Force last year.
- Embodying the rich history and heritage of the IAF, the center houses a collection of artefacts, murals that showcase the evolution of the force since its inception.

MiG-21 fighter jet

News- 3 women died when a MiG-21 fighter plane belonging to the Indian Air Force crashed into a house in Hanumangarh district of Rajasthan; 3 Bo was injured



- Plan to decommission MiG-21 fighter jets
- The MiG-21 fighter jets in use in the Indian Air Force since 1960 have been involved in more than 400 accidents. Currently, 50 MiG-21 fighter jets are in use in 3 air force divisions.
- The Ministry of Defense plans to phase out MiG-21 fighter jets from Air Force units within the next 5 years for security reasons and to modernize the Air Force.

ALS 50 drones

News- The first batch of indigenously developed ordnance-capable drones has been delivered to the IAF.



- Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) has delivered the first batch of drones (ALS 50) with vertical take-off and landing capabilities and munitions-carrying capabilities to the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- The system has been able to accurately hit a designated ground target during trials and has also been proven capable of operating from high altitudes during trials conducted in Ladakh last year.

CORPAT

- The Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy conducted the 35th edition of the India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) from May 3 to May 10, 2023.
- The exercise was aimed at reinforcing maritime linkages between the two countries and ensuring the safety and security of the Indian Ocean

Samudra Shakti- 2023

News- The India-Indonesia bilateral exercise 'Sea Power-2023' started on May 14 in Batam, Indonesia. Samudra Shakti is an operational exercise aimed at enhancing "operational and mutual cooperation between the two navies".

- The indigenously built "Anti-Submarine Warfare Ship INS Kavaratti" has sailed to "Batam" in Indonesia to participate in

the fourth edition of the India-Indonesia exercise 'Samudra Shakti-2023'.

INS Vaghsheer

News- The sixth Scorpene Submarine of Project-75, Indian Navy's Kalvari class, 'Vaghsheer' recently commenced her sea trials.



About

- INS Vagsheer (S26) is the sixth submarine of the first batch of six Kalvari-class submarines for the Indian Navy.
- It is named after the sand fish, a deadly deep-sea predator of the Indian Ocean.
- It is designed by French naval defence and energy group Naval Group and manufactured by Mazagon Dock Limited.
- It is designed to operate in all theatres of operation, showcasing interoperability with other components of a Naval Task Force.

Al-Mohad Al-Hindi 2023

News- The joint naval exercise "Al-Mohad Al-Hindi 2023" was launched on May 21 to enhance the growing defense cooperation between India and Saudi Arabia.

- INS Targash and INS Subatra, the flagships of the Indian Western Naval Fleet, have gone to "Al-Jubail" port in Saudi Arabia for this exercise. This exercise is the 2nd edition of which the first edition was successfully conducted in 2021.



Anshuman Gaekwat's Autobiographical Book Launch.

News- Former captain Anshuman Gaekwat's semi-autobiography 'Goods Amid Bloodbath' was released on May 19, with six former captains of the Indian cricket team in attendance.

- This book is a recollection of his achievements in the world of cricket since childhood.



World Bank

News- Ajay Banga (63) of Indian origin has been appointed as the President of the World Bank.

Note

- Ajay Banga is the first Sikh of Indian descent to head the World Bank.
- In 2016, he was awarded the Padma Shri, the fourth highest award of the Government of India.

Parminder Chopra

News- “Parminder Chopra” takes charge as the first woman Chairman and Managing Director(CMD) of Power Finance Corporation (PFC), India’s largest non-banking financial institution.

- Geeta Rao Gupta, of Indian origin, has been appointed as the US State Department’s Ambassador for Global Women’s Issues.

CBI new director

- Karnataka DGP Praveen Sood appointed as new CBI director



- CBI Director Subodh kumar Jaiswal’s tenure ends on May 25.
- Note - In India, the CBI Director is appointed by a committee consisting of the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. The tenure of the CBI Director is two years. This can be extended up to a maximum of five years.

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit sworn in as Deputy Commander of the Indian Air Force

News- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit has been sworn in as the Vice-Chief of the Indian Air Force on May 15 following the end of the tenure of Narmeshwar Tiwari.

- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, an ace fighter pilot, is expected to handle modernization and new procurement of the Air Force.

