



# CURRENT AFFAIRS - MAY 1-31, 2023

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## Foot Prints (Compilation of Current Events)

 TAMIL NADU	 STATES	 NATIONAL	 INDIA & THE WORLD	 INTERNATIONAL
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 COURT VERDICTS	 CONFERENCES & SUMMITS	 AWARDS	 PERSONALITIES	 BOOKS & AUTHORS
 SPORTS	 RANKS & REPORTS	 DAYS	 OBITUARY	 NEWS OF THE MONTH
 KNOWLEDGE	 APPOINTMENTS	 COMMITTEES	 APPS / PORTALS	 MISCELLANEOUS

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# TAMIL NADU

## ➤ **Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation**

- ✓ The State government - is set to launch Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation on May 8.
- ✓ During the event, the sports minister Udhayanidhi Stalin interacted with industry captains and corporates and sought their support in developing sports and sports infrastructure in the state.
- ✓ Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation's Logo and Website will also be launched on May 8.

## ➤ **Street Name Board Projects**

- ✓ On May 4, the Greater Chennai Corporation - has announced that the residents of Chennai can now set up new street name boards under Namakku Naame Thittam.
- ✓ Under the initiative, the residents can mail to [csrchennaicorporation@gmail.com](mailto:csrchennaicorporation@gmail.com) or WhatsApp at 9445190856 to set up the street name board.  
Under the initiative, residents can take up street name board projects if they at least contribute 33% of the funds.

## ➤ **Skill On Wheels**

- ✓ On May 5, Minister for youth welfare and sports development Udhayanidhi Stalin - launched the mobile 'skill on wheels' service in Chennai.
- ✓ It is an initiative under the Naan Mudhalvan scheme of Tamil Nadu Skill Development department.
- ✓ The service aims to take the message of the importance of developing skill sets to the remotest of villages in the state.

## ➤ **Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation (TNCF)**

- ✓ On May 8, Chief Minister M K Stalin - launched the Tamil Nadu Champions Foundation (TNCF) at an event in Chennai.
- ✓ The TNCF is formed to improve sports and sports infrastructure in the state with contribution from corporate.



- ✓ The CM's Trophy logo is the tamil word 'Tamil Nadu' with embedded illustrations of persons playing various sports and chess horse, while it has the slogan 'Kalam Namathae! (The field is ours!)'.
- ✓ The official mascot is the humanoid Nilgiri Tahr, the state animal of Tamil Nadu, named 'Veeran'.

➤ **Natural Fertilizer "Chelippu"**

- ✓ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin introduced a new type of natural fertilizer made from wet waste named "Chelippu" to "Provide Quality natural Fertilizer to Consumers".
- ✓ The natural fertilizer named "Chelippu" is made with leaf, ash nutrients and some natural ingredients to improve soil quality.

➤ **Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) Hub**

- ✓ On May 15, Chief Minister M K Stalin - inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) hub.



- ✓ India's first emerging and Deep Tech innovation network, iTNT hub, was announced in the State Budget for 2022-23.
- ✓ It aims to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML) and Block Chain technology by integrating them to face future challenges.

- ✓ The hub will work with an academic network of more than 570 engineering colleges by engaging with researchers and industry partners to promote innovation.
- **Conservation and Management of Water Resources**
  - ✓ Namakkal district - has been ranked second in the conservation and management of water resources in the country for the year 2022.
  - ✓ The ranking was announced by the Union Jal Sakthi ministry on May 17.
  - ✓ The state government had implemented measures to conserve and manage water resources in the Namakkal district last year.
  - ✓ Further, it has undertaken desilting of water bodies across the district and planted 10 lakh tree saplings along their bunds under 'Namma Namakkal, Pasumai Namakkal' project.
- **India's Biggest Skywalk Bridge**
  - ✓ The recently inaugurated one of India's biggest Skywalk bridges, spanning 570 meters in length and 4.2 meters in width, was officially opened by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin.
  - ✓ This skywalk bridge serves as a crucial connection between the Mambalam railway station and T Nagar bus terminus. The project is part of a larger multi-modal initiative aimed at facilitating pedestrian movement.
- **Mini Tidel Parks**
  - ✓ On May 19, Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin - laid the foundation stone through video conference for the formation of mini Tidel Parks at a cost of Rs.92.50 crore in the districts of Tuticorin, Thanjavur and Salem.



- ✓ The TN government, in the state budget in March, announced plans to set up seven mini Tidel Parks (also called neo-Tidel parks) in tier 2/3 locations for inclusive development of the IT sector across the state.
- ✓ These parks are structured in a way to offer customisable space at affordable cost for service sector, especially IT companies and startups.



# STATE

## ➤ India's First International Multimodal Logistics Park

- ✓ The construction of India's first International Multimodal Logistics Park in Jogighopa, Assam, is well underway, and the jetty is expected to be completed by the end of this year.
- ✓ The park, which is being built at a cost of Rs 693.97 crore, will provide direct connectivity to waterways, road, rail, and air, and is expected to be completed in 2023.

## ➤ ODF (Open Defecation-Free)

- ✓ In a remarkable feat, Wayanad district in Kerala has come first in the country in the ODF (open defecation-free) Plus rankings of the Swachh Bharat Mission in the three-star category.
- ✓ Significantly, it is the first district in India to be declared ODF Plus.
- ✓ Wayanad scored a perfect 100 points in the ODF ranking, while Mancheriyal (Maharashtra) and Anupur (Madhya Pradesh) got 90.45 and 88.79 points, respectively to bag the next two spots.

## ➤ India's First Pod Taxi

- ✓ India's First pod taxi to be launched in Uttar Pradesh soon.



- ✓ India is all set to launch its first-ever pod taxi soon, which will run from Noida's Film City to the International Airport in Jewar.
- ✓ Introduction of such taxi transportation will lead to greater transportation ease, improved connectivity, modern infrastructure development, and reduced traffic jams.

➤ **State Robotics Framework**

- ✓ The Telangana government has launched the State Robotics Framework to establish a sustainable robotics ecosystem in the state.
- ✓ The Telangana government plans to leverage robotics technology in several key domains, including agriculture, healthcare, industrial automation, and consumer robotics.
- ✓ The State Robotics Framework outlines the vision for the development of the robotics industry in the state and aims to create a sustainable ecosystem.

➤ **World's Most Punctual Airport**

- ✓ GMR Hyderabad International Airport becomes the world's most "on-time airport" with an on-time performance of 90.43 per cent, as per recently released data by aviation analytics and research firm Sirium.
- ✓ Apart from this, Hyderabad Airport was ranked first under both the 'Global Airports' and 'Major Airports' categories.

➤ **Karnataka Assembly Election Results 2023**

- ✓ The Indian National Congress (INC) - has attained a majority in the Karnataka assembly election results 2023 and returned to power in the state.
- ✓ The Congress secured a clear majority in Karnataka, winning 136 of the 224 Assembly seats in the state.
- ✓ This is the first time in a decade that a party has crossed the halfway mark in the state.

➤ **UNESCO World Heritage Site Tag**

- ✓ Santiniketan in West Bengal has been recommended for inclusion in UNESCO's World Heritage List.
- ✓ Santiniketan is a renowned cultural and heritage place located in Birbhum District, West Bengal, India.
- ✓ It holds historical significance and is known for its association with Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore.
- ✓ It was the home of Rabindranath Tagore, where he lived and composed many of his literary works, including songs, poems, and novels.

