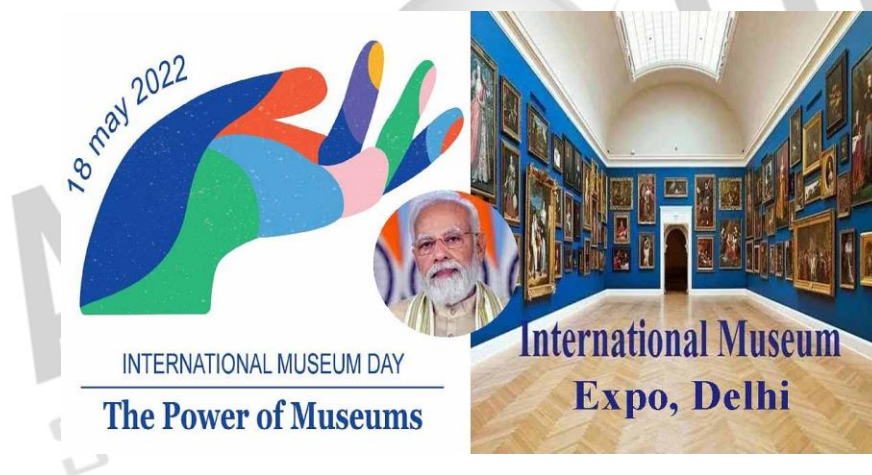


## EVERYDAY CURRENT AFFAIRS – MAY 17, 2023

### NATIONAL

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi - will inaugurate a three-day International Museum Expo in New Delhi on May 18



- ✓ The first International Museum Expo 2023 will be held from May 18-20 and will also commemorate the International Museum Day that falls on May 18.
- ✓ The Expo will be held at Pragati Maidan as part of the second phase of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav
- ✓ This is the first time the government showcases new technology and initiatives for museums
- ✓ During the opening ceremony, PM Modi will unveil the plan for the new National Museum at North and South Block buildings as part of the Central Vista project
- ✓ The new museum covering an area of 1.17 lakh sq m will be called Yuge Yugeen Bharat National Museum, and it will showcase the rich civilisational culture of India spanning over 5,000 years.
- ✓ All the objects at various galleries of the present National Museum at Janpath will consequently be moved to the new museum at North/South Block

- ✓ Presently, the South Block houses the Prime Minister's Office, the External Affairs Ministry and the Defence Ministry, while the North Block is home to the ministries of Finance and Home
- ✓ During the event, the PM will unveil the mascot of the expo — an image of the pre-historic dancing girl (found from Mohenjo-daro), which will be “stylised in Channapatna toys form”, a graphic novel on museum, a directory of Indian museums, a pocket map of Kartavya Path, and a deck of 75 cards on various museums of India
  - ✓ The Directory of Museums in India consists of over 1,200 museums located across the country, and has been compiled by the National Museum Institute.
- ✓ As part of the event, the ministry in collaboration with the Mumbai-based Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya has created a ‘museum on wheels’.
- ✓ Besides, five memorandums of understanding (MoUs) will be signed with nodal departments of five cities — New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Varanasi and Ahmedabad — on setting up of five cultural spaces
  - ✓ In January 2020, PM Modi had announced setting up of these five cultural spaces.
- ✓ There is also a Ministerial Panel titled ‘Vision 2047’ where 12 state culture ministers will discuss their vision for the development of museums in their respective states.
- ✓ The Ministry of Culture is running nearly 383 museums across the country, of which 145 have been constructed since 2014.
- **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.
- ✓ The ASI will find the root cause of the damage and in case it is repairable, it will be done immediately
- ✓ 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
- ✓ It is under the administration of the Badri Kedar Temple Committee (BKTC), which manages the Badrinath and Kedarnath shrines.
- ✓ The Tungnath temple is said to be the world's highest shrine of Lord Shiva, built in the 8th century by the Katyuri rulers
- ✓ The temple is connected to the Pandavas, the heroes of the Mahabharata epic
- ✓ It is also one of the five Panch Kedar temples, which are sacred to Hindus.
- ✓ The temple is a simple structure, built in the Nagara style of architecture in the Tungnath mountain range and is open to pilgrims from April to November.

