



May - 05

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Wipro regained its position as the 3rd largest Indian IT services company by market capitalization of ₹ 2.65 trillion by suppressing HCL Technologies' ₹ 2.62 trillion market cap.
 - TCS remains at the top of the list with a market cap of ₹ 11.51 trillion followed by Infosys.
- ❖ The House of Representatives voted to pass a bill that would make Washington DC the 51st state of the United States.
 - It is yet to be passed in the Senate.

NATIONAL

1st Green Solar Energy Harnessing Plant

- ❖ Indian Army Inaugurated its 1st Green Solar Energy Harnessing Plant of 56 KVA (KiloVolt-Ampere) in North Sikkim.
- ❖ The Plant uses Vanadium based battery Technology.
- ❖ It is situated at an Altitude of 16000 Ft.
- ❖ The project has been completed in collaboration with IIT Mumbai.
- ❖ It was completed by a team from IIT Mumbai which was led by Professor Prakash Ghosh and troops of the Indian Army.

Operation Samudra Setu II

- ❖ The Indian Navy recently launched Operation Samudra Setu II.
- ❖ The operation will aid in fulfilling oxygen requirements of the country.
- ❖ Under the operation, warships have been deployed to carry liquid oxygen filled cryogenic containers.
- ❖ INS Talwar will transport 40 million tonnes of oxygen from Manama to Mumbai.
- ❖ INS Kolkata is to proceed to Doha to get medical supplies and then to Kuwait to get liquid oxygen tanks.
- ❖ INS Airavat is to enter Singapore to embark liquid oxygen tanks.
- ❖ INS Jalashwa will also be diverted to the mission.



- ❖ The INS Shardul from the Southern Naval Command has been readied to join the operation.
- ❖ This operation will augment the Oxygen Express mission that is already operating under Indian Railways.

P-81 Patrol aircraft

- ❖ The United States Department recently approved the sale of P-81 Patrol aircraft to India.
- ❖ It is a long range patrol aircraft.
- ❖ It was manufactured by Boeing for Indian Navy.
- ❖ It is a variant of P-8A Poseidon.
- ❖ The Poseidon is operated by the US Navy.
- ❖ The P-8I is capable of conducting maritime patrol, anti-submarine warfare, reconnaissance missions and surveillance.



INTERNATIONAL

TPLF - a terrorist group

- ❖ The Ethiopian Government has recently added the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and OLF-Shene to its terror list.
- ❖ In 2020, Ethiopia launched a mass military operation against Tigray People Liberation Front.
- ❖ It is a political party founded in 1975 in Ethiopia.
- ❖ Also, TPLF is an armed ethnic nationalist insurgent group.
- ❖ This conflict between the State Government of Tigray and the Ethiopian Government is going on for thirty years now.



mRNA-1273

- ❖ The World Health Organisation recently listed mRNA vaccine of Moderna for Emergency Use.
- ❖ This makes it the fifth vaccine to receive emergency use validation from WHO.
- ❖ mRNA-1273 is the technical name for the Moderna vaccine.

Special 301 Report

- ❖ The United States Trade Representative recently released the Special Report 301.
- ❖ It is published under Section 301 of Trade Act of 1974 and hence the name.
- ❖ The report basically lists the countries that do not provide sufficient IP rights to American companies.
- ❖ According to the report, India has been put on the “Priority Watch List” along with eight other countries.
- ❖ Another twenty-three countries were also put on “Watch List”.

Congo - end of Ebola outbreak

- ❖ The Democratic Republic of Congo, declared the end of the 12th outbreak of Ebola virus disease that affected the eastern province of North Kivu.
- ❖ Ebola virus was first discovered near the Ebola River in 1976.
- ❖ Since then, the virus has gripped several African countries.

ECONOMY

T Rabi Shankar - fourth Deputy Governor

- ❖ The Government of India recently appointed T Rabi Shankar as the fourth Deputy Governor.
- ❖ The Reserve Bank of India is governed by the Central Board of Directors.
- ❖ The Central Board consists of Governor, four Deputy Governors, two finance ministry representatives and four directors of local boards.

GST revenue ₹1.41 lakh crore

- ❖ Gross revenues from the Goods and Services Tax hit a record high of ₹1.41 lakh crore in April 2021 in India.
- ❖ This suggests economic activity may not yet be as badly affected amidst the ongoing second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, as last year.
- ❖ April's GST collections surpassed the previous highest collections of ₹1.24 lakh crore in March 2021 by 14%.
- ❖ This also marks the seventh month in a row since October that GST revenues have crossed ₹1 lakh crore.

ENVIRONMENT

Olive Ridley turtles

- ❖ Millions of Olive Ridley turtle nest near the mouth of Rushikulya river.
- ❖ The nesting time of Olive Ridley turtles is between January and May.
- ❖ The turtle is known for its unique mass nesting sites called the Arribadas.
- ❖ During Arribadas, thousands of females come together to lay eggs on the same beach.



Issue

- ❖ This year, they are yet to begin their nesting.
- ❖ Though some of the scientists say that this delay of nesting is normal, the conservationists are worried.
- ❖ This is because, the atmospheric temperature is to reach its peak in May and the sand becomes very hot.
- ❖ It is likely that mass nesting of Olive Ridley turtles might skip this year.

- ❖ The nesting of the turtles has been skipped earlier in 2002, 2007, 2016 and 2019.

IMPORTANT DAYS

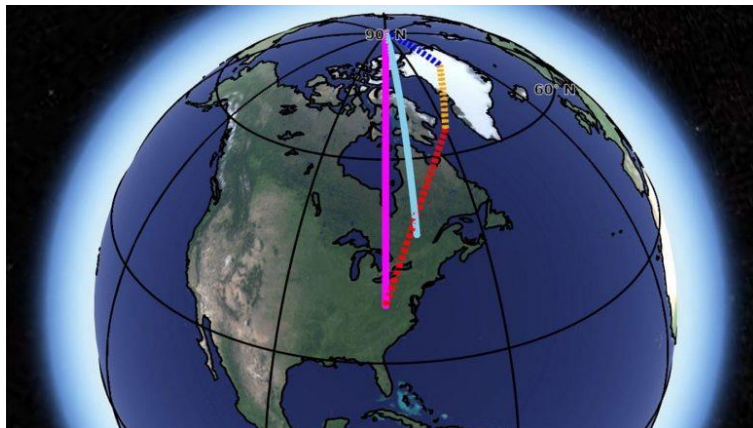
The International Firefighters' Day - May 04

- ❖ The International Firefighters' Day is observed every year since 1999.
- ❖ The day is celebrated to recognise and honour the sacrifices that firefighters make to ensure that their communities and environment are as safe as possible.
- ❖ The day was instituted, after the deaths of five firefighters in tragic circumstances in a bushfire in Australia on 2 December 1998.



MISCELLANEOUS

Shift in the Earth's Axis increases



- ❖ A recent study conducted by the American Geophysical Union has found that the melting glaciers have been increasing the shift of earth axis.



- ❖ According to the new study, climate change has increased the glacial melting and this in turn has caused the earth's poles to move in new directions.
- ❖ NASA says that the spin axis drifted about ten centimetres per year.
- ❖ The shift of the north pole towards the east is mainly because of the changes in the hydrosphere.