➤ **Sustainable Development Goals progress**

- ✓ Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh, has become the first city in India to measure its progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



- ✓ The city has adopted a Voluntary Local Review (VLR) process, which is a tool that helps cities to assess their progress on the SDGs and identify areas where they need to improve.
- **'Right to Walk' Policy**
  - ✓ Punjab's Patiala district - has become the first district in the country to adopt a 'Right to Walk' policy.
  - ✓ The "ground-breaking initiative" was launched to prioritise the safety and convenience of pedestrians and cyclists" in urban areas, and also to highlight the commitment towards preservation of local heritage and cultural legacy.
  - ✓ The 'Right to Walk' was an integral part of the right to a healthy life under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- **First Fully E-Governed State**
  - ✓ Kerala Becomes India's First Fully E-Governed State, Achieving Total E-Governance.
  - ✓ Kerala, the southern state of India, is set to make history by declaring itself as the country's first "total e-governed state."
  - ✓ Building upon its reputation as the first fully-literate state in India, Kerala has achieved this milestone through a series of policy initiatives aimed at transforming the state into a digitally-empowered society.
- **First Fully E-governed State**
  - ✓ Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan - has declared that Kerala has become the country's first fully e-governed state.
  - ✓ Accordingly, the entire spectrum of government services in the state has been digitised for making their delivery prompt, transparent and inclusive.
  - ✓ The delivery of all vital services in the state has been digitised, covering all key domains including health, education, land revenue, documentation of properties, public distribution system and social security payouts.
- **India's Largest High Court**
  - ✓ 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.
- **Mukhyamantri Teerthdarshan Yojana**

- ✓ Madhya Pradesh – has become the first State in the country to send elderly people on pilgrimage by air under the Mukhyamantri Teerthdarshan Yojana.



- ✓ The first batch of 32 pilgrims has taken off by an Indigo flight from the Bhopal airport on May 21 to visit Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh.
- ✓ The Mukhyamantri Teerth Darshan Yojana is one of the flagship schemes of the BJP government in the State.
- ✓ The scheme was introduced in the year 2012.
- ✓ Under the scheme, more than 7.80 lakh elderly persons have undertaken pilgrimage by special trains till now.

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# NATIONAL

## ➤ **Mann Ki Baat - 100th Episode**

- ✓ The 100th episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio program Mann Ki Baat - made its global broadcast at 11 AM on April 30.



- ✓ The 100th episode was broadcast live in the UN's Trusteeship Council Chamber at United Nations headquarters in New York, United States.
- ✓ "'Mann Ki Baat' is the 'Mann Ki Baat' of crores of Indians, it is the expression of their feelings," said the PM addressing the 100th episode.

## ➤ **Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamprashastih**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the closing ceremony of the Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam in April 2023.
- ✓ He launched a book 'Saurashtra-Tamil Sangamprashastih' at the closing ceremony.
- ✓ The programme began on April 17, with its closing ceremony now being held on April 26 at Somnath.

## ➤ **Healthy and Hygienic Food Streets**

- ✓ The Centre - is planning to develop 100 'healthy and hygienic food streets' across the country.
- ✓ On May 4, the government said Rs.1 crore per food street will be provided to states from the National Health Mission (NHM) funds under this project.
- ✓ Under the initiative, the government will provide financial assistance for activities such as provision of safe drinking water, hand washing, toilet facilities, and tiled flooring of common areas.

## ➤ **All India Radio - Akashvani**

- ✓ The Central Government has ordered that All India Radio (AIR), the country's public broadcaster, be exclusively referred to as Akashvani in all broadcasts and programmes.
- ✓ This move is in line with the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, passed by Parliament.
- ✓ The name change is long pending and in accordance with the law which came into being in 1997.
  
- **SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management)**
- ✓ The government - has launched the SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management), a Learning Management Information System (LMIS) of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- ✓ SAKSHAM is a dedicated and unified platform for providing online training and medical education to all health professionals in the country.
  
- **75/25**
- ✓ The Union Health Ministry - unveiled the ambitious "75/25" initiative on May 17, on the eve of World Hypertension Day.
- ✓ The program aims to ensure that 75 million individuals suffering from hypertension and diabetes receive standardised care by 2025, primarily through Primary Health Centers (PHCs).
- ✓ Under the initiative, the government plans to train approximately 40,000 Primary Health Care Medical Officers on the Standard Treatment Workflow for non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
  
- **Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR)**
- ✓ On May 17, the Indian government - has launched the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) system across the country for tracking the lost or stolen mobile phones.



- ✓ The new system will enable people to block and track their lost mobile phones.
- ✓ The CEIR system is equipped with an in-built mechanism that allows it to detect the use of cloned mobile phones across all telecom networks.
- ✓ The new system will provide telecom operators with access to both the IMEI number of the device and the associated mobile number.
- **"Meri LiFE" (My Life)**
- ✓ The government - launched "Meri LiFE" (My Life) mobile application to empower young people and encourage their participation in tackling climate change.
- ✓ As a build up to June 5 - World Environment Day, Meri LiFE App has been launched by Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recently on May 15.



- ✓ The app will help to track the progress being made on Mission LiFE.

✓ To facilitate the monitoring of progress, the ministry has developed two dedicated portals - the Mission LiFE Portal and the Meri LiFE Portal.

➤ **Union Public Service Commission**

- ✓ The Union Public Service Commission - announced the result of the Civil Services Examination 2022 on May 23.
- ✓ Gee Gee A.S., 22, of Kolathur, secured All India Rank 107 and Tamil Nadu rank one in the Civil Services Examination 2022.
- ✓ She has cleared it in her first attempt, choosing Tamil literature as the optional paper in the main exam.



- ✓ To financially help the civil service aspirants, the Tamil Nadu government has launched a scheme to support 1,000 aspirants with a monthly stipend of Rs.7,500.
- ✓ Among them who clear the preliminary exam will get a lumpsum amount of Rs.25,000.

➤ **Sengol**

- ✓ Historic Scepter 'Sengol' Finds Home in New Parliament Building.



- ✓ According to **Mr. Shah**, this sceptre holds historical significance as it was originally presented to India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, symbolizing the transfer of power from the **British** to the Indian people.
- ✓ The Home Minister explained that the sceptre, known as "sengol," derives from the Tamil word "**semmai**," meaning "**righteousness**."

➤ **Har Shikhar Tiranga (HST) Mission**

- ✓ Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister flagged off Mission Har Shikhar Tiranga, from NIMAS, Dirang.
- ✓ Har Shikhar Tiranga (HST) Mission is a unique expedition to hoist the national flag on the highest point of every state of India for the first time.
- ✓ It is a campaign under the aegis of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to take the tricolour to all the states of the country and hoist it on the summits to mark the 75th year of independence and to commemorate India's G20 presidency.

➤ **India's New Parliament House**



- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the new Parliament building on Sunday, 28 May, showcasing its exquisite artwork and featuring a ceremonial sceptre called 'Sengol' among its many highlights.
- ✓ Constructed at a cost of 971 crore, the new complex stands as a symbol of India's progress, reflecting the aspirations of the nation's 1.35 billion citizens. Its innovative triangular design optimizes space utilization and fosters efficient governance.

➤ **New 75 Coin**



- ✓ Centre to Launch New 75 Coin to Mark New Parliament Inauguration.
- ✓ The Ministry of Finance has announced the launch of a special 75 coin to commemorate the inauguration of India's new parliament building.
- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi will unveil the coin on Sunday, 28 May, coinciding with the celebration of India's 75 years of independence.

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# SCHEMES

## ➤ FAME II Scheme

- ✓ The government - has decided to release over Rs 500 crore of subsidy under FAME II scheme to four electric two-wheeler manufacturers – Ola Electric, Ather, TVS and Hero MotoCorp.
- ✓ Under the scheme, Ola will get the highest payout from the ministry of heavy industries, which will be to the tune of Rs 370 crore, followed by around Rs 275 crore for Ather.
- ✓ This was done in order to bring down the cost of the vehicle and make it eligible for the subsidy.

## ➤ Institute of Eminence' (IoE) Scheme

- ✓ On May 24, Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) - launched 15 centres of excellence (CoE) as part of the 'Institute of Eminence' (IoE) scheme.
- ✓ These centres will undertake cutting edge research and develop next-generation technologies.
- ✓ The IoE scheme was launched by the government of India to enable higher educational institutions to become world-class teaching and research institutions.

## ➤ UDAN 5.1

- ✓ The Ministry of Civil Aviation has launched UDAN 5.1 after four successful rounds of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) and with version 5.0 of the fifth round underway, to further enhance the connectivity to remote areas of the country and achieve last mile connectivity through helicopters.
- ✓ The current version of the scheme “UDAN 5.1” has been designed after consultations with all stakeholders including helicopter operators.