## **INTERNATIONAL**

- **On May 11, the World Health Organization (WHO) - said that monkeypox was no longer a global health emergency**



- ✓ This ends an almost year-long alert for the viral disease that led to confirmed cases in more than hundred countries.
- ✓ The organization declared mpox a public health emergency of international concern in July 2022 and backed its stand in November and February
- ✓ The WHO tag is designed to trigger a coordinated international response and unlock funding to collaborate on sharing of vaccines and treatments.
- ✓ More than 87,000 mpox cases have been confirmed globally from the beginning of 2022 through May 8 this year, according to WHO's latest report.
- ✓ The WHO recently also declared an end of public health emergency status for COVID-19.



## INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi - will visit Hiroshima on May 19-21 at the invitation of his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida Fumio for the G7 Summit under his country's presidency**
- ✓ During the summit, the Prime Minister will speak at G7 sessions with partner countries, on subjects such as peace, stability and prosperity of a sustainable planet; food, fertiliser and energy security; health; gender equality; climate change and environment; resilient infrastructure; and development cooperation.
- ✓ Further, PM Modi will hold a bilateral meeting with Kishida and some of the other participating leaders on the side-lines of the summit.
- ✓ He will then travel to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, where he will host the third summit of the Forum for India–Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC III Summit) jointly with the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea James Marape on May 22, 2023.
- ✓ This will be the first visit by an Indian PM to Papua New Guinea.
- ✓ From Papua New Guinea, the PM will also visit Sydney for the Quad summit.
- ✓ The summit provides an opportunity for the leaders to exchange views about developments in the Indo-Pacific region and advance their vision for a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific.
- ✓ During his visit, the PM will have a bilateral meeting with Australian PM Anthony Albanese on May 24, 2023.
- ✓ Earlier, PM Modi will also interact with Australian CEOs and business leaders, and address the Indian diaspora at a community event in Sydney on May 23, 2023

## CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

- **The 6th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) – was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on May 12-13.**



- ✓ High-level government delegations and think tanks from about 25 countries took part in the IOC.

- ✓ The Conference was held under the theme of “Peace, Prosperity, and Partnership for a Resilient Future.”
- ✓ Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the conference, which discussed aspects strengthening cooperation between the countries of the Indian Ocean region.
- ✓ Minister for External Affairs Dr. S. Jaishankar delivered the keynote address at the opening session in Dhaka on May 12
- ✓ President of Mauritius, Prithvirajsing Roopun and Vice President of Maldives Faisal Naseem are among the dignitaries participating in the conference
- ✓ The 6th edition of the conference was organised by India Foundation in association with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh and S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies
- ✓ The Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) was started in 2016 as the "flagship consultative forum" for countries in the region over regional affairs.

## **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & ENVIRONMENT**

- **The Aeolus mission – crashed onto the Earth recently upon re-entry into the planet's atmosphere after completing its initial three-year-long mission in space.**
- ✓ Launched in 2018, the mission’s main goal was to measure the Earth’s wind patterns and monitor their impact on the planet’s climate
- ✓ On April 30, the spacecraft's science operation was terminated, and its equipment has since been placed in a special mode to carry out end-of-life tasks
- ✓ Aeolus, which is an Earth Explorer research mission, was developed by the European Space Agency (ESA)
- ✓ Using state-of-the-art laser technology, the 1360-kilogram Aeolus was able to measure the wind speeds and direction from space with incredible precision.
- ✓ These measurements were used to create detailed maps of global wind patterns and improve weather forecasting models and services.
- ✓ In addition to its primary mission, Aeolus also made important contributions to other areas of Earth observation and provided valuable data on air pollution and dust transport across the globe.
- ✓ For these observations, Aeolus carried ALADIN, an instrument that is Europe’s most sophisticated Doppler wind lidar flown in space.

## **DEFENCE**

- **The 35th edition of India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol (Indo-Thai CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy - was held in the Andaman Sea from May 3 to 10, 2023.**
- ✓ Indian Naval Ship (INS) Kesari, an indigenously built LST (L) and His Thai Majesty’s Ship (HTMS) Saiburi, a Chao Phraya Class Frigate, along with maritime patrol aircrafts from both navies participated in the CORPAT.



- ✓ Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy have been undertaking CORPAT bi-annually since 2005 along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL).
- ✓ The CORPAT seeks to improve interoperability between navies and devices measures to prevent and suppress unlawful activities like illegal unreported unregulated fishing, drug trafficking, piracy and armed robbery.

