

May - 27

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare brought Pregabalin under the stricter Schedule H1 category of the Drugs Rules, 1945, to control drug abuse, misuse of medicines, and antimicrobial resistance.
  - Pregabalin is used for neurological disorders, but its misuse can lead to addiction, sedative effects, and severe respiratory depression when combined with opioids or alcohol.
- ❖ Indian sprinter Gurindervir Singh became the fastest Indian runner after clocking 10.09 seconds in the men's 100 metre race at the Federation Cup in Ranchi, becoming the first Indian to enter the 10.0-second range.
- ❖ The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) successfully completed its first all-women Mount Everest expedition, with all 11 women climbers reaching the 8,848-metre summit through the South Col Route.
- ❖ India successfully test-fired the Agni-1 short-range ballistic missile from the Integrated Test Range at Chandipur, Odisha.
- ❖ World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development is observed every year on 21 May to promote cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue, peace, and sustainable development across the world.
- ❖ International Day for Biological Diversity is observed every year on 22 May to spread awareness about biodiversity conservation.
  - The theme for the year 2026 is "Acting locally for global impact".
- ❖ International Missing Children's Day is observed every year on 25 May to raise awareness about missing and abducted children.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Sample Registration Survey 2024

- ❖ The latest Sample Registration Survey (SRS) 2024 bulletin showed a decline in India's birth rate, death rate, and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR).
- ❖ India's birth rate declined from 21 per 1,000 population in 2014 to 18.3 in 2024, while the death rate declined from 6.7 to 6.4.
- ❖ The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), which measures infant deaths per 1,000 live births, declined from 39 in 2014 to 24 in 2024.
- ❖ Urban areas performed better than rural areas in birth rate, death rate, and Infant Mortality Rate indicators.

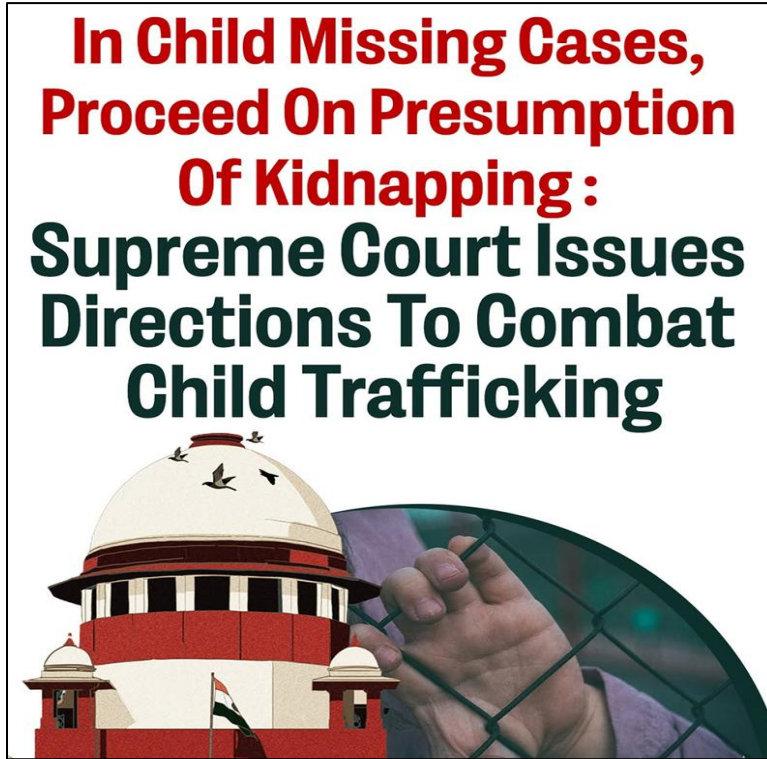
- ❖ The Natural Growth Rate (NGR) measures population increase through births and deaths, excluding migration.
- ❖ Kerala recorded the lowest Natural Growth Rate of 3.9 and the lowest Infant Mortality Rate of 8 in the country.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu ranked second among larger States with a Natural Growth Rate of 4.8 and an Infant Mortality Rate of 11.
- ❖ Among smaller States, Goa performed well with a Natural Growth Rate of 4.2 and an Infant Mortality Rate of 11.