# INTERNATIONAL

## ➤ **Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)**

- ✓ On May 5, the World Health Organisation (WHO) - declared that Covid-19 is no longer a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC).
- ✓ According to WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the decision was made following a recommendation from the UN agency's emergency committee that met on May 4
- ✓ Almost 7 million deaths have been reported to WHO from around the world over the past three years due to Covid-19.

## ➤ **Charles III**

Charles III - was crowned the King of United Kingdom at Westminster Abbey in London on May 6 following his anointment in a solemn religious ceremony that dates back almost a thousand years

- ✓ The Archbishop of Canterbury crowned the King, placing the 360-year-old St Edward's Crown on the monarch's head as he sat upon a 14th century throne.



- ✓ The King had taken the solemn oath to govern the people of the United Kingdom with "justice and mercy" and to foster an environment where people of all faiths and beliefs can live freely.

# INDIA & OTHER COUNTRIES

## ➤ Young Leaders Program

- ✓ The Young Leaders Program – was conducted by the France India Foundation (FIF) in New Delhi and Bangalore recently.



- ✓ The flagship ‘Young Leaders Program’ aims to identify exemplary and promising young leaders from various fields, including business, politics, sports, and culture.
- ✓ The first cohort of the program had 25 young leaders from India and France.
- ✓ It has been launched in India as a new strategic initiative as a part of the Paris-based France Asia Foundation.

## ➤ India-Israel Center of Water Technology (CoWT)

- ✓ The Government of Israel - is partnering with India through Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) to establish an India-Israel Center of Water Technology (CoWT) in water resources management and water technologies.



- ✓ The key objective of this new centre is to ensure the implementation of best technologies of Israel for the Indian requirements and work on sustainable management solution for Indian water sector.
- ✓ Israel is a leader in integrated water resources management.

➤ **Operation Karuna**

- ✓ On May 18, the Indian government - has launched “Operation Karuna” to provide humanitarian assistance to Cyclone Mocha-hit Myanmar.
- ✓ Under the operation, Indian naval ships INS Shivalik, INS Kamorta, INS Savitri and INS Gharial carrying 40 tonnes of relief material reached Yangon, Myanmar on May 18 and 19.
- ✓ The ships were carrying emergency food items, tents, essential medicines, water pumps, portable generators, clothes, sanitary and hygiene items, etc.



# CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

## ➤ Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

- ✓ A two-day meeting of foreign ministers of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) – was held in Goa on May 4 and 5.



- ✓ Foreign ministers of 8 nations, including Pakistan and China, participated in the key meeting.
- ✓ During the meeting, the SCO Foreign Ministers assessed the status of decisions that will be approved at the upcoming SCO Summit in July in New Delhi.
- ✓ Further, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar sought the support of members to make English the third official language of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

## ➤ 6th Indian Ocean Conference- IOC 2023

- ✓ The Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) was established in 2016.
- ✓ The objective of the IOC is to facilitate discussions on regional cooperation for Security and Growth.
- ✓ The 6th IOC is set to take place on May 12-13, 2023, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The theme for the conference is “Peace, Prosperity and Partnership for a Resilient Future”.

## ➤ Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023

- ✓ The Chemicals and Petrochemicals Manufacturers’ Association (CPMA) of India will host the 41st edition of the Asia Petrochemical Industry Conference 2023 (APIC 2023) in New Delhi on 18-19 May.
- ✓ It aims to gain insights into regional market trends and sustainable solutions.
- ✓ It rotates among seven member countries, including Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan, and India.

➤ **India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC)**

- ✓ The first Ministerial meeting of the India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) - was held in Brussels on May 16.
- ✓ The Council discussed ways to increase cooperation in strategic technologies, digital connectivity, clean energy, trade and investments.



- ✓ The three Working Groups under the mechanism presented roadmaps for future cooperation between the two sides- Working Group on Strategic Technologies; Digital Governance and Digital Connectivity; Working Group on Green and Clean Energy Technologies; and Working Group on Trade, Investment and Resilient Value Chains.

➤ **TB Eradication Summit**

- ✓ On May 19, State Health Minister Ma Subramanian - inaugurated the TB Eradication Summit under the National Tuberculosis Eradication Programme in Chennai.



- ✓ During the event, the Minister also released the 2.0 State TB Eradication Comprehensive Plan document for the elimination of tuberculosis by 2025
- ✓ Tamil Nadu is the first state to procure drugs under the central programme and distribute them.
- ✓ The drugs were purchased by the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation.

➤ **G7 Summit**

- ✓ Prime Minister Narendra Modi – addressed the G7 session on ‘Working Together to Address Multiple Crisis’ at the G7 Summit, in Hiroshima, Japan on May 20.



- ✓ During his address, the PM gave a 10-point call to action to address food, health and development-related issues plaguing the world
  - ✓ PM Modi’s 10-point “call to action” included the need to create an inclusive food system with focus on the world’s most vulnerable, mainly marginal farmers.
  - ✓ The PM called for strengthening global fertiliser supply chains by removing political barriers and hoped the G-7 summit would be useful in creating an important link between the agenda of the G20 and the G7.
- **76th World Health Assembly**
- ✓ On May 21, Prime Minister Narendra Modi - virtually addressed the 76th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland through a video message.



- ✓ PM congratulated the World Health Organization on completing 75 years and expressed confidence that global health agency would be setting goals for the next 25 years when it reaches 100 years of service.
  - ✓ This year’s assembly revolves around the theme: “WHO at 75: Saving lives, driving health for all.”
- **FIPIC Summit 2023**

- ✓ The Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) Summit, hosted in Papua New Guinea, served as a significant platform for fostering cooperation in various areas such as trade, investment, climate change, and sustainable development.
  - ✓ This multinational grouping, established in 2014, aimed to promote collaboration between India and 14 Pacific Islands nations, including Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.
- **Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG)**
- ✓ The 3<sup>rd</sup> Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) meeting under India's G20 Presidency - was held in Mumbai from May 21 to 23.



- ✓ The three day meeting witnessed a participation of 141 delegates from G20 countries and 10 invitee countries along with the representatives of 14 international and regional organisations
- ✓ The meetings focused on three broad themes - arresting land degradation, promoting circular economy and giving impetus to blue economy.

➤ **National Medical Device Policy 2023**

- ✓ Minister of Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya - launched the National Medical Device Policy 2023 at an annual conference on Indian pharmaceuticals and medical devices in Delhi on May 26.





- ✓ This new scheme aims to establish and strengthen common infrastructure facilities in the medical devices clusters and improve testing facilities for medical devices.
- ✓ The Cabinet approved the National Medical Device Policy 2023 on April 26.
- **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)**
- ✓ India - is all set to host the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of State on July 4, 2023.



- ✓ On May 30, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced that the 22nd Summit of SCO will be held in virtual format.
- ✓ Under India's first-ever chairmanship, the summit will be chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- ✓ The acronym stands for Security; Economy and Trade; Connectivity; Unity; Respect for Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity; and Environment.

# COURT VERDICT

## ➤ **Irretrievable Breakdown**

- ✓ In a landmark judgment on May 1, the Supreme Court - said that it has the discretion to dissolve a marriage and grant a decree of divorce to consenting parties in cases of “irretrievable breakdown” of marriage.
- ✓ This can be done through exercising of its plenary powers under Article 142 (1) of the Constitution, without referring the parties to a family court first, where they must wait for 6-18 months for a decree of divorce by mutual consent.
- ✓ The court also noted that the period of separation should be sufficiently long, and “anything above six years or more will be a relevant factor”.
- ✓ The mandatory six-month wait is intended to give the parties time to withdraw their plea.

## ➤ **‘Services’ in the National Capital Territory (NCT)**

- ✓ On May 11, the Supreme Court, in a unanimous judgment - held that the Delhi government has both executive and legislative jurisdiction over ‘services’ in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi.
- ✓ The bench clarified that the power of the Delhi government would not extend to the administrative services which come under land, law and public order and police.
- ✓ The Lieutenant Governor (LG) shall exercise powers under the administrative role as entrusted by the president.
- ✓ Delhi, unlike fully fledged states, does not have a separate public service commission for recruitment of officers for its services.