Manoj Soni sworn in as Union Public Service Commission chairman

News- Dr. Manoj Soni took oath as the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission. The senior member of the commission Mrs.Smitha Nagaraj has given him the Oath of office.

- Article 316 of the constitution
- As per Art. 316, The Chairman and other members of a Public Service Commission shall be appointed, in the case of the Union Commission or a Joint Commission, by the President, and in the case of a State Commission, by the Governor of the State.

The central government has appointed “Ravneet Gaurai” as the head of CCI.

News- The Central Government has appointed “Ravneet Gourai” as the Chairman of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) since the departure of Ashok Kumar Gupta in October 2022 in the absence of a full-time chairman at the CCI for the past seven months.

- The CCI management said that with this appointment, CCI’s mandate will be significantly expanded and it is expected to enhance the work.

KV Viswanathan and Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra appointed as Supreme Court Judges.

News- President Draupadi Murmu administered the oath of office on May 19 to senior advocate KV Viswanathan and Justice

Prashant Kumar Mishra as judges of the Supreme Court.



- After the retirement of Justices Dinesh Maheshwari and Justice MR Shah, both of them have been appointed as judges of the Supreme Court.

International Organization for Migration

News- Amy Pope elected next Director General of the International Organization for Migration.

About

- About: Established in 1951, IOM is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners.
- History: It was born in 1951 out of the chaos and displacement of Western Europe following the Second World War.
- Status: IOM was granted Permanent Observer status to the UN General Assembly in 1992, and a cooperation agreement between IOM and the UN was signed in 1996.
- Members: With 175 member states, a further 8 states holding observer status and offices in over 100 countries, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all. It does so by providing services and advice to governments and migrants. India is a member of IOM.
- IOM works in the four broad areas of migration management:
 - Migration and development
 - Facilitating migration
 - Regulating migration
 - Forced migration.

4 judges appointed in Madras High Court take oath

- The President ordered the appointment of 4 new additional judges in the Madras High Court: R. Sakthivel, who served as the Chief Judge of Krishnagiri District, P. Thanapal, Chief Registrar of the Madras High Court,

C. Kumarappan, who served as the Chief Judge of the Chennai Metropolitan Labor Court, and K. Rajasekar, who served as the Chief Judge of the Coimbatore District. .

- Accordingly, the swearing-in ceremony of the new judges was held at the High Court auditorium. Chief Justice T. Raja administered the oath of office to the new judges.



R. Dinesh sworn in as CII President for the year 2023-24.

- “R.Dinesh” who served as Executive Vice President of TVS Supply Chain Solutions has been elected as the President of “Confederation of Indian Industry” (CII) for the year 2023-2024.
- He took over “Sanjeev Bajaj” who was the Chairman and Managing Director of Bajaj Finserv Limited.



Five judges were elevated as Chief Justices of High Courts.

- Acting Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court Sanjay Vijaykumar Gangapoorwala has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court and Justice Ramesh T Dhanuka as the Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.
- Justice Augustine George Masih of the Punjab and Haryana High Court has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, Justice Mamidhana

Satya Ratna Sri Ramachandra Rao as the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and Justice Sarasa Venkatanarayana as the Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court.

CAG Girish Chandra Murmu re-elected as auditor of WHO.

- India's Auditor General (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu has been re-elected as the external auditor of the World Health Organization (WHO) for a four-year term from 2024 to 2027.
- He already held the post at WHO for a four-year term from 2019 to 2023. He was re-elected with a majority of 114 out of 156 votes in the first round of elections held on May 29 at the 76th World Health Assembly in Geneva.

Praveen Kumar Srivastava sworn in as Central Vigilance commissioner

- Praveen Kumar Srivastava has been sworn in as the Central vigilance Commissioner. President of India Draupadi Murmu administered the oath of office to Srivastava on May 29. Praveen Kumar Srivastava took over after the end of the tenure of the current CVC Suresh N Patel.



- Mr. Srivastava is a retired Indian Civil Service Officer of 1988-Batch in Assam-Meghalaya Cadre.



