

May - 11

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Indian Army's HQ, Southern Command conducted a day-long fighting exercise 'Agni Daman - 23' with 56 firefighting stakes, including 32 from civil agencies.
- ❖ In a first, Railway Ministry set up the new war room in Delhi to quickly address public complaints and grievances.
- ❖ The Union Government has formed an 11-member high-level committee under the chairmanship of Sanjay Garg, to restructure the 94-year-old ICAR, which was established in 1929.
- ❖ The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) are joining hands to set up Asia's largest bio-gas plant in Mumbai.
- ❖ Border Roads Organisation organised "Ekta Evam Shradhanjali Abhiyan", a multi modal expedition to commemorate the sacrifices and contribution of its Karma yogis in nation building.
- ❖ The Centre ordered that public broadcaster, previously known as All India Radio (AIR), be exclusively referred to as Akashvani in all broadcasts and programmes.
 - The name Akashvani was adopted by AIR in 1956.
- ❖ The trailer of a feature film, Love in 90's, was launched in New Delhi.
 - This is the first movie based on the Tagin community of Arunachal Pradesh.
- ❖ The UAE government launched the 'Machines Can See 2023' Summit, the international conferences in Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Dubai.

NATIONAL

Maximum residue limit

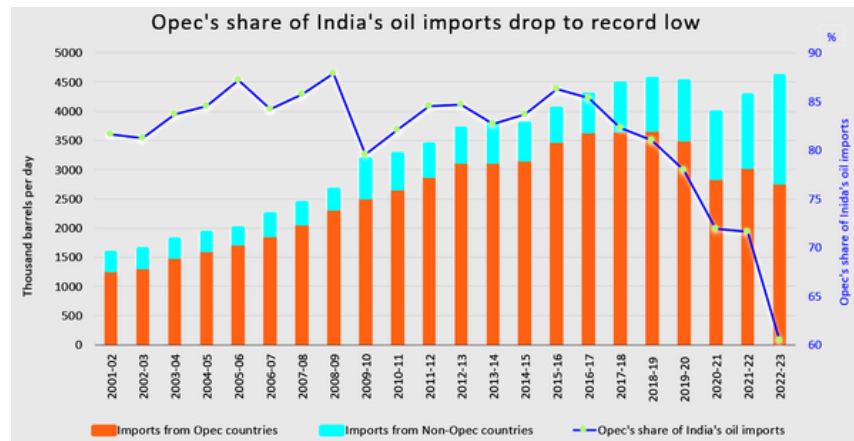
- ❖ The Indian tea suffered a severe shock when several international buyers rejected a series of tea consignments as the 'presence of pesticides and chemicals was beyond the permissible limits.
- ❖ Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) had put in place a maximum residue limit (MRL) for five pesticides used in tea plantations.
- ❖ This includes emamectin, benzoate, fenpyroximate, hexaconazole, propiconazole and quinalphos.
- ❖ They are used as a pesticide against tea mosquito bug (*Helopeltis Theivora*).

- ❖ Southern and north-eastern parts of the country reporting large scale damages caused by these bugs.
- ❖ Tea producers want the maximum residue level (MRL) of chemicals in tea to be maintained at current levels and in a few cases to be raised.
- ❖ According to the planters, Dimethoate is another cheaper and more effective compared to conventional pesticides.

S. No.	Name of Pesticide	Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) mg/kg
1	Emamectin Benzoate	0.06
2	Fenpyroximate	6.0
3	Hexaconazole	5.0
4	Propiconazole	6.0
5	Quinalphos	0.7

ECONOMY

India's imports from OPEC

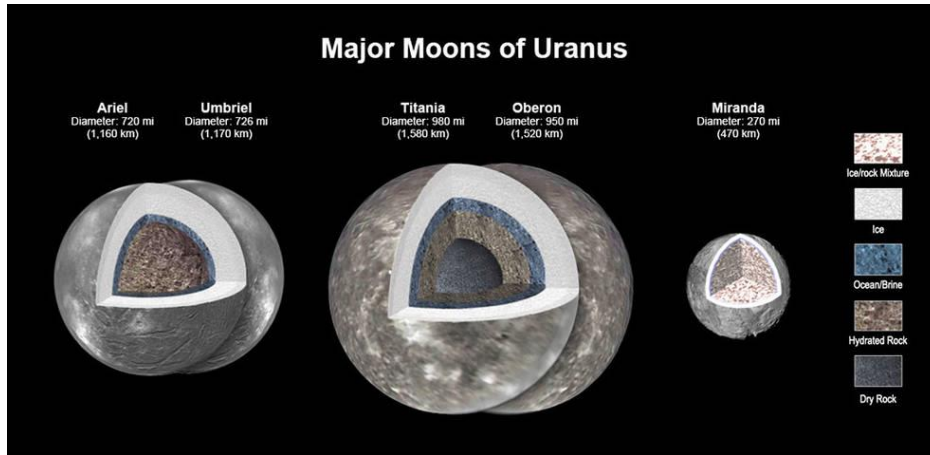


- ❖ Oil producers' association OPEC's share in India's oil imports fell to an all-time low of 46 per cent in April.
- ❖ OPEC nations, mainly in the Middle East and Africa, had a 72 per cent share of all crude oil India imported in April 2022.
- ❖ Russia continued to be the single largest supplier of crude oil to India.