## ➤ **Animal Sports**

- ✓ On May 18, the Supreme Court - upheld the constitutional validity of state laws framed to allow the conduct of animal sports in three states - Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra.
- ✓ The apex court has upheld the amendments passed by the states to ‘The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960’ to conduct bull-taming sport jallikattu in Tamil Nadu, race of male buffaloes known as kambala in Karnataka and bullock cart race in Maharashtra.
- ✓ It held that there are sufficient additional safeguards to prevent cruelty to animals in these ancient sports.
- ✓ Jallikattu, also known eruthazhuvuthal, is a sport played in Tamil Nadu as part of the Pongal harvest festival.

# DEFENCE

## ➤ **ASEAN India Maritime Exercise, AIME-2023**

- ✓ Indian Naval Ships Satpura and Delhi on May 1st, 2023, led by RAdm Gurcharan Singh, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, arrived in Singapore to participate in the inaugural ASEAN India Maritime Exercise (AIME-2023).
- ✓ The exercise is scheduled to take place from May 2nd to May 8th, 2023.

## ➤ **Buland Bharat**

- ✓ The Armed Forces – recently conducted a "Buland Bharat" exercise in Tawang and West Kameng districts of Arunachal Pradesh.



- ✓ The high-voltage combat exercise was aimed at testing their integrated surveillance and firepower capabilities.
- ✓ The Artillery and Infantry collaborated with Special forces, Aviation, and CAPF to combine their surveillance and firepower.

## ➤ **Indo-Thai CORPAT**

- ✓ From May 3 to May 10, 2023, the Andaman Sea hosted the 35th iteration of the bi-annual India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT), which involved the participation of the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy.
- ✓ It aims to reinforce maritime linkages between India and Thailand and ensure the safety and security of the international trade route in the Indian Ocean.

## ➤ **Sea Dragon 23**

- ✓ The Sea Dragon 23 exercise is a biennial coordinated multilateral anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise for long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft.
- ✓ The exercise is hosted by the United States Navy, and it involves the participation of other friendly navies from Japan, Canada, South Korea, and India.

## ➤ **Samudra Shakti - 23**

- ✓ INS Kavaratti, indigenously designed & built ASW Corvette, arrived at Batam, Indonesia to participate in the 4th edition of India-Indonesia Bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti-23 from 14-19 May 23.
- ✓ Samudra Shakti -23 will showcase the high level of interoperability between the two navies and their shared commitment towards peace and stability in the region.

➤ **Exercise Jal Rahat**

- ✓ The Indian Army's Gajraj Corps, in collaboration with various disaster management groups, recently conducted a joint flood relief drill called 'Exercise Jal Rahat.'



- ✓ The drill took place at Hagrama Bridge on the Manas River in Assam, aiming to enhance flood relief preparedness ahead of the monsoon season.
- ✓ It aimed to strengthen the preparedness of flood relief efforts.

➤ **INS Vaghsheer**

- ✓ The sixth Scorpene Submarine of Project-75, Indian Navy's Kalvari class, 'Vaghsheer' recently commenced her sea trials.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ The Kalvari class is a class of diesel-electric attack submarines based on the Scorpène-class submarine being built for the Indian Navy.

➤ **AL-MOHED AL-HINDI 2023 Naval Exercise**

- ✓ Marking a significant milestone in the growing defense cooperation between India and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the INS TARKASH and INS SUBHADRA have arrived at Port Al-Jubail to commence the second edition of the naval exercise, 'AL-MOHED AL-HINDI 2023.'
- ✓ The visit of these Indian naval ships highlighting the deepening defense ties and promoting regional stability in the Arabian Sea and the Gulf region.

➤ **Al Mohed Al Hindi 23**

- ✓ The sea phase of second edition of bilateral exercise 'Al Mohed Al Hindi 23', between Indian Navy and Royal Saudi Naval Force (RSNF) - was held from May 23 to 25 off Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia.



- ✓ The three-day exercise at sea witnessed a wide spectrum of maritime operations exhibiting high degree of professionalism, interoperability and exchange of best practices between the two navies.

➤ **Sudarshan Shakti Exercise 2023**

- ✓ The Sapta Shakti Command of the Indian Army recently conducted the highly anticipated exercise '**Sudarshan Shakti 2023**' along the western borders in Rajasthan and Punjab.
- ✓ The exercise aimed to transform the forces into a modern, lean, and agile fighting combination capable of leveraging new-age technologies.

# AWARDS

## ➤ 83<sup>rd</sup> Peabody Awards

- ✓ Documentary film, 'Writing With Fire', directed by Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh - emerged winner at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Peabody Awards under the category of 'Documentary'.



- ✓ The film tells the story of Khabar Lahariya, India's only newspaper run by Dalit women, and the publication's transition from print to digital medium in parts of rural Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ The 94-minute film has won multiple awards at major global film festivals.

## ➤ Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur' (Knight of the Legion of Honour)

- ✓ Tata Group Chairman N Chandrasekaran - has been given France's highest civilian award 'Chevalier de la Legion d'honneur' (Knight of the Legion of Honour) for his contributions to strengthen the trade relationship between India and France.



- ✓ French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Catherine Colonna gave the award to Chandrasekaran on behalf of the French President.

- ✓ The Indo-French Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IFCCI), in collaboration with Business France, hosted the 5th edition of the Indo-French Business Awards (IFBA) and Grand Prix VIE on May 16.



# ECONOMY

## ➤ Goods and Services Tax (GST) - April 2023

- ✓ The Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections - touched a record high of Rs 1.87 lakh crore in April 2023.



- ✓ This is the first time the gross GST collection has crossed Rs.1.75 lakh crore mark, since the rollout of the indirect tax regime in July 2017.
  - ✓ Previously, the highest GST collection was recorded in April last year at Rs 1.68 lakh crore.
  - ✓ The GST collection for March 2023 stood at Rs 1.60 lakh crore.
- ## ➤ Business Ready Project
- ✓ The World Bank - announced a new methodology under its flagship “Business Ready” project for assessing the business climate in up to 180 countries.
  - ✓ The “Business Ready” project improves upon and replaces the World Bank Group’s earlier “Doing Business project”, cancelled in September 2021.
  - ✓ The first annual “Business Ready” report, covering 54 economies, will be published in the spring of 2024.
- ## ➤ World Economic Situation and Prospects report
- ✓ India remains a bright spot, economy expected to grow 6.7% in 2024: United Nations.





- ✓ According to the **World Economic Situation and Prospects report** released by the **United Nations**, **India's economy** is projected to grow by 6.7% in the calendar year 2024.
- ✓ The report highlights India's resilient domestic demand as a key factor driving this growth.
- **Clean Note Policy**
- ✓ On May 19, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) - announced the withdrawal of the Rs.2,000 banknote from circulation, in accordance with the RBI's 'Clean note policy'.
- ✓ The public being "encouraged" to deposit or exchange the notes at banks until September 30, 2023.
- ✓ At the same time, the central bank maintained that these notes will enjoy legal tender status even beyond the September 30 deadline.

# APPOINTMENT

## ➤ **Siddaramaiah**

- ✓ Senior Congress leader Siddaramaiah - took oath as Karnataka Chief Minister at the Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on May 20.



- ✓ Along with him, Congress's state unit chief DK Shivakumar was sworn in as the cabinet minister and has been designated as the state's sole deputy chief minister.
- ✓ Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administered the oath of office and secrecy to both leaders at the swearing-in ceremony.

## ➤ **Justice S Vaidyanathan**

- ✓ Justice S Vaidyanathan, the senior-most judge of the Madras high court - has been named acting Chief Justice of the court by the President of India.



- ✓ Justice Vaidyanathan's appointment came hours ahead of the scheduled retirement of the incumbent acting Chief Justice of the Madras high court, Justice T Raja, on May 24.
- ✓ The appointment that takes effect from May 25 was announced in exercise of the power conferred by Article 223 of the Constitution of India.

➤ **SV Gangapurwala**

- ✓ The Centre - has appointed Justice SV Gangapurwala as the Chief Justice of Madras High Court.



