

May - 15

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ TN Chief Minister inaugurated the 2.3-km three-lane unidirectional flyover at Medavakkam, the longest in Chennai.
 - It will facilitate faster movement of vehicles from Tambaram to Velachery.
- ❖ Russia celebrates Victory Day on May 9th to commemorate Soviet Union's victory over Germany's Nazi forces in World War II.
- ❖ The Tata Group has appointed Campbell Wilson, as Air India's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD).
- ❖ Leonid Kravchuk, who led Ukraine to independence during the collapse of the Soviet Union and served as its first president, has died.
- ❖ Young Chennai based rider Sarthak Chavan set a new record for Honda Racing India after securing a podium finish at the Thailand Talent Cup (TTC) 2022.

NATIONAL

New Chief Election Commissioner

- ❖ Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar was appointed as the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC).
- ❖ He was appointed as Election Commissioner in August 2020.
- ❖ The President appoints CEC and Election Commissioners.
- ❖ They have a fixed tenure of six years, or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier.

India's First EV Charging Station Powered by bio-gas



- ❖ India's first EV charging station powered by bio-gas was inaugurated in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- ❖ This energy plant will be utilized to power street lights and also to charge electric vehicles.

INTERNATIONAL

Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities

- ❖ India has been unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Association of Asian Election Authorities (AAEA) for 2022-2024.
- ❖ Commission on Elections, Manila was the current chair of AAEA.
- ❖ The new member of the Executive Board now includes Russia, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Taiwan and the Philippines.
- ❖ The Election Commission of India's 3-member delegation is headed by Deputy Election Commissioner Nitesh Vyas, along with CEO Manipur Rajesh Agrawal and CEO Rajasthan Praveen Gupta.

Severe National Emergency



- ❖ North Korea has confirmed its first-ever case of Covid-19 and declared a "severe national emergency".
- ❖ This country has never admitted to a case of Covid-19, with the government imposing a rigid coronavirus blockade of its borders since 2020.
- ❖ Experts believe North Korea has not vaccinated any of its 25 million people.

- ❖ It rejected offers of vaccinations from the World Health Organisation, and China and Russia.

Replacement of Russia on UNHRC

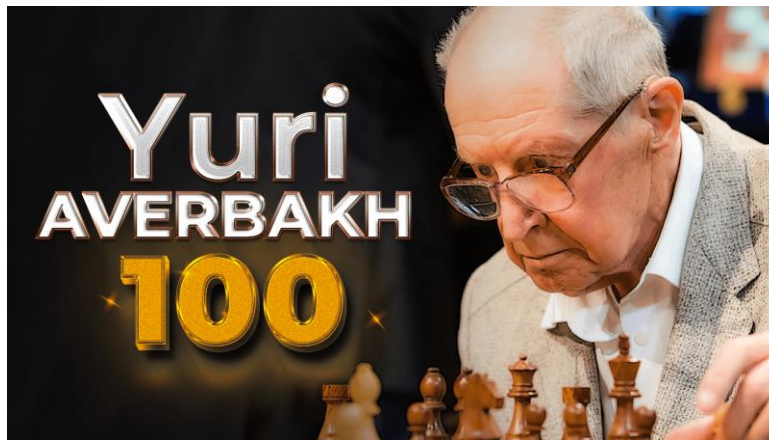
- ❖ The UN General Assembly has voted overwhelmingly for the Czech Republic to replace Russia on the Human Rights Council.
- ❖ UNHRC is the world organization's leading human rights body.
- ❖ Russia was suspended from the council last month by a vote in the General Assembly.
- ❖ It was also suspended from the World Tourism Organization.

PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Special Bangla Academy Award

- ❖ West Bengal Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee received the Bangla Academy Award for her "relentless literary pursuit".
- ❖ The award, introduced this year by Sahitya Academy, was presented to Banerjee for her book "Kabita Bitan".
- ❖ This book which pays tribute to the best writers of West Bengal.
- ❖ Despite being on the stage, Mamata Banerjee did not accept the award on her own.
- ❖ It was received by state Education Minister Bratya Basu on her behalf.

World's oldest chess grandmaster



- ❖ The world's oldest grandmaster, Yuri Averbakh, passed away aged 100.

- ❖ He won the Moscow Championship in 1949 and earned the Grandmaster title in 1952.
- ❖ He was also awarded the grandmaster title by the International Chess Federation.

Modi @20: Dreams Meeting Delivery' book

- ❖ Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has released the book “Modi@20 Dreams Meet Delivery” in New Delhi.
- ❖ The book presents different facts of the distinct thought process, the pioneering, pro-active approach and the quintessential, transformational leadership style that Modi has come to be so closely identified with.