- ❖ The imports from Russia are now more than combined purchases from Iraq and Saudi Arabia.
- ❖ They both were the India's biggest suppliers in the last decade.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Water in Uranus' Four Moons



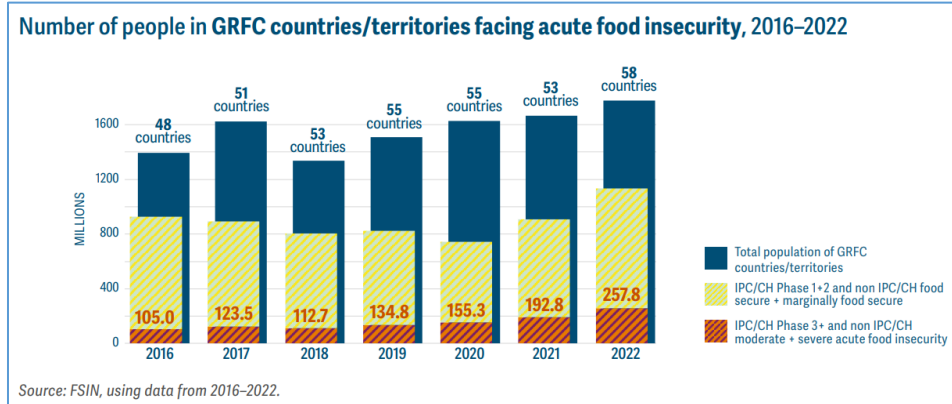
- ❖ NASA scientists have discovered in a new study that there can be water in the four large moons of Uranus.
- ❖ The new findings suggest that the 4 moons of Uranus may have deep oceans beneath their ice-capped surfaces.
- ❖ The four of Uranus' largest moons are - Ariel, Umbriel, Titania, and Oberon.
- ❖ Uranus is the seventh planet from the sun and the coldest planet in the solar system.
- ❖ Uranus has 27 known moons.

REPORTS AND INDICES

Global Report on Food Crises 2023

- ❖ Nearly 258 million people in 58 territories were in Crisis or worse acute food insecurity Phase 3 or above, or equivalent in 2022.
- ❖ 253 million people were in Stressed in 41 countries/territories.
- ❖ In 19 countries, conflict/insecurity was the biggest contributor to the food crisis.
- ❖ Meanwhile, in 12 countries, weather/climate extremes were the primary reason for the acute food insecurity.

- ❖ Pakistan has been defined as a ‘major’ food crisis since 2017 when over 50 percent of its analysed population was in IPC Phase 3 or above
- ❖ Over 35 million children under 5 years of age suffered from wasting, with 9.2 million of them severely wasted.



STATES

Kerala Educational Institutional Ranking Framework

Kerala State Higher Education Council

KERALA INSTITUTIONAL RANKING FRAMEWORK (KIRF)

Incubating Institutional Excellence

**Inauguration on 3rd May 2023
Wednesday at 2.30 pm**

**Venue: C.V.Raman Hall, CLIFF,
University of Kerala, Kariavattom Campus**

- ❖ Kerala formally launched the Kerala Institutional Ranking Framework (KIRF).
- ❖ It is modelled on the lines of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
- ❖ It aims to assess the quality of higher education institutions in the State.