- ✓ President Droupadi Murmu, exercising her powers conferred to her by Clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution of India 1950, has appointed Justice Gangapurwala as the Chief Justice.
  - ✓ The Supreme Court Collegium had recommended the appointment of Justice Gangapurwala to the Madras High Court on April 19, 2023.
- **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**
- ✓ Turkiye's incumbent President Recep Tayyip Erdogan - has declared victory in his country's runoff election, extending his rule into a third decade.
  - ✓ Erdogan, who has been at Turkiye's helm for 20 years, came just short of victory in the first round of elections on May 14.
  - ✓ Erdogan, a 69-year-old Muslim, is set to remain in power until 2028.

# PERSONALITIES

## ➤ **K S M Manimuthu**

- ✓ A first-time panchayat president from Sivaganga, K S M Manimuthu - was praised by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the 100th episode of his 'Maan ki baat' programme.
- ✓ He was instrumental in powering streetlights in the panchayat by establishing a biogas plant.
- ✓ The electricity thus generated powers 120 streetlights, three battery vehicles used for collecting waste and the plant itself.

## ➤ **S Nandhini**

- ✓ S Nandhini, a student from Dindigul district - has made history by scoring 600 out of 600 marks in the Class 12 board examination in Tamil Nadu.



- ✓ This is the first time a student has secured 100 out of 100 marks in all subjects in the Plus Two examination.
- ✓ A student of the commerce group, Nandhini scored six centums in Economics, Tamil, English, Accountancy, Commerce and Computer Application.
- ✓ She was studying Commerce at Annamalaiyar Girls Higher Secondary School in Dindigul, a government-aided institution.

## ➤ **Sathyabhama Das Biju**

- ✓ University of Delhi professor Sathyabhama Das Biju, also popularly known as the "Frogman of India" - has been named as a Radcliffe Fellow at Harvard University for 2023-2024.



- ✓ This fellowship will allow him to pursue his ongoing research on the conservation of amphibian species in the Indian subcontinent at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study in the upcoming academic year.
- ✓ The Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University is a highly prestigious research institution that selects fifty fellows each academic year.

➤ **Linda Yaccarino**

- ✓ Linda Yaccarino, the head of advertising of NBCUniversal - is set to become the next Twitter CEO.



- ✓ On May 12, Elon Musk has confirmed that the new CEO for Twitter, or X Corp. as it's now called, will be Linda Yaccarino, an executive with deep ties to the advertising industry.

➤ **Kami Rita**

- ✓ A Nepali Sherpa, Kami Rita - scaled Mount Everest for a record 27th time, beating his own record.



- ✓ Kami Rita Sherpa, 53, scaled the 8,849 metre (29,032-foot) mountain on May 17 along the traditional southeast ridge route, guiding a foreign climber.
- ✓ Kami Rita scaled Everest for the first time in 1994 and has climbed it almost every year since, except in 2014, 2015 and 2020, when climbing was halted for various reasons.

➤ **Rayyanah Barnawi**

- ✓ Rayyanah Barnawi made history as the first Arab woman to venture into space. The highly anticipated maiden space mission of Saudi Arabia took place on May 21. Barnawi, along with her co-astronaut Ali al-Qarni, embarked on their journey aboard the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.

➤ **Hari Budha Magar**

- ✓ Gorkha veteran Hari Budha Magar - has become the first double above-the-knee amputee to climb Everest.



- ✓ He reached the top of Sagarmatha, the Nepalese name of Mount Himalayas, on May 19.
- ✓ Nepalese Hari Budha Magar, who joined the British army in 1999, lost both his legs after stepping on an improvised explosive device (IED) during a patrol duty in Afghanistan in 2010.
- ✓ Magar, 43, was on patrol in Afghanistan with the Gorkhas, a unit of Nepalis who have fought with the British army for over 200 years.

➤ **Rajasekar Pachai**

- ✓ Rajasekar Pachai from Tamil Nadu - scaled Mount Everest, the world's tallest mountain on May 19.



- ✓ The 27 year-old from Kovalam becomes the second person from Tamil Nadu to scale the 8,848m tall peak.
  - ✓ Having begun his training in October 2022, Pachai started climbing peaks that were 5,000 metres tall.
  - ✓ Sivakumar, an Indian Army soldier from Ooty, was the first person hailing from the State to climb Mt. Everest.
- **Muthamizh Selvi**
- ✓ Muthamizh Selvi - became the first woman from Tamil Nadu to scale Mount Everest.



- ✓ She reached the top of world's highest peak on May 23 and returned to Kathmandu on May 26.
- ✓ Muthamizh Selvi, who teaches Japanese in Chennai, hails from Johilpatti next to Kariyapatti in Virudhunagar district.
- ✓ The State had given Rs.25 lakh for the expedition.

## BOOKS & AUTHORS

### ➤ **Collective Spirit, Concrete Action**

- ✓ At the 100th episode of 'Mann Ki Baat', a book called 'Collective Spirit, Concrete Action' written by Shashi Shekhar Vempati, former CEO of Prasar Bharati (2017-2022) was launched.



- ✓ The book was released during a day-long National Conclave on Mann Ki Baat @100, held in the national capital on April 26.
  - ✓ According to the author, 'Mann Ki Baat' is a combination of the power of radio and the vision of a nation's leader.
- ### ➤ **From Tribal Hinterlands to Raisina Hills**
- ✓ The book titled "Droupadi Murmu: From Tribal Hinterlands to Raisina Hills" tells the inspiring story of a tribal girl who overcame obstacles to become a symbol of resilience, determination, and perseverance.
  - ✓ Murmu achieved many milestones by taking an unconventional path, starting from leaving her small village in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha to becoming the first citizen of India.
  - ✓ The author of the book is Kasturi Ray.



# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT

## ➤ **Leather-Like Material from Mango Pulp**

- ✓ Scientists at the Chennai-based Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) - have developed a leather-like material from mango pulp to make bags, belts and more.
- ✓ The new material, considered as an eco-friendly alternative to synthetic leather, contains 50% mango pulp and degrades faster than polyurethane leather.
- ✓ The team combined mango pulp with a biopolymer in liquid and powder form which then underwent a simple process to be made into a sheet-like material.
- ✓ These discarded mangoes can be used to make the leather-like material.

## ➤ **Horaglanis populi**

- ✓ Researchers in southern India have made a fascinating discovery after a six-year-long survey for signs of subterranean creatures.
- ✓ They found a new species of subterranean catfish, which they named *Horaglanis populi*.
- ✓ *Horaglanis populi* is a tiny, blind, and pigmentless catfish with no eyes and blood-red coloring. Genetic analysis showed that it was genetically much different from all the other known species.

## ➤ **Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START)**

- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced a new online training programme for post-graduate and final-year undergraduate students of physical sciences and technology.
- ✓ The programme is called Space Science and Technology Awareness Training (START) and is part of ISRO's efforts to enable Indian students to become professionals in space science and technology.

## ➤ **Piezoelectric MEMS (Micro Electro Mechanical System)**

- ✓ Researchers from Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) and Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) - have developed a thin-membrane based sensor technology for underwater communication.
- ✓ The indigenous communication technology can be used in defence applications.
- ✓ They have developed piezoelectric MEMS (micro electro mechanical system) technology where they fabricated 100mm diameter piezoelectric thin films.

## ➤ **Roshni**

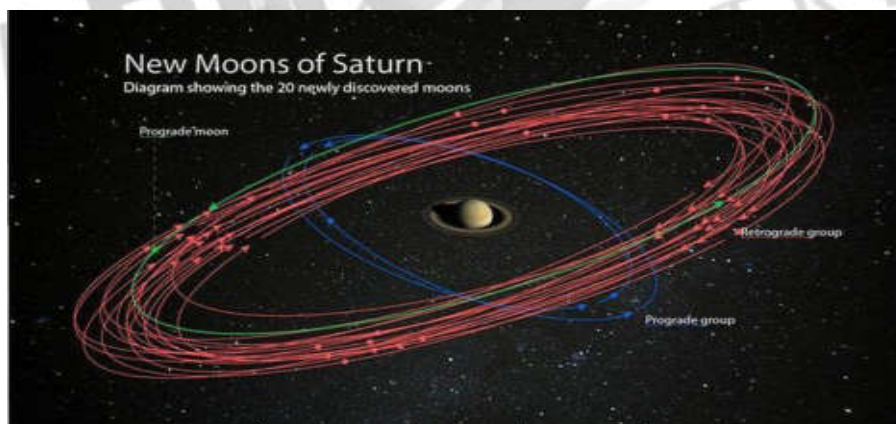
- ✓ The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) - has developed 'Roshni' or 'Renewable Ocean System for Harnessing Novel Illumination' which is a portable lantern with a USB port for charging mobile phones.
- ✓ Roshni is a low-cost portable device that works on seawater or tap water mixed with salt.
- ✓ It can be used to light up small villages, coastal hamlets and regions that face frequent power outages or have no grid connectivity.