Royal Gold Medal 2022



- ❖ Noted architect Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi, 94, has been conferred with prestigious Royal Gold Medal 2022.

- ❖ It is considered as the world's highest honours for architecture.
- ❖ This award is presented to recognize a lifetime's work of an individual that had a significant impact on advancing the field of architecture.
- ❖ In the year 2018, he became the first Indian to be conferred with the Pritzker Architecture Prize.
- ❖ He was conferred the Padma Bhushan by the Indian central government in the year 2020.

IMPORTANT DAYS

World Thalassemia Day - 08 May

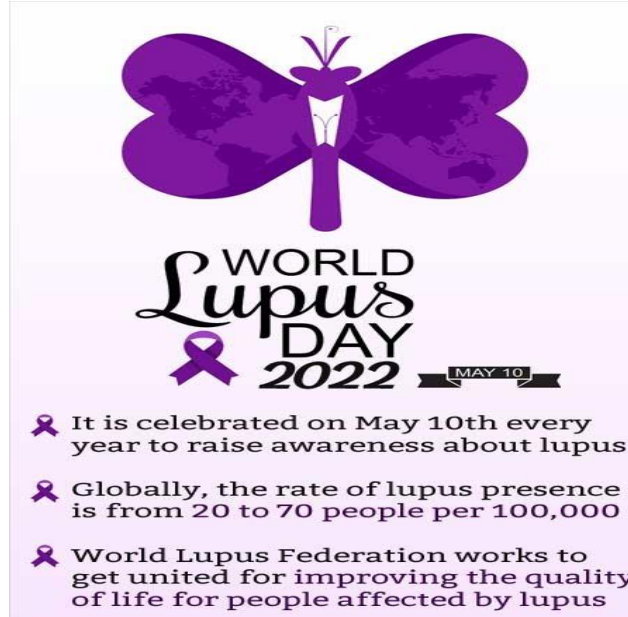


- ❖ It aims to spread awareness about thalassemia being a blood disorder, myths related to the disease, and to help the patients lead a normal life.
- ❖ Theme of 2022 is "Be Aware. Share. Care: Working with the global community as one to improve thalassaemia knowledge."

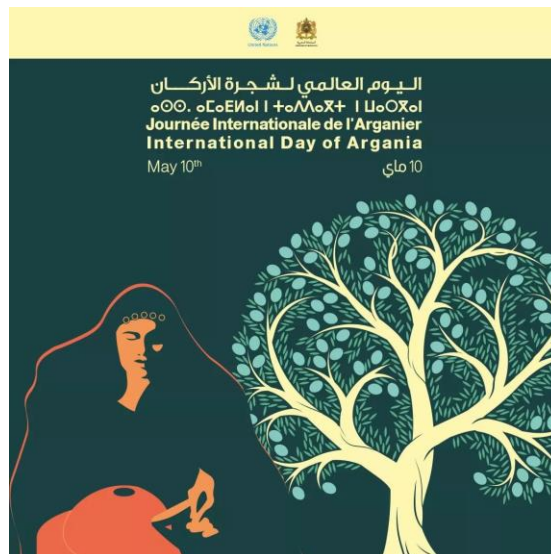
World Lupus Day - 10 May

- ❖ Lupus is a disease fatally affects more than 5 million people across the planet.

- ❖ This day is observed with the aim of generating awareness about this autoimmune disease which is also known as systemic lupus erythematosus.
- ❖ This day was created by Lupus Canada in the year 2004 with the aim of raising awareness about this disease.
- ❖ The exact cause of this disease's occurrence is yet unknown
- ❖ But it has been suspected that it is due to certain factors like genes, hormones, and the environment.



International Day of Argania – 10 May



- ❖ The United Nations observed 10th May 2022, the second International Day of Argania.
- ❖ This day promoting the Argan tree as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity and an ancestral source of resilient and sustainable development.
- ❖ The day will be celebrated this year under the theme “The Argan tree, symbol of resilience”.
- ❖ The argan tree (*Argania spinosa*) is a native species of the sub-Saharan region of Morocco, in the southwest of the country.
- ❖ It grows in arid and semiarid areas.

MISCELLANEOUS

Biggest White Diamond

- ❖ The Rock, the world’s largest white diamond, was auctioned for 18.6 million Swiss francs (\$18.8 million).
- ❖ But it significantly less than the previous record for such a gem.
- ❖ Christie’s auction house in Geneva of Switzerland sold the 228.31-carat stone, which was larger than a golf ball.



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