Date	Day	Theme
May 01	International Labour Day	The purpose of this day is to educate workers and laborers about their rights.
May 02	World Tuna day	To raise awareness about the importance of tuna fish and promote sustainable fishing practices
May 03	World Press Freedom Day	To increase understanding about the significance of a press that is free and not influenced by external forces.
May 04	Coal Miners Day	Coal Miners Day is celebrated to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work and noteworthy contributions of coal miners in the extraction of coal.
May 08	World Thalassaemia Day	World Thalassaemia Day is celebrated every year to create awareness about it.
May 11	National Technology Day	This year's theme is 'From School to Primary – Inspiring Young Minds to Innovate'.
May 12	International Nurses Day	International Nurses Day is seen as a global event to recognize and celebrate the work, dedication and bravery of nurses around the world. Theme- Our nurses, Our Future
May 15-21	UN Global Road Safety Week	UN Global Road Safety Week is an annual event held in May to raise awareness about road safety and the importance of taking steps to prevent accidents.
May 15	International Day of Families	International Day of Families is celebrated on May 15 to raise awareness of the importance of families and their role in society.
May 17	World Hypertension Day	World Hypertension Day is celebrated every year to raise awareness about high blood pressure worldwide.
May 16	Sikkim State Day	Sikkim celebrates its 48th State Day. On 16 May 1975, Sikkim became the 22nd state of India.
May 18	International Museum Day 2023	This day is celebrated to the purpose of increasing recognition for the vital role that museums play in fostering cultural exchange, enhancing diverse cultures, and fostering mutual understanding, cooperation, and peace among different communities
May 18	World AIDS Vaccine Day	The day commemorates the anniversary of the “Clinton speech” that spurred the vaccine research process around the world.
May 20	World Bee Day	World Bee Day is observed every year on May 20 to raise awareness of the threats facing bees, the importance of pollination and their contribution to sustainable development. The theme for 2023 is: “Bee engaged in pollinator-friendly agricultural production”.

May 21	National Anti terrorism day	The day is observed to commemorate the death of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who was assassinated on this day in 1991. The day is observed to spread awareness about the dangers of terrorism and reaffirm India's commitment to fighting terrorism.
May 22	International Day for Biological Diversity	International Day for Biological Diversity is observed on 22 May to celebrate the abundance of biodiversity in our world. The day advocates awareness of biodiversity threats and sustainable use of Earth's resources to conserve biodiversity. The theme for 2023 is "From Agreement to Action: Rebuilding Biodiversity"
May 23	World Turtle day	The day is celebrated every year on May 23 to raise awareness about the need to conserve turtles and their endangered habitats. This year's theme is 'I Love Turtles'
May 29	World Digestive Health Day	World Digestive Health Day is celebrated every year on 29 May to focus on raising professional awareness of digestive disorders to the public. "Your Digestive Health: A Healthy Gut From the Start" is the theme set by the World Gastroenterology Organization (WGO) for this year's World Digestive Health Day.
May 30	Goa statehood day	Goa got statehood on May 30, 1987. Goa, the smallest state by area, is celebrating its 36th anniversary this year
May 31	World No Tobacco Day	World No Tobacco Day" is observed every year on 31st May to create awareness among people all over the world about the dangers and health problems caused by smoking. "We need food, not tobacco" is the theme for this year.



Pasang Dawa holds the record for most ascents of Everest



- “Sherpa Pasang Dawa” from Nepal has climbed Mount Everest 26 times, equaling Kami Rita’s record for most climbs.
- Pasang Dawa has previously climbed Mount Everest 25 times, including two ascents in 2022. The first person in the world to climb Mount Everest the most times – “Kami Rita”.

Kerala becomes a fully e-governance state.

- Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan announced on May 25 that Kerala has become a fully e-governed state. This marks a major step forward in Kerala’s journey to achieve digital literacy.
- The objective is to bridge the digital divide and create various platforms for people by strengthening e-governance using advanced technology in the state.

Plans to host first Mining Startup Summit in Mumbai

- Union Coal and Mines Minister Pralath Joshi is scheduled to inaugurate the “First Mining Startup Summit” on May 29 to be jointly hosted by IIT Mumbai and the Ministry of Mines.
- The main objective of the conference is to develop skills, integrate security and autonomy and create innovation in the mining and metallurgical sector.

National Heat Awareness Day

- “National Heat Awareness Day” is observed every year on May 26 to create awareness about the dangers of excessive heat and to take and promote safety measures.
- This year’s theme is Commit to protecting the vulnerable.

