

May - 03

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Ratan Tata has been awarded the Order of Australia, which is Australia's highest civilian honour.
- ❖ Indian professional mountaineer Arjun Vajpai, has become the first Indian man to summit Mt. Annapurna 1.
 - It is the 10th highest mountain in the world at 8,091 metres (26,545 ft) above sea level in Nepal.
- ❖ WYLD, the world's first Visa Powered social currency payment card has been launched in Mumbai.
- ❖ Colombian singer Shakira will be honoured with the Billboard's 'Latin Woman of The Year' award.
- ❖ Dubai-based airline Emirates has unveiled the world's first robotic check-in assistant named Sara.
 - Sara will match customers' faces with scanned passports, check passengers in, and guide them to the luggage drop area.

NATIONAL

NITI Aayog report on Promoting Millets



- ❖ NITI Aayog released a report titled Promoting Millets in Diets: Best Practices across States/UTs of India.

- ❖ The report presents a set of good and innovative practices adopted by states governments and organizations in various aspects of millet value- chain especially production, processing and consumption.
- ❖ The report has three themes
 - State Missions and initiatives to promote millets;
 - Inclusion of millets in ICDS;
 - Research and development and use of technology for innovative practices.
- ❖ The report will serve as a guiding repository to revive and mainstream millets in our diets.

National Medical Devices Policy 2023



- ❖ The Union Cabinet approved the National Medical Devices Policy, 2023.
- ❖ It aims to place the medical devices sector on an accelerated path of growth with a patient-centric approach to meet the evolving healthcare needs of patients
- ❖ It is expected to facilitate an orderly growth of the medical device sector to meet the public health objectives of access, affordability, quality, and innovation.
- ❖ It will help the sector grow from the present \$11 billion to \$50 billion in the next five years.

SUPREME initiative

- ❖ Ministry of Science and Technology launched the Support for Up-gradation Preventive Repair and Maintenance of Equipment (SUPREME) initiative recently.

- ❖ It seeks to provide financial support for the upgradation and maintenance of analytical instrumentation facilities (AIFs) created under the ministry's support.
- ❖ It is a first-of-its-kind programme to extends financial support for repair, upgradation, maintenance, retrofitting, or acquiring additional attachments.
- ❖ The duration of support will be for a period not exceeding 3 years.
- ❖ The funding pattern in the scheme would be 75:25 for all private and government-owned institutions



World 1st Nano DAP fertilizer



- ❖ The union home minister launched the “world’s first liquid nano DAP (Di-Ammonia Phosphate) fertiliser” in Delhi.
- ❖ Liquid DAP is manufactured by the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO).

- ❖ It is being touted as a revolutionary product as it will help farmers reduce production costs and help them wean off chemical fertilisers.
- ❖ One 500 ml bottle of liquid DAP contains 8% of Nitrogen and 16% of Phosphorus.
- ❖ It can easily replace a 50 kg bag of traditional DAP.
- ❖ IFFCO owns a patent on its nano urea and nano DAP.
- ❖ This cooperative will get royalties for the product for the next 20 years.

Ajeya Warrior – 2023

- ❖ Military troops of India and the United Kingdom (UK) kick-started the seventh edition of 'Ajeya Warrior' 2023.
- ❖ Ajeya Warrior is a biennial training event with the UK which is conducted alternatively in both countries.
- ❖ The last edition was held at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand in October 2021.



INTERNATIONAL

Increase of Blue washing

- ❖ A report titled 'Who's tipping the scales' was released by the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (IPES).
- ❖ As per the report, Corporations have long had influence over international food governance and their involvement has manifested in multiple ways, both visible and less visible.

- ❖ While it was making food security organizations and Corporations partnerships allow firms to 'blue-wash' or 'social-wash'.
- ❖ Blue washing is marketing tactic used by companies to deceive consumers into believing that they are working towards achieving sustainable use and conservation of food systems and water bodies.

Reason for Bluewashing


- Greenwashing deceive customers into thinking a company's products or services create more positive impact than they actually create.
 - Companies hope to increase their business & strengthen their brand identity as socially responsible.
 - Many companies do Bluewashing to avoid negative press about their practices.



New Health initiatives

The Preparedness and Resilience to Emerging Threats (PRET) initiative

helps countries prepare for disease pandemics by being:



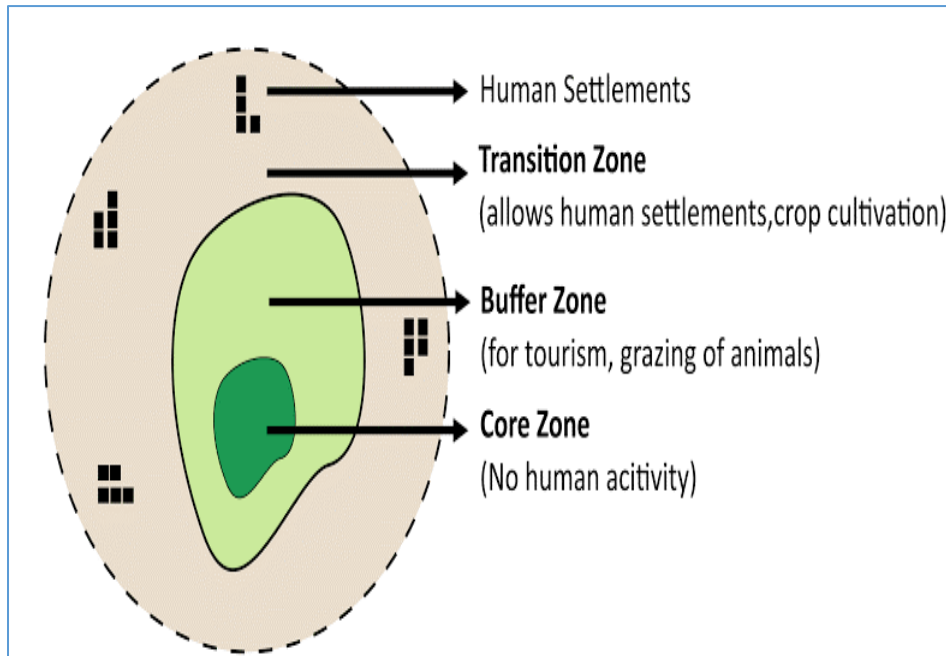
- Innovative**
Planning for groups of pathogens based on how they spread
- Risk-based**
Covers known pathogens with pandemic potential and unknown "Pathogen X"
- Functional**
Builds preparedness on the foundation of routine systems
- Efficient**
Same systems and capacities can be used
- Collaborative**
Brings partners from different sectors together

