

May – 21

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Sarah Mullaly was installed as the first female Bishop of London on Saturday, becoming the third most senior cleric in the Church of England. Mullaly was installed as the 133rd Bishop of London at St. Paul's Cathedral on International Nurses Day - Florence Nightingale's birthday - echoing the new bishop's former career as a nurse.
- ❖ Mimi Mondal, who describes herself as 'punk Dalit girl', is India's first nominee for the prestigious Hugo Awards — given annually for the best literary works of science fiction or fantasy — in the Best Related Works category.
 - This year, Mondal has been nominated for her co-edited work *Luminescent Threads: Connections to Octavia E Butler*.
- ❖ Neymar was named as France's player of the year at an awards ceremony in Paris.
- ❖ Udit Gogoi has won the ITF Asian under-14 tennis championship in Bangkok, Thailand.
- ❖ Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated a 140 kWp solar PV plant at Milan Vihar cooperative society in IP Extension. First time, the panels were set up under the RESCO (Renewable Energy Service Company) model.
 - The plant was set up jointly by GNCTD's Department of Power and Indraprastha Power Generation Co Ltd.
- ❖ Lieutenant General Sukhdeep Sangwan has taken over the charge as the 20th Director General of Assam Rifles (DGAR), which is popularly called as Sentinels of the North East.
- ❖ Wildlife photographer Latika Nath unveiled her book titled 'Hidden India', which is a kind of coffee-table book and part of the proceeds from it will go to support the Wildlife SOS Elephant Conservation and Care Centre to promote protection of India's elephants.
- ❖ Head Quarter Western Air Command, situated in Subroto Park, Delhi conducted a seminar on Humanitarian and Disaster relief (HADR). The seminar is being conducted to focus onto effective measures to deal with HADR situations in Northern region of India.
- ❖ Former BCCI President Shashank Manohar will serve a second two-year term as the independent chairman of the International Cricket Council after he was

elected unopposed by the governing body's Board. Mr. Manohar became the first independent ICC Chairman in 2016.

- According to the election process, ICC Directors were each allowed to nominate one candidate, who had to be either a present or a past ICC Director.

NATIONAL

Directorate General of Trade Remedies

- ❖ Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued notification for creation of Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) in Department of Commerce.
- ❖ In this regard amendments were made in Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.
- ❖ DGTR will be apex national authority for administering all trade remedial measures including anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard measures.
- ❖ It will bring Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties (DGAD), Directorate General of Safeguards (DGS) and Safeguards (QR) functions into its fold by merging them into one single national entity.

INTERNATIONAL

UNESCO - International Federation of Journalists

- ❖ Citizens of South Asian countries experienced more than 97 internet shutdowns in the past year between May 2017 and April 2018, according to a recent report released by the UNESCO-International Federation of Journalists.
- ❖ India alone accounted for 82 such cases, Pakistan witnessed 12 instances, while Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka reported one such case each.
- ❖ In India, Jammu and Kashmir experienced nearly half of the cases of Internet shutdown in the country.
- ❖ The report states that Internet slowdowns and shutdowns around the world are increasing and have become a barrier to the freedom and expression of the press.

- ❖ However, the report does state that many of the occurrences were “pre-emptive” or “reactive”, to prevent “mass or potentially violent public protests”.

ECONOMY

UN World Economic Situation and Prospects

- ❖ According to UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP), India’s economy is projected to grow 7.6% in fiscal year 2018-19, making it fastest growing economy in the world.
- ❖ GDP growth in India is expected 7.5% and 7.6% in fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively.
- ❖ It has projected World economy to reach 3.2% both in 2018 and 2019, an upward revision by 0.2 % and 0.1%, respectively.
- ❖ For China, it is projected to gradually moderate from 6.9% in 2017 to 6.5% in 2018 and 6.3% in 2019.
- ❖ The report is joint product of UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and five United Nations regional commissions.

IFSC Banking Units

- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has modified norms for setting up International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) Banking Units (IBUs) by banks in IFSCs.



- ❖ The modification makes mandatory for parent bank to provide and maintain at all times minimum capital of US \$ 20 million or equivalent in any foreign currency to its IBU.
- ❖ However, minimum prescribed regulatory capital, including for exposures of IBU, should be maintained on on-going basis at parent level.
- ❖ The parent bank will be also required to provide Letter of Comfort for extending financial assistance, as and when required, in the form of capital/liquidity support to IBU.
- ❖ The government has set up an IFSC in Gujarat namely Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Arsenic Sensor and Removal Media

- ❖ Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in collaboration with private company has developed a new device-Arsenic Sensor and Removal Media to detect and remove arsenic content from water and make it safe and usable by households.
- ❖ WHO's permissible limit of arsenic in groundwater is 0.1 mg per litre. In India, it was revised recently by Bureau of Indian Standards from 0.05 mg/l to 0.01 mg/l.
- ❖ Arsenic is a natural component in the earth's crust and is highly toxic in its inorganic form.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi

- ❖ President Ram Nath Kovind has appointed Uttam Pacharne as regular Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi.
- ❖ He will have tenure of three years from the date on which he assumes the charge of his office.
- ❖ He will replace ML Srivastava, Joint Secretary (Akademies), Ministry of Culture who was appointed protem chairman of Akademi in March 2018.

- ❖ He is recipient of National Lalit Kala Award (1985), Maharashtra Gaurav Puraskar (1985), Junior National Award (1986) and Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar (2017).



- ❖ Currently, he is
 - Member of Advisory Committee, Kala Academy, Goa and
 - Member of Advisory Committee, P.L. Deshpande State Lalit Kala Academy and Director, Janseva Sahakari Bank Borivali.
- ❖ It is India's national academy to promote and propagate understanding of Indian art, in and outside the country.
- ❖ It is also called as National Academy of Art. It is autonomous organisation funded by Ministry of Culture. It was established in 1954.

Swara Mauli award

- ❖ Melody queen Lata Mangeshkar was honoured with the Swara Mauli title by Shankarcharya Vidyanarsimha Bharati Swami in Mumbai.
- ❖ The veteran singer has several awards to her credit in her over seven-decade-long career, including three National Awards.
- ❖ Mangeshkar was awarded the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian award in the country, in 2001 - the second vocalist, after MS Subbulakshmi to receive the honour.



IMPORTANT DAYS

International Museum Day – May 18

- ❖ The International Museum Day is observed on May 18 across the world to raise awareness on how important museums are in the development of society.
 - ❖ The 2018 theme was 'Museums and Hyper Communication – New Approaches and New Public'.
 - ❖ International Museum Day was instituted in 1977 by International Council of Museums (ICOM).
 - ❖ International Council of Museums (ICOM) was created in 1946 and is headquartered in Paris, France.
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