➤ **Cyclone Mocha**

- ✓ Cyclone Mocha, a powerful tropical storm, has garnered significant attention due to its potential impact on Bangladesh, Myanmar, and parts of northeastern India.
- ✓ According to the IMD, Cyclone Mocha is expected to make landfall on May 14.
- ✓ Yemen suggested the name 'Mocha', which is supposed to be pronounced as Mokha. The cyclone has been named after a Red Sea port city known for its coffee production.

➤ **Highest Number of Moons**

- ✓ Planet Saturn - has reclaimed the title of the “planet with the highest number of moons”, surpassing Jupiter.



- ✓ A new study have unveiled an astonishing 62 new moons orbiting Saturn, bringing the ringed planet’s total number of moons to 145.
- ✓ Prior to this finding, Saturn had 83 moons recognised by the International Astronomical Union.
- ✓ With the new findings, Saturn has not only regained its crown for having the most known moons but it has also become the first planet to have over 100 moons.

➤ **Tungnath Temple**

- ✓ The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) - has found that the Tungnath temple, located at an altitude of 12,106 feet (3,690 metres) above sea level in Rudraprayag district of Uttarakhand, is tilting by nearly five to six degrees.



- ✓ The smaller structures inside the complex of the temple are also tilting by up to 10 degrees.
- ✓ Land subsidence (sinking of the ground because of underground material movement) has been a concerning issue in the Joshimath region of Uttarakhand in recent months
- ✓ The Central Government has recently declared Tungnath a monument of national importance.
- **Gekko Mizoramensis**
- ✓ Researchers at Mizoram University and the Max Planck Institute for Biology in Tübingen, Germany, have discovered a new species of flying gecko along the Indo-Myanmar border.
- ✓ The creature has been named after the Northeastern state of Mizoram.
- ✓ Dubbed the Gekko mizoramensis, it is the name given to the new species after the state of Mizoram.
- **Appulse**
- ✓ In a rare conjunction, three celestial bodies - Moon, Mars and Venus - will come together in the skies above Earth on May 24.



- ✓ The Moon, Mars and Venus will form a rare alignment, though not in straight line, in the skies.
  - ✓ While the three bodies will not be in a straight alignment, the Moon and Venus will be in the same right ascension making a close approach, which is technically called an 'appulse'.
  - ✓ Planetary conjunction takes place when two or more planets in our solar system appear to be in close proximity to each other when observed from Earth.
- **World's First Oral Antiviral - Paxlovid**
- ✓ On May 25, the US Food and Drug Administration - approved the world's first oral antiviral, Paxlovid (nirmatrelvir and ritonavir tablets) for adults.
  - ✓ Paxlovid, manufactured by US pharma major Pfizer, is the fourth drug – and first oral antiviral pill – approved by the FDA to treat Covid in adults.
  - ✓ The drug is approved for the treatment of mild to moderate Covid in adults at high risk of progression to severe Covid, including hospitalisation or death.
- **AIRAWAT : Supercomputer**
- ✓ India's AI Supercomputer 'AIRAWAT' has been ranked at No. 75 in the world at the International Supercomputing Conference (ISC 2023) in Germany.
  - ✓ Supercomputer 'AIRAWAT' has been named in the 61st edition of the Top 500 Global Supercomputing List released recently.
  - ✓ The AI supercomputer 'AIRAWAT' is installed at C-DAC, Pune.
  - ✓ The system is installed under National Program on AI by the Government of India.
- **NVS-01**
- ✓ On May 29, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) - successfully placed NVS-01, the first of the five second-generation navigation satellite series, into a geosynchronous transfer orbit.



- ✓ The satellite, which will continue the services of NavIC constellation, was placed by a geosynchronous satellite launch vehicle (GSLV-MkII), in its 15th flight.
- ✓ The NVS-1 is the first satellite of the next-generation NavIC satellite aimed to augment the navigational capabilities of the country, by providing accurate and real-time navigation.
  
- **XPoSat: India's First Polarimetry Mission**
- ✓ The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru, have joined hands to embark on an exciting mission known as the X-Ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat).
- ✓ This satellite is scheduled to be launched later this year, and its mission is to study the various dynamics of bright astronomical X-ray sources present in extreme conditions.
  
- **TOI 4603b or HD 245134b**
- ✓ An international team of scientists led by Professor Abhijit Chakraborty of the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad - has discovered the densest alien planet, which is 13 times bigger than Jupiter.
- ✓ The new finding has now been confirmed to be a planet and has been named TOI 4603b or HD 245134b.
- ✓ The planet is raging hot with a temperature of 1396 degrees Celsius.

# SPORTS

## ➤ Ding Liren

- ✓ Ding Liren - became the 17th World and China's first World Chess Champion on April 30.
- ✓ He defeated Russia's Ian Nepomniachtchi in a rapid tiebreak in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- ✓ With the loss, Russian Nepo, who signed an anti-war letter and played under the FIDE flag in this match, suffered his second defeat in the World match play.



- ✓ China now holds both men's and women's world titles, with current women's champ Ju Wenjun set to defend her title against compatriot Lei Tingjie in July.

## ➤ Badminton Asia Championships

- ✓ Indian star players, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty - clinched the Badminton Asia Championships in Dubai on April 30.



- ✓ In the final, the Indian pair defeated Ong Yew Sing and Teo Ee Yi of Malaysia in a three set match to win men's doubles gold.
- ✓ This is also the first doubles gold for India at the Asian meet.

➤ **Praveen Chithravel**

- ✓ Triple Jumper Praveen Chithravel - clinched the men's triple jump event at an athletics meet in Havana, Cuba on May 6.



- ✓ He accomplished this with a national record-breaking mark of 17.37m at the World Athletics category F event, Prueba de Confrontacion 2023.
- ✓ With this win, the 21-year-old athlete from Tamil Nadu, Praveen also qualifies for the World Athletics Championships 2023, to be held in Budapest from August 19 to 27.

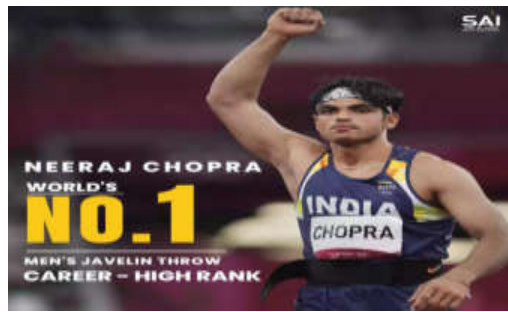
➤ **Archery World Cup 2023**



- ✓ India - ended their Archery World Cup 2023 stage 2 campaign in Shanghai, China, with four medals – three gold and one bronze – on May 20.
- ✓ Indian archer Prathamesh Jawkar defeated World number one Mike Schloesser of the Netherlands to win a maiden World Cup gold medal in the men's individual compound section.

➤ **Neeraj Chopra**

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra - became the world number one for the first time in his career in the latest men's javelin throw rankings issued by the World Athletics.



- ✓ Chopra topped the charts with 1455 points, 22 ahead of Grenada's reigning world champion Anderson Peters (1433).
- ✓ In September last year, Neeraj Chopra won the Diamond League 2022 finals in Zurich, becoming the first Indian to win the prestigious trophy.

➤ **Malaysia Masters 2023**

- ✓ Indian shuttler HS Prannoy - defeated Chinese Weng Hong Yang in the Malaysia Masters 2023 final in Kuala Lumpur on May 28.



- ✓ Prannoy is the first Indian man to win the Malaysia Masters after its inception in 2009.
- ✓ This is also the first singles title of the season for India.