- ❖ PRET and the Big Catch-up initiatives have been launched recently.

- ❖ The Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) Initiative was launched by WHO.
- ❖ It will operate under the aegis of the International Health Regulations (IHR).
- ❖ It focuses on improving pandemic preparedness for groups of pathogens based on their mode of transmission.
- ❖ The Big Catch-Up Initiative was launched by the WHO, UNICEF, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- ❖ It aims to protect populations from vaccine-preventable outbreaks like measles, diphtheria, polio and yellow fever.

ENVIRONMENT

Judgement on eco-sensitive zones



- ❖ The Supreme Court modified its judgment regarding 1-km buffer zone for the protected areas.
- ❖ On June 3, 2022, the apex court ordered that, having mandatory eco-sensitive zones (ESZ) of a minimum one kilometre around protected forests, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries across the country.
- ❖ A Bench led by Justice B.R. Gavai reasoned that ESZ cannot be uniform across the country and has to be “protected area-specific”.
- ❖ Also, it prevented the government from building roads and other important infrastructure in those areas which fall within 1 km of ESZ.

- ❖ The apex court has restricted mining in any case within these areas.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Priority watch list 2023

- ❖ The United States Trade Representative (USTR) again placed India on the 'Priority Watch List' along with China and Russia and four others.
- ❖ India remains one of the world's most challenging major economies with respect to protection and enforcement of IP.
- ❖ The top countries of origin for counterfeit pharmaceuticals seized at the U.S. border in Fiscal Year 2022 were China, India, and Turkey.

Priority Watch List	Watch List	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Argentina • Chile • China • India • Indonesia • Russia • Venezuela 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algeria • Barbados • Belarus • Bolivia • Brazil • Bulgaria • Canada • Colombia • Dominican Republic • Ecuador • Egypt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guatemala • Mexico • Pakistan • Paraguay • Peru • Thailand • Trinidad and Tobago • Turkey • Turkmenistan • Uzbekistan • Vietnam

STATES

Tripartite Memorandum of Settlement

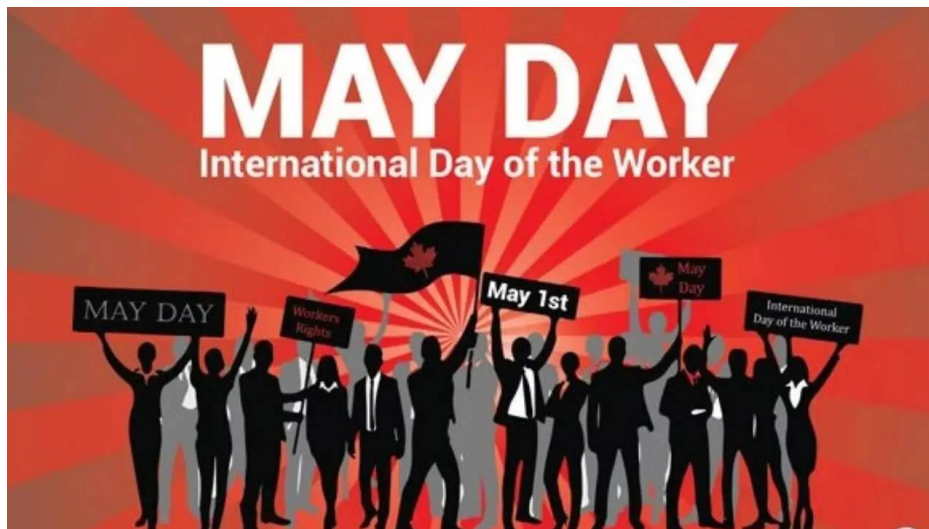


- ❖ A tripartite Memorandum of Settlement between the Centre, Assam government and representatives of Dimasa National Liberation Army/Dimasa Peoples' Supreme Council (DNLA/DPSC) was signed in New Delhi.

- ❖ As a result of this agreement, over 168 cadres of DNLA are joining the mainstream by laying down their arms.
- ❖ The pact will bring a complete end to the insurgency in the Dima Hasao district of Assam.
- ❖ Under the agreement, Dimasa Welfare Council will be set up by the Government of Assam.
- ❖ It will protect, preserve and promote a social, cultural, and linguistic identity.
- ❖ It will also, assist to meet political, economic and educational aspirations and will ensure speedy and focused development of the Dimasa people residing outside the jurisdiction of the Autonomous Council.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Workers Day - May 01



- ❖ Labour Day, also known as May Day or Worker's Day, is celebrated on May 1.
- ❖ It aims to recognize and appreciate the invaluable contributions made by the labour class.
- ❖ The concept of Labour Day in the United States dates back to the nationwide strike of 1886 for an eight-hour workday.
- ❖ In India, the first Labour Day was celebrated on May 1, 1923, in Madras by The Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan, founded by Singaravelar.