Indicator	2014	2024	difference
Birth rate	21	18.3	Down by 2.7 points
Death rate	6.7	6.4	Down by 0.3 points
Infant mortality rate	39	24	Down by 15 points
<b>India at a glance:</b>			
24 Infant Deaths per thousand live births			
6.4 Deaths per thousand population			
18.3 Births per thousand population			
<i>SOURCE: SRS Bulletin 2024</i>			

### SC Order on Missing Child Cases

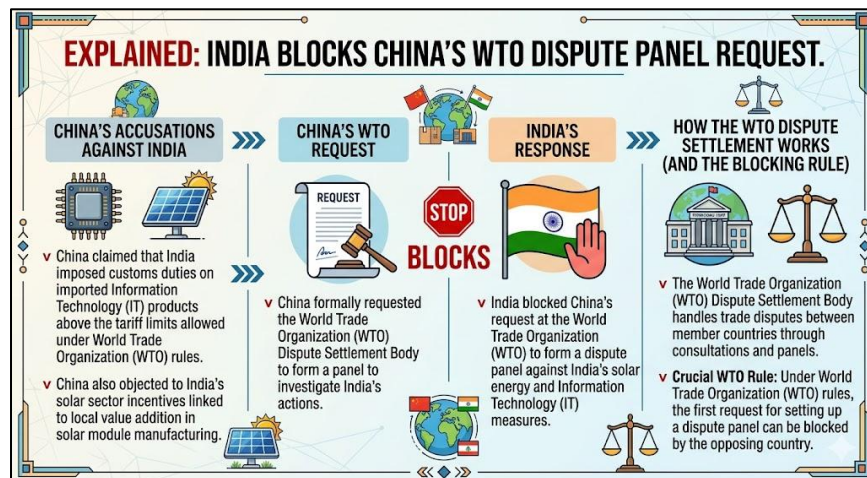
- ❖ The Supreme Court of India ordered all police stations to register a First Information Report (FIR) for every missing child and missing person complaint.
- ❖ The Court directed police to immediately treat missing child cases as possible kidnapping or abduction cases under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.
- ❖ The judgment was delivered by a bench of Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Justice R. Mahadevan.
- ❖ The Court ordered all Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) across India to become fully functional within four weeks.
- ❖ The Ministry of Home Affairs was directed to create a national data grid linking all police stations for missing children, missing women, and trafficking cases.

- ❖ The Court also formed a committee headed by Justice Mukta Gupta to prepare a pan-India Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for missing children cases.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### India on China's WTO Request

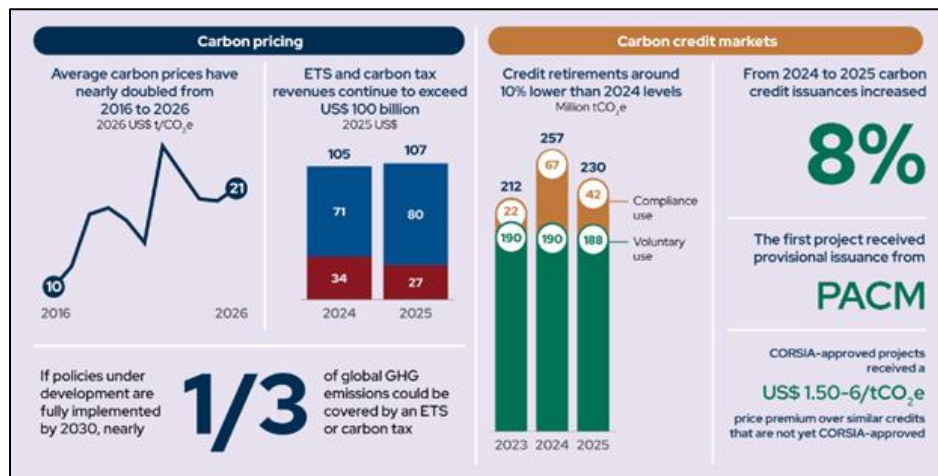


- ❖ India blocked China's request at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to form a dispute panel against India's solar energy and Information Technology (IT) measures.