# REPORT

## ➤ **Internet In India Report 2022**

- ✓ According to IAMAI KANTAR Report Out of 759 million 'active' internet users in India for 2022, 399 million are from rural India.
- ✓ The report also estimates that 56% of all new internet users in India will be from Rural India by 2025.
- ✓ 52% percent of Indians, i.e. 759 Millions, are 'active' internet users, accessing the internet at least once a month.
- ✓ By 2025 the number is expected to grow to 900 Millions.
- ✓ This is for the first time that the majority of Indians have become active internet users.
- ✓ The 'Internet in India Report 2022', jointly prepared by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) and KANTAR, the world's leading marketing data and analytics company, reflects these data.
- ✓ Urban India, with approximately 71% internet penetration witnessed only 6% growth, with much of the overall gain in numbers coming from Rural India which witnessed 14% growth rate over the past one year.

## ➤ **United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)**

- ✓ The United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) - has advised that the US administration should designate India as a 'Country of Particular Concern' (CPC) for engaging in or tolerating systematic violations of religious freedom.
- ✓ The USCIRF has been making similar recommendations to the State Department since 2020, which have not been accepted.
- ✓ The USCIRF recommended that India should be added to a religious freedom blacklist, saying that conditions in the country for religious minorities "continued to worsen" throughout 2022.
- ✓ The recommendations of USCIRF are not mandatory for the State Department.

## ➤ **Health Index Report of Covid Year**

- ✓ The southern states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana emerged as the top performers among the larger states in the NITI Aayog's annual health index for the Covid year of 2020-21.
- ✓ The NITI Aayog, in collaboration with the Union Health Ministry and World Bank, launched the annual health index in 2017.
- ✓ This index evaluates the performance of states and Union territories based on a weighted composite score that incorporates 24 health performance indicators.

# RANKING

## ➤ World Press Freedom Index 2023

- ✓ According to the latest report from global media watchdog Reporters Without Borders (RSF), India has slipped to the 161st position out of 180 countries in the 2023 World Press Freedom Index.
- ✓ The report was released by RSF, and it indicates a decline in India's ranking for press freedom.
- ✓ Nordic countries like Norway, Ireland, and Denmark ranked top three respectively while Vietnam, China, and North Korea were the bottom three countries on the index.

## ➤ World Bank's Logistic Performance Index

- ✓ India jumps 6 places on World Bank's Logistic Performance Index, ranks 38.
- ✓ India has made a significant leap on the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index, moving up six places to 38th out of 139 countries in the 2023 ranking.
- ✓ This improvement is the result of the country's substantial investments in both hard and soft infrastructure, as well as technology. In 2018, India was ranked 44th on the index, and its current position marks a considerable improvement from its 54th rank in 2014.

# OBITUARY

## ➤ Arun Gandhi

- ✓ Mahatma Gandhi's grandson Arun Gandhi passed away at the age of 89, at Kolhapur in Maharashtra. Born to Manilal Gandhi and Sushila Mashruwala in Durban on April 14, 1934, Arun Gandhi followed in the footsteps of his grandfather as an activist.
- ✓ Arun Gandhi is an Indian-American activist, speaker, and writer who is known for his work in promoting nonviolence and social justice.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Theme</b>
May 01	Labour Day	May 1st is a globally recognized holiday that acknowledges the accomplishments of the labour movement
May 02	World Tuna Day	Tuna is a popular fish species that is widely consumed around the world, and it plays a crucial role in the marine ecosystem
May 02	World Asthma Day	Asthma Care for All” is the theme for the 2023 World Asthma Day
May 03	World Press Freedom Day	Theme: Shaping a Future of Rights: Freedom of Expression as a Driver for All Other Human Rights
May 04	Coal Miners Day	Coal Miners Day is celebrated to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work and noteworthy contributions of coal miners
May 04	International Firefighters' Day	It honours and pays tribute to the great work done by the firefighters while protecting the life and property of people
May 05	World Hand Hygiene Day	The day aims to promote the importance of hand hygiene in preventing the spread of infection and promote good health
May 07	World Athletics Day	The theme for World Athletics Day 2023 is “Athletics for All

		<b>- A New Beginning</b>
<b>May 08</b>	<b>World Red Cross Day</b>	The theme of World Red Cross Day for 2023 is "Everything we do comes from the heart."
<b>May 08</b>	<b>World Thalassaemia Day</b>	The theme for this year's International Thalassaemia Day is "Strengthening Education to Bridge the Thalassaemia Care Gap."
<b>May 09</b>	<b>Europe Day</b>	This year's Europe Day is celebrated with the theme 'My Vision for Peace and Prosperity'
<b>May 10</b>	<b>International Day of Argania</b>	Theme - <b>Socio-economic development &amp; sustainability of the Argan ecosystem</b>
<b>May 11</b>	<b>National Technology Day</b>	This year's theme is 'School to Startups- Igniting Young Minds to Innovate'
<b>May 12</b>	<b>International Nurses Day</b>	Theme 2023 - "Our Nurses. Our Future"
<b>May 12</b>	<b>International Day of Plant Health</b>	The theme of this year's celebration of International Day of Plant Health is "Plant Health for Environmental Protection"
<b>May 13</b>	<b>World Migratory Bird Day</b>	In 2023, the theme focus is on "water and its importance for these birds"
<b>May 14</b>	<b>Mother's Day</b>	Mother's Day 2023 is a special day that honours and celebrates mothers worldwide
<b>May 15</b>	<b>International Day of Families</b>	The theme of International Day of Families 2023 is 'Demographic Trends and Families'

<b>May 16</b>	<b>International Day of Light</b>	The International Day of Light is an annual event that recognizes the crucial significance of light in science, culture, art, education, and sustainable development
<b>May 16</b>	<b>International Day of Living Together in Peace</b>	The day is celebrated to encourage peace, tolerance, inclusivity, understanding, and solidarity among individuals and communities globally
<b>May 16</b>	<b>National Dengue Day</b>	To raise awareness about the mosquito-borne disease
<b>May 17</b>	<b>World Telecommunication and Information Society Day</b>	The theme for this year is "Enabling the least developed nations through information and communication technologies"
<b>May 17</b>	<b>World Hypertension Day</b>	This year's theme is 'Measure Your Blood Pressure Accurately, Control It, Live Longer'
<b>May 18</b>	<b>International Museum Day</b>	The theme for the 2023 International Museum Day is "Museums, Sustainability, and Well-being"
<b>May 18</b>	<b>Global Accessibility Awareness Day Celebrates</b>	The vision is to build an inclusive society in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of Persons with Disabilities
<b>May 18</b>	<b>World AIDS Vaccine Day</b>	It was 1st observed on 18 May 1998, to commemorate the anniversary of the first international AIDS vaccine trial, which took place in 1997
<b>May 19</b>	<b>National Endangered Species Day</b>	The 2023 year's theme is, "Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the endangered

		species act!"
May 20	World Bee Day	The chosen theme for World Bee Day 2023 is "Engaging in Pollinator-Friendly Agricultural Production"
May 20	World Metrology Day	The theme for World Metrology Day 2023 is Measurements supporting the global food system
May 21	International Tea Day	to raise awareness of the importance of tea in fighting hunger and poverty, as well as the sustainable production and consumption of tea
May 21	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	Its purpose is to recognize and value the cultural diversities that exist among countries, regions, and individuals worldwide
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
May 22	International Day for Biological Diversity	The theme for International Day for Biological Diversity 2023 is "From Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity."
May 23	World Turtle Day	Theme 2023 - 'I Love Turtles'
May 24	Indian Commonwealth Day	The theme for this year's Commonwealth Day is "Forging a Sustainable and Peaceful Common Future."
May 25	World Thyroid Awareness Day	The day is dedicated to spreading awareness about

		thyroid-related disorders, their symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment options
<b>May 28</b>	<b>World Menstrual Hygiene Day</b>	Theme for 2023: "Making menstruation a normal fact of life by 2030."
<b>May 29</b>	<b>International Day of UN Peacekeepers</b>	The theme of the 75th anniversary "Peace begins with me" recognizes the services and sacrifices of peacekeepers, past and present
<b>May 31</b>	<b>World No Tobacco Day</b>	Theme 2023 - 'We need food, not tobacco'



