

May - 09

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ An international team of Palaeontologists (who studies fossils) has identified a new genus and species of hadrosaur/duck-billed dinosaur.
 - The species has been named as Yamatosaurus izanagii.
- ❖ The Central Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute, Budni (Madhya Pradesh) has tested the first-ever electric Tractor in the Institute.
 - Electric tractor will be more environment friendly than other types of tractors.

TAMIL NADU

First 5 orders signed by CM Stalin



- ❖ MK Stalin signed five orders to provide relief to a state that is reeling under the coronavirus pandemic.
- ❖ Rs 4,000 will be provided to all 'Rice' ration card holders in the state in an attempt to provide them some relief amidst the pandemic.
- ❖ Of the Rs 4,000, Rs 2,000 will be distributed in the month of May and the remaining will be given later.
- ❖ The price of Aavin milk to be reduced by Rs 3.
- ❖ All women, including working professionals and students can travel in state-owned buses (Ordinary fare) for free from May 8th.



- ❖ A new department to fulfill the promise of addressing all your complaints in the first 100 days of the DMK government will be formed.
- ❖ The expenses for COVID treatment in private hospitals will be covered under the Chief Minister's health insurance scheme and will be reimbursed to the hospitals by the government.

NATIONAL

Supreme Court declares Maratha quota law unconstitutional

- ❖ A five-judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court unanimously declared a Maharashtra law which provides reservation benefits to the Maratha community as unconstitutional.
- ❖ This is because the particular community is taking the quota limit in the State in excess of 50%.
- ❖ The Supreme court also states that the separate reservation for the Maratha community violates Articles 14 (right to equality) and 21 (due process of law).
- ❖ The Supreme Court struck down the findings of the Justice N.G. Gaikwad Commission which led to the enactment of Maratha quota law.
- ❖ The court also set aside the Bombay High Court judgment which validated the Maharashtra State Reservation for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) Act of 2018.
- ❖ The High Court in June 2019, reduced the quantum of reservation for Marathas from the 16% recommended by the Gaikwad Commission to 12% in education and 13% in employment.
- ❖ The Supreme Court now concluded that even the reduced percentages of reservation granted by the High Court were ultra vires.

Drive in Vaccination Center

- ❖ The Nation's first 'Drive in Vaccination Centre' was inaugurated by MP Rahul Shewale in Mumbai.
- ❖ This centre has been set up in the parking lot of Kohinoor Square Tower at Dadar.
- ❖ This first of its kind 'Drive-in Vaccination Centre' facility has been made available to the citizens at a time when people with disabilities are facing difficulties in getting to the vaccination centre.



INTERNATIONAL

Food Price Index

- ❖ The United Nations recently announced that the world food prices increased for the eleventh consecutive month in April 2021.
- ❖ It reached the highest level since May 2014.
- ❖ This announcement was made based on the Food Price Index released by the Food and Agriculture Organisation.
- ❖ The Food Price Index measures monthly changes of a basket of food grains such as oil seeds, cereals, dairy products, sugar and meat.
- ❖ In April 2021, the Food Price Index was 120.9.
- ❖ It was 118.9 in March 2021.

ECONOMY

Global FDI

- ❖ The global FDI dropped by 38% in 2020 (compared to 2019).
- ❖ This is a 15-year low (lowest since 2005).
- ❖ These are according to a new set of data released by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD),
- ❖ India became the 3rd Largest Recipient of FDI inflows in 2020 with an inflow of USD 64 Billion.
- ❖ China became the largest Recipient of FDI (USD 212 Billion) overtaking the United States (USD 177 Billion).
- ❖ Luxembourg finished 4th.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Osteocytes

- ❖ The researchers from the Garvan Institute of Medical Research have mapped the Osteocytes for the first time.
- ❖ Osteocytes are oblate shaped bone cells.
- ❖ They are found in bone tissues.
- ❖ The researchers have pictured the whole landscape of osteocytes.
- ❖ This network is responsible for monitoring bone health.

- ❖ It responds to ageing.
- ❖ The researchers have found that majority of the genes that are active within osteocytes had no role in bones.
- ❖ This means that they only give commands.
- ❖ This discovery will help to understand what controls the skeleton actually.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Arline Pacht Global Vision Award for 2021

- ❖ Former Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir High Court, Justice Gita Mittal, has been declared as one of the two recipients of the Arline Pacht Global Vision Award for 2021.
- ❖ The Award was presented at IAWJ's Biennial Conference during the virtual opening ceremony held on May 7, 2021.
- ❖ She shares the honour with Margarita Luna Ramos from Mexico.
- ❖ International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) instituted this award in 2016.
- ❖ Justice Mittal would be the first Indian judge to receive the award.
- ❖ Award is presented to a sitting/retired woman judge to recognize her contribution to IAWJ.



Dr Philipose Mar Chrysostom passed away

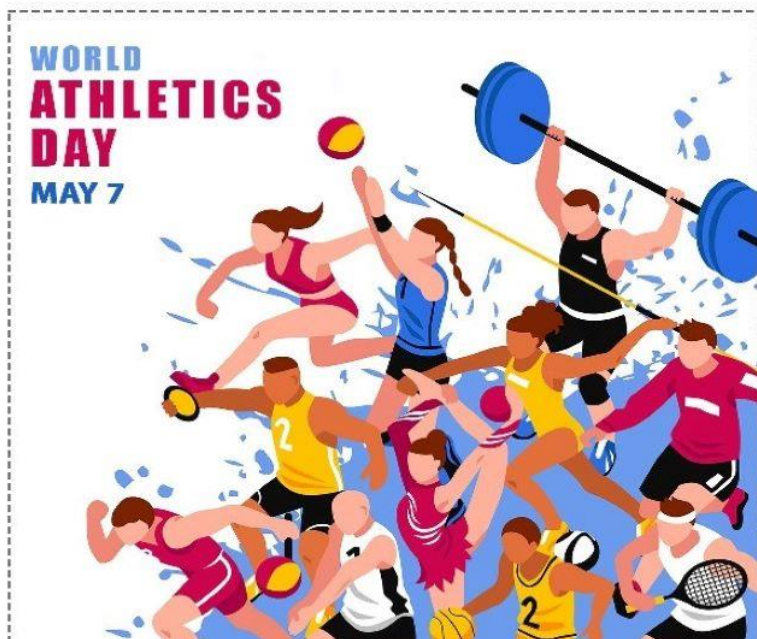
- ❖ Former head of the Kerala's Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church and the longest-serving bishop in India Dr Philipose Mar Chrysostom died recently.
- ❖ He was 103.

- ❖ Mar Chrysostom was awarded Padma Bhushan by President Ram Nath Kovind in 2018.
- ❖ He was a bishop for 68 years.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Athletics Day - May 07



- ❖ The World Athletics Day-2021 is observed on the 7th May.
- ❖ The date is subject to adjustment.
- ❖ The date of World Athletics Day is decided by the IAAF.
- ❖ However, the month stays the same as May.



- ❖ The first World Athletics Day was observed in 1996.
- ❖ The basic objective is to boost the participation of youths in athletics.

BRO 61st raising day - May 07

- ❖ The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) was formed on 7 May 1960.
- ❖ It was formed with the primary goal of securing India's borders and developing infrastructure in remote areas of India's north and north eastern states.
- ❖ On 7 May 2021 BRO celebrated its 61st Raising Day (foundation day).

BRO

- ❖ It is a leading road construction agency under the Ministry of Defence.
- ❖ Its primary role is to provide road connectivity in India's border areas.
- ❖ It also creates upgrades and maintains infrastructure along borders to meet India's overall tactical and strategic goals.

