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CURRENT AFFAIRS - MAY 1-15, 2023

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TAMIL NADU

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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 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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”.

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.

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.

AWARDS

➤ 83rd Peabody Awards

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

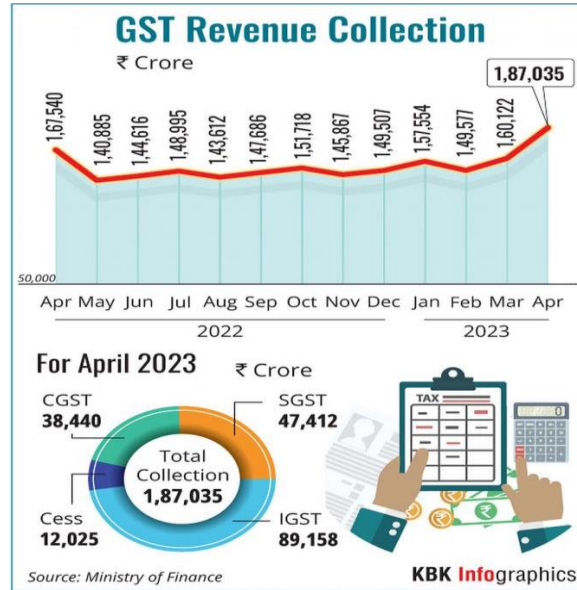


- ✓ The film tells the story of Khabar Lahariya, India's only newspaper run by Dalit women, and the publication's transition from print to digital medium in parts of rural Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
The 94-minute film has won multiple awards at major global film festivals.

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.

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.

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.



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.



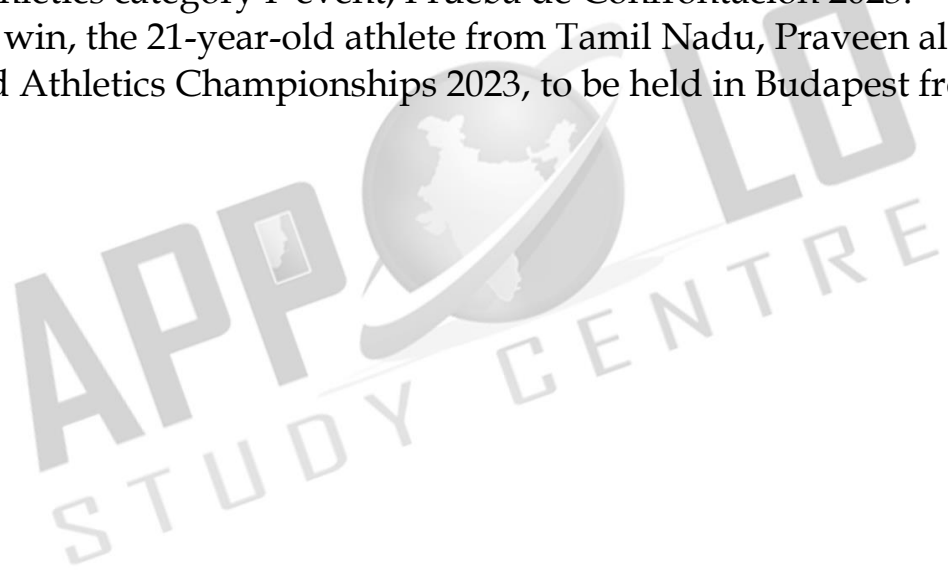
- ✓ In the final, the Indian pair defeated Ong Yew Sing and Teo Ee Yi of Malaysia in a three set match to win men's doubles gold.
- ✓ This is also the first doubles gold for India at the Asian meet.

➤ **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.



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.

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.

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

➤ Labour Day 2023 - May 01

- ✓ May 1st is a globally recognized holiday that acknowledges the accomplishments of the labour movement.
- ✓ It is commonly referred to as International Worker's Day or May Day, and is commemorated with a public holiday across more than 80 countries.

➤ World Tuna Day 2023 - May 02

- ✓ World Tuna Day is observed on May 2nd every year to raise awareness about the importance of tuna fish and promote sustainable fishing practices.
- ✓ Tuna is a popular fish species that is widely consumed around the world, and it plays a crucial role in the marine ecosystem.

➤ World Asthma Day - May 02

- ✓ World Asthma Day is a yearly event that takes place on the first Tuesday of May. Its aim is to increase awareness and encourage better management and care of asthma on a global scale.
- ✓ The Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) has designated "Asthma Care for All" as the theme for the 2023 World Asthma Day.

➤ World Press Freedom Day - May 03

- ✓ Every year on May 3, we observe World Press Freedom Day to increase understanding about the significance of a press that is free and not influenced by external forces.
- ✓ This year's World Press Freedom Day focuses on the theme of "Shaping a Future of Rights: Freedom of Expression as a Driver for All Other Human Rights".