- ❖ China claimed that India imposed customs duties on imported Information Technology (IT) products above the tariff limits allowed under World Trade Organization (WTO) rules.
- ❖ China also objected to India’s solar sector incentives linked to local value addition in solar module manufacturing.
- ❖ The World Trade Organization (WTO) Dispute Settlement Body handles trade disputes between member countries through consultations and panels.
- ❖ Under World Trade Organization (WTO) rules, the first request for setting up a dispute panel can be blocked by the opposing country.
- ❖ India stated that its tariff measures and solar incentives are consistent with World Trade Organization (WTO) trade regulations.

## REPORTS AND INDICES

### State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2026



- ❖ The World Bank Group released the 13th edition of the “State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2026” report.
- ❖ The report identified India as one of the world’s largest new carbon markets after the launch of the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) in 2026.
- ❖ The report stated that carbon pricing systems now cover 29% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- ❖ Global revenues from Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) and carbon taxes increased from less than 30 billion US dollars in 2016 to more than 107 billion US dollars in 2025.
- ❖ India’s Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) is administered by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) under the Ministry of Power.

- ❖ India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme replaced the Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme and supports India's target of net zero emissions by 2070.

## STATE NEWS

### Bomkai Weaving - Odisha



- ❖ Odisha launched a revival plan to protect the original Bomkai weaving tradition in Ganjam district.
- ❖ The project is titled “Revival of Languishing Products (Cotton Bomkai Saree)” and was approved by the State government.
- ❖ Subarnapur is another important centre associated with Bomkai weaving.
- ❖ The Bomkai saree has Geographical Indication (GI) status under the Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1999.
- ❖ The revival project includes documentation of traditional designs, motifs, and colour patterns of Bomkai sarees.
- ❖ The programme also trains young artisans in traditional weaving techniques through orientation programmes and handloom cluster support.
- ❖ Only two weaving families currently continue the original Bomkai weaving tradition in Bomkai village.

## PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

### UN Award 2025

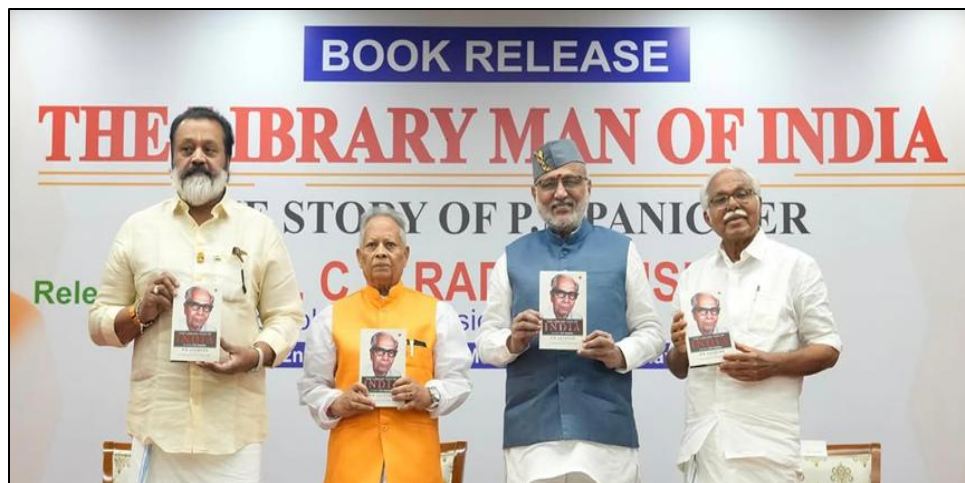


- ❖ Major Abhilasha Barak received the 2025 United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award.
- ❖ She is serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon as the Commander of the Female Engagement Team (FET).
- ❖ She will be honoured during the International Day of UN Peacekeepers, observed every year on 29 May.
- ❖ She was recognised for community outreach with women and girls and for gender sensitisation training among peacekeepers.
- ❖ Major Abhilasha Barak is also the first woman combat helicopter pilot of the Indian Army.
- ❖ She is the third Indian recipient of the award after Major Suman Gawani in 2019 and Major Radhika Sen in 2023.
- ❖ The award was created in 2016 by the Office of Military Affairs under the Department for Peace Operations.

### P.N. Panicker Book Release

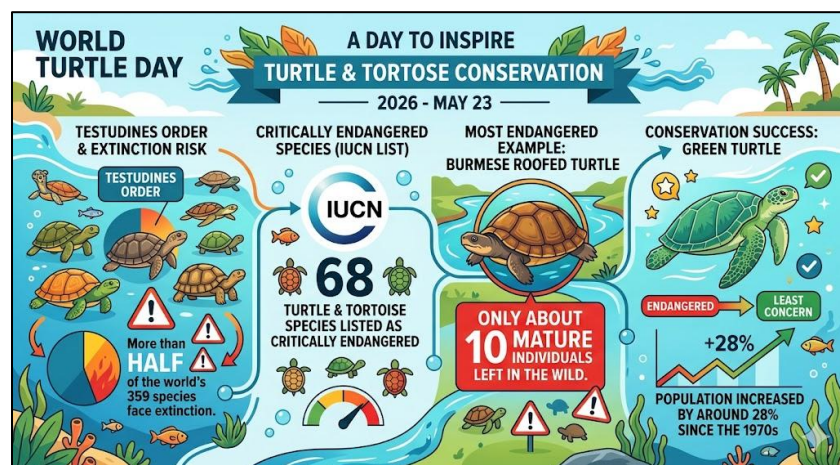
- ❖ Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan released the book 'The Library Man of India: The Story of P.N. Panicker' at Uprashtapati Bhavan.

- ❖ The book was written by and describes the life and contributions of P. N. Panicker.
- ❖ P. N. Panicker is known as the father of Kerala's Library and Literacy Movement and played an important role in spreading reading habits in the State.
- ❖ He founded the Sanatana Dharma Library in 1945 and later helped establish the Kerala Granthasala Sangham to expand rural libraries.
- ❖ His slogan "Read and Grow" encouraged reading and education in villages and tribal areas across Kerala.
- ❖ His birth anniversary on 19 June is observed as National Reading Day in India.



## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Turtle Day 2026 - May 23



- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness about turtle and tortoise conservation.
- ❖ Turtles, tortoises, and terrapins belong to the order Testudines, and more than half of the world's 359 species face extinction.

- ❖ The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has listed 68 turtle and tortoise species as Critically Endangered.
- ❖ The Burmese roofed turtle is one of the world's most endangered turtles, with only about 10 mature individuals left in the wild.
- ❖ Green turtles were moved from the endangered category to "Least Concern" after their population increased by around 28% since the 1970s.

### **World Thyroid Day 2026 – May 25**

- ❖ World Thyroid Day is observed every year on 25 May to spread awareness about thyroid health and thyroid disorders.
- ❖ The day was started in 2008 by the European Thyroid Association and the American Thyroid Association.
- ❖ The thyroid is a butterfly-shaped gland in the neck that controls metabolism, energy, body temperature, and hormones.
- ❖ Common thyroid disorders include Hypothyroidism, Hyperthyroidism, Hashimoto's Thyroiditis, and Graves' Disease.
- ❖ The theme for the year 2026 is "Closing the Gap between Symptom Onset and Timely Diagnosis".

