

May - 17

TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The IIT-Roorkee professor, Kamal Jain, has claimed to have developed software.
 - It can help to detect any sign of pneumonia and whether it is due to COVID-19 or any other bacteria within five seconds using an X-ray scan of the suspected patient.
- ❖ NASA's Mars helicopter — destined to be the first aircraft to attempt powered flights on another planet — has been named 'Ingenuity'.
 - The name was given by the Indian-origin girl Vaneeza Rupani.
- ❖ Mukesh Ambani, the chairman of Reliance Industries (RIL), has one again become Asia's richest person after striking a mega deal with Mark Zuckerberg's Facebook.
 - According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, he beat Chinese billionaire and the Co-founder of Ali Baba firm Jack Ma.
- ❖ US President Donald Trump nominated Indian-American Saritha Komati reddy as a judge at the District Court for the Eastern District of New York.
 - She is hailing from Telangana.
- ❖ Madhya Pradesh (MP) has become the first state in the country to provide a mid-day meal ration to students of primary and secondary school.
 - Under this, the money for the food will be transferred online by the state government in the bank accounts of the parents.
- ❖ The Resistance Front is an offshoot of the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Toiba.
 - It is the new name of terror group in Kashmir.
- ❖ Ramanand Sagar's popular TV serial 'Ramayan' which is re-airing on Doordarshan became the world's most-watched show with 7.7 crore viewers.
 - Ramanand Sagar had made this serial based on Valmiki's Ramayana and Tulsidas' Ramcharitmanas.
- ❖ For the first time in Pakistan's history, a Hindu, named as Rahul Dev, has been selected as a pilot in the Pakistan Air Force.
- ❖ India's first test bus for the Covid 19 disease was flagged off on Maharashtra Day in Mumbai.
 - The bus is an initiative by the C19 Taskforce of IIT Alumni Council.

- ❖ Tennis Star Sania Mirza became the first Indian to win the Fed Cup Heart Award for her successful return to the Tennis court post-motherhood.
 - The Fed Cup Heart Award is an International Tennis Federation (ITF) initiative.

NATIONAL

India-China Border dispute

- ❖ The Indian and Chinese troops have clashed at two points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) recently.
- ❖ The incidents took place in the Naku La sector in Sikkim and in a contested area near Pangong Tso Lake in Ladakh.
- ❖ Naku La sector is located ahead of Muguthang or Cho Lhamu (source of River Teesta).
- ❖ Pangong Tso is a salt water lake formed from Tethys geosyncline.
- ❖ One-third of this water body is in Indian control while the rest is under Chinese control.



SC power for complete Justice

- ❖ A nine-judge Bench of the Supreme Court, headed by the Chief Justice of India Bobde, declared that superior courts enjoy untrammelled power to take up any cause to do complete justice.
- ❖ The court clarified that there is no fetter on the exercise of discretion of this court in referring questions of law to a larger Bench in review petitions.



- ❖ Being a superior court of record, it is for this court to consider whether any matter falls within its jurisdiction or not.
- ❖ Unlike a court of limited jurisdiction, the superior court of record is entitled to determine for itself questions about its own jurisdiction.
- ❖ The nine member bench also invoked Article 142 of the Constitution in this case.
- ❖ It is related with the review of Sabarimala case.

PAC Chairman

- ❖ The Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury has been yet again appointed as the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC).
- ❖ Every year, the Lok Sabha Speaker re-constitutes the panels including PAC.
- ❖ It is traditionally headed by the representative of the main Opposition party.
- ❖ The PAC is the most powerful panel of the Parliament.
- ❖ It is empowered to consider all CAG reports and give recommendations to Government.
- ❖ The panel can look into any accounts and fund flow and its irregularity related issue to examine and summon any Government officers and private individuals.
- ❖ Though Chairman has authority to discuss and select any subject to be examined, voting system helps the ruling party to take decisions in the report.

Fund devolution to states

- ❖ The Finance Ministry on May 11 has released Rs. 6,195 crore to 14 states to fight against the spread and the treatment of COVID-19.
- ❖ The 15th Finance Commission recommended this grant.
- ❖ As per the Finance Ministry, the grant will help the state governments in taking preventive measures for the containment of Coronavirus.
- ❖ The grant is a mechanism that has been provided by the Finance Commission for compensation of any form of loss by the states from the centre.
- ❖ The grant forms the second-largest block of Finance Commission transfers after the assistance given to the local rural bodies.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

India Solar Market Leaderboard 2020 - report

- ❖ Mercom India Research has recently released this data report.
- ❖ India installed 7.3 GW of solar capacity in 2019 and secured its spot as the world's third-largest solar market after USA and China in the world.
- ❖ The country boasts of cumulative solar installations of about 35.7 GW at the end of December 2019.
- ❖ Adani was the largest project developer in terms of cumulative solar installations as of December 2019.
- ❖ Tata Power Solar held the top spot in terms of cumulative solar rooftop installations and as well for the year 2019.
- ❖ Huawei was the leading solar inverter supplier in the country during 2019.

Swasth Vayu

- ❖ The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research's National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), Bangalore has developed BiPAP ventilator named Swasth Vayu.
- ❖ It is a non-invasive breathing support device, for the use of non-critical non-ICU cases of Covid-19.
- ❖ BiPAP stands for Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure.
- ❖ It is a type of positive pressure ventilator.
- ❖ The ventilator has been designed in a record time of 36 days.
- ❖ The ventilator includes provisions to connect oxygen concentrator externally.
- ❖ The ventilator has been accredited by NABL.
- ❖ NABL is National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories.



PERSONALITIES, AWARDS, AND EVENTS

Order of Rising Sun Award

- ❖ The Japan government has conferred the 'Order of Rising Sun' award on a Manipur physician Thangjam Dhabali Singh.
- ❖ It was given to him for promoting a better understanding of Japan in India and deepening ties between the two countries.
- ❖ Singh had organised the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Imphal of the Second World War.
- ❖ The award was constituted by Japanese Emperor Meiji in 1875.
- ❖ It is conferred on persons with achievements in international relations, promotion of Japanese culture, environmental preservation, welfare or achievements in their fields.