➤ Coal Miners Day - May 04

- ✓ Every year on May 4th, Coal Miners Day is celebrated to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work and noteworthy contributions of coal miners in the extraction of coal.
- ✓ Coal mining is a laborious industry that provides employment to millions of people across the globe.

➤ International Firefighters' Day: May 04

- ✓ International Firefighters Day is observed on 4 May every year.
- ✓ It honours and pays tribute to the great work done by the firefighters while protecting the life and property of people.

- ✓ International Firefighters Day was established in 1999 to honour the sacrifices and bravery of firefighters worldwide.
- **World Hand Hygiene Day: May 05**
- ✓ World Hand Hygiene Day is observed on the 5th of May every year.
- ✓ The day aims to promote the importance of hand hygiene in preventing the spread of infection and promote good health.
- ✓ The history of World Hand Hygiene Day can be traced back to the year 2009 when the World Health Organization (WHO) launched the first Global Patient Safety Challenge.
- **World Athletics Day - May 07**
- ✓ World Athletics Day, established by the International Amateur Athletic Federation, is celebrated on May 7th each year.
- ✓ The aim of this day is to promote sports and exercise as a means of preventing diseases and maintaining good health.
- ✓ The theme for World Athletics Day 2023 is “Athletics for All - A New Beginning.”
- **World Red Cross Day - May 08**
- ✓ World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day is celebrated annually on May 8th to honour the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, who founded the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and was the first person to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
- ✓ The theme of World Red Cross Day for 2023 is “Everything we do comes from the heart.”
- **World Thalassaemia Day - May 08**
- ✓ May 8 marks World Thalassaemia Day, which is a special day dedicated to raising awareness about a genetic disorder called Thalassaemia. This disorder causes the body to produce insufficient amounts of haemoglobin, which is essential for carrying oxygen in the blood.
- ✓ The theme for this year’s International Thalassaemia Day is “Strengthening Education to Bridge the Thalassaemia Care Gap.”
- **Europe Day - May 09**
- ✓ Europe Day is celebrated on May 9 to celebrate peace and unity across Europe. Europe Day is observed following the signing of the ‘Schumann Declaration’ on 9 May 1950.

- ✓ This year's Europe Day is celebrated with the theme 'My Vision for Peace and Prosperity'.
- **International Day of Argania - May 10**
 - ✓ Every year on May 10, the International Day of Argania or International Day of the Argan Tree is observed to promote awareness and understanding of the argan tree's environmental importance worldwide.
 - ✓ In 1988, UNESCO declared the Arganeraie Biosphere Reserve, which is the endemic production area of the argan tree, as a designated area.
 - ✓ Theme - **Socio-economic development & sustainability of the Argan ecosystem.**
- **National Technology Day - May 11**
 - ✓ Every year on May 11th, India observes National Technology Day to recognize and honor the remarkable accomplishments and contributions of its scientists, engineers, and technologists in the development of the country.
 - ✓ This year's theme is 'School to Startups- Igniting Young Minds to Innovate'.
- **International Nurses Day - May 12**
 - ✓ The Day is celebrated every year to honour the invaluable and selfless contributions of nurses to sick patients all over the world.
 - ✓ The day is celebrated on Florence Nightingale's birth anniversary on May 12 every year.
 - ✓ Theme 2023 - "Our Nurses. Our Future."
- **International Day of Plant Health - May 12**
 - ✓ The United Nations designated 12 May the International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect biodiversity and the environment, and boost economic development.
 - ✓ The theme of this year's celebration of International Day of Plant Health is "Plant Health for Environmental Protection," as mentioned on the IPPC website.
- **World Migratory Bird Day - May 13**
 - ✓ World Migratory Bird Day is a global event held twice a year on the second Saturday of May and October. It brings together bird enthusiasts to promote the conservation of migratory birds and raise awareness about their significance.
 - ✓ In 2023, the focus is on water and its importance for these birds. Today, May 13, marks the celebration of World Migratory Bird Day.

➤ **Mother's Day - May 14**

- ✓ Mother's Day 2023 is a special day that honours and celebrates mothers worldwide. We will commemorate Mother's Day 2023 on May 14th.
- ✓ The day holds a significant place in our hearts because it gives us a chance to express our gratitude, love, and appreciation for our mothers.

➤ **International Day of Families - May 15**

- ✓ International Day of Families is celebrated on May 15 to raise awareness of the importance of families and their role in society.
- ✓ The day focuses on the important role that families play in our society while also highlighting the issues faced by them.
- ✓ The theme of International Day of Families 2023 is 'Demographic Trends and Families'.