Vidwan' Karaikudi R Mani



- News- Legendary mridangam 'vidwan' Karaikudi R Mani recently died due to age-related issues.
- He is known for Mridangam instruments

Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti 2023

- News- Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti 2023 is a significant occasion that is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore.
- He was a legendary poet, writer, philosopher, and social reformer who played a vital role in shaping the cultural and literary heritage of India.
- Born on May 7, 1861, in Calcutta, Rabindranath Tagore is widely regarded as one of the greatest literary figures in the world.



Gopal Krishna Gokhale

- The Prime Minister has recently paid homage to Gopal Krishna Gokhale on his birth anniversary.



Indian National Congress (INC):

- Gokhale became a member of the Indian National Congress in 1889. He was the leader of the moderate faction of the Congress party.
- In 1905, he was elected president of the Indian National Congress (Benares Session).
- He played a leading role in bringing about Morley-Minto Reforms, the beginning of constitutional reforms in India.
- Member in British India Legislature: In 1899, Gokhale was elected to the Bombay Legislative Council and in 1901 he was elected to the Imperial Council of the Governor-General of India.

Servants of India Society:

- It was formed by him in Pune (Maharashtra) in 1905 to further the expansion of education in India. The Society organised mobile libraries, founded schools, and provided night classes for factory workers.
- Ranade Institute of Economics: In 1908, he founded the 'Ranade Institute of Economics'.

Mentor to Gandhi:

- In his autobiography, Gandhi calls Gokhale his mentor and guide. In 1912, Gokhale visited South Africa at Gandhi's invitation. He received personal guidance from Gokhale, including a knowledge and understanding of India and the issues confronting common Indians.
- Hitavada: He launched the English weekly newspaper named The Hitavada (The people's paper) in 1911.



Dunganath Temple

- News- The central government has declared the ancient Tunganath temple as a monument of national importance



About

- Location: It is located in Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand state.
- It is the highest Shiva temple in the world at a height of 3680 meters.
- One of the Pancha Kedars, it is believed to be almost 1000 years old.
- It is built in North Indian style of architecture and around the temple there are a dozen shrines of other gods.

2023 MAY MONTH QUESTIONS

1. In which year the first May Day was celebrated in India?

- a) 1908
- b) 1917
- c) 1923
- d) 1934

2. Consider the following organization

- 1) International Civil Aviation Organisation
- 2) World Bank
- 3) International Labour Organization

Which of the above are specialized agencies associated with the United Nation?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

3. Which among the following states is the High borrowing state in the country?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

4. Which among the following states has the highest number of Ramsar Wetlands?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) West Bengal

5. Achanakmar Tiger Reserve is located in _____

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Chattisgarh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Madhya Pradesh

6. World Tuna Day is observed on _____

- a) May 01
- b) May 02
- c) May 03
- d) May 04

7. Consider the following statements

Haemophilia is blood disorder

Haemophilia is caused by the mutation in gene

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

8. Consider the following countries

- a) Canada
- b) Japan
- c) India
- d) Russia

Which of the above is the member of G7 grouping?

- a) 1,2 and 4 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 3 and 4 only
- d) 1 only

9. Great Indian hornbill is naturally seen in

- a) Desert region of India
- b) Western Ghats
- c) Himalayas
- d) Wetlands

10. Which of the following article gives power to the supreme court to render complete justice in any cause or matter pending before it.?

- a) Article 32
- b) Article 213
- c) Article 13
- d) Article 142

11. World Press Freedom Index is released by _____

- a) World Bank
- b) Reporters without Borders
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) International Monetary Fund

12. Coal Miners day is observed on _____

- a) May 2
- b) May 3

- c) May 4
- d) May 5

13. El Nino is in News. It is

- a) Uncertain climate pattern in the pacific ocean
- b) A news bird species found in Indian peninsula
- c) Tropical Cyclone cross over Philippines
- d) Newly discovered interior portion of the earth

14. India ranks _____ position in World press Freedom Index 2023

- a) 150
- b) 161
- c) 170
- d) 140

15. Consider the following

- 1) Quad
- 2) BRICS
- 3) IBSA

India is a member in which of the above?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

16. Who has the authority to declare disease as a Public health emergency of international concern?

- a) United States of America
- b) World Health Organisation
- c) World Bank
- d) International Monetary Fund