**CURRENT AFFAIRS - TNPSC ORIGINAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS -  
EXAMS CONDUCTED IN MAY 2023**

**ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS INCLUDED IN GROUP-IA  
SERVICE IN TAMIL NADU FOREST SERVICE - 03/05/2023**

**UNIT – II - CURRENT EVENTS**

**Latest diary of events**

1. India signed MOU with United Nations World food programme to hand over wheat to
- a. Tajikistan                      b. Afghanistan                      c. Pakistan  
d. Turkmenistan                      e. Answer not known
- ஐக்கிய நாடுகளின் உலக உணவு திட்டத்தின் கீழ் எந்த நாட்டுக்கு கோதுமை வழங்குவதற்காக இந்தியா புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தத்தில் கையொப்பமிட்டது.
- a. தஜிகிஸ்தான்                      b. ஆப்கானிஸ்தான்                      c. பாகிஸ்தான்  
d. துர்க்மேனிஸ்தான்                      e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

**Eminent personalities and places in news**

2. Vinisha Umasankar is related to
- a. 5G Telecommunication                      b. Waste Management                      c. Solar Ironing  
Cart  
d. Wind Energy Technology                      e. Answer not known
- வினிஷா உமாசங்கர் எதனுடன் தொடர்புடையவர்?
- a. 5ஜி தொலைதொடர்பு                      b. கழிவு மேலாண்மை  
c. சூரிய ஒளி சலவை இயந்திரம்                      d. காற்றாலை தொழில்நுட்பம்  
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

**Profile of States**

3. According to the NCRB report, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ city is topped in drunken-drive fatalities of the year 2021.
- NCRB, 2022
- a. Ludhiana                      b. Chennai                      c. Delhi  
d. Mumbai                      e. Answer not known
- NCRB, 2022 அறிக்கையின்படி 2021 ஆம் ஆண்டில் குடிபோதையில் வாகனம் ஓட்டி உயிரிழப்பதில் \_\_\_\_\_ நகரம் முதலிடத்தில் உள்ளது.



a. லூதியானா  
d. மும்பை

b. சென்னை  
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

c. டெல்லி

### Environmental Science

4. India also joined other nations in announcing a net zero emissions target by the year

a. 2070    b. 2030    c. 2050    d. 2060    e. Answer not known

நிகர பூஜ்ஜிய உமிழ்வு இலக்கை அறிவிப்பதில் மற்ற நாடுகளுடன் இந்தியாவும் இணைந்தது. \_\_\_\_\_ ஆம் ஆண்டில் பூஜ்ஜிய இலக்கை அடையும்

a. 2070    b. 2030    c. 2050    d. 2060    e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

5. The third Y20 Indonesia Pre-Sommit forum on the issue of a sustainable and Livable Planet continues on 22.5.2022, Sunday with discussions on the circular economy. Based on AV.Kneese, 1988 the concept of circular economy is to

a. Alleviate poverty    b. Reduce Famine  
c. Enhance youth employment    d. Use and reuse efficiently the resources  
e. Answer not known

மூன்றாவது Y20 இந்தோனேசியாவின் உச்சி மாநாட்டிற்கு முந்தைய கருத்துக்களம் நிலையான மற்றும் வாழக்கூடிய கிரகம் பற்றிய விவாதம் ஞாயிற்றுக்கிழமை (22.05.2022) வட்டப் பொருளாதாரம் பற்றிய விவாதங்களுடன் தொடங்கியது. AV. கீன்ஸ், வருடம் 1988 அவரின் கூற்றுப்படி வட்டப் பொருளாதாரம் \_\_\_\_\_ பற்றியது.

a. வறுமை ஒழிப்பு  
b. பஞ்சத்தை குறைப்பது  
c. இளைஞர்களின் வேலைவாய்ப்பு மேம்படுத்துதல்  
d. வளங்களை திறமையாக பயன்படுத்துதல் மற்றும் மறு பயன்பாடு செய்தல்  
e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

### Welfare oriented Government schemes and their utility

6. **Assertion (A):** The AMRUT 2.0 scheme has been approved till 2025 -26, in order to provide water supply and sanitation services to urban households.

**Reason (R):** One of the aims Atmanirbhar Bharath is to make the cities water secure.

a. (A) is true but (R) is false

**b. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)**

c. (A) is false but, (R) is true

d. Both (A) and (R) are true but, (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)

e. Answer not known

**கூற்று (A):** நகர்ப்புற வீடுகளுக்கு சுகாதாரம் மற்றும் குடிநீர் வழங்குவதை உறுதி செய்வதற்காக அம்ருத் 2.0 திட்டம் 2025-26 வரை செயல்படுத்த ஒப்புதல் அளிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

**காரணம்(R):** தற்சார்பு இந்தியாவின் நோக்கங்களுள் ஒன்றான அனைத்து நகரங்களுக்கும் குடிநீர் பாதுகாப்பு கொண்டவையாக இருத்தல்

a. கூற்று (A) சரி ஆனால் காரணம் (R) தவறு

b. கூற்று (A) மற்றும் காரணம் (R) சரி, மேலும் காரணம் (R) (A) கூற்றுக்கேற்ற சரியான விளக்கமாகும்

c. கூற்று (A) தவறு, ஆனால் காரணம் கூற்று (R) சரி

d. கூற்று (A) மற்றும் காரணம் (R) சரி, ஆனால் காரணம் (R) (A) கூற்றுக்கேற்ற சரியான விளக்கமல்ல

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

### Books and authors

7. Which was the last book written by Stephen Hawking?

a. The Grand Design

**b. Brief answers to Big Questions**

c. A Brief History of time

d. George and the Big Bang

e. Answer not known

பின்வருவனவற்றில் ஸ்டீபன் ஹாக்கிங் எழுதிய கடைசி புத்தகம் எது?

a. தி கிராண்ட் டிசைன்

b. பிரீப் ஆன்சர்ஸ் டு பிக் கொஷன்ஸ்

c. எ பிரீப் ஹிஸ்டரி ஆப் டைம்

d. ஜார்ஜ் அண்டு தி பிக் பேங்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

### Latest inventions in Science and Technology

8. National centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research is situated in

a. Mumbai

**b. Goa**

c. Kochi

d. Vizag

e. Answer not known

அண்டார்டிக் மற்றும் ஆழ்கடல் ஆராய்ச்சிக்கான இந்திய தேசிய நிறுவனம் அமைந்துள்ள இடம்

a. மும்பை

b. கோவா

c. கொச்சி

d. விசாகப்பட்டினம்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

## Other & COVID

9. The Covaxin vaccine was manufactured by which Research Laboratory?

a. Serum Institute, Pune

**b. Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad**

c. Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Trivandrum

d. Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneshwar

e. Answer not known

கோவேக்சின் தடுப்பூசியை எந்த ஆராய்ச்சி நிறுவனம் உற்பத்தி செய்கின்றது?

a. சீரம் நிறுவனம், புனே

**b. பாரத் பயோடெக், ஹைதராபாத்**

c. ராஜ்வுகாந்தி உயிர் தொழில்நுட்ப மையம், திருவனந்தபுரம்

d. உயிர் அறிவியல் நிறுவனம், புவனேஸ்வர்

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை

## Problems in Public Delivery Systems

10. The food security has the following three components:

(i) Accessibility

(ii) Allocation

(iii) Availability

(iv) Absorption

a. (i), (ii) & (iii)

**b. (i), (iii) & (iv)**

c. (ii), (iii) & (iv)

d. (i), (ii) & (iv)

e. Answer not known

உணவு பாதுகாப்பு என்பது கீழ்க்காணும் மூன்று கூறுகளை உள்ளடக்கியது.

(i) அணுகுதல்

(ii) ஒதுக்கீடு

(iii) கிடைத்தல்

(iv) உறிஞ்சுதல்

a. (i), (ii) & (iii)

**b. (i), (iii) & (iv)**

c. (ii), (iii) & (iv)

d. (i), (ii) & (iv)

e. விடை தெரியவில்லை