

May – 26

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ According to recent research, worsening air quality in last two decades has emerged as one of the major reasons for high numbers of premature deaths in India. The research was conducted by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Delhi in collaboration with environmental NGO Centre for Environment and Energy Development (CEED).
- ❖ The Union Ministry of Civil Aviation has notified Draft Passenger Charter defining rights for air passengers. It aims to improve hassle-free air travel experience of air passengers in the country.
- ❖ Noted social activist, educationist, and columnist Firoz Bakht Ahmed have been nominated as the fifth Chancellor of city-based Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) for a three-year period. He succeeds Zafar Sareshwala.
 - Firoz Bakht was also associated with MANUU before its inception in 1997 as foundation panel member.
- ❖ Megastar Amitabh Bachchan has been honored by European Union for strengthening Europe-India cultural ties.
- ❖ The Tripura government will introduce 10% quota for women at all levels in the police department to combat crime against women and other vulnerable sections. Women currently have 5% representation in the state police against a national figure of 7.28%.

TAMILNADU

India's next generation defense aircraft

- ❖ Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas, which was invented and designed by the Aeronautical Development Agency, is planning for the new generation aircraft.
- ❖ To build the next generation defense aircraft, the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), private players in Coimbatore has been invited to build a technology demonstrator.
- ❖ The proposal is not only the first time an indigenous military aircraft programme is seeing the involvement of private players, but it is also the first time a defense plane development project is proposed to be executed outside Bengaluru.

- ❖ The project — to be implemented in Sulur in Coimbatore district which may house the permanent base of the Tejas squadron — marks Tamil Nadu's first major defense aircraft project.



NATIONAL

Bastariya Battalion

- ❖ The Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) has commissioned special unit called Bastariya Battalion (numbered 241) to combat Naxals activities in Bastar region of Chhattisgarh.
- ❖ This is for the first time CRFP has raised special battalion that includes local representation to enhance combat capabilities in Naxal-hit area of Bastar district.
- ❖ 241 Bastariya Battalion comprises total 739 local tribal youths including 198 women combatant. They are selected from four highly Naxal infested district in Chhattisgarh, i.e Bijapur, Dantewada, Narayanpur and Sukma.
- ❖ It will be deployed in Special Operation Zone (SOZ) of Chhattisgarh to fight against Naxals.



Going Ultra Local

Govt recently relaxed weight and height norms for tribals to fill 744 vacancies

The battalion will be called "Bastariya" (named after Bastar district)

It will be stationed for 5 years in Chhattisgarh

CRPF will recruit jawans and officers Narayanpur, Bijapur, Sukhma and Dantewada

The recruitment drive will be started by CRPF soon through ads and is likely to be completed by the yearend

INTERNATIONAL

26th BASIC Ministerial Meeting

- ❖ The 26th BASIC Ministerial Meeting of Environment Ministers was held in Durban, South Africa.
- ❖ It was attended by BASIC countries and Michal Kurtyka of Poland, next president of Conference of Parties (COP-24) under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- ❖ India was represented by Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan.
- ❖ BASIC countries are bloc (geopolitical alliance) of four large newly industrialized countries – Brazil, South Africa, India, and China. It was founded in November 2009.
- ❖ It is working to define a common position on emission reductions and climate aid money and try to convince other countries to sign up to Copenhagen Accord.

Nicolas Maduro re-elected Venezuela President

- ❖ Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro was re-elected to a second six-year term.



- ❖ His closest challenger, Henri Falcon, came in second with 21.2 percent, while Javier Bertucci was third with 10 percent.
- ❖ The 55-year-old former bus driver replaced Hugo Chavez after his death from cancer in 2013 and assumed the office.

STATE

Nidaan

- ❖ Rajasthan Government has launched new software called Nidaan for disease monitoring and strengthening telemedicine services in the government hospitals.
- ❖ The software will help in providing presumptive diagnosis and monitoring of seasonal and non-communicable diseases.
- ❖ It will help in effective policy formulation in the health sector.

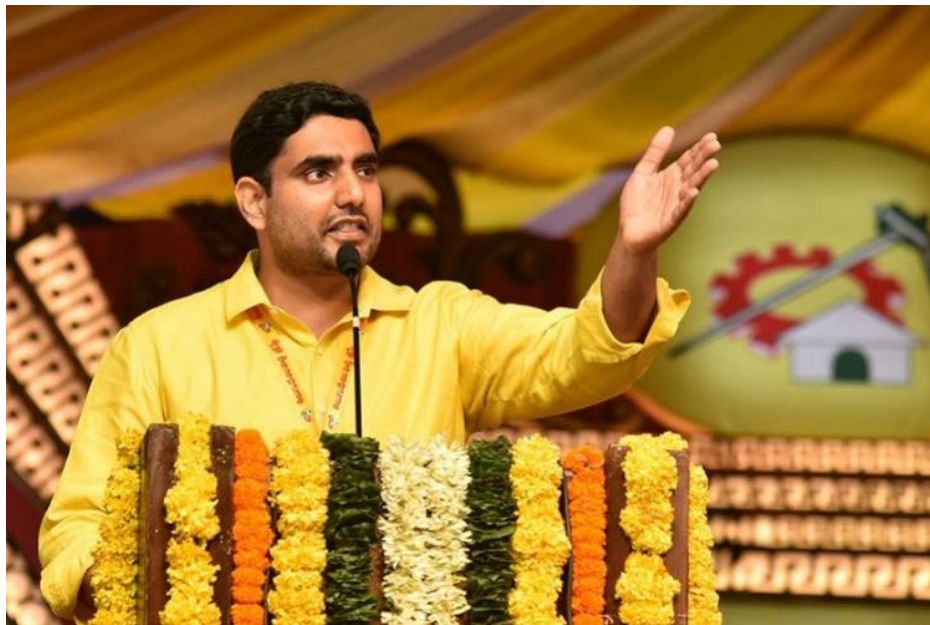
‘Chatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana’

- ❖ The Haryana Government will launch the ‘Chatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana’ to ensure the safety of girl students.
- ❖ For facilitating women, the state government has opened women police stations in districts. Besides, women help desks have also been set up.
- ❖ Earlier, women constituted 6% of the police force which has now been increased to 9% by the present government. Now, it has been decided to further increase this percentage to 11.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS AND EVENTS

Digital Leader of the Year Award

- ❖ Andhra Pradesh Minister for IT, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Nara Lokesh received the "Digital Leader of the Year" award during Business world Digital India Summit and Awards 2018 at New Delhi.



- ❖ The 'Business World' magazine has announced this award for the best utilization of technology in governance.
- ❖ Lokesh won this award for using cutting edge technology and yielding good results in Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, and Rural Water Supply departments.

- ❖ The state Panchayat Raj and Rural Water Supply Department officials have won another award for the ultramodern tracking system for water supply program.

T.K. Ramanathan award for the year 2017-18

- ❖ Davis Cup player Prajnesh Gunneswaran has won the prestigious T.K. Ramanathan award for the year 2017-18.



- ❖ The awards were presented at the annual day function of the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association at Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu(SDAT) tennis stadium.
- ❖ The award is instituted by the legendary Ramanathan Krishnan in the memory of his father, which carries a cash prize of Rs 30,000.
- ❖ Beside this, Bandaru Kundana Sri bagged the Nagamani Mahadevan award.
- ❖ VM Sandeep, part of the junior Davis Cup team, secured the Muthukrishnan Memorial Award.