17. Karaikudi R. mani is known for

- a) Violin
- b) Flute
- c) Mridangam
- d) Saxophone

18. Which among the following state rank first in the National manufacturing innovation survey?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Telangana
- d) Karnataka

19. Washington declaration is an agreement between US and _____

- a) India
- b) South Korea
- c) China
- d) Australia

20. Which of the following institutions implement Project Dantak?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Planning commission
- c) Borders Road organisation
- d) Ministry of Defence

21. In which of the following states Bandhavgarh National Park is located?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Telangana

22. Consider the following statements

- 1) Ozone at ground level is the secondary pollutant
- 2) Ground-level ozone is a colorless and highly irritating gas that forms just above the earth's surface.

Which of the Statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

23. World Thalassaemia Day is observed on _____

- a) May 6
- b) May 7
- c) May 8
- d) May 9

24. In which among the following states Dunganath Temple is located?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

25. Rabindranath tagore was adopted as the National song for which of the following nation?

- a) India and Pakistan
- b) India and Bangladesh
- c) India and Nepal
- d) India and Srilanka

26. Consider the following diseases

- 1) Thalassemia
- 2) Sickle cell Anaemia
- 3) Parkinson's disease

Which of the above are genetical disorder?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

27. First Indian Air Force Heritage Center inaugurated in _____

- a) New Delhi
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Kolkata
- d) Chandigarh

28. Who among the following is considered as the political guru of Gandhiji?

- a) Swami Vivekananda
- b) Rajaji
- c) Gopala krishna gokhale
- d) Rajendra Prasad

29. Financial stability and development council is headed by _____

- a) Prime minister of India
- b) Union Home minister
- c) Union Finance Minister
- d) RBI governor

30. Yellow fever is caused by _____

- a) Virus
- b) Protozoa
- c) Fungi
- d) Bacteria

31. Where is the sittwe port located?

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Pakistan
- c) Iran
- d) Myanmar

32. Atal pension Yojana maximum age limit to join the scheme is _____ years

- a) 35
- b) 40
- c) 50
- d) 60

33. National Technology day is observed on _____

- a) May 10
- b) May 11
- c) May 12
- d) May 13

34. Who won the Laureus World Sportsperson Award?

- a) Lionel Messi
- b) Cristiano Ronaldo
- c) Neymar
- d) Kylian Mbappé

35. CORPAT is the bilateral military exercise between India and _____

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Indonesia
- d) Myanmar

36. Gold Backed Digital Currency by _____

- a) South Africa
- b) Pakistan
- c) Zimbabwe
- d) United States of America

37. Consider the following statements

- 1) SAKSHAM'' is a learning management information web system.
- 2) SAKSHAM is implemented by Ministry of Education

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

38. International Nurse Day is observed on _____

- a) May 10
- b) May 11
- c) May 12
- d) May 13

39. Which one of the following film received Peabody award?

- a) Jai Bhim
- b) Soorarai Pootru
- c) Writing with Fire
- d) The Elephant Whisperer

40. Battle of Talikota leads to the decline of which empire?

- a) Lodi dynasty
- b) Mughal dynasty
- c) Vijayanagar empire
- d) Bijapur sultanate

41. Which of the following country has the maximum number of UNESCO World Heritage sites?

- a) Italy
- b) France
- c) China
- d) India

42. How many UNESCO world Heritage sites are there in India

- a) 50
- b) 40
- c) 35
- d) 42

43. _____ became the first state to enact a law prohibiting caste discrimination.

- a) New York
- b) Washington DC
- c) London
- d) California

44. International Day of Families is observed on _____

- a) May 13
- b) May 14
- c) May 15
- d) May 16

45. Who among the following are involved in the committee to select the CBI director?

- 1) Prime minister
- 2) Chief justice of India
- 3) Leader of the opposition party in lok sabha
- 4) Speaker of the lok sabha

Select the correct answer

- a) 1,2 and 3 only
- b) 2,3 and 4 only
- c) 1,3 and 4 only
- d) 1,2,3 and 4

46. Who among the following is appointed as the Director of CBI?

- a) Praveen Sood
- b) Aravind Pandey
- c) Subodh kumar jaiswal
- d) Anand subramanian