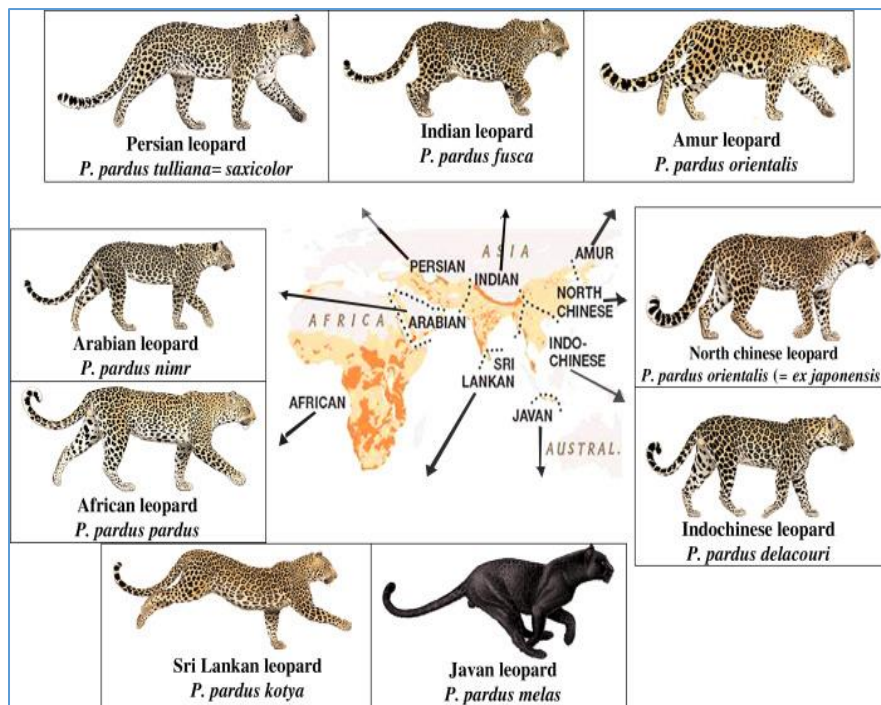
- ❖ The Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC) will be the implementing agency of the annual ranking exercise.
- ❖ The State has become the first in the country to establish a State-specific ranking framework.

Bihan Mela

- ❖ Members of the Kondh tribe in Odisha's Nayagarh district celebrated Bihan Mela, literally the seed festival.
- ❖ It is a celebration of the indigenous crops and varieties grown by the farmers in the region.
- ❖ This festival was initiated by a non-profit organization – Nirman.
- ❖ It is working with the tribe on forest rights and Agro-ecological farming.

IMPORTANT DAYS

International Leopard Day - May 03



- ❖ This day aims to increase awareness of the importance of Leopard.
- ❖ Leopards are elusive and nocturnal animals whose size and colour depend on the habitat.



- ❖ Leopards' lives in Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Russia, and the Indian subcontinent.
- ❖ They are listed as near threatened on the IUCN list.
- ❖ The Cape Leopard Trust (CLT) launched a new portal dedicated to leopards to promote and celebrate leopards globally.

World Red Cross Day - May 08

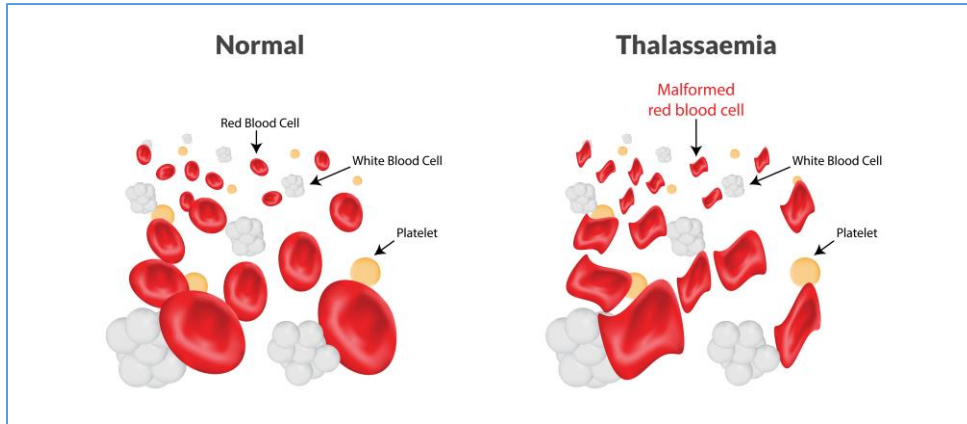
- ❖ It commemorates the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant.
- ❖ He is the founder of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the recipient of the first Nobel Peace Prize.
- ❖ In 1863, the International Committee for Relief to the Wounded was established.
- ❖ This was later becoming known as the ICRC.
- ❖ This day was officially established during the 20th International Conference of the Red Cross in Tokyo, Japan, in 1933.
- ❖ The theme for this year is "Everything we do comes #fromtheheart."



World Thalassaemia Day - May 08

- ❖ Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) observed World Thalassaemia Day.
- ❖ Panos Englezos founded TIF on this day in 1994.

- ❖ Thalassaemia is an inherited disorder where the oxygen-carrying haemoglobin and red blood cells are lesser than normal.
- ❖ The theme for this year is 'Be aware. Share. Care.'



Victory Day - May 09

- ❖ Russia celebrates the anniversary of victory over Nazi Germany in World War II.
- ❖ This day commemorates the huge sacrifices made by the Soviet Union during what is called the Great Patriotic War of 1941-45.
- ❖ The Soviet government announced the victory early on 9 May, 1945 after the signing of German Instrument of Surrender in Berlin.