47. Who became the 82nd chess Grandmaster of India?

- a) Koustav Chatterjee
- b) Vignesh NR
- c) Sayantan Das
- d) Vuppala Praneeth

48. Samudra Shakti is the defence exercise between india and _____

- a) Indonesia
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Malaysia
- d) Singapore

49. Integrated Biological Control Laboratory is located at _____

- a) Bangalore
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Chennai
- d) Mumbai

50. Sikkim became the _____ state of India

- a) 21
- b) 18
- c) 22
- d) 25

51. World hypertension day is observed on _____

- a) May 15
- b) May 16
- c) May 17
- d) May 18

52. World AIDS Vaccine day is celebrated on _____

- a) May 17
- b) May 18
- c) May 19
- d) May 20

53. Who among the following wins gold medal in women's 100m hurdles in Federation Cup 2023?

- a) Sapna kumari
- b) Nithya Ramraj
- c) Jyothi yarraji
- d) None of the above

54. Sathyamangalam located in _____

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Madhya Pradesh

55. Operation karuna aims to

- a) Bring back indians from sudan
- b) Provide humanitarian aid to the people affected
- c) Bring back indians from Ukraine
- d) Bring back indians from Libya

56. National AYUSH Mission (NAM) was launched in the year _____

- a) 2012
- b) 2013
- c) 2014
- d) 2015

57. International Day for Biological Diversity is observed on _____

- a) May 20
- b) May 21
- c) May 22
- d) May 23

58. Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS) Project was launched in the year _____

- a) 2019
- b) 2020
- c) 2021
- d) 2022

59. Consider the following countries

- 1) India
- 2) America
- 3) Japan
- 4) France

Which of the above are member nations in QUAD grouping?

- a) 1,2 and 3 only
- b) 2,3 and 4 only
- c) 1,3 and 4 only
- d) 1,2,3 and 4

60. National anti terrorism day is observed on

- a) May 20
- b) May 21
- c) May 22
- d) May 23

61. _____ is ranked 72nd among the top-75 institutions globally released by the Financial Times

- a) IIM Madras
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IISc Bangalore
- d) IIM Kozhikode

62. World turtle day is observed on

- a) May 21
- b) May 22
- c) May 23
- d) May 24

63. Al-Mohad Al-Hindi 2023 is the Defence naval exercise between india and _____

- a) Iran
- b) Saudi Arabia
- c) Oman
- d) Kuwait

64. Agreements were made between India and _____ to develop green hydrogen and various other sectors.

- a) Australia
- b) Japan
- c) Russia
- d) Germany

65. World Thyroid day is observed on

- a) May 23
- b) May 24
- c) May 25
- d) May 26

66. The judges of the High courts are appointed by _____

- a) President
- b) Governor
- c) Chief minister of the concerned state
- d) Prime minister

67. Urban Climate Film Festival-2023 is held at _____

- a) Mumbai
- b) Kolkata
- c) Chennai
- d) Hyderabad

68. India's largest High court inaugurated at _____

- a) Chattisgarh
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Andhra Pradesh

69. Pakkamalai is located in _____ district

- a) Vellore
- b) Villupuram
- c) Kancheepuram
- d) Nilgiri

70. India ranks _____ in Most miserable country list

- a) 101
- b) 102
- c) 103
- d) 104

71. Sengol signifies _____

- a) Wealth
- b) Justice
- c) Bravery
- d) Health

72. UDAN schemes aims to improve

- a) Connectivity to remote areas
- b) All weather road in rural areas
- c) House to all
- d) Free compulsory education upto 18 years of age

73. National Heat Awareness Day is observed on _____

- a) May 26
- b) May 27
- c) May 28
- d) May 29

74. World Hunger day is observed on _____

- a) May 26
- b) May 27
- c) May 28
- d) May 29

75. First Mining Startup Summit was held at _____

- a) Kolkata
- b) Chennai
- c) Cochin
- d) Mumbai

76. R.Dinesh has been as the president of _____

- a) ICICI
- b) CII
- c) IDBI
- d) IFSC

77. Which coin denomination is released on the day of the new parliament opening ceremony?

- a) 50
- b) 75
- c) 100
- d) 200

78. Which has become the fully e-governance state in India?

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Andhra Pradesh

79. Steering Committee on project Cheetah was formed by _____

- a) Ministry of Environment and climate change
- b) National Tiger conservation authority
- c) Wildlife bureau of investigation
- d) Prime minister of India

80. A merchant inscription is recently found at _____

- a) Madurai
- b) Villupuram
- c) Vellore
- d) Mayiladuthurai

81. Who among the following appointed the Judges of High of India

- a) Chief justice of india
- b) Governor
- c) President
- d) Prime minister

82. Consider the following

- 1) Australia
- 2) India
- 3) Japan

Which of the above are the members of NATO plus ?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

83. Consider the following states

- 1) Goa
- 2) Mizoram
- 3) Punjab

Which of the above are the states that earlier existed as the Union territories?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 3 only
- d) 1,2 and 3

84. Who among the following won the 57th Jnanpith award for the year 2021?

- a) Damodar Mauzo
- b) Nilmani Phookan Jr
- c) Akkitham Achuthan Namboothiri
- d) Amitav Gosh

85. World No Tobacco Day is observed on _____

- a) 28th May
- b) 29th May
- c) 30th May
- d) 31st May

86. World Digestive Health Day 2023 is observed on _____

- a) 28th May
- b) 29th May
- c) 30th May
- d) 31st May

87. Who of the following symbolizes the justice in Sengol?

- a) Lion
- b) Tiger
- c) Bull
- d) Elephant

88. Who among the following was the pioneer in the formation of the Labour union in Tamilnadu?

- a) George Rossaiah
- b) Sathyamurthy
- c) E. V. Ramasamy
- d) M. Singaravelar Chetty

89. Which of the following was the first registered trade union of India?

- a) Hind Mazdoor Sabha
- b) Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh
- c) Madras Labour Union
- d) Indian National Trade Union Congress

90. Which of the following states is the top producer of Tobacco?

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Karnataka
- d) Gujarat

91. The Central Vigilance Commission was initially set up through Resolution in _____

- a) 1960
- b) 1964

- c) 1970
- d) 1972

92. Mahakaleshwar Temple is located in

- a) Ujjain
- b) Varanasi
- c) Kedarnath
- d) Thiruvannamalai

93. Consider the following statements

- 1) Chytridiomycosis is an infectious disease that affects amphibians, especially frogs worldwide.
- 2) The disease has caused the decline or complete extinction of over 200 species of frogs

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2 are correct
- d) Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

94. UDAN (UdeDeshkaAamNaagrik) aims to promote

- a) Road connectivity at the village level
- b) Rural airport Development
- c) Railway connectivity at the last mile
- d) Insurance coverage at the rural level

95. Which of the following book was written by V. D savarkar ?

- a) The Indian War of Independence
- b) Indian rebellion of 1857
- c) Indian Culture
- d) Das Kapital

96. Atal Bhujal Yojana aims to

- a) Provide home to the urban poor
- b) Improve groundwater resources in select water stressed areas
- c) Improve river quality
- d) Clean ganga campaign

97. Spratly Islands are located in

- a) Indian ocean
- b) Pacific Ocean
- c) Atlantic Ocean
- d) South china sea

98. Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar awarded by

- a) Ministry of culture
- b) Ministry of Women and Child Development

- c) Ministry of Education
- d) Ministry of Home affairs

99. Dal lake is located in

- a) Kashmir
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Andhra Pradesh

100. 76th World Health Assembly was held at

- a) Geneva
- b) Sweden
- c) New York
- d) Washington

Answers:

1	C	21	B	41	A	61	D	81	C
2	C	22	C	42	B	62	C	82	C
3	A	23	C	43	D	63	B	83	A
4	C	24	B	44	C	64	A	84	A
5	B	25	B	45	C	65	C	85	D
6	B	26	D	46	A	66	A	86	B
7	C	27	D	47	D	67	B	87	C
8	B	28	C	48	A	68	B	88	D
9	B	29	C	49	B	69	B	89	C
10	D	30	A	50	C	70	C	90	D
11	B	31	D	51	C	71	B	91	B
12	C	32	B	52	B	72	A	92	A
13	A	33	B	53	C	73	A	93	C
14	B	34	A	54	B	74	C	94	B
15	D	35	C	55	B	75	D	95	A
16	B	36	C	56	C	76	B	96	B
17	C	37	C	57	C	77	B	97	D
18	D	38	C	58	B	78	B	98	B
19	B	39	C	59	A	79	B	99	A
20	C	40	C	60	B	80	A	100